



The Mud Ring

The Newsletter of the Cinder Sniffers Inc.
Summer 2008 Issue

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The season has changed and we are in full swing with our run days. So far mother nature has been kind to us with one pretty good day and one fine day. While the crowds haven't been large the enjoyment has. The track is working well except for the occasional stumble with the 3-way switch into Knox yard.

This year has seen a large increase in gas prices. So much so that live steamers are having to consider whether to visit other clubs or tracks or stay home. This is a very personal decision but one many of us will have to consider seriously. At 4.00 dollars a gallon costs soon add up when hauling equipment. We are very fortunate in that we have several excellent tracks within one hundred miles of Cincinnati.

Speaking of Cincinnati, did you know that there was a locomotive builder with that name here in town. I have seen several pictures of small industrial engines with Cincinnati name plates. Does anyone know about the company and where it was located? One engine shown was double ended like a GE 44 ton locomotive with the power unit in one end and the fuel tank etc in the other with a center cab.

Our April meeting was held at the Saager's Kentucky home. The day was fine, the track was working well and the company fine. For those of you who are concerned about such things, the diesel had a mechanical failure. The pull cord on the engine separated. It was easily fixed and to my knowledge there were no pictures of the incident. A complaint was duly recorded with Honda about the quality of their pull cords. This one lasted only 14 years.

Please remember... Safety First

Recently there was an unusual road accident involving a train engine and a bridge abutment with the result that the bridge abutment lost. The accident was due to mechanical problems with the hitch on the trailer. The trailer then parted from the truck and rolled into the bridge abutments. The first abutment stopped the trailer but the engine kept going through 2 more until it ended up supporting the bridge. The amazing thing is that it wasn't a big engine but a small GE 70 ton switcher.

Please remember to tie your equipment down well, especially those who haul engines inside vehicles. Not only engines but riding cars and tool boxes. You don't want to be hit by a 500 lb piece of steel during an accident.

Please be safe

Club Happenings

We are very happy to hear that H. O. Kyler's knee is doing well. We are looking forward to seeing him back to his old active self.

Several members of Cinder Sniffers traveled to Toledo to see the NAMES show. As usual the level of modeling was very high with a variety of topics visible. It would be difficult not to find something of interest. On the railroad topic several items were of interest. Pictures can be found at the back of this issue. The pictures were taken by Tom Tekulve.

Speaking of pictures, you will find some of the April meeting, April run and the May run. Please enjoy.

New Articles

The Mud Ring has not received any submissions in sometime. We are in need of cornerstone articles for our issues. It is better if we receive contributions than have to read my drivel. What may interest the editor may not interest the rest of the club.

The latest item of note is that my old live steam engine has been sold back to the builder's nephew. Unfortunately there are no plans to run the engine at this time. It is to become an air powered display for the new owner.

I have not given up on live steam despite reports to the contrary.

After much deliberation and discussion with the family, I have purchased Bob's engine, Susan. This engine is a workhorse steam engine which has been going strong since the 1960's. So far Susan has attended one run day under my care and ran all day hauling two riding cars and lots of happy people.

Not bad for an old girl. Nice work Bob.

This summer we will be replacing the pumping system for water at the track. Our present system is getting old and unreliable. Ed, Carl and Lou will make the replacement as seamless as possible. Thanks guys.

JUST A REMINDER ...

Our treasurer has reminded me that the payment of dues is past due. If you wish to remain on our active rooster and be able to vote you must be a paid up member. As an aside, with ridership down property taxes going up each year, we rely heavily on our dues to pay the bills. It is my intention to hold dues at the present level for at least one more year.

CHARLOTTE'S PAGE



Denis's stud of 2.5" cars is slowly growing with the addition of a coal car. Certainly gives a nice feel of Colorado railroading with the cars weathered courtesy of mother nature.



John Huijenga of the Indiana Live Steamers takes Denis Lerrick's mogul out for a spin. John can usually found running his own 2.5" scale Heisler with some beautiful West Side Lumber cars behind.

CHARLOTTE'S PAGE (continued)



Jim Geier's Shay simmers in the sun on it's last steam up prior to a trip to California to a new home at the Mojave Transportation Museum. The new owners, Cathy and Al Hansen seem very pleased with her.



Here are two of our members enjoying a ride around the track.

On the left is Steve Chromik, Chief Boiler Inspector and on the right is our frugal Treasurer. Steve with Ed's able assistance revived Jim's Shay.

