



# ORANGE COUNTY MODEL ENGINEERS

**WAY FREIGHT**  
**December 2013**  
**Volume 30, Issue 12**



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**Special Events**

- ◆ Work Day
- ◆ Public Run Day's

Riders this Month  
**2495**

## Note From the Board [www.ocmetrains.org](http://www.ocmetrains.org)

For the last run of the year we are planning a dinner after the trains are put away on Saturday. The plan is to have one of the vendors provide the main dish and we provide salad and deserts a-l salads, m-z deserts last minute details will be in Facebook or website.

We want to thank every member who has helped us during this year we have had many challenges and we have met them head on. The Snoopy House will be an adventure just like what has been done at Fullerton Railroad days. Every time we have had an event we have had the support of all of our members. Some members cannot attend all of the events but they work in the background and support the railroad in other ways. So a big thanks is in order for all of you for another great year at the railroad.

**The Board**



## 2013 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
- Bob Brooks..... (562) 429-8325

**Appointed Officers:**  
**Mackerel Flats Mercantile Store Co-  
 Mgrs:**

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

**Way Freight**  
 Patrick Ledbetter .....ocmenews@aol.com

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- Dec 7**  
 Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house. Lunch at meeting. Board Meeting 3:00
- Dec 21-22**  
 Sat. & Sun Public Run
- Jan 4**  
 Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house. Lunch at meeting. Board Meeting 3:00
- Jan 18-19**  
 Sat. & Sun Public Run





## A FIRST CLASS RAILROAD BY PRESIDENT JOE HAYES

We just completed the necessary track panels we need for the Snoopy House event at Costa Mesa City Hall. We are in the process of determining what limitations the finished layout will require to operate safely. There have been many questions asked by various members that

show the club's concern for this project. Each question has been reviewed and discussed by the board and other members to find the necessary actions to operate this train safely. If you have questions about this project contact any board member. Remember, any detail overlooked now will be a mountain we will have to climb later. We will not pull public if it is not safe.

The Christmas events at the Park will require as many people as we can bring together. I am looking forward to enjoying this season with as many people as I can. The Santa Claus run is shaping up nicely with other organizations asking to be involved. The Polar Express Run also is apparently going to be a fun time, remember there is a Party for the Costa Mesa Police and City the same day. Contact Terry Cummings @ 714-979-9390 and Hank Castignetti @ 714-742-2336 for instructions and what is needed.

There will be a Pot Luck Dinner following the Saturday Santa Claus Run. We hope to hold it at the Station as soon as possible after the public has departed. If anyone would like to help out in the planning and set-up contact Carolyn Hayes @ 310-386-9834.

## Sheldon's Corner



Another year has gone by so what do we have to show for it. The 4<sup>th</sup> Pumpkin Festival/Scarecrow's, Fish fry, Pump in, Spring and Fall Meets, lots of potlucks. We have provided community services to many students; the Sunshine Academy has helped us and received community service also. We have Eagle Scout Projects. You have given the club many ideas and we have tried to implement most of them. All of the ideas are great. I asked for input the other day each person that replied had

different ideas. This is what makes us a club we all have ideas and most of them are good ones. Many of the ideas have improved our operations making our operations safer and by changing the way we do things we have allowed these ideas to make our jobs easier.

We were given a 1 year extension by the Parks Commission. We challenged this at the City Council and we now have a 5 year agreement.

We have a new rail bender, new battery operated tools, a jump starter for our fleet. We repaired our barns, we put roofs on the sheds we got from the youth Fair, Members have donated a mulcher, an auto ballast tamper, post drivers for the Scarecrow's that can also be used to drive stakes for Santa's Village, we are improving our track building we now have a refurbished curve track jig, we are turning out better switches, our track crews are getting the job done better and with less effort.



## I've been working on the railroad

Ken Matassa \*, Gary Sharp, Anthony Steinmetz, Christine Steinmetz, Russell Maguire\*, Dean Zeeman\*, Lori Johnson\*, Gary Kimble\*, Jerry Platfoot \*, Bob Platfoot\*, Mel Bresee, Dalton Johnson\*, Lellani Vincent, Lois Taube \*, Bob Brooks\*, Hank Castignetti\*, Glenn Swain\*, Joe Hays\*, Dixon Sheldon\*, Russ Green, Larry Ogle\*, Stefanie Drake\*, Mike Springer\*, Mark Johnson\*, Ronald Blanchard, Eric Engle, Kevin Engle, Joe Steinmetz, Jake Zeeman & Andy Romer

\*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 Hank Castignetti [hanksterc@aol.com](mailto:hanksterc@aol.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.

**Dean Zeeman, Russell Maguire, Dalton Johnson, Russ Green, Jack Young  
Gary Kimble, Hank Castignetti**

**Thank you to our Birthday Party Crews**



## Safety Tips from Chuckles



The North Pole will be here later this month. During the winter months plan to be hot and cold. Bring a sweater or jacket keep them in your car and when you go onto the track take them with you if you have operated during the winter months you know how windy it gets and a jacket will make your body stay warm. The only thing better would be a bowl of rum balls.

We all are doing a good job of watching the points and the position of the switches. No one wants to put an engine on the ground. So keep up the good job Santa's putting all of us on the good list.

Please have a safe and Happy Holidays this Year

*Merry*  
*Christmas*





ORANGE COUNTY  
MODEL ENGINEERS

P.O. Box 3216  
Costa Mesa, CA 92628

Phone:  
(949) 54-TRAIN

We're on the Web!  
[www.ocmetrains.org](http://www.ocmetrains.org)

## Attention on the Railroad

We forgot to recognize everyone who helped especially our younger members. One special person was Amy Blanchard. There we many others next year we will make sure everyone is acknowledged for their contributions of time and effort that made this event one to remember thank you.

### Dues for 2014

Please send in your Dues by January 31st to be included in  
In the 2014 Membership Roster

### Sheldon's Corner Continued

We have engine mtc members who are making repairs to our fleet to improve performance of our equipment. Our fleet will be increasing we have acquired 2 more engines. We plan on putting one into passenger service the other may be sold to allow us to purchase a new engine. The 596 is almost 20 years old it may go into retirement or be refitted. The newer engines have worked well. So we have been busy with many projects, plus the monthly runs, the meets, with all of this going on we have gained several new members, some new vendors, yesterday after the last train had gone down 3 theater people came by wanting a ride it was 4 pm. We just put the Plumcove back on the track from the test track. So we gave them a ride. While we were waiting for the cove to arrive at the station they mentioned that one of them could sing we may have Christmas carolers for next month.

Calling all engineers and conductors and train crews, station masters, gate keepers, track mtc crews, we have been invited to Snoopy House at the City of Costa Mesa city hall. If you saw the circle of track at the birthday siding this will be moved to city hall early December. We can use as many volunteers as we can get. We will be running trains from December 13 thru December 25<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help great this could be another once in a lifetime event. We have had several of these since I joined, remember the boys and girls from down under. So plan on engineering another great event. We will operate as early as 5pm till 10 pm so dress warm, bring a flashlight, one of our members has a working train lantern this would be an added touch if they have the time. We are planning on camping nearby possibly at the club some of us travel many miles to donate time to the city. Watch Facebook and the website for the latest information.



O.C.M.E., P.O. Box 3216, Costa Mesa, CA 92628-3216, (949) 54-TRAIN.

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

**If you have any for sale items please send the info to [ocmenews@aol.com](mailto:ocmenews@aol.com)**

**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**.