



# 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](http://www.maricopalivesteamers.com)

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October 2005



## First 'Friends Event' was a roaring success!

As announced on our web site, Jeff Hickman suggested that once a month, on a Saturday evening, MLS members congregate at our railroad for a "Friends Event," an evening of railroading, eating and socializing. The first event was held September 24. More photos on page 3. Jeff writes:

A wonderful time was had by all who attended the Saturday "Friends Event" at the Adobe Western Railroad. Good facilities, good food, and great friends. It was a thrill to pull into the

Adobe City station, see it packed with approximately ten trains, and everyone just visiting with one another! That was a better success than I ever imagined. It was awesome. Quite different than those lonely nights when I was operating the only train of the evening. A huge thank you to all who participated.

A special thank-you to maintenance crews that worked on the railroad earlier in the day. Several people worked so hard that they did not have

the energy to continue with us into the evening. We look forward to having them at a future time.

A special thank-you to Bill Pardee and Jim Brown. With the signals operating, and now on a two-hour timer, we traveled the tracks in an organized manner. I cannot wait for the upcoming meet in the next few weeks. Get your locomotives serviced and well-lubricated.

We had "friends" visiting with us from Oklahoma. Jim Zimmerman was

## Friends Event

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running a full narrow-gauge consist. Frank Behrle had the "circus train" out rolling the rails. Bill Pardee pulled "the longest train." Lorna was operating her D&RGW #50 for the first time since it's conversion from a gas engine to electric. Betty and Jerry Moore were running their fine train. And more. We had a four train meeting at race-watch. A "parade of trains" running the Bobberg branch—one train right after another. Everything went real smooth.

The only rule was to have FUN. I think we had a FUN-tastic time. Everyone was out the gate and on their way home by 9:45pm.

Because of the club Meet in October, we'll not have our next semi-organized "friends event" until the second Saturday evening in November. Bring your jackets. And, you can still come join me on Saturday afternoons and evenings most any week..

See ya'll soon !

Jeff

## News from the President



*Perry McCully*

When you get this newsletter it will be about two weeks from the fall meet. I hope you are all ready to come out and help. We need all the help we can muster. If you have some time on your hands please call Betty Moore and volunteer to help.

Speaking of needing things to be done around the park, Al Ford has two bulletin boards in the hallway of the clubhouse. On the inbound board are cards for people to sign up for things to do around the park. When you have completed that project you move the card over to the outbound bulletin board. Bring your own supplies or if necessary contact Al Ford. We may have some supplies at the park.

The counter tops for the kitchen have been installed at no expense to the club. A big thanks goes out to Dick Wieboldt and his son for getting them

made and installed. I was in the clubhouse the other day and the place sure looks nice and clean. Thanks to everyone for keeping it clean.

I got two flyers in the mail asking us to sell books. One is a biography of Walt Disney. It is a hardbound 432 pages 350 photos, sold in lots of 8. The other book is Tourist Trains 2006. If there is enough interest in the books let me know. The Disney book is pretty pricey. The flyers will be on the bulletin board.

We have had three club members in the hospital this month: Bob Alkire, Margaret Ann Bain and Al Ford. Our best wishes and speedy recovery to all.

On October 28 at 10am the Beatitudes Campus of Care is coming out for a ride. This is a mystery ride for them. Please keep this to your self if you know any of these people. There will be about 28 people coming. They will ride the train and have a sack lunch on the patio. Please let me know if you can come out and help these people.

Jeff Hickman invited all the members to come out to the park for a "Friends Event" on the 24 of Sept. He said to bring your own food and then run trains until whenever. Eight to ten trains ran until 10 pm. It sounds like they had a great time. There is another "Friends Event" coming November 12 at 5pm. Come out, have fun, eat; visit and best of all run your train. Just remember, Safety First. It is very dark out there. Happy railroading.

Elections are coming. If you want to be an officer or on the Board of Directors, get your name to Bill Lowe by the October meeting. Anybody want my job? Salary and benefits are great.

*Perry McCully*



*Bob Douglas*

## Treasurer's Notes

October is "Renew Your Membership" month. Club members voted down a dues increase, so your membership dues pay for only 80 percent of the club's operating and maintenance costs. All park improvements and railroad expansion projects will be funded

solely by public and member contributions.

Please use the 2006 MLS Membership Dues form that was included in last month's *Stack Talk* and, if possible, include a contribution to support club operation or your favorite project. Please send your check to me as early as possible.

This year several club members made significant contributions to the rail fund. We now have enough to purchase rail for the West Yard and the first mile of the Far Flung Flats subdivision. Any member can purchase rail through MLS. Please contact me for prices. Orders will be accepted through November 1, 2005.

Once again dedicated club members came to the aid of the track team by clearing the right of way and spreading more than 50 tons of ballast. All ties have been replaced on the Pottsville main line. Ballasting and track leveling are ongoing. The track in the Pottsville complex will be replaced within the next two months.

The following have joined MLS as regular members:

Arthur Gaudette  
artg26@cox.net  
414 E. Southfork Dr.  
Phoenix AZ 85048

Will Kellogg  
maxtrux@juno.com  
5562 N. Warren Rd.  
Maricopa AZ 85239

Bill Myers & Linda Cannon  
bigtrailer@msn.com  
12120 S. 43rd Ave.  
Laveen AZ 85339

Mack Sheesley  
1313 N. 25th Ave.  
Phoenix AZ 85009

Thomas Harrington  
trainman1970@juno.com  
2961 N. 23rd St. West  
Muskogee OK 74401

Brian Thomson  
bthomsoncat22@aol.com  
547 W. Caroline Lane  
Chandler AZ 85225

Mervin Fried (Non-resident)  
mervinfried@yahoo.com  
4370 Lomita  
Kingman AZ 86401



*Betty Jane Moore*

## News from the Vice President

The Fall Meet is almost upon us and things are beginning to shape up nicely at the park. We could use help with a few of the events. We will be having our Spaghetti dinner on Friday night on the patio. Please try to bring a desert. Bob Alkire baked for us last time all by himself, but we had 98 people and it just did not multiply as I had hoped. Lets give him a little help this time.

On Saturday night we will be having our regular Pot Luck. Our guests look forward to this. Please plan on coming and bringing a little extra so that we will have plenty to go around.

I am also collecting items for the Raffle. Your donations can be left on a table in the clubhouse. Everything is welcome. The more the merrier. This is going to be a fun weekend for all of us. Our guests are looking forward to coming and we are excited to have them. Plan on being there, October 13, 14, 15, and 16th.

Those of us who participated in "Friends Night" on September 24th at the Park had a great time. The next one will be November 12. Check out the web site for info and plan on coming out to join the fun and meet your fellow train lovers.

Happy rails to you, until we meet again.

*Betty Moore*

## You can help reduce the cost of mailing Stack Talk

We mail 95 copies of *Stack Talk* to MLS members each month at a cost of \$35.13. That adds up to \$421.56 a year.

*Stack Talk* is available on our web site in Adobe Acrobat (pdf) format. Downloading is painless, and free Adobe Acrobat Reader, with which you view and print the newsletter is available in the Stack Talk Library. If you wish your name removed from the paper copy mailing list, send an email to Charlie at [mls@wellhealedmac.com](mailto:mls@wellhealedmac.com).

## More 'Friends Event' photos



## Elections are just around the corner

Nominations are open for club officers and board members at large. Incumbents are:

President: Perry McCully  
 Vice President: Betty Moore  
 Secretary: Stephanie Marks  
 Treasurer: Bob Douglas  
 Member at Large: Ken Bain  
 Member at Large: Charlie Downs  
 Member at Large: Cliff Fought

Members may nominate candidates for any or all of the offices above by sending their names by email to Bill Lowe at [whlowe@qwest.net](mailto:whlowe@qwest.net) or by US Mail to Bill Lowe, 16622 N 33rd Avenue, Phoenix AZ 85053.

Your nominations must be received by Bill on or before October 22. The election will be held at the business meeting on November 12.

## 'I am not mad!'

*This excerpt is taken from First Locomotives in America, containing "Original Documents and the Testimony of Living Witnesses" and was written by William H. Brown in 1871. It's an interesting read, and can be found in full on the web at <http://www.history.rochester.edu/steam/brown/> We print one fascinating excerpt here:*

One Marion de Lorme, in a letter to the Marquis de Lamoignon, in 1641, describes his visit to the mad house, called the *Bicetre*, at Paris, in which he saw, confined in a cell, a poor creature named Solomon de Cause, who seemed to be one of the first to conceive the idea, in 1615, of employing the steam or vapor of boiling water as a power by which both carriages on land and ships at sea could be propelled. Accompanying De Lorme in this visit to the mad-house, was the Marquis of Worcester. After relating many curious cases of madness, De

Lorme writes that they saw a man named Solomon de Cause, looking through the bars of his cell. On seeing that he was noticed, Solomon exclaimed in a hoarse and melancholy voice: "I am not mad! I am not mad! But I have made a discovery that would enrich the country which would adopt it; but I am not mad ! I am not mad!" "What has he discovered?" asked De Lorme of the guide. "Oh," replied the keeper, " something trifling enough, of course. The poor creature says that he has discovered a wonderful power in the use of steam from boiling water. He came from Normandy, about four years ago, to present to the king a statement of the wonderful effects that might be produced from his invention. The cardinal sent him away without listening to him. Solomon persisted, and followed the cardinal wherever he went, and finally so annoyed him with his discovery, that he had him shut up in the *Bicetre*, as a madman."

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is the official newsletter of the  
 Maricopa Live Steamers  
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 3142 N 62nd Street  
 Scottsdale AZ 85251  
 Editor: Charles Downs  
 602-326-4867  
[mls@wellhealedmac.com](mailto:mls@wellhealedmac.com)  
 We welcome your comments,  
 suggestions and submissions.

## MLS CALENDAR

A Board of Directors Meeting will be held beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, October 8, followed by a business meeting beginning at 10 a.m. The Fall Meet will be held October 13—16.