

## New Board Members *by Lewis Doherty*



**Matt Anderson**

A life-long railroad enthusiast, Matt Anderson became involved with LASTA in late 2004 when he learned about *SP745's* and its crew's radio troubles during a test run of the locomotive. Matt was successful in solving *SP745's* radio equipment issues prior to the Bicentennial trip. Since then, he has continued to work on expanding and improving LASTA's communication systems.

Eager to participate as part of the crew, Matt has handled

many aspects of maintaining the rolling stock, especially the electrical and electronic systems.

He has also volunteered his time to renovate LASTA's website as well as creating a Twitter account to keep train enthusiasts updated on *SP745* and LASTA events. His long term plans for the website include integrating the site with social media to enhance communications to LASTA members and railfans everywhere.

Matt currently works in the telecommunications industry, providing technical services including wireless data networks for industrial customers as well as tower construction for television and radio stations.

In addition to volunteering with LASTA, he also volunteers as an amateur radio operator, supporting emergency communications during hurricanes and other disasters. During Hurricane Katrina, Matt and other amateur radio operators were instrumental in relaying messages to assist with rescue and operational activities in New Orleans and surrounding areas.