



STACK TALK

The official newsletter of the Adobe Western Railroad
Phoenix, Arizona, operated by the Maricopa Live Steamers
Railroad Heritage Preservation Society
www.maricopalivesteamers.com

Vol. 31 No. 6

August 2004



Easing onto the main line

Andrea Rowell starts a Milwaukee Road diesel on a trip around the Fawnbrook Northern Railroad in Show Low during the July Beat the Heat Meet. Visitors to the railroad were greeted with the Rowell's warm hospitality, cool temperatures, endless food, and a marvelously engineered railroad.

News From the President

The other day Robbie Diehl came by the park and asked for a computer and some signaling system power supplies that were his. Al Ford graciously complied. Within two days we had new power supplies up and running. Robbie's power supplies have been in this park for at least three years. We will probably have to change the rules about donating things to this club. It is very sad that we might have to add more rules.

On a lighter note, Chula Vista's fall meet is on Labor Day weekend which reminds me that our meet is coming up faster than we realize. If you have time on your hands please come out and help. Call our meet coordinator, Betty Moore, to volun-



teer. Hers is an enormous task and she can use all the help she can get for the four-day event. We have about a month left before we will be pulling the public. Please come out and volunteer your time for this worthwhile event. It's lots of fun watching the kids riding the train.

Work is still moving along on the

transfer table track, clubhouse, cement in the station and track for the west yard, and the new cover for the tower is progressing nicely. Forty feet of transfer table track is being put down as I write this. Here again things would move faster if we had lots of help. Please consider coming out to help on some of these projects. Work needs to be done on a new tunnel, Pottsville branch, clubhouse and west yard track. Most of the track needs leveling and straightening also. Thank you very much for all your efforts to keep this railroad moving forward.

Thanks Kevin and Michelle Rowell for being a great hosts and hostess for the Beat the Heat weekend in Show Low. The weather was inviting

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News From the President

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and the food was delicious. Thanks for a wonderful time.

NEWS FLASH! We have nine new members in the park. Thanks to Bob Alkire who was a foster daddy to a mama quail and her nine chicks that hatched on the patio.

The August Business Meeting and Ice Cream Social is on Saturday, August 14 at 6 p.m. on the patio. Bring the whole family and have some fun riding a train in the dark. Remember: **SAFETY FIRST.**

Perry McCully



Adobe Update

Last month May and Hope Knott took a small vacation to a beautiful amusement park in California. They were so impressed that upon their return they convinced their father to construct a similar facility in their hometown of Fisher. The family is now searching for a suitable plot of ground on which to build the facility. The name of this place of amusement will be Knotts Farkelberry Farm.



May and Hope Knott

The engine service track leading from East Adobe Yard to the West Adobe Turntable and Yard is now being installed. Along this track just about at the tower a switch is being cut in for the Tombee Spur. The transfer table has been extended 40 feet by the "Get up at 5 a.m. and push wheelbarrows full of cement until your hands fall off gang." The forms for the next 40 feet will be installed by Dewey within the next 2 weeks.

The signal gang, consisting of Jim Brown, Bill Lowe, Bill Pardee and Jerry Moore are working very hard to restore our sabotaged signal system. They are making great progress and it appears that the signals and turnouts in Adobe City will again be functioning when our fall run days begin.

Speaking of signals, the signal crew is also making changes in the design and layout of both Bobberg and Pottsville branch lines. All electrical connections and test points will be readily accessible for easy maintenance.

Jeff Hickman is waiting for the delivery of his two 40-foot containers (approved by the club) to be delivered and placed in the town of Fisher. This will add two factories with rail sidings in the growing Fisher Industrial Park. The wye in Fisher is soon to be installed so that anyone who loves to do switching will be able to take a cut of cars to Fisher and spend hours dropping off and picking up.

Yesterday while working on a signal in Dirt Water I came face to face with a 4-foot fanged serpent. After picking up my stomach I highballed it back to the truck and then to the safety of the patio. My reason for telling you this is to remind you that we are in the desert and there are things out there that can hurt us. Please be careful and very alert as you run your trains or walk through the property.

I am pleased to report a great increase in police presence in our area. Police cars pass up and down 43rd Avenue at what appears to be half-hour intervals. I have gotten into the habit of waving to them as an indication that all is OK. I think this is something that would probably be a good idea for all of us to do. Let's keep the police happy and appreciate what they do for us. The conversations that I have had with the officers who have stopped and talked to me indicate that they are aware of the vandalism that has taken place on our property recently and are keeping a watchful eye for us.

Adobe Al



Treasurer's Notes

As I reported in the July issue of Stack Talk, a discussion was held at the June business meeting regarding the need to increase membership dues to cover basic

expenses. As a result, a proposed dues increase will be voted upon by the membership attending the August 14 meeting. Here are the proposed increases:

Class	Current	Proposed
Regular	\$50	\$100
Non-resident	25	30
Spouse	5	10
Junior	5	10

Be sure to attend the August Ice Cream Social and cast your vote.

TRACK TEAM ACTIVITIES

The tie replacement programs are underway at Adobe Station and on the Pottsville Branch near Masse. Construction of the West Yard has begun. Volunteers are needed to complete as much as possible before the upcoming running season and the Fall Meet. The Adobe Station Platform concrete pouring party will take place at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 7th.

Bob Douglas

Club Locomotive Report



A loud siren, mounted in the locomotive housing, which may be actuated by the conductor has been installed on 4402 and 4403. The conductor may use the alarm to signal the engineer to stop the train in case of derailment or problems with passengers.

Charlie Downs will demonstrate the alarm to conductors and engineers who wish to use it.

The throttle cable on 4402 is broken and will be repaired as soon as possible. The damage to 4403 which apparently occurred when some irresponsible fool kicked the front of the locomotive to get it into the club container has been repaired. Locomotive 7282 is alive and well.

We have three Global Positioning System receivers which indicate the precise speed of a locomotive, your elevation, elapsed trip time and total trip mileage. See Charlie Downs for a quick lesson on using one to set your speed when hauling the public to a stately and safe 6 mph.

Minutes of the June Business Meeting

Meeting called to order by President Perry McCully.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Gary Smith is looking for volunteers to show their engines at a show at the civic center.
- Bob Douglas is starting a track project in Pottsville. Please contact him if you can help.
- No meeting in July. Everyone is heading up to Show Low for the Beat the Heat meet.
- August meeting will be at 6:00 PM with an ice cream social to follow.
- Cliff Fought discussed the installation of a gate on 43rd Avenue by the county. All non-profits along 43rd Avenue are expected to split the costs. MLS will propose donating the gates in lieu of payment. The gate will be placed straight across from Fisher.
- Al Ford discussed an issue with the signal system. All three PC hard drives went down. One hard drive had to be replaced. We were successful in re-installing Windows on two PC's. This problem was not a malfunction, but a malicious act. The hard drives were wiped clean by someone. The tower was not broken into, but accessed with a key. Jim Brown has a back up disc. We may need to purchase a new copy of the signal program; the approximate cost is \$300. A motion was made by Bob Douglas to provide \$300 to purchase the signal program. Second by Gary Smith. Motion passed.

Minutes read by Secretary, Stephanie Marks. Motion by Charlie Downs to accept, seconded by Gary Smith. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report was provided

by Bob Douglas. Motion to accept by Bill Unglaube, seconded by Gary Smith. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Bob Douglas reviewed a dues increase proposal. A motion was made for each proposal to be published in the Stalk Talk for a vote at the next general membership meeting in August. Second by Bill Unglaube. Motion passed.

Increase the regular membership dues from \$50 to \$100; Non-resident dues from \$25 to \$30; Spousal membership dues from \$5 to \$10 Junior membership dues from \$5 to \$10.

Betty Moore withdrew her motion for a registration fee at the MLS fall meet. Reviewed the proposed meet schedule. Information is posted on the web site for registrations. Volunteers are always needed. Bill Pardee will add a vendor registration form.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim Brown discussed how funds are being allocated to projects within MLS. Concerns were discussed that funds were being allocated too quickly during meetings, without giving enough consideration to future club projects and needs. Motion by Jim Brown that all requests for funds should be submitted to the Board of Directors one week prior to the general membership meeting. The BOD will review requests based on MLS priorities and available funds and bring to the general membership meeting for a vote. All specific project donations will continue to be allocated to the specified project. Second by Jerry Reynolds. Motion passed.

Motion by Karen Roderick to pub-

lish a short version of the Stalk Talk in July. Second by Charlie Downs. Motion passed.

Motion by Jim Brown to remove the restrictions for membership use of the 4402 and 4403. Second by Cliff Fought. Motion passed.

George Rhoads will be installing railroad track on his property. Looking for any volunteers who might be able to help. A flyer has been provided. His home is located around 8th Avenue and Thunderbird.

The Cub Scouts will be visiting MLS on July 15th for train rides. Many volunteers are needed.

A big thank you to Gary John for helping to get rid of the bugs around our track.

Karen Roderick discussed the need for additional signage for access to club grounds and station. This would help add to public safety.

Bill Unglaube is donating \$100 to the club for the old composite wood that is being removed from the Station.

Roofing material for the clubhouse has been donated. Volunteers will be needed eventually to put the tiles on the roof. An estimated cost for installing the roof is \$3000. The possibility of hiring a roofing company to install the roof will be considered once the construction team is closer to installing it. The construction committee will continue to keep the club updated.

Motion by Ken Bain to adjourn. Seconded by Jim Brown. Motion passed.

Stephanie Marks



A plethora of Cub Scouts visited the Adobe Western railroad recently and learned there is a neat little railroad in North Phoenix



Concrete Examples



The Concrete Pouring and Tamping Society held a meeting recently to install footing for the transfer table rail extension westward, ever westward to accommodate the growing number of containers at MLS.



A form is in place in Adobe Station for the new platform. **Help is needed in pouring eight yards of concrete beginning at 7 a.m. on Saturday, August 7.** Bring your wheelbarrow and concrete finishing equipment.

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is the official newsletter of the
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We welcome your comments,
suggestions and submissions

The next MLS business meeting
and Ice Cream Social
will be held August 14 at 6 p.m.

Bring a wheelbarrow to the railroad
at 7 a.m. August 7 to help pour
the Adobe Station platform