

**ORANGE COUNTY MODEL ENGINEERS WEBSITE: [www.ocmetrains.org](http://www.ocmetrains.org)**

## **OCME 2009 Board of Directors**



Bob Brooks, President



Jim Ferguson, V.P. Operations

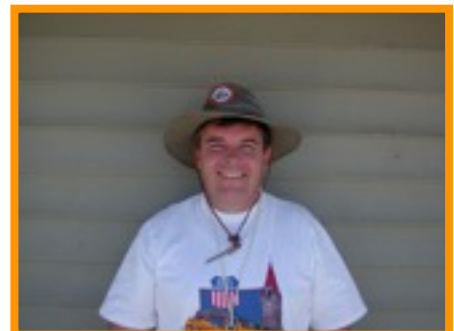


Myron Peterson, V.P. Facilities



Carol Hunneyman,  
Secretary

Paul Hammond  
Treasurer



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# A FIRST CLASS RAILROAD

BY

## President Bob Brooks

January was a very successful month. The club had a total of 3107 riders on the run weekend. Saturday 1457 riders were pulled and Sunday 1650 riders were pulled. Five trains were operating on Saturday and four trains were operating on Sunday. Needless to say the crews and station staff were busy all day. The gift shop was also busy. So please stop and say thank you to the ladies who do such an excellent job. The funds contributed by sales in the gift shop are important to the club's well being.

The yearly total of volunteer hours contributed to the operation of our First Class Railroad have been compiled by Carol Hunnyman based on your time cards that were signed by a board member or project leader and submitted. The total is 7260 hours, which averages to 605 hours per month. Our most generous member in terms of donated hours is Norm Jobse with 687 hours. He has done more by himself then what the whole club does in a month. All of the 7260 hours were contributed by 60 of the club's approximately 100 regular members. The board hopes to plan projects for the coming year that will allow all members the chance to contribute substantial hours to the clubs operations and maintenance. The projects include: gravel storage crib, a new siding and two new spurs, extensive tie and rail replacement and additional roadbed gravel width to facilitate the proposed handicap cars. Some members may note the extra leg clearance in container H. Last workday the left middle track shelf was modified to allow better clearance when walking down the left side of the container. Similar modifications can be made to allow more walking clearance in other containers given that the rolling stock stored therein will permit the modifications.

Don't forget to get your dues in before January 31 as the new roster will be compiled at that time based on paid dues. Also don't forget to reserve you space at the annual banquet on Feb. 28. The sooner we get a head count the better we can plan. Please **mail your dues checks to OCME** so they can be correctly and expeditiously counted. **Mail your banquet checks to Lori Tolan** for the same reason. Hope to see you all at these activities of our First Class Railroad.

<b>2009 O.C.M.E. BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>
<b>President:</b> ..... Bob Brooks (562) 429-8325
<b>VP-Operations:</b> .....Jim Ferguson (714) 744-2707
<b>VP-Facilities:</b> ....Myron Peterson (949) 494-9655
<b>Secretary:</b> .....Carol Hunneyman (714) 960-4862
<b>Treasurer:</b> .....Paul Hammond (818) 620-3480
<b>Appointed Officers:</b>
<b>Mackerel Flats Mercantile Store Co-Mgrs.:</b>
Betty Cummings.....(714) 979-9390
Janet Trom.....(714) 546-4721

<b><u>DATES TO REMEMBER</u></b>
<b>February 7th Sat.: General Meeting 8:00 a.m.</b> Clubhouse followed by <b>Work Day</b> . Coffee and donuts at meeting -- Lunch at noon followed by the <b>Board Meeting</b> - Afternoon - Clubhouse.
<b>February 21st &amp; 22nd Sat. &amp; Sun. : Public Run Weekend 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.</b> (See Page 3)
<b>February 28th Sat.: OCME Annual Dinner</b>
<b>March 7th Sat.: General Meeting 8:00 a.m. -</b> Clubhouse followed by <b>Work Day</b> . Coffee and donuts at meeting -- Lunch at noon followed by the <b>Board Meeting</b> - Afternoon - Clubhouse.

**THE WAY FREIGHT** is published by **ORANGE COUNTY MODEL ENGINEERS, INC. (OCME)**, a non-profit California Corporation which has created **THE MACKEREL FLATS & GOAT HILL 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.



**“I’ve been workin’ on the railroad”  
in January**



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Alex Acuña\*, Dave Bowen, Bob Brooks\*, Betty\* Cummings, Marilyn Donnelly\*, Eric Engle, Jim\* & Hunter Ferguson, Erik Hansen, Joe\*, Carolyn & Nikki Hayes, Gary Kimble, Norm Jobse\*, Jim Kontur\*, Ken Matassa\*, Juanita Matassa\*, Dan O’Brien, Kevin & Donna O’Connor, Larry Ogle\*, Bob Osborne, Phil Parker, Bill Pemberton\*, Gary Sharp\*, Allen Stephens\*, Lois Taube\*, Steve\* & Janet\* Trom, Chuck Trom\*, Ben Viola, Dick Zeleznikar.

“\*” signifies working both Saturday and Sunday..

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**Many “thanks” to the  
January  
Birthday Party  
Volunteers.**



Russ Green, Gary Kimble, Alex Acuña, Bill Pemberton.

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**PLAN AHEAD FOR OCME’s  
18TH ANNUAL FALL MEET**

**The dates will be Thursday, September 17th  
thru Sunday, September 20th, 2009.**

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**Annual Dinner Reminder**

Don’t miss OCME’s Evening out for all!! The Board of Directors invites all members, their families and guests to the Club’s annual dinner banquet that will take place at the Costa Mesa Country Club on Saturday, February 28th. Cocktails at 6 pm and dinner at 7 pm. This is a time to celebrate the year and have a night out without overalls!!

**Dispatchers Note: Feb 2009**

**Railroad:** Mackerel Flats & Goat Hill Junction

**Call List:** OCME Membership & Guests

**Run:** ***SPECIAL*** - OCME Spring Meet –  
**23-26 April 2009**

**Passengers:** OCME Members and their Guests

**Special Events:**

**Thursday:** Set up Hobo Camp, Main Line & Yard Operations (Ops)

**Friday:** Am-Pm – Engineers Choice (Bi Directional until 5pm)

**Saturday:** Am-Pm – Main Line, Yard Ops, Birthday Party, & Family Fun

**Sunday:** Am-Pm – Engineers Choice, Secure Boilers & Camp @ 3PM.

**Accommodations:** Pullman of choice for dry camping

**Activities:**

**Friday:** Dinner (bring own meat & a dish to share - grill will be hot).

**Saturday:** Breakfast for early birds, train skill events, lunch for all and then an evening Hobo Cook Out (potluck).

**Mark your calendars and look for  
‘more’ signals.**

This is a **non-public run** activity and meant to be shared with the families and guests of the OCME members. We look forward to your participation and most of all, the fellowship of sharing the railroad experience once again. If you would like to volunteer your time, services or ideas, please contact Russ Green (858) 748-4009 or npcaboose@cox.net.





## Marilyn Donnelly

Marilyn Merselis was born in Passaic, New Jersey in 1928 and married to Bob Donnelly in 1952. He was in the Army during the Korean War, so after our wedding we moved to Boston, Mass. where he was stationed, then from there to Ft. Sill, Lawton, Oklahoma, and finally to Ft. Bliss, Texas where he was honorably discharged in 1954. We have two married sons and three granddaughters.

I am a graduate of Greenbrier College for Women in Lewisburg, West Virginia, where I served as the President of the Glee Club and Vice President of the Senior Class, and received my degree in music.

I sang professionally in many Long Island, NY churches and synagogues. However, after settling in as a mom, I volunteered my services to the Community Presbyterian Church of Malverne as soloist and Jr. Choir Director. For several years Bob served as an elder and the head of the Christian Education Committee. We were, also, active in the Couples Club of the Church.

We lived in Malverne, Long Island, N.Y. for 12 years, until Bob's company, Fiat Motor Co., transferred us to California in 1971. We bought a home in Costa Mesa and have lived in the same home for 36 years. In 1981, Fiat no longer had a

dealer organization in the United States, and after 24 years with the company, Bob was without employment.

Fortunately, Disneyland had a job for Bob in Security. He thoroughly enjoyed working at the "Happiest Place on Earth". Bob discovered OCME was looking for volunteers to help build their railroad which is located at what is now "Fairview Park" in Costa Mesa. Bob dedicated a lot of his time building this railroad and running the trains; a very worthy project.

OCME opened a shop on the premises, and I have volunteered my time working in that shop every third weekend of the month for the past 10 or 11 years. It is a commitment; but a worthy one. It has been a great experience--particularly watching the joy of the children who "ride the trains". If only Bob had lived to see the "fruit of his labors" but, sadly, he passed away in 2004 after a 13 month bout with pancreatic cancer. He would have been so proud.

In addition to volunteering at OCME, I enjoy playing bridge and play as often as I can, and I enjoy belonging to PEO (Philanthropic Education Organization for Women) where I have served as Chaplain, Treasurer and Vice President over a period of 20 years. My enjoyment also includes music of all kinds and love going to the wonderful Performing Arts Center here in Costa Mesa.

I feel so fortunate to live here: Costa Mesa is indeed the City of the Arts.

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Thanks to Tom Gazsi for our new sign at the entrance to OCME

