

Ridge Live Steamers

Florida's Highest Railroad

January 2010

CALENDAR

RLS 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
RLS Spring Meet	Friday – Sunday	March 26 -28, 2010

Winter Meet. Yes, the Winter Meet is just around the corner. The forms to reserve a “parking place” for your RV and order banquet tickets are enclosed with this newsletter. Don't wait, make your reservations now. As usual there will be a Pot Luck supper on Friday night and the Banquet on Saturday night. Banquet tickets can be picked up at the registration desk.

Happenings Around the Track. The main line expansion is up to about 1500 feet, reaching from the base of the hill around to almost the east yard. The passing siding is in, the Wye at the new south yard is in and all tracks are operable. Irrigation and potable water is installed and operable. Signal wires have been installed and the new signals will be operable by meet time. Approximately 300 feet have enlarged Elston yard. According to Yardmaster Rich Dobler the addition of these storage tracks will make the entire yard “work” better and make access easier. The vendor area will be moved to the low area north of the pavilion and the bathrooms. A lean-to type shelter has been added to the Tractor Storage/Work Bench/Track Building area for temporary storage of newly bundled ties, and a radial saw. Jim Reid has installed the new vendor crossing into the low area. From the looks of it a tank will be able to cross without any problem. Thank You Bill Hays for your reminder e-mail. Harvey Ulch's new coal tipple is being installed in Yee Haw Junction with a service track that will divide into three tracks with electricity for charging “electrics.” Bill Hays put Dana Bliss to work right away building trackside structures to disguise batteries for the signal system.

Track Elf. When laying new track it is wonderful to be able to merely go up the stack of new track panels and take what you need for the project at hand, either yard expansion or new main line. If you stop and think, “How come there is always track panels stacked up?” you realize that we have a “Track Elf.” That Track Elf just happens to be Harvey Ulch, with occasional extra hand from time to time. Many, many thanks Harvey.

“Let There Be Light.” And there was light. Bruce Rauch must have tried, in vain, to find something in the dim lit storage trailer because he said, “We need more light in the trailer,” And the answer was, “OK, do it.” Then Rich Dobler located a saw in the new wood storage lean-to and added an extension cord outlet for it, hoping Bruce would take the hint. And he did, Bruce not only added a properly wired outlet for the saw, he also replaced the hurricane-removed lights with new waterproof lights for the entire track building area.

Dues. Thank you to all that have sent in their 2010 dues. Your dues card should be enclosed with this newsletter. I hope that the remainder will be taken care of during the meet.

Emporium News: An all-new shirt will be offered at the winter meet for the first time. Quantities will be limited as I'm not sure how well they will sell. If you like it, buy it. We can get more for the March Meet but why wait? There will be a couple new items for sale, stop by and see what's new. Sweet tooth? Check out our selection of candy. FRED's always sell out so, get one before you need it. Whenever the Emporium is open, I will make change for the soda machine. This will help keep congestion behind the counter to a minimum.

Switch Yard Sale: SYS Manager Jerry Rivet is ready for a busy meet. The SYS has proven to be a very effective way to sell unused or surplus railroad and hobby related items. To have a successful sale we need many members participating by bringing items for sale on consignment or as a donation to RLS. The Terms and Conditions of the SYS are as follows:

1. Items brought for sale on consignment should be railroad or hobby related.
2. The Switch Yard Sale manager has the right to refuse to accept any donated or consignment item for any reason.
3. 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.
4. You may donate an item for sale. 100% of the sale price goes to RLS.
5. You must establish a suggested selling price for any donated or consignment items. You may indicate a minimum selling price for consignment items.
6. 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.
7. Consignment items may not be brought to the club prior to the day before the first day of the meet.

Clean out your shop, attic, garage, etc. and get ready for the next sale at the February Meet.