



# ORANGE COUNTY MODEL ENGINEERS

WAY FREIGHT

April 2014

Volume 31, Issue 4



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## Special Events

- ◆ Work Day
- ◆ Public Run Day's

## Riders This Month

**2762**

## Brake In

[www.ocmetrains.org](http://www.ocmetrains.org)

I am sure you have heard that on March 1, 2014 we had thieves break into our compound and by the train station. This happened once before several years ago then they took aluminum from the compound. We changed locks and beefed up security changed the clubhouse lock. We are planning on doing more beefing. We are getting proposals from several security companies we will probably stick with the one we are currently using however other companies may have ideas we want to incorporate into our existing system. We will have new procedures for entering the compound so if you have e-mail access please send us your address to Patrick the editor and Dixon. This way we can update you with what to do to prevent the police being called. This happened to me once at work I tripped the alarm called the alarm company believe me you do not want a policeman tapping you on your shoulder and asking for id. I was supposed to be where I was the vendor forgot to let me know they had changed the access. Anyway we will be updating the system.

We had many new riders this weekend some for may join the club. Hank sent out an all call for engineers and everyone showed up and we all had a great day putting smiles on children and their parents. Thank you all for helping show our guests a good time.  
Dixon Sheldon

## 2014 O.C.M.E. Board of Directors

### DATES TO REMEMBER

#### April 4

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

#### April 19-20

Sat. & Sun Public Run

#### April 24-27

Spring Meet

#### May 5

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

#### May 19-20

Sat. & Sun Public Run

Joe Hayes .....(310) 386-9662  
Dixon Sheldon.....(909)861-8810  
Ken Matassa..... (714)547-2093  
Russ Maguire  
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 ocmeneews@aol.com



## A FIRST CLASS RAILROAD BY JOE HAYES

While working on the railroad last Wednesday I came across a group of youngsters from Waldorf Elementary School (or should I say THEY came across ME!). It was Miss Christiane Bohr's 2nd grade class, along with assistant Miss Fabian, out for their weekly walk in Fairview Park. As it always is with kids and trains, they clamored for a ride. Unfortunately my train was way too short and I did not even have the required second crew member (club rules require 2

certified operators for safety). It was a toss up as to who was more disappointed, the kids or me! Little kids like to ride 'em, big kids like to drive 'em! So we are in the process of coordinating a future Fairview Park field trip that WILL include a train ride for Miss Bohr's 2nd grade class. But please, shhhhhh, don't tell the kids!

Hank Castignetti



The Presidents message was not  
Received this month.

## Sheldon's Corner



It has been a busy month lots of things happening we as a group will make it thru. I feel sorry for the kids who had to see our railroad damaged. We as OCME members will bring it back even better than before when the bridges 2 are built they will be electrified and will have targets thanks to Tony. Each one of us has different trades and hobbies that make us a great group to work with. I also want to install outlets around the station to eliminate the need for extension cords. This will make the operations at the station easier.

Part of our team that rarely gets praise is our store Betty and the members she has working for her make this a special place for kids. I do have a gripe, some of our members can multitask and could have worked on the rails also but Betty asked first. Betty gets the best donuts some of the engineers come early to get their special donut she aims to please. Thank you Harvey Girls for doing what you do best.

Kenny has the system down if your have ever helped him set up you will find that his system works best. Norm even after many operations still comes out and keeps our park clean if anyone has any spare time early most mornings he could use some help.

There are many of you that help out doing what you do best thank you for what you do. We get the job done and have fun in the process.

Please come out next month and plan on having fun at the many events.

Dixon Sheldon

## I've been working on the railroad

Ken Matassa\*, Betty Cummings\*, Allen Stephen\*, Jerry Platfoot\*, Bob Platfoot\*, Gary Sharp\*, Russ Maguire\*, Dean Zeeman\*, Steve Trom\*, Chuck Trom, Gary Kimble\*, Bob Brooks\*, Jack Young, Connor Dahl, Mark Johnson\*, Lori Johnson\*, Larry Ogle, Hank Castignetti\*, Andy Romer\*, Bryan Lacy, Anthony Steinmiez\*, Christine Steinmiez\*, Jim Crane, Derek Marsden, Clair Marsden, Jim Marsden, Robert Cohen\*, Lori Cohen\*, Lois Taube\*, Dalton Johnson\*, Eric Engle, Dixon Sheldon\*, Dan O'Brien, Dave Bowen, Stefanie Drake\*, Glen Swain, Lori Tolan, Kevin Tolan, Ernie Leep. Donna O'Conner & Kevin O'Connor

\*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 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 to our Birthday Party Crews**

Bryan Lacy, Dean Zeeman, Russ Maguire, Russ Green, Bob Brooks, Jack Young, Ray Hill, Hank Castignetti



## Safety Tips from Chuckles



Well I have some news there are other members in the club that may get hurt by hurrying up, when using the transfer table you need to hear the bell ringing otherwise you are rolling along too fast. Also you should be pushing rather than pulling if you were to loose traction and fall you might get hurt I have done this my dad just picked me up and brushed off the dust.

We as a group are doing a good job you have followed my dad's advise in keeping 1000 feet between trains if you have any suggestions that you think would improve our operations please let my dad know. The pink cards are working well if you see a problem let us know it may be a problem someone

else saw also but thought it might be petty.

Several people have told my dad that the seats on some of our engines are wearing out you could just us another cheek well you will not have to the work engine, 1104, and the 596 will have new seats as soon as we can install them. Bob Brooks has been refitting the riding cars all of this makes the engineers, conductors, and our guests more comfortable during their trip possibly making a safer trip. Happy steaming, dieseling, pedaling, and sunning. Have fun be safe and enjoy the railroad.



ORANGE COUNTY  
MODEL ENGINEERS

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(949) 54-TRAIN

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

## Attention on the Railroad

### Wish List for OCME

- Update security system
- Rebuild signal bridge
- Containers 40 foot, 30 foot we can use up to 12 ours are rusting on the bottoms.
- Auger to dig trenches for conduits for security systems. Update wiring on tracks.
- Used lawnmowers

### Spring Meet & Upcoming Events

We currently have 1 person who has signed up to help at the meet he will be worn out if he does not get help. If 20 people sign up for 2 hours each we would be covered. Please sign up on e-mail to Robert Cohen or Dixon as soon as you can. Let them know what you would like to do. We are planning on a get together at Goathill Tavern if they allow children. IF not we will choose another location.

Friday night we will have a potluck bring your own meat, and something to share. There will be cold sodas, water for drinking and other ideas possibly old boiled eggs? IF you have a favorite recipe bring the recipe to add to our cook book yes we are still working on this.

Saturday Will be potluck, a-I main dish, j-r salads, s-z deserts yes the bark will be here.

We have the younger crowd planning some of the games and events so show them what you can do you may be surprised.

IF you have a sleeping bag, tent, trailer, motorhome or anything in between plan on having a good time. Make sure to bring flashlights, gloves, whistle, hats, sunscreen, and radios. Oh also bring your smile we are going to have fun despite having the damage that was done to us.

I have a member going to provide us training on how to ballast he is currently building a railroad from downtown la to the airport so he should know the proper way to do it. If Terry could show us how to rerail this would be nice also we have many new members. We may have a band leader so if you have an instrument bring it. Otherwise you will have to listen to tall tales.

So plan on having a good time and bring a friend. I have asked several people who have been involved in bringing in all of the donations to help us rebuild

Dixon Sheldon

### Upcoming Events

- April 1<sup>st</sup> a car show 3pm-7pm
- April 11-13 Youth Fair 9 am-5 pm
- April 19<sup>th</sup> Pump-In 10- 330
- April 20<sup>th</sup> run day Easter 10-3:30
- April 24<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> Spring Meet
- May 3-4 Civil War reenactment 10-5

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**.