

# THE SIGNAL TOWER

The Newsletter of the Largo Central Railroad

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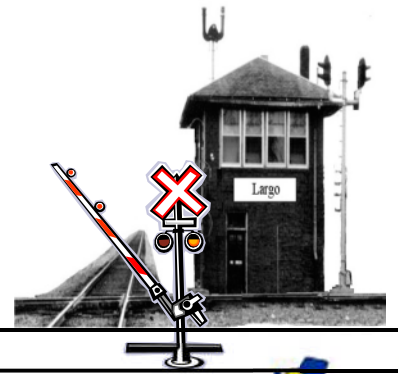
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November 2010



## Happy Thanksgiving



### President's Message

Greetings,

Anyone know where the year went? Here we are, the Annual Membership Meeting is coming up and the new officers of the club will be announced. There will be no surprises here. December 4<sup>th</sup>, our Saturday Public Run Day, is going to be very busy indeed. Angie, will cue you in on that.

We have purchased 4000 feet of rail. Purchase of ties will be next. The yard leads to the mainline will be next on the agenda. After that, we will tackle the yard. It never ends!

I want to thank all for your help and hope you have the best Thanksgiving ever.

See you at the track

*Warren Jamison,*  
President

### Mark Your Calendar



### Now Hear This!

December 4, 2010 is a Public Run Day loaded with other events to take place.

1. Ballots will be available for voting until 12:00 Noon. Remember to vote if you have not sent in a ballot by mail.
2. A Santa Clause tent will be setup to give kids candy.
3. After the Public Run, the Annual Membership Meeting will be held in the clubhouse. The new officers for 2011 will be announced.
4. After the meeting, Dinner will be served at the Feed Store. Members are to bring dessert. Members who wish to participate in the gift exchange will need to bring a gag gift, costing no more than 2 to 3 dollars. Gift exchange will be after dinner.
5. After dinner and clean up, trains will be decorated for the Christmas Night Run starting about 6:30 PM. The short loop will be used as there will be many people in the park. No public passengers will be given rides only

member designated passengers will ride on trains. Release forms will have to be filled out as needed for guests.

No open flame lanterns are allowed.

### Board Meeting

December 3, 2010 at 7:30 PM

### Annual Membership Meeting

December 4, 2010 after the Public Run

### A Communiqué from Bill Donati Central Pasco & Gulf Railroad

Come and join us for our 3 day Mini Meet, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 26, 27 and 28, 2010. Enjoy the outdoors, the camaraderie, friendship and fun with your family.

Also, enjoy a delicious fish fry dinner on Friday night, November 26<sup>th</sup> at the 'Cody River Café' located close by. The price is very reasonable. After dinner, there will be a Night Run.

See you at the Meet!

*Bill*

[www.cpgrr.org](http://www.cpgrr.org)

### Other Events at Central Pasco & Gulf Railroad.

#### *Christmas Night Run & Train to the North Pole*

**Dec 17** (night run) 6 - 9 PM

**Dec 18** (North Pole to see Santa) 10 AM — 4 PM  
and (night run) 6 — 9 PM

### 2011 Florida Live Steamers Winter Meet Schedule

NEFLS	February 3 to 6, 2011
Mosquito Junction	February 6 to 9, 2011
Big Boots & Western	February 9 to 13, 2011

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**Winter Meet 2011 cont.**

Central Pasco & Gulf RR	February 13 to 16, 2011
Largo Central RR	February 17 to 18, 2011
Manatee Central RR	February 19 to 22, 2011
Tradewinds & Atlantic RR	February 19 to 20, 2011
Ridge Live Steamers*	February 24 to 27, 2011
*Banquet at Dundee Center, Saturday, February 26, 2011	

**Minutes of Membership Meeting  
of Largo Central Railroad, Inc.**

November 6, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 PM by President Jamison.

Minutes from the last meeting were read by Angelo Cantalupo and adjusted. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: We gave 1,633 rides. We are still on track with the budget. Motion made by David Hull to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Dolores Pike. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. 4,000 feet of rail has been delivered.
2. Warren checked about lumber from wholesalers. The quantity that they require for an order is too large for us. Will check other possibilities.
3. Track work in woods is done. Yard lead to mainline is next.
4. Chuck Hackett explained his latest design on his signal system. He will come over on November 20th and try it on isolated track.
5. Child has to be able to support itself or it cannot ride the train.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. We will replace the golf cart and a number of battery operated drill motors.
2. Winter Meet is February 17 and 18, 2011. We will have a cake for the 20th Anniversary of LCRR on February 18, 2011.
3. Christmas Festivities schedule will be on December 4<sup>th</sup>, Public Run Day, and the following will take place: During the day, Santa Clause tent will be set up to give the kids candy. After the Public Run is over, the Annual Membership meeting will take place followed by dinner at the Feed Store. Members who wish to participate in the gift exchange will need to bring a gag gift, costing no more than 2 to 3 dollars. Gift exchange will be after dinner. After dinner, trains will be decorated for the evening Christmas Run. The short loop will be used for running. No passengers except members and their guests. No open flame lanterns are allowed.

James Salerno made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by David Hull. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM.

Angelo Cantalupo for  
Marty van Zanten, Secretary

**Public Run Tally for November**

**Saturday, November 6, 2010,** 1,633 passengers were given rides.

**Sunday, November 7, 2010,** 1,562 passengers were given rides.

**5<sup>th</sup> Saturday Festivities**

**October 30, 2010**

It was a great event. Nineteen members showed up and had a great time.

The yard switching contest where cars had to be moved around to make up trains started in the early afternoon. The participants who completed the switching in the shortest time won the prize.

1<sup>st</sup> Team: James Salerno and Mike Gulino – 11 minutes and 52 seconds.

2<sup>nd</sup> Team: Dan Hodgen and Marty Van Zanten – 8 minutes and 46 seconds.

3<sup>rd</sup> Team: David Hull and Tom Eckert – 6 minutes and 8 seconds (Team was given a 90 second penalty.)

Even with the penalty, David Hull and Tom Eckert were the champs. They were each given a club shirt for their prize. James Salerno lost his winning streak. He claimed it was getting too boring winning all the time.

Dinner was served at 4:30 PM followed by a night run.

It was a very enjoyable get together for all.



**Birthday Runs for December 2010**

**December 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

**December 18, Saturday**

Morning	11:00 to 12:00 PM
Afternoon Shelter 1	4:00 to 5:00 PM

**December 25, Saturday**

**Merry Christmas**



*Check the Birthday Run Schedule Board in the Clubhouse for changes or additions*

# Happy Birthday to You!

## December Birthdays

Antonio Damalos                      Nick Damalos  
 David Jahn                              Rafael Quesada  
 Donna Rizzo                            Jerry Smithson  
*Happy Birthday! May good health and good fortune shine on you!*



## Doers

### Saturday, October 23, 2010 - Spooktacular

James Salerno, Alan Isaac, Don Mann, Warren Jamison, David Hall, David Langdon, Dolores Pike and Bill Larson.



### Saturday, November 13, 2010

Don Mann, Vince Rizzo, Alex Watson, Alan Isaac and Chessie, Yard Superintendent.

Many of our members attended the Manatee Fall Meet.

### Election for LCRR Officers

Remember, if you are voting for the 2011 Officers via proxy ballot, they will need to be received by December 2, 2010 as instructed on the ballot. If voting in person, in the clubhouse, on December 4, 2010, you will have until 12:00 Noon to vote.

Below are the candidates on the ballot for 2011 Officers.

#### Officers:

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

#### Board of Directors:

Dan Hodgen	Chris Janks
David Hull	Tom Eckert
Don Mann	Angelo Cantalupo

## Technical Stuff

Does the low oil gas engine shut off stop the engine from running? Good question! Many of us, including myself, figured it shuts off the engine. Not so on all engines as some gas engines will give you a switch



closure; and it is up to the builder of the locomotive to make an alarm for it. A case in point; we had an incident with a 16 Horse Power Briggs & Stratton Vanguard gas engine that powers one of our large locomotives. Member, Dave Langdon, contacted the engine maker and found out the low oil shut off is only a switch closure. You have to supply a trouble light or sound, preferably both, when you have low oil in the engine. The builder of our locomotive did not supply one nor did we know about it.

Dave Langdon is now designing a device to place under the engineer seat that will jettison the seat and engineer straight up about 15 to 20 feet in the air when the low oil signal activates. A kindly gesture to inform the engineer to check the oil level, once in awhile.

## A Paid Political Announcement

Do not vote for Angelo Cantalupo! It is a known fact he steals candy from children, kicks cats and dogs, even horses as they come down the street, is very grumpy and absolutely impossible to get along with. There is also strong suspicions he is the notorious 'Melon Head Bandit' who steals train couplers. Instead, vote for Dan Hodgen, a man of high character who is very reliable and a hard worker. He is well educated and will be a powerful asset to the club.

My name is Warren Jamison, aka Rocky of Gibraltar and I approve of this message. Paid for by *the Lunatic Party of America*.



## MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues are due January 1, 2011. You may mail your dues to Largo Central Railroad, Attn: Membership, PO Box 823, Largo, Florida 33779-0823. To pay dues in person, see Jean Carter.

Regular Member	.....\$25.00
Associate Member	.....\$20.00
Family Membership	.....\$40.00
Junior Membership	.....\$15.00



## Florida Live Steamers' Dues

FLS dues are due January 1, 2011. Contact Joan Smith, 941-776-2109

A porter on a train was asked why rich men usually give smaller tips than poor men. "Well sir", the porter answered, "the rich man doesn't want anybody to know he's rich and the poor man doesn't want anybody to know he's poor".

# ANGIE'S CORNER

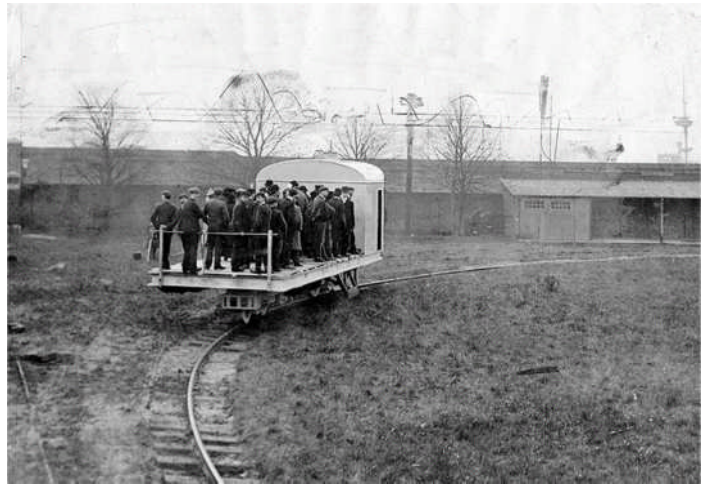
## Guess What?

A new agency is about to be announced to control the type and operation of trains in parks due to mishaps that have happened over the years. I was very fortunate to learn of privy information that is in the works.

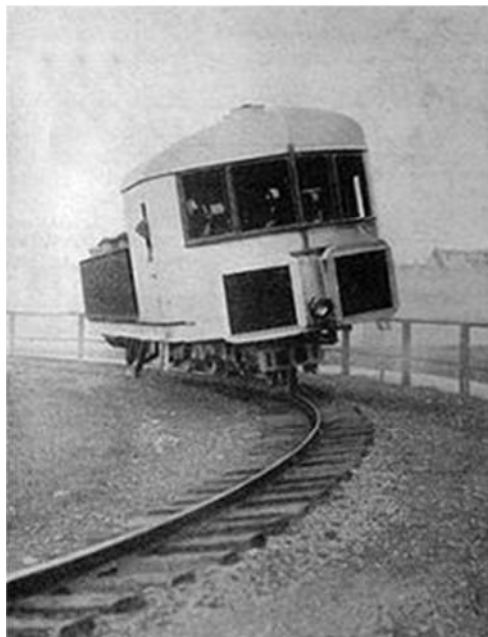
The type of railroad has been decided by the powers to be. It will be a monorail system using one rail as invented by Louis Brennan in the early 1900s. Caption 1 and Caption 2 shows the prototype of the train running on one rail. The operating system of the under carriage will be scaled down to 7 1/2 inch scale.

Visualize a regular T-car with possibly 3 single wheels with a gyroscope on one end and control equipment on the other. They will be in sets of 5 to 6 cars and pulled by a locomotive with a diesel or gas engine driven generator to supply power for traction and power to drive the gyros. Higher voltage will be used to keep the size of copper wire down. New technology will be used for control and safety. If any one gyro should fail, a synchronized chain of events will come into play that will start outriggers coming down to rest on the ground the moment the train stops. This event will keep the cars upright. If the generator set in the locomotive stops for any reason, a battery backup system will operate the outriggers and brakes.

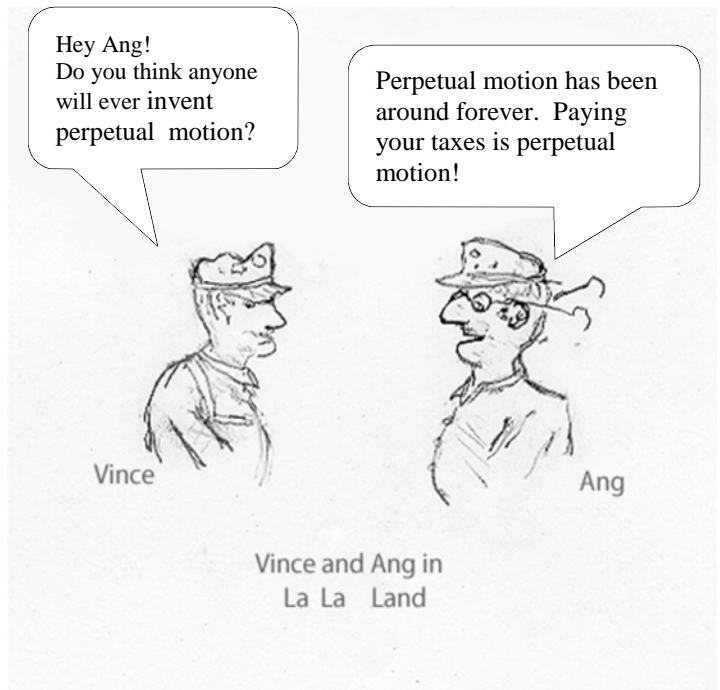
There are other things to work out. I understand a bid is out to build a working system and figure parks will have monorail trains running in two years.



Caption 2



Caption 1



*God Bless,!  
See you next time, Ang*

Hi, Jeanne McNair

