



**WAY FREIGHT**  
**Aug 2019**  
**Volume 37, Issue 8**



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**Track Talk**

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

This month the track crew work was a little different that in that no track was laid. Instead the gandy dancers took up about 600 feet of track and four switches on the mainline and siding that skirts Platfoot Yard. Also the switches that connect the crossover at the bridge between the inner and outer mainlines and the inner mainline to Platfoot Yard were removed. Afterwards the hard working bunch helped Craig Okun and his crew finish all the panels to replace the track that was removed. While this was going on Gary Kimble and his crew with help from the Sunrise Academy dismantled most of the old track that was removed. This industrious group was Jeff Garret, Andy Romer, George Shearer, Adam Dupre, Matt Rexroads, Gary Gorman, Steve and Nick Hanrahan, and Bob Brooks. Fifty students from the Sunrise Academy were supervised by Bob Harrison, Andy Aguirre, Denise and Josh Neal, and Ken Matassa. Thanks for all the support. Bob Brooks

**Special Events This Month**

- ◆ Public Run Day's
- ◆ Work Day

**Riders This Month**

**2071**

**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**

**Sep 7**  
 Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house  
 Board Meeting 3:00  
**Sep 21-22**  
 Sat. & Sun Public Run  
**Oct 5**  
 Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house.  
 Lunch at meeting. Board Meeting  
**Oct 19-20**  
 Sat. & Sun Public Run



## A FIRST CLASS RAILROAD BY PRESIDENT GARY GORMAN

As I write this letter, several things are underway that will be completed very shortly. We are completing the remodel of the “Mackerel Flats Mercantile” and should be completed by the end of the month. I would like to thank everyone who came out to help us. More on this in another article.

Michael Hedquist from the Train Works is building our new locomotive and indicated that the “819” should be at our railroad the first or second week of Sept. The locomotive is built

and Mike wants to do a final test run at Train Mountain before delivery. The actual date will depend on his personal schedule.

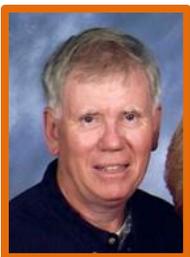
We are planning an unveiling of the locomotive at our Public Run Day, September 21, 2019. We anticipate Costa Mesa Mayor, Katrina Foley, the City Council & Staff members to be in attendance. We are also expecting some media coverage. The ceremonies will begin at 9:30 and conclude by about 10:00 am when we will give the City officials an inaugural train ride. As soon as this train leaves, we will begin carrying the public. We would like all members to attend, and those with locomotives will be asked to stage behind the new locomotive and as soon as the veil is lifted give a “Welcome Toot”

The “Scarecrow Festival” will be a cooperative effort by OCME and the City of Costa Mesa. We will have a limited role, meaning railroad operations & handling pumpkins. Any “vendors” which include any booths or other displays will have to be approved by the City, who will assign them a specific location on the Park.

Have you noticed that there have been fewer & fewer derailments lately? This is because of the tireless work of our track crews, led by Bob Brooks. The yard leads & Birthday Siding have been replaced and work on the Inner Loop through Platfoot Yard is underway. This project should be completed by October when we will begin replacing the Mountain Division which will conclude the replacement of our mainline track. After that, sidings & yards will be tackled.

### CONTINUED IN CLASSIFICATION YARD

## High Iron By Bob Harrison



The **Boy Scout Eagle Project** to refurbish the station store, as discussed in the July High Iron article, was not approved by the Scout Master due to it being for a “commercial enterprise” use. Our members jumped in and completed the project in only a single week. More information on the “Store Remodel” can be seen under “Classification Yard” in this newsletter or on the website button link “Classification Yard”.

The **August Run Weekend** went very well. We went back to our standard “North Bound” one day and “South Bound” the other day. As usual, we need more engineers, conductors, and station agents available to run the trains.

The **September Run Weekend** will be a really big event. The unveiling of our new locomotive, the 819, will officially take place at 9:30 just prior to the start of run day. Please see the “Classification Yard” for more details.

The **Sunburst Youth Academy** had 50 cadets at Goat Hill, on **Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>**. They removed weeds that could not be accessed and removed by the Costa Mesa contractor who mowed the facility. The cadets will return on **Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** to continue the cleanup activities. This time we will concentrate on the Mountain Division which has a lot of weeds in the right-of-way and in particular between the tracks.

## I've been working on the railroad

Jeff Garrett, Dennis Neil\*, Josh Neil\*, Andy Romer, Ken Matassa\*, Larry Ogle\*, Terry Cummings\*, Gary Kimble\*, Bob Harrison\*, Betty Cummings\*, Dane Smith, Zach Jones\*, Allen Stephens\*, Anthony Steinmetz, Christine Steinmetz, Craig Okun\*, Lori Johnson, Mark Johnson, Dixon Sheldon\*, Gary Gorman\*, George Shearer, Carolyn Hayes\*, Joe Hayes\*, Hank Castignetti\*, Dalton Johnson\*, Stefanie Drake\*, Glenn Swain\*, Dave Bowen, Gary Reynolds\*, Lois Taube, Paul Hammond, and Robert Platfoot\*



## 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](mailto: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**

**Terry Koken, David Smith, Jeff Summers, Seth Taylor, Hank Castignetti, Andy Nelson & Larry Ogle**



## Classification Yard "Where things get sorted out"



### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE CONTINUED

For the next Board of Directors election there will be two open positions and one incumbent position. Please consider running for office since without a Board, OCME ceases to exist.

**A REMINDER!** If you are planning to join OCME at Russ Green's **M&R ORCHARD RAILROAD** on October 12 & 13, please be sure to fill out the Reservation Form. The form is available on our webpage [www.ocmetrains.org](http://www.ocmetrains.org). Click on the animated locomotive at the bottom of the opening page and it

will take to take to the form. Please return it & your payment as soon as possible so we have an idea of how much food to provide. If you are planning on spending the night in Ramona, we suggest you book as soon as possible at the only hotel intown, The Ramona Valley Inn, 416 Main St., Ramona, CA 92065 Phone: (760) 789-6433. We have not booked rooms but the prices are very reasonable, especially with Auto Club or Senior discounts. I hope to see you there!

Happy Railroading  
Gary Gorman



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

### 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

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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.

## High Iron Continued

The following are the two largest Operations events of the year taking place this fall:

1. **2019 Fall Meet - September 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>**
  - a. More volunteers are needed, so please contact the event chair Larry Ogle.
  - b. The website contains:
    - i. The Welcome Letter
    - ii. The Complete Information Package
    - iii. The menu of the food being served.
2. **2019 October Run Weekend – October 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>**
  - a. This is our Scarecrow and Pumpkin Festival.
  - b. The Scarecrow Festival is being run by the City of Costa Mesa.
    - i. The registration and rules form are now online at: [www.costamessca.gov/scarecrow](http://www.costamessca.gov/scarecrow)
  - c. We plan to have an old fashion Pumpkin Patch again this year.



## Classification Yard “Where things get sorted out.”

By Hank Castignetti

### STORE REMODEL

Remodeling of the club store began immediately following the Run Day on Sunday 8/18. This is the first major remodel of the store since the station was built. The store staff began boxing all the merchandise and members quickly started moving display racks and appliances into storage. All the product was boxed, loaded into a U-Haul trailer, and stored in the compound for a week while all the display cases and appliances were stored in the station storage room and the restrooms.



For the next week members showed up every day to prep the store for painting. All the walls were washed and holes were patched. Gary Gorman spent an entire day grinding old paint off the floor, Gary Reynolds disassembled all the metal shelving in the back room and moved it all to the compound and Glenn replaced all the electrical outlets and

plugs. Enough members showed up to paint all the walls and ceiling in one day! Gary Reynolds and Terry Cummings prepped the floor for a new coat of epoxy paint and Gary painted it all in one day also. Finally, new LED lighting fixtures were installed to complete the new look of the store. Doors and frames still need to be painted and the merchandise needs to be put back on the shelf, but the hardest work is behind us. Lori Jonson has been cleaning equipment and single-handedly restocking the store room, shelves and display cases to get a jump on opening day. This massive project was accomplished by an outpouring of member volunteers for days on end. OCME would like to recognize the huge support offered by the following members;

Carolyn Hayes, Stephanie Drake, Betty Cummings, Lori Johnson, Mark Johnson, Myron Peterson, Bob Harrison, Gary Reynolds, Ken Matassa, Dave Smith, Andy Nelson, Zach Jones, Gary Gorman, Glenn Swain, Terry Cummings, Bob Brooks, and Hank Castignetti.

The ladies who regularly staff the store on run eekends will be eternally grateful for their new home.



### WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

OCME is pleased to extend a warm welcome to the **O'day** family of Long Beach. **Geraly, D.J.** and **Dallas** are anxious to meet members and I hope you will greet them all with a friendly smile and a hand shake. Please introduce yourself and make them feel at home in our club!

Additional new members are **Terri** and **Larry Fuqua**. Many of you may recognize Terri and her lovely brown lab, Max, as they live nearby and spend almost every day in the park. Larry suffers a disability and is unable to spend as much time in the park but we hope to see him one day soon. Terri has also taken over restroom cleaning at the station and we are grateful to her for taking over this important function.

### NEW STREET SIGN ERECTED

OCME would like to thank Cynthia Martin for their efforts to have **Goat** on the sign at our Placentia entrance.



D'Agosta and Justin **Hill Junction** displayed  
This is a wonderful

display of the city's commitment to our club and a huge convenience for riders and birthday party guests to locate our parking lot. Goat Hill Junction is a local landmark and now has an official sign designation from the city.

OCME would also like to recognize Olga Reynolds for her imagination and foresight to suggest this sign be procured!

#### NEW ENGINE UNVEILING EVENT

On Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup> OCME is planning a major public event to announce the arrival of our new engine, the 819. Invited guests will include Costa Mesa Mayor Katrina Foley, City Council Members, City manager, Assistant City Manager, Parks and Recreation Director, Fairview Park Administrator, city media department as well as print and TV media representatives. Mayor Foley has been invited to unveil our new engine and the entire entourage of dignitaries will be the first to enjoy a public ride on the 819. Immediately following the unveiling we plan a "Big toot" .... every engine we can muster to the station will simultaneously blow their horn to welcome the 819 to her new home. Official activities are scheduled to begin at 9:30 but we invite all members to arrive at the station by 9:00 with as much private equipment as we can fit in the station ladder tracks. All members with live steamers are especially welcomed to add to the spectacle.....steam whistles and smoke will provide the greatest backdrop for the media. We will also need as many members as possible to crew club engines as we expect a large turnout for this event. So spread the word and put this date on your calendar.

#### ELECTION REMINDER

The deadline for submitting your name to run for a position on the Board of Directors is fast approaching. All names must be submitted to the club Secretary by September 30<sup>th</sup> to be included on the ballot. We hope everyone will consider placing their name in nomination for this important election. Three positions will be open this election. One member is running for reelection leaving two open positions to be filled.

#### LION'S CLUB FISH FRY AND CARNIVAL

The Lion's Club annual Fish Fry and be held on the same weekend as September run weekend. The Fish



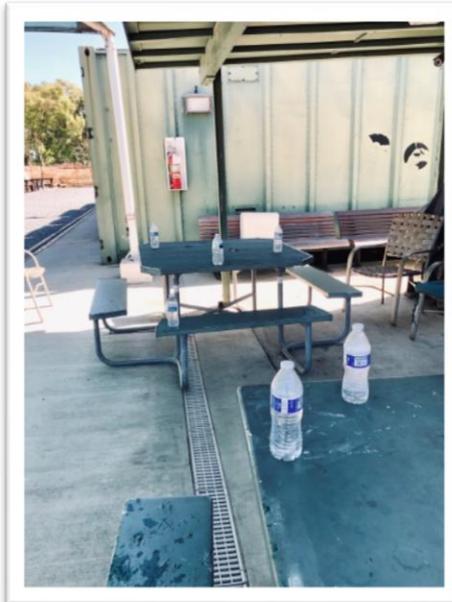
carnival will our Fry begins at

12:00 noon on both Saturday and Sunday and

eventgoers will use our parking lot. The Lion's Club will furnish volunteers to coordinate all parking for that weekend and OCME expects no conflict for parking for our riders. Additionally, all of our riders will receive a \$1 off coupon for a fish dinner. A number of members are planning to enjoy dinner at the fish fry following our day of pulling public. "Come for a train ride and stay for a fish dinner!"

#### COMPOUND CLEAN UP/BOTTLED WATER

Remember to pick up after yourself when using the steaming bays and area. Please don't leave behind parts, used motor oil, rags, broken paint cans and brushes, fast food lumber, extension cords, soda WATER BOTTLES. The club offers free water to all members but the proliferation of half-full bottles left throughout the compound is both wasteful and uncalled for. And a reminder that all water bottles and soda cans must be recycled before depositing them in the trash and that only containers purchased by the club, that come out of our refrigerator, should be left for recycling.



yourself  
compound  
tools, old  
equipment,  
trash, scrap  
cans, AND  
free water

throughout  
and  
all water  
empty  
recycle bin  
purchased

Please do your part to keep our facility clean.

#### 214 UPDATE

Patrick Ledbetter is working feverishly to overhaul the 214. This will be a complete overhaul to include new motors, gearboxes, electronic brakes, axles, batteries, battery cables, charger, Teflon slide plates, as well as a dozen minor repairs to cables, plugs, sprockets, etc! We expect to put this engine into regular Run Day service pulling six riding cars and adding it to the club's roster of big engines! Patrick hopes to have the work completed in the next couple of weeks so watch for the "all new" 214 soon! Thank you Pat!!

## OCME Members that are Suppliers to the Hobby

*Please Support Our Member-Suppliers to the Hobby:*

*Patrick Ledbetter – California Locomotive Company 951-427-1798*

[www.californialocomotive.com](http://www.californialocomotive.com)

*Dan O'Brien – Rail Rider Supply 714-765-1192*

[www.railridersupply.com](http://www.railridersupply.com)

*Ben Viola – The Roundhouse 714-894-4318*

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)**

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