



Way Freight

Vol. 41, No. 2 | Feb, Mar, Apr & May '23



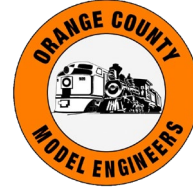


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2023 O.C.M.E. Board of Directors

President:

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V.P. Facilities:

Dalton Johnson (949) 246-2805

Secretary:

Zach Jones (949) 434-4016

Treasurer:

Allen Stephens (714) 533-4774

DATES TO REMEMBER!

June 17th-18th

Public Run Weekend

July 4th

Members' Fun Run

July 8th

Work Day, Members' Meeting, Board Meeting

July 15th-16th

Public Run Weekend

Appointed Positions

Mackerel Flats Mercantile Store Co-Mgrs:

Betty Cummings (714) 293-7179

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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.

A Quick Message

Dear OCME,

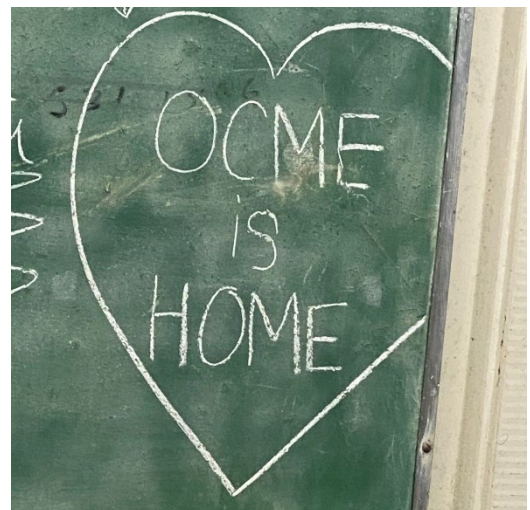


The past few months have been an incredibly busy period for our club. We have experienced an unprecedented level of ridership during our public run days, we hosted an incredibly successful Spring Meet, we had a full birthday party calendar, and work continued across all aspects of our operation. From locomotives to water fountains, everything that makes Goathill come to life has been tended to with the utmost amount of care that we expect in our first-class railroad. I hope you look over this Way Freight with a sense of pride in all that we have accomplished so far this year, and a sense of excitement for what we have in store.

Sincerely,
Zach Jones
OCME Secretary

Let's Welcome Our New Members!

- Kurt Nelson
- Alex, Laura, Gianni, Maria, and Josephina Gigliotti
- Giovanni and Veronique Gigliotti
- Jeff, Breeauna, Charlie, and Ruby Caffey



Run Weekend Recaps



Since December of last year we have had over 3,000 riders during each of our public run weekends. We've had 6-7 trains running in some instances to handle the crowd. A special thanks goes out to everyone who comes out to help. We certainly would not have such good numbers if we didn't have the people to run the trains, staff the store, man the gate, and fill every other position that is essential to the operation.

The weather has been great, and the park went from a lush green to being filled with purple and yellow flowers. Kathy and Louie put together a Cat in the Hat event for National Reading Month in March, and an Easter Bunny event for April. Both of which were very well received. Betty has reported that sales in the store have been very good, and Allen says donations figures have also been good. Social media and website traffic noticeably increase before each run weekend. Many members of the public post about their experiences on social media and our accounts are flooded with kind messages and photos of families enjoying our railroad. One message of note was from a mother whose son has special needs. She said each volunteer was extremely kind and her son had a great time visiting Goathill.



Ridership Numbers

February	March	April	May
3,502	3,109	3,367	3,349

Run Weekend Volunteers

February

Betty Cummings*, Derek Marsden, Ken Matassa*, Dennis Neil*, Joshua Neil*, Jeff Garrett, Sue Garrett, Terry Koken*, Anderson Ward, Terri Fuqua, Mike August*, George Shearer, Ben Viola*, Joe Hayes, Carolyn Hayes, Larry Ogle*, Mike Springer*, Allen Stephens*, Lori Johnson*, Robert Platfoot, Nelida Rojas-Platfoot, Robert Platfoot, Aly August, Paul Hammond*, Glenn Swain*, Dalton Johnson*, Stefanie Drake*, Chris Cuthill, Willie Johnson, Declan Henry*, Josh Guesman, Kay Grimes

March

Dennis Neil*, Joshua Neil*, Jeff Garrett, Gary Reynolds*, Anderson Ward, Ken Matassa*, Derek Marsden, Andy McCune, Betty Cummings*, Allen Stephens*, Seth Taylor*, Terry Koken*, Glenn Swain*, Luis Aguirre*, Kathy Brokhausen*, Josh Guesman*, Ben Viola*, Eric Engle, Zach Jones*, Mike August*, Carolyn Hayes*, Joe Hayes*, Lori Johnson*, Chris Cuthill*, Declan Henry*, Steve Hanrahan, Nick Hanrahan, Paul Hammond*, Stefanie Drake*, Jeff Tolan, Kevin Tolan, Dalton Johnson, Lori Tolan

April

Betty Cummings*, Louie Aguirre*, Kathy Brokhausen*, Ken Matassa*, Glenn Swain*, Dennis Neil*, Joshua Neil*, Terry Koken*, Terri Fuqua, Seth Taylor*, Joe Hayes*, Carolyn Hayes*, Anderson Ward, Josh Guesman*, Paul Hammond*, George Shearer, Andrew P. McCune, Stefanie Drake*, Allen Stephens*, Andy Romer*, Jeff Garrett, Sue Garrett, Mike August, Alex Gigliotti*, Gianni Gigliotti*, Eric Engle, Rich Barrientos, Lori Johnson, Dalton Johnson*, Lori Tolan, Declan Henry, Larry Ogle

May

Tim Bartlett, Betty Cummings*, Dennis Neil*, Joshua Neil*, Anderson Ward, Alex Gigliotti*, Gianni Gigliotti, Seth Taylor*, Larry Ogle*, Armen Bagdasarian*, Jeff Garrett, Sue Garrett, Andrew McCune, Allen Stephens*, Ken Matassa*, Andy Romer, George Shearer, Terry Koken*, Lori Johnson*, Zach Jones*, Ben Viola*, Eric Engle*, Paul Hammond*, Carolyn Hayes, Joe Hayes, Nick Hanrahan, Stephen Hanrahan, Stefanie Drake*, Mike August, Rich Barrientos, Willie Johnson, Josh Guesman, Dixon Sheldon, Kevin Engle

An asterisk signifies working both Saturday and Sunday. Don't see your name listed? Make sure to sign in at the gift shop window during the next run weekend! Thank you for volunteering your time!

Run Weekend Photos

February



March



Mackerel Flats & Goathill Junction Railroad

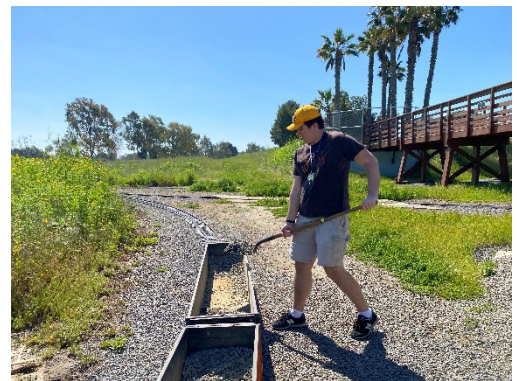
April



May



Working on the Railroad



The track crew has been busy these past few months. In Platfoot Yard numerous switches have been rebuilt and reinstalled, and several hundred feet of track have been rebuilt and replaced. On top of that numerous spots around the railroad have received cross-leveling work.

Mackerel Flats & Goathill Junction Railroad



Work continues on the club's rolling stock too. The locomotives have received general checkups plus received attention whenever something unexpected comes up. Multiple bench cars have received new Titan Trains trucks, and cars which had holes in their seats have received new seats.



Locomotive #819 has returned to the club after being heavily rebuilt by Patrick Ledbetter. She is running much better now.

Mackerel Flats & Goathill Junction Railroad



Many members' steam locomotives were brought out for their yearly boiler test.



Speaking of steam engines, Mark Johnson brought his newly acquired MEG Uncle Sam to the club. It was quite popular with the membership.

Mackerel Flats & Goathill Junction Railroad



Josh Guesman worked with Girl Scout Troop 9479 to arrange a visit for the scouts to earn a transportation-based merit badge. The Tolan's Emily, Dave Smith's Shay, and Glenn Swain's Fitchburg were on display. Dave also brought out his Donkey logging engine to move pieces of wood around, and Kevin set up a stand with a pair of operating whistles. After their tour of The Compound the scouts and their families went for a train ride.



Kathy Brokhausen and Louie Aguirre repainted the Mehren Water Tower. It's looking much better!



Adam Dupre and Josh Guesman installed a new AccuTie switch at the base of Matassa. It replaces an older switch that still had some wood ties. As you can see the club has been buzzing with activity. One project that the editor unfortunately lacks a picture of was the great work Dave Smith and Armen Bagdasarian did repairing the staircase between the Compound and the station.

OCME's 2023 Spring Meet



Our 2023 Spring Meet was one for the books. Meet Chairman Dalton Johnson put together a great show that saw some cool trains visit us. Among the visiting pieces of rolling stock was a Pennsylvania Railroad I1 class 2-10-0, a ride-inside cable car from SCLS, and Dennis Cascarelli's LE mogul made its return to Goathill after receiving a new boiler. Dennis's mogul was one of the locomotives at our Golden Spike ceremony in 1991.

Mackerel Flats & Goathill Junction Railroad



OCME at LALS's Spring Meet



Los Angeles Live Steamers hosted their Spring Meet over Memorial Day Weekend. There were well over 20 OCME members there running trains.



Jordan Rivera poses with his new acquisition, an 0-4-0 Midge locomotive. The locomotive dates from the 1930s or 40s and was built in England. Eli Zupke also picked up a new toy, he acquired a rail bike from Ernie Blakey.

Mackerel Flats & Goathill Junction Railroad



More Photos from Goathill



Jeff Tolan took Emily out for a sunset run.



Aaron McCain poses with his newly acquired passenger cars. The observation car on the right is a model of Colorado Midland Railway #111, the prototype survives today at the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden.

Mackerel Flats & Goathill Junction Railroad



Josh Guesman and Terri Fuqua take the #1104 up the Mountain Division.



The #819 poses with some of the foliage around the railroad.



George Shearer takes his new Accucraft switcher out for a spin.

Mackerel Flats & Goathill Junction Railroad



Glenn Swain, Terry Cummings, and Paul Hammond took their freight trains out for a run.

Mackerel Flats & Goathill Junction Railroad



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