



WAY FREIGHT
February 2016
Volume 33, Issue 2



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Track Talk

www.ocmetrains.org

Progress has been made laying the new track by the water tower. The hardy workers were Allen Stephens, Lori and Mark Johnson, Christine and Anthony Steinmetz, Mel Bresee, Paul Hammond, Louie Aguirre, Craig Okun, Gary Sharp, Andy Romer, Ken Matassa, and Bob Brooks. The track panels have been built for the second part of the water tower mainline. Next work day we will try to lay in the new switch that Bob Osborne and Myron Peterson have built for the mainline just prior to the Mountain Division Switch as you proceed down the Switch Back. The design will provide spacing between it and the Mountain Division switch hopefully making the transition smooth. We will also lay the rest of the water tower track. In the mean time Hank Castignette has made progress re-gauging and stabilizing the track north bound from the station. He would appreciate support. The station is in sight(around the corner)!!! **Bob Brooks**

Special Events This Month

- ◆ Public Run Day's
- ◆ Work Day

Riders This Month

2261

2016 O.C.M.E. Board of Directors

Bob Brooks(562) 429-8325
 Glenn Swain.....(562) 266-8711
 Hank Castignetti .. (714) 742-2335
 Allen Stephens.....(714) 533-4774
 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 ocmeneews@aol.com

DATES TO REMEMBER

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



A FIRST CLASS RAILROAD BY PRESIDENT BOB BROOKS

Run days on Jan. 16th and 17th were very eventful at Goat Hill. Saturday, we were visited by two Disney Princesses from the "Frozen" production. They interacted with the children to every one's delight. Also two civic groups were in attendance soliciting support from Costa Mesa residents. The ridership turnout for Saturday was 1113 people. On Sunday we had 1145 people riding our trains. Our Sunday guests were the Orange County Garden Railroad Society. They

brought out 35 members and enjoyed train rides and tours of our facilities. Being railroad buffs they fit right in with the crowd at Goat Hill. They are a very friendly organization and if you are interested in Garden Railroading you should look them up. OCME Thanks them for their generous donation to help keep the railroad operating.

We had a lot of the regular helpers traveling to Maricopa in Arizona this week so we were a little short handed. The stories of their adventures will have wait for another time. We had five trains running and handled the crowd. A few relief crews would have been helpful around lunch time. Elections were held last month and the new board members are Glenn Swain, Allen Stephens, and Hank Castignette. Please congratulate them.

As a reminder, prior to expenditures, all expenses must be approved by the board. Also, any member who utilizes the club facilities for storage as well as running their equipment on our tracks is required to work 20 hours for the club's benefit every 6 months. This does not include working on your own equipment. So please, speak to a board member, come out on work days, run days, or other time when you have time and contribute to making this A First Class Railroad. Thank you for your support, **Bob Brooks**

High Iron By Hank Castignetti



Many of you may know by now that I have been elected to the Board of Directors and will serve as your VP of Operations. I am excited to serve and look forward to the coming year with anticipation. 2016 will certainly be a challenging year, but I hope it will also be one of progress, renewal and camaraderie. It is my

goal to focus on three critical areas of the club; trains, tracks and members. I pledge to support our members and will try to represent each and every one of you to the best of my ability. This is, after all, your club...our club... and it is my goal to encourage everyone to participate, and to facilitate their efforts. Please let me know how I can affect changes that will enhance your experience at the club. Your ideas and suggestions are important to me and they will help guide me in my efforts to make your time at the club more rewarding.

It's a new year with a new Board....let's have fun!
Hank Castignetti

I've been working on the railroad

Ken Matassa*, Bob Brooks*, Allen Stephens*, Craig Okun*, George Shearer, Dalton Johnson, Jeff Garrett, Anthony Syeinmetz*, Joe Hayes*, Carolyn Hayes*, Gary Sharp*, Betty Cummings*, Gary Kimble, Lori Johnson*, Mark Johnson*, Dixon Sheldon*, Nicholas Hanrahan, Stephen Hanrahan, Christine Steinmetz*, Andy Romer, Bob Platfoot*, Bob Osborne*, Paul Hammond*, Jerry Platfoot, Stefanie Drake*, Kevin O'Connor & Donna O'Connor



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 Larry Ogle at oglerail@gmail.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



Classification Yard "Where things get sorted out"



DIXCBOB is fixed and it now has a safety feature to keep the engine from running without an engineer. Craig is making one for the work engine also. Make sure you know how to use this device. If you were at the general meeting you saw it, it looks like a hinge.

I am going to get the proper wire wheel if the board approves it to fit one of our grinders. Does everyone know how to use the grinders? If not when I install it I can show anyone how to use it properly the reason why we had to

replace the last one is because someone did not know how to use it. The one I have at home has lasted over 30 years.

Make it a practice to work safety everywhere not just at the railroad. The safety practices I have shown you are good to use anywhere. You need to provide eye, mouth, and hand protection. We will provide ears for certain jobs. These include the chop saw and the tamping tools. Also if you are around these tool you may need protection.

This month is not only Valentine's Day but we have an extra day this month so 29 days this month.

Chuckle's



ORANGE COUNTY
MODEL ENGINEERS

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Phone:
(949) 54-TRAIN

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

Attention on the Railroad

Boiler Inspections

March 5th will be the annual boiler inspection. Please bring any special equipment you need to test your boiler.

Meeting Summary

The Ballots were counted at our General Meeting and we would like to welcome our new Board Members.

Glenn Swain – VP of Facilities

Hank Castignetti – VP of Operations

Allen Stephens – Treasurer

OCME would also like to welcome two new families to the club. The first is David Weiss and his wife Shannon and their son Seth from Rancho Cucamonga. The second is Jayson Stevenson and his wife Kathleen and their children Kyler, Hailey, and Vincent from Newport Beach.

The Board would like to remind everyone that the safety equipment on our tools in the shop and around the facility should not be disabled or removed.

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**.

Members are always working on something around OCME and others are always needed to help out. Here are some of the latest projects and issues at the club.

- **DJ has been giving the work train some well-needed TLC. He has degreased and shined the engine, riding car and the two tool gondolas. THANK YOU AND GOOD JOB DEEJ!**



- **The 1104 sprung a leak in one of the hydraulic hoses. Other ones showed signs of wear too, so they were all replaced. Glenn and Dixon got all the hoses off and new ones have been installed.**



- All the riding bench cars have plastic plates on both ends showing which container and track# they belong on. This should make it a bit easier and quicker to put them away after a busy day.



- New height gauges have been made for public run days. Children **MUST** be able to walk and be at least 31" tall to ride. The gauges will be located around the station so parents will be aware of the requirement before standing in line. Thank you Jason for the all your creativity and work creating the prototype!



- **Birthday parties are as important to the club as our public run days. If you conduct or engineer on run days please consider doing it for a 2 hour birthday party. It's a lot of fun..... without the lines and crowds! Sign up sheets are at the clubhouse and station storage area. See Larry Ogle or any board member for information and assistance. Please help!**

- **Bob Brooks has been spearheading track replacement at the club and more than half our mainline track is new. Plastic ties and steel outer rail is the new standard. Craig Okun has become the track panel guru! He has organized the rail bending and production of panels to keep pace with Bob's track crew. That's been a tall order. Thanks Craig! There is, however, a section of track that is in need of preventive maintenance until the new panels can be installed. The double mainline north of the station needs every 5th tie replaced with a temporary plastic one. If you are available to help on this ongoing project please see Hank.**

Hank Castignetti