



WAY FREIGHT
April 2019
Volume 36, Issue 4



Track Talk

www.ocmetrains.org

The last several workdays have accomplished a lot. Both track leads into and out of the compound have been replaced. The last section was completed on May 4th workday. The energetic crew included Jeff Garret, Lori & Mark Johnson, Zack Jones, David Smith, Adam & Chase Dupre, Terry Koken, Gary Gorman, Myron Peterson, Jayson and Kyler and Hailey Stevenson, Matt Rexroads, and Bob Brooks. They replaced about 200 feet of track and 2 switches.

Contents

Upcoming Events	1
OCME Board of Directors	1
Dates to remember	1
President's Message	2
High Iron	2
I've been working	3
Birthday Party's	3
Classification Yard	3

Criag Okun, Vivian Okun, Jeff Summers, Tim Cully, Terry Koken, and Bob Brooks have been busy building the track panels. Thus keeping the track replacement moving ahead.

Gary Kimble, Terry Koken, Zack Jones, and Olga Reynolds have kept up with the track demolition by salvaging all the used rail and switches.

If my recollection is right a train can now leave the compound, traverse either Matassa or Higgins to the station, travel a complete run day circuit, and return to the compound running on all new track. There are still a lot of track and switches to replace so we can't rest on our laurels. Thanks for all the great support. Bob Brooks

Special Events This Month

- ◆ Public Run Day's
- ◆ Work Day

Riders This Month

2361

2019 O.C.M.E. Board of Directors

Gary Gorman.....(714) 317-0785
 Ken Matassa..... (714) 953-3067
 Bob Harrison.....(714) 504-0291
 Allen Stephens.....(714) 533-4774
 Hank Castignetti...(714) 742-2335

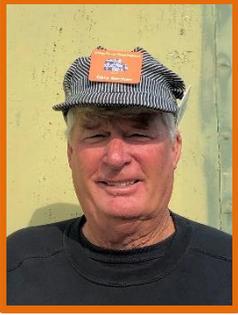
Appointed Officers:
Mackerel Flats Mercantile Store
Co-Mgrs:

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

Way Freight
 Patrick Ledbetter ocmeneews@aol.com

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 4
 Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house
 Board Meeting 3:00
May 18-19
 Sat. & Sun Public Run
June 1
 Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house.
 Lunch at meeting. Board Meeting
June 15-16
 Sat. & Sun Public Run



A FIRST CLASS RAILROAD BY PRESIDENT GARY GORMAN

Have you ever wondered who produces the Way Freight? His name is Patrick Ledbetter a member since 2002. In addition to being a fine machinist, he produces the Way Freight and does extensive research for us on most things 1/8 scale railroading. He built a 3 3/4" scale steamer which I am anxiously waiting to see underway. For the last month, Patrick has been moving into a new home which, quite naturally has taken most of his time, and is why last month's Way Freight was late in being published. He is somewhat settled now and is ready

to get back at it. You don't see Patrick very often at the track but he, like Betty Cummings, Carolyn Hayes, Stefanie Drake and others, spend considerable time working behind the scenes for the betterment of the organization and the railroad. These folks allow us to operate and move forward.

To the casual visitor, the *Mackerel Flats & Goat Hill Junction Railroad* track probably looks very much the same. I have heard comments from visitors that said it was the same ride every time they visited. Even though we run in opposite directions on Run Days, it is essentially the same route.

By the end of June, the "Dog Bone" crossover at the North Wye should be completed. This will allow us to vary the routes and topography. Following completion, the next projects will be replacing the "Birthday Siding" and the inside mainline through Platfoot Yard. These projects should be completed by August when we will begin replacement of the Mountain Division. This project will require the better part of a year to complete.

Plans are underway to sandblast all the steaming bays, both transfer tables, the hoist & turntable. We are also doing preliminary work to install a monument sign by the gate on Placentia. A new sign will heighten the visibility of the railroad. All of these activities are intended to keep the MF&GHJRR a First-Class Railroad. Please consider joining to maintain our facilities and staff trains.

CONTINUED IN CLASSIFICATION YARD

High Iron By Bob Harrison



Please note that the City of Costa Mesa had cordoned off environmentally sensitive areas of the parking lot to prevent their use. These areas contain protected species. It is extremely important to stay outside the vernal pool area at the end of the parking lot surrounded by the metal posts with attached cables.

The City of Costa Mesa has determined that most of the areas inside the park, where our railroad runs, have completed bird nesting activities and now have begun mowing. This is

important to run our trains safely. There will still be areas where the mowers can't access and this will be done by weed whacking after the mowing has been completed. It is still extremely important that all engineers continue to observe the rule of signaling at **ALL** grade crossings (whistle: long-long-short-long).

A reminder that **all abnormal activities** including the following:

1. Derailments.
2. Track problems.
3. Equipment damage.
4. Any injuries.

are to be reported on the **Incident Form** and left in the Incident Folder located in the club house on the rack to the right as you enter the door. If there is damaged equipment, Red Tag it and record that on the Incident Form and on the white board on the front of the club house noting the location of the damaged equipment.

CONTINUED IN CLASSIFICATION YARD

I've been working on the railroad

Thank You to our Runday Crews



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 714-745-6845 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**

SEE CLASSIFICATION YARD



Classification Yard "Where things get sorted out"



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

From an administrative side, we are refining and clarifying our current by-laws. The primary issue is how our board elections are conducted. The proposed Amendments will be sent to the membership in the near future. A 2/3rds vote of the members at a forthcoming General Membership Meeting will be required to amend the rules. I will keep you informed of the progress of these projects and other developments.

Gary Gorman

HIGH IRON CONTINUED

Please remember that is important that all trains be inspected when they are initially configured and during operations, e.g. for Run Days. Please inspect the following during operations:

1. The appearance of the couplers.
2. The safety chains to insure proper connection and no breakages.
3. The spring clips to ensure they are in place.
4. The general status of the wheels and bolsters.
5. All the wheels are properly sitting on the rails.

With the sale of the Santa Fe, we will have one less locomotive available for Run Days until our new locomotive is delivered in September or October.

Bob Harrison



ORANGE COUNTY
MODEL ENGINEERS

P.O. Box 3216
Costa Mesa, CA 92628

Phone:
(949) 54-TRAIN

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

Attention on the Railroad

DVD & VCR NEEDED

The club would like to upgrade some of the creature comforts in the clubhouse. Our video system has finally died leaving us with a library of tapes that can't be viewed.

If anyone has an unused VCR or DVD player they could donate we would love to have them. Even a CD player would be a welcomed addition.

If you can help please contact Hank.

Thank you!

714-742-2335

Hanksterc@aol.com

214 LOCOMOTIVE REMINDER

When putting away the 214 the red key must be turned off and the locomotives battery charger/maintainer must be plugged in.

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

We would like to remind everyone while shopping with Amazon to please use Amazon smile. They donate .05 percent of your purchase to OCME. Please search for Orange County Model Engineers.



Classification Yard “Where things get sorted out.”

By Hank Castignetti

NEW MEMBERS

Please join me in welcoming our newest members! Be sure to introduce yourself to these folks when you meet them at the club.

➤ **Ron Mack**

Please welcome Ron and his wife Terry as our 104th membership of this year! They live in Garden Grove and we hope to meet them at the club soon.

➤ **Ronald Blanchard and Family**

Ronald, his wife Deborah and their daughter “Princess” Amie are back after a few years away from the club. They were helping out at our May run weekend and it’s great to see them once again!

BENCH CAR UPDATE

ALL 39 of our bench cars have now had their wheel bearings inspected and serviced! They have been cleaned, greased and all thrust bearings have been replaced. DJ and Zach are now focusing their attention on the trucks on control cars, cabooses and MOW cars. In addition, DJ has embarked on replacing the coupler springs on all the bench cars and a smoother ride is readily evident. Our thanks to Rolling Stock Superintendent Dalton Johnson for taking on this mammoth responsibility for the safety and enjoyment of our riding public!

CLUB AUCTION

The club held an auction of excess and un-needed equipment on Saturday of our Spring Fun Run and lots of bidders showed interest. The club realized \$250 from the proceeds of the auction that went directly into the general fund. Thank you to everyone who participated! In a related matter, all unsold equipment and unused material was collected by a scrap dealer and hauled off the premises. A total of 7,770 pounds was removed and recycled. We now have room for our donated lathe, a new parts cleaner, a new sand blaster and a table saw...all in

the open shed between containers K and L. The existing air compressor is now operational and the space will soon get new lighting and electrical outlets installed. This reclaimed space has become a useful addition to our workshop facilities and is available for use by all members..

NEW ENGINE NEWS

The control car on the Santa Fe engine is being rebuilt for use with the new engine that is currently in production at Train Works in Oregon. The trucks are being completely overhauled by DJ, Glenn has removed the old seats and draw bar, new seats and swivels are on hand and a new coupler has been installed.

The control car will be brought to Train Works in July where the new seats will be installed and it will be painted to match the new engine. We expect delivery of this new beauty by late August or early September.

REPAIRS AROUND THE COMPOUND

Ken has initiated repair of the deck approach to the turntable. The structural timbers were deteriorated and the deck was unsound. Ken did all of the demo and Gary Gorman, Bob Brooks and Jeff Sumners have worked on installing new pressure treated timbers. Only half the deck has been repaired so work will continue for next couple of weeks. Dave Smith has replaced the railing on the steps up to the turntable deck in coordination with the rest of the work in the area. Many thanks to all involved in this project. The cover over the sump for the hand sink was rotted and the tank clogged with roots. Ken dug up the old cover, cut out the roots and has fabricated a new cover. Work on this should be completed soon.

SANTA FE ENGINE SOLD

The Santa Fe engine was listed in Discover Live Steam and was sold within 24 hours. The control car was not part of the sale as it will be used with our new engine. The buyer drove to the club on Sunday 5/26 from Santa Barbara to see it and test drive it on our layout. Before leaving, he wrote OCME a check for the full asking price of \$5,500 and will return in a few days to pick it up. Dale and his wife have purchased property in North Carolina that has a train layout on it they and will move the engine back there soon.

AD HOC BOARD VOTES

Often decisions need to be made between Board meetings and when a quorum of Board members are present at the club, verbal votes are taken. These verbal votes may not be noted in the minutes of a Board meeting but the membership needs to be aware of the expenditure of club funds through this process. Such has been the case this month when votes were taken by a quorum of board members present at the club.

1. \$626 was approved for the purchase of steel forks for our tractor.
2. \$387 was approved for purchase of a sand blaster and a parts washer.
3. \$633 was authorized for purchase of electrical conduit to add a security camera between containers K&L as well as 4X4 pressure treated timbers to repair the turntable approach deck.
4. \$286 was authorized to repair a leaking urinal at the station restroom as well as rebuild the flush valves on all six toilets.
5. \$760 was authorized for the purchase of 22,000 tie and switch screws. This is a standard order and usually lasts the club approximately six months.

OCME Gains Seat On Fairview Park Steering Committee

At the March 13th Costa Mesa City Council meeting, council member Arlis Reynolds proposed adding an additional member to the Fairview Park Steering Committee to serve as Orange County Model Engineers Liaison. The liaison position will be an Ex Officio (non-voting) member but will have standing as a full member in every other way. This is a huge accomplishment for our club! Six years ago we were faced with eviction from the park, to be entirely replaced by a sports complex. Now we “have a seat at the table”! Along with our thirty year license agreement renewal, this is a wonderful expression of the city’s appreciation of the clubs good stewardship of our forty acres of parkland. It is also an expression of their confidence in our desire to be part of the planned restoration of the natural habitats in the park and their desire to seek our assistance with the process. This position will help OCME coordinate efforts to protect the native plants and animals that give our club it’s most unique character and public appeal. It also allows us a voice in any issues related to the club and our continued use of the park. Appointment of an individual to serve as liaison is totally at the discretion of the OCME Board of Directors. The Board is pleased to appoint Hank Castignetti to this position in recognition of his many years of involvement in park advocacy activities, civic activism and commitment to OCME.

“This is a new era of cooperation between the train club and the city. It’s an opportunity for the club to continue to serve the families of Costa Mesa with a truly unparalleled recreational activity that combines public use of the nature park along with protection for it’s inhabitants.”

“I am honored to serve OCME and the City of Costa Mesa as Liaison to the Fairview Park Steering Committee, and I’m anxious to get to work”, Hank commented.

Please join me in congratulating Hank for his desire to take on this important role as the public face of our club.

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**.