

Ridge Lines

Voice of the Ridge Live Steamers

March-May 2016

Dundee, Florida

CALENDAR

RLS Run Day	Saturday	May 28, 2016
General Membership Meeting		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	June 4, 2016
RLS Work Day	Saturday	June 11, 2016
Scheduled Board of Director's Meeting		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	June 18, 2016
RLS Run Day	Saturday	June 25, 2016
General Membership Meeting		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	July 2, 2016
RLS Work Day	Saturday	July 9, 2016
Scheduled Board of Director's Meeting		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	July 16, 2016
RLS Run Day	Saturday	July 23, 2016
General Membership Meeting		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	July 30, 2016
RLS Work Day	Saturday	August 6, 2016
RLS Work Day	Saturday	August 13, 2016
Scheduled Board of Director's Meeting		
RLS Work Day	Saturday	August 20, 2016

CATCHUP EDITION

Ridge Lines Winter Meet 2016

The Ridge Live Steamers hosted the Winter Meet February 25th – 28th. The visitors started arriving on February 20th. The RV parking continued to fill up the rest of the week. The RV's were fit together like a jigsaw puzzle again this year.

The unloading of railroad equipment kept the transfer table rails free of rust and the yardmaster busy. The switchyard filled up with rolling stock representing most of the cars seen on the steam era railroads. There were enough steam engines to fill the steaming bays with a few extra. The owners of extra engines agreed to steam up on the ground.

Thursday thru Saturday lunch was grilled and served by Ridge members to the people who wanted to buy here instead of going to town. The service was good enough some went back for a second round.

The trains were running steady all day long. Some engineers stopped only long enough to have a quick lunch and a drink before pulling out of the yard. Enough trains were running to keep the rail fans well entertained. Foster Bond Station was a good place to take in the sights. Night running was enjoyed by several engineers and rail fans.

The covered dish super Friday had enough food for all to enjoy. The banquet Saturday was held at a new location this year. The tables were identified with a railroad title and (Continued on Page 3)

Newsletter of the Ridge Live Steamers, Inc.

Board of Directors

President: Rollin Patrick

Phone: 407-496-1143

E-Mail: boxnotbox@embarqmail.com

Vice President: Tim Meyer

Phone: 863-528-9402

E-Mail: floridatenwheeler@verizon.net

Secretary: Allen Newcomb

Phone: 863-665-0482

E-Mail: allenpn@tampabay.rr.com

Treasurer: John Forte

Phone: 863-588-2169

E-Mail: JTF3@tampabay.rr.com

Director (2015-2016): Richard Dobler

Director (2015-2016): Fred DeLoach

Director (2015-2016): Bob Moutray

Director (2016-2017): Bob Babcock

Director (2016-2017): Dana Bliss

Director (2016-2017): Jim Reid

Past President: Bruce Rauch

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 \$7.50.

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 3421

(Winter Meet, continued from Page 1) called to the buffet line by the luck of the draw. The door prizes were awarded using raffle tickets. Everyone ate well and had a good time.

Working together we watched as things came together for the meet. Working with and helping the visitors enjoy themselves running and watching trains and then loading things for the trip home made the meet a success. Tuesday March 1st saw empty steaming bays and an empty railroad and a much needed rest for all involved.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDED. I have been publishing this newsletter for more than fifteen years and my pen has gone dry. I will publish and distribute if you will write the articles for the newsletter.

LAST RUN FLS Charter Member Foster Bond passed away on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at age 85. He served FLS as treasurer and several terms as a board member. His log book for boiler inspections was a history book for the steam engines in Florida for many years. Foster as an Air Force veteran flew B-25's and B-50's during the Korean War and he was proud of his 8 hours as pilot of a B-29. He attended Louisiana Tech and earned a M.S. in mechanical engineering.

Foster was very active with the Ridge Live Steamers and helped with much of the early construction of the Ridge Lines facility. He developed many friendships in the hobby and will be missed by all.

Train for Sale

Contact Bruce Rauch, (863) 427-9426 or railbuf@verizon.net

- Two electric center cab switchers (#0803 & # 1004) by J & S Railcar. These are two axle locos, both axles are powered. The two can be MUed or operated independently. Each unit has two deep cycle 12v batteries, an upgraded horn, electro-mechanical bell, and connector for brake and train power. Four battery chargers are included.
- *AND* -
Engineer's riding car (#070) by Tom Bee. This is a half flat/half gondola car with seat for engineer. It also contains the compressor and controls for the air brakes, and control for head-end power to the rest of the train. This car has brakes. **All three units as a set = \$6,500.00**
- Crew car (#082) by Tom Bee. This car has two deluxe folding, swivel, pedestal seats. The car can be operated in either direction with the same amount of space and foot room for the riders. This car has brakes. **\$1,200.00**
- Tool car (#093) by J & S Railcar. This is a low-sided gondola equipped with a rack for rakes and shovels and space for a tool box, etc. This car has brakes. **\$1,000.00**
- Flat car (#136) by J & S Railcar. This car has one easily removable pedestal seat. It can be used as a utilitarian flat or riding car. This car has brakes. **\$1,000.00**
- Crane car (#104) by J & S Railcar. This is an operating crane. It can be powered by eight "D" cells or plugged into the head-end power.
- Crane tender (#105) by J & S Railcar. This car is part box car and part flat with sides. **#104 & #105 sold as a set only = \$3,500.00**
- Caboose (#071) by J & S Railcar. This car has a whimsical custom interior including lighting and a flushing toilet. **\$1,500.00**

All cars have Tom Bee trucks. Couplers are either Tom Bee or Mountain Car Co. All cars are about five feet long. Double safety chains connect all locos and cars. All cars have through electrical (12 volt) connection at each end (except caboose doesn't have connector on rear).