



# ORANGE COUNTY MODEL ENGINEERS

**WAY FREIGHT**  
August 2014  
Volume 31, Issue 8



## New Ideas

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

Last month several members gave me some new ideas we have used them to make our jobs easier and safer. We have a solution for the 214 we have parts on order. So if you have an idea please share it with the board.

Patrick is building us 2 track panel cars so we will be able to haul 8 to 10 track panels on each car. Earlier this month we hauled each panel one at a time to and from the compound this takes more effort and wastes time. If we can get all materials to a jobsite then we can spend more time working on a job and get it done quicker. We are also beefing up the tamping tools Hank worked so hard with these they broke. Chuck Trom and Gary Sharp did a great job on these. Without these tools it takes much longer to tamp the ballast. Thank you all for designing and building these tools for us to use.

Dixon

### Contents

New Ideas	1
OCME Board of Directors	1
Dates to remember	1
President's Message	2
Sheldon's Corner	2
I've been working	3
Birthday Party's	3
Tips from Chuckles	3
Attention on the Railroad	4
Meeting Summary	4

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

### DATES TO REMEMBER

### Special Events

- ◆ Work Day
- ◆ Public Run Day's

### Riders This Month

**3135**

- 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 [ocmenews@aol.com](mailto:ocmenews@aol.com)

- Aug 5**  
Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house  
Board Meeting 3:00
- Aug 19-20**  
Sat. & Sun Public Run
- Sept 6**  
Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house.  
Lunch at meeting. Board Meeting 3:00
- Sept 20 -21**  
Sat. & Sun Public Run



## A FIRST CLASS RAILROAD BY JOE HAYES

I need help from the membership to determine if the gauge of the railroad should have a set value.

Currently the gauge varies at different locations in the track layout for multiple reasons. No distance between the rail heads is designated as the OCME track gauge. Contact me at the club on Wednesdays and Saturdays for your inputs as to what and why the gauge should be.

### SHELDON'S CORNER CONTINUED

We could not do it without all of your help. We come out and leave the lawn that needs mowing, the cars that need fixing, housework that needs doing and we produce an experience for our riders that cannot be provided any other way. You can go to amusement parks but what we do and how we do it cannot be done in any other way. So for you new members please come out and get involved with the railroad. As you progress you will learn many new words and talents that will promote what we do. Come out and plan on having a fun day at the railroad and learn something new.

Dixon

## Sheldon's Corner



We have many new members who ask what we can do I am a marketing person or draft person. Well I have done air conditioning for over 40 years I said the same thing when I joined. I met a gentleman Bob Watkins he owned the DIXCBOB 5860. He asked for help on his engine we got it running. Then he asked if I could conduct I said I had never conducted. He asked if I ever engineered nope. Well I was his engineer for more than 5 years. I never understood why he allowed me to run his train until after his passing and I allowed another person to operate my engine the 5860. I purchased it from Bob's family. It is like Disney's cartoon with Chip & Dale and Donald Duck Donald sits on his caboose and watches Chip

and Dale operate it. We all come from different back rounds most have nothing to do with the railroad, what we do have is a need to have a hobby. This is what OCME is to me.

I have learned over the years how to speak the language like "shove em back" or "that el due" sounds strange but after you learn what these terms mean it will make sense. We are a smile factory and we make everyone who comes to our railroad leave with a smile.

As you get your training a written test then learn by doing how to conduct, and later engineer you will understand what this hobby does for you. Yesterday while discussing this with a marketing person riding the train it sent chills down my back thinking this person who knows nothing about our hobby might be the best engineer we train. We work with many people with many different talents. As a group we produce a ride for the public and an operation for us train nuts. We have given back to the community more than 1 million rides for the Orange County residents since we started. It takes all of our talents and our learned experiences at the railroad to pull it off. At the end of each day that we operate I look back at all of the passengers we hauled that day and all of the smiles we sent on their way home. This is something that is unique to what we do.

CONTINUED ABOVE

## I've been working on the railroad

Mei Bresee, Ken Matassa\*, Bob Harrison, Craig Okun\*, Betty Cummings\*, Glenn Swain\*, Joey Hayes\*, Carolyn Hayes\*, Jerry Platfoot\* Bob Platfoot\*, Christine Steinmetz, Anthony Steinmetz\*, Gary Sharp\*, Russell Maguire\*, Mark Johnson\*, Lori Johnson\*, Maike Springer\*, Hank Castignetti\*, Bob Brooks\*, Eric Engle, Paul Hammond\*, Don Pebley, Mike Nelson, Tony Burizo, Jeff Tolan, Kevin Tolan, Dalton Johnson\*, Stefanie Drake\*, Gary Kimble, Lois Taube, Dixon Sheldon\*, Terry Cummings, Andrew Romer



## 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.

### Thank you to our Birthday Party Crews

Dean Zeeman, Russ Maguire, Bob Brooks, Bryan Lacy, Jack Young, Dalton Johnson, Mark Johnson, Hank Castignetti



## Safety Tips from Chuckles

When using the work train when putting the engine back make sure to put the gearshift in a neutral position if you don't do this the engine will not come out of the barn and someone will need to crawl over the other engines to place it into neutral to get it out. So please remember to do this.

We have purchased 3 new lifting devices for re-railing cars and engines from Dan O'Brien. They are located in the 509,1104, and the 596. Anthony Stiemetz demonstrated its use Sunday during the safety



meeting. We will also show how to use this device at the general meeting on Saturday. We have moved some of the cars in container C into other barns to make better use of our limited space. Kenny is updating the roster for each barn.

I have mentioned before take the extra time to line up the bridges between the transfer table and the barns. It is embarrassing to have a car miss its mark. This also ties up the transfer table for others to use.



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

FALL MEET

SEPT 25 -28

PUMPKIN RUN/ SCARECROW FESTIVAL

OCT 4-5

## Board Meeting Summary

### Summary of General and Board Meetings on 12 July 2014

Hank Castignetti has agreed to stock the sodas in the club house. Please remember these are for sale at 50 cents each. We still have not heard if we will be given a cooler for the sodas. There may be a slight chance, but since our volume is very low it does not look promising. In the mean time they are in the refrigerator.

The club is providing a static display for the Snoopy House. There is talk about some others supplying a Thomas the Train type ride. OCME will not be involved in running or operating this train ride.

Good news to report on the compound fence upgrade. We have received three bids and are evaluating them and will be negotiating with the selected vendor soon.

We have seen the successful use of Dan Obrien's re-railers; so the club is going to purchase three of them for our work horse engines.

The club approved Larry Ogle's request for an outing for a scout group. The outing was held last week and was very well attended by the group. It went off very well.

### Progress On Our Track Upgrade

In the last two work days the club has replace 30 panels and one switch for a total of 300 ft. of track. We have about 30 more panels and one switch to be replaced in order to reach the bridge. Our goal is to have this section of mainline done for the fall meet. So come on out and help Craig Okun and Lori Johnson build panels; Diana Gonzalez, Victor Schafee, Elliot family(Erin, Robert, Robert(11), and Luke(7)) dismantle and salvage old track; or Terry Cummings, Hank Castignetti, Andy Romer, Lori and Mark Johnson, Larry Ogle, Gary Sharp, Glen Swain, Russ Maguire, and Dixon Sheldon lay track. There is fun for everyone.

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**.