

# THE SIGNAL TOWER

The Newsletter of the Largo Central Railroad

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August 2006



## Changes, Changes and More Changes

*So read the newsletter and find out  
What's happening!!*



## President's Message

Greetings!

The July 29, 2006, 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday was really a great day. Things turned out just fine and everyone had a good time.

It started out with a great breakfast by Chef, Don Mann, and a scrumptious lunch by the 'Lady of the Railroad', Dolores Pike. Lunch was so finger licking good, we ran out of food at the end of lunch time. No leftovers.

The 'Card Order Run' was a lot of fun and we thank all who participated. Thanks to Greg Boden for heading it up.

We thank all who helped Dolores Pike and Don Mann with the food, the members who set-up the 'Card Order Run' and members who were standing by to fix any mechanical or track problems.

We especially want to thank our guests for sharing this day with us. Many traveled great distances to visit us. It was good to see our friends from the *Florida Live Steamers*. They held their Board Meeting at Largo this day.

Believe it or not, there are five Saturdays in September. You all come back and see us again – you hear!

*Don Newberry*

President

## Mark Your Calendar

**Saturday — September 30, 2006** – Family Run Day.

Festivities on this day have not been planned yet. More information will be in the September Signal Tower.

I do know of one change that will be made. Breakfast will be just doughnuts and coffee. Don will team up with Dolores for the lunchtime meal. With this combination, I can't wait.

**Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006** will be "Friends of the Railroad Day". This day will be the Club's appreciation for

all who gave a donation to become Friends of the Railroad. It will be from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

We will need all our members help to make this a real fun day. Come out and run your engines. We will run all our trains and all rolling stock will be on the rails. 750 people are expected. Even if you can spare a couple of hours, please come out and help. If you can volunteer for a longer period – that will be great. There will be more on this during our upcoming membership meetings. For more information call Bill Donati 727-942-7644.

**Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 27, 28, & 29, 2006** — **Ridge Live Steamers Fall Meet**

Make your plans now to attend – Bring your rolling stock and ride a railroad that is different. Remember, every railroad is different and unique. Try it – I guarantee you will like it.

There will be a Pot Luck Dinner on Saturday. For more information, contact the Secretary, Allen Newcomb at 863-665-0482, or email [AllenPN@aol.com](mailto:AllenPN@aol.com).

If you plan to bring your camper, contact Tommy Bissett at 863-665-0482.

## Secretary's Report

5 August 2006

The meeting was called to order by President, Don Newberry. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and accepted. The Treasurer's report was presented, reporting on financial activities; motion, seconded and carried to accept.

The following items of business were discussed:

1. Warren Jamison reported on the status of track from FLS, and the purchase of 4,000 feet at a special price. After discussion, motion was made, seconded and carried to refer this purchase to the Board of Directors.
2. New member, Kyle Woodbury, was voted full Junior Membership.
3. Dolores Pike spoke about the visitors from FLS, on the July 5<sup>th</sup> weekend, and their very favorable reaction to our hospitality.

4. Regarding the installation of new sidewalks crossing the tracks — motion was made to ask the city to take care of installing rail across the new sidewalk. An amended motion was made, seconded and carried to let Warren Jamison discuss this with Greg at the park.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

*Alex Watson*  
Secretary

## News from the Trenches

New sidewalks have been added to the existing ones in the park. When sidewalks meet train tracks, track crossings have to be fabricated and installed.

This is fine, providing everything goes to plan. Unfortunately, plans have a way of changing. Concrete was poured for the sidewalks sooner than expected and this caused a dilemma in operations.

Steel track crossings had to be fabricated on August 12<sup>th</sup> so they could be temporarily installed by August 19<sup>th</sup>. We had Birthday Run commitments on this day.

To make three steel track panel crossings, kept Terry O'Neill, Warren Jamison, Don Mann, Tom Eckert and Don Newberry really hopping. Terry bought the steel during the week and the crossings were fabricated in one day. This meant cutting of steel and plenty of welding.

On August 19<sup>th</sup>, the crossings were installed and a track panel replaced because a contractor's truck ran over it. The Birthday Runs were done.

Many thanks to all who helped.

## Letter to the Editor

*From Rich Dabler – Ridge Live Steamers*



*Dear Largo Central,*

*Terry O'Neill and Jere Wendt are heroes – at least in my book. I have been under the weather most of the past year and these two came to my rescue when the new spool for my hydraulic drive diesel did not allow stopping without a serious jerk. Ron Taylor sent a new spool and Terry and Jere drove all the way over to the Ridge Club and, not only delivered the new spool, but insisted on installing it and then stayed in a light rain to make sure the operation of the locomotive was smooth.*

*These guys are what make our hobby and the Largo Central gang special. Thanks Terry and Jere.*

*Rich Dabler*  
Ridge Live Steamers

-----Thank you for your kind words, Rich. This is the way the hobby is supposed to be – Camaraderie and always lend a helping hand. Editor

## Congratulations Are In Order

Congratulations to Joan and Larry Smith who are celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> year as railroaders in Parish, Florida. What an accomplishment.

Just think of the scores and scores of railroaders who have visited their track. These visitors ran their engines and enjoyed real southern hospitality. There are no words available we can use to thank Joan and Larry enough for their contributions to the hobby.

We wish them another 30 years of Good Health, Good Luck and Great Railroading.

## I FORGOT

I forgot to thank Tom Lawrence, last month, for extending the main track crossing on the southern loop near the yard. It was needed for large trucks to bring in fireworks for the Fourth of July festivities. Many Thanks, Tom!

## Now Hear This!

The following information is very important and should be read very carefully. It is about our By Laws and Voting for the 2007 Officers. The final revision of the By Laws has to be sent to the State of Florida.

With the above in mind – let's get started.

## By Laws

Our new By Laws will consist of our current By Laws with changes and additions. The changes and additions will be shown on the draft revision in red ink. The black ink is the part that still exists.

You will also receive a **Ballot for Revisions**. What happens here is you will approve or disapprove the changes made in each section of the Articles. The By Laws have to be approved by the members. The ballot is straight forward, but, you have to read it first. There is a box at the top of the ballot you can check if you approve of the entire By Law draft.

OK, here is what has to happen. At the Membership Meeting, Saturday, September 2, 2006, Jean Carter will take a roll call of members. Members present will receive the By Law Revisions and a ballot to take home. Members not present will receive the By Law Revisions and a ballot by standard mail or email. The members who receive the By Law Revision by email shall print out the ballot for voting.

Return all mailed and email ballots, with your vote, to **Largo Central Railroad, P.O. Box 823, Largo, FL 33779-0823 by October 6, 2006. Put your name and address in the upper left hand corner of the envelope. Write the words "BY LAW BALLOT" in the lower left hand corner;** or you can bring the ballot to the **October 7, 2006** Membership Meeting.

## Voting for 2007 Club Officers

At the Membership Meeting, Saturday, October 7, 2006 at the end of "Old Business" the Secretary of

Elections will present a ballot of names compiled by the nominating committee and solicit nominations from the floor.

The official ballot will then be mailed to the members as a Proxy Ballot. It will be mailed out with the October Newsletter, approximately October 20<sup>th</sup>. Members who receive their newsletter by email will receive the ballot by email. Print out the ballot and vote.

You must sign the Proxy Ballot to give the Secretary of Elections permission to vote for you. Believe me, there will only be three people involved who will ever see the ballots. The ballots will be sealed after they are counted. I can assure you that secrecy will be top priority.

Ballots shall be mailed to **Angelo Cantalupo, 8305 121<sup>st</sup> Place North, Largo, FL 33773**. Put your name and address in the upper left hand corner of the envelope. Write the words "**BALLOT**" in the lower left hand corner. As you can see – your editor is the Secretary of Elections. Names on the envelopes will be checked for any duplication of ballots. Proxy Ballots must be received on or before December 1, 2006.

Members who decide to vote in person, will have the opportunity to do so at the December Public Run. Ballots will be received during the morning of Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2006. The election will end at 12:00 PM this day.

Ballots will not be lying around. You have to ask for one from a member of the Election Team. Your name will be checked off a list as receiving a ballot. The ballot box will be setup so it will always be watched by a member of the Election Team. You do not have to sign the ballot if you vote at the Clubhouse.

At 12:00 PM on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Clubhouse door will be locked. The Proxy Ballot envelopes will be opened and the votes counted. No Proxy Ballots will be accepted on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Proxy Ballots must be mailed and be in by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

The club Ballot Box will be opened and the votes counted. The results will be read at the Annual Meeting.

## Public Run Tally

Saturday, August 5, 2006 – 1,416 passengers were given rides.

Sunday, August 6, 2006 – 1,150 passengers were given rides.

## Public Run Weekend

Saturday..... September 2, 2006

Sunday.....September 3, 2006

## Board Meeting

September 1, 2006 at 7:30 P.M.

## Membership Meeting:...

September 2, 2006 after the Public Run

Be certain to attend.

**NO SMOKING IN THE CLUB HOUSE**

## Birthday Runs for September 2006

September 9 <sup>th</sup> , Saturday Afternoon: 3:00 to 4:00 PM	September 10 <sup>th</sup> , Sunday Open
September 16 <sup>th</sup> , Saturday Morning: 11:00 to 12:00 AM Afternoon: 3:00 to 4:00 PM	September 17 <sup>th</sup> , Sunday Afternoon: 3:00 to 4:00 PM <b><u>Team 2</u></b>
September 23 <sup>rd</sup> , Saturday Morning: 10:30 to 11:30 AM Afternoon: 3:00 to 4:00 PM	September 24 <sup>h</sup> , Sunday Afternoon: 2:30 to 3:30 PM <b><u>Team 3</u></b>

Check the Birthday Run Schedule Board in the Clubhouse for Team assignments on Sundays and for changes or additions.

**Remember, Birthday Run donations are a needed source of income for our club.**

## Teams Are Needed!!!

Volunteers for the Birthday Run Teams are as follows:

**Team 1:** Open,

**Team 2:** Chris Janks

**Team 3:** John Eason, Warren Jamsion, Chuck Analetto

**Team 4:** Ed King, Howard Pike, Don Newberry

**Team 5:** Open

If you are on a Team and cannot participate the day of the Birthday Run that you are assigned to, please make arrangements for someone else to take your place.

We are still in desperate need of volunteers to fill Teams. Alternate: Dennis Mills 813-996-0381

Contact Operations Committee Chairman, Vincent Rizzo, at 727-372-8648, for coordination of Birthday Teams.

## Happy Birthday to You!

*Following are names of members who have a birthday this month (August).*

Gregory Boden

Robert Dickson

Brandon McCaustland

James Sholan

James Salerno

Chris Janks

Gail Komar

Mark McCoy

Sean Santini

*Happy Birthday and may good health and good fortune shine on you."*

## The Doers

Saturday, August 12, 2006

Tom Eckert, Howard Pike, Don Mann, Don Newberry, Marty VanZanten, Jean Carter, Terry O'Neill, John Eason, Warren Jamison, Sandy Drayer and Alex Watson.



Many Thanks for your labors.

### Saturday, August 19, 2006

Warren Jamison, Vince Rizzo, Terry O'Neill, Don Mann, Tom Eckert, Chuck Analetto, Marty VanZanten, Bill Donati, Chris Janks, Sandy Drayer, Alex Watson, James Salerno, Howard Pike, Dolores Pike, Jean Carter, Mark Zielinski and Tony Windsor.

This really was a hard working day. Three steel track panels and one regular track panel had to be installed. During all this, there were two Birthday Runs done.

Our champions, Dolores Pike and Don Mann had hot dogs on the grill and other goodies ready to feed the starving troops. Thanks to all. This really shows what determination can accomplish.

## Family Participation

Behind the table in Caption 1, shows the Woodbury Family. The lady in front of the table is a customer looking over the merchandise in our Store.

In the rear row, behind the table – left to right, Grandad David, Kyle and Kamron. In the front row, Mom-Kelly, Athena and Dad-Alan.

Alan is in charge of the 'Store' and does very well during run days. The rest of the family help out with the Store and the railroad.

We are very fortunate to have this wonderful family as members of our railroad.



Caption 1

*Note: Thanks to Chuck Analetto for whispering in my ear to put a picture of the Woodbury Family in the Signal Tower. Editor*

## Fifth Saturday

Caption 2 shows members and guests enjoying Dolores Pike's delicious lunch during the Fifth Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, outing.



Caption 2

## MISTOOKS (Mistakes)

What a mistook there was in last month's newsletter. In big bold letters the words "Now Hear This" were written as "Now Here This". There is no way your editor can make a mistook like that. He is not smart enough.

So I went and kicked the computer for making the error. I learned that whirling dervisher computer a thing or two!!!!!!

## Angie's Corner



God Bless,  
See you next time, Angie

