

# THE SIGNAL TOWER

The Newsletter of the Largo Central Railroad

P. O. Box 823

Largo, FL 33779-0823

Club Telephone: 727-585-9835

Website: [www.lcrailroad.com](http://www.lcrailroad.com)

Webmaster: Terry O'Neill

Managing Editor: Angelo Cantalupo

Email: [angac2723@gate.net](mailto:angac2723@gate.net)

Telephone 727-531-8651

Production Consultant: Bruce Teerlink

[bteerlin@bellsouth.net](mailto:bteerlin@bellsouth.net)



June 2006

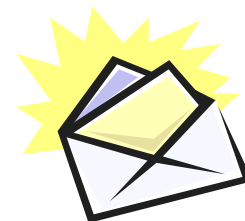
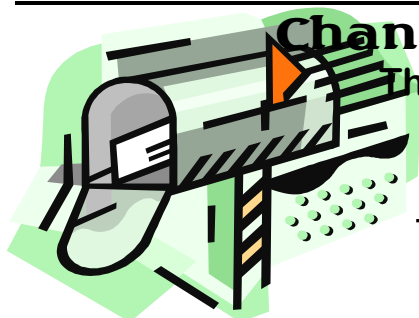
## Change of LCRR Mailing Address

The mailing address for the club is now:

**P.O. Box 823**

**Largo, FL 33779-0823**

This change was effective on June 5, 2006



## President's Message

Greetings!

It is hard to believe that over one half of 2006 has slipped by us and in about three weeks (Angie calls it the 'time warp zone') it will be Christmas. The only thing we can do is to accelerate the things we have to do.

As you can see from the newsletter heading, we have a new address. After over ten years, some changes will be forthcoming. Change is also an anomaly of life. The older you get, the harder it is to accept changes. The problem is if you do not change with the times you will be left by the wayside. Just ask the old car mechanic or the old radio man who couldn't take the changes to fathom television. Many people fall by the wayside every day because we are in a new world of computers. Who knows what else is to come.

So, if you are one of those who complain about changes, remember, they are inevitable.

*Don Newberry*

President

## Mark Your Calendar

**Saturday — July 29, 2006** is the 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday in July. We all know it is our family fun day and all members from other clubs are invited. As a matter of fact, the Florida Live Steamers are holding their Board of Director's meeting in our clubhouse. We welcome them and members of the Florida Live Steamers to come out and run the rails.

Greg Boden will be working up the "Card Order Run" and it will be a little tougher this time. He will need all the help he can get including rolling stock. Please call him now and not the last minute to volunteer or for any other

information about the run. Greg's number is 727-947-4456. This gig is going to take some work to make it a success.

We will also need volunteers to help with the food. There will be more on this at our next membership meeting.

**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.

## Secretary's Report

3 June 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 deferred until the Treasurer completes a reconciliation of the books.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** The following items of new business were brought before the membership:

1. Terry O'Neill reported on the purchase and trade in of old trucks. To date, 12 new sets of trucks with brakes have been purchased through the efforts of Jere Wendt for a total cost of \$3600.00. These trucks will be picked up and delivered by Jere when he returns.

2. Motion by Jerry Smithson, second by Angie to establish a line of credit of \$8,000.00 for maintenance and repair of cars and equipment through 31 Dec 2006. Carried.
3. Discussed the need for rail and use of FLS die. Warren Jamison will check on costs and report by next meeting.
4. There is a chance of getting a 30 x 43 x by 18 foot high building from the city. More on this later.
5. Bill Donati suggested a "Friends of the Railroad Day". It was decided to be Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>.
6. Bill Donati also suggested a T-rider car for use in an advertising program. This project was approved and authorized by the BOD. George Taylor also discussed raising funds through grants. He will look into the possibilities and report back.
7. Fifth Saturday fun weekend will include another Card Order Run. FLS will have their meeting here in our clubhouse, so there is the possibility of visitors from other tracks.
8. Wally Hebel announced his resignation for personal reasons as Treasurer. It was accepted by the Board of Directors. Jean Carter was appointed Interim Treasurer until the general election in December.
9. Membership Chair, Jean Carter, announced the following new members eligible for full membership: Mary Brady-O'Neill, Chuck Analetto, Alan Woodbury, David Woodbury, Eric Amaral, Chris Janks, Cole Schleper (Roebing NJ, ) Charles Brilliant (Associate Member).
10. Dolores Pike stated she had reserved the Cultural Center for the Meet Banquet. Meet chair, Ralph Tucker, has planned for dinner at the feed store. They will get together to resolve this issue.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

*Alex Watson*  
Secretary

## Thanks

We extend a special thanks to member Nick Damalos and his family for their generosity by donating two T Cars to the club. I also heard mention, Nick was going to donate three or four sets of new trucks to the club.

When you consider that Nick also donated two containers for storing our rolling stock, we sure owe him a debt of gratitude. Next time you see Nick, give him a hearty handshake and say, Thanks.

## TRAIN MOUNTAIN

Following are members who are attending the Meet at Train Mountain in Oregon: Jerry Smithson, Jere Wendt, Bill Donati, Bruce and Shirley Teerlink, Chuck Hackett, Bob and Andrew Habasevich, and our good friends Jeff and Richard Dute.

Make sure you wear your blue shirts to let the West know that the East also has a great railroad – **Largo Central Railroad** – have a great trip!!

## NOW HEAR THIS!

I now have to write about a subject that really puts me in a sad state. Since I only see the 'good' in people, I cannot believe that a person or persons have deliberately taken things from our club. I always come up with, maybe it was misplaced or someone borrowed it and forgot to bring it back, etc.

Following are items that have been reported missing:

1. Nick Damalos reports four sets of new trucks and his toolbox with all his tools — missing.
2. Terry O'Neill reports a box of Clippard fittings and hose lines for our air brake systems — missing.
3. Couplers and safety chains seem to just evaporate.
4. Two sets of track panels with switches have disappeared.

Please, if you have any information where the above items may be, let us know. By the same token, make sure you do not leave any tools or valuables around. Lock everything up.

## Email

*Submitted by Ed King*

Ladeez and Gents:

I commend to you a new book just out called "Dow's Dictionary of Railroad Quotations". Andrew Dow is an Englishman whose notable earlier work was "Norfolk and Western Coal Cars".

Andrew has compiled literally thousands of rail quotations from around the world. The most frequently quoted person, though, is an American.

This is one of the most entertaining rail books ever published, and fills a void that we didn't know existed.

I got mine day before yesterday, and I've gotten through the "C"s (they're listed by subject). The authors are listed in the index.

It's a great book! *Ed King*

**Editor's Note:** Ed informed me that the late David P. Morgan, who was editor of "Trains" magazine is the American who has the most quotes in the book.

The book can be purchased at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) on the web. Thanks Ed.

# Happy Birthday to You!

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

Charlie Bellizzi	Dolores Pike
Mary Brady-O'Neill	Bruce Saylor
Robert Conkle	Dr. Raymond Schwenke
Tom Eckert	Don Newberry
John Egan	Kyle Woodbury
Judi Habasevich	Lottie Ruper

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



## For Sale

The motorman in the above caption is none other than our Marty VanZanten. Marty has just acquired a steam locomotive and wishes to sell his trolley. The trolley was built by Roll Models Inc. and is a "Gas Light" model. Roll Models is still in business and going strong. They advertise in Live Steam magazine.

Marty has kept this machine in immaculate condition. Your editor has been in the electrical and electronics field most of his life and can tell you this is a well made trolley. The electrical wiring, components and mechanical equipment is top notch industrial grade. It is really smooth running and a big hit during our Public Run Days. Marty has documentation on the electrical and mechanical workings of the trolley. The top half can be removed for transporting the trolley in a van. Two deep cycle batteries are included.

If interested, please contact Marty VanZanten at 727-938-6248 or his home address, 4048 Ligustrum Drive, Palm Harbor, FL 34685.

## PUBLIC RUN TALLY

Saturday, June 3, 2006 – 1,319 passengers were given rides.

Sunday, June 4, 2006 – 1,328 passengers were given rides.

## NOTICE

There will be no smoking in the clubhouse.

## Public Run Weekend

Saturday..... July 1, 2006

Sunday.....July 2, 2006

## Membership Meeting:...

July 1, 2006 after the Public Run

## Birthday Runs for July 2006

July 8<sup>th</sup>, Saturday

Morning: 9:45 to 11:45 AM

Afternoon: 3:00 to 4:00 PM

July 9<sup>th</sup>, Sunday

Open Team 4

July 15<sup>th</sup>, Saturday

Morning: 10:30 to 11:30 AM

July 16<sup>th</sup>, Sunday

Open.....Team 1

July 22<sup>th</sup>, Saturday

Morning: 10:30 to 11:30 AM

July 23<sup>th</sup>, Sunday

Open.....Team 2

July 29<sup>th</sup> Saturday

**LCRR FUN RUN DAY**

July 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday

Open Team 3

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

## More Teams Are Needed!!!

Volunteers for the Birthday Run Teams are as follows:

**Team 1:** Angie Cantalupo, Alex Watson, John Ruper

**Team 2:** Chris Janks, Bob Wolf

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

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

**Team 5:** NONE

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

We are still in desperate need of volunteers to fill all Teams.

Alternate: Dennis Mills 813-996-0381

### **Note from Treasurer:**

On the desk, in the clubhouse, are forms to be used when a purchase is made for reimbursement. Complete the form and attach the sales receipt. Put this in the **Receipt Folder**. – Do this as soon as possible after the purchase. For more information, contact Jean Carter, Treasurer.

## **WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**THANK YOU** to the following dedicated members who came in and worked during our Saturdays.

### **Saturday, May 27, 2006:**

Chris Janks, Eric Amaral, Chuck Analetto, Bill Boyd, Alex Watson, John Eason, Sandy Drayer, Howard Pike, Tom Eckert, Terry O'Neill, Don Newberry, Jean Carter, Alan Woodbury and Kyle Woodbury.

### **Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006**

Don Newberry, Tom Eckert, Bill Boyd, Jean Carter, John Eason, Alan Woodbury, Kyle Woodbury, Kameron Woodbury, Howard Pike, Vince Rizzo, Terry O'Neill, Chris Janks, Bill Donati, Bill Boyd and Warren Jamison.

### **Saturday, June 17, 2006**

Terry O'Neill, Bill Boyd, Eric Amaral, Gail Komar, Chris Janks, John Eason, Alex Watson, Marty VanZanten, Alan Woodbury, Kyle Woodbury, Athena Woodbury, Kameron Woodbury, David Woodbury, Jean Carter, Bill Donati, Warren Jamison, Tom Eckert, Tony Windsor, Victoria Santini and Sean Santini.

Our younger members helped dig the trench for the replacement of the number one track at the station. Thanks to Kyle Woodbury, Athena Woodbury, Kameron Woodbury, Victoria Santini and Sean Santini – Well done.

## **Submarines**

**W**hat do submarines have to do with trains? I do not know. Keep reading and you will see what all of this is about. I wrote a similar article way back in 1999 in one of our Signal Towers.

OK – here goes. The “Silent Service” during World War II comprised less than 2 percent of the U.S. Navy. Really, a small group of daring and dedicated men.

About 7% of our membership are submariners from World War II and later years. Following is a listing of their names: Chuck Lisner, Howard Pike, John Beard, Jack Outlaw, Wally Hebel, Joe Rosati and a Captain of a Sub whose first name I only remember – Carl.

The last two names, Joe Rosati and Carl are no longer members. They probably figured out that the only thing a submarine or a train have in common is *‘they go somewhere’*.

And so it was during a war patrol of the SS-334 Cabezon comes this story of Seaman, Howard Pike.

During World War II, Howard belonged to an elite group of men called, “Submariners”. Even then he had great ideas. One idea was going to revolutionize submarine warfare. He asked permission to see the Captain as this idea had to go COM-SUB-PAC. Howard conceived a plan to couple 3 or 4 submarines together as though they were a train. The lead submarine would contain the crew and the other subs were spares. When the lead sub became damaged in battle, the crew would transfer to a spare sub, uncouple the damaged one and go back to fight another day.

The day arrived when the Captain decided to listen to the crew's requests. By the time Howard's turn came up, the “old man” was in a bad mood after listening to half a dozen sailors wanting transfers because the cook doesn't make the rice pudding sweet enough. He listened to Howard and his mood changed slightly. “Sailor”, the Captain remarked, “Your plan has some merit. Just how do you propose to get the crew to the spare submarine?” “Easy”. Howard replied, “just open the hatch, pinch your nose and walk over to the other sub”. There was a clink clank noise as the Captain's pipe rolled on the steel deck because he bit off the stem. The Captain ordered the Executive Officer to escort Howard to the forward torpedo room and send him out, via a torpedo tube, for a long walk and to remind Howard to pinch his nose while he walks around. The Exec dropped to his knees and pleaded with the Captain to change his mind as Howard was the only one on the boat who can brew coffee without it tasting like diesel fuel. Finally, the Captain relented under the conditions that Howard be kept in the galley chained to the coffee pot.

All kidding aside, Howard, you are the best of the best. How many people know about all the modifications and pieces of metal you welded on to our lift, turntable and steaming bays? All of this equipment worked like a charm during our Winter Meet. If you remember, we had some trouble with this equipment during the 1998 meet. We owe a lot to you, Howard. Many, Many, thanks from all of us.

*God Bless,  
See you next time, Angie*

