

Whistles in the Woods

Published by Adirondack Live Steamers

OPERATING 6500 FEET OF TRACK IN THE FOOTHILLS OF THE ADIRONDACKS

7 1/4" GAUGE 1 1/2" SCALE

OPERATING GAUGE 1 TRACKAGE FOR STEAM AND ELECTRIC

SAFETY FIRST

SEPTEMBER 2006

FALL MEET NEEDS YOUR HELP

Ken Nelson

One of the largest events of the year at ALS is right around the corner. Ken Nelson and Bill Eckert are again co-chairs of our Fall Meet. Have you spoken with one or both of them yet to arrange what part you will play in making this event a success? There is a job for everyone. With some of our guests arriving as early as Wednesday, we especially need help on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Many of our guests will be bringing equipment which must be unloaded from their vehicles at the lift. EVERYONE must be registered, which requires that someone be at the Registration shanty on a regular basis. Many last minute jobs can best be accomplished before the crowds arrive. Those of you who are retired, or who might be available on one or more of those days, please call Ken at (518) 377-7176, or Bill at (802) 226-7618, and offer your assistance.

If every member who is able would volunteer to work at least one hour during the Meet, we will have enough help. You can make one call, or Ken and Bill have to make about 200 calls. If you would like to pick your job early, call Ken, Bill, or any of the following people:

Registration:

Ted Wilming (518) 654-7108

Food and Kitchen:

Beth LeVine (518) 695-4614

Gauge 1 Operation:

Larry Green (802) 545-2460

Lift Operation (helping visitors load and unload their equipment):

Vinnie Lutz (732) 541-6614

Emporium:

Jeane Lutz (732) 541-6614

Help will also be needed in other areas. Call TODAY and pick the hour or two you can work. Call early and get the job and time you want. ***

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**Next Meeting: Thursday, September 7, 2006, 7:00 PM
Club House**

**Deadline for October *Whistles in the Woods*:
Saturday, September 16**

Other Important Dates: See Last Page

President's Corner

Richard Dean, President

It's hard to believe how fast time travels. As I sit here writing, it is already mid-August and summer is nearly over.

As many of you know, Amy and I spent eight days in the Colorado/New Mexico area during July. We were able to enjoy the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad, the Durango and Silverton Railroad, Pikes Peak Cog Railroad, and the Colorado Railroad Museum, along with other side journeys. It was a thrill to go back 100 years and imagine what it must have been like to travel by rail in the wilds of the West. And, now I know from first hand knowledge, where the architecture for ALS buildings is derived. Thank you Tom Rhodes.

Sunday the 13th of August was the 2nd Family Day of the year. It was nice to see so many people at the club enjoying the fruits of our labors. There were many trains running and lots of food to eat. There were even steamers under steam that had not been around for a few years. It was nice to see Greg Vaughn and OLD #28 back in the steaming bays. Thanks to all who contributed food and helped to make a great outing at the club.

The Fall Meet is at hand and preparations are under way in earnest. Ken Nelson is the ALS member in charge of the Meet and Beth LeVine is the ALS member in charge of the kitchen. WE as members all need to "put in our Time" to make the weekend a success. So, please talk or call one of the above people to fill in any open time slots. Every small chore completed, makes for a BIG successful Fall Meet!

A reminder to ALL of us: ALS is here for the purpose of our enjoyment. During the Spring Meet, there were incidents of LOUD discussions over the course of the weekend that should not have taken place. We must remember that there are small ears ever present and we, as adults, must act as mature people. Please do not bring your problems to Adirondack Live Steamers; this kind of behavior will result in your being asked to leave the club. Life is too short!

Remember that "SAFETY IS FIRST!"

See you at the track.

Richard Dean, "The Railroad Baron"

Whistles in the Woods
NEWSLETTER OF THE
ADIRONDACK LIVE STEAMERS
CLUB TELEPHONE
(518) 583-2580

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NEWSLETTER

Whistles in the Woods
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SUBMISSIONS: *Whistles in the Woods* welcomes articles, news items, classifieds, digital photos, and other contributions. Please contact any of the staff.

WEB PAGE

- Webmaster:** Bill Eckert
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MEMBERSHIP

Anyone interested in joining the ADIRONDACK LIVE STEAMERS should contact Jeane Lutz, Membership Secretary.

Phone: (732) 541-6614
E-mail: JEANEL76@MINDSPRING.COM

**NEW MAGAZINE FOR
LIVE STEAMERS**

Ken Nelson

It has come to my attention that there is a new magazine devoted to those who have built or are interested in home railways. *The Home Railway Journal* focuses on those live steamers who have a track at home. The articles are also useful for those who want a magazine devoted to live steam railroads. While I have not seen an issue personally, the magazine is reported to run articles on:

- o Home railroads in various scales from around the world
- o Construction projects that make your home railroad look better or increases its functionality
- o "Quick Pick " projects that take less than a weekend so even the kids and grandkids can get involved
- o Product news
- o Fun facts about prototype and model railroads.

The magazine is published four times a year, and claims to provide information that will make your home railway something to be even more proud of.

While I was given the web page address homerailwayjournal.com for information, I was not personally able to make a connection at that address. Those interested might try calling (916) 363-6620, or e-mailing a gentleman by the name of Matt Mason at matt@homerailwayjournal.com for more information.

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**LOOKING FOR A WAY TO
HELP YOUR CLUB?**

Check the chalk board in the Clubhouse. You will find a list of jobs to be accomplished. ***

Notes From Jeane

Membership Secretary's Report Jeane Lutz

Is it September already? What happened to summer? We have had a relatively good summer at ALS, but it sure has flown by. There are still several good days left. I hope you can all make it at some point for the Fall Meet on September 8, 9, and 10, as well as Blowdown weekend on October 14 and 15.

We had a great day for Family Day II this past August 13. The weather could not have been better, and it was a great day to celebrate my husband Vinnie's birthday. One of the surprises for the day was a visit from our former Membership Secretary, Bruce Rauch. He was up from his new home in Florida for a few weeks, and it was really good to see him and be able to spend some time visiting. While he enjoys his new club in Florida, the Ridge Live Steamers, he concedes that it is nothing like ALS. He took several trips around our track using Nancy Eckert's locomotive, and said that it was nice to move along the track in the shade, and not be able to see the entire railroad in one glance.

This column is being written with some built in problems. I started it, and due to a computer glitch, had Ken Nelson finish it for me. I hope it all comes out OK in the end.

At the August Membership Meeting, we welcomed four new members.

Benjamin Maggi from Albany New York was accepted as an Associate Member. He is a graduate student pursuing a law degree at Albany Law School. His interest in live steam is to learn as much as possible about trains, and to help the club with physical projects. Welcome Benjamin.

Melanie Sembrat was also accepted as an Associate Member. She is from Voorheesville, New York, very much enjoys live steam railroading, and is a Data Collection Assistant. We welcome Melanie, and look forward to meeting you soon.

Elizabeth Marzano of Greenfield Center, New York is a retired nurse, and has a full collection of European LGB Electric locomotives and cars. Her husband's name is William, and she was accepted as an Associate Member.

Bill Banta is from Dummerston, Vermont, is a model railroad manufacturer, and owns the CNC Mill in Vermont. He lists his interests as 1½" diesels and 2.5 steam engines. His wife is Angela and he was accepted as an Associate Member. Welcome!

Welcome to all of our new members. We hope to see you at the track.

Jeane Lutz, Membership Secretary

Llyn's Summary

Recording Secretary's Report Llyn Rice

President Richard Dean called the August Membership Meeting to order at 1:04 PM. Minutes of the July meeting were approved as read. In addition, it was decided that the safety rules mentioned shall be published in the upcoming issue of the newsletter. Jean Lutz, Membership Secretary presented applications for four new Associate members and they were approved. It was reported that the visit by the Lionel Operating Train Society was a success. Glenn Freedman presented the treasurer's report, which was approved as read, and reported that budgeted expenses are on target for this year. Ken Nelson, Education Committee Chair reported that a group of Scouts was supposedly interested in a fall Education Day, but that he has heard nothing from them.

The meeting then addressed old business and the membership:

- Learned that the building inspection by our insurance company resulted in the following items:
 - Install hood in kitchen over cooking area
 - Install a cased fire extinguisher in the kitchen
 - Install smoke detectors in the furnace and great rooms
 - Maintain 36 inches of clearance around furnace
- Learned that the Piasecki Bridge is complete and that all construction materials have been cleaned from the site. Painting remains to be done.
- Learned that Tom Rhodes will obtain a cabinet and counter top for the coffee area at nominal cost to the club.
- Discussed DeSantis Divide:
 - Charlie Pellock has added top soil and seed to excavated areas.
 - Tie stock has been delivered
 - A Preliminary grade survey has been done
 - Dick Hosmer and John Camerota will determine final design details
- Learned that Howie Bird constructed a Howe Truss Bridge for the Gauge 1 ground track, and that Llyn Rice installed it.
- Was asked by Don Buesing for assistance in replacing the deteriorated crossing shanty roof with slate.
- Thanked Ken Nelson and his crew for cleaning the Tool Shed and organizing the materials.
- Discussed the installation of a propane tank to make the furnace and kitchen appliances operational.
- Was asked to remain considerate of others, should any disagreement occur, due to an unpleasant incident between two individuals at the Spring Meet.

(Continued on page 6)

See Llyn's Summary

Llyn's Summary (Continued from page 5)

The meeting then addressed new business and the membership:

- Learned that a video tape was lost by a visitor from the Lionel Group. If it is found please contact Jeane Lutz or Dick Hosmer.
- Was reminded to review safety rules, wear yellow club name tags, and to be extra aware of the now active grade crossing, especially during the Fall Meet. Engineers are reminded that they are required to blow for this crossing.
- Discussed the placing of the Membership Roster on the "Members Only" portion of our website. Jeane Lutz and Bill Eckert will investigate.
- Discussed the possibility that the rental of the clubhouse and master key along with the regular member nametag be included with the initiation fee.
- Learned that Richard Dean received a list of "recommendations" from our insurance company which will be discussed with the Board of Directors.
- Heard from Mark Landgraf a list of proposed changes to the way our club is structured and operated. The Board of Directors will review the list.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 PM.

Llyn Rice, Secretary

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SAFETY ACTION ITEMS

Llyn Rice

At its meeting held on 27 May, the Board of Directors drafted the following eight Safety Items for consideration by the membership. Subsequently the BOD and the membership have met and discussed some changes to the original draft. While this is still a work in progress, and while some of the items require club action and others require individual attention, we print them here for your consideration. Further discussion may be held at the October Membership Meeting.

1. Fully deck Dean's Bridge and Hank's Creek Bridge to reduce chance of injury in a derailment.
2. Put safety rails on trestles to prevent people or equipment from falling off.
3. Insist that there be a conductor on every train which is carrying non-member guest passengers. This individual must be a responsible adult and should be in the rear seat facing forward or immediately behind the engineer facing rearward. The conductor should be provided a whistle to sound an alarm, should be briefed concerning the conductor's responsibilities and given a written instruction sheet to carry.
4. Always warn passengers not to lean or turn in their seats. Forbid passengers to carry or use cameras while riding trains.
5. Take down leaning trees that could fall on tracks.
6. Remove trees that prevented the ambulance from getting to the back of the track loop.
7. Set a goal to make the entire perimeter road accessible to ambulances.
8. Until DeSantis Divide realignment is completed, motor vehicles must stop before using the clubhouse crossing, then cross with care. During Meets, the crossing will be available only for handicapped people, deliveries, and after-hour access for campers. All engineers must sound grade crossing signal when approaching the clubhouse crossing. ***

FOR SALE

Little Gasser
3 Horsepower gas engine switcher
locomotive
Made by Cannonball
Excellent condition
Asking \$2000
May be seen at ALS
Glenn Freedman (518) 877-6274

Steam Engine
1½” scale, 7¼” gauge
0-6-0 New Haven RR Switcher
Built by James Altieri
Asking \$15,500
Will provide photos upon request or
appointment to see engine.
Craig Weed
H-(603) 336-7245; C-(802) 324-3615

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THINK SAFETY

Ken Nelson

Please don't skip this article out of boredom. Yes I know we all get bored hearing constant reminders about safety. I worked on the railroad for several years, and frequently found myself getting tired of having to listen to another lecture about being safe.

But unfortunately, it is that very "boredom" that allows us to get careless at times. Our minds are on other things, and safety is tucked several steps down our list of concerns. When an accident happens, our first thought is "why did that happen to me?"

With Fall Meet right around the corner, the traffic on our track will become heavier, visitors not familiar with our railroad will be operating their equipment, people we don't know will be riding trains all around us, individuals will be asking us questions about our locomotive, our train, our railroad, and so forth. It will be easy for our minds to be on other things. PLEASE REMEMBER THAT SAFETY COMES

FIRST. If you are pulling passengers, be certain that you have a qualified "conductor" watching your train as you watch the railroad. Turn occasionally to check the train yourself. Whether or not you are pulling passengers, be constantly aware of your speed and the conditions of the track. Give other trains plenty of room. Watch out for stopped trains on the main line. Look back to check your train and passengers frequently, especially before tunnels and bridges. Don't get so involved with conversations with friends, that you forget your obligations as an engineer. Read carefully the Eight Safety Action Items which are published elsewhere in this issue, being especially aware of the items for which you are responsible. All the great fun we are having during the day can quickly evaporate with one accident.

Let's keep safety constantly in mind and have a great Meet. ***

MARCEL ZUCCHINO UNDERGOES SURGERY

Former member, Marcel Zucchini, underwent bladder surgery a few weeks ago, is currently recuperating at home, and is feeling much better.

Marcel was one of the early members of ALS, and made many contributions to the well being of the club. He was the owner for several years of the beautiful

New Haven Pacific which we always enjoyed seeing run on our tracks, and is the father of one of our newer members, Steven Zucchini.

Our thoughts are with you, Marcel, and we hope to see you back to your old self very soon. ***

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FRANK CHAMBERS INJURED IN FALL

Our loyal librarian Frank Chambers was injured in a fall during the middle of August. At first he thought that he had broken his hip, but it was later learned that his pelvis was fractured.

Frank is currently undergoing treatment at the Wesley Health Care Center in Saratoga Springs. He would

love visitors, and would also appreciate cards. His address is

Wesley Health Care Center
131 Lawrence Street
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
Telephone: (518) 587-3600

Get well soon Frank. Our library needs you, and we need your company at the club. ***

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ELECTION COMING IN NOVEMBER

As we enjoy our summer, November seems like a long time in the future. But that will be the time for our Annual Membership Meeting where we elect our officers for the following year. It is not too early to begin thinking about this important meeting. The Nominating Committee under the direction of Director Ted Wilming will compile a list of prospective nominees which will be announced at the October meeting in accordance with our By-Laws.

Only Regular members are eligible to hold office. If you are a Regular member and would be interested in running for an office, you may speak

with Ted about your interest, or you may have any other Regular member nominate you at the October meeting.

The November election will include President, Vice-president, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, and one Director. Ted Wilming will become the second Director, finishing his two year term. These people plus the past president make up our Board of Directors.

Now is the time to give serious thought to who you would like to be on the Board of Directors for the coming year. ***

GREAT WEATHER BLESSES FAMILY DAY II

Sunday, August 13 found a great number of ALS members and their kin enjoying one of the most beautiful days of the summer. The food was great, everyone who desired a ride got one or more, and many new friends were made. Thanks go out to Jim Ogden for his fine work at the grill, and to all of our members who contributed the various dishes which everyone enjoyed. Thanks also to our many engineers who made their trains available to all. A special moment was

enjoyed by all as the “choir” sang “Happy Birthday” to member Vinnie Lutz. The cake was so big we couldn’t finish it, but the fire department would not allow that many candles.

Each year our Family Days seem to become more popular. If you have never attended one, you are missing a great afternoon. Check next year’s calendar and plan to join us. ***

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PROTO OPERATION DAY II

Attendance dropped a bit for the second Proto Operation Day of our season, but those who participated had a great time, and several new faces participated. With John Camerota doing duty as Dispatcher, four locomotives were kept quite busy for the entire day, with three road engines (Skip Densing, Dick Hosmer, and Ken Nelson) delivering cars to our “customers” and Brad Peterson serving as Yardmaster. Chuck

Curry, Elliot Courtney, and Robin Courtney were the conductors.

After a heavy rain the night before, Sunday dawned cloudy, but the rain had stopped and we saw some sun during the day.

All agreed that the day was successful, and most important, fun. We hope to have more participants in our Proto Days next year. Why not plan to join us. ***

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THE MICE IN COUNCIL

The following bit comes from *The Signal Tower*, the Newsletter of the Largo Central Railroad in Largo, Florida. It might give us all something to think about.

For many years, the mice had been living in constant dread of their enemy, the cat. It was decided to call a meeting to determine the best means of handling the situation. Many plans were discussed and rejected.

At last a young mouse got up. “I propose,” said he, looking very important, “that a bell be hung around the cat’s neck. Then whenever the cat approaches, we always shall have notice of her presence, and so be able to escape.”

The young mouse sat down amidst tremendous applause. The suggestion was put to a motion and passed almost unanimously.

But just then an old mouse, who had sat silent all the while, rose to his feet and said “my friends, it takes a young mouse to think of a plan so ingenious and yet so simple. With a bell about the cat’s neck to warn us we shall all be safe. I have but one brief question to put to the supporters of the plan. Which one of you is going to bell the cat?”

Silence!

Moral of the story: It is one thing to propose, another to execute.

From Aesop’s Fables

(Ed. Note: Does the above sound like one of our Membership Meetings?)

Adirondack Live Steamers
c/o Peter Petrillose
41 Goode Street
Burnt Hills, NY 12027

First Class

NOTE PAD

Sept. 8, 9, 10 – Fall Meet
October 14 – Membership Meeting
October 14, 15 – Blowdown
November 11 – Annual Meeting
December 3 – Albany Train Show

Fall Meet
We need
everyone's
help