



Attention on the Railroad

BOILER TESTING

This month is boiler safety month we will be testing boilers on March 14th the Second Saturday of the month.

Please remember if you do not have your boilers tested you will not be able to run your Steam Loco until you do.

ORANGE COUNTY
MODEL ENGINEERS

P.O. Box 3216
Costa Mesa, CA 92628

Phone:
(949) 54-TRAIN

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

Board Meeting Summary

The Board discussed that we still need a chairman for the Spring Meet and one for the Fall Meet. In order to have these activities we need the membership's participation in the organization and running of these events. Please contact one of the Board members if you are interested. The dates for the Spring Meet are May 8th – 10th.

If you know of anyone who has not sent in their dues or did not receive their Way Freight, remind them to send in their dues.

The club is offering for sale to club members the useless scrap aluminum rail that has been salvaged as a result of replacing worn out track. The club is saving the used aluminum rail that can be used by the club and storing it in a club container. Russ Maguire is sorting the rail and the useless rail will be stored by the chain link fence behind the club house. Members are not to take any useless aluminum rail unless the club has authorized a sale. See a board member.

Our transfer tables are in need of sandblasting (or equivalent) and painting. If you have the equipment and the interest in helping us out, please contact the Board.

CONTINUED FROM PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

A chairperson is needed to plan and run the Spring Meet. This is a serious need as we only have 2 months to go. Please contact a board member to sign up or make suggestions.

The Annual Banquet was enjoyed by 65 attendees(including families and friends). Hank Castignetti presented the Wooden Whistle Award for birthday party service to Jack Young and Bob Brooks. Betty Cummings was recognized for her continued support to the booking of birthday parties and running the store. New members introduced were: Dean and Karen Dalton; Steve, Charlene, and Nick Hanrahan; Ernie Leep and Paula La Rosa; Craig and Vivien Okun; George and Shannon Shearer; David and Reed Simmons; Arthur Schall; and Mattia Miscali. Arthur Schall is an exchange student from Germany and Mattia Miscali is an exchange student from Italy. Both are being hosted by Allen and Dreena Stephens.

Continued support from all members is needed to maintain this First Class Railroad. Thanks for all you do –
Bob Brooks

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

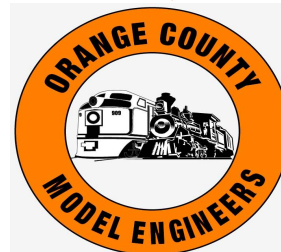
Our railroad is located in Fairview Park, 2480 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA.

If you have any for sale items please send the info to ocmenews@aol.com

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**.



WAY FREIGHT
March 2015
Volume 32, Issue 3



Contents

What's Happening	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

Special Events

- ◆ Work Day
- ◆ Public Run Day's

Riders This Month

What's Happening

www.ocmetrains.org

The work crew on Sat. Feb. 7th made great progress on Higgins. Starting at the top almost 190 feet of track was laid. This crew had pulled up about 660 feet of track the Sat. before. The crew consisted of Gary Sharp, Andy Romer, Larry Ogle, Ken Matassa, Mark Johnson, Lori Johnson, George Shearer, Ernie Leep, Paul Hammond, Hank Castignetti, and Bob Brooks. All of the tack panels and switches for Higgins have been built by Bob Osborn, Myron Peterson, Craig and Vivien Okun, Lori Johnson, and Jeff Garrett. Keep your eye on this column for track progress and better yet for opportunities to be part of this great crew of gandy dancers. Work yet to be done: finish Higgins, finish the Horse Shoe, replace the track from the water tower to the station to the main grade crossing.

2015 O.C.M.E. Board of Directors

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 7th

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

March 21-22

Sat. & Sun Public Run

April 4th

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

April 18-19

Sat. & Sun Public Run

Bob Brooks(562) 429-8325
Dixon Sheldon.....(909)861-8810
Ken Matassa..... (714)547-2093
Russ Maguire.....(562)799-0052
Paul Hammond.....(818)620-3480

Appointed Officers:

Mackerel Flats Mercantile Store Co-Mgrs:

Betty Cummings..*82(714) 979-9390
Stefanie Drake(714) 315-6296

Way Freight

Patrick Ledbetter ocmenews@aol.com

A FIRST CLASS RAILROAD BY Bob Brooks



Besides first class rolling stock and first class track, the first class Mackerel Flats and Goat Hill Junction Railroad provides first class support to the local community. Over the past year OCME conducted 24 major public run day events that drew 33,702 public riders. The club also supported: the Lions Club Fish Fry and gave rides to 750 Costa Mesa residents; the Costa Mesa Scare Crow and pumpkin Festival was enjoyed by 850 riders; and the Weichman Realty Polar Express gave rides to approximately 1250

people. This gives rise to a total of 36,552 local riders who enjoyed The Fairview Park activities at no cost to them or the City of Costa Mesa during the past year.

OCME also supported private fund raiser events that include the New Port Beach Police Family Day Christmas party and 60 family birthday parties. Approximately 5100 rides were given to local residents at these activities. All of these activities gave a total of **41,652** riders a unique opportunity to enjoy Fairview Park.

This year the members of the Orange County Model Engineers have donated **8241** hours of labor to operate and maintain the facilities that are enjoyed by the citizens of Costa Mesa at no cost to the City of Costa Mesa. In addition to these hours, the Sun Shine Academy, a resident high school at the Joint Services Base in Orange County, donated 600 hours of labor at Fairview Park.

The railroad track is the backbone of the Mackerel Flats and Goat Hill Junction Railroad. To maintain the track this year our goal is to renew the mainline from the main grade crossing, over the bridge, around the horse shoe, and back to the main grade crossing. We are also renewing Higgins. To date we have replaced 910 feet of track and at this moment we are in the process of replacing 660 feet of track on Higgins. We must complete the Higgins upgrade before the Spring Meet which will be May 8th, 9th, and 10th. Note that the Spring Meet dates were incorrect in last month's Way Freight. We must have two work days each month in Feb., March, and April to accomplish this. The track panels and switches are already built to complete Higgins.

CONTINUED ON LAST PAGE

Sheldon's Corner



Gary Dutra has been Busy with the younger members and the caboose project is well underway. Gary is showing these kids how to use power tools safely and they are making windows, wiring lights, roofing, etc. Angie was taking pictures while they worked.

Craig is getting close to completing the support bench for the bender, when completed you will be able to get into the vault without having to climb over the rollers.

The track crews have removed over 600 feet of track and installed 300 feet of new panels.

The repairs on the signal bridge have been approved it should be back soon.

The 214 is back, the Plumbcove is being repaired.

There are many other jobs that many members are doing. So if you can drop by and help out with a project, Even if you just come down and sit everyone will be glad to see you.

We will be posting a list again of jobs small and larger that anyone can do so if you come out and you do not want to do the job of the day find something on the list to do. I had one member plug a hole in the station a very small job however the hole has been there for 3 months thank you Mel.

DIXON

I've been working on the railroad

Ken Matassa*, Gary Sharp*, Bob Platfoot*, Russell Maguire*, Anthony Steinmetz*, Dalton Johnson*, Christine Steinmetz, Allen Stephens, Bob Harrison, Joe Hayes*, Joe Hayes*, George Shearer, Mark Johnson*, Lori Johnson*, Jack Young, Gary Kimble, Dixon Sheldon*, John Manning, Simon Manning, Mel Bresee, Larry Ogle*, Paul Hammond*, Eric Engle *, Jerry Platfoot*, Kevin Engle*, Glenn Swain*, Lori Tolan, Kevin Tolan, Stefanie Drake*, Betty Cummings, Lois Taube, Jason Cohen, Mandy Cohen, Robert Cohen, Ray Hill, Jeff Garrett, and Mike Springer



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

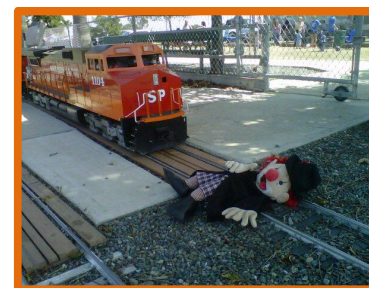
The parties are 2 hours long morning and afternoon and plan on an additional 2 hours to setup and put away equipment and yes put out the trash. We are a smile factory, kids of all ages come to us and we do our best to send them off with a smile.

Thank you to our Birthday Party Crews

Jason Cohen, Hank Castignetti, Bob Harrison, Anthony Steinmetz, Jack Young, Bob Brooks, Dean Zeeman, Russ Maguire & Russ Green



Tips from Chuckles



When traveling on our tracks if you find a spot that needs attention, put a brief note on the white board. Someone told me about a problem on a section of track. If I forget to mention it to our repair crew the work may not get done.

The kids in our club are now using power tools and are being given the safety instructions by Gary. As each member becomes qualified on a

piece of equipment they will have a card to carry showing others that they have taken the safety info and are qualified to use this piece of equipment.

We are getting more engineers and conductors qualified to operate our equipment. We may have enough soon to be able to do birthdays on Sundays like we used to do.

This month is boiler safety month we will be testing boilers on the 14th the Second Saturday of the month. If you have extra pipe plugs bring them with you.