

THE SIGNAL TOWER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LARGO CENTRAL RAILROAD

P. O. Box 823

Largo, FL 33779-0823

Club Telephone: 727-585-9835

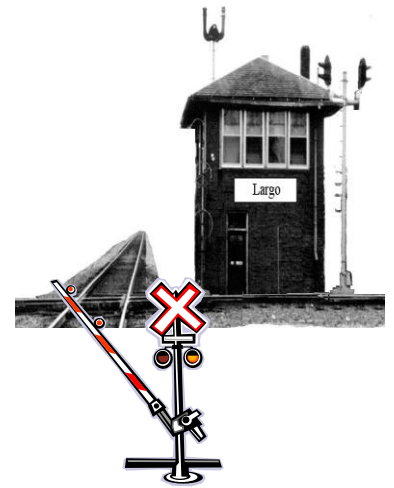
Website: www.lcrailroad.com

Webmaster: Terry O'Neill

Managing Editor: Connie Chichester

Email: freedomconnie@msn.com

Hm.PH: 727.410.5432



January 2012



Happy New Year



President's Message

Greetings,

Happy New Year to all! Many thanks to all for the work accomplished in 2011. Our track is in great shape. With all the work done in 2011, however, more work always seems to show up.

We're in the middle of reconstruction right now and we truly need all the people that we can get! Just like most places it's the few who do most of the work and I can't thank them enough. It would be nice to see some fresh faces out helping the tried and the true – wouldn't it? Thank you for all the help up to this time, each and every one of you are appreciated and valued.

I know we are all looking forward to the Winter Meet coming up real soon in February, so I hope to see many of you there as well.

Thanks to all for keeping our railroad running.
See you at the track

Warren Jamison,
President



LCRR Winter Meet — February 16, 17 & 18, 2012.

Help will be needed to ensure our guests have a good time. Please sign up to help out - there is a worksheet in the clubhouse for this purpose or call one of the officers and let them know you want to help.

LCRR Board Meeting

Board Meeting Friday, February 3, 2012 at 7:30 PM.

LCRR Membership Meeting

Saturday, February 4, 2012 after the Public Run

2012 LCRR Officers

President:	Warren Jamison
Vice President:	James Salerno
Secretary:	Marty Van Zanten
Treasurer	Jean Carter

Board of Directors:

Alan Clark	Chris Janks
David Hull	Tom Eckert
Don Mann	



Now Hear This!

2012 Florida Live Steamers Winter Meet Schedule

NEFLS	February 3 to 5, 2012
Big Boots & Western	February 6 to 12, 2012
Central Pasco & Gulf RR	February 10 to 15, 2012
Largo Central RR	February 16 to 18, 2012
Manatee Central RR	February 19 to 22, 2012
Tradewinds & Atlantic RR	February 17 to 18, 2012
Ridge Live Steamers*	February 22 to 26, 2012
*Banquet at Dundee Center, Saturday, February 25, 2012	

Happy Birthday to You!

January 2012 Birthdays

Doug Fulthorpe	George Robert
Matt Wolf	Don Mann
James Reid	



February 2012 Birthdays

Paula Cary	William Donati
Sanford Drayer	Raymond Egerton
David Hull	Kay Lawrence
Matthew Lawrence	Chuck Lisner
Charles Lyon	Jackson Outlaw
Pat Watson	David Woodbury

Happy Birthday! May your day be filled with sunshine and smiles, laughter and love.

A MINUTE FROM THE SECRETARY



The January 7, 2012 meeting was lightly attended, never-the-less, the start of the new year marks the continued progress of the Largo Central Railroad. As you may have noticed, we have a new editor for the Club newsletter. I want to welcome Connie “onboard” and know she will do a great job keeping us informed of the Club’s activities.

During the meeting Warren praised the members for all the work that had been accomplished last year on track replacement. He promised that the end was insight and all our labors on the track will soon be over. I doubt many believed him as the yard rebuild has just begun and looks to be another big project.

Three new members were voted in this month, they are: Jim Gould, William Eernisse and Robert Lang. Welcome to all and glad to have you onboard as well.

Having no other business to bring before you, I will close this message and hope to see you at the track.

Marty

Attention!

Florida Live Steamers’ Dues

The cost has not changed \$14.00 for family membership. Send your dues to Joan Smith, 9111 Erie Lane, Parrish, FL 34219-9049, if you have any questions call Joan, 941-776-2109

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues are now due. You may mail your dues to Largo Central Railroad, Attn: Membership, PO Box 823, Largo, and Florida 33779-0823. To pay dues in person, see Jean Carter.

Regular Member\$25.00
Associate Member\$20.00 <i>must live over 60 miles from track.</i>
\$40.00
Family Membership	
Junior Membership\$15.00

Remember – If dues are not paid by March 1, 2012, your name will be removed from the membership roster.

DOERS



Saturday, January 14, 2012

Chip Sorenson, Don LaPlante, Bill Eernisse, Bob Patrick, David Hull, Alan Isaac, David Langdon, Sandy Drayer, Angelo Cantalupo, Matt & Rodger Bryant, Tom Eckert, James Salerno, Warren Jamison, Chris Janks and Chessie, Yard Superintendent.

Saturday, January 21, 2012

Tom Eckert, Don LaPlante, Alan K Clark, Mark McCoy, Gail Komar, Mark Zielinski, Matt VanZanten, James Salerno, David Hull, David Langdon, Sandy Drayer, Dan Hodgen, Bob Patrick, Alan Isaac and Jean Carter.

Saturday, January 28, 2012

Alex Watson, Dan Hodgen, Alan Isaac, David Hull, Marty VanZanten, Gail Komar, Sandy Drayer, Bob Patrick, Warren Jamison, Chris Janks, Mike Gulino, Donald LaPlante, Bill Larsen, James Salerno and Chessie, Yard Superintendent.

Thanks to all of the above for their hard work to maintain the railroad. Special thanks to our Chef, Chris Janks, for feeding the hardworking members.

You have to shovel coal into a steam engine to make it work – we have to shovel food into the troops to make them work.



Angie's Corner (respectfully remaining) *Railroad Laws to End All Laws*

There is a Kansas law still in existence which reads: "When two trains approach each other at a crossing, they shall both come to a full stop and neither shall start up until the other has gone."

A search through the statue books reveals that this is not the only loony law that applies to the railroader, railway companies and the traveling public. Some of them sound strange but do have a practical purpose – but others are fantastic.

An Indiana law forbids any one to attack a train. Texas has a law against the use of cocoa mats in waiting rooms. In Maryland it is illegal to "knock a train off the tracks." And Alabama solemnly warns "So not shoot at an engine cab." In Rhode Island they're even more particular on this point, proclaiming, "It is unlawful to throw anything at locomotives."

South Dakota frowns upon its citizens placing firecrackers on railway and trolley tracks "especially if you touch a match onto it."

No one may legally show the movie, "The Great Train Robbery" in Montana. Pictures of train holdups are outlawed in that state. Somebody might get ambitious ideas. In some states the law has provided certain privileges for trainmen. For example, in Michigan, train and engine men are allowed to carry blank cartridges.. And in Nebraska trainmen are permitted to go "muskrat hunting." The laws say nothing about the companies' points-of-view in these matters.

Birthday Runs for February 2012

February 11 Saturday

Morning Shelter 1	9:30 to 10:30 AM
Morning	11:00 to 12:00 PM
Afternoon	2:30 to 3:30 PM
Afternoon Shelter 1	4:00 to 5:00 PM



February 25, Saturday

Morning	Open
Afternoon	Open

February 28, Saturday (Winter Meet)

January Birthday Runs

- 1/14 Four Birthdays
- 1/21 Three Birthdays
- 1/28 Touch-A-Truck

Louisiana feels strongly about the matter of cuspidors. A state law decrees that every depot shall be equipped with such a receptacle. (A tobacco-chewing senator or two must have felt the great public need for this one.) And in Texas the law says that there must be a cuspidor for every three seats in parlor cars and one for every two seats in the smoker. Also in Texas the dressing rooms must have signs, coaches must be fumigated if germs are found, and blankets washed every ninety days.

A Los Angeles law prohibits "firing on jackrabbits from the rear platform of a train," and Idaho protects game birds with a similar law – but they neglect to say a single word in the jackrabbit's behalf.

Connecticut law frowns upon any one who lends a handcar to a friend, or anyone who leaves a handcar on the highway.

Pennsylvania says it is illegal for a railroad to haul any vehicle except railway cars. Rhode Island has made it a crime to run a passenger coach between the locomotive and a carload of dirt. Railroad laws can be somewhat

contradictory from state to state. No Iowa state official is allowed to accept a railroad pass. On the other hand, New Jersey railroads *must carry* many officials free: the /governor game commissioners, prison inspectors, and about fifty other people.

In Mississippi any conductor who puts a passenger into the wrong compartment can be fined \$500. A conductor can go to jail in Minnesota if he doesn't eject a swindler or arrest a gambler on sight. And in Idaho there is a penalty for the conductor if he doesn't telephone ahead when his train is late.

In Alabama it is unlawful for anyone to apply for freight cars unless the applicant intends to use them.

"Prize packages may not be sold on trains," states a Nebraska law. Texas prohibits dry cleaning on trains. In Michigan, passengers who have been exposed to certain diseases have to be disinfected.

The law makers' haven't overlooked a bet. They've covered about every possibility on a train from caboose to cow-catcher.

In Arkansas no railroad company is allowed to let Russian thistles or Johnson grass go to seed on its right-of-way. It's a crime in Mississippi to soap railroad tracks, and in Alabama you are not allowed to put salt on tracks.

If you spot anyone carrying opium on a train in Illinois and don't report it you are liable to a fine of \$5000. If an unauthorized person uncouples a train in Iowa, he can be made to pay a fine of \$1000.

Railroad trestles in Montana are required by law to have sidewalks for cattle, Arizona has a law that is humane in intent: "Any train that is flagged in a desert must stop and give water to any person who needs it, "Florida trains must stop for a doctor at any place that he cares to get on or off, Alabama's citizens are not allowed to wave at a train with a red flag or a light if there is no danger present.

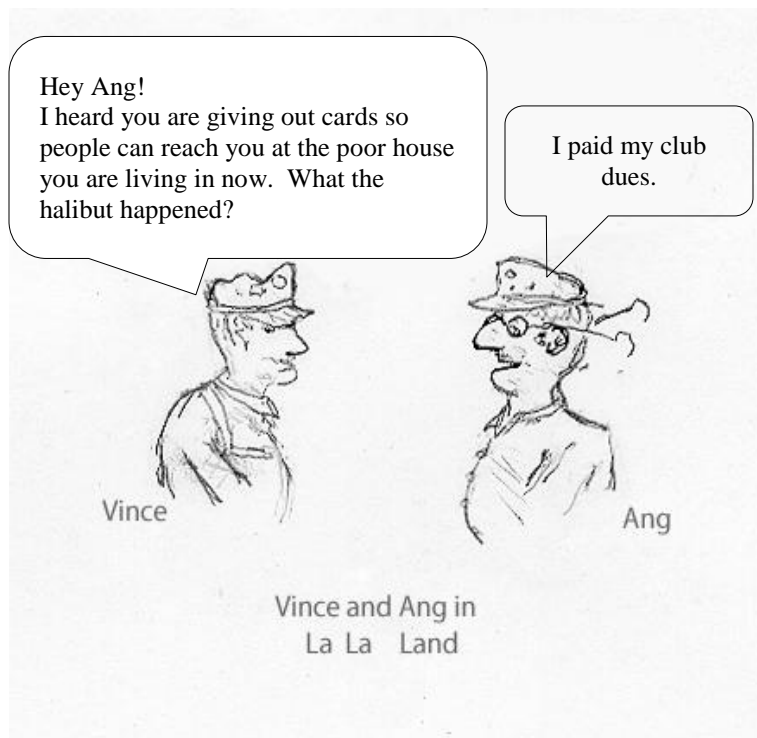
There are many, many other strange railway laws. Some of them make one wonder why any law-making body bothered their heads about the matter. One example is the Minnesota code which declares, "A railroad car is a building." And who would think Montana would find it necessary to legislate that "Children cannot be employed to run trains."

The law that just about tops them all is one that was enforced in Washington state in the early days (and it has never been removed from the books); "A dog shall be carried on the cowcatcher of all trains. The dog is necessary to put to flight cattle obstructing to track." The old Walla Walla and Columbia roads were the only ones that ever complied.

Public Run Tally for January

Saturday, January 7, 2011, ___passengers were given rides.

Sunday, January 8, 2011, ___passengers were given rides



God Bless,!
See you next time, CC

