

# Ridge Lines

## Voice of the Ridge Live Steamers

August 2013

Dundee, Florida

### CALENDAR

RLS Work Day	Saturday	August 17, 2013
RLS Run Day	Saturday	August 24, 2013
And General Membership Meeting		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	August 31, 2013
RLS Work Day	Saturday	September 7, 2013
RLS Work Day	Saturday	September 14, 2013
And Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting (see notice)		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	September 21, 2013
RLS Run Day	Saturday	September 28, 2013
And General Membership Meeting		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	October 5, 2013
West Toccoi & Bostwick Fall Meet	Friday-Sunday	October 11-13, 2013
RLS Work Day	Saturday	October 12, 2013
And Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting (see notice)		
Big Boots & Western Fall Meet	Friday-Sunday	October 18-20, 2013
RLS Work Day	Saturday	October 19, 2013
RLS Fall Meet	Friday-Sunday	October 25-27, 2013
And General Membership Meeting		
Central Pasco & Gulf Fall Meet	Saturday-Sunday	November 2-3, 2013
RLS Work Day	Saturday	November 2, 2013
Manatee Central Fall Meet	Saturday-Sunday	November 9-10, 2013
RLS Work Day	Saturday	November 9, 2013
And Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting (see notice)		
FLS Board of Directors Meeting	Saturday	November 9, 2013
Sebring (Tentative)	Saturday-Sunday	November 16-17, 2013
RLS Work Day	Saturday	November 16, 2013
RLS Run Day	Saturday	November 23, 2013
And General Membership Meeting		
Thanksgiving	Thursday	November 28, 2013

### **Please Note, All Fall Meet Dates are Tentative (except Ridge)**

Capt. John Boots invites the Ridge members to his 4 in 1 meet October 18-20 for the BB&WRR 10 year anniversary, breaking the 3 miles of track mark, Golden screw ceremony and FLS fall meet. Reservations required for R/V's, type and size.

**Don't look now**, the Fall Meet is just around the corner. Pot Luck dinner on Saturday at 6 pm. Help will be needed to "spruce" up the track, things like mowing the grass, leveling tippy spots, sweep out the pavilion, wash down the tables, and general cleanup. Come early and help get ready. Remember "Many Hands Make Light Work."

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

Board of Directors

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Director (2012-2013): Mort Tiley

Director (2012-2013): Mitchell Hardy

Director (2012-2013): John Forte

Director (2013-2014): Rollin Patrick

Director (2013-2014): Foster Bond

Director (2013-2014): Fred DeLoach

Past President: Harold Dunsford

Newsletter Editor/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.



**On Tuesday, July 30, 2013, Harold Dunsford boarded that Long Black Train for his final ride.**

Harold joined the Ridge Live Steamers in 2003 and was president in 2007-2008 and 2011-2012. He was also the Immediate Past President of the Florida Live Steamers.

The outpouring of sadness and respect for Harold had been immense. For many he was the first person they met on their visit to “the Ridge” and made a lasting impression of Welcome. His sense of humor was equally immense, and no one appreciated one of Harold’s jokes more than Harold. His sons, Ted and Bill, became willing accomplices for whatever projects Harold had going, shingling car barn roofs, laying track, or building boat ponds,

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**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 second Saturdays 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.

**Track Changes.** In January the two passing tracks of Tiley and Toll Bucket were combined into one long passing track. The main reason for the conversion was that the single track between the two passing tracks was only 60' feet long and didn't really serve any purpose. Now it will be easy for several trains to meet and pass.



Then, later on, it was decided to eliminate Holman siding as a passing siding and expand the block from YeeHaw to the Steaming bay lead. REA and the Vendor track will be a "flag" junction. This would prevent congestion when two long trains attempted to pass each other.

The next change is to lengthen the passing siding at YeeHaw. It would involve relocating and extending one passing track, a new right hand switch, and realigning the other passing track. The new switch has been installed and stakes are in place for the track realignment.



**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 \$6.00.

**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.

# President's Page

By Bruce M. Rauch

**Harold Dunsford:** Thank you Harold for being a friend and adviser. Thank you for your support of all programs and projects at Ridge Live Steamers. Thank you for your herculean efforts in all you did. Thank you for doing the jobs that others didn't do. Thank you for serving as President more than once. Thank you for your quiet demeanor and even temperament. Thank you for being quick to praise and slow to criticize. Thank you for your businesslike approach to difficult situations/decisions. Thank you for your sense of humor and your wealth of stories. Thank you for building and maintaining the Gauge 1 layout. Thank you for building and maintaining the "yacht club" pond. Thank you for your unspoken assent with a wink and a nod. Thank you for being you. We all miss you.

**New Committee:** Gerald Cain has agreed to be the Chairman of the Gauge 1 track facility. He already has a volunteer for the committee, Mark Stockbridge. Please see Gerald or Mark if you have suggestions or concerns for the smaller track.

**Train Show:** Rollin Patrick, Rich Dobler, and I manned a booth for RLS at the Great Train Expo at the Orlando fair grounds, August 3 & 4. Rollin brought his beautiful caboose complete with a tiny train layout inside. Our booth had the biggest and littlest trains in the show. A map of RLS, and a video, supplied by Tom Pfister, helped attract a lot of interest. About 120 brochures were taken by interested rail fans. How many of them will actually visit RLS? How many of them will join us? Only time will tell.

**Interesting questions and comments:** Below are some interesting questions and comments I've heard at RLS, the Adirondack track, and train shows in Orlando and Albany, NY:

- "Which is better, coal or steam?" Huh?
- "To go faster, do you just throw in some more rocks?" (coal)
- From up north - "Do you take up the tracks in the winter?"
- A guest observing passing tracks, "Do you have races?"
- From a person observing a video of a train coming out of our tunnel, "Look, they have a cave."
- "Daddy, is the train the only ride they have?"
- "Does it (the train) have to be that long?"
- An ill-equipped, visiting engineer, preparing for a night run through the pitch-black woods, "I don't need a head-light, the train knows the way."
- A guest, waiting for a ride, as a steam locomotive coasts into the station with a train full of passengers, "Where's the real motor?"
- The Adirondack club has a land-line telephone in the clubhouse/station. The listing in the telephone book is "ALS". One Saturday morning the phone rang and it went like this:
  - Me: Adirondack Live Steamers.
  - Caller: Good morning. I'd like to get an estimate on a move.
  - Me: Excuse me?
  - Caller: I'm moving and I want to see how much it's going to cost.
  - Me: I'm sorry, you have the wrong number.
  - Caller: Isn't this Al's Moving?
  - Me: No, this is Adirondack Live Steamers.
  - Caller: What's that?
  - Me: We are a railroad club.
  - Caller: Does that mean you aren't going to help me move?