

ORANGE COUNTY MODEL ENGINEERS WEBSITE: www.ocmetrains.org

2009 Fall Meet

By Paul Hammond & Mike Springer

Our Annual Fall Meet has ended and it was very successful. We had visitors from as far away as Utah, Arizona, and as close as Riverside, Chula Vista, and Tehachapi. Old friendships were renewed and new friends were made. Our public runs melded smoothly with our visiting trains and we were able to service 1505 public riders on Saturday and 1410 on Sunday.

While this meet did not have a designated chairperson to schedule the event, advertise it, arrange meals, coordinate rules and safety, reach out to vendors, make sure we had details like gasoline for club engines, name tags, and maps for our guests; we, as a Club, pulled together and got it done.

Our Club members have a tremendous passion for our club. They might share heated words discussing fine points and confront each other over policy, but they protect its history diligently, clamor for certification training to get more involved and, through many other actions, work to contribute to and protect our club. It is with great gratitude and appreciation that we find that level of care and concern for

our club. This meet was an example of our members coming together to focus on what was best for the club, not just for themselves.

It is absolutely necessary to express our thanks to each and every person who came to our meet and made it successful.

Special thanks also needs to go out to the following people:

Jim Kontur for manning the registration table for two days even after injuring his leg on Friday.



{See **2009 Fall Meet**, Page 3}

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A FIRST CLASS RAILROAD

BY

President Bob Brooks

Bob Brooks is on vacation. In place of the October President's message, I am going to reprint a wonderful letter the Club received from Samma Thompson.

Dear OCME Members & Friends.

I was so surprised and pleased to see Alfred Thompson's Chessie in the newsletter. I know he would be so proud of all the work all of you did to make this happen. It looks great!!! Thank you!

I am still living in Oregon, haven't been able to get down to see all of you for so long. I still have the picture I gave Gary Sharp of Alfred on the Chessie. I am hoping to come to CA in October and will try and make arrangements to get it to you.

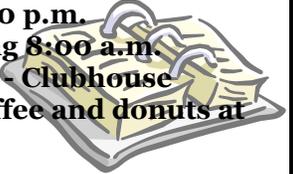
I don't know if anyone knows it, but the Chessie Engine Number 3315 is Alfred's birth date. He would have been 94 this year. I still miss him so. I think I will always smile when I hear a train whistle! As Dad would say, "that makes me smile."

Thank you again for all of your kindness and hard work to put Alfred's Chessie back into great condition. We appreciate all of you.

Sincerely,
Samma Thompson
P. O. Box 1783
Redmond, OR 97756
(541) 504-7755

2009 O.C.M.E. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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Betty Cummings.....(714) 979-9390
Janet Trom.....(714) 546-4721

<u>DATES TO REMEMBER</u>
October 3rd Sat.: Board Meeting 8:00 a.m.
General Meeting 9:00 a.m. - Clubhouse
followed by Work Day. Coffee and donuts at
meeting -- Lunch at noon
October 17th & 18th Sat. & Sun. : Public Run
Weekend 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
November 7th Sat.: Board Meeting 8:00 a.m.
General Meeting 9:00 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 & 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.

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



Dave Bowen. Mel Bresee, Marilyn Donnelly* Eric Engle, Russ Green*, Paul Hammond*, Erik Hansen*, Joe*, Carolun* & Nikki* Hayes, Raymond Hill*, Hank Hornsveld*, Norm Jobse*, Gary Kimble, Jim Kontur*, Ken Matassa*, Juanita Matassa*, Doug* & Bailey* Maywald, Dan O’Brien*, Kevin & Donna O’Connor, Larry Ogle, Phil Parker*, Bill Pemberton, Bob Platfoot*, Jerry Platfoot*, Richie Scanapico, Gary Sharp*, Dixon Sheldon, Mike Springer*, Lois Taube*, Kevin, Lori & Jeff Tolan, Steve* & Janet* Trom*, Chuck & Jean Trom, Dick Zeleznikar.

“*” signifies working both Saturday and Sunday..

The **Tolan** Family for jumping in right away to make sure we had a hearty delicious Italian dinner Saturday night.



Sorry Jeff, no picture.

Joe Hayes and **Chuck Rollins** for serving breakfast Saturday and Sunday



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

Carol Hunneyman, Chip Bassett, Dixon Sheldon, Phil Parker, Russ Green, Bill Pemberton.



Sorry Chuck, no picture

**HOLLY FERGUSON IS NOW
OCME’s NEW BIRTHDAY PARTY
RECRUITMENT COORDINATOR.**

Mike Springer for producing meet materials with rules, maps, delivering safety meetings, repairing water supplies, helping out and pitching in wherever he was needed.



{see **Spotlight**, Page 4}



{Spotlight, From Page 3}

OCME's 2009 Fall Meet

Gary Sharp for developing and delivering additional training for our younger attendees Saturday afternoon (which people of all ages found beneficial), as well as a last-minute conductors training Saturday morning.



Norm Jobse for behind-the-scene park upkeep, set out and pick up of convenience items such as light standards, and station-track entry control.



Doug Cavanaugh for donating hot dogs and hamburgers that we were able to provide

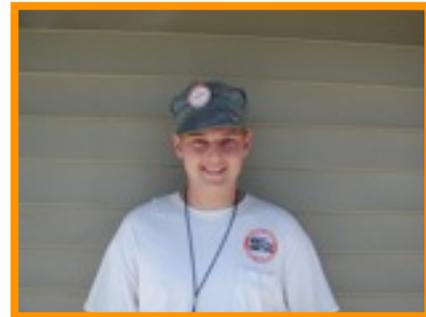
to the Lions Club to sell lunch both Saturday and Sunday.

Everyone who cleaned up the leftover mess in and around the clubhouse after each meal while the rest of us went back out to work or play.

Those who ran the trains and performed the station activities necessary to provide safe and enjoyable rides to the public.

Unfortunately, it just isn't possible to know what and how everyone contributed to the success of the meet. So, let us say 'thank you' and 'well done' to all.

There was also a milestone at Mackerel Flats & Goat Hill Junction during the 2009 Fall Meet. For the first time the public was pulled by a "solar" powered engine, which was built by Club member **Eric Engle**. Eric is now a regular member.



Alex Acuña, one of our regular engineers is temporarily out of service.

