



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

September 2004



This has gotta go!

For some reason, the County sees our scrap heap as an eyesore and has decreed that it must go away. We need your help on Saturday and Sunday, September 18 and 19 to make it happen. Works starts at first light. Machines will do the heavy lifting. Please give a hand, even if only for an hour or two.

News from the President



Perry McCully

Some very good news came across my desk today. Cliff took time off from work the other day and visited the Phoenix Fire Department. He managed to talk the fire department into exempting the club from putting sprinklers in the clubhouse. This saved the club several thousands of dollars. Thank you for your efforts.

Adobe station is almost back in order. Thanks to a lot of people the club has poured over 10 yards of cement in the past 3 weeks in the station alone. On Sat. (three weeks ago) 27 people and 15 wheelbarrows poured 8 yards of cement. This last Friday, 9 people came out and poured 5 more yards at various

locations. It is getting very hard to get cement on Sat. anymore. Most of the track is back on the ground. Forty ft. of transfer table track was also poured. Thanks to all that came and helped get the station back together again. Cement is running about \$100 a yard these days and we need money to cover the cost. Please send your donation to the treasurer if you can. See pictures on the web. Incidentally, Paul Heiser, a new member, has produced a short video for the web site. Check it out. Thanks Paul. It looks great.

In two weeks we start pulling the public. Membership dues are

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The Concrete Gang puts the finishing touches on the final pour in Adobe City Station.

due in four weeks. Fall meet begins Oct. 14 for four days. Election of officers and board of directors takes place in the merry month of Nov. We have a lot of things to do in the next few months.

On a very sad note Jim Theobald's mother passed away this past week. Our condolences from all of us Jim.

Perry McCully

Treasurer's Notes



Bob Douglas

It's dues time again. MLS members passed a dues increase at the August business meeting to support the bare necessities of our expansive park. The annual dues are due on October 1st. Please complete the Dues Form

on the next page and get your check to me promptly. Thank you in advance.

The grand reopening of Adobe Station will be held on Sunday, September 12, the first run day of the season. The station now has concrete platforms and four new tracks. Thanks to all the workers who made this possible. Additional loud speakers have been installed to ensure that riders hear the safety instructions.

MLS is the recipient of another Boy Scout Eagle Badge project.

Danny Barreras of Troop 526 in Glendale donated seven benches built by his troop. Our thanks go out to Danny and all of his volunteers.

Bob Douglas

MLS will hold elections in November

The election for 2005 MLS officers and the Board of Directors will be held at the November 13 business meeting. Bill Lowe has volunteered to head the elections committee.

If you hold office or are on the Board of Directors and wish to run for re-election, or if you want to submit your name for any office or the Board, please contact Bill at whlowe@qwest.net or call him at 602-993-9286.

Sunday ride signs have been refurbished

The signs which we place on the south side of Pinnacle Peak Road and by our gate announcing free rides have been refurbished and are ready for the next run season. The large 48" x 48" sign with two flags is to be fastened to the No Parking sign post about 150 feet west of the 43rd Avenue and Pinnacle Peak Road intersection next to Pinnacle Peak. The smaller 31" x 48" sign with one flag is designed to be fastened to the No Parking sign post about 50' east of the intersection next to the road. Both signs have a wire on the top corner that can be wrapped around the post to hold the sign up. The diagonal corner should be placed between the rock buried in the ground to keep the sign from moving in normal wind conditions.

The 31"x40" a-frame (sandwich board) sign should slip around the post just outside our gate on the south side of the drive to keep the wind from blowing the sign over. Rocks at the bottom may also be incorporated.

The flags on the large signs are furled (wrapped around the stick) during storage and need to be raised and unfurled after the signs are in place. To prevent damage, they should be furled and lowered into their cradle before the signs are removed for storage.

Although it would be best to have a sign on the northeast corner of 43rd Avenue and Pinnacle Peak, the wall and trees on the northeast side limit visibility by westbound traffic until vehicles are at the sign thus the sign is placed on the southeast corner for better visibility.

John Draftz



2005 MLS Membership Dues

Please complete this application and mail it with your check to:
Maricopa Live Steamers
Attn: Bob Douglas
2 W. Kathleen Road
Phoenix AZ 85023-3649

MLS annual dues for 2005 are due on October 1, 2004.
If you fail to pay by December 31, 2004,
your membership will be terminated.

Regular Membership: \$75
Non-Resident Membership: \$30
Spousal Membership (List name below): . \$10
Junior Membership Under 18 years
(List name below). \$10

The following information will be used to produce a membership roster.
It is not made public and is distributed only to MLS members.

Member Name: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Junior Member Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone (if available): _____

Work Phone (optional): _____

Email address (optional): _____

List of equipment you have stored at MLS (optional): _____



Four Canadian Pacific 4-8-4 locomotives pull an eastbound train of heavy steel passenger cars through the curves and grade between the famed Spiral Tunnels east of Field, British Columbia.

The Spiral Tunnels were finished in 1909 and reduced a 4.5 percent grade to 2.2 percent over 12 miles. The Upper Tunnel, or No. 1, as the railroaders call it, cuts 3255 feet into Cathedral Mountain turning through 288 degrees and passing under itself to emerge 48 feet lower. The track then snakes northeast, crossing the Kicking Horse River and entering the Lower Tunnel, or No. 2, in Mount Ogden. This tunnel is 2922 feet long with a curvature of 226 degrees, to emerge 50 feet below the entrance.

The photo, courtesy of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, was taken in 1939 by Nicholas Morant.

Minutes of the August Business Meeting

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Bill Pardee.

Announcements were made:

- Bill thanked everyone who helped with the concrete project at Adobe Station
- Bill Unglaube announced that Martin Becker had passed away
- A business card program for MLS is now on the website. Charlie noted that cards can be printed at home using the perforated card stock paper. The file is found under Late Breaking News

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

Treasurer's report was provided by Stephanie Marks. Motion to accept by Bill Unglaube, seconded by Betty Moore. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Betty Moore provided an update on the Fall Meet.

Cliff Fought provided an update on the station concrete project. More money was spent due to an increase in the price of concrete. Additional funds are needed to finish the project. Any donations will be accepted. A portion of the needed funds were received or pledged from members present.

Pete provided an update on the tower project.

Bill Lowe discussed the status of the club engines. The 4403 is now running. The 4402 has a broken throttle cable. A volunteer is needed to take the engine to Dick's Speed Shop to have it fixed. The club container has also

been raised to provide easier access.

A motion to increase the membership dues was published in the Stack Talk. This motion was opened for discussion by Bill Pardee.

A motion was made by Cliff Fought to amend a portion of the original motion to increase the regular membership dues from \$50 to \$75. Seconded by Ed Ryan. This motion was passed.

After much discussion a vote was called for and the motion passed. The new dues structure is as follows:

- Increase the regular membership dues from \$50 to \$75
- Increase non-resident dues from \$25 to \$30
- Increase spousal membership dues from \$5 to \$10
- Increase junior membership dues from \$5 to \$10

Additional requests were made to adjust the accounting of how funds are spent and the possibility of keeping dues money and infrastructure funds separate in the general budget.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill Lowe asked that when faulty equipment is set aside to please tag it in such a way that the maintenance crew will know what to fix.

Karen Roderick asked that a status board be added to the station to provide track updates. Radios are also recommended for all engines when out on the track. The white board from the

Pottsville station can be moved. How information will be posted and where the white board will be located will be determined by the Safety Committee.

Cliff Fought noted that we have until the fall meet to clean up the back junk yard. Everything must be moved out of public view. Some discussion was made that this date was actually moved up and should be completed within the next two weeks. Cliff will verify the actual deadline.

The sign for the AMRS trolley station was posted as "Adobe City Station." Concern was noted regarding the confusion this will cause on Sundays and during the meets. Cliff Fought will take this concern to Saguro Central to have it corrected.

A motion was made by Betty Moore to establish a reward fund to help discover and apprehend the people who are vandalizing our park, funded strictly by donation only. Betty and Jerry are willing to start the fund with \$100. Seconded by Charlie Downs. Motion passed.

The signal system is up and running. We have quite a few areas in need of maintenance. Volunteers are always needed.

The transfer table extension is completed. Dewey Mills would like to donate funds for additional gravel to fill in the gaps before the fall meet.

Motion by Cliff Fought to adjourn. Seconded by Charlie Downs. Motion passed.

Letter to the Editor

In the August issue of Stack Talk, president Perry McCully wrote "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." This is Mr. Diehl's response::

It is with great regret that I am Writing this article as a retraction

for what the President claims happened. It is a shame that the officers of this club fell *[sic]* they need to bash fellow members of this club in our newsletter.

I took only one item with the supervision of BoD member Al Ford that was in use. This was a power supply that I normally use for my G scale trains. It was on temporary loan until the club could buy one. I did not take a computer. The other power supply was not hooked to anything and I had been meaning to take it home for sometime. The third power supply belonged to another member who asked me to

remove it for them.

I have asked to have this printed in the September issue of Stack-talk. I will not tolerate lies being printed about my family or me. I have asked to not have my name used in the newsletter anymore except with my expressed written permission. I have told the people involved that I would seek Legal Repercussions if this continued. I hope in the future articles will be written that are known to be factual.

Respectfully yours,
Robbie Diehl

**The next MLS business meeting
will be held September 11 at 9 a.m.
Public rides resume on
Sunday, September 12**

STACK TALK
is the official newsletter of the
Maricopa Live Steamers
Railroad Heritage Preservation Society
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We welcome your comments,
suggestions and submissions