



Way Freight

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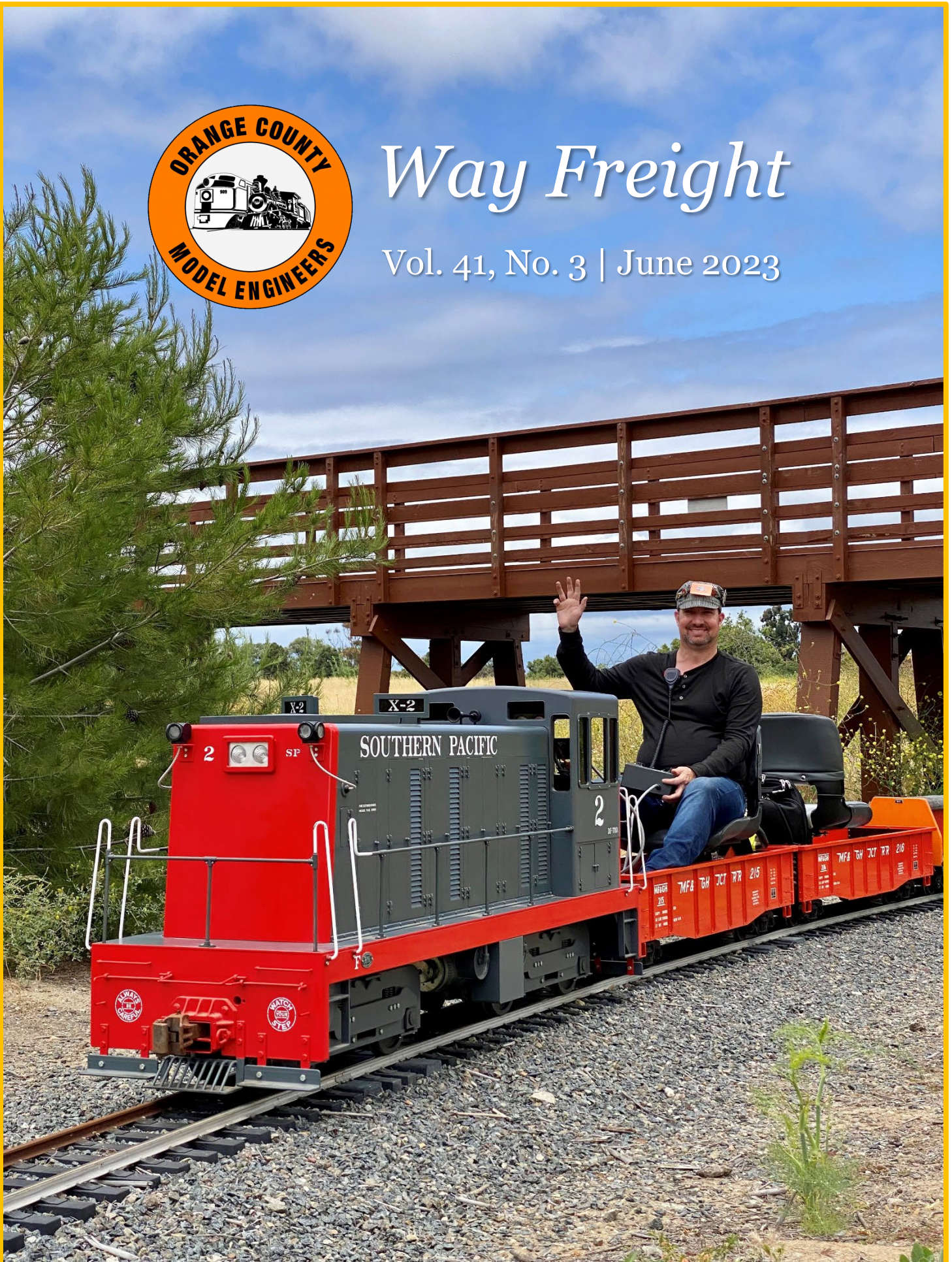




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2023 O.C.M.E. Board of Directors

President:

Dennis Neil (714) 264-9160

V.P. Operations:

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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!

July 4th

Members' Fun Run

July 8th

Work Day, Members' Meeting, Board Meeting

July 15th-16th

Public Run Weekend

August 5th

Work Day, Members' Meeting, Board Meeting

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.

Happenings at Goathill



The month of June began with a busy work day on the 3rd. Eric Engle fixed the leaking water fountain in the compound. A crew also attended to the #1104 after it developed a leak. The track crew took a break from their normal ROW duties and serviced six bench cars to get them back in service. After the work was performed, they climbed aboard and went for lap after lap around the railroad without any issues. Great work everyone! After the work was done everyone met in the compound for lunch and the members' meeting. At the meeting we voted on the livery for the club's new locomotive, more info in the next section!



Of course, the work doesn't stop just because it isn't the official work day. Chris Cuthill spent many days prepping and painting the containers and clubhouse with a fresh coat of paint, and they look great! He painted all the way until he ran out of paint, we're excited to see the final result soon! Josh Guesman installed a seat in club gondola #216 just like its sister #215 has. We now have another car that can be used for an engineer or conductor.



Work wasn't limited to just club equipment. Seth Taylor brought his new slate car (pictured on the previous page) down to the railroad. It is based off of the slate cars used on the narrow gauge railways of Wales. Aaron McCain installed safety chains on his two gondolas, and Jordan Rivera began sanding the sides of his English passenger coaches ahead of staining them.



Mackerel Flats & Goathill Junction Railroad



With the run weekend approaching there was a lot of mowing and weed wacking to do to make sure the station grounds were ready for the public. Anthony Williams from the Irvine Park Railroad came out and had a great time helping, lets hope he becomes one of our new members! The lawn mowing crew cleared both sides of the station from the fire access road all the way down to the north end. Great work guys!



Jake Guesman came out to the railroad to help his dad Josh installing the new signs on the Mehren Water Tower and cutting brush from the lineside. Great work Jake! There is a lot happening at our railroad, thank you everyone for volunteering your time and helping out!

OCME's New Engine

The club's locomotive fleet will soon have a new member with the addition of a GP9 from Titan Trains. With our run weekends becoming increasingly more popular the new locomotive will help add additional capacity with its ability to pull another full-length train.



The Titan Trains GP9 was selected due to it being cosmetically unlike anything we have in the fleet, but internally having commonalities to our other MCC/Titan locomotives. The D&RGW livery won in a members vote against UP yellow, WP orange/silver, and Santa Fe zebra stripes. Per club locomotive-numbering tradition the GP9 will receive its number based off the month and year that it is delivered.



Photo by Larry Todd, Collection of Nathan Holmes

Our member in Utah Kurt Nelson has a similarly painted GP9 on his home railroad (pictured to the right). Kurt also sent a donation over for the purchase of the new club engine. Thank you Kurt! The new GP9 is currently set to arrive in the first quarter of 2024.



Run Weekend Recap

Our June run weekend happened to fall on Father's Day Weekend, so we didn't know if it would be a hit or miss with the number of other Father's Day activities. The weekend turned out to be a hit. Saturday was bright and sunny with Sunday being a little gloomy, but still busy.



After the Saturday run the club had a small ceremony in honor of Dick Mehren at Mehren Yard. A summary of the event is on Page 9.

At one point during the weekend, we had 8 trains running simultaneously. This includes Mark Johnson running Dixon Sheldon's Dixcobot, Allen Stephens with his locomotive, and Josh Guesman with Patrick Ledbetter's large electric "The Beast". The run weekend was also the debut of Declan Henry's 0-6-0 in passenger hauling service. It made some trips with Zach Jones at the throttle on Saturday, and Jordan Rivera at the controls on Sunday. We also had a snow cone truck come out to the station. Members received a free snow cone when they displayed their OCME badge.



June Ridership Total

3,425

Run Weekend Volunteers

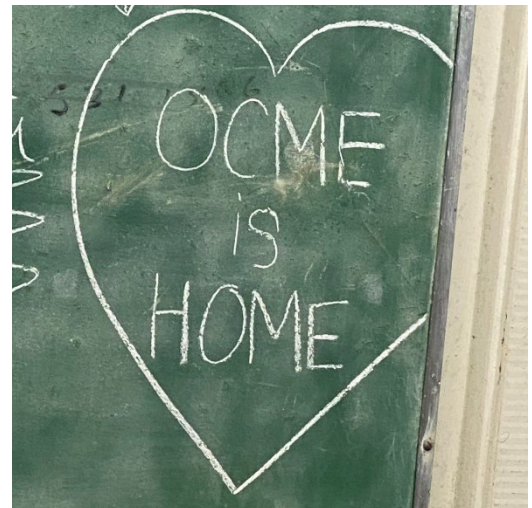


Betty Cummings*, Andy Romer, Andrew McCune, Jeff Garrett, Sue Garrett, Armen Bagdasarian*, Ken Matassa*, Anthony Steinmetz, Louie Aguirre, Christine Steinmetz, Dennis Packer, Josh Guesman*, Eric Engle, Kathy Brokhausen, Allen Stephens*, Terry Koken*, Seth Taylor*, Glenn Swain*, Lori Johnson*, Mark Johnson*, Mike Springer, Nick Hanrahan, Steve Hanrahan, Paul Hammond*, Zach Jones*, Declan Henry*, Dalton Johnson*, Alyssa August, Larry Ogle, Terri Fuqua*, Tyler August, Mike August, Kay Grimes, Gary Reynolds

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!

Let's Welcome Our New Members!

- Richard Joseph Soriano Jalandoni
- Joey Fazzolari
- Chris Johns
- Steven Wong, Julie Huynh, and Parker Wong



Remembering Dick Mehren



Richard "Dick" Mehren was a long-time Costa Mesa resident who was instrumental in the preservation of Fairview Park as a nature park, and he was an ardent supporter of our club and our continued presence within the park.

On June 17th OCME welcomed the Mehren family to Goathill Junction. After the run weekend was completed the family boarded a private train to Mehren water tower for a small ceremony. Their train was followed by a parade of other trains carrying OCME members and other guests which soon filled the yard.

VP of Operations Josh Guesman welcomed everyone and talked a little bit about what the water tower means to the club. Then OCME's City Liaison Hank

Castignetti provided some more background on the wonderful things that Dick Mehren did for Fairview Park and OCME.

OCME provided the Mehren's with one of — what we think — is the original signs from the water tower, plus three replicas of the new signage that was installed on the tower.

Finally, a whistle and horn send-off was provided for Dick, with attending members blowing horns and tooting whistles in one giant crescendo.

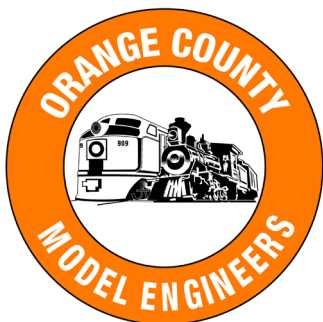
OCME would like to thank the members that made the day possible and the Mehren's for joining us for the celebration of Dick Mehren.





Birthday Crews Needed!

Are you engineer and/or conductor certified? Well here is a fun way to get more runtime! Birthday parties are our club's biggest fundraiser and are key to the operation of our club. If you're interested in helping please contact Birthday Crew Coordinator Larry Ogle at oglerail@gmail.com. If you're not engineer/conductor certified, don't worry! Please contact training supervisor Terry Koken at tkoken@att.net to start your journey to becoming a conductor and engineer.



Orange County Model Engineers

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