

Ridge Lines

Voice of the Ridge Live Steamers

October 2014

Dundee, Florida

CALENDAR

Northeast Florida Live Steamers Fall Meet	Thursday-Sunday	October 9 -15, 2014
RLS Work Day	Saturday	October 11, 2014
Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting		
Big Boots & Western Fall Meet	Monday-Sunday	October 13-19, 2014
RLS Work Day	Saturday	October 18, 2014
Ridge Fall Meet	Friday – Sunday	October 24 – 26, 2014
and General Membership Meeting	Saturday	
RLS Work Day	Saturday	November 1, 2014
Central Pasco & Gulf Fall Meet	Sunday-Thursday	November 1-6, 2014
Manatee Central Fall Meet	Friday – Sunday	November 7-9, 2014
FLS Board Meeting at Manatee	Saturday	November 8, 2014
RLS Work Day	Saturday	November 8, 2014
RLS Work Day	Saturday	November 15, 2014
Scheduled Board of Directors Meeting		
RLS Run Day	Saturday	November 22, 2014
Thanksgiving	Thursday	November 27, 2014
RLS Work Day	Saturday	November 29, 2014
Sebring Systems	Thursday-Sunday	December 4-6, 2014
3rd Annual Christmas Run	Saturday	December 13, 2014
Card Order Session	Saturday	January 3, 2015
Card Order Session	Saturday	January 17, 2015
Ridge Winter Meet	Thursday – Sunday	February 26-March 1, 2015

October Is Here
FALL Meet, October
24, 25, 26
Pot Luck Supper,
Saturday, 6 p.m.

The Fall Meet is just around the corner. Pot Luck Dinner Saturday at 5:00 pm, Night Time Running, Great Weather. The signals are working for bi-directional running. Lots of good times to be had. Camping available on a first come first served.

Parking Lot Power Progress. At the September Board of Director's meeting the board declined to pledge \$5,000.00 to the project. The major concern was that currently dues do not cover the annual expenses making it necessary to rely on donations, or to draw from our money market fund.

Newsletter of the Ridge Live Steamers, Inc.

Board of Directors

President: Bruce Rauch

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Vice President: Chris Forte

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Secretary: Allen Newcomb

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Treasurer: John Forte

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Director (2013-2014): Rollin Patrick

Director (2013-2014): Foster Bond

Director (2013-2014): Fred DeLoach

Director (2014-2015): Mort Tiley

Director (2014-2015): Jim Burby

Director (2014-2015): Tom Pfister

Past President: Richard Dobler

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.

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. In addition, and very important, please advise us if your e-mail address 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 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.

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 \$6.50.

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.

2015 Winter Meet Schedule (Subject to Change)

Big Boots & Western	Monday-Sunday	February 7-15, 2015
Central Pasco & Gulf	Thursday-Wednesday	February 12-18, 2015
Largo Central RR	Saturday-Friday	February 14-20, 2015
Trade Winds & Atlantic RR	Saturday	February 21, 2015
Manatee Central RR	Thursday-Wednesday	February 19-25, 2015
Ridge Live Steamers	Tuesday-Sunday	February 24-March 1, 2015
FLS Annual Meeting at Ridge	Saturday	February 28, 2015
Northeast Florida Live Steamers	Sunday-Sunday	March 1-8, 2015
Sebring Systems (Tentative)	Friday-Sunday	March 13-15, 2015

Ridge Model Railroad Club's annual picnic will be October 11th with a cook out at noon. As usual any member of the Live Steamers who care to provide rides for the visitors are invited to the cook out. If you are interested please notify Rich Dobler.

Card Order Sessions. This year there are only two operating sessions planned. This is to avoid conflict with other organization's Winter Meet schedules. January 3rd and 17th are the dates. If you plan to participate and bring rolling stock, please provide the type, road name, color and car number to Allen Newcomb so that the proper car cards can be prepared.

3rd Annual Christmas Run, Saturday, December 13th. With a Pot Luck dinner at 5:00 pm and night running with trains decorated and lit up for the holiday. Last year many trains were decorated and bi-directional running certainly made for a pleasant ride around the track to see so many trains lit up.

Emporium. The Emporium has been restocked with the popular sizes in T-shirts, Polo shirts and Denim shirts. Just place you orders with the Emporium Manager (Allen Newcomb) and the shirts will be delivered at the pavilion on the following Saturday.

MORE NEWS LATER

SCROLL DOWN FOR THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

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President's Page

By Bruce M. Rauch

As I write this, we are expecting our lowest overnight temperature since May or June. A low around 60° will be most welcome after a long, hot, humid summer. With the cooler weather comes the arrival of that welcome creature, the snowbird. Some have already been sighted enroute to their winter quarters. Summer travel is wrapping up for those of us who live here all year. Soon, RLS will be abuzz with activity other than lawn mowing.

Our first meet of the season is fast upon us. October 24 – 26, 2014 we will welcome guests from all over Florida and beyond to ride our rails and enjoy our property. This meet is sort of a preliminary to the February meet. We can test the changes made during the year and fine tune the layout for the expected crowd in Feb. A highlight of the meet is a pot-luck dinner to be shared at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday. This is an event you shouldn't miss.

The signal system is still in the process of being expanded and upgraded. John Forte has been spending a lot of time assembling components, rewiring, and testing the system. If you are not familiar with the operation of the signals or the electric turnouts, please ask for instruction. We will be happy to give you a tutorial. Please remember, the pushbuttons used to activate the signals are fairly sensitive. A light tap is all that's needed. A heavy slam to the button can create problems.

At the Board of Director's meeting on September 13, a motion was made to commit RLS to contribute \$5,000.00 toward the \$20,000.00 cost of the proposed upgrade to the electric service in the RV parking area. The motion failed. It was felt that this expenditure was too much for a facility that is used by a lot of people one long weekend a year and by a handful of people for a few months of the year. Alternate financing and an alternate plan will be considered by the Board.

The RLS Board is up for major changes in 2015. We will be electing: President, Vice President, Secretary, and directors. If you would like to serve in one of these positions, please contact a member of the nominating committee: Tim Meyer, chairman; John Forte, Allen Newcomb, or Lindsay Raley.

It has often been said that a model railroad is never finished. If it is finished, it is usually torn down and the planning, building, and general craziness is started all over again. That is where I find myself with my train. I've gone as far as I can go and have filled my barn storage track to overflowing (one flat car is on it's side against the wall). Therefore, I've decided to sell the train and start over again. You have probably seen the train many times. It's green and lettered for the Ridge Lines – Maintenance of Way. Briefly, the train consists of two electric locomotives and seven cars including riding cars, tool car, crane, and a whimsical caboose with a detailed interior. It is available to be seen anytime I am at the property and will be on display on Friday and Saturday of the meet. If you would like a detailed description, send an email to me: railbuf@verizon.net and I will send you the fact sheet.