



ORANGE COUNTY MODEL ENGINEERS WEBSITE: www.ocmetrains.org

OCME's Spring Meet - 2008

The annual Spring Meet is coming soon and the Costa Mesa City Fire Department will be with us on Saturday April 26th from 2 to 3 p.m. They will put on a demonstration of how to properly extinguish a fire. In doing so, they are encouraging our members who attend the Spring Meet to bring an unused fire extinguisher that is 5 years old or older that can be used by our members to put out a controlled fire. If you weren't aware, fire extinguishers that are older than 5 years of age normally are not as efficient as a newer extinguisher and the fire department recommends that we either replace or recharged them to ensure they will be reliable in the event they are needed. For those who have outdated or discharged extinguishers, we are attempting to arrange for a local fire extinguisher vendor to come out on Saturday too and provide recharging services.

I have done this several times at AT&T for our employees and it has always been a very worthwhile and educational event.. At the conclusion of the demonstration, OCME will provide our fire department representatives

and their families train rides and all OCME members are encouraged to pitch in and do what we do best – give train rides!! I also want to express my sincere appreciation to Brenda who is with the Costa Mesa Fire Safety group for helping me coordinate this event.

On the lighter side - Chuckles and Alex are working on a new magic trick, and if it works, Chuckles plans on ... Well, maybe I shouldn't give the secret away! Suffice it to say, Chuckles and his buddies are looking forward to sharing the FUN with everyone again this year at the Spring Meet, so come and find out just what they have up there sleeve. See you soon.

Dixon and Associates ...

Please read **bold** sections of President's Message on pages 2 & 3. Two important dates are mentioned and beware of a detour on Saturday of the Club's Spring Meet.

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A FIRST CLASS RAILROAD

BY

President Bob Brooks

The club had several members out for Saturday and Sunday afternoons to enjoy running their trains and working on them on March 2nd, 8th, & 9th. Bev and I had fun introducing our youngest granddaughter to the world of OCME. She especially liked the rocks and track ballast. (Memo to Platfoot and Osborne- we may have a new member of the track crew in a few years.) Please come out and use the club facilities and your equipment during non-run day weekends. This is a good time to service your rolling stock and make repairs and modifications. You will be able to discuss technical items/problems with other members. Sometimes two heads are better than one. On the other hand to many cooks can spoil the stew. You rolls the dice you takes the chance. Good luck!

Carol Hunnyman is maintaining the club roster on the computer and she will e-mail it to those members who have provided a current address to her. This will allow us to keep it up to date as new members join. It will not be posted on the club web site. Hard copy will be provided to members that don't have e-mail.

The city of Costa Mesa is holding a "Neighbors to Neighbors" neighborhood and Fairview Park spring cleanup on Saturday, April 12, 2008 from 8AM to 12 noon. They will be painting all the picnic tables and the train station. Also clearing weeds, picking up trash, and tree planting and trimming will take place. They expect 200 cars to be parked and 300 people to be working on our side of the park. Club members must come out and support this activity to ensure that proper attention is paid to caring for club facilities.

Another activity that we must make note of is the Inaugural Costa Mesa Community Run and Health Fair taking place on the west side of the park on Saturday, April 26, 2008 from 6:30 AM to approximately 9AM. Placentia Ave. will be closed from the light at our entrance north to Adams. This event will use the high school parking lot and should not impact us during our Spring Meet except that to come to our event we must enter from the south via Wilson Ave. and north on Placentia to our entrance.

(See President, page 3)

2008 O.C.M.E. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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VP-Facilities:Myron Peterson (949) 494-9655
Secretary: Carol Hunneyman (714) 960-4862
Treasurer:Allen Stephens (714) 533-4774
Appointed Officers:
Mackerel Flats Mercantile Store Mgr.:
Rowena Asuncion-Duong.....*82(949) 429-3992

<u>DATES TO REMEMBER</u>
April 5th Sat.: General Meeting 8:00 a.m. Clubhouse followed by Work Day . Coffee and donuts at meeting -- Lunch at noon.
April 9th Wed.: Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. - Clubhouse.
April 19th & 20th Sat. & Sun. : Public Run Weekend 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
April 24th - 27th OCME Spring Meet (see insert)
May 3rd Sat.: General Meeting 8:00 a.m. - Clubhouse followed by Work Day . Coffee and donuts at meeting -- Lunch at noon.

THE WAY FREIGHT is published by **ORANGE COUNTY MODEL ENGINEERS, INC. (OCME)**, a non-profit California Corporation which has created **THE MACKEREL FLATS & GOATHILL JCT. RAILROAD** in Fairview Park, Costa Mesa, California. It is the intent of OCME to educate and enlighten people of all ages in the rich railroad heritage of the United States of America and other parts of the world. As a qualified non-profit organization, all donations are fully tax deductible under IRS ruling 501 (C) (3). Views and opinions expressed in **THE WAY FREIGHT** are not necessarily those of OCME. Material for **THE WAY FREIGHT** may be submitted to Bill Pemberton, 2944 Redwood Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92626-3741 or bill.pemberton@ca.rr.com.

(President, from Page 2)

The city is now mowing the park but we will still need to mow around the picnic area and camp area for our Spring Meet.

Last work Saturday was a success with several projects being completed. Glenn Swain pulled two new circuits in the clubhouse and installed outlets so we should have no problems with breakers tripping. Aluminum angle stock was added to the Thompson bench cars to keep the seat upholstery staples from pulling lose. Also track panels were produced for the bridge. They will replace the current tracks when the bridge is painted. Jim Kontur has drilled a mountain of ties for track panels. This is a time consuming job as we have only one drill fixture. It would be great if a couple of people would ask Jim to show them how to do the drilling and spell him. The bridge bent repair has been completed and it will be painted with the rest of the bridge.

The club had a successful run weekend on 3/15 and 3/16. However on Saturday some train crews and station crew did not get a break until 2PM. We need to have member's support so staff can at least have a lunch break. Remember you don't have to work all day. Think it over. It may not be glamorous but it is how we give back to the community and that is why we are allowed to be at Fairview Park. On second thought it is glamorous! The thanks and looks we get from the little tykes makes you feel like a million dollars.

Along this line our birthday parties are very important for funding our club. We have had to call and request help for the Saturday birthday parties. Please contact Bill Pemberton and volunteer to crew on birthday parties. You don't have to do both the morning and afternoon parties. Every bit helps. There are only 46 birthday parties remaining this year; so if each member did only one party we could staff almost all the parties; and if each member volunteered for two parties staffing would be a cakewalk. Once a first class railroad, always a first class railroad. See you there.

Many "thanks" to the March Run Week End Volunteers.

Alex Acuña*, John Andrade*, Chris Anten, Dave Bowen, Mel Bresee, Bob Brooks*, Betty* & Terry* Cummings, Marilyn Donnelly*, Tom, Rowena, Aiden, Ian & Nia Duong, Eric Engle, Jim & Hunter Ferguson, Adolf Fischbacher, Michael Getscher, Paul Hammond, Joe*, Carolyn & Nikki* Hayes,

Gary Kimble, Vincent Marozzo, Ken Matassa*, Juanita Matassa*, Kevin & Donna O'Connor, Bill Pemberton, Bob Platfoot*, Jerry Platfoot, Gary Sharp*, Jeff Sumners, Glenn Swain* , Lois Taube*, Kevin*, Lori* & Jeff* Tolan, Steve* & Janet* Trom, Chuck Trom, Dick Zeleznikar.

“*” signifies working both Saturday and Sunday..

Many "thanks" to the March Birthday Party Volunteers.

Russ Green, Norm Jobse, Bill Pemberton, Adrian Schadee, Gary Kimble.

GENERAL RULE OF THE MONTH

(C). Members who utilize O.C.M.E. facilities must pass the required examinations.

SAFETY RULE OF THE MONTH

837. Passengers will be seated on a seat facing forward. Small children may be seated on the car floor if practicable. Each car must be loaded so as to distribute the weight evenly between the trucks.

PLAN AHEAD FOR OCME's 17TH ANNUAL FALL MEET

The dates will be Thursday September 18th thru Sunday September 21st, 2008

OCME's new "eVite" System

After watching people organize the various events for our club, I thought we might try an electronic method of rsvp'ing to events. RSVP's help the organizers plan, and with this website everyone can see the rsvp's (and perhaps what people are bringing for the Pot Lucks) Russ and I have a Spring Meet invitation ready to try out. If you had put an email address on your Membership Form, you should have already received an email from me explaining the eVite website and asking if you want to participate. Participation is **OPTIONAL**, and I will only add you if you reply YES to my email.

If you did not get an email from me and would like to be added, please call me or email me with your email address.

Carol Hunneyman
714/412-9291 cell
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Kevin & Donna O'Connor



Donna and I joined OCME in 1992. I had always been a lifelong fan of all things “railroad;” especially growing up in Hollywood and with the Los Angeles Live Steamers and Travel Town (I even remember when Travel Town had a steam powered narrow gauge train ride) close by.

When our children, Colin and Meghann, were much younger (now 25 and 22 respectively) we purchased a Rail Systems Company SW1500. Unfortunately just about the time we received the engine, work related projects and responsibilities increased for me as a Division Manager with the Community Services Department of the City of Downey.

Our poor locomotive has languished for a number of years without being run and needs some major work to make it operable again.

On the plus side of that equation I’ll be retiring from the City later this year and have every intention of restoring the locomotive to running shape. We also have two gondolas lettered for Southern Pacific that go with the locomotive that could stand some work as well.

We both feel strongly about the personal relationships that we have developed over the years with many Club members. Without the support, encouragement and assistance of Chris Anten, Dave Bowen, Erik Hansen, Hank Hornsveld, Ken Matassa, Bob Platfoot, Jerry Platfoot, the late Al and Richard Thompson, Russ Smith, Lori and Kevin Tolan and Ben Viola, our involvement with the Club would not be wonderful experience it has been.

Having served in the past as Fall Meet Chairman and Co-Chairman, Club Treasurer and numerous other jobs I have an appreciation of how hard many of our Club members work. Donna and I look forward to working the Station on Sundays when we are able to interact with both the public and the membership. Being part of OCME for the past 16 years has always been pleasure and we look forward to many more years.

