Joint meet with the Golden Gate Live Steamers, the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers and Portola Valley & Alpine at the PV&A club in Portola, California.

The CallBoy

August 2024

Pat Young CallBoy Editor
10349 Glencoe Drive
Cupertino, California, USA
95014

The CallBoy Newsletter

Official Publication of the Golden Gate Live Steamers, Inc.
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Tilden Park 2491 Grizzly Peak Blvd, Orinda, California USA 94563	Pat Young, Editor phty95014@yahoo.com **August 2024**	A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation www.ggls.org or www.goldengatels.org

Board Officers

President:	Jon Sargent	510-233-6481
Vice President:	Rich Croll	510-227-9174
Secretary:	Matt Petach	408-256-2883
Treasurer:	John Lisherness	510-647-8443
Safety:	Jerry Kimberlin	510-809-7326
Director at Large:	Sammy Tamez	510-706-5614
Past President:	Rick Reaves	510-479-3386

Ombudsperson

Lisa Kimberlin 510-214-2595

GGLS Trust Fund Members

John Lisherness
Jerry Kimberlin (elected March 2015)
Sammy Tamez (elected August 2022)

GGLS Committee Chair People

Bits & Pieces:	Jeremy Coombes
Boiler Testing:	Jerry Kimberlin
Building:	Rick Reaves
CallBoy Editor:	Pat Young
Dues:	Lisa Kimberlin
Grounds:	Andy Weber
Landscape:	Jo Ann Miller, Bruce Anderson
Librarian:	Pat Young
Locomotive:	Paul Hirsh
Membership:	Sammy Tamez
Public Train:	Walt Oellerich
Refreshments:	Walt Oellerich
Rolling Stock:	Rich Croll
Security:	Jon Sargent
Shop Foreman:	Rich Croll
Signals:	John Davis
Technical Talks:	Charlie Reiter
Track:	Jim McKibbin
Train Storage Rental:	Jon Sargent
Web Site:	Pat Young

Club Correspondence

All correspondence to the Golden Gate Live Steamers should be sent to the secretary, Matt Petach at this email: secretary@ggls.org

Membership

To qualify for membership, attend 2 monthly meetings. At the first meeting, please introduce yourself and obtain a membership application from the Membership chairman or Secretary. At the second meeting, return your completed application, a signed release form, the yearly prorated club dues, together with the $25 initiation fee and you are officially a member.

CallBoy

Articles, pictures, photographs, items for sale or any other information that would be of interest to the club should be sent to Pat Young, the CallBoy editor at phty95014@yahoo.com

Deadline for submittals to next month's issue is the 19th!

2024 Calendar of Club Sponsored Events

08/11 General Meeting/Board Meeting
08/17 BAEM meeting
08/24 Club reserved for Sammy Tamez

09/08 General Meeting/Board Meeting
09/14 GGLS Fall Meet
09/14 BAEM meeting
09/15 GGLS Fall Meet & Open House
09/28 Club reserved for John Smith

10/12 BAEM meeting
10/13 General Meeting/Board Meeting
10/19 BAEM at Makers Faire, Vallejo, California

11/10 General Meeting/Board Meeting
11/16 BAEM meeting

12/08 General Meeting/Annual Meeting/Board Meeting
12/14 BAEM meeting

Announcements

We are sad to report that Mel McDonough passed away last Wednesday. Bruce noted there will be a family gathering in Healdsburg. There will be a celebration of life at the track in early fall, date to be announced later.

Roots of Motive Power Festival

From Loren Byron

The major steam-up event of the year is the Roots of Motive Power Festival that is being held at 420 East Commercial Street in Willits, California on Saturday & Sunday, September 7 & 8, 2024. The Recreation Grove Park across from the Mendocino County Museum is being reserved for the Early Day Gas Engine Society and Bill Rose's Model A Tour group.

Late Saturday afternoon in the park they will hold the annual Roots Appreciation BBQ & raffle which has become legendary among the gourmet BBQ set where the smell of whole pigs roasting on the spit usually draws a huge crowd.

The Equipment scheduled to run are two steam locomotives, a railroad steam crane, two road rollers and stationary boiler & engines. The big Bucyrus Erie 50B steam shovel should be out digging lots of dirt after 11:00 AM.

The steam-up is free and open to the public, however there is a charge for the BBQ.

For more information, visit their web site at: http://rootsofmotivepower.c Roots of Motive Power Festival om/

The club are considering redoing the inside of the club house's meeting room and would like to gather input and suggestions from members. Contact Secretary Matt Petach (secretary@ggls.org) if you have any input on this.

No more watering is to be done along the Shattock barn/shop area until the new retaining wall is done!

To our Membership:

An incident occurred this last Sunday on July 21, 2024 where a sideswipe incident occurred at the club facility, causing some light damage to two trains, but more importantly resulting in injury to the Public Train engineer.

Here is a preliminary report: the Public Train was running on the outside main with passengers at a safe speed. A member's locomotive operating on the inside loop was running side-by-side in the same direction with the Public Train. On the East side of our property there is a crossover just past the signal bridge and apparently both engineers failed to see that the crossover and probably the signals were set for the engine running on the inside loop to cross over to the outside main loop, causing the incident.

Please, it is everyone's responsibility for the safe operation of your trains. Before proceeding over a turnout or passing a signal, make sure you can stop in time if something goes wrong. A turnout that's not set all the way, set incorrectly or a signal that is not operating correctly can ruin your day. So please try to not run side-by-side ***especially at crossovers*** and if you must do so, please run at a safe, reduced speed.

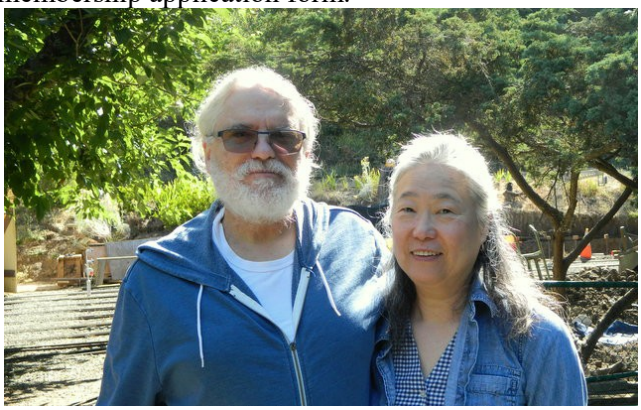
The moral of this story is… "It's so easy to get comfortable when in a routine and mistakes can happen, will happen". We have a great hobby, but paying attention is so very important and is why a railroad's rule book is so thick!

Sincerely,

John Steven Lytle

New Members and Guests

Several potential new members came to pick up a membership application form.



Terrence & Alice Carraher wanted to become new members to run their his & her locomotives.

Victor Rodrigo Ruiz is a classical/jazz person who is generally interested in general knowledge on steam locomotives. He might have a 2.5"gauge locomotive that needs some tender loving care to get operating. Also he is interesting in learning how to scale down drawings and learning basic metal machining. There are many in the club that can help you with this.

Justin Anonuevo came to see what the club was all about. If you have a chance, please give them all a warm GGLS welcome.

Railroading Activities

Many members could not resist the siren whistle call of the 4-8-8-4 Big Boy and went train spotting in Portola California, Oroville, California, Roseville California and other locations that the Big Boy roamed. Many showed their club pride with GGLS apparel.

Rich Croll & Walt Oellerich were at Train Mountain for the Ops Meet. They switched to running it using the Train Game app, and they moved as many cars in one day as they used to do in the whole meet.

Dear live steamer,

The Machinist Group of Northeast Indiana, INC (a 501c) invites you the 2024 Indiana Model Engine Show October 12th & 13th 2024 .

We welcome you as a patron walking through the door, as an exhibitor showing off your project, loco, restoration candidate etc (to be a vendor please consult our website).

As a patron you will see the finest model engines, projects, the best vendors in the hobby and the historic National Auto and Truck Museum (more on our wonderful venue in a minute)

Our new website is https://indianaengineshow.net/ and we will continue to update this along with our Facebook page .

Our Facebook Indiana model engine show can be found at:
https://www.facebook.com/people/indiana-model-engine-show/

Here is a short video of 2023.
https://youtu.be/kK0jCYHWBd0

Our venue is the historic National Auto and Truck Museum (www.natmus.org). This building was once the assembly building for Auburn Cord Duesenberg and is a mere 125 feet across the parking lot from our show. Our model engine show is being held on the museum display floor and all of the historic cars & trucks will be on display for you.

We hope to see you there.
And as always you can contact us with any questions/ concerns/ RSVP indianaengineshow@gmail.com

If a PDF of our flyer is not enclosed, please reply and I will get you that flyer asap. Paper copies can be mailed out upon request.

Thanks,

Aaron

Minutes of the General Meeting

Matt Petach, Jerry Kimberlin, Jon Sargent, Rich Croll and Lisa Kimberlin.
Sammy Tamez was not present when the meeting started, but arrived later. Treasurer John Lisherness & Rick Reaves were absent.

President Jon Sargent called the meeting to order at 1002 hours Pacific time.

Officer Reports:
President: Nothing to report.

Vice President: Rich Croll will be leading another work session on 7/20 from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Secretary: Still trying to get electronic donations working with much help from Lisa Kimberlin.

Treasurer: Not present, but it appears that we still have money.

Ombudsperson: Nothing to report.

Safety: Nothing to report.

Director-at-Large: Nothing to report.

Committee Reports
Buildings: Rick Reaves is absent this month but the buildings are still there.

Grounds: Andy Weber talked to John Smith, our go-to electrician, who will run breakers & conduit for the new electric range in the club house kitchen.

Ground Track: Jim McKibbin reported that we had to replace six lengths of rail that had rotted out by the main station, along with the ties. We need to purchase new rail to replace the stock we used.

And many thanks to Lisa Kimberlin, Jerry Kimberlin, Walt Oellerich, Rich Croll and many others who showed up to help rebuild the track.

High Track: Club is still looking for a chairperson.

Signals: John Davis notes if you see issues with signals, please write them down on the white board in the club house for resolution.

Locomotives: Everything is working. We will see how the new replacement track holds up today.

Rolling Stock: One of our newer cars wore out its wheels where they have lost their wheel profile taper and the flanges have worn thin. And the boxcar's wheel axle behind the locomotive wore completely through. Two new trucks are on their way to replace them.
So be careful in Shattock barn area around the boxcar; it is balanced on a stack of ties at the moment.

Shop: It will be a mess until the Shattock barn retaining wall is done.

Public Train: Walt Oellerich gave a hearty Thank you to everyone who pitched in to get the Public Train track working again!
Walt could also use some help with the weed spraying. And if you can help, you can use his spraying car to spray the tracks. The club also has a backpack sprayer & a handheld sprayer as well for the more remote areas.

Landscape: We have a new fox, skunk & woodpecker added to our list of animals around the track.

Round House & Storage: Nothing to report.

Security: We have a new camera out by Boyers Bluff keeping an eye on equipment out there.

Membership: Sammy will meet with potential members Terrence, Alice, Victor and Justin after the meeting for application distribution & club facility tour.

CallBoy: Please let Pat Young know if you have problems with not getting your online CallBoy newsletter.
Also send your Big Boy photos & articles to Pat for inclusion in The GGLS Big Boy visit report.

Website: Pat noted Sarah has revived the Facebook page; if you have content you would like to post, please send it to her.
And as a perk for being a member in good standing, let Pat know if you would like to reserve the club facility for a private party or gathering.

Library: Nothing to report.

Builders Group: New articles are always very welcome!

Old Business
None.

New Business
New Donation Boxes: Dee asked about getting some new donation boxes made.

Jon adjourned the meeting at 1052 hours Pacific time, and we moved right into Bits and Pieces.

Minutes of the Board Meeting

Officers present: Jon Sargent, Matt Petach, Jerry Kimberlin, Sammy Tamez, Rich Croll & Lisa Kimberlin. John Lisherness & Rick Reaves were absent today.

President Jon Sargent called the meeting to order at 1117 hours Pacific time.

Old Business:
Last Month's Minutes: Jon Sargent presented the minutes from the June 9th 2024 Board meeting for approval. Sammy Tamez made a motion that the board accept them as presented and Jerry Kimberlin seconded the motion. With no abstentions and no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

New Business:
Electronic Photo Frame: Sammy Tamez has an electronic picture frame that flips through photos. We should consider getting some for the meeting room and scanning in our older photos to store in the digital picture frames.

Locomotive Valuation: We discuss what valuation to assign to the 4-4-0 American engine on the bookshelf in the meeting room.

2025 Board Elections: We need to start thinking about Board officer elections & nominations again soon. Can we look at treating vice president position as “president in training”, and look for someone who would rotate into the president position after completing their stint as VP?

Board Member Responsibly document: We will assemble a list of tasks that each officer needs to complete each year and we already have a good document for the Secretary. We should develop a similar document for the Treasurer and other Board members.

Club House Meeting Room Remodeling: We hashed out some ideas for how to restructure the storage & displays inside the meeting room to allow for the display of more material. Matt can send out a blast email asking members for their ideas & input on what should be showcased in the meeting room.

Library Material: Pat has many boxes of back issues of magazines at his house and we should identify a better storage location for them going forward.
Also can we get a member to help out digitizing old, printed back issues of the CallBoy?

Track Rail Purchase: Sammy made a motion to authorize Rich to purchase 20 lengths of rail at $19.50 per rail length from Accucraft. Matt seconded the motion and with no objections & no abstentions, the motion passed unanimously.

Track Ballast Purchase: Rich will work with Rick to transport the rails and will arrange for delivery of another load of ballast.

Replacement Car Trucks: Rich ordered a pair of wheels to fix the one car, but we may need more. Accucraft has metric bore wheels & axles that may be more inexpensive to buy.

Jon adjourned the meeting at 1220 hours Pacific time

Bits and Pieces

By Bruce Anderson & Pat Young

GGLS 1970s member Peter Kane currently lives in Arizona and during this trip to Northern California, he stopped by to drop off a donation for the club. He brought the steam chest & smoke box of a locomotive that member Ken Breneman had been working on. There's a photo of Ken operating a high track steam locomotive on the clubhouse wall. Unfortunately Peter didn't have the time to stick around and visit. Thanks Peter!

Bruce Anderson brought two items to share. First was a new propane hose sporting a Prest-O-Lite (POE) tank fitting. Bruce and his 0-4-0T "Harley" been having challenges with the newer propane tank connectors and their flow limiting device (see May 2024 CallBoy, p. 13).

While knowing the fix, Bruce is changing from a QCC/ACME tank fitting to the POL type. This type of fitting apparently cured a similar issue with a 7½" gauge Daylight back in Tennessee (see www.chaski.org > Live Steam > Propane Problems…HELP!).

Second item shows, Bruce making headway on the Roy Motz vertical boiler. Bruce had noticed a beautiful hardwood included with the kindling Jo Ann Miller had donated for our wood stove. Jo Ann asked her brother and he was kind enough to cut enough purple heart slats, including spares, for the boiler. Knowing that a nylon strap wouldn't hold the lagging long term, Bruce did his first silver brazing in years on copper bands to attach the wood. Multiple holes were drilled for steam out, water in, etc. Because the penetrations were a specific fit, the slats are currently labeled with blue tape outside and carved inside as to their placement order. Step by step...

Our Rolling Stock chairman Rich Croll brought over a truck set that were over ten years old that he took off.

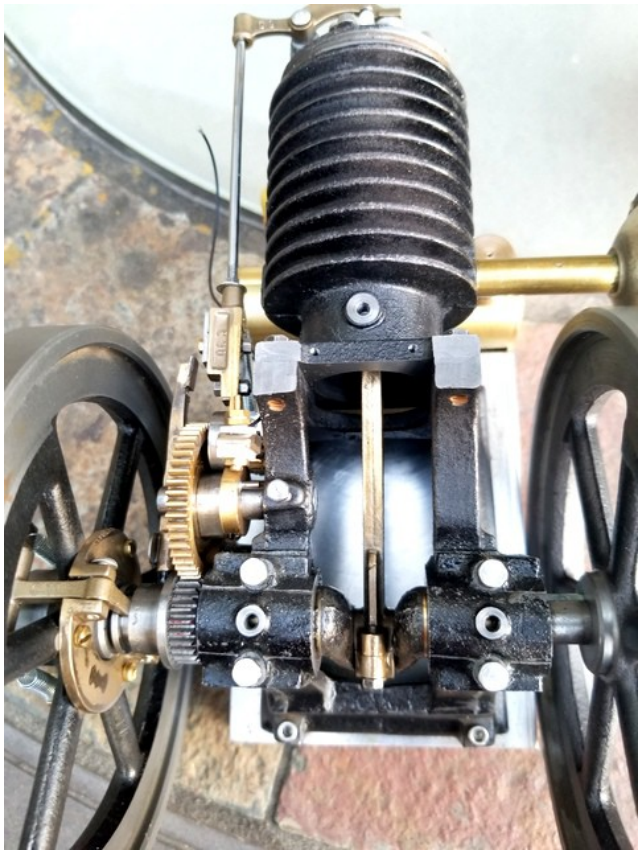
The wear on the end of the axle was so severe that some ends were totally worn thru. Also the tire profile was worn down. The search is on for something more durable.

Junior GGLS member Charlie Bowen was kind enough to share his love of trains by showing two O gauge locomotives, at least one that he rebuilt from a distressed beginning. A very special thank you goes to our Lifetime Member Andy Weber for helping Charlie get building on his new collection with a generous gift of American Flyer / Lionel triple track.

Thank you Andy and we hope to see more of your collection, Charlie.

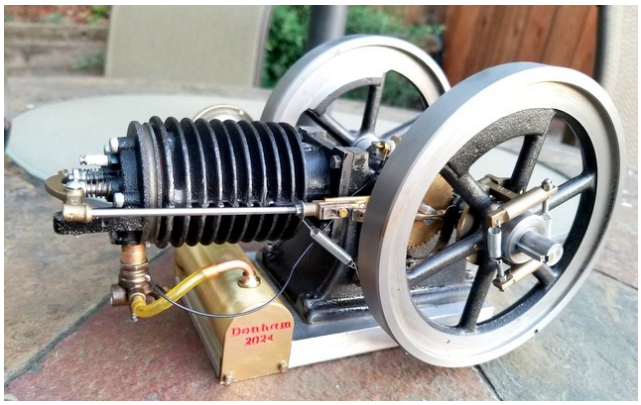
Gade Engine Under Construction

Paul Denham sent some photos of the Gade engine from Martin Models that he is completing. Once again, Paul's craftsmanship is showing and hopefully this model will join his impressive collection of other Internal Combustion (IC) models of his.



"Gade Bros. Manufacturing Co. started business in 1903 and produced some of the first reliable, air cooled, gasoline powered engines for farm use. In 1912 they introduced a small 1½ hp engine, the Model "C", suitable for "small" farms."

"The Gade Uni-flow was considered to be advanced for its time with the extra air port uncovered by the piston at the bottom of the power stroke. You will need a lathe, drill press and mill/shaper to build this fine model. A one quarter scale of the original, the model engine has a 7/8" bore, 1-1/4" inch stroke, and 4-1/2" flywheels. Overall dimensions: 12"L x 6-1/2" W x 5"H on skid. The kit includes 9 iron and 12 lost wax silicon bronze castings (Paul really likes the casting). The castings are very highly detailed and those of cast iron are fully annealed and roto blasted. Also available are a variety of accessory and hardware kits that you may elect to purchase."



More information about the Gade engine casting and other Martin Models products can be found at: https://www.martinmodel.com/collections/model-engine-casting-sets/products/gade-1-hp-engine-casting-set

Educational T-Shirts

By Bruce Anderson

Once upon a time there was a big kid at GGLS by the name of Bruce. This kid admired several projects of Sandy Morris, one of them being a t-shirt for little kids diagramming a steam locomotive. But Bruce was a 2XL kind of kid and the existing shirts were way too small for him. Finally Bruce got his act together and contacted Sandy about making a new t-shirt.

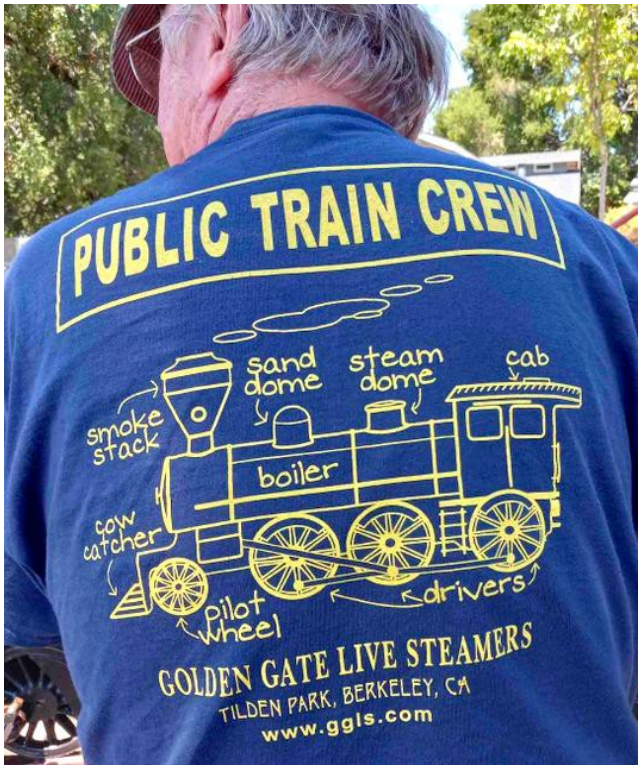


Photo by Dee Murphy

Bruce finally got his shirt and then one day...

A guest asked, “What’s a sand dome for?"
“Good question,” I replied,
"where did you get that from?”
“From the back of your t-shirt,” he responded.

I told those in the station that sand provided extra traction helping a locomotive get going or stop in wet or icy conditions. Of course that question was followed up with,

“What’s the steam dome for?”

“That’s where the hottest and driest steam accumulates in the boiler before entering the cylinders. This gives the locomotive power from the expanding steam while reducing the possibility of hydraulic lock from water that does not compress.”

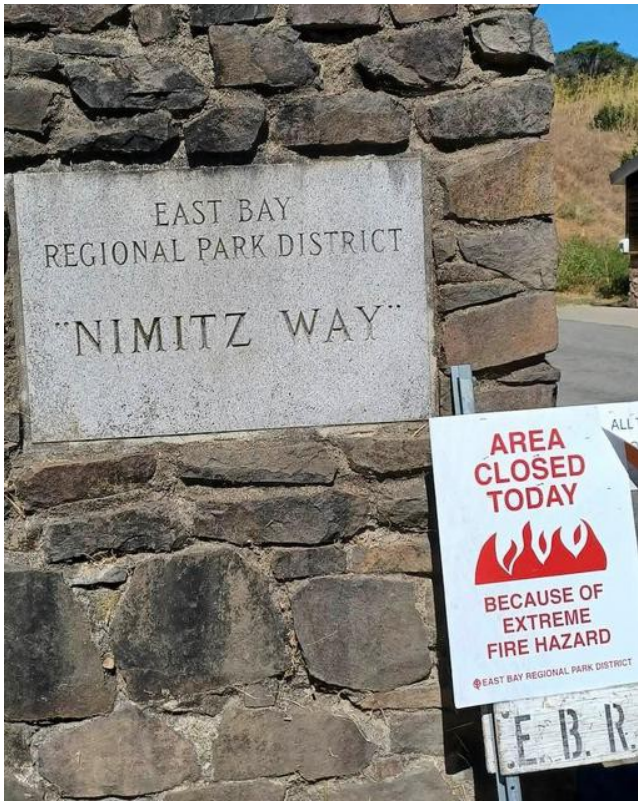
Between the Portola Valley & Alpine Railroad meet, train games at Train Mountain, and school graduations, our Public Train Crew was thin a couple of weeks back so I found myself helping out at the station. It was a beautiful, fun and educational day.

EBRP Wildfire Hazard & Resource Management Plan

by Bruce Anderson

The Fourth Of July weekend just wrapped up and fortunately we survived.

Andy Weber, Jo Ann Miller, Don Ratto, myself and possibly others have been both weed whacking & removing some tree branches. I found myself both a bit bummed as well as jazzed during a recent visit to the track. I was bummed to see tall dry grass growing right up to the road edge of Grizzly Peak Boulevard.



On the same drive though, I was jazzed to discover that East Bay Regional Park had an active wildfire fuel reduction program in action.

Upon returning via South Park Drive, I came across multiple piles of logs and debris less than a mile from our track.

Interesting! That triggered me to explore more of the park. I ended up talking to a ranger at the Inspiration Point parking lot.

Yes there is a lot of fuel but East Bay Regional Parks is actively working the issue.

For more information on the East Bay Regional Parks Fuel Reduction Program, click here: https://www.ebparks.org/wildfire-hazard-reduction-and-resource-management-plan

Emergency Track Work at the Club

From Lisa Kimberlin
Photos from Lisa Kimberlin & Sarah Buhre

Hi,

We didn't run the Public Train today as there were issues with the track. We had to replace a 26-foot section of the main line near track marker 42, in view of the clubhouse slightly around the bend.

Here are a couple of pictures from today:

A pair of 13 ft sections of track replaced with a pair of 10 ft plus a 1 x 6 ft section. They still have some work to do on Thursday.

This is a picture of the bottom of one of the replaced track pieces. It is very corroded with pieces coming off and members out riding yesterday were derailing.

Rich Croll and Jim McKibbin will know more about this if you have any questions.

Regards,
Lisa