

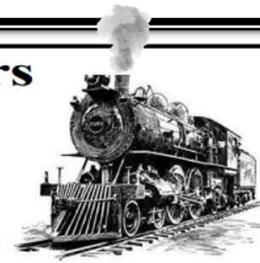


# Maricopa Live Steamers

## STACK TALK

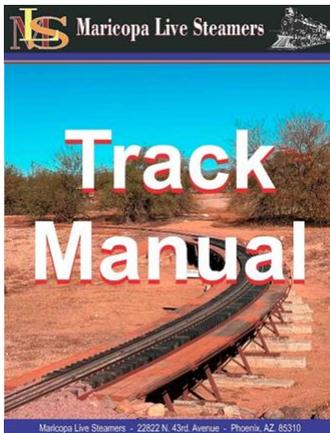
October 2025

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



## Ready for the Fall Activities!

I want to start off by giving a big thank you for those who have been coming on Saturday mornings to build track panels. This is a very important step in getting the track back into great shape.



I have finished up the first MLS track manual.

Updates can be easily incorporated based on any changes that may need to be done based on unique situations out on the railroad. It is important that anyone working on the track in the field understand the installation procedures. This will make for faster installation and easier maintenance since there will be one common standard in the track structure. The manual is in PDF format and is viewable on any phone, laptop or computer. I will show the complete manual at the October meeting and changes can be made based on feedback that is received at that time. My goal with this information is to make everything as clear as possible, which makes the job easier for everyone involved.

On Monday September 29, the 10,500 Accu-Ties were delivered. These will be used on sidings and yard tracks. I have also ordered 28,000 tie plates, but they have an 8-week lead time. We are about 3 weeks in so far.



Please do not forget that dues for the 2026 year are now due. Any additional donations for the track fund will be greatly appreciated! Please fill out the proper form and send to our treasure, Dave Pulver.

Public runs will commence October 5, so please make sure you have taken the engineers test if you plan to run.

**Larry Kirchner**  
**President, MLS**



## LET'S GET STEAMED UP

Hi everyone

Good News

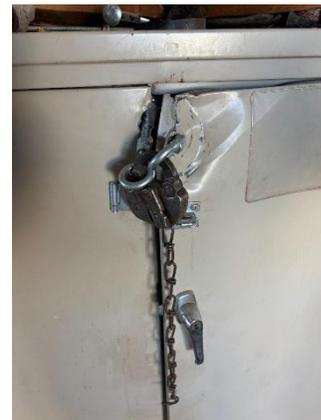
Beginning October 1st, 2025 the Maricopa County Parks Department "Fire Ban" is lifted until further notice, therefore the use of all fuels are permitted in your Steam Locomotives.

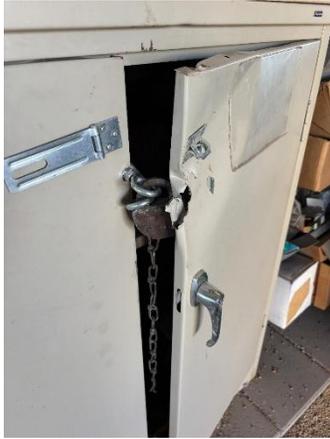
Please adhere to all regulations when operating your Locomotive.

Our train park has been experiencing an upswing in property crimes. During the month of September, there have been several incidents of theft and vandalism within our park grounds involving the 15-inch railroad and MLS.

On September 11th, I was informed by Terry Leisgang, that the buried signal wires at New Diehl City and at Massie, had been pulled from the ground and stolen, along with wires cut at the dog houses. It was estimated that the cost of replacing the wires was approximately One Thousand dollars.

On September 24th, Scotty Brooks reported that sometime during the nighttime hours the night before, two cabinets in the 15-inch train





shop were broken into and an electric chainsaw and a tool box were stolen. Estimate of loss not determined.

Bob Mc Guire advised that on September 24th, a motorhome with one male and two female occupants had entered through the main gate at approximately 7:00 pm. When he contacted one of the females wandering in the area near the 15-inch, she was found to have no affiliation with any of the clubs and was asked to leave. Bob stated that he has confronted six or more people within the park after dark during the month of September.

All of our members are being asked to please close the gate upon entering, and if it is after dark, please lock the gate. We understand the inconvenience this may present to everyone and hope that you will understand the importance of this request.

Keeping the gate closed will not only help prevent non-members from entering when there is no event being held, but help deter criminal activity.

**Joe Kalisak**  
**Vice President, MLS**



## THE REAL DIEHL!



Anyone who takes a live steam locomotive out to do trackwork at MLS is the 'real deal!' You just might see Robbie Diehl with a MOW train and ballast hopper cars out fixing heat kinks and other track problems. Robbie is a long-time MLS member and laid lots of the original track. Thank you, Robbie, for all your hard work! The photo is of rain storm water flowing under the bridge at Russell Creek.



### PETE'S PANEL PARTY PROGRESS!



We've had four fun-filled Saturday mornings making 20' track panels organized by Pete Pennarts. Ok, we do have to get some work done, but the essentials are cared for- snacks, water, temperature control, and friends getting the job done with lots of laughs along the way. There are some new twists. We now have two table jigs set up



for straight panels. Tie plates between the steel rail and plastic ties are the preferred method, being sure to stagger the screws to prevent tie twist. Also, the rails are now being offset by 12" instead of the previous 24" to cut down on the number of ties needing to be added in the field. It's amazing how club members fall into small team groups to set up the jigs and quickly assemble the panels. 35 new panels have been built to date. Why not join us for the next panel party!



## MARICOPA LIVE STEAMERS' 2026 ELECTION

### for BOARD of DIRECTORS

Nominations are being accepted for the 2026 Board of Directors. Submit your name along with the position you are seeking. You may also nominate someone, and they will be contacted to assure they will accept the nomination. The duties of each office are described in the bylaws.

The end date for accepting nominations will be October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please submit your nomination to one of the people below. The ballots will be available on October 24<sup>th</sup> on the Website, in the Clubhouse, as well as in the November Stack Talk. That is about three weeks before the election at the General Membership meeting on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your participation.

Also, a signature and printed name line at the bottom of the ballot is required to determine each voter's eligibility. Names will be removed before votes are counted. There is a secure ballot box in the clubhouse.

Sincerely,  
Election Committee:

Terry Liesegang  
[liesegangt@yahoo.com](mailto:liesegangt@yahoo.com)

Donna Hohm  
[dannahohm@yahoo.com](mailto:dannahohm@yahoo.com)



MLS member Christina (Chris) Borders lost her battle with cancer on her 69<sup>th</sup> birthday, 8-30-2025. Although it has been a while since Chris and her husband Dan have visited the park, they have been active club members. Al Ford added their area to the park layout. It is South Borders, by Ft. Whereami. We send our prayers for Dan and family and friends.



## From Scotty Brooks:

Paul Fillmore, an MLS member passed away earlier this year, and Paul's wife Chris is selling some belongings. Among the list is a Railroad Warehouse Mikado with tender. Dean (Paul's brother who passed two years ago) completed the chassis to the point of having it running on air, and the tender is completely riveted up and on trucks. Both of the brothers were perfectionists, and have done immaculate work on this engine. It is probably potentially the most "square" engine I've ever seen. Just crack the throttle, forward or reverse and the wheel start turning. It runs up and back with absolutely no catches or hesitation at all anywhere through the spectrum. Of course we are only viewing it running on air, no load. I told Chris I thought the value may be around 30k. Value is of course much more, but to a buyer it is always a gamble. Therefore, she has settled on asking \$17k for the package. She has complete drawing set and boiler shell to go with it. They both have built steam Locomotives, 7.5" gauge before.



The loco and tender are on stands at her home in Rochester WA. They crated and shipped it from Alaska to WA, but destroyed the crates in opening them up. She, of course, does not have the capability to crate them up so pick up is probably the best option. She is also selling his Chevy Silverado so they may be an option for a buyer to purchase the truck also to transport the loco. Nice very clean Silverado has ton. \$5k I believe. Tight squeeze, but with the tailgate down chassis and tender will fit.... I guess one would need to rent a trailer to get the boiler shell in the same trip.

If interested, Chris can be contacted viamail. [Chrisknutsonnp@yahoo.com](mailto:Chrisknutsonnp@yahoo.com) or text 360.451.1790. Two speeders are also for sale, one in WA and one here at MLS.



## TEST YOUR ENGINEERING KNOWLEDGE:

5. Multiple short blasts on the whistle or horn - "oooooo" - mean: (328,334) \*

- A. Approaching station.
- B. Flagman return to train.
- C. Flagman protect the rear of train.
- D. Warning to people or animals on the track. General alarm or emergency.



## OPERATIONS UPDATE:

To sign up for any event(s), please email me at [hanksgt@yahoo.com](mailto:hanksgt@yahoo.com)

### Reminders:

Sunday public rides begin Sunday October 5th, 2025: We need volunteers for train crews, station and gift shop staff.



The membership approved two Haunted Halloween ride nights: October 18th and 25th 6 till 8pm. The Arndt family will be setting up several of their Halloween decorations. We'll use the Pottsville bypass route to keep the turnaround time fast. We'd like to decorate the route if anyone has decorations, they could setup and remove before Halloween. Solar powered would be great. I didn't ask Spencer if we need a generator near the tunnel, but it would be nice. I'll bring 15-foot Stay Puft and 5-foot Terror dog.

Membership also voted to run all four weekends in December for Holiday Lights, this includes the weekend after Christmas. 6 till 8pm. It will be posted on our Facebook page and Nextdoor.com.

A few members have suggested we don't use tickets for our night events, so please be prepared to run until all of our guests have gotten a ride. We plan on putting up the information booth at the entrance line near the parking lot. It will help us collect donations and sell necklaces, which is another source of income. We should have a couple of members phones with the donation app on it to keep the lines moving.

Halloween and Holiday Lights are our two largest fund raisers so we need each able-bodied member to sign up for at least one shift for these events. We have spent a large sum on track and replaced all the lights on the megatree.

The Light Up Arizona LED light hobby group has volunteered to help set up the megatree on Saturday November 22nd starting at 9am. We can use several more volunteers to help. I have offered the group a special steam train ride at 5:30pm on Saturday December 6th to leave from the freight yard.

It is important to note we have switched to online waiver sign-up ONLY and will not be using paper any longer. If a guest has already signed up online, THEY DO NOT NEED TO SIGNUP AGAIN. We will have laminated copies for folks to read in the stationmaster desk.

We have about 500 holiday necklaces left, so we can start the season with those and (hopefully) receive more quickly if we need them.

Sunday October 5th I'd like to put up the color walkway lights for Halloween and Holiday lights shows.

If anyone knows where the club 5 gallon gas can went, please help us recover it. We need it for this weekend.

Adobe Station Porta Potty is scheduled to arrive this week.

Thank you for your support,  
Hank  
602.300.3396 cell



**See you at the next PANEL PARTY!**



***Thank you for all your MLS support!***

Send photos and suggestions to: [stanfm@aol.com](mailto:stanfm@aol.com)

Visit our website [Maricopa Live Steamers](http://Maricopa Live Steamers) and our Facebook page [MLS Public Rides](https://www.facebook.com/MLS Public Rides) to stay informed!

*\*(D. Warning to people or animals on the track. General alarm or emergency)*