

Ridge Lines

Voice of the Ridge Live Steamers

July 2013

Dundee, Florida

CALENDAR

RLS Work Day	Saturday	July 20,2013
RLS Run Day	Saturday	July 27,2013
And General Membership Meeting		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	August 3, 2013
RLS Work Day	Saturday	August 10. 2013
And Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting		
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 Board of Directors Meeting		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	September 21, 2013
RLS Run Day	Saturday	September 28, 2013
And General Membership Meeting		

The First Annual RLS Independence Day Picnic Run was a HUGE success in spite of two loud and heavy “splash and dash” downpours. Trains running before each of the showers got heavy wind warnings and managed to get under cover before the rains began. 50



members and friends enjoyed the trains and the day, 39 hungry and happy folks stayed to enjoy the picnic while a few others left before the festivities began. The counters were decorated with bright holiday table cloths, Red, White and Blue bunting decorated the beams overhead. A big salute to the ladies for organizing the salads and deserts, of which there were many delicious



dishes to choose from. Harold Dunsford had donated the grill so it was only fitting that he did the cooking. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs came off the grill cooked to the satisfaction of all, including Carol Pfister and Allen Newcomb looking for the burnt hot dogs. About 18 people stayed to enjoy the fireworks from surrounding towns at the Bowen pavilion. The biggest salute goes to Bruce Rauch who suggested this celebration.

On Friday afternoon, June 28, 2013, RLS was subject to some high winds, perhaps a microburst. Some items were tossed around. The only serious damage was to the overhead door at the pump-house. It was destroyed by the wind. The door is 25 to 30 years old and not in compliance with current hurricane codes. It is not repairable and will have to be replaced.



Northeast Corner Track Plans. It was decided at the General Membership meeting on June 22, 2013 that the deadline for submitting suggestions for track plans will be the General Membership Meeting on August 24th.

Newsletter of the Ridge Live Steamers, Inc.

Board of Directors

President: Bruce Rauch

Phone: 863-427-9426

E-Mail: railbuf@Verizon.net

Vice President: Chris Forte

Phone: 321-728-9744

E-Mail: cjf@cfl.rr.com

Secretary: Allen Newcomb

Phone: 863-665-0482

E-Mail: allenpn@tampabay.rr.com

Treasurer: Tom Pfister

Phone: 863-325-9768

E-Mail: Deltatp@Yahoo.com

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.

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.

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 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.

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 will be held on the second Saturdays in January, April, July and October. This is to satisfy the Requirements of Article II, Section 3, Paragraph (1) of the Ridge Live Steamers By-Laws. By direction of the President additional Board of Director meetings will be held right after lunch on the second Saturday during the intervening months, if necessary.

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

Summer Summations:

- The July 4th picnic run was well attended and enjoyed by all. Trains were running until well after 10:00 pm. The picnic pot luck was a huge success thanks in large part by the donation of a gas grill by Harold Dunsford and his expertise in cooking on it. Many attendees were content to sit and chat until darkness fell. Then, several trainloads of passengers made their way up to the gazebo to watch the fireworks from all around us. They were not disappointed. There were fireworks to the south – Lake Wales; to the west – Legoland and Winter Haven; to the north – Dundee; to the east – Lake Marion and many, many informal displays in every direction. Thanks to all who attended and helped to make this first July 4th picnic run a success. See you next year.
- The septic tank has been installed and is functioning as designed. The drain field is larger than expected. The drain field area has been marked off with posts and yellow tape to give the grass a chance to become established. Permanent wooden posts will be planted to delineate the drain field as it will not support the weight of the tractor or road vehicles. Occasional traffic by the golf cart or the Gator should not be a problem.
- Any regular member is welcome to use the *Ridge Lines* locomotives and rolling stock when they are not otherwise being used. You should check the gas tank before use to make sure you won't get stranded and the tank should be at least half full before you put it away. If you are using the loco for personal, rather than RLS work related, purposes, please make a donation to the gasoline fund. You may drop your donation in the soda fund box above the soda cooler. Also, when storing the loco, please be sure the brake system is turned off and the headlight is out. It doesn't take long to kill the battery.
- Yes it is hot and humid these days, probably though the middle of October. With the frequent rainfall, the grass and weeds are growing like wildfire. Please consider spending some time cutting grass, pulling weeds, or spraying the tracks to keep them passable. If you would like to use one of the spray cars, please see me for instructions on the safe and efficient operation of them.
- The Board will soon be considering the various plans that have been submitted for trackage in the northeast corner of the property. If you have a plan to be considered, please submit it to Tom Pfister by noon on Saturday, August 3, 2013. This will give him a chance to review it and make copies prior to the Board meeting on August 10.
- A bundle of 10' southern yellow pine 2x4's has been purchased to be cut into ties, sent out to be pressure treated, and assembled into track panels. Help will be needed in all phases of this project. Much of the work can be done in the shade of the shop area, rain or shine.
- Although the next RLS election won't be until February, it's time to start thinking about who you would like to see on the Board. Consider serving the organization yourself and give someone else a break.
- Several times recently, we have looked for tools and couldn't find them where they are supposed to be. In an organization where many people do many jobs, it's very important that the resources are where they are expected to be. Please return shovels, rakes, brooms, ladders, hoses, extension cords, lawn mowers, hand tools, etc. to where they are normally stored when you are finished with them. If you take out a tool for a job, and leave while it is still being used, make it know to the others using it that it needs to be returned and not left at the job site.
- Lastly, let's take a cue from WDW; everyone should pick up litter and debris found around the property. If we all do this, we will present a much more attractive experience to our visitors and potential members. Thanks.