



*Public Train RGS #22 with the wreath from the Day of Celebration for Jim Dameron*

# The CallBoy

December 2015

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

# The CallBoy Newsletter

Official Publication of the Golden Gate Live Steamers, Inc.

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**December 2015**

A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Museum  
[www.ggls.org](http://www.ggls.org) or  
[www.goldengateels.org](http://www.goldengateels.org)

## Rules of the Month

## Announcements

### 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. -*

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

With increasing dampness at club club there is a much less chance of a fire hazard at the club and the coal burning locomotives are welcome to run again. And with the cold weather 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 because it is extremely important to do so to prevent water pipe breakage.

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



January 1, 2016 is drawing near and everyone is invited to come and share in the festivities. Come and bring in you favorite Chili or you can use the GGLS house recipe or any other items such as corn bread, salad or any dessert to add to the holiday spirit. More information is coming as January 1 approaches.

## Officers

President:		
Vice President:	Andy Weber	510-523-0628
Secretary:	Pat Young	408-253-1206
Treasurer:	John Lisherness	510-528-3013



Safety: Michael Smith 650-615-0475  
Ombudsman: Ken Blonski 510-260-0309

### **GGLS Trust Fund Members**

John Lisherness (permanent member)  
Rick Zobelein (permanent member)  
Jerry Kimberlin (elected March 2015)

### **GGLS Committee Chair people**

Bits & Pieces:	Sheldon Yee
Boiler Testing:	Jerry Kimberlin
Building:	Rich Lundberg
Grounds:	Andy Weber
High Track:	Jeremy Coombes
Librarian:	Pat Young
Membership:	Rick Zobelein
Public Train:	Rich Croll
Refreshments:	Jim Dameron, Walt Oellerich, Sheldon Yee
Rolling Stock:	Richard Croll
Round House:	Michael Smith
Signals:	Steve Vitkovits
Technical Talks:	Charlie Reiter
Track:	Jim Dameron & Bill Smith
Web Site:	Pat Young & Rick Zobelein

### **Membership**

To qualify for membership, attend 2 monthly meetings. At the first meeting, please introduce yourself and obtain a membership application from Membership chairman Rick Zobelein. At the second meeting, return your completed application and the yearly prorated club dues, together with a the \$25 initiation fee and you're in.

### **Club Correspondence**

All correspondence to the Golden Gate Live Steamers should be sent to the secretary, Pat Young, 10349 Glencoe Drive, Cupertino, California, 95014 or at [phty95014@yahoo.com](mailto:phty95014@yahoo.com).

### **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 interim Editor.

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

### **Calendar of Club Sponsored Events**

12/13/15 Year End Meeting & Elections

01/01/16 New Year Day Chili Run

### **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 with a small 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:

*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 maybe 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 ill. Timing was just right as he was wrapping up another job. If the stars align, the 0-4-0 may debut at the Chili Run. ([www.banninglocomotiveworks.com](http://www.banninglocomotiveworks.com))*

*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 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)

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 Heintz 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 expressed his thanks for 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 donation size from the riders, the great dedication from the Public Train crew and they seem to be having a lot of fun. If you wish to join in, share in the fun or learn how to run a real live steam

locomotive, please feel to 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 on the Swap Meet & Recognition Lunch during the September club. We truly appreciate the lunch prepared 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.

### **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, they encouraged all eligible members, willing to run, to contact them ([kennethblonski@gmail.com](mailto:kennethblonski@gmail.com)) and wants to stress that everyone has the opportunity to run for a position all the way up to election day on 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:**

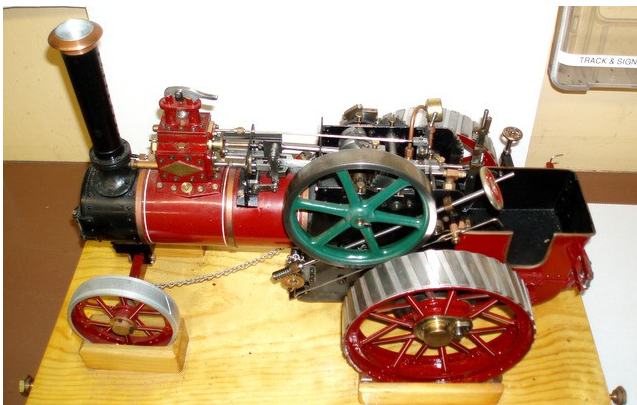
Rich Croll has concluded his investigation on the availability to store more Public Train riding cars. A proposal was made & passed to allocate \$5,000 for Rich to expand the Public Train fleet by purchasing enough components to assemble 4 new riding cars.

### **Bits and Pieces**

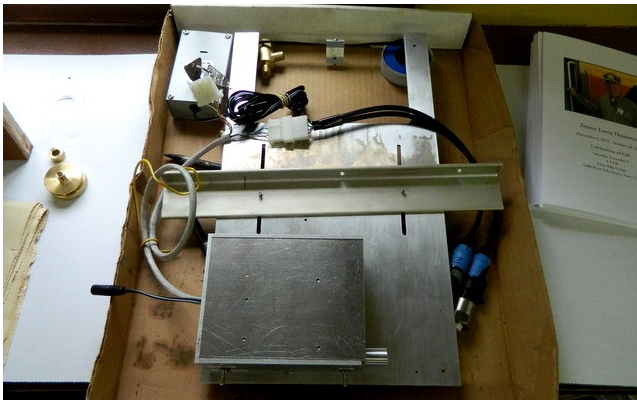
by Sheldon Yee



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.



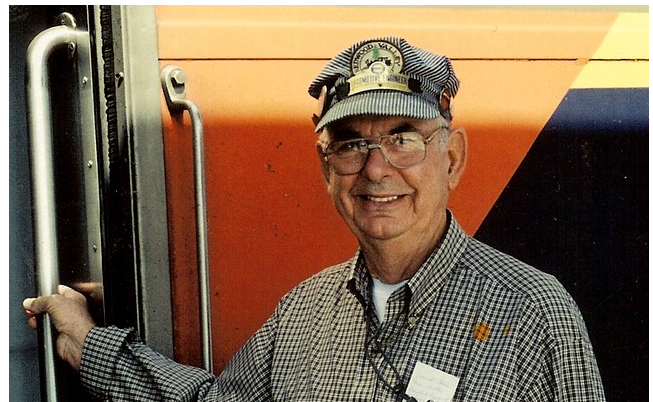
Mike Gershowitz - Electronic PV Indicator - used to plot and make comparisons of measurements of internal and external fitness of models.



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





## Membership and Roundhouse Renewal Notice

It is time to renew your Golden Gate Live Steamers membership and Roundhouse dues for 2016.

Regular Member (lives within 100 miles of club facilities):	
If renewed on or before December 31, 2015	\$ 40
If renewed on or after January 1, 2016	\$ 50
If renewing after March 31, 2016, see note below.	
Associate Member (lives beyond 100 miles from club facilities):	\$ 30
Family Membership:	\$ 60
 Roundhouse dues:	 \$200

Please make the checks out to “**GGLS**” and send them to the following address:

John Lisherness  
801 Contra Costa Dr.  
El Cerrito, CA 94530

If you want a membership card, please include a Stamped, Self-Addressed Envelope.

***If payment is not received by March 31, 2016, your name will be deleted from the club roster and require a \$25 initiation fee to be reinstated.***

The Golden Gate Live Steamers is a 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation.