

# Ridge Live Steamers

## Florida's Highest Railroad

September 2009

### CALENDAR

Run Day	Saturday	September 26, 2009
Ridge Model RR Club Annual Outing	Saturday	October 3, 2009
North East Florida LS (WT&B) Fall Invite	Friday, Saturday, Sunday	October 16, 17, 18, 2009
RLS Fall Meet	Friday, Saturday, Sunday	October 23, 24, 25, 2009
FLS Past Presidents Meet at Manatee Central	Friday - Sunday	November 13 -15, 2009
Run Day	Saturday	November 28, 2009
Run Day	Saturday	December 26, 2009
Run Day	Saturday	January 23, 2010
North East Florida LS (WT&B)	Thursday – Sunday	February 4 - 7, 2010
Big Boots & Western	Wednesday – Sunday	February 10 – 14, 2010
Pasco County	Sunday – Wednesday	February 14 – 17, 2010
Largo Central RR	Wednesday – Saturday	February 17 – 20, 2010
Manatee Central RR	Saturday – Tuesday	February 20 – 23, 2010
RLS Winter Meet	Thursday – Sunday	February 25 – 28, 2010

**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK** Work is progressing on the new mainline extension, The bridge footers are in and the footer for the south head wall is also done, John Houseman was kind enough to bring his large front end loader out and move fill for the wye. He managed to move more dirt in five hours than we could have in five weeks with our tractor. Next there seems to be some misunderstanding about what is organization property and what is not. By Florida law anything on the organization land is the property of the land owner and is a part of that real property. It could be a tree, light pole, fence post, or building. The organization can only give the use of the item to the person or persons building the object. The object when built (partially or completely) is the property of the organization. The only exception to this that I know of would be a portable object that is not secured except by tie downs.

**THE FALL SEASON IS FAST APPRACHING** and with it the beginning of the "Meet" season starting with our Fall Meet on October 23, 24 and 25. Summer has seen a lot of activity from the addition of a new Craftsman ride-on mower to the pouring of footers and abutments for the 47-foot arch truss steel bridge, and the 10 and 12-foot. The new mower brings the "fleet" to three ride-on mowers and all three have been seen working at the same time. Bobby McElroy remains the stalward mower joined at various times by Rich Dobler, Tom Pfister, Jim Reid, Harold Dunsford, Fred DeLoach and even Allen Newcomb has been seen driving a mower. It was reported that "some dummy" had written to the *Trainline* that the Wye on the expansion should be completed before the Fall Meet. In the beginning that seemed to be an impossible task. Well, since that time Tim Meyer has piled chunks of broken concrete sidewalk, supplied by the efforts of Jim Reid, along the legs of the Wye, John Houseman has brought his Payloader up to the track and hauled yards of dirt onto the concrete. Tim Meyer has dressed up the dirt to the point where it might just be possible to install the tracks on the Wye before the Fall Meet. The main line and passing track roadbed is complete to the far corner of the layout. Vacations have dotted the summer with various members traveling off to Pennsylvania, New York, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Alaska and Michigan, but with a concerted effort by all between now and the meet it may just happen.

**FALL MEET SPECIFICS.** There will be a carry in supper on Saturday evening at 6:00 PM. The campground with water and electricity is available on a donation basis and is first-come first-served at the Fall Meet. Bring your 7 ½" gauge equipment, Gauge One Equipment, G-Gauge equipment, etc.

**RIDGE MODEL RR CLUB OUTING.** The Ridge Model RR Club will be having its annual outing at the track on Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, at noon. Anyone wanting to join in with the RMRRC for Burgers, Dogs and 'Fixins please make a reservation with Tommy Bissett. As in years past members of RLS will be asked to be available for pulling passengers.

**TRACTOR WORK.** Bobby McElroy, Rich Dobler and Tim Meyer have seen to it that the tractor does not sit idle for very long. From moving dirt to moving chunks of concrete to building footer forms for the bridge the tractor hasn't sat still. All this work has taken its toll on the tractor. Thanks to the expertise of Jon Foerster the tractor is still available. Jon has responded to several calls for help, and believe-you-me it is appreciated. Thanks, Jon.

**EMPORIUM** from Bruce Rauch. The regular Emporium will be in operation at the Fall Meet. The usual shirts, hats, mugs, pins, patches, etc. will be available. The RLS Switch Yard Sale and the Emporium are separate entities and will be operated independently.

**BY POPULAR DEMAND** from Bruce Rauch. As you are probably aware, many people have been asking for a "swap table" at our meets. This is a place where items can be bought and sold similar to a "garage sale" or a "yard sale". One of our intrepid members has come forward and agreed to coordinate such an operation. Therefore, beginning with the Fall Meet in October, we will have the RLS Switch Yard Sale. Here you can purchase surplus items from RLS or you may bring your own items for sale. If you bring your own items, the following rules apply:

- Items brought for sale on consignment should be railroad or hobby related.
- The Yard Sale manager has the right to refuse to accept any donated or consignment item for any reason.
- If you bring an item to sell on consignment, 10% of the selling price or \$1.00 (whichever is greater) will be retained by RLS as commission.
- You may donate an item for sale. 100% of the sale price goes to RLS.
- You must establish a suggested selling price for any donated or consignment items. You may indicate a minimum selling price for consignment items.
- Any consignment items not sold must be picked up by the consignor as soon as possible at the end of the meet. RLS will not be responsible for items remaining beyond the close of the meet.
- Consignment items may not be brought to the club prior to the day before the first day of the meet.
- As this is our first attempt at this operation the rules may be tweaked as we go along.
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**TOWN MANAGER AND SHERIFF (STILL) WANTED** for the town of Thomasville. Since the passing of its founder, Tom Caron, the buildings of Thomasville have begun to fall into disrepair. They need painting, and a few structural repairs. No previous experience required, just go ahead and do it.

**NAME BADGES.** Please wear your name badges when at the track, especially during run days, so that we may all learn the names to members we don't know.

**FOR SALE.** 7 ½ inch gauge passenger cars built by J&S Railcar (Scott Lindsay). First is a Baggage Car for \$1300.00, a Passenger Coach for \$2100.00, and an Executive Coach for \$2140.00. All are on trucks with couplers and in excellent condition.

**TREES AND SHRUBS AND FLOWERS, OH MY!!** By Carol Pfister. In March, 5 Indian Hawthorn's were planted behind the Foster Bond Station. In June, 92 Silverthorn bushes were purchased as a border along our south easement, extending around the east corner. Planting was performed by Richard Dobler, Tom & Carol Pfister, Harold Dunsford, John & Chris Forte, Jim & Donna Phillips, John Tribble and Allen Newcomb while Bobby McElroy, Tim Meyer and Fred DeLoach removed old orange trees and prepared the area for planting. Jim & Donna Phillips and Carol Pfister hand watered the bushes until Richard Dobler completed the irrigation system for the bushes. All bushes are looking healthy at this time.

Jim Reid donated about 8 Norfolk Island Pine trees that were planted by Katie Abbott and Carol Pfister. Fred DeLoach and Foster Bond donated 60 young oak trees that have been potted and are situated around the back of our station. 6 trees have been planted while the remainder wait for their new homes. Thanks to all who spent time helping with the landscaping and planting at the RR.

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING** 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 of the Ridge Live Steamers By-Laws.



Footers waiting the 47foot steel arch bridge.