



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

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February 2005



Charles Downs

Old timers will remember the locomotive that pulled the public at Tower Plaza on Thomas Road. It now resides at Suhuaro Central where it most likely will become a static display. A great deal of work would be required to fire it up.

News from the President



Perry McCully

In about six weeks another spring meet will be happening. That means that we have six weeks to pull up the Pottsville branch and get it

running again. Bill Lowe and I are asking you for help with this project. Ten people showed up to start fixing the branch. Three-hundred feet was replace that first weekend. If 300 feet is replace every weekend, it will be done before the meet. This last weekend not many showed up to help. This maintenance has to be done. Please come out and help.

The clubhouse stucco is dry and it's time to paint. Mike Nelson from Prescott and Dick Wiebolt started painting. They sure could use some help. The club has all the paint you need. Bring brushes and rollers for stucco with poles for the rollers.

You're probably aware that

there's an auction going on. The club is selling some old trucks that are worn out, some rolling stock, an engine and riding car. You can send Charles Downs an email bid or call him to bid on this stuff. Check the web site to learn how. We need money to finish the club house.

We are still having problems covering our runs on Sunday. Repairs on locomotive 7282 are nearing completion. Ridership is climbing because of the warm weather. We need your help pulling the public.

On Friday, February 25, between 10 and 10:30 a.m. 15 to 20 mentally challenged children from the Peoria

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Bob Douglas

Treasurer's Notes

For those members who need to file Income Tax Schedule A, remember that all contributions to Maricopa Live Steamers are tax deductible. If you want a receipt for contributions made in 2004, just ask and I will send you one.

Thanks to the effort of Charlie Downs and the staff of proofreaders, the 2005 MLS Roster will be available at the February meeting. Welcome aboard to new members, Douglas DeBerg and Jack Pennarts, joined in January, just in time to be listed in the 2005 Roster.

Construction on Ford Station is accelerating. Plumbing, electrical and mechanical work are well under way. Remember, the completion date is April 7th.

The Pottsville subdivision tie replacement program has been completed from No Junction to Dead Man's Trestle and is progressing toward Perryville.

Bob Douglas

The following was submitted to Stack Talk by an MLS member who, for various reasons, wishes to remain anonymous. It is being published at the urging of some usually sane and sober people. Ed.

Adobe Railroad Enthusiasts Association (AREA)

Colorado had the Golden Circle, a system of narrow gauge railroads that connected with each other to form a far reaching loop in the state of Colorado.

Arizona had the Copper Star, a system of narrow gauge railroads that connected with each other to form a far reaching conglomeration of lines that resembled the randomness of the web of a black widow spider.

No evidence of the glorious days of

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Stephanie Marks

Meeting Minutes

Maricopa Live Steamers BOD and General Membership Meeting January 8, 2005

Meeting was called to order by President, Perry McCully.

Secretary Stephanie Marks read the minutes. Motion to accept with one correction: Maximum of three passengers per beam per beam car. Seconded by Charlie Downs. Motion carried.

Bob Douglas read the treasurer's report. Motion to accept by Ken Bain. Seconded by Jim Brown. Motion carried. Bob noted a few adjustments will be made. The last four funds will be moved into the Building Fund. The Werner fund will be moved into the Track & Maintenance Fund, and funds will be added to the Ride Donation Souvenirs fund to eliminate the negative position.

Announcements

A sample roster is being distributed for review and corrections. Please verify your information and return to Charlie Downs.

Membership cards have been printed. Please see Stephanie Marks to pick up your card.

The 2005 Christmas Party is scheduled for the weekend of December 10 and 11. We will also have our annual toy drive. In addition, we will be planning an Easter and Thanksgiving food drive. Volunteers will be needed for Saturday and Sunday runs from 12 to 5 p.m.. The food drives will be held the weekend of our monthly meeting. Stephanie Marks will help organize.

A suggestion was made to hang "no smoking" signs in the station. The safety committee will coordinate the signs.

The group Arizona for Children will be here on January 22 at 10 a.m.. We anticipate more than 100 children for train rides beginning at noon. Volunteers will be needed to run the station.

Old Business

The 4402 can now be run on the Bobberg. Pottsville is not available for public runs due to maintenance.

Bill Lowe reported on the track replacement plan for Pottsville. Beginning Saturday at 8 a.m., the maintenance crew will replace 5 to 10 panels of track per weekend. Volunteers are always needed and welcomed. Volunteers are also needed to help build track panels and cut ties. This can be done at any time. Approximately 10,000 ties need to be cut. A list of tools, supplies and a maintenance schedule will be added to the web site. Charlie Downs will coordinate this piece.

Ken Bain discussed a visit made by the State Boiler Inspector. The Boiler Inspector is in the process of amending Division of Occupational Safety and Health rules for miniature boiler inspections. Bill Pardee and Ken Bain are providing information to the Boiler Inspector. Copies of the proposed amendments have been provided to MLS. A public hearing will be held before the amendments are adopted. Ken and Bill will continue to attend meetings and report on its progress.

A motion was made and passed to approve the Superintendent appointments: Lenny Rossow, Superintendent of Operations; Bill Lowe, Track & Maintenance; Jim Brown, Signals; and Al Ford, Construction.

Jim Brown provided a signal update. Thanks to Bill Pardee, the signals are working up to Geronimo on the Werner branch. Work will begin on Bobberg and Pottsville next.

John Draftz recommended changing our toy drive next year and that we coordinate with the Fire Department for toy donations. Betty Moore discussed this option with the Phoenix Fire Department. They are willing to bring a Fire Engine to the park on Saturday and Sunday to provide free rides for toy donations.

Bill Unglaube provided an update on the Inman engine status. The recommendation is not to keep the engine as a club engine due to high maintenance and upkeep. A motion was made by Bill Unglaube to sell the engine and riding cars at auction, with a minimum starting bid of \$1,500. Seconded by Charlie Downs. Motion passed. Charlie will coordinate the auction and bidding using the MLS web site.

In addition, the club also has riding cars, trucks, parts, etc. that will be placed on the MLS web site auction. No minimum starting bid for these items.

The auction will close at the end of February and the winning bids will be announced at the March meeting. All

proceeds will go to the building fund.

New Business

The Bylaws have been updated and placed on the web site. Some duplicate sheets were noted. Charlie will verify the information placed on the web site.

Bill Pardee is revising the engineer's exam. This will be added to the web site when complete.

The spring meet schedule will be added to the Stack Talk and to the web site. Registrations will be online. The spring and fall meets are also advertised in Live Steam magazine.

A new member quarterly breakfast will be held beginning in February. This will provide our new members an opportunity to meet with the board members, take a tour of the facility, and learn about volunteer opportunities and safety information. Betty Moore, Karen Roderick and Stephanie Marks will coordinate the breakfast.

The Cub Scout date has been moved to April. Jim Brown will obtain a specific date for the Cub Scout run.

Bob Douglas is issuing cash contribution letters to people who have donated \$200 or more. Member's cash contributions for 2004 totaled \$20,978.

A motion was made by Bill Unglaube to remove the name Diehl City from the railroad. The motion was seconded by Charlie Downs and opened for discussion. The motion did not pass.

Bob Douglas made a motion to add \$300 to the rolling stock fund. Seconded by Charlie Downs. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Jim Brown to adjourn. Seconded by Bob Alkire. Motion passed.

News from the President

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School District are coming out to the park for a train ride. We'll probably need at least two trains.

All of the signals on the Werner branch are working. Thanks goes out to the all the people for their efforts in getting Werner branch up and running. Great job.

Lets do a little work and then get out the trains and have some fun before it gets too hot.

We've made some progress on chopping weeds in the Adobe City balloon, but more work is needed. You're invited to run the weed eater.

It seems like all I do is ask for help. I do know that a lot of works gets done. I do THANK YOU for all the work you do. It's always a joy to be at the park. Thanks.

Perry McCully



Al Ford

The Wisdom of Adobe Al

I have gotten this on good authority: The strange looking long-legged big-beaked pink birds that have been seen all around the town of Fisher are really migrating flamingos. They were coming from Alaska where they spend their summers and were headed to Florida where they winter when they spotted from their 10,000-foot altitude the ripening farkelberries on the bush outside of Crazy Horse Schwartz Jewelry store. Because everyone knows a migrating flamingo cannot pass up a ripe farkelberry, these birds landed and filled their bellies. Being then too heavy to take off, they decided to spend the winter here in Arizona with us. The farkelberries seemed to have caused some type of catatonic trance because the flamingos have not moved a muscle for three months. It is hoped the effect will wear off come spring, so that they will be able to make their way back to the Yukon. If not, the Adobe Western Railroad is building a 200-foot sling shot with which we will help propel them on their way.

The signals on the Werner Branch are now all installed and working. There is still a lot of "tweaking" going on so please be patient and proceed with caution until the signal department announces that all adjustments have been finalized and the signals are working perfectly. New town names have been incorporated into our railroad. Some have been put in place already and some will be coming in the future. These will all be printed on our next timetable which will be issue No. 8 and will be available before the Spring Meet. Please try to learn these names and where they are on the railroad so that we all know where we are. And another thing, when talking about the towns that are along our railroad remember the west end of town is always the part that is farthest away from Adobe City as the track lies. The east end of town would of course then be the closest part to Adobe City.



Betty Jane Moore

News from the Vice-president

Our Spring Meet plans are well under way. The Meet will be held March 17, 18, 19 and 20th. The Schedule is posted on the web site as well as the registration forms. We will need volunteers to act as Yard Masters and Station Masters. Please email me if you will be available. Schedules will be posted in early March.

Don't forget that we will be having our first quarterly New Member Orientation Breakfast on Saturday, February 19th at 9:00 A.M. on the front patio. All members are invited.

The new Public Relations Committee has met and we are working on providing a list of duties for the Station Masters, Sunday Engineers and Conductors, and Concession Volunteers. All Engineers and Conductors must pass the Engineers' Test to run on Sunday. We plan on having orientation sessions for each of these responsibilities. Please contact me if you are interesting in volunteering to work on Sundays. We have split the Schedule into two time slots, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. for those who may not be able to work the entire six hours. Three months of our run year have five Sundays.

Thank you all for your assistance so far this year. We have been having great run days and the weather has been outstanding.

Betty Jane Moore

Where this puts the north end of town is beyond me because it could be anywhere. The south end of town would of course be either in the north or south or east or west part of something. Whatever! Please try to remember all this because I understand that there will be a test coming from the Splainer Guy within the next few months and you'll all be expected to remember which end is up.

Adobe Al

AREA

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the Arizona narrow gauge network remains today, each segment succumbing to the advancement of civilization and technology, the very thing that brought prosperity to these railroads. The grade of the right-of-way is barely visible, the toil of the workmen is long forgotten, the sights, sounds and smells of vibrant working narrow gauge railroads are no longer sensed in the Arizona landscape.

Although the times and troubles are remembered through our models and mistakes, progress is unbridled and must be considered. The quality of life of the workmen must keep pace with the profits of the overwhelmingly successful rail empires such as the Adobe Western.

Therefore we respectfully request

a face to face meeting at the bargaining table to resolve pay issues. As usual you are expected to have no more than three representatives, unarmed and clean shaven; we will of course have our usual mob with various fire arms to insure a peaceful resolution to the situations at hand.

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Adobe Railroad Enthusiasts Association (AREA), official bargaining unit of the Adobe Arizona Copper Star Association

Members of:

AACSA — Adobe Arizona Copper Star Association

AARA — Adobe Arizona Railroad Association

ANGER — Adobe Narrow Gauge Enlightened Railroaders

BANG — Brotherhood of Adobe Narrow Gaugers

BAR — Brotherhood of Adobe Rail-

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roaders

BARGAIN — Brotherhood of Adobe Rail Group Advancing the Independent Network of it's members

BAT — Brotherhood of Adobe Trainmen

BENT — Brotherhood of Eccentric Narrow Trainmen

BING — Brotherhood of Intrinsic Narrow Gaugers

CAR — Copperstate Amalgamated Railgroup

ENGINE — Exclusive Narrow Gauge Inner Negotiating Equality

JOB — Joint Operative Brotherhood

RAIL — Railgroup of Adobe Illiterate Learners

SNOB — Steam Narrowgauge Operators Brotherhood

TRACK — Trainmen Resisting Adobe Capital Kickbacks

TRAIN — Trainmen Relying on Adobe Income and Niceties

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We welcome your comments,
suggestions and submissions.



MLS CALENDAR

- The next MLS business meeting will be held beginning at 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 12.
- The 2005 Spring Meet will be held March 17 through March 20.

