



## Attention on the Railroad

### BOILER TESTING

We had one member come out for the annual boiler testing. If you have a steam loco you are not allowed to operate without having the annual boiler test. Make up testing will be April 11th.  
**DO NOT WAIT UNTILL THE MEET TO HAVE YOUR BOILER TESTED**

### Board Meeting Summary

Board Meeting Summary  
3/7/15

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.

### Presidents Message Continued

How many of you have seen Norm Jobse walking all over the east side of the park keeping it clean and pristine. Well many residents of the community have commented about that gentleman who is always out there beautifying their park. Norm volunteered over 234 hours last year. That is a lot of miles walked over the park. Guess who takes care of the plants and dirty towels! Angie and Gary Dutra are always on site keeping the plants looking good and keeping the towels washed by the sink. Angie wants everyone to wash their hands **GOOD** before drying them on the clean towels. They also keep the city arborist informed about any unhealthy plants in the park. Does anyone know who gets the gas for our engines? Besides being a wealth of technical train information Bob Plattfoot has been getting the gas for years so we can continue to run on run weekends. Do you like to have a cold soda sometimes? Well they are provided by an Italian leprechaun. One Hank Castignetti sneaks them in under the cover of darkness. Another true member, Kevin Tolan took off work and came over during the week and operated the backhoe so the 2x4 track tie material could be unloaded and positioned close by where it is used. These are some examples of the high quality club members in the club. We will bring more of them to the forefront in the future. To all of our members, thank you for all that 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**  
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#### Special Events

- ◆ Work Day
- ◆ Public Run Day's

#### Riders This Month

# 3057

YTD 9189

## What's Happening

www.ocmetrains.org

The Gandy Dancers made great progress on "Higgins" Sat. 3/7/15. All of the track laying was completed including the gravel pit crossing (Special panel work by Craig Okun and Jeff Garrett). Andy Romer and Mel Bresee installed the new switch at the bottom of Higgins. The rest of the crew (Ken Matassa, Gary Sharp, Paul Hammond, Mark Johnson, George Shearer, Dalton Johnson, Bob Brooks, Russ Maguire) in stalled the track and gravel. Yet to be done is the tamping and cross leveling of the entire Higgins section. Bob Osborn and Myron Peterson have been busy constructing a "Y" Switch to be installed near the bike path. Most of the switches on the railroad are either right on left hand departure. This is a new challenge for them. So next work day be prepared to finish Higgins and get on to finishing Russ's Horse Shoe. **Bob Brooks**

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

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

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

**April 4th**  
 Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house  
 Board Meeting 3:00  
**April 18-19**  
 Sat. & Sun Public Run  
**May 2**  
 Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house.  
 Lunch at meeting. Board Meeting 3:00  
**May 16-17**  
 Sat. & Sun Public Run



### A FIRST CLASS RAILROAD BY Bob Brooks

The Mackerel Flats and Goat Hill Junction Railroad enjoyed a stellar weekend this month on our public run days. Rides were given to 1633 people on Saturday 3/21/15 and 1424 people on Sunday 3/22/15. We were able to handle the crowd with four club engines and Marsden's beautiful steam locomotive on

Saturday and with four club engines on Sunday. So far over 9000 rides have

been given to the local citizens this year. The exact numbers are 3131 in January, 3001 in February, and 3057 in March. Ken Matassa, who is our primary station master, has been doing an excellent job over these many years keeping track of and counting the individual riders as each train leaves the station. We look forward to even more fruitful run weekends as the beautiful summer weather arrives. We have been lucky this winter. No days have been rained out. The park looks nice and green now but unless we get more rain it will dry up quickly.

With the nesting season in full swing at Fairview Park the city has asked the club to hold in abeyance activities that may affect the animals. So we will refrain from mowing, and spreading the mulch provided by the city in the picnic areas until the city has completed its bird survey. The club maintenance, birthday parties and run day activities are not affected.

The Spring Meet is being chaired by Dalton Johnson this year. Please read his description of the meet and pay attention to his need for support. The meets are put on by the club. No one individual can supply all of the needs. Speaking of support there are a number of people who heroically perform jobs with little visibility by others.

Continued on the last page

### Sheldon's Corner



It has been almost a year since the break-in we now have our signal bridge back thanks to John Weatherwax and his machine shop. He was able to replicate the missing pieces of the old bridge. Thank you John.

We will be dedicating the bridge next month to Diane Hill she is the lady who trained over 2000 citizens of Costa Mesa on how to perform CPR. Her husband died and because of him she has become a trainer for CPR she also came to our rescue and saved our railroad after the loss of our rail and the

damage done to our signal bridge.

We have shifted our track crews to make repairs to Higgins cut. We are almost done thanks to a lot of hard work and several experts. We had some issues with the tamping machine I was ready to send it out for repairs but Bob Brooks with help from others found out this issue was carburetion a little either and it was running like a top.

The Caboose project is coming along someone suggested installing windows. Gary Dutra brought in his special tools and has been teaching the kids in our club how to use clamps, glues, and many ways to use a sander to built a very nice caboose. Most of the windows are almost completed. They are deciding what type of roofs to apply, and what road name it will have. Patrick Ledbetter made the design. All who have worked on this project have learned a lot thank you Patrick. This caboose will complete the 214 consist. 2 gons, one engine and the caboose. Thank you Gary.

### I've been working on the railroad

Joe Hayes\*, Carolyn Hayes\*, Gary Sharp\*, Ken Matassa\*, Bob Brooks\*, Reed Simmons, David Simmons, Anthony Steinmetz\*, Craig Okun\*, Gary Kimble\*, Christine Steinmetz\*, Mark Johnson\*, Dalton Johnson\*, Dean Zeeman\*, Glenn Swain\*, Jerry Platfoot\*, Dixon Sheldon\*, Betty Cummings\*, Derek Marsden, Claire Marsden, Jim Marsden, Harrison Spain, Russell Maguire\*, George Shearer, Nick Hanrahal, Steve Hanrahal, Bob Harrison, Ray Hill, Bob Platfoot\*, Stefanie Drake\*, Lori Johnson, Jeff Garrett, Lois Taube, Hank Castignetti & Paul Hammond



### 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

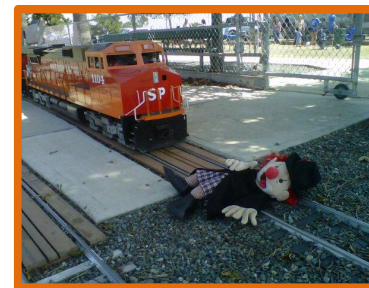
The parties are 2 hours long morning and afternoon and plan on an additional 2 hours to setup and put away equipment and yes put out the trash. We are a smile factory, kids of all ages come to us and we do our best to send them off with a smile.

**Thank you to our Birthday Party Crews**

**Hank Castignetti, George Shearer, Jank Young, Raymond Hill,  
Russ Maguire & Dean Zeeman**



### Tips from Chuckles



I noticed that several of our guests are drinking and riding. They are hiding their sodas in the purses this makes for a sticky mess. The gatekeeper needs to notice these things before our guests board the trains. This also includes suckers, candy, etc. Lets try to keep our fleet clean. Also our guests are standing on the cars while boarding, as a conductor you need to instruct our guests on how to board the train. Safety first.

Engineers you are doing a great job, but please keep an eye on the switches and mainly where the points are. We try our best to build good switches and as we replace worn ones the new ones are much better. Bob Osborne and Myron are building new switches all of the time. So keep up the good work and watch the switches.

I have asked you before on this one when bringing out and returning into the barns take is slowly. If you have a truck come off it takes a lot longer than if you take an extra second to align the bridge.