

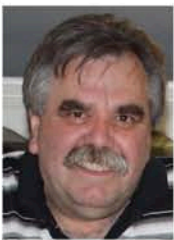
LALS ENGINE BOOSTER

January 2011

Celebrating 56 Years

www.lals.org

President's Message



We are looking forward to the new year with the building of the new station. We should see permits by the end of the month or the beginning of February, according to Roger.

We had a great Christmas banquet at The Smoke House, put on by Silvia Tucker. Martha Figueroa held a wonderful raffle. I would like to extend a very special thank you to both women for all their hard work. Approximately 50 members attended the dinner and all thoroughly enjoyed the meal and each other's company.

The spring meet is right around the corner. A national small scale meet for 1" & 3/4" locomotives will be held on June 24-26, at our facility. Chris Mahoney will be handling the meet.

Unfortunately late year ended on a sad note with the passing of Doug Alkire and Bruce Ward. They will surely be missed. We would like to honor these members by

(Continued on page 6)

Time to Renew Membership

By Wilbur Dong

It's renewal time again. February 1, the due date, is not far away.

Included with this Booster are your renewal form and Level One test. Look over the renewal form for any changes such as phone numbers and equipment.

Before you forget, send in your Renewal Form, your completed Level One Test and your payment now and save us the work of having to remind you later.

Make your payment to Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum and send to this address:

LALS RM
PO Box 2156
Toluca Lake, CA 91610-0156

Doug Alkire, 92, Passes

From the Chaski Board:

Hello, my friends. Our friend Doug Alkire passed away just before Christmas.

He had gone to the post office to mail some drawings to a friend in Australia when he became dizzy and confused. They called the paramedics and Doug passed away shortly thereafter, apparently from a stroke. Doug was 92 years old.

Doug Alkire was a long time member of Los Angeles Live Steamers and was known for his beautiful scratch built one inch scale Baltimore And Ohio P7 Pacific. Also for his contributions to Joe Nelson's book *So You Want To Build A Live Stem Locomotive*.

(Continued on page 2)



Doug Alkire runs his 1" scale B&O P-7 at LALS

Doug Alkire runs his 1" B&O P-7 at LALS (Doug Alkire collection)

Public Service Calendar

January

- 9 Public Rides
- 16 Public Rides; Disney Barn and Steam Plant Open
- 23 Public Rides
- 30 Public Rides

February

- 6 Public Rides
- 13 Public Rides
- 20 Public Rides; Disney Barn and Steam Plant Open
- 27 Public Rides

Long-time Member Doug Alkire Passes

(Continued from page 1)

Doug had made friends all over the world with his correspondence, as he was a prolific letter writer. Doug preferred pen and paper to E Mail. As he touched many, he will be greatly missed. So long dear friend.

Jack Bodenmann

Doug Alkire in his Own Words

Doug's health had been declining for some time and with his legendary thoroughness he wrote his own obituary in April 2010, which appears below. I was asked by Doug to distribute upon his death. Doug just loved corresponding with pen and paper, and, in so doing, had friends all over the world. I will miss talking with him and receiving his letters. *Jack Bodenmann*

I was elected to the first Board of Directors as a director in late 1964 for the 1965-1966 term. I served as a director for a total of six full two-year terms—12 years in total—the most service yet of anyone in then club.

I also served as Chairman of the Facility Planning Group from 1966 to 1973, and from 1975 through 1986—a total of 20 years. This position was my favorite, and I proposed a number of projects to help the

club grow. The first was the "Disney Loop" around the south side of the facility. "Webb Yard" came next. This was followed by the 18-foot long transfer bridge and the 18-foot long parallel steaming bays to give LALS the ability to host BLS and IBLs meets every five years from 1965 through 1995.

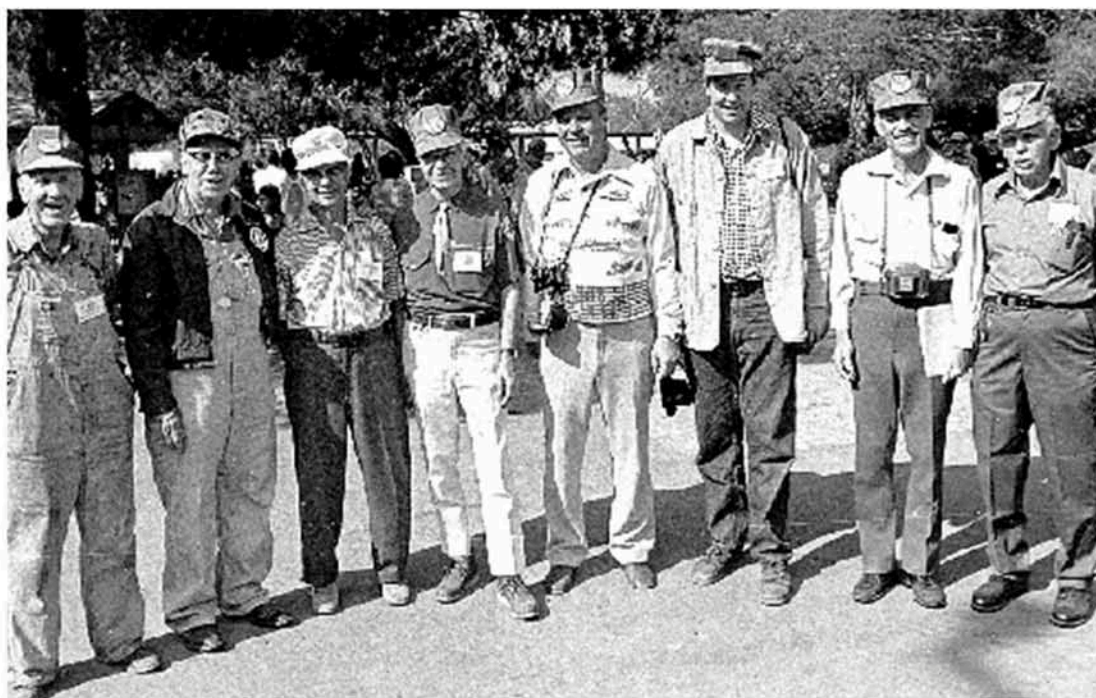
Our methods showed the other live steam clubs how to do it, and the British Columbia Live Steamers built a huge new facility and hosted the 2000 IBLs Meet. There have been no IBLs meets since. I proposed the extension of trackage for the 7.50" gauge track in 1966, but it was not until 1985 that the gold spike ceremony was held at the West End.

I proposed the first Phil West car storage shed at the West End of the facility for the 16 riding cards purchased from "Buss" Sutch for \$80.00 each and the first track

rental shed in the southwestern corner of the facility, where riding stock could be stored with locked doors.

The transfer bridge gave access to the steaming bays, and many LALS members brought new equipment because storage was available, and hauling rolling stock from home to LALS was no longer needed. This, in turn, gave a larger roster of engineers to haul the public so that the burden on the smaller previous group was greatly eased. Also, the list of suppliers increased, which increased interest in our hobby. I was very happy to have joined then hobby early enough to have a part in the growth.

Doug Alkire



The pioneers— left to right: Phil West, Harry Dixon, Leo Myers, Gordon Sherwood, Carl Bruce, Lindsay McDonnell, Doug Alkire and Del Webb at 1975 IBLs meet at LALS. (All photos, Doug Alkire collection)

Editors note: Last year Doug sent over 300 historic LALS photos on a DVD to the Booster. A number of these photos have run in the past months. All photos accompanying this story are from that collection. More of these photos will appear from time to time in the future

Splinters from the Board



By Charles Mohr
Secretary

Meeting called to order by President Les Kovacs.

Treasurer's Report:
December's treasurer's

report was approved and several items discussed.

Party Requests: There were no parties for January, but the National Small Scales Meet was set for June 24-26, 2011.

Shed: Tim Lagaly gave an update on the billing for the new shed leases. There are 18 people who must pay. The equipment list is going out in June.

Superintendent: Steve Ruatta gave an update he always needs help on Saturdays ever one should make an effort to help.

Facilities Planning: New station

plans are back in the city hands. Permits should be by the end of the month.

Safety: A new fiber optic inspection tool was delivered. Ray Burden was appointed steam superintendent and boiler inspector.

The Board approved improvements to the small scale steaming bay area proposed by John De Rosa. Four 1" riding cars were approved to be stored in the new car barn. The turntable and steaming bay area will be named for Bruce Ward, and the new car barn will be named for Doug Alkire.

New club badges and engineer badges were shown and approved subject to some changes. (see ad for badges elsewhere in this *Booster*.)

All Board members should be thinking of appointees for next meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Charles Purinton Dies

LALSRM member Charles Purinton, Jr., died November 11. He was the son of member Charles Purinton for whom Purinton on the railroad was named.



The *Engine Booster* is the monthly publication of the Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

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LALSRM 2011 Calendar

January

- 06/01 2011 six-month Shed Lease Year Begins
 01/01 **Change Direction**
 01/02 Public Rides
 01/03 BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 01/08 **Shed Changeovers**
 01/09 Public Rides
 01/15 Work Day/Member Meeting
 01/16 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant; Small Scale Sunday/ Gourmet Lunch
 01/23, 30 Public Rides

February

- 02/06 Public Rides
 02/07 BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 02/13 Public Rides
 02/19 Work Day/Member Meeting
 02/20 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant; Small Scale Sunday/ Gourmet Lunch
 02/27 Public Rides
 02/27 Membership Renewals Due

March

- 03/06 Public Rides
 03/07 BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 03/13 Public Rides/**Time Change**
 03/19 Work Day/Member Meeting
 03/20 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant; Small Scale Sunday/ Gourmet Lunch
 03/27 Public Rides

April

- 04/03 Public Rides
 04/04 BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 04/10 Public Rides
 04/16 Work Day/Member Meeting
 04/17 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant/Gourmet Lunch
 04/24 Public Rides **Easter** 05/31
 04/30 **Shed Credit Earning Period Ends**

Recurring Events Each Month (check calendar for exceptions)

- Sundays** — Public Rides 11am-3 pm
1st Monday* — Board Meetings 7 pm
3rd Saturday — Work Day; Member Meeting
3rd Sunday — Disney Barn /Steam Plant; Small Scale Sunday/ Gourmet Lunches

May

- 06/01 **Full 2011-12 Shed Credit Earning Period Begins**
 05/01 Public Rides
 05/02 BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 05/08 Public Rides
 05/15 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant; Small Scale Sunday/ Gourmet Lunch
 05/21 Work Day/ Member Meeting
 05/22 Public Rides
 05/27-30 **SPRING MEET-no public rides**

June

- 06/04 **City of Hope Run**
 06/05 Public Rides
 06/06 BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 06/12 Public Rides
 06/18 Work Day/ Member Meeting
 06/19 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant; Small Scale Sunday/ Gourmet Lunch
 06-24-26 **National Small Scales Meet**
 06/25 **Pot Luck/ Night Run/Disney Barn Movie night**
 06/26 Public Rides
 07/01 **2011 six-month Shed Lease Year Ends**

July

- 07/01 **2011-12 Full Shed Lease Year Begins**
 07/01 **Change Direction**
 07/03 Public Rides
 07-10 Public Rides
 07/11 BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 07/16 Work Day/Member Meeting
 07/17 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant; Small Scale Sunday/ Gourmet Lunch
 07/23 **Pot Luck/Night Run/Disney Barn Movie Night**
 07/24, 31 Public Rides

August

- 08/01 BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 08/07 Public Rides
 08/13 **TTOS Run**
 08/14 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant; Small Scale Sunday/ Gourmet Lunch
 08/20 Work Day/Member Meeting; **Pot Luck/Night Run/Disney Barn Movie Night**
 08/21 Public Rides
 08/28 Public Rides

September

- 09/04 Public Rides **Labor Day Weekend**
 09/10 **Children's Hospital Run**
 09/11 Public Rides
 09/12 BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 09/17 Work Day/Member Meeting
 09/18 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant; Small Scale Sunday/ Gourmet Lunch
 09/24 **Pot Luck/Night Run**
 09/25 Public Rides

October

- 10/01 **Begin Shed Year**
 10/02 Public Rides
 10/03 BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 10/9 Public Rides
 10/15 Work Day/Member Meeting
 10/14-16 **Halloween Runs**
 10/16 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant; Small Scale Sunday/ Gourmet Lunch
 10/21-23 **Halloween Runs**
 10/23 Public Rides
 10/28-31 **Halloween Runs**
 10/30 Public Rides; **Club Halloween Party**

November

- 11/06 Public Rides/**Time Change**
 11/07 BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 11/13 Public Rides
 11/19 Work Day/Annual Member Meeting/Election
 11/20 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant; Small Scale Sunday/ Gourmet Lunch
 11/27 Public Rides

December

- 12/04 Public Rides
 12/05 BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 12/11 Public Rides
 12/17 Work Day/Member Meeting
 12/18 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant; Small Scale Sunday/ Gourmet Lunch
 12/25 Christmas— No public rides
 12/26 **Holiday Party and officer installation**

COLOR KEY

- Runs and meets (some dates tentative)
 Disney Barn events
 Halloween runs
 Important membership events
 Shed rental dates

Museum to Host National Small Scales Meet June 24-26

Attention all Small Scale Owners! June 24-26 2011, Los Angeles Live Steamers Railway Museum will be hosting the National Small Scales Meet, sponsored by Railway Home Journal magazine and editor Matt Mason. This will be a small scales only meet, open to anyone who owns, operates, and just loves the smaller scales.

The last two years it was at Golden Gate Live Steamers located above Berkley CA, and a splendid time was had by all

that attended. LALS is the only club in Southern California with small scale track, and this meet will bring not only members out, but people and equipment from all over the United States.

We would like to see some of the locomotive equipment that our LALS members own, running or not. Do you have a project that you are working on? Bring it

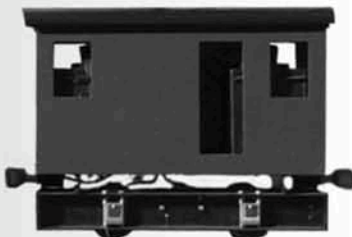
out. Steam, gasoline, or electric, they are all welcomed. If you know friends across the country, please tell them about it.

The itinerary for the meet is being worked on, and we will give out more information as soon as we get it. There will be improvements to the tracks, steaming bays, and other areas of the facility to accommodate visitors.

If you would like to help before or during the meet, please contact John De Rosa or Chris Mahony.



Get Started Today!



Generic Electric - \$1995. Includes everything. Kit assembles in a few evenings. Hauls 4-6 adults at LALS. Reserve yours today!

Generic Electric 23 (GE23) - \$6495. Semi ready to run kit of two-foot gauge locomotive. 2.6" scale. Call, write or see website for more details.



Phinneas T. Phlatt - \$795 (with trucks)
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Every piece required is included.

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From the Super



By Steve Ruatta
General Superintendent

While back, I had to go downtown to do the jury duty thing. (Not fun, but mildly entertaining listening to people make excuses about why they can't serve.)

Most people will agree that jury service is a vital part of our system of government – that people are tried in the courts by a group of their peers. This group is supposed to be more beneficial or understanding of the defendant than a bureaucrat or nobleman type judge.

In a way, it reminded me of a volunteer organization like ours; volunteers/jurors make the system work for the benefit of those who need the system; people who like trains/defendants. Since we all like trains, all of us (including you) bene-

fit when you come down to help out.

One thing I've noticed is that on many regular Saturdays, we have more people working around the club than we do on a "work Saturday"!

Saturday is also when we have things like boiler testing, engineer, conductor and other classes and when some members come out to work on their engines or other personal projects. Most of us work during the week and Sunday's tend to revolve around the public, so Saturday is when you will see a lot of action.

As a reminder to everyone, please make sure you fill out a time card or write your name in the "Who's been working on the Railroad" section of the red notebook in the gazebo. This is especially important for new members – if you don't get your hours recorded on a time card, you will not pass your probation.

Happy railroading!

President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

naming the new 1" car barn for Doug and the 1" turntable for Bruce.

Don't forget it's time to renew your membership. Send your dues in early so you don't get left off the roster. We've had a lot of rain in the past few weeks and things are falling from trees and hillsides. Please come out and help clean up on Saturdays. There was a theft in one of the barns, so if you have a track make sure the barn door is locked after you're done. Please don't take things that don't belong to you, they belong to your fellow members or to the club. If you are caught stealing you will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

There is a nip in the air and it is a great time to run your steam engine so feel free to bring them out. Don't forget you can run them on Sundays. Just remember to bring a radio and please don't pull into the station during public operations. Come out and have fun. Les

URGENT!
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AD in gear!!

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Promote your products and services in the 2010 Roster. Or your ad can simply express your enjoyment of trains, be a tribute to someone special, or communicate a general greeting to all.

Your ad will be seen by more than 400 Members and friends of LALSRM.

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Who's been Working on the Railroad

December

Randy Addison	Miles Kristman
Gary Baker	Tim Lagaly
Jim Baker	Glenn Lane
Roger Bacon	Ron Nelson
Mel Bresee	Alastair Palmer
Ray Burden	Steve Ruatta
Sam Calderwood	John Smith
Andrew Davis	Lew Soibelman
Lloyd Davis	Michael Soibelman
John DePhillip, Jr.	Doug Ward
Les Kovacs	



Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum

In Griffith Park, 5202 Zoo Dr.,
Los Angeles, California

Mailing Address—PO Box 2156
Toluca Lake, CA 91610
Phone (323) 661-8958

Website - www.lals.org
General Info - info@lals.org
Booster - booster@lals.org
Membership - membership@lals.org


2011 Officers and Directors

President	Les Kovacs
Vice President	John DePhillips Jr.
Secretary	Chuck Mohr
Treasurer	Bob Crone
Directors	Wolf Fengler
	Steve Ruatta
	John Smith
	Collin Westphal

SUNDAY EXTRA BOARD

Engineer	Conductor	Road—Owner
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December 5, 2010 — 329 Riders

Ron Hitchcock	Harrison Hitchcock, Michael Bruce	SP PA—LALSRM
Gene Heiman	Ray Secara, Rob Nuccio	Santa Fe—LALSRM
Safety Coordinator	Chuck Mohr	
Station Master	Roberto Lopez	
Souvenirs and Tickets	Luci Secara, Liz Calderwood	

December 12, 2010 — 497 Riders

Peter Fuad	Ray Secara, Glenn Austin	City of LA—Fuad
Ron Hitchcock, Ray Secara	Harrison Hitchcock	Santa Fe—LALSRM
Fred Lack	Roberto Lopez	Santa Fe—LALSRM
Terry Spahr, Bob Crone	Gary McCabe	Mogul—Terry Spahr; Mogul—Bob Crone
Safety Coordinator	Chuck Mohr	
Station Masters	Chuck Mohr, Ray Secara	
Souvenirs and Tickets	Liz Calderwood, Luci Secara	

December 19, 2010 — Rained Out



December 26, 2010 — 393 Riders

Collin Westphal	Dan Kallgren	Norfolk & Southern— Murphy
Peter Fuad	Bob Quinn	City of LA—Fuad
Safety Coordinator	Chuck Mohr	
Station Masters	Ray Secara, John DePhillip, Sr.	
Souvenirs and Tickets	Liz Calderwood, Luci Secara	

Riders: December — 1219
2010 — 41,998, 2009 — 40,861

Member Schedule

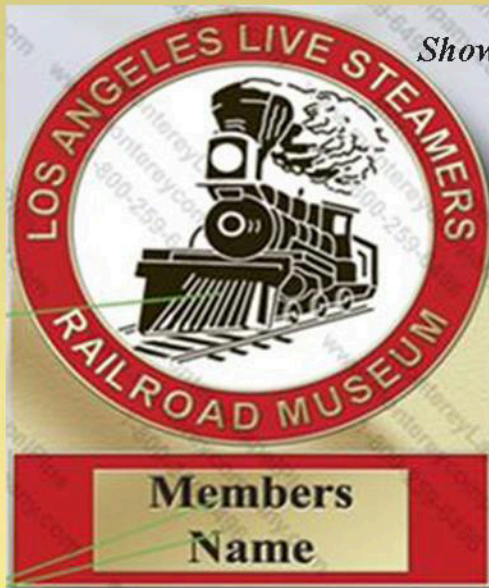
January

15 General Meeting
16 Public Rides; Disney Barn
and Steam Plant Open
23 Public Rides
30 Public Rides

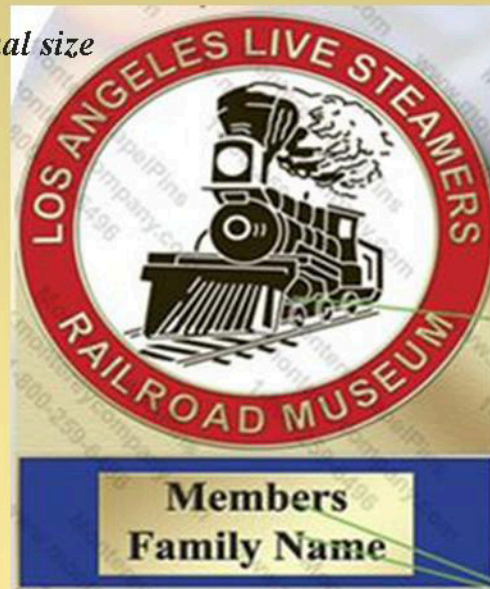
February

6, 13 Public Rides
12 General Meeting
20 Public Rides; Disney Barn
and Steam Plant Open
27 Public Rides

Order your Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum Premium Name Badges



Shown actual size



Gold-plated bronze name 2½” x 3” badges engraved with your and your family members’ names.

Red badge for members — **blue** badges for families of members

Raised lettering on baked enamel. Only \$15.00 per badge. Pay when delivered. Choose poker pin or safety pin backing. All pins will have the type of backing picked by most votes. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Proceeds go to building fund after cost of badges.

Hurry—order by February 28 to assure your order.

Names on badge(s):

Member (*Red*) Family (*Blue*)

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Attach additional sheets for more names

For all badges, I would prefer poker pin backing _____ safety pin backing _____

Member Name: _____

Send to LALSRLM Badges, PO Box 2156, Toluca Lake, CA 91610



Pave the Way to the New Sherwood Station!

Order your inscribed pavers now from the Souvenir Shop