

Tehachapi Loop Railroad Club's Newsletter

THE LOOP

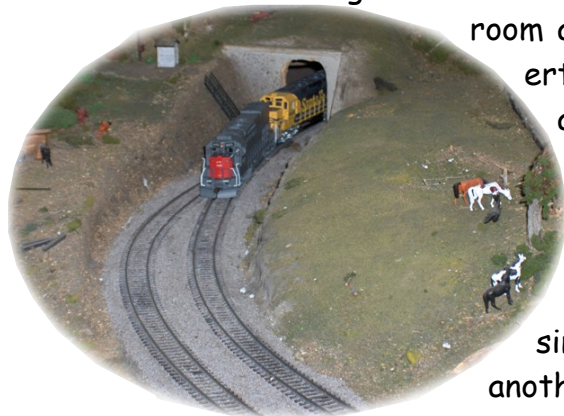
Mountain Crossing Has Reached the End of the Line!



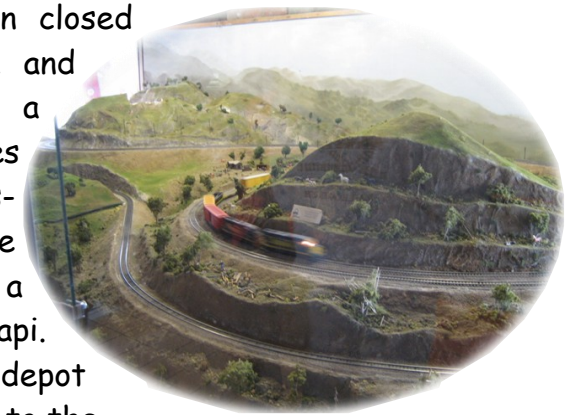
After having said good bye to several of our Tehachapi Loop Railroad Club members in the past year, we now have to say good bye to the Mountain Crossing Layout that has been a part of the TLRC since the beginning of the club. Many of our senior members know the history better than I and some other current members have toiled many hours in maintaining the layout and making improvements over recent years. It is hard to really accept that the layout and the restaurant will in the months to come be only a memory. **Wilson James** and **Phil Cornyn** did the honors a few weeks ago of collecting the equipment from the



room after receiving confirmation from the property owner that the restaurant would not be reopened and that it would eventually be razed. The club certainly had a good run with the layout and the community was well entertained by seeing those model trains running through the small version of the loop. The restaurant has been closed since March of 2011 and another venue for such a



layout will be hard to find. So it does appear to be the end of the line for the Mountain Crossing Model Railroad. We can all feel proud of the role that the TLRC and its members had in making such a wonderful display available to the community of Tehachapi. It is through such activities as this and the Tehachapi depot project that being a TLRC member has tangible returns to the community and to each member. Thanks for the memories and thanks to all those that supported the layout over the years!!! Like a fallen flag, the memories are lasting!



"Happen'ins" from the August TLRC Meeting



Madam Superintendent, **Theresa Bruno** has taken the reigns of the club and of the brass "fireless cooker" engine

The first meeting with your new board took place at an old venue, Kelcy's! It's great to be back at the club's old stompin' grounds. It was good to see about twenty of our members re-establishing ourselves at Kelcy's. Many did the right thing by parking in the old First Interstate Bank parking lot and by ordering from the Kelcy's breakfast menu offerings. While Kelcy's does not charge the club for use of the facilities, it is only right that we don't take up their "regular customer" parking spots and that we patronize Kelcy's as a way of showing our appreciation for hosting the TLRC meetings. As you can see in the photo at left, several time honored traditions were transacted at the meeting. The passing forward of

the "fireless cooker" brass engine was made and your new Superintendent, **Theresa Bruno** appears to be ready to fire it up!!!...ok no

fire in the steamer, at least tendance by leading a ture trips the club could future. Many members thoughts and took some to conduct further re-discussed and presented in

she fired up those in at- tively discussion of fu- be taking in the near weighed in with their homework assignments search. Results will be future newsletters. Who are these two fine looking gentlemen with "our" **Louise Bailey**? Only one guess as to why she is smiling so broadly, they'd be her son **Andy Bailey** (Right side of photo) and his son and Louise's grandson **Joshua Bailey**. It was great to have them attend our meeting and to make the announcement to come on down to the Golden Hills station to select a FREE car from the **Clark** and **Phil Bailey** model train collection and to make some seriously discounted purchases from the remainder of the stock that **Andy** and **Joshua** sorted through and displayed at the Golden Hills station. In another tradition of the TLRC, for each member that has passed on, the club had a tradition of decaling a boxcar to memorialize that club member. **Mike Schmitt** is holding a recent example of the club renewing that tradition. While it is sad that we have to engage in this activity, it is especially meaningful that we honor those that have gone before us. At the start of each TLRC Train show, a train consist of these cars will lead off the show as we remember those members.



Mike Schmitt displays an example of the Memorial Cars that are being prepared to memorialize TLRC members that have left their earthly station and are watching over us!!

Authorities Respond to Break In: RR Items Stolen!!



It was a quiet routine Saturday in the Golden Hills neighborhood of Tehachapi. It was a little after one in the afternoon when a kind Senior Citizen happened to have left the door open on a landmark establishment of the area – the Golden Hills station. After a brief absence, said Senior Citizen returned to find that extremely valuable and historic model railroad equipment, engines, rolling stock and railroad memorabilia had been **STOLEN** from the property during that brief time away from the building. Without hesitation a call was made to the authorities,

who quickly responded to the scene of the crime against this kind citizen. How dastardly were those criminals!! As fate would have it, the appeal of the items kept the culprits on the premises and they were quickly apprehended by the authorities as shown in the picture at right. A plain clothes female officer quickly had the men in check, spreading them and having them lean against the unmarked squad car. OK, so it is NOT April's Fool, but it sure was a **STEAL** for the members of the TLRC to take **LEGAL** advantage of **Louise** and **Andy Bailey's** offer to have



each TLRC member pick out a car from the collection of **Clark** and **Phil Bailey** and **THEN** make **LEGAL PURCHASES** at a **STEAL** of a **DEAL** on the remaining inventory that was so thoughtfully sorted out and displayed by Phil's brother **Andy Bailey**. If you did not make either of the two weekends, then it was a **CRIME!** Thanks to **Louise** and **Andy** for making this generous offer. Those like (L to R) **Wilson James**, **Mike Bruno**, **Keith Watt** are served by **Andy Bailey**. Hope to see Keith's new ATSF passenger train at a future TLRC show and it is great to have a keepsake memory from the Bailey collection!!

"The Antelope Play"

Article provided by Ted Carter

Did "The Antelope Play" in the Antelope Valley? Did the coming of the railroad doom the Antelope?

As late as the 1880's cowboys of the area did a count and they estimated there were about 7,000 antelope in the valley named for them. They do look similar to antelopes but they are really Pronghorns (*Antilocapra Americana*).

Their speed has been estimated at 53 mph which makes them the fastest land mammal in the Western Hemisphere. It is second in speed only to the cheetah (but it can run longer than the cheetah). Although it is a great runner it is a lousy jumper. They have large eyes that set well up on the skull which gives them a 320 degree field of vision. The pronghorn are a migrating animal and their migration route has been measured at more than 160 miles.

The pronghorn feed on grasses, shrubs, cacti and flowering plants. They can eat some plants that are toxic to domestic livestock. They follow the food and have to keep moving so when the ranchers and farmers started to put up fences the pronghorn had to find a new migration route. Then the railroads came and the pronghorn were afraid to cross the roadbed. These animals can run 53 mph with a gait that can cover 24', with vision that allowed them to see behind them, were afraid to walk across a road bed.

The Did the "Antelope play" in the Antelope Valley? Hardly, as with any wild creature probably their every thought and action is based on survival. Did the coming of the railroad doom the antelope? I don't think so. As I drive along the railroad in the Antelope Valley I see many places where the pronghorns could have gone under the road bed.

"Oh give me a home where the buffalo roam and the deer and the antelope play". Can you imagine how that house smelled? Probably like the great outdoors. (Note: article edited to fit into newsletter space-thanks for sharing Ted)

Last MINUTE additions to ACTIVITIES

The High Desert Modular Model Railroad Club is pleased to announce it will have a running HO scale model train layout along with a train sales table and more at the:

2011 Salsa Festival and Car Show

Saturday 10 September from 10 am to 6 pm

Sunday 11 September from 10 am to 5 pm

George Lane Park—5520 West Ave L-8 at West 55th in Quartz Hill, CA

The Train Show will be in the Auditorium. Along with the show will be Food, Carnival Rides, Food, Car Show, Food, Street Fair, Food and Salsa tasting.

For more information, visit the website: <http://www.qhchamber.org>

Kids, bring your parents. Parents bring your kids. Quartz Hill is located at the west end of the Antelope Valley (High Desert) between Palmdale and Lancaster. Sponsored by the Los Angeles County Parks and Rec. and the Quartz Hill Chamber of Commerce.

Thanks to Lynn McCurdy for this submission

Please forward on any other items of interest for TLRC members to read, thanks!!

TLRC Business Meeting

Stationmaster's Report

August 13, 2011

at Kelcy's Restaurant



1. **Superintendent Theresa Bruno** called the meeting to order at 10:06 am.

2. **Guests: Andy and Joshua Bailey** were present as guests of **Louise Bailey**.

3. **Stationmaster's Report: Ann Tuma** moved to accept the July 16, 2011 stationmaster's report. **Ted Carter** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Paymaster's Report: Mike Bruno** made a motion to pass the paymaster's report and **Rex Welker** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Corrections to August 2011 Newsletter: Tim Wilson**, is actually **Tim James**, son of **Wilson James**. **Chris Howard** is the N-scale Chair instead of **Rex Welker**.

6. Committee Reports:

A) **Membership:** Membership remains steady at around 40 members. **Theresa** will update the roster in October.

B) **Promotions:** **Louise** is taking orders for TLRC merchandise. We need to have an order for 12 items in each color ink to place an order. The exact cost of each item will be determined when the order is placed, there is no markup. **Theresa** thanked **Louise** for donating her time in collecting, placing and distributing these orders. There are also 2 XL and 2L red vests available for purchase. See **Louise**.

C) **Hospitality:** **Ann** happily reported that we have no members needing hospitality attention this month! Be sure to let her know if you know of a member that may need a card sent from the club to cheer them up!



7. Mountain Crossing:

According to the newspaper, the restaurant is being torn down. **John Holmes** will work with **Wilson James** to contact **Mrs. Yu** about getting the club equipment removed, especially the strong box that was built by **Dan Worth** (a former member now living in Texas).

8. New Business:

A) **Signers of Bank Account:** Currently **Mike Schmitt** is the only signer on the club's account that is still an active member. **Robert Fowler**, **Steve Pruitt**, and **Phil Bailey** need to be removed from the account. According to the bylaws, either the President or Vice-President need to be on the account. **Linda Gordon** will be added as a signer and **Theresa Bruno** will be added as having the ability to review the account.

B) **Christmas Party:** Per **Marlan**, "What would make your train leave the station?" Several suggestions were made - the National (Cesar) Chavez Center, Tehachapi Depot, The Christmas train at Fillmore and Western Railway, Primo's, and Kelcy's. The date and time has been set as Saturday, December 10th, at 6:00 pm. **Linda Gordon** will work on coordinating the Christmas party at Kelcy's.

C) **Club Trips:** Several possible trips were discussed.

i) **Fillmore and Western Railway.** **Phil Cornyn** has researched the FWRY and presented several options. Some of the train rides include dinner and some do not. We will look at this again in the spring to see if we can coordinate with the AV N'Scalers during their March show for the Murder Mystery Dinner Train.

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TLRC Business Meeting

Stationmaster's Report

August 13, 2011

at Kelcy's Restaurant



8. New Business: (Concluded)

C) **Club Trips:** Several possible trips were discussed.

ii) **Metrolink to L.A.** Doug Pickard suggested a weekend trip to LA Union Station on Metrolink. From there we could take other trains or buses to different locations in the area. Ann Tuma will research times and schedules for the trains and buses. Ron Snyder will research going to Long Beach / Aquarium. Theresa Bruno will check on getting discount tickets. Doug Pickard will look into taking the Red-line to Hollywood. John Holmes will research the Pasadena line. The proposal is that we go as a group to LAUS and then we can split up and go to one of the researched locations. The date will be determined at our next meeting.

iii) **Ridgecrest Tour.** Doug Pickard also suggested taking a tour of the train layouts in Ridgecrest - George Pruitt, live steam; Terry Haven, HO scale, and Warren McGowen, G scale. Mike Schmitt will contact George and/or Terry to arrange for a tour. Terry may be able to arrange a tour of Warren's layout. John Holmes suggested that we may want to include a stop in Trona as well. Whether the Trona stop is an option will depend upon the number of Ridgecrest tours scheduled for that day. John will see if he still has the contact information for Trona.



9. Round Table

A) **Bailey Train Car Sale:** Beginning Sunday August 21st at 1:00 pm through August 27th, Phil's train cars along with other items will be available for purchase at the Golden Hills Station.

B) **Depot Raffle:** The Depot is raffling an N Scale layout now through Labor Day. Also on display are Dave Burton's photographs and the TLRC calendars from 1999 - 2000 and 2002 - 2005.

C) **Memorial Cars:** Chuck Kirkland is creating 4 memorial cars for our deceased members. It was agreed that once completed they would be stored at John Bell's and they would be run / displayed at future TLRC Train shows.

10. **Presentation:** Theresa Bruno was presented with the brass "fireless cooker" engine. The fireless cooker was an industrial steam engine with no fire designed to be charged with steam from the factory in which it was used.

11. **Superintendent:** Theresa Bruno adjourned the meeting at 11:36 am.

As recorded and submitted by
Debra Howard, Stationmaster

Special Editor's Note: Can't leave any space in the newsletter unused, so just as a reminder now that we are holding our meetings at Kelcy's, please be sure to park on the back lot of the old First Interstate Bank building and NOT behind Kelcy's nor at the Moose Lodge. We are also **HIGHLY ENCOURAGED** to purchase a breakfast menu item as a favor for Kelcy's letting us use their meeting room without a charge to the club. So please help out the TLRC by patronizing Kelcy's!!

From the desk of the Paymaster Mike Schmitt,
the following reports are provided for your

TLRC FINANCIAL REPORTS

Balance Sheet - As of 8/28/2011

(Includes unrealized gains)



You are reading a special edition of the Tehachapi Loop Railroad Club newsletter. (You didn't want to read our financials anyway, did you?)

We hope you enjoy reading about our activities and hope your interest in our club has been ignited such that you might consider joining in the fun with us!

We are a non-profit organization that fosters the interests of our members in the hobby of railroad-ing and modeling of railroads as well as seeking out railroad adventures to further our understanding and love of trains. We put on an occasional show or two as well over at West Park in Tehachapi and meet the second Saturday of each month at Kelcy's Diner (across the street from the Depot) in Tehachapi. Stop on by.

TLRC OFFICERS

Superintendent	Theresa Bruno	n/a
Dispatcher	Linda Gordon	661-822-8444
Stationmaster	Debra Howard	760-559-7380
Paymaster	Mike Schmitt	661-821-5271
1st. Inspector	Wilson James	661-823-1665
2nd. Inspector	Marlan Woodside	760-373-4765

ADMINISTRATORS/CHAIRPERSONS

Activities:

- Conductor — Ann Tuma
- Historian — Rex Welker
- Hospitality — Ann Tuma
- Loop Editor — Marlan Woodside
- Membership — Theresa Bruno
- Web Designer — Jack Fowler
- Promotions — Louise Bailey
- Publicity — Mike Schmitt
- Ways & Means — Vacant
- Event Coordinator — John Holmes

Scale Chairs:

- N — Chris Howard
- HO—Mike Bruno
- Toy Trains—Steve Pruitt
- O—John Holmes
- G—John Bell

Website Address: www.TehachapiLoopRailroadClub.org

TLRC Email Address: tlrc_club@hotmail.com

Loop Editor's Corner



This is my fifteenth newsletter. It is a milestone that many members will note, as it has taken me fourteen times of NOT getting the newsletter out in an early fashion to FINALLY have ONE edition out EARLY. Thanks for the many words of encouragement and those of harassment. While a single data point (one edition on time) does NOT make a trend, forgive me for at least celebrating ONE on time edition. As always I will continue to strive to improve. Many thanks to those that have contributed information and articles for this edition and those in the past. I have tried to clean up the formats a little and tried to put some consistency into the letter so I hope you like it. The new board is in place and one meeting has taken place. Hope that everyone picks up on the enthusiasm and makes plans to participate in some of these trips! Taking part in the planning and going with the group is a neat part of being a club member!!

Marlan

THE LOOP



**Tehachapi
Loop Railroad
Club**



**Monthly Newsletter of the
Tehachapi Loop Railroad Club**

**Post Office Box 876
Tehachapi, CA 93561**

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Next Meeting Date: September 10, 2011 at 10 AM

Location: Kelcy's Restaurant