

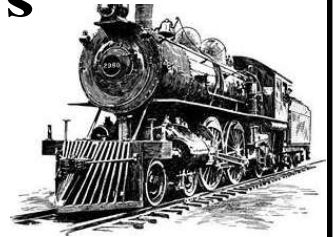


Maricopa Live Steamers

STACK TALK

July, 2022

The official newsletter of the Adobe Mountain Railroad in Phoenix, Arizona, Operated by the Maricopa Live Steamers Railroad Heritage Preservation Society.



Greetings members and family,

A big thank you to all the members that helped with the Memorial Day fireworks train rides. Fred Williams and his wife came down from Prescott Valley to help. Thank you. About 150 people came to ride and we got some very good reviews on Facebook. Hank did a great job lighting the riding cars. Thank you, Hank.

It's the time of year to watch for heat kinks. If you are out and about, please take a few blue blocks with you to mark the bad spots and then write the spot on the white board by the club house.

Chuck Larom passed away on June 23. We have not heard if there will be a service for him but we will send out a blast if there will be one. Jim is selling Chuck's container. Call Jim 480-205-0544.

A girl scout troop wants MLS to sponsor them. A scout leader will be at the Aug. meeting to explain to us what we need to do for them.

Joe Schnyder is having surgery sometime soon and will be at home for quite some time.

No meeting in July and Aug. meeting is Ice Cream social. Time will be announced.

The weather is getting hotter and hotter. Please make sure you have lots of water with you. We don't want anyone getting hurt working or playing trains.

Perry



Welcome to summer in Phoenix

From Joe Schnyder

The County installed the fire ban effective May 1st and it says "no fire of any type."

Since this was written, the county approved propane engines to run.

Check the white board before you run for changes and restrictions.

We had a fire between Reasoner Ranch and Harnish Valley that was started by an unknown cause and due to the fire breaks cut in that area it did not burn the Harnish Valley double track bridge or the two wooden trestles on Serpentine. I can not come up with a reason for the fire but I am sure that it was not started by any members of our club. I have seen a few people walking around out there who are not members and 2 guys on bicycles riding through the park looking for a way out after they came in the back by Pardee point. Of lately I have heard quite a few noises around my home at night that were gunshots and since I am within earshot of the park it could have been that. According to Arizona wildfire resource management team over 40% of Arizona wildfires are started by bullets from stray gunshots. I am sure it was not anyone from the club that started this fire, Larry Messing also reported to me that he saw it Sunday Morning so we are sure it was not a club member who set the fire. I am just glad that the fire breaks were cut in that stopped the fire from spreading like the one that burnt most of the south end of the park which was stopped by those fire breaks cut in by Dave Kulman using the tractor's gannon to take out the brush and weeds. That fire destroyed 6 bridges and over 200 feet of track and Weiboldts Woods pavilion but most of the track damage was caused by the fire trucks running over the track. Again we were lucky it was kept in a small area of only about 1 and 1/2 acres and not the 20 plus acres of the County welders fire. New information was given to me that the dirt track racers were shooting off big fireworks, aerial bombs that Saturday night so we believe that is what started the fire.

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This picture, (left), shows the west switch at Smolyk where I finished installing new switches to replace the old worn out ones at both ends. I will be installing new steel switches this summer while it is hot to try to keep the number of derailments down because of worn rail and ties eaten by termites that are no longer holding gauge in the track.

Over the past 15 years the club's switch building has made many improvements to how we make the switch. Now we are changing the wood ties to plastic and with this change the life of the track structure will be greatly increased. With 456 switches on the property this is going to be a long time to get it done but with the help of volunteers we will "Get 'er done".



Right now the west bound main at Fisher is torn out and dug out to install plastic tie panels to get more of our main routes up to the best condition we can get with plastic material. That donation of track that we got from the home in North Scottsdale and all the volunteers that came out to help get it picked up and brought to MLS is starting to make a difference in how much we can get brought into great track where the termites will not play a part in track deterioration. We got half of Adobe yard track replaced with plastic and I hope we can get the other half done this next year. I also hope to get the track going into the car barn renewed this next year as it is showing its age and was done when we were using short screws and I did not get back to cover the ties up with ballast. It takes at least three people to do a ballast train so if you get yourself and 2 friends together and want to do a project let me know and I will set up the spots to get ballast dumped and show you how to do it.

The engines of the club are in repair mode for a few of them and I saw people working on Santa Fe 411 and UP 2001 getting them outfitted with new hardened wheels and new sprockets and the drive train on 7282 repaired to get back to operating condition. I want to thank the people working on getting the club power back up to serviceable condition.

Stay safe, stay hydrated, and keep away from snakes and bees!

And have a safe 4th of July !

For Sale

Locomotive – Assortment of rolling stock - 20 ft Storage container Located at Maricopa Live Steamers – Phoenix, Arizona



Santa Fe SD-40 Locomotive with 8 HP Kohler engine and hydrostatic drive with 2 seat engineer car and custom controls, B&O gondola, as seen in photograph.

Detailed with snow plow, air hoses, etc. Well maintained. Runs excellent.



(7) additional B&O gondolas with removable seats (one with back-rest, used as a conductor car).



Santa Fe Box car ATSF# 11038 with removable roof for storage
Santa Fe Coal car ATSF #179632.



Chicago System-Northwestern Coal car C&NW #3925
Both coal cars contain real coal.



Santa Fe Caboose ATSF#0315



The 20ft container houses the entire package with room to spare and with extra amenities included. Winch to enable easy lifting of locomotive hood for servicing. Shelving for storage, RMI Plate rerailer, and long bar pivoting rerailer. Container is located close to lead line for easy access.

ALL Rolling stock has NEW Trucks.

Selling as a complete package for \$25,000.00

Locomotive, riding car and caboose may be sold together separately from package

**Please contact Jim Theobald
480-205-0544**

Here is a glimpse of Train Mountain Triennial 2022 from a few ambitious MLS Members!



The Caravan!

John, Dan and son Daniel, Dakota with friend Kevin, Bill Pardee, and Tim. Larry Kirchner and Steve Stenstrom met them there.



Along the way it looks like Bill got a riding car for the grandkids, but what scale is it?

This is a soon-to-be-finished ramada at train Mountain



Midnight runs to get photos of the night sky. Great scenery, but a little chilly.

Left is Tim Freeman running Larry Kirchner's Mikado.

The word is everyone had a great time despite a few flat tires along the way.



Below are two photos taken from the same spot at Train Mountain Railroad. One is by Dan Benton on the right (from MLS) showing the current landscape at Bitter End during the 2022 Triennial. The other photo (left) shows the location 4 years ago before the 2018 fire. The building and water tank were saved, I was told, because a helicopter pilot saw the yellow and thought it was a house and dumped retardant. Either view is spectacular! Take a video ride and see some of the sights if you have the time...

Train Mountain! Tunnels and Trees! - CNRR #45 - YouTube

Check out the Train Mountain website: [Train Mountain Railroad \(trainmtn.org\)](http://trainmtn.org)

Stan Ferris, Crow's Nest Railroad & MLS member

