



# *The Call Boy*

## Steaming up at the Round House



We don't see any steam yet so it is assumed that these engineers are waiting for the water to boil while they pose for a requested Call Boy cover shot. As payment for this opportunity, these members have volunteered to run for office for 2016. From the left is Mark Johnson, Michael Smith, and Bob Cohen. They have their campaign agenda ready to present to anyone willing to listen. Be sure to cast your vote at the December Meeting! All Aboard!

### Event Calendar

#### December

12/13/15 GGLS Member Meeting  
12/13/15 GGLS Board Meeting  
12/13/15 Annual Election

#### January

01/01/16 New Years Chili Run  
01/10/16 GGLS Member Meeting  
01/10/16 GGLS Board Meeting

#### February

02/14/16 GGLS Member Meeting  
02/14/16 GGLS Board Meeting

#### March

03/13/16 GGLS Member Meeting  
03/13/16 GGLS Board Meeting

#### April

04/10/16 GGLS Member Meeting  
04/10/16 GGLS Board Meeting

# *The Call Boy*

## *Editorial Staff*

Pat Young  
Rick Zobelein

## Officers

*President:*

*Vice President:* Andy Weber

*Secretary:* Pat Young

*Treasurer:* John Lisherness

*Safety:* Michael Smith

*Ombudsman:* Ken Blonski

## GGLS Committee Chairmen

*Track:* Bill Smith

*Engines:* Mark Johnson

*Rolling Stock:* Richard Croll

*Public Train* Richard Croll

*Bits & Pieces:* Sheldon Yee

*Buildings:* Rich Lundberg

*Grounds:* Andy Weber

*Signal System:* Steve Vitkovits

*Boiler Testing:* Jerry Kimberlin

*High Track:* Jeremy Coombs

*Refreshments:* Walt Oellerich

Sheldon Yee

*Technical:* Charlie Reiter

*Round House:* Michael Smith

*Web Page:* Pat Young

*Librarian:* Pat Young

## Membership

Rick Zobelein  
[rgz48@yahoo.com](mailto:rgz48@yahoo.com)

## Call Boy

Articles and photos submitted for insertion in the  
Call Boy should be sent to Pat Young at:

10349 Glencoe Dr., Cupertino, CA 95014  
[phty95014@yahoo.com](mailto:phty95014@yahoo.com)

**Deadline for submittal to next months' issue is  
15th of the month**



## *Announcements*

Member Mark Johnson has graciously agreed to again be chairman of the Engine Committee. Thank you Mark for volunteering.

With increasing dampness at the track, there is less chance of a fire hazard and coal burning locomotives are welcome to run again.

As cold weather is creeping in, the club is now in water shutdown mode. If you don't know how to shut down the club water supply and/or drain the system, contact Andy Weber ([andy@atweber.com](mailto:andy@atweber.com)) for instruction. This is extremely important to prevent frozen/broken plumbing.

A red metal tool box was found on the club grounds a few weeks ago and is now in the clubhouse.

January 1, 2016 is drawing near and everyone is invited to come for the annual Chili Run and share in the festivities. Bring your favorite Chili (or you can use the GGLS recipe) or other items such as corn bread, salad or dessert to add to the holiday spirit. More information coming as January 1st approaches.

**Pay your 2016 membership dues at the December meeting and save \$10.00! "Such a Deal!"**

**Golden Gate Live Steamers**  
a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Educational Museum

Track & Club House Location  
2501 Grizzly Peak Blvd.  
Berkeley, CA, 94708  
510-486-0623  
[www.ggls.org](http://www.ggls.org)

### Club Meeting Minutes

The Club meeting was called to order on November 8, 2015 at 10:03 am by Vice President Andy Weber who took over due to the passing of President Jim Dameron. Attendance of 22+ members on a drizzly day.

### New Members and Guests:

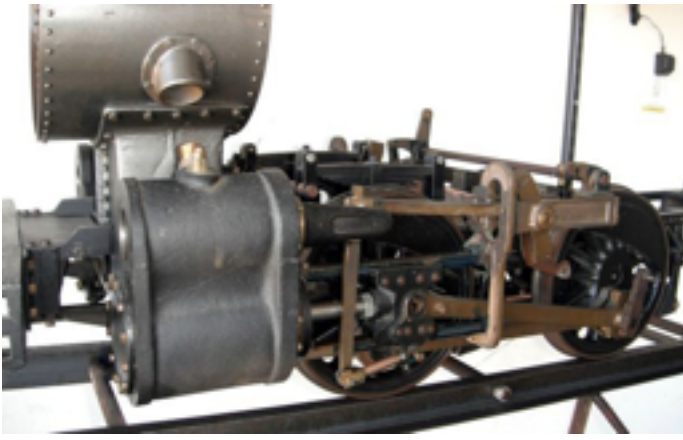
None.

### Steam-related Activities:

Here is an in depth reported from Bruce Anderson on his adventures last month:

*On the line between Bakersfield and Mojave lies the Tehachapi Loop. Opened in 1876 and climbing at a steady 2 percent grade, trains greater than 4,000 feet long pass 77 feet above themselves while making the loop. The line averages 34 freight trains per day. Bruce pulled off the freeway and captured video of two trains making the trek. At the summit of the hillside within the loop lies "The Cross at the Loop" memorializing the loss of two Southern Pacific Railroad employees killed on May 12, 1989 in a train derailment in San Bernardino. A railroad museum stands in the nearby town of Tehachapi.*

*([en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tehachapi\\_Loop](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tehachapi_Loop))*



*Bruce started his adventure heading to Las Vegas with his Little Engines 7 1/2" gauge 0-4-0 saddle tank switcher in tow. He purchased the engine from the Miller family and quickly found himself over his head. Bob Morris suggested former member Jesse Banning could build it for him. Jesse formed Banning Locomotive Works several years ago after his business partner in J.D. Locomotive Works fell thru. Timing was just right as he was wrapping up another job. ([www.banninglocomotiveworks.com](http://www.banninglocomotiveworks.com))*



*Bruce then headed north on Hwy-99 towards Fresno and the Hillcrest Shops located in Reedley, CA. He had learned about this place while noticing a 15" gauge Shay at Redwood Valley. Bruce arrived about 15 minutes before sunset and left about two hours later after a wonderful tour of the facilities. Bruce said, "The Cricket!" as the lights were turned on in the old shop. "Oh, that's just a thing to discourage bats from pooping on our engines at night." "No, 'The Cricket' from Tilden Park," Bruce exclaimed as he hadn't seen the engine in about fifty years. Goosebumps! After that he got the grand tour. Finally it was time to go. Imagine Bruce as a mouse in a maze being unfamiliar with the area with no topographic reference, no sun, and it was raining so no stars either. Yes he stopped at a Police Station of some unknown town to ask for directions but it was closed. ([hillcrestreedley.com/roster-equipment](http://hillcrestreedley.com/roster-equipment)) Bruce eventually made it back to Hwy-99 spent one more night on the road before reporting to The Castle Air Museum Restoration near Merced on Wednesday morning. He then found his way back to the GGLS Meeting held that Sunday."*







About six weeks ago, Michael Smith took his wife on a trip on the Napa Wine Train, enjoyed the great food and the ride on the observation car at night. More information can be found on their web site at [www.winetrain.com/](http://www.winetrain.com/).

### **Committee Reports:**

There was nothing to report from the Buildings, Ground Track, Safety, Web Page, CallBoy, Builders Group committees.

Dan Swanson replaced a green LED on a signal near the top of Heinz Loop that was reported as dim. He has begun to stock pile spare parts for the signal system storage cabinet in preparation for his out-of-state move early next year. Thank you Dan for your foresight on this.

Mel McDonough, our perennial High Track runner, wanted to express his thanks for those leveling the High Track and getting a better ride from his 4-8-4 Northern.

Public Train chairman Rich Croll once again was amazed by the monthly donations from the riders, the great dedication from the Public Train crew and the fun they are having. Please join in, share in the fun and learn how to run a real live steam locomotive. Contact Rich ([railroc@aol.com](mailto:railroc@aol.com)). Walter Ollerich seems to have a knack in getting riders to donate and we appreciate all your & the rest of the Public Train crew.

### **Officer's Report:**

Secretary Pat Young forgot to mention the wonderful lunch prepared by John Smith, George, Danielle & Luca Barrows at the Swap Meet & Recognition Lunch during September at the club. We truly appreciate the lunch and are looking forward on what to do next year for our valued members.

John Lisherness reported that the club treasury had a very large increase due to the proceeds received from the auction of the items bequeathed from the estate of member Stan James. Excess funds to be placed in the GGLS Trust.

### **Old Business:**

Because of the death of Jim Dameron who was running for the office of President, Ombudsman Ken Blonski adjusted the slate for the election of Board members for 2016 as follows:

President:	Mark Johnson Andy Weber
Vice President:	Rich Reaves
Secretary:	Chris Smith
Ombudsman:	Bob Cohen
Safety Chairman:	Michael Smith, Jerry Kimberlin

Although there is at least one candidate for each position, we encourage all eligible members, willing to run, to contact Ken ([kennethblonski@gmail.com](mailto:kennethblonski@gmail.com)) He wants to stress that everyone has the opportunity to run for a position all the way up to, and including, election day at the December meeting.

### **New Business:**

None.

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

The November 8, 2015 Board Meeting began at 11:32 am with Board members Ken Blonski, Rich Lundberg, John Lisherness, Michael Smith, Andy Weber & Pat Young with Bob Cohen, Rich Croll, Mark Johnson, Rick Reaves & Rick Zobelein attending.

### **Old Business:**

None.

### New Business:

Rich Croll requested an allocation of \$5,000 to expand the Public Train fleet by purchasing enough components to assemble 4 new riding cars.

### Bits and Pieces

by Sheldon Yee

## Rules Of The Month

December 2015

By  
Dan Swanson

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### 2011 Safety & Operating Rules

#### Section 3 - Operating Procedures

##### 3.10 Approaching Stopped Trains

*Engines approaching stopped trains in congested traffic shall come to a complete stop at a distance equal to their own stopping distance from the preceding train. After a complete stop the following train may approach the preceding train with caution and at a reduced speed.-*

#### Section 6 - Safety Committee

##### 6.11 Badge of Authority

*The badge of authority of the Safety Committee shall be the red hat. -*

#### Section 7 - Security of Property

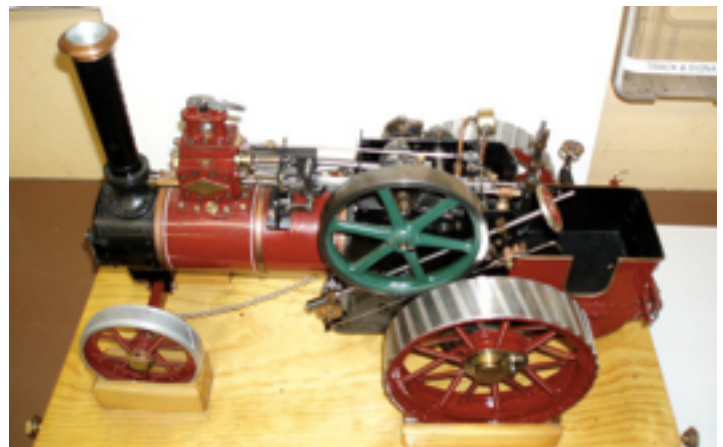
##### 7.01 Protection of GGLS Facilities

*A checklist of procedures for closing down GGLS buildings, operating equipment, and the whole layout area will be posted in at least two locations. The posting includes a list of extra steps in winter months to keep water pipes from freezing.*

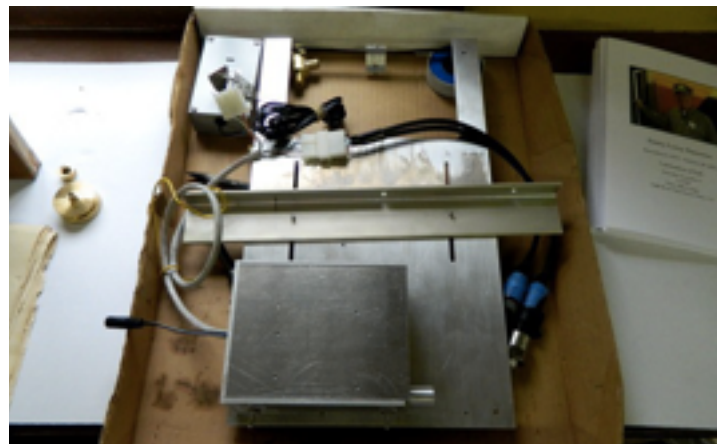
*These procedures may be altered from time-to-time to reflect physical changes of the facility as well as changing needs for the protection of the property. -*



Rich Lundberg - Machined Inlay in Wood -- Brass tools to facilitate cutting an exact profile in wood and an inlay to fit.



Bruce Anderson - 1" scale Steam Tractor - Former Stan James built - with some improvements.



Mike Gershowitz - Electronic PV Indicator - used to plot and make comparisons of measurements of internal and external fitness of models.





Charlie Reiter - Wood blocks used to support lathe chucks when removing same from lathe head. Accidental Split Rod, found use to produce split bearings and a counter bore tool.

### **Memories of Jim Dameron**

By Sandy Morris



Jimmy Leroy Dameron

December 6, 1933 - October 29, 2015

Born on December 6, 1933 in Turlock, California, Jim was the third of seven children. He grew up in Delhi, where he was proud to be an Eagle Scout and a member of the Future Farmer's of America. He passed away at the age of 81 in Tracy.

Jim graduated from Livingston High School in 1951, where he met Carole Hoppman. They married in 1956 and were together for 45 years until Carole passed away in October 2001. During the early years of their marriage they lived in Wurzburg, Germany while Jim was an MP in the US Army. They took advantage of this location and toured throughout Europe in their little VW beetle, the

beginning of many future travels, eventually visiting all seven continents.



Long time residents of Tracy, Jim and Carole moved to Tracy in 1960, where they raised their family. Despite being advised against working for the railroad by a high school counselor ("it is a declining industry"), Jim spent his career with Southern Pacific Railroad. First working as a brakeman, where he was responsible for watching the left side of the engine, keeping water in the boiler and the steam up, working 16 hours days. In 1962 he was promoted to Engineer, mostly on diesel freight. He had the same runs for 44 years and never tired of it. He was active in the union and served as UTU Local Chairman. Later, he would ride on trains all over the world.



An avid fisherman, Jim was passionate about Steel head Salmon fishing, and really enjoyed going on fishing trips.

After retiring, Jim enjoyed part-time work as one of the engineers of the Redwood Valley Railway, in Tilden Park - he was amazed that they paid him for it.

He was fondly known as “Engineer Jim” to many of the regulars who rode the rails with him at Tilden.

During his retirement, Jim enjoyed gardening, sharing the fruits of his labor with family and friends. He also was involved in politics, astronomy, Friday Pinochle games and enjoyed Tuesday Music Concerts at the Tracy Community Center. Jim was an active member of the Tracy Chapter of the Widowed Persons Association of California.



Jim joined the Golden Gate Live Steamers in Tilden Park in Berkeley in 1974 and was the current President of the club. Jim could usually be found at GGLS on Thursdays, a member of the unofficial “Thursday Work Crew”.

## Fall Song

*Another year gone, leaving everywhere its rich spiced residues: vines, leaves, the uneaten fruits crumbling damply in the shadows, unmattering back from the particular island of this summer, this NOW, that now is nowhere except underfoot, moldering in that black subterranean castle of unobservable mysteries - roots and sealed seeds and the wanderings of water. This I try to remember when time's measure painfully chafes, for instance when autumn flares out at the last, boisterous and like us longing to stay - how everything lives, shifting from one bright vision to another, forever in these momentary pastures.*

~Mary Oliver



Jim is survived by three children - Elizabeth and her partner, Rick, Stephen and his wife, Kim, and Jeffrey and his wife Ellen; four grandchildren - Audrey, Austin, Skye, and Ella; three sisters - Doris, Frances, and Bonnie; and his late in life partner, Ethel Christensen. Jim was predeceased by his wife of 45 years, Carole; parents, Lee Roy and Floy Dameron; a brother, Floyd; and his sisters, Hazel and Lois.



### Passing of Jim Hobeck



James Lester Hoback passed away Sunday, October 25th in Sonora Regional Medical Center, Sonora. He was 76.

#### “THE LAST RUN”

I'm sad 'cause my friend  
has come to the end  
of the mainline we all know as 'time'.

He's gone through the bore  
that we all must explore,  
and that's why I've written this rhyme.

I'll never forget  
he first time we met,,  
he was smart and a likeable guy.

Now he's made his last run,  
the very last one,  
on the rails that lead up to the sky.

To a thousand track yard,  
where the work isn't hard,  
and the couplers will grab every time,  
where the pops are all lifting  
on steam engines drifting  
up a maximum 1% climb.

Where no-one's uptight,  
and the boss is polite  
to the hogger as well as the fare.

Where the lifters don't jam,  
and side rods don't slam,

and there's always plenty of air.  
Where the lights up ahead  
will never show red  
"HIGHBALL, they're all wearin' green!"

Where the cab never swerves  
on the three-degree curves,  
'cause the hogs will instinctively lean.

It's where flues never leak,  
and journals don't squeak,  
and the lagging shows nary a dent.

This ditty's for Jim,  
and I'll REALLY miss him,  
but I think we all know where he went.

*Poem by Mark Spencer*

*BTRR*

*Modesto, CA*



Robert Morris “Postwarbob”

internet store

[www.morristrains.com](http://www.morristrains.com)

ebay seller

postwarbob

Facebook

Morris Trains

★ American Flyer

★ Lionel

★ Marx

★ MTH

★ Accessories

★ Books

★ Railroadiana

★ Live Steam

**Train Collection Liquidation - 925-240-9034**



**For Sale**  
**Key System Bridge Unit**  
August 11, 2015



Built by Richard Bartel in 1983, these units are very close to the original units that transported workers and public between San Francisco & Oakland every day. I am proud to offer them for sale since Dick says it's time they go to a new home.

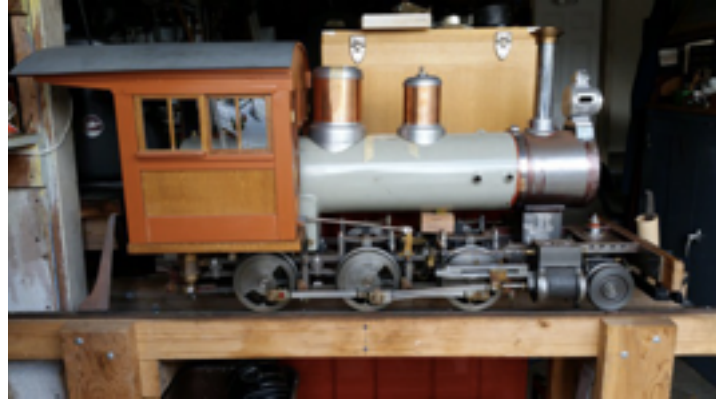


They measure around 14' but break down easily for transport. Included are 2 all steel stands for home storage. They operate on (4) 12-volt batteries which I just replaced. Plus (2) 6-volt batteries which are still good. Also included are 3 battery chargers. The 12-volt chargers do 2 batteries at once. There are (6) 24- volt motors that power these units. It also comes with a mercer flat car with mercer trucks plus 2 boat seats.

**New Lower Price is \$12,500**

I, Bob Morris, can be reached at 925-240-9034 or cell 209-743-1300

**For Sale**  
**Fitchburg Northern 2-6-0 Locomotive**  
August 10, 2015



2.5" scale Allen Models 2-6-0 Fitchburg Northern with Ed Perry Boiler. Tender frame only, with trucks.



Full set of prints \$5,000 Contact Cathrine Dyer at 650-349-9500