

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 2008

FALL MEET IS HERE

Ken Nelson

Yes, Fall Meet is just a few days away, September 4-7. With Labor Day being so early this year, it seems everything in the month of September is earlier than we would like. Have you called me to tell me when you want to work? Many of you have seen me at various events at the club, and have graciously signed up for one or more jobs at the Meet. I have called several others, but I just was not able to reach all of our 200 and some members. Please call TODAY if you haven't signed up yet. We need the help of everyone to make this Meet successful. Otherwise a core of ten or twelve people must do it all, and are overworked and exhausted by Monday morning.

Here is the lineup of jobs. Pick one or two, call me, and I can tell you where we still need people. (518-377-7176)

REGISTRATION

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday – One hour shifts.

KITCHEN

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. We need cashiers, cooks, food servers, salad

makers, and ticket takers. – Most are two hour shifts.

EMPORIUM (Store where we sell our shirts, hats, and souvenirs)

Saturday and Sunday

We need salespeople for one or two hour shifts.

LIFT AREA (where we unload our guest's equipment)

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday – One hour shifts.

GAUGE ONE

Friday, Saturday, Sunday – Someone to help in operation and answer questions.

TRASH

Thursday through Sunday – Help empty trash cans and carry trash to dumpster.

CLUB HOUSE CLEANUP

Thursday through Sunday – Sweep the floor and keep the bathrooms in good order.

I am awaiting your call.

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Next Meeting: Thursday, September 4, 7:30 PM
Organizational Meeting for the Fall Meet
Club House

Deadline for the October *Whistles in the Woods*
Saturday, September 20

Other Important Dates: See Last Page

President's Corner

I can't believe that the summer is more than half over. But on the bright side, the prime season for steaming, running trains, and visiting other club's Meets is just about upon us. With a bit of luck, I might even be able to participate now that I have my new knees. I had both replaced with the plastic and exotic metal model in the third week of July and was walking about the house ten days later. My stamina is a bit off but I'm still very happy with my progress. I haven't been able to attend many ALS events during much of the season so when I see you at the club and say "It's good to see you"... I really mean it!

Last spring the club voted to purchase two 20x20 car port like shelters to store our equipment under. It seemed like an easy fix until the site preparation, etc. was figured in. Over the next month or so there were some second thoughts. At the August meeting it was discussed at length and with zero dissent, a decision was made to search for two 10x10x40 shipping containers that could be placed near each other with a truss roof and transport them to ALS. I'm happy to report we have found a very nice one within 15 miles of the club; it will be delivered in a week or so. Now we are searching for one more. Does anyone know of any available? This effort was headed up by Ted Wilming and Mark Landgraf with assistance from Charlie Pellock and Skip Densing. Thanks guys.

The Fall Meet is nearly upon us. By the time you get this it will be only a few days away. Ken Nelson is once again our Meet Chairman and once again is looking for help. You will find information regarding the sign up list elsewhere in this issue so please look at it, then pick up the phone and call Ken if you haven't already done so.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we have an offer on the 0-4-0 Camelback Locomotive. We will not take any more after the first Monday of September which is Labor Day.

See you at the track!

Don

Whistles in the Woods
NEWSLETTER OF THE
ADIRONDACK LIVE STEAMERS
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SUBMISSIONS: *Whistles in the Woods* welcomes articles, news items, classifieds, and other contributions. Please contact any of the staff.

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MEMBERSHIP

Anyone interested in joining the ADIRONDACK LIVE STEAMERS should contact Rich Dean, Membership Secretary.

Phone: (518) 656-9091

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FAMILY DAY II GETS RAINED ON

Ken Nelson

Our second Family Day of 2008 began with some sunshine. There was just enough to encourage attendees to get out their engines, and run until the weather got bad. Unfortunately, they didn't have to wait very long. After one or two trips around the railroad, the heavens opened up, and it appeared that the eating part of the day would have to be held inside. Even those brave enough to begin outside, quickly joined the "inside" group, and a delicious feast was held under the clubhouse roof.

Again, Jim Ogden was chief grill master, and did a fine job with the burgers, hot dogs, and chicken, especially under wet conditions when the rain started. Thanks Jim. A few engineers got caught in the steaming bay when the rain began, but there were no engines under steam. They were in the process of getting their locos out of the engine house. The weather was just to "iffy" to gamble on steaming up.

Although the day was cut a bit short, we do want to thank those who provided the many dishes to choose from during the picnic. As always, the food was great, and there were quite a few people in attendance considering the weather. Thanks also go out to the members who helped with clean up.

Maybe next year, we will be able to enjoy a little less rain and a little more train running. ***

Minutes

A Brief Summary of the Highlights of the August Membership Meeting

President Don Busing called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Recording Secretary Lynn Rice was absent from the meeting, so no minutes were available for the previous meeting. There were no new members to report. Treasurer Glenn Freedman gave the treasurer's report.

Old Business:

- Locomotives For Sale – Don Busing reported that one offer concerning the purchase of one of the two gifted locomotives has been received. The availability of this locomotive will now be made to our entire club. (See article elsewhere in this issue for details.)
- 25th Anniversary – Our official celebration of our 25th Anniversary will be held at the Fall Meet. Warren and Jonathan Hockaday are working on the design and ordering of 144 shirts with a design on the front. They will be sold at the Meet. Ken Nelson presented a possible program to be held at 1:00 PM on the Saturday of the Meet. It was approved, and will consist of a short talk on the history of the club, the burning of the mortgage for the land purchased some years ago, a whistle salute, and a locomotive parade including all of those present.
- Blocks – Mark Landgraf gave a report on the work being done to obtain the necessary blocks to build the new retaining wall under Bossert and West Bridges.
- Library – It was reported that Ben Maggi, Skip Densing, and Ken Nelson have installed the insulation and wall board for the walls of the new library. Lance Sherman will tape the wall in preparation for painting. The new window will be ordered, and a drop ceiling will be hung. A discussion followed regarding the amount of items which must be stored in the library, and the possible disposal of unwanted items.
- Gas Tank – A discussion was held regarding the installation of a 500 gallon LP gas tank. Research regarding the price for the tank and keeping it filled will be done and GA Bove and Amerigas will both be invited to offer bids.
- Signals – Tom Rhodes presented a possible design for the signals and turnout operation for DeSantis Divide. Tracks will be bonded and the new signal system for the area will be constructed over the next few months. Help will be needed.

(Continued on page 5) See Minutes

Minutes (Continued from page 4)

New Business:

- Containers – A discussion was held concerning the purchase of one or two containers rather than the storage shelters which were passed at a previous meeting. The storage shelters have not been ordered, and it was felt that the containers would provide better security and weather protection. The membership passed a motion in favor of obtaining the containers.
- Stationmaster Pete Petrillose asked that people please use kitchen towels only in the kitchen and only for food related work. He also requested that people NOT leave dirty dishes in the sink. Thirdly, he reminded everyone that we must check that the coffee maker is OFF when we leave for the day.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15.

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LOCOMOTIVE FOR SALE

Don Buesing

As many of you have read in *Whistles in the Woods* over the past two months, ALS has decided to sell one of two locomotives which were given to ALS by Richard Piasecki. The locomotive is a Camelback 0-4-0 with a steel boiler (injector missing). The locomotive and tender will be sold as is.

ALS has received an offer for the locomotive, but to be fair, we do want to make the locomotive available to others in the club.

The locomotive is available for inspection at ALS. If you would be interested in seeing and/or purchasing the locomotive, please contact a member of the Board of Directors. ALL OFFERS must be received no later than September 1 of this year. (2008) Bids may be verbal and over the phone. The BOD reserves the right to accept or counter any and all bids.

For further information, call Don Buesing at 518-587-3172. ***

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CLUB HISTORY

Skip Densing

As you may have read this time last year, I have been trying to put together an accurate history of our club. I am trying to get our files up to date and in order. If anyone has accurate information regarding our history, or has a question about our club history,

please write me a note. I will try to get an answer. You can fax me at my home number.

We are still looking for someone who would be interested in serving as our club historian. Please talk about it with me. ***

DESANTIS SIGNALLING HAS BEGUN

Work has begun on the project of signaling the new trackage in DeSantis Divide. The first step is bonding, or wiring together, all of the tracks. This is necessary to carry the current to the relay cabin which is yet to be constructed. This is a time consuming job, and will require help. If you plan to attend a work session and have nothing to do, please help us in drilling and

connecting wires from rail to rail. We hope to have at least part of this area protected with occupancy signals by early next year.

Skip Densing, Ken Nelson, and Dave French have started working on this project. You do not need to be an electrician, but if you have a cordless drill, bring it along. We could use your help. ***

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LIBRARY IS TAKING SHAPE

Our Library is moving along. The next step is the construction of a drop ceiling, along with the installation of our new window as soon as it arrives. It has been ordered, but takes a number of days for delivery.

As soon as Librarian Ben Maggi returns from his honeymoon, work will continue. We hope to have the major portion of the work completed before Fall Meet. ***

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Notes From Rich

There were no new members during the month of August. Anyone who knows of someone interested in joining ALS should contact me. Hopefully, my column will be back next month.

See you at the track,

Rich, Membership Secretary

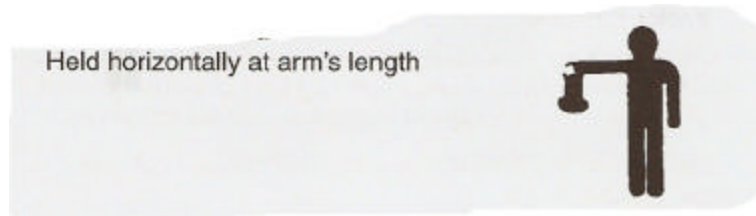
SEPTEMBER SAFETY TIP

Ted Wilming and Ken Nelson

We continue our monthly safety tip column with another hand signal. Having covered in previous months, STOP, PROCEED in a forward direction, and REVERSE or back up, we come this month to a signal which is not

seen very often, but can save a lot of energy when used.

Here is this month's signal. What would you do if you saw somebody on or near the track giving this signal?



Answer: REDUCE SPEED

When the signal is given to proceed in a forward direction, or to back up, many people can be seen continually giving the signal until the train arrives at a desired point. This is a waste of motion. Once a PROCEED or REVERSE signal is given, the engineer is expected to continue moving in that direction until stopped. If he is moving at a rate of speed which is faster than you desire, this REDUCE SPEED signal is used. This might be given when the engineer is asked to back up to couple to a train or a group of cars. He will not want to crawl at a very slow speed if he must move a great distance. On the other hand, when he gets close to the train, he must slow down. Give him/her the REDUCE SPEED signal, followed at the proper time by the STOP signal. This saves the person giving the signal from having to continually give a REVERSE or PROCEED signal, and allows the engineer to know when he is getting close to where you will want him to stop. While it is true that you may not have to use this signal very often, it is a good one to have in your mind when needed.

Incidentally, it is always a good idea to stop the locomotive a few feet short of coupling to a cut of cars. This is especially important if there are people in those cars.

We'll be back next month.

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

First Class

NOTE PAD

September 4-7 – Fall Meet
October 11 – Membership Meeting
Nomination of Officers
October 18-19 – Blowdown
November 8–Membership Meeting
Election of Officers
December 7 – Albany Train Show
Wednesdays and Saturdays –
Work Days

Fall Meet

We Need Your Help!