



ORANGE COUNTY MODEL ENGINEERS WEBSITE: www.ocmetrains.org

2011 Year in Review

By Dixon Sheldon

Russ Green made several additions to the Club's assets. The party car was brought to life thanks to several members, but mostly Russ. There are lots of blue wires inside that allow this car to generate many patterns of lights and sounds to please young and old. He made the puzzle that we used during the Spring Meet to find hidden gold somewhere on the property. The kids found the gold. Chuckles' did not get any, although he tried. Russ also made wooden toys for the Spring and Pumpkin Runs. His woodworking skills are great.

Mike Getscher reworked the Chessie and finished the Plum Cove #02. He also made a presentation for new members so they could see what we do and be able to get involved in the Club.

The switchback was completed. We added a section of track to the water tower area so the steamers will be able to get water easier and we can have another path to use on busy days. We added many new sidings which were used by Danny Mouawad with his operational run at the Pumpkin Run (See "Spotlight On. . ." page 4).

During one of the Club's work weekends, we installed several concrete anchors with the help of Ronald Blanchard. Prior to this work being completed, the kids in the neighborhood would place a table on the tracks blocking the station loading track. Now it is easier to set up birthday parties and run days. We had a chili cook-off and a dessert cook-off at the different events. The Pumpkin run made a profit this year with the help of many of our members.

Ronald promised more music from the bridge, well he went out of his way and did it. He was so pleased he was caught dancing to the music. We had a showing from Orangewood. Dave Bowen made repairs to the railings at the station and Bob Brooks replaced the top caps on the trestle. We have gained new members who have added additional labor to our Club. These new members include Tyler Beach, Andrew Chaves, Grant Geiselman, Danny Mouawad, Carol Sequin, her husband Craig Posa and Alex Posa (age 11), Mark Speer IV, Danny Williams, The Wingert Family (Stan, Sharon, Darragh & Keevah.)
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A FIRST CLASS RAILROAD

BY

President Joe Hayes

SANTA'S VILLAGE 2011 OCME CHRISTMAS RUN

If you have been naughty or nice we need your help. We are planning on setting up Santa's village this year. We will need all hands to help out. Carroll's Crafts will be here with decorating ideas to put under your tree. We are planning on a cookie booth so bring your favorite gingerbread cookie ideas to decorate. There will be sugar, gingerbread, and maybe even sugar plums. We may make Chuckles favorite rum balls. If we do, watch out for him on the tracks with his nose in the rocks with a smile on his face. We are asking the Kiwanis to join in on the fun. We have several other booths but these will only appear if you believe. If you have a Christmas costume please dress up. Best costume will win a prize. Any bakers, please give Dixon a call at 1-909-861-8810. We will need cookies, apple cider, apple pies, hot chocolate, and decorating equipment.

OCME 2012 Dues Notice

Your OCME dues are payable in the month of January every year. Please be on the look out for your 2012 Dues Invoice Form in next month's Way Freight. Please be prompt in paying your dues. Your dues and the accompanying form must be filled out and returned to the Club's mail box (the address is on the form) by January 31, 2012 in order that your name and information and picture appear in the OCME 2012 Membership Roster.

2011 O.C.M.E. Board of Directors

President.....Joe Hayes (310) 386-9662
VP-Operations.....Dixon Sheldon (909)861-8810
VP-Facilities.....Myron Peterson (949)494-9655
Treasurer.....Larry Ogle (714) 539-9382
Secretary.....Claire Marsden (714) 457-7160

Appointed Officers:
Mackerel Flats Mercantile Store Co-Mgrs:
Betty Cummings.....*82(714) 979-9390
Janet Trom.....(714) 546-4721

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 3rd. Sat.: Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house. Lunch at meeting. Board Meeting 3:00 PM
December 3rd. Sat.: Special Day 4 NB Police Dep't and Polar Express.
December 17th. - 18th. : Sat. & Sun. : Public Run Weekend 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM
January 7th., 2012 Sat.: Work Day 8:00 AM. General Meeting 12:00 PM - Club house. Lunch at meeting. Board Meeting 3:00 PM
January 28th., 2012 Sat.: OCME's Annual Banquet

THE WAY FREIGHT is published by **ORANGE COUNTY MODEL ENGINEERS, INC. (OCME)**, a non-profit California Corporation which has created **THE MACKEREL FLATS & GOAT HILL JCT. RAILROAD** in Fairview Park, Costa Mesa, California. It is the intent of OCME to educate and enlighten people of all ages in the rich railroad heritage of the United States of America and other parts of the world. As a qualified non-profit organization, all donations are fully tax deductible under IRS ruling 501 (C) (3). Views and opinions expressed in **THE WAY FREIGHT** are not necessarily those of **OCME**. Material for **THE WAY FREIGHT** may be submitted to Bill Pemberton, 2944 Redwood Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92626-3741 or bill.pemberton@ca.rr.com.



{Ed. Note. Danny Mouawad (pictured) did the attached write-up and design of the Pumpkin Run Bi-Directional layout.



On Saturday night of the Pumpkin Patch Run, a group of several other members and I put together a bi-directional run around the tracks. It took me about two to three hours to create this virtual layout of the tracks around OCME (image 1) to dispatch the trains through the very foggy night. On my Windows 98 laptop, I placed this layout on the program "Train Dispatcher 3" by Soft Rail and with Microsoft Notepad took down who was running and what they were running. As the trains called out the locations on the layout, I mirrored their movements on the program, keeping track of where to have meets. The most challenging part for me was the speed of the trains! Yes, they're moving at about 5-10 miles per hour, but with length of our layout it became tough for them to call out all the locations. Overall, it was a fun time for me dispatching, and I've heard only happy feedback from the engineers and conductors that night. This has brought my experience of dispatching to an all new level. I would like to thank all that participated, especially Nick Williams and Doug Maywald, the founders of this bi-directional run.

