



THE STEAM WHISTLE

A Monthly Bulletin of the
Chesapeake and Allegheny
Steam Preservation Society, Inc.

Facilities Located in Leakin Park, Baltimore MD
(Off Windsor Mill Road east of Forest Park Avenue)

Tel. (410) 448-0730

<http://calslivesteam.org/>

Lawrence Law – President	GAUGES	Craig E. Close – Editor
Michael E. Schroeder – Vice President	7.5”	Craig E. Close – Stationmaster
Charles W. Kinzer – Secretary	4.75”	Louis A. Koehler – At Large
James L. Carpenter – Treasurer	3.5”	Steven Zuiderveen – At Large

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NIGHT RUN/RUMMAGE SALE THIS MONTH

A Saturday evening run has been scheduled for September 22. The activities start around 5 PM with a picnic – usual format: meat provided, you bring the other goodies. This event is on the day before the Member Run Day, and it is hoped that as full moon approaches there will be sufficient moonlight to provide some atmosphere. If you plan to run a train, be sure you have a working headlight and an end-of-train light.

A RUMMAGE SALE will also be conducted! There is a considerable amount of “stuff” collecting in HQ. Rather than being carried to the dump, these items will be marked on a tag with a suggested value and attendees can mark the amount they are willing to pay (hopefully, but not necessarily, higher than the suggested amount – the sale is for “charity”, after all) – high bidder takes it home (that is, away from Leakin Park). And YOU can join in, too. If you have train-related items which you probably do not need but which may be of use by other members, bring them along for possible sale.; HOWEVER, any item you bring has to be taken back home with you if it is not sold (we’re trying to clear out HQ, remember, not collect more). ALL proceeds go to the Society.

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY RUN IN EARLY OCTOBER

On Saturday, October 6, there will be a very special run day to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Winans estate/mansion in Leakin Park. Ross Winans was instrumental in the development of early railroad technology for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad and built his estate on the grounds of the current Leakin Park where the Society has its facilities. The Parks & People Foundation is planning the event which will include activities on both Saturday and Sunday. Members of the Winans family are coming from Great Britain on Saturday to attend, and CALS has been asked to provide train rides on that day. The organizers hope to have special signs which we can post at the station to indicate the cities of St. Petersburg and Moscow in commemoration of Winans’ having

led the construction of the railroad between those cities. There should also be handouts describing the history of the estate.

This run is the weekend preceding the Public Run Day of 14th. Please come out and support the celebration. It is hoped that the newly-rebuilt inside track will be ready, perhaps to have the Winans family ride the inaugural passenger trip. If you can, please wear period costume for the late 1830s.

AUGUST RUN DAY

The temperature took a very nice break for run day and hopes were high that there would be a good crowd. And the customers did show up in a long line and continued riding until the very end of the day. Nothing like satisfied customers other than customers who contribute well. There were a goodly number of members who attended to keep things running smoothly – Thank You, guys. The turnout of locomotives was just adequate, though. “Always dependable” Bob Schwoerer had his CSX diesel and John Frederick brought his electric Shay, but all three Society locos had to be pressed into service all day. Wendy, the WM diesel, and the Society’s electrics were run. Wendy was taken in a little early to be cleaned up, but the other two pulled passengers until the run closed down. Unfortunately, Bob was a bit more dependable than his big diesel. Midway in the afternoon the beast just stopped running. With a bit of help, before the day was over, Bob diagnosed the cause of the failure. Seems it may have been an original assembly mis-alignment which caused failure of the alternator to provide charge.

While many customers indicated enjoyment with the rides, two older gentlemen rode the Shay – with the single car pushed and the passengers out front, facing forward, catching bugs in their teeth – and were effusive in their expression of happiness with that ride around the yard loop. BIG smiles – but no bugs visible.

ACTIVITY NOTES

STILL approaching the Midway Curve, very, very slowly, from the southwest horseshoe. The crew has been discombobulated, as reported last month, by the depth to which the road bed has had to be dug in order to match the existing height of the outside track. Then, having gotten over the shock that the track is actually rising toward Midway, there was serious discussion about the proper way to proceed. The decision was to rip up the stretch which had been done and do it over differently. The drainage across the Midway straight still remains as a major job before the inside loop can be considered to be completed. It is the goal to finish the inside track before October.

Regarding a different way to proceed, Bob Schwoerer has come through again. He has had the idea for several months, at least, that he wants to use a laser beam to provide alignment of the panels as they are laid. His attempts to use such technology has been thwarted by the insufficiency of the laser and/or its mount. Bob has now procured a more powerful laser and a good, adjustable mount. Additional design has gone into a target, too.

The resulting equipment can be used for installing track in a straight with a consistent gradient. If the grade has to change, the equipment just has to be moved and re-aligned. Though there has been no use of the technique on a curve, it is believed that it will be usable in that situation, too.

Temperatures have been high but are expected to be lower as the summer season ends. Perhaps a few more members can turn out for the Saturday work day to help with track work (HINT, HINT). Work includes cutting ties, preparing rails, constructing track panels, digging out the track bed, and finally laying the panels.

A considerable amount of tree trimming has been done in the past month or so. As the trees grow, the lower limbs can be cut off without negatively affecting the overall appearance of the tree. In fact, some of those limbs were getting in the face of members who ride on the mowers or were reaching over the tracks such that passengers may be tempted to reach for them. Another area of work has been the curve exiting the station on the outside track. There have been derails there the past two public run days. Last month the outside track was stabilized to prevent spreading; this past month more work was done to straighten the ties and re-establish a standard gauge. During the work, MANY new screws were put into the existing ties.

BOILER INSPECTIONS

Please provide a copy of your certificate to a board member so that it is on file at the Park in case there is an audit by DLLR sometime and you have left your original at home.

REMEMBER: Each boiler is expected to undergo an accumulation test (to check safety valve capacity) at Leakin Park the first time that boiler is steamed up for the year. This test involves firing the boiler vigorously and demonstrating that the safeties do not allow the pressure to rise. This test must be witnessed by a member of the Board of Directors, and an accumulation test form filled out.

IN MEMORIAM

James Bassett, long-time CALS member, passed away at age 87 on July 22 in Easthampton, MA. He will be best remembered operating his one-inch scale steam locomotives on the club track. Jim was born in Derby England and served seven years in the Royal Air Force during World War II, where he was twice decorated by the King for gallantry and devotion to duty. He survived several crash landings and bailouts. The Library of Congress videotaped an oral history of his war experiences. After the war he emigrated to Ontario, Canada. In 1958, the elevator business brought him to College Park, MD and he subsequently became an American citizen. Jim moved north after the passing of his wife, Joan, in 2002. Donations in his memory may be made to the Cancer Connection, Locust Avenue, Florence MA 01062.

Submitted by Tony Kopeckni from obituary from the family

We note also the passing of Bob White of Smithsburg, MD, on Friday, August 24, 2007.

MEMBER GETS PUBLISHED

Take a look at the September/October 2007 issue of *Live Steam* magazine for an article written by Society member Steve MacDonald. For those who do not know Steve, he is a paraplegic who has been in a wheelchair for many years and is slowly losing use of his arms, too. In spite of such limitations, he is building another 1 ½” steamer – a Big Boy, no less. In the article, Steve describes his physical situation and the means he has used over the years to circumvent the limitations. The story is intended to be informative and inspirational – and it is.

ACCIDENTS HAPPEN

Long-time member Lou Krapp had a fall at home early in the morning of August 17. He banged himself considerably but no bones were broken. He is recovering and will soon be back at the Park pestering the work crews (We luv ya, Lou!). He had a struggle getting to a phone because his neighbors were not aware of his situation. Perhaps Life Alert (“I’ve fallen and can’t get up.”) really would be a good idea for the older ones among us?

MEMBER CHANGE

An incorrect phone number was provided last month for our newest member:

HAINES, KENNETH
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20878 (H) 240-912-4650

FOR SALE

Diesel Locomotive running lights (many available) \$2.50 each

Clear lens, 12 volt. Used front and back as ditch lights. See WM diesel for example.

Contact:
Mike Schroeder 410-672-3351

WORK RECORD

<u>DATE</u>	<u>WORKERS</u>	<u>WORK ACCOMPLISHED</u>
08/01	Close, Carpenter, M Schroeder, Krapp	Trim trees; New motor
08/04	L Koehler, Close, Krapp, Law, A Mews	Discuss track laying
08/08	M Schroeder, Allen, L Koehler, Close, Law	Maintenance; Grass; trees
08/11	anyone???	No record
08/15	Close	Trees
08/18	Kinzer, Close, L Koehler, Schwoerer, Tokar, F&J Dahlin	Trees; Stabilize station curve; Take up recently installed track; Re-lay some of track
08/22	Close, Schwoerer, M Schroeder, Allen, Seyfrit	Lay track
08/25	Close, Schwoerer, L Koehler, Law	lay track; Sweat

2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT	PLACE
<u>JUNE</u>			
Wed 6	7:30 PM	BOD & Member Meeting	HQ
Sun 10	11:00- 3:30	Public Run Day	Tracksite
Sun 24	11:00- 3:30	Member Run Day	Tracksite
<u>JULY</u>			
Sun 1	12:00 NOON	Annual Meeting	HQ
Sun 8	11:00- 3:30	Public Run Day	Tracksite
FRI 13	10:00-3:00	S-Gauger's Convention	Tracksite
Sun 22	11:00- 3:30	Member Run Day	Tracksite
<u>AUGUST</u>			
Wed 8	7:30 PM	BOD & Member Meeting	HQ
Sun 12	11:00- 3:30	Public Run Day	Tracksite
Sun 26	11:00- 3:30	Member Run Day	Tracksite
<u>SEPTEMBER</u>			
Wed 5	7:30 PM	BOD & Member Meeting	HQ
Sun 9	11:00- 3:30	Public Run Day	Tracksite
Sat 22	5:00 PM	Night Run & Rummage Sale	Tracksite
Sun 23	11:00- 3:30	Member Run Day	Tracksite
<u>OCTOBER</u>			
Sat 6	11:00- 4:00	Special Winans Run Day	Tracksite
Wed 10	7:30 PM	BOD & Member Meeting	HQ
Sat 13	8:00- 4:00	Train Show	Timonium
Sun 14	11:00- 3:30	Public Run Day	Tracksite
Sun 14	9:00- 4:00	Train Show (secondary to Run Day)	Timonium
Sun 28	11:00- 3:30	Member Run Day	Tracksite
<u>NOVEMBER</u>			
Wed 7	7:30 PM	BOD & Member Meeting	HQ
Sun 11	11:00- 3:30	Public Run Day	Tracksite
Sun 25	11:00- 3:30	Member Run Day	Tracksite

TRACK WORK SESSIONS

Wed (sometimes)	9:00 AM	Build/Install track	Inside loop
		Someone is always at HQ on Wednesdays, but track laying may not be done...	
Sat (every)	7:30 AM (in HOT weather)	Build/Install track	Inside loop

**CHESAPEAKE & ALLEGHENY
STEAM PRESERVATION SOCIETY
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FIRST CLASS