

ORANGE COUNTY MODEL ENGINEERS

WAY FREIGHT

August 2012
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www.ocmetrains.org



Upcoming Events

LOOKING FOR GHOSTS AND GOBLIN'S

Last year we gave away over 600 pumpkins to happy children including several charities. We are planning on 800 for this year. We will need the support of our engineer's and conductors and the Pumpkin Handler's, Hearder's, and Scarecrows. Please come in costume.

Tickets were available for donation during July's run days. They are \$4.00 donation to cover the cost of the Pumpkins. In addition we are planning on Kristie's for face painting of pumpkins and kids, Terry will be taking pictures and we will have a vendor selling hotdogs and hamburgers.

If you have decorations bring them out. We are planning on a nice dinner after the event so plan on staying for this also. There will be camping for this event so if you can come out and camp. IF not just come by for a nice afternoon maybe a salsa contest. Last year thanks to our new members who put us on Facebook we had a very good turnout this will probably help us again this year.

So come out and enjoy the railroad and make many happy families. We are a smile factory and with our trains and our great group of train members we will once again have a great event.

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Special Events This Month

- ◆ Public Run Day's

2012 O.C.M.E. Board of Directors

Joe Hayes(310) 386-9662
Dixon Sheldon.....(909)861-8810
Ken Matassa..... (714)547-2093
Larry Ogle.....(714) 539-9382
Claire Marsden..... (714) 457-7160

Appointed Officers:
Mackerel Flats Mercantile Store
Co-Mgrs:

Betty Cummings.. *82(714) 979-9390
Janet Trom.....(714) 546-4721

DATES TO REMEMBER

AUG 4

Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house. Lunch at meeting. Board Meeting 3:00

Aug 18-19

Sat. & Sun Public Run
Sat. & Sun Public Run
Weekend 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM

SEPT 1

Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house. Lunch at meeting. Board Meeting 3:00

SEPT 15-16

Sat. & Sun Public Run

A FIRST CLASS RAILROAD BY PRESIDENT JOE HAYES



The July work/run weekend was a lot of fun for several people. Much of what we wanted to get done was accomplished, although more needs to be done. After a short break from the long weekend, we were back at the club to meet guests.

We were host to members of the Australian group on their way from Train Mountain in Oregon, four members of a club in Queensland. The Australians brought three diesel/electric engines to ride our rails. Their equipment was specially gauged to fit the 7.5 inch gauge west coast standards (their normal gauge is approximately 7.25 inch - I didn't ask what the exact gauge was). They were true Diesel/electric with three cylinder diesel

motors in what appeared to be quarter scale locomotives. We rigged up a train of riding cars using the Chessie's riding car to adapt the coupling for them to use. While they were running Dave Bowen had his coal fired Pacific steaming with youngsters busy "helping" him to operate it. Jeff Tolan was out running his larger steamer "Emily" with his dad. Norm was seen riding his tank car behind his engine. We had various other pieces of equipment running to support a large birthday party, work parties. We received several compliments on the track condition, and the friendliness they felt from the club.

As the day went on, we were invited to operate their equipment and Jeff decided to give it a go. He was last seen with the widest smile I have seen in some time, even though it looked as though he was crammed into a very tight engineer's compartment. There are pictures in a lot of cameras. Maybe we can get some published for all to see.

The monthly club membership meeting was not held for July due to the busy schedule and sporadic attendance. The board did not officially meet as a group, although we did have several casual meetings for incidental reasons. This was also due to different reasons that kept us apart - trips, family reasons, other commitments, etc...

There are 28 curved track panels - some are for siding use - ready for installation. Also prepared material for additional curved panels is ready for assembly at the curve jig. Five straight panels have also been built. Hopefully we can put a dent in the Higgins track problems next work weekend with all of this preparation.

The fall meet needs volunteers now! Contact either Dixon or myself for details on how you can help.

Sheldon's Corner



We are busy doing many things and I forget to let the rest of the members know what is happening. We are planning on adding additional barns so our members can have storage for their equipment and maybe another barn next to A&B to get all of our club equipment onto Skinner yard.

We have a new member that has given us a way to straighten some of the steaming bays that need some attention. Patrick Ledbetter has finished new switch machines so some of the older ones can be replaced and some new sections of track will have new machines. We have also purchased an electric switch and another possible member has donated a solar panel to power it. We are

working on a way to override the electric if needed when this project is complete we may be able to power the switches in the station. Larry Ogle & Kenny Matassa have improved the PA system with some new ideas. Glenn added an outlet for our birthdays so they can have power for their music. Myron is our lead man on switches, Bob Platfoot is always busy fixing the older switches that Norm and others find needing repair. Myron and Joe are replacing the wheels on the transfer table. We are making track panels to replace track needing replacement.

We have been busy at the railroad if you have a spare Saturday or Wednesday come on down and help out we always have something to do and can always use the help. These are just a few of the projects we have going on.

Safety Tips from Chuckles



For our younger members please show them distances by using something visually. I have told them to keep 200 feet between trains on the track many of the young members do not know how long this is so I used an orange marker and the signal bridge to show the distance.

When moving the transfer table make sure the barn doors are closed or fully open. The other day I was standing behind a door when the table was in motion. It just bumped my

shoulder had a child been standing there it could have been worse. If you are the first to use the lift please drain the water out of the storage tanks. If you need assistance please ask and if you are the last to use the lift please turn it just to the right of the turntable and all the way down you can walk around the lift more safely.

Happy operating
Chuckles

I've been working on the railroad in June

Steve Trom *, Chuck Trom, Ken Matassa *, Larry Ogle *, Mel Bresee, , Carolyn Hayes *, Joe Hayes *, Betty Cummings *, Russell Maguire *, Lois Taube *, Tim Bartlett , Cher Bartlett , Dave Bowen *, Mark Johnson *, Jerry Platfoot *, Kevin & Jeff Tolan, Gary Sharp *Mike Springer, Paul Hammond *, Raymond Hill, Mark Johnson, Gary Kimble, Anthony* & Christine Steinmetz*, Gary Dutra, Derek & Clair Marsden, Eric Engle



*signifies both days

BIRTHDAY PARTY'S

Anyone who is a qualified engineer and or conductor please make yourself available for 1 Saturday every 6 months to help with these events. Please contact Holly Ferguson hollyferguson@yahoo.com or call Dixon Sheldon 909-861-8810

The parties are 2 hours long morning and afternoon and plan on an additional 2 hours to setup and put away equipment and yes put out the trash. We are a smile factory, kids of all ages come to us and we do our best to send them off with a smile.

Thank you

Russ Green, Ken Matassa *, Jack Young*, Dixon Sheldon & Eric Engle

For running the birthday party's in July.

*signifies two partys



Ramble

We had visitors from Down under and they brought their engines they had a wonderful day and evening.

We were lucky enough to have 4 guests they said we had a smooth track. Their tracks in Australia are much smaller than ours they have about 1 mile of track. They are into the hobby just like us one of them Pete spoke about his track at his home he is building into the hillside.

We had a nice lunch we had some of our member's equipment out as well, Dave Bowen, Jeff and Kevin Tolen, and others. Larry, Jeff, and Andrew were able to operate the equipment the Australian's brought with them. Everyone had a very nice day we even had a birthday party during their visit. At the end of the day they sadly packed their equipment for the next stop in their journey.

Those of us who have been to other tracks know the feeling of having to leave to go home it is not a fun time but we look forward to seeing the next track. We may never see these people again but we were able to enjoy their accent, equipment, tall tales, and we wish them well in their journey.





ORANGE COUNTY
MODEL ENGINEERS

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We're on the Web!
www.ocmetrains.org

ATTENTION ON THE RAILROAD

GOLF CARTS

You may have noticed the carts at the club. One of our members has allowed us to use them when they are available. They have been very helpful for many tasks that we have used the trains for in the past. Darrell Gilbert has allowed us to use them so if you see him please thank him for his generous offer.



4th of July Work week and Fun Run

We worked as planned and when Friday afternoon came around we put away the tools unless you wanted to work and we played the rest of the weekend. We had a nice dinner, potlucks & nice run days and nights. We did not have as many people as we would have liked for our Mexican dinner however some of our members brought some very good dishes we had about 20 members come out. We also had great run that night and one of the new members ran into the night until the rest of us had to go to bed.

The watermelon was to die for and we had lots of hobo stories. Lots of track, switches, landscape, and rolling stock were worked on as well. Thank you for all who came out and worked on the railroad and enjoyed the railroad this time we quit earlier like we planned last year.



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Our railroad is located in Fairview Park, 2480 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA.

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