

# Ridge Lines

## Voice of the Ridge Live Steamers

April 2019

Dundee, Florida

RLS Work Day	Saturday	May 4, 2019
RLS Work Day	Saturday	May 11, 2019
RLS Work Day	Saturday	May 18, 2019
<b>Manatee Memorial Day</b>	<b>Saturday, Sunday, Monday</b>	<b>May 25 - 27, 2019</b>
RLS Run Day	Saturday	May 25, 2019
Scheduled Board of Director's Meeting, 11:00 AM		
General Membership Meeting, 12:15 PM		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	June 1, 2019
RLS Work Day	Saturday	June 8, 2019
RLS Work Day	Saturday	June 15, 2019
RLS Run Day	Saturday	June 22, 2019
Scheduled Board of Director's Meeting, 11:00 AM		
General Membership Meeting, 12:15 PM		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	June 29, 2019
RLS Work Day	Saturday	July 6, 2019
RLS Work Day	Saturday	July 13, 2019
RLS Work Day	Saturday	July 20, 2019
RLS Run Day	Saturday	July 27, 2019
Scheduled Board of Director's Meeting, 11:00 AM		
General Membership Meeting, 12:15 PM		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	August 3, 2019
RLS Work Day—Ridge MRRC Cookout	Saturday	August 10, 2019
RLS Work Day	Saturday	August 17, 2019
RLS Run Day	Saturday	August 24, 2019
Scheduled Board of Director's Meeting, 11:00 AM		
General Membership Meeting, 12:15 PM		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	August 31, 2019
RLS Work Day	Saturday	September 7, 2019
RLS Work Day	Saturday	September 14, 2019
RLS Work Day	Saturday	September 21, 2019
RLS Run Day	Saturday	September 28, 2019
Scheduled Board of Director's Meeting, 11:00 AM		
General Membership Meeting, 12:15 PM		

**Spring Meet** saw members running trains most of the day. We had extra passengers because of two groups that visited the track.

The Model A club arrived with about 18 to 20 people. They were met at Ridgeville Station for instructions on safe riding of the trains. Several group photos were taken before they moved to Foster Bond station for train rides. Questions were asked about the steam engine on display. The steaming bays and transfer table were also part of the discussion. The train was boarded and off they went. Returning to Foster Bond station, they gathered in the pavilion to enjoy their picnic. Some of them went for more rides while others enjoyed the chance to talk to Ridge members.

The other group are artists who paint outdoor scenes. They were given a train ride to give them a tour of the railroad and property. Upon returning to Foster Bond station they gathered their painting supplies and walked to their desired locations to paint. About noon they returned to the pavilion. Their paintings and drawings were displayed for all to see while they enjoyed their lunch.

Thank You notes arrive occasionally from a visitor. Dana

**Newsletter of the Ridge Live Steamers, Inc.**

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Director (2019-2019): Bob Babcock

Director (2019-2020): Bob Moutray

Director (2019-2020): Lindsay Raley

Director (2019-2020): Bruce Rauch

Director (2018-2019): Jim Reid

Director (2019-2020): Mikey Starck

Past President: Tim Meyer

Newsletter Editor: Rich Dobler

Publisher: Allen Newcomb

Submissions: Ridge Lines welcomes  
Articles, news items, digital photos,  
And other contributions. Please  
Contact the Editor.

Membership: Anyone interested in  
Joining the Ridge Live Steamers  
Should contact the Secretary.

**Electronic Distribution.** Help the Treasurer and the Secretary/ Editor to save money, and time. If you do not already get the newsletter e-mail, please e-mail me at [allenpn@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:allenpn@tampabay.rr.com) with your e-mail address. Please be sure to add me to your mailbox so that I won't be blocked. Please be assured that only RLS mail will be sent to you and it will be as a "blind copy" to prevent anyone else gaining access to your computer. In addition, and very important, please advise us if your e-mail changes.

**General Membership Meetings** will be held the fourth Saturday of each month, unless otherwise noted. They will be held at the pavilion after lunch. This is to satisfy the Requirements of Article 1, Section 4 of the Ridge Live Steamers By-Laws.

**Board of Director Meetings** are scheduled on the fourth Saturday of every month, subject to cancellation with at least one weeks notice by the President. This is to satisfy the Requirements of Article II, Section 3, Paragraph (1) of the Ridge Live Steamers By-Laws.

**Name Badges.** Please wear your name badges when at the track, especially during run days, so that we may all learn the names of members we don't know, and new members may get to know us. Additional, or new, badges may be purchased for \$7.50.

**The Florida Live Steamers** is an umbrella organization that coordinates the railroad activities around the state. If you don't belong, it is time you did. If you do belong, dues are due. \$20.00 a year should be mailed to FLS, 9111 Erie Lane, Parrish, FL 34219-9049

**SUPPORT FLS** Florida Live Steamers, Inc. is an umbrella organization that coordinates live steam activities throughout the state. Dues are \$20.00 per year and membership can be obtained by sending your check to Joan Smith, 9111 Erie Lane, Parrish, FL 34219-9049.

**Memories.** Remember the days of steam engine locomotives, coal smoke, distant whistles in the night, the snorting of a mighty engine pulling a heavy train out of the station? Those days are alive today ... in miniature ... at Ridge Live Steamers. The time it took me to ride on a chair secured to a flat car pulled by a miniature steam engine seemed way to short. We chugged over the bridges and an orange grove. An owl roosted in its little house in the tree looked down at me as my choo-choo passed by.

## “From the President’s Cab”

As I settle into what will be my second stint as RLS President, it has already been a whirlwind of activity so far this year. From the Winter card order sessions, the success of one of the largest Winter meets held by RLS at the Dundee track and the relaxing Spring meet enjoyed by the local members and guests, to concerns related to proposed Florida legislation under HB 1267 and SB 1788. It seems like this year will be filled with some unusual challenges for the live steam hobby in Florida. I look forward to the progress John Forte has planned for continuation of the automatic signal upgrades. A future lunch and learn is being planned, presented by Chuck Hackett, to provide a good overview of the signals and answer any questions brought by the membership. So look for that date in the near future along with an updated track plan I am currently working on.

Tim & Patrick Meyer along with myself helped Gary Dye to load up all of Henry Walter Jr’s trains and shop equipment at the end of March. They are to make a cross country journey to their new home in Idaho. Although I paid for it the next day, the experience brought back some fond memories of an old friend. I wish John Henry Dye well with receiving his grandfather’s shop and train equipment, I know he has looked forward to being able to use his grandfather’s equipment for some time.

Happy Steaming, Fred DeLoach, RLS President



## **As time and space allows we will try to catch up on work done around the track**

### **New Outside Rail At Coachwhip**

Today (December 31) we installed new outside rail in coach whip cut. The work started at 8AM and we were done in time for lunch. The curve was re-gauged to 7 9/16". The rail was worn and had been made originally to 7 5/8". This resulted in 7 11/16" in spots and even some 7 3/4" spots.

As you can see in the pictures there was a lot of help and many screw drivers. The first crew removed all the rail joiners. The next crew set the gauge and installed screws about every 24". The following crew filled in the in-between screws. The last crew installed the joiners. There were a few new ties where needed. All the rail joints were relocated to being on a tie.

There were other helpers, but the camera batter decided to quit before we could get everyone in. Thanks to Bill Hays for the article and photos.



**The "G" gauge are has seen some very nice additions and improvements**  
Originally there was one covered area. Now there are two! The

new covered area is a great addition. In the pictures you can see the new bench work and details. There is a large David Howarth detail in picture 8302.... he might be adding a subway division!



March 8...Hi All, **A decorative garden water tower was donated to the club. We changed the legs to a more "railroad" configuration. Then it was installed in Nalaca.**

The first picture is the water tower parts ready for shipment to Nalaca. Next is the completed installation. Lastly is looking in the opposite direction. Bill Hays



### **In Memorium**

Malcolm Jantzen, a member since 2005 passed away December 31, 2018. Gerald Cain was a member since 2013. Gerald quietly passed away early 2018 after a long battle with Cancer. His wife Doris held a beautiful memorial at their home in his huge "toy box" shop where his Little Engines Atlantic was one of the center pieces. The service was quite moving and many of their close friends attended in his honor. Gerald's dry humor and quiet demeanor will be missed by a lot of folks.