

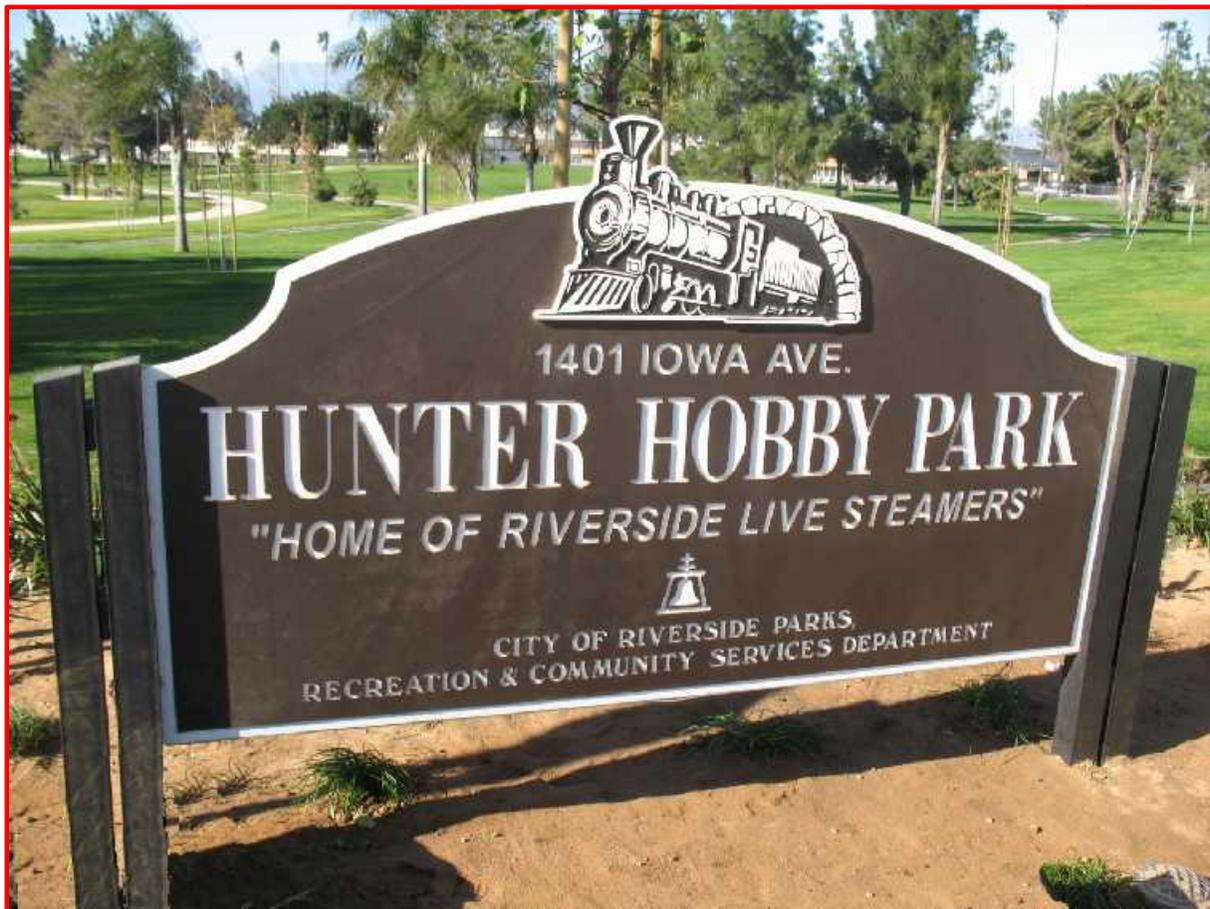
# THE RLS CHRONICLE

News of the Riverside Live Steamers



**December 2011**

**New Board of Directors  
The Hunter Steams Again  
Grand Opening Dec. 10!  
Run Days and Work Days**

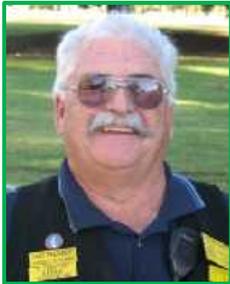


## **It's a Very Good Sign...**

This is one of two signs proudly guarding both driveways into the parking area of Hunter Park. Though it wasn't supposed to be unveiled until the grand opening on Dec. 10, it seems the Santa Anna winds had other plans. On the morning of Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>, RLS crews enjoyed this sneak preview prior to a busy work day.



## Glenn Maness' Words O' Wisdom



Well, what a month this has been. The grass is green, the fences are coming down, the 5057 is back in operation, first official passenger run day will be on the tenth for the City and regular run day on the eleventh. You can't get any better than that!

We will need all hands on deck for those two run days; brakemen, engineers and switch attendants. We're expecting 500 - 800 passengers for Breakfast with Santa. Come down to the park and let's all have a great time with Santa.

I would like to remind everyone of our Annual Dinner on January 21, 2012. Dinner reservations are on their way and a map will be enclosed so everyone can find it this year. The dinner will be at the same place: HIDDEN VALLEY GOLF CLUB in Norco, CA. We have a great dinner and program planned. I hope everyone can be there to celebrate 2011 and start 2012 in full operation.

We need door prizes. If you have anything you would like to donate, bring it on down. We will have a special guest speaker and also a 50-25-25 drawing. Come on down and enjoy the FUN.

A Grizzly Tale: A railroad agent in Northern California had been "balled out" by his boss for doing things without orders from headquarters. One day the boss received the following startling telegram: "Grizzly bear on platform hugging conductor. Wire instructions."

Until next time, I would like to wish everyone a VERY MERRY HAPPY HO HO HO!

Glenn

### You know you're addicted to live-steaming when...

you're caught singing, "Main rods and pistons, some coal smoke and steam pipes. Tenders and couplers, spring rigging and headlights. Stephenson's valve gear and small bells that ring, these are a few of my favorite things..."

### What's missing from this page?

That's right! The "Don't-walk-on-the-grass" announcement has been pulled (finally) from this page... and any future pages of the Chron. With the opening of the park just around the corner, the Parks Dept. lifted the ban from folks walking on the grass. That doesn't mean you shouldn't exercise caution while talking a leisurely stroll over the new lawns: there are a few areas (mostly on the far eastern side of the park above Vandenberg) that are receiving a heavy ration of water with the hopes the grass will be thicker before the Grand Opening. Because of this, the earth is very muddy and you will leave deep footprints.



### **She's Back!**

After nearly three years of rebuilding, the Hunter proudly took back her spot as the club's lead passenger locomotive on Saturday, November 26, 2011. Since late February 2009, she has had her tender completely rebuilt (truck included), her drivers replaced, new axels and bearings, new valve gear, new pistons, and (as you can see) a new paint job. Four RLS members spear-headed the lengthy project: Larry Jongerious, Dave Bunts, Paul Quick, and Ron Wilkerson. Next time you see any of these folks, be sure to thank them. She's ready for the Grand Opening.... are you?

### **Hunter Locomotive Engineers Class**

How would you like to run that beautiful locomotive? If so, your chance will happen soon. Dave Bunts is now planning a Hunter Training Class. Once he settles on a date, the extremely limited class will cost \$25 per person. If you are interested, next time you see Dave, let him know. The date will be announced in the Chronicle and on the RLS website ([www.steamonly.org](http://www.steamonly.org)).



## **Grand Opening of Hunter Park**

As we get closer and closer to December 10<sup>th</sup>, the definition of our grand opening is solidifying. As reported last month in the Chron, city officials were telling us they were planning a "Soft Opening" of the park in which they'd hold their ceremony for the park on 12/10 and we'd begin hauling the public on the 11<sup>th</sup>, but people wouldn't be allowed on the grass until mid-march 2012. That has now changed into the "Grand Opening". Meaning, after the 10<sup>th</sup>, the public will have full access to the park, day and night, from that moment on. For us, it still means the same: we'll be back on our regular schedule of hauling the public every second and fourth Sunday. But, first we have to put on an impressive performance for the Official Grand Opening on the tenth.



An empty queue line in the new Hunter Station is waiting for the large crowds expected on December 10<sup>th</sup>. We'll need everyone lending a hand this day.

The city officials want the first train pulling into the station at 9:30 a.m. and, because of the expected crowds, we need at least four dedicated, public-hauling passenger trains. As stated last month, we will also need at least 6 brakemen, a full station crew, switch tenders, RR Crossing guards, and folks who will volunteer for those unexpected jobs as they arise.

Let's give them a show they won't soon forget!

## **Annual Dinner Reservations are Due**

It seems like we had our annual dinner only a few months ago. And yet, here we are again, one full year later, preparing for our next annual dinner. Soon, you should receive your reservation request in the mail. Please take time to read it and make your dinner choice. Once you've made your decision, please R.S.V.P. to Glenn Maness right away. Besides great food and good company, Glenn has guest speakers and entertainment lined up that you don't want to miss. There will be a plethora of door and raffle prizes, plus our famous 50/25/25 cash drawing. So, be sure to come early to get your tickets. Like last year, the event is being held at the Hidden Valley Golf Course in the Norco hills (yes... it's darn well hidden) at 10 Clubhouse Drive on January 21<sup>st</sup>. Please get your RSVP back to Glenn by January 14<sup>th</sup>. See you there!





### November 13<sup>th</sup> Run Day

A beautiful day met all who came down to the club. Warm sun, cool breezes, deep blue sky, plus the sight and sounds of steam all came together for a picture perfect run day. Several RLS members and their guests came to enjoy the park and a lap or two around our mainline.

Out running locomotives were Paul Quick (4-4-2), Tom Lawson (2-8-4), Dean Willoughby (0-4-0), Bill Mac (4-6-0), the Parrotts (Shay), Chris Enright (0-4-0), Rich Casford (4-8-4), Bob Cummings (2-8-2) and "Zip" Zipkie on Lew Kader's 4-6-2. Also out, but not under fire was Dave Moore's big Challenger.

Speaking of Lew's big Pacific: Zip had the locomotive out in the early morning under Lew's watchful eye. Engineering with Zip was Russell Green from Poway, CA. The two completed several laps on the Crescent Limited. By the end of the morning, Russ made Lew an offer... and purchased the shiny new Pacific. By early afternoon, the locomotive was packed into a truck, heading to its new home at the Orange County Model Engineer's track in Costa Mesa. Hopefully, Russ will bring her back for the Spring Meet in April 2012!





## November 19<sup>th</sup> Work Day and Board of Director's Meeting

Unlike the run day of the previous weekend, the work day was held on a cool, blustery, cloudy day. But, because of the labor intensive effort put forth by the many members who showed, the cool air was a blessing in disguise.

The primary work effort was centered on two places: The Iowa Yard and the Straight-of-way. Both of these areas were in need of aligning, tamping, straightening and leveling. Also, Bill Hesse made progress on the electrical wiring that will be used to trigger the wig-wag guard and the neon crossing sign along the straight-of-way. Down in the compound, the final touches were being made to the Hunter in preparation for her return to steam and the club house was given a much needed sweeping and scrubbing (thank you Tamiann Parrott).

By noon, Curtis and Donna Claybrook began serving a truly fantastic Thanksgiving meal to all the hungry workers: Turkey, stuffing, potatoes, salad, topped off with pumpkin pie and apple-crisp pie! During the lunch hour, members sat together, reminiscing about old times, remembering old friends, and being thankful for new times.

Just as the turkey began to make everyone drowsy, Glenn called to order the Board of Director's meeting. The topics of most concern were the planned grand opening festivities coming Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, the O-rings for the repair of our turntable, and the new straddle-car designs. A staunch reminder was also made to all locomotive owners: Get your boiler hydro'd!

With that, it was time to reveal the tally of ballots for the Board of Director's election. A great many thanks should be given to our out-going directors: Rich Casford, John Lytle, Al Bondesen and Dayna Adams. The amount of changes these four have overseen during their past two years of tenure has been extraordinary. The 2011 – 2012 Board of Directors are: Glenn Maness (President), Bill Hesse (Vice President), Brook Adams (Secretary), Dean Willoughby (Treasurer), Dave Bunts (Director), Bill Gardner (Director), Bill McLaughlin (Director) and Dave Parrott (Director).





## November 27 Run Day

Yet another fine day met all those who traveled to Hunter Park! With ten locomotives running the outside loop, the RLS mainline received a very good break-in run prior to the Grand Opening. This was also a semi red letter run day as it became the last scheduled day in which there wouldn't be a public passenger train.

Along with the more than 20 members who came to enjoy live steaming, Ryan Turley and A.J. Benson ran Glenn Maness' 0-4-0; Bob Cummings steamed his Mikado; Rich Casford fired the Casford Northern; Richard Miller and Bill McLaughlin ran Bill's ten-wheeler; Dave Bunts and Brook Adams engineered the Hunter; Casey and Gus Farwick took turns firing Ron Wilkerson's Mogul; Randy Chase brought out the Lannon's Atlantic; Dean Willoughby made laps on his Invicta; Mel and Mike Hitchcock brought out their American, and Dave Parrott fired his Shay.



# Merry Christmas!





On year ago, Tom Lawson brought out his mighty Berkshire on a cool December 18<sup>th</sup> work day immediately following a few days of rain. The climate was perfect for a beautiful show of steam.

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#### COMING RLS EVENTS:

**Dec. 10: Grand Opening of the park!!!**

**Dec. 11: First Run day pulling public!**

**Dec. 17: Work Day & Monthly Board Meeting**

**Dec. 25: Christmas (no run day)**

**Jan. 8: Run Day**

**Jan. 14: Work Day & Monthly Board Meeting**

**Jan. 21: Annual Dinner**

**Jan. 22: Run Day**

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**For info on extra work days and park updates, visit the RLS Website:**

**[www.steamonly.org](http://www.steamonly.org)**

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The R.L.S. Chronicle is published by The Riverside Live Steamers, Inc., P.O. Box 5512, Riverside, CA. 92518. The railroad is located at Hunter Park, 1496 Columbia Ave., Riverside, CA. Call (951) 779-9024 during scheduled activities for more information. Public run days are the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. Work days (Fun Day) are held the Saturday following the first run day of each month. The monthly Board of Directors Meeting is held at 1:00 p.m. at Hunter Park on the same Saturday as our work days.

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### Riverside Live Steamers' Board of Directors

#### OFFICERS

**President:** Glenn Maness  
**Vice President:** Bill Hesse  
**Secretary:** Brook Adams  
**Treasurer:** Dean Willoughby

#### DIRECTORS

Bill Gardner  
 Dave Bunts  
 Bill McLaughlin  
 David Parrott