

WHISTLES IN THE WOODS

Published by Adirondack Live Steamers

OPERATING 6500 FEET OF TRACK IN THE FOOTHILLS OF THE ADIRONDACKS

7 ¼" GAUGE 1 ½" SCALE

OPERATING GAUGE 1 TRACKAGE FOR STEAM AND ELECTRIC

SAFETY FIRST

SEPTEMBER 2007

FALL MEET RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

Ken Nelson

The summer has flown by and already we are just days away from Fall Meet 2007. This is one of our premier events of the year, and it takes a lot of work and effort by EVERYONE at ALS to make it successful.

While we had hoped to have our insurance mess straightened out by this time, it appears now that we will go into our Fall Meet with the same restrictions as we had in the Spring Meet. Only members may attend, run, ride, or otherwise take part in our festivities. Please help to spread this word to anyone who may not have heard.

The Reservation Shack will again play an important role in making sure that everyone attending is a member.

Ted Wilming will again head this up. If you can help him, PLEASE call him NOW and let him know. His number is 518-654-7108. Food is always an important part of every Meet. Beth LeVine will head up the kitchen, but she cannot attend on Thursday or Friday, so please call Ken Nelson at 518-377-7176 to volunteer to assist in serving lunch on either of those two days. Can you help at dinner on Friday or Saturday? Call Ken to offer your help in serving, slicing potatoes, making salad, or other necessary jobs.

If every able-bodied ALS member will offer his/her help for one hour during the Meet, no one will have to do double duty. Call today! ***

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THIS MAY BE THE LAST ISSUE OF *WHISTLES IN THE WOODS* THAT IS MAILED TO YOU UNLESS YOU SEND IN THE POST CARD ATTACHED TO THE NEWSLETTER. PLEASE SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 3.

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Next Meeting: Thursday, September 6, 7:30 PM

Club House

Organizational Meeting for the Fall Meet

Deadline for October *Whistles in the Woods*:

Saturday, September 15

Other Important Dates: See Last Page

President's Corner

Richard Dean, President

It's hard to believe that summer is coming to a close already. The Fall Meet is right around the corner and the new trackage in DeSantis Divide is ready for heavy tonnage. I was away for two weekends during the end of July and the beginning of August, and it was amazing how much track work was accomplished over the course of a few weekends. On Saturday August 11, there were several members ballasting, tamping, and aligning the new main line and the Adirondack Branch. These improvements will help eliminate the congestion we have experienced in the past.

The Fall Meet time is here. As we all know, it takes all of our members' participation during the weekend to make a successfully run Meet. Ken Nelson is the over-all coordinator for the weekend and there are sub-group leaders also. All of these people need your volunteering to help. Please contact Ken to sign-on for your services.

It was brought to my attention that the history of ALS needs an upgrade. Glenn Armitage and Frank Chambers were the Historians for many years and did a fine job. Since Frank's death, ALS has not had anyone to carry on this important position. If you, or if you know of someone who would be interested in serving as the club Historian, please contact me.

As we know most small clubs can not exist without the help of all donations from both club members, and nonmembers who see a need for ALS to grow and/or maintain our facilities. It comes in all types of gifts. From labor, to light bulbs, to large cash infusions, even to the donation of the original club property, they are much welcomed and I would like to thank you all. I know Hank Buesing, Frank DeSantis, and Ray Dwyer were among the first who have donated so much to ALS. They are just a few of the old timers. Two others who come to mind that have been instrumental in the club's expansion are Myron Rapaport and Marcel Zucchini. Without Myron's generous giving, we, at ALS, would not have the library/storeroom, a new tool shed floor, switch stands, roofing on the crossing shanty, painting of the engine house and a beautiful car barn. There are many others but today I am highlighting the above mentioned people. Because of all of these things our club is one of the finest in the United States. Thank you all.

See you at the track,

Richard Dean, the Prez

Whistles in the Woods
 NEWSLETTER OF THE
ADIRONDACK LIVE STEAMERS
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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.

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MEMBERSHIP

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Phone: (732) 541-6614
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NEWSLETTER MAILING

Ken Nelson

With postage now at 41 cents, we would like to try to save some money in mailing out copies of our newsletter. Many of our members read *Whistles in the Woods* each month on line. When the mailed version appears in their mail boxes, they put it directly in the waste basket. This is a waste of postage.

We want to make very clear that anyone who is a member is welcome to receive the newsletter in the mail. But we would like to NOT mail it to those who have already read it on line.

Attached to this copy of *Whistles...* is a post card. **IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE A HARD COPY OF WHISTLES IN THE WOODS PLEASE SEND IN THE POSTCARD NOW WITH YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.** If we do not receive a post card from you by the end of September, we will assume that you read the newsletter on line and do not require one in the mail.

The advantage of reading it on line (adironacklivesteamers.org) is that you get it about a week or two sooner, and can print it out if you need a hard copy. **If you do not have a computer, never go on line, or for whatever reason don't like to read the newsletter on a computer, you will want to send in the post card.**

Please use the post card. Don't tell me in person. I don't have everyone's name and address memorized, and I forget easily.

Again, we want to thank Pete Petrillose, our publisher, who pays for the mailing of *Whistles...* each month out of his own pocket.

If you would like *Whistles...* mailed to you each month, send in the post card **TODAY** so you don't forget. ***

August Minutes

Following is a summary of the August Membership Meeting.

President Richard Dean called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM.

Secretary Llyn Rice was unable to attend the meeting. President Dean read the minutes of the July Membership Meeting which were approved.

Membership Secretary Jeane Lutz presented the names of twelve new members, eight Associate and four Junior. All were approved by the membership.

Treasurer Glenn Freedman presented his report which was approved. He also reported that a small profit was realized from the Spring Meet.

Education Chairman Ken Nelson reported that two events have taken place during the past month under the heading of "Education." Several new members have helped in the laying of the new trackage in DeSantis Divide, and have learned how to lay track, run the ballast machine, and how to surface and align track. Second, the July Prototype Operation Day had provided an opportunity for several members to learn how to give hand signals, switch out cars in a safe manner, and how to be a dispatcher.

Under Old Business:

DeSantis Divide is now open. All of the new track has been laid and ballasted, the bridge is open, and the hand rails have been painted. Additional railing supports will be added to the hand rails on the bridge.

The new slate roof has been installed on the crossing shanty. Installation of the cap remains.

The membership discussed the mailing of the newsletter, and passed the policy of having anyone who wants *Whistles...* mailed to them must return a post card which will be attached to the September issue. The vote was 21 to 3 in favor.

Since several members of other live steam clubs are still confused about our access control for Meets, Don Buesing will send a letter to all local live steam clubs to try again to clarify it.

President Dean reported that three different insurance companies are interested in offering us a policy which will improve our current problems. All three will be investigated.

*(Continued on page 5) See **Minutes***

Minutes (Continued from page 4)

Ray Dwyer asked questions about the boiler fund for our club steam engine. This will be addressed again in October.

The proposed By Laws changes printed in the August *Whistles in the Woods* were passed by a vote of 22 to 2 in favor, with the stipulation that the name tag of Regular members be included in the cost of their Initiation Fee.

Under New Business:

Carpenter ants have been discovered in the Club House. John Camerota will spread ant poison to control them.

Skip Densing reported that the club should have a record of past secretary and treasurer reports as well as other important documents filed in the library. The membership was asked to please give a copy or the original of any such reports along with boiler inspection records which they may have, to Skip in the near future.

An up-to-date copy of the membership list will be made available for the Fall Meet.

Mark Landgraf reported that retaining wall work must be started soon under Bossert and West Bridges. He requested that the new walls NOT be built with wood.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:08 PM.

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YOU CAN GO HOME AGAIN

Bruce Rauch

Prodigal member and itinerant traveler

Although it was almost three years ago that I moved to Florida and established my residence where the snow doesn't fall (but the sun does shine), I still consider ALS "home." Notice I didn't say Albany, New York, the Capital region, the street where I grew up or even my last house. The only place I truly feel at home outside Florida is at ALS. When I first joined ALS in 1987, there were only about 100 feet of track, starting at the station, crossing Deer Run Trestle, and continuing up Cemetery Hill. The depot was just open stud walls, no roof structure at all. My first thoughts were that these guys must be crazy to think they can build a little railroad through the woods and hills of this property. Much of the right-of-way hadn't even been cleared. Tom Rhodes gave me a tour of the property. In his mind, he could see all the improvements to come. I was assured that the initial loop of track would be completed that year. As I met and talked with the other members on the property (total membership was 47 in 1987), I was swept up in the enthusiasm they had about this fledgling club and the strong desire to see trains climbing the hills and hear whistles in the woods.

(Continued on page 6) See **Home Again**

Home Again *(Continued from page 5)*

Twenty years ago I never dreamed that ALS would be where it is today in terms of membership, property, track layout, buildings, and stature among other live steam clubs. I was new to the hobby at the time. As ALS grew, my involvement in the club grew. There is so much of me at ALS and so much of others that I have worked with over the years that just driving up Loudon Road brings back memory after memory after memory. I remember: taking off time from work to work with Frank DeSantis to get the roof on the depot that first year; working with Marcel Zucchini laying track from Dittman's Gulch up the hill toward Twilight Park; being elected President because I didn't know how to say "no," getting us involved in the Great Train Extravaganza in Albany to try to build membership; having so much fun with my family at ALS that we started "Family Day" for everyone to enjoy the club with their families; taking heat for getting the first big Diesel at the club when I was President; being awed at the assemblage of talented members at ALS whose vision and dreams contributed to the magnificent club we enjoy today. I could go on and on but I think you can see that I evolved in this hobby with ALS as it grew over the years. I am proud to be a member of ALS and be able to call it home.

The work that has gone on since I moved is staggering. The track work has been well thought out. We will have a much more usable railroad with no more bottlenecks at DeSantis Divide and freedom to access the car barn without hampering operation on the mainline. I'm going to have to try to get up there for a Meet to see the new trackage in heavy use.

I thoroughly enjoyed the three days I was able to spend at ALS this summer. It was almost as if I had never left. I would like some help on one of the projects I did at least 15 years ago. I made the logo sign on the side of the depot. Every winter it was taken down, stored indoors, cleaned, and touched up before being rehung each spring. I cleaned it while I was up there but, discovered that it really needs to be repainted before it starts deteriorating. It's a job almost anyone can do. Take it home for the winter, clean and repaint it at your leisure. There are only three colors of paint. Just be sure to use a good quality oil-based paint so that it will last another 15+ years. If you would like to take on this job, and have questions, call me at (863) 427-9426 or send me an e-mail at railbuf@verizon.net.

For those of you traveling south this winter, the Florida Live Steamers Winter Meet will be held at Ridge Live Steamers in Dundee, Florida, on February 21-24, 2008. Contact me for more information or see the RLS link on the ALS website.

Bruce

Notes From Jeane

Membership Secretary's Report Jeane Lutz

Another month has hurried by and I hope that all of you have had an enjoyable one. As always life is busy, so let me get immediately to our new members. During our August Membership Meeting, those present accepted the following eight Associates and four Juniors as new members of ALS.

Lori Critchlow from Kerhonkson, NY has joined us as an Associate member as part of the Critchlow family. She is the wife of Regular member William who has been with us for some time. Welcome Lori.

Doris Redeker of Queensbury, NY has joined us as an Associate member in the same way. Doris is the wife of Alan who is also a Regular member. We're glad to have Doris with us.

Brent Redeker, son of Alan, lives in Ravenna, Ohio and along with his wife **Tiffany**, has joined ALS as an Associate member. Their three children, **Harrison, Grant, and Griffin** have each been accepted as Junior members. We are very happy to have this entire family with us, and hope that even with the distance, that we get to see them from time to time.

Jeff Redeker is a Regular member of the Pennsylvania Live Steamers, and has joined ALS as an Associate. He lives in Philadelphia, PA, is also Alan's son, and is most welcome.

Jayne Parsons from New Jersey is the wife of Associate member **George**, and has been accepted as an Associate member. We look forward to meeting Jayne.

John Geib has become an Associate member. He is from Hamburg, Pennsylvania, and we warmly welcome John.

Catherine Ogden has joined as an Associate member, along with her daughter **Lynn** who was accepted as a Junior member. Catherine is the wife of Associate member **Jim** and is also the mother of Junior member William. It is a pleasure to welcome another family unit to ALS.

See you at the track,

Jeane, Membership Secretary

HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY

Skip Densing

You know, talking about the history of our club, ALS, did you know that...? One can fill in their own question, and has probably heard several different answers to it. Well, I would like to get ALL the stories and try to get them STRAIGHT. I would like to try to get our files up to date and in order. That is: what happened first, then second, and so forth.

If you have any questions about our club history or anything regarding our

club, please write me a note. I will try to get an answer. You can fax me at my home number (518) 663-5507, so there are no excuses. Send along a note. You do not have to put your name on the paper unless you want a direct answer.

Speaking of history, we need a volunteer to replace our passed historian, Frank Chambers. Would you be willing to take on this position, and help to update our club's history? Please contact me and talk with me about it.***

* * * * *

FOR SALE

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Adirondack Southern #26
2-6-2 Prairie type, 7 1/4" Gauge
Built in 1991 by the late Don Marshall
New flues in 2006
New Superscale Nathan Injector
Includes spare parts and special tools
May be seen at ALS club grounds by appointment
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Asking \$1200
May be seen by appointment.

Greg Vaughn
(518) 766-6617
gbv1154@earthlink.net

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Don't forget to send in your post card (attached to this issue) along with your name and address, if you would like to continue to receive *Whistles in the Woods* in the mail.

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

First Class

NOTE PAD

Sept. 7, 8, 9 – Fall Meet
October 13, 14 – Blowdown
October 20 – Membership Meeting
 Nomination of Officers
 for 2008
November 10 – Annual Meeting
 Election of Officers
 for 2008
December 2 – Albany Train Show

Fall Meet!

***We need
everyone's
help!***