



*Once again, Armando Epifani is showing his Halloween Spirit by conjuring a dragon/serpent roaming around the miniature town behind the club house. I wonder if the tiny folks are preparing to drive it away.*

# The CallBoy

November 2017

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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Tilden Park 2501 Grizzly Peak Blvd, Berkeley, California, 94708 510-486-0623	Pat Young, interim Editor <a href="mailto:phty95014@yahoo.com">phty95014@yahoo.com</a> <b>November 2017</b>	A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Museum <a href="http://www.ggls.org">www.ggls.org</a> or <a href="http://www.goldengatels.org">www.goldengatels.org</a>
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## Officers

President:	Mark Johnson	510-889-9451
Vice President:	Rick Reaves	510-479-3386
Secretary:	Rich Croll	510-276-3893
Treasurer:	John Lisherness	510-647-8443
Safety:	Jerry Kimberlin	510-232-6721
Ombudsman:	Bob Cohen	510-655-6907

## 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
CallBoy Editors:	Pat Young (printed version), Rick Zobelein (email version)
Engine:	Mark Johnson
Grounds:	Andy Weber
High Track:	Jeremy Coombes
Librarian:	Pat Young
Membership:	Rick Zobelein
Public Train:	Walt Oellerich
Refreshments:	Walt Oellerich, Sheldon Yee
Rolling Stock:	Rich Croll
Round House:	Michael Smith
Signals:	Dan Swanson
Technical Talks:	Charlie Reiter
Track:	John Lytle
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 or contact him at ([rgz48@yahoo.com](mailto:rgz48@yahoo.com)). At the second meeting, return your completed application, the yearly prorated club dues, together with a the \$25 initiation fee and you are officially a member.

## Club Correspondence

All correspondence to the Golden Gate Live Steamers should be sent to the secretary,

## 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 interim CallBoy editor ([phty95014@yahoo.com](mailto:phty95014@yahoo.com)).

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

## Calendar of Club Sponsored Events

11/12/17 General Monthly Meeting/Board Meeting

12/10/17 General Monthly Meeting/Annual Meeting/  
Board Meeting

## Club Meeting Minutes

## General Announcements:

Not mentioned in the October 8, 2017 club meeting, there will be a Member Appreciation Lunch at the November 12, 2017 club meeting.

## New & Returning Members, Visitors, Guests:



President Mark Johnson welcomed back Bob DeWalt after an absence.



### Steam-related Activities:



Bruce Anderson visited the 7½" gauge railroad operations at Truckee and while there he checked out the full size rail operations where the rails have been removed in preparation for new municipal buildings on an expanded turn-around loop.



Ken Blonski spent some time on the SMART system from Santa Rosa-to-San Rafael and was impressed with the system traveling faster than 50 mph & its use by bicyclists. Mark Johnson added that he met some SMART rail workers that were interested in the club and gave them some GGLS business cards to encourage them to join.

### Officers' Report:

**President Mark Johnson:** President Mark Johnson reported a successful Meet on September 23-24. The members from Sacramento Live Steamers present were impressed that we had a good compliment of live steam engines since they had proportionately more gas & electric engines at their meets (Mark counted 26 live steam engines present at our track). The Bay Area Engine Modelers were there on Sunday and added a great display of some masterful machining. He thanked Rick Reaves for providing lunch, a thanks to Sheldon Yee for checking in the locomotives and a special thanks to club members who crewed the two Public Trains & stations on Sunday.

On Thursday the 5th, Mark met with representatives of the East Bay Regional Park District. Dan Sykes, Parkland unit manager, Sergio Huerta, park supervisor

and Grace Mulvihill, Senior office assistant toured the club facilities per their request.



They were pleased with the use of the property including the rebuilding of the Clerici barn and the



new mini barns on the dual gauge steaming bays. They also reaffirmed the Lundberg plans for the shed facility on Boyers bluff. They indicated the parks willingness to help with refurbishing the parking lot & the lettering of the handicap spaces. They asked about 2018 calendar plans and were told that so far, only the New Years Day Chili Run is scheduled for next year.



He thanked David Neal for running the excursion train for the visiting park officials and they enjoyed the ride, exclaiming the buildings are painted the colors of the Southern Pacific!

A report of vandalism & theft was reported during the Fall Meet. Park Police responded they viewed the video & their findings are pending. GGLS cannot tolerate these kind of incidents and if members witness any incidents they should be reported to a Board member or safety official.

See Ombudsman Bob Cohen if there is interest in a GGLS elected office.

When driving a car or truck on the club property you are expected to have a valid drivers license & liability insurance and as always, ***SAFETY FIRST***.



President Mark Johnson gave a thanks to those who fixed the chain link fence bordering the parking lot that was accidentally damaged. Bill Smith, David Neal, Andy Weber and Jerry Kimberlin effected those repairs.

**Vice President:** Vice President Rick Reaves had nothing to report.

**Secretary:** Secretary Richard Croll was absent, so Rick Reaves took the minutes.

**Treasurer:** Treasurer John Lisherness reported the revenue & expenditures for the month, along with the balance in the Fund. Members wanting specific details can contact him directly.

**Ombudsmen:** Ombudsman Bob Cohen called for candidates for the 2018 GGLS Board office positions. Tentatively he has Rick Reaves for President and Mike Smith for Safety. John Lisherness continue as Treasurer and Richard Croll will stay as Secretary. He encourages all members to consider running for office and Ken Brunskill will help out Bob in recruiting candidates. Rich Lundberg mentioned that the Vice-president position has been a traditional step towards becoming the President.

Bob Cohen also reported about a member reporting vandalism. Park police were notified and he reviewed pertinent video with them. After interviewing the people concerned he reported the matter as closed. A discussion ensued concerning the video system & its usage.

**Safety Chairperson:** Safety chairman Jerry Kimberlin reported a rear end train collision occurred during the Fall Meet when some train operators did not heed a red signal condition by coming to a dead stop before proceeding with caution. Bruce Anderson asked that engineers walk back from their stopped trains and let following trains know about derailments and engine problems up ahead.

Jerry talked about the derailment of the public train during the meet due to a rail joiner coming apart. The joint was repaired and he asked members to keep an eye on the track and to either repair the track or, if not familiar with the repair, report it to the track chairman John Lytle or another track crewman.

### **Committee Reports:**



**Buildings:** Buildings chairman Rich Lundberg shared a copy of the comic strip Baby Blues reflecting the efforts in building projects. He posted the strip in the clubhouse.

The Clerici barn is on track to be reassembled with new materials after the track had been lowered and re-leveled.

He also made a plea for participation of members as officers in the club. It doesn't require a great deal of time but is important as the club goes forward. Committees are also important and he is planning to phase himself out as Buildings chairman and would like to phase in a replacement. He reiterated that the club is run by members and they need to step up to committee positions if the club is to continue to function. Bob Cohen remarked that Rich was uniquely qualified with special skills. Rich replied that anyone with home repair experience was qualified to do the job. He offered help with anyone interested in the chairmanship as the club has numerous buildings that require continual upkeep. Mark Johnson added that the job does not require special skills and anyone with the



desire to do the job can do it. Sheldon Yee stated that the chairman doesn't do the job alone and members are available to help. Mark added his thanks to Rich's long tenure in the job and the membership applauded this sentiment.

**Grounds:** Nothing reported.

**Signals:** Bruce Anderson reported that Steve Wood will be back to start repairs on the signal box on the repaired fence section after returning from vacation.

**Ground Track:** Track Chairman John Lytle talked about the derailment at the meet may have been exacerbated by excessive speed and that getting passengers on the public train back to the station safely is more important than getting them there quickly. John & David Neal are doing track work on Mondays and that the 2nd & 4th Monday's will be work days on the track. He encourages members to come out on those days to work on the track.

**High Track:** Nothing reported.

**Locomotives:**

**RGS 22:** Nothing reported.

**RGS 20:** Locomotives chairman Mark Johnson reported the RGS 20 driver wheel is being repaired. The new RGS 20 tender is complete other than for the lettering.

**Johnson Pacific:** Nothing reported.

**Heintz Atlantic:** Nothing reported.

**Hunter Atlantic:** The Hunter Atlantic was operated by members at the Fall Meet.

**Diesel Engines:** The diesel engines have been re-numbered and have been serviced with oil & filter changes. Both engines have had draw bar bolts changed to pins to make it easier to separate their riding cars from the engine during a derailment. The 1936 engine is out of service due to a loose right rear wheel.

**Public Train:** Public Train chairman Walt Oellerich said he is going to continue being associated with the Public Train next year, to enthusiastic applause. He thanked everyone who stepped up to crew the trains during the Fall Meet, especially during the derailment & subsequent rail repair which took considerable time. He shared the Public's Thanks in the meet operation and told of a guest wanting to see the little engines displayed by the Bay Area Engine Modelers. He lamented the lack of interest in the locomotives over the "little (stationary) engines".

Walt also informed the group he will be out-of-commission due to a knee replacement surgery and that Richard Croll will temporarily replace him on the Public Train until he can return.

**Rolling Stock:** Nothing reported.

**Callboy/Website:** No problems reported

**Builders Group:** The number of messages has tapered off, so Pat Young will see if he can find some videos that Builder Group members would enjoy.

**Roundhouse:** Round House chairman Michael Smith reported that the Roundhouse area has been cleared of cars left out & the area cleaned up.

**Membership:** Membership had nothing to report.

**Old Business:**

Through an oversight Bruce Anderson was allowed to build a structure on the multi-gauge steaming bay track without membership approval. A vote was taken to approve the building with a 'yes' vote. A vote was then taken to approve similar buildings for Steve Vitkovits and Ray Vitkovits and the vote was also a 'yes'.

John Lytle read a letter from an anonymous member that was not appropriate. President Mark Johnson felt it was bordering on hate speech and admonished anyone from doing this again.

**New Business:**

None.

**Other Announcements:**

Rick Zobelein informed the meeting that a new high pressure hose was installed on the boiler test pump.



Armando Epifani told how he had decorated the track for Halloween.

Meeting adjourned 11:07 pm.

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

Meeting started by President Mark Johnson at 11:45 am.

#### **Old Business:**

Richard Croll is to set a date for the By-Laws committee.

John Lytle requested permission to build an engine barn on the dual gauge steaming bay track similar to the other barns that are being built. It was suggested he rebuild the steaming bay track that had been removed earlier for a lift that was never built. A motion was made by Bob Cohen and seconded by Jerry Kimberlin to bring it to a vote. A vote was taken and unanimously passed that the material for the base be provided by the club. The above ground structure by Mr. Lytle with the plans to be left in the clubhouse archives was voted on next with a 'yes' vote. The final approval pending a vote of the membership at the next monthly club meeting.

Following the vote a discussion was had about keeping the structures in this area to a maximum of 4 barns. A motion by Bob Cohen & Seconded by Jerry Kimberlin to vote on the proposal was made. The vote was 2 'for' and 2 'against'. The amendment was passed after president Mark Johnson broke the tie by voting to affirm the 4 barn limit.

The High Track bridge replacement project was updated with John Lisherness reporting that he will send drawings to John Nicholson using a hinge design by Bill Smith.

The bell display stand will also be built by Mr. Nicholson and is ongoing.

A member reported on the work being done to repair the RGS 20's driver wheel and is nearing completion.

Michael Smith reported that extending tracks at the Round House has been paused while waiting for the winter rains soften the ground for a drainage ditch in the area before extending the tracks. This discussion brought up the need to address the yearly maintenance of the drainage channels all around the club's track area. John Lytle specifically brought up the area along the long trestle that sits on clay and is in danger of subsiding during heavy rains. He reported track movement from last year's heavy rains and he encourages members to be diligent in keeping water

from pooling in this area.

Bob Cohen asked about update to the switch added to get to roundhouse tracks. Richard Croll is working to get the project done and the work is ongoing. The switch is currently spiked to travel straight through.



Brian Perry asked the board for permission to replace the cover at the electrical box with a modern waterproof design at the Diamond Mine barn to facilitate extension cords for charging locomotives in the barn. He was told that it would be OK to do so.

#### **New Business:**

Pat Young asked about the calendar of events for 2018. He was informed that Mark Johnson and Richard Croll were working on compiling the dates.

Mike Gershowitz asked about a policy for members who have taken his locomotive class to use the Atlantic. He was asked to come up with a tentative policy outline that the board could discuss & implement.

Rick Reaves noted that at the recent Fall Meet, many members and guests left on Saturday rather than run on Sunday because of the confusion of the Open House. He suggested a possible separation of the Meet and the Open House. After a discussion, it was tabled to the next meeting so that the general membership can get involved in a discussion.

The club house was cleared as the Board went into closed session on a matter involving member conduct.

Meeting adjourned at 1 pm.

## Bits and Pieces

by Sheldon Yee



Bruce Anderson – A Video (VHS), circa 1990's, describing the rebuilding of a boiler on a full-size Northern 4-8-4 locomotive. This is available for check out from the club library if interested.



## 2018 GGLS Board Election Slate

### **From Ombudsman Bob Cohen:**

Nominees for office 2018 so far:

President: Rick Reaves

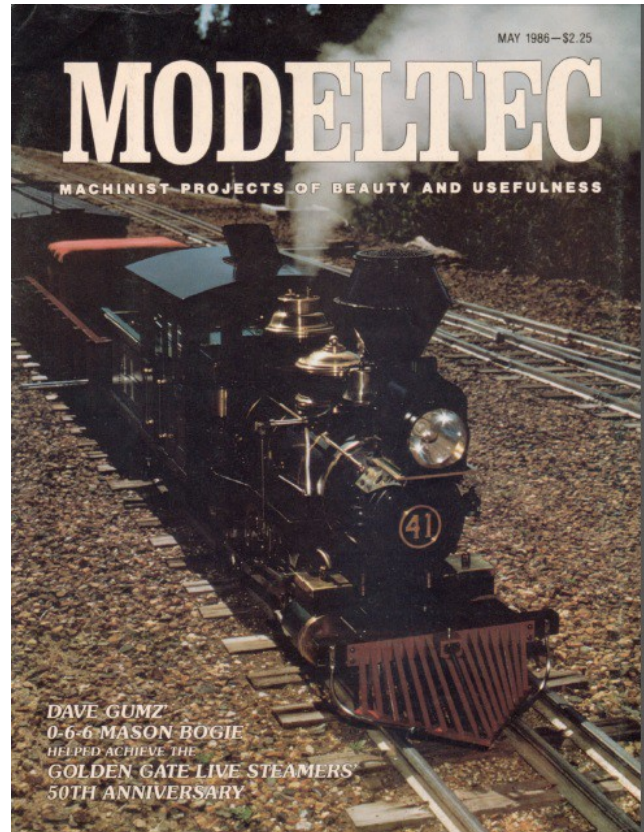
Vice President: Chris Smith  
Sammy Tamez

Secretary: Rich Croll

Treasurer: John Lisherness

Safety: Jerry Kimberlin  
Mike Smith

## From Our Membership



From Bruce Anderson:

*“Gentlemen (& Sandy!),*

*While trying to find a dimension on the Gumz 4-6-0, I discovered a MODELTEC article on the GGLS 50th anniversary. Also of note that Dave’s Mason Bogie is on the cover while Steve Vitkovits’ 0-4-0T brings up the rear.*

*T.G.I.F., Bruce”*

Note: This MODELTEC article has been uploaded to the Historical Document page or the Library of the GGLS web page for those interested. Ed.





### Membership and Roundhouse Renewal Notice

It is time to renew your Golden Gate Live Steamers membership and Roundhouse dues for 2018.

Regular Member (lives within 100 miles of club facilities):	
If renewed on or <b>before December 31, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 40</b>
If renewed on or after January 1, 2018	\$ 50
If renewing after March 31, 2018, see note below.	
Associate Member (lives beyond 100 miles from club facilities):	\$ 30
Family Membership:	
If renewed on or <b>before December 31, 2017</b>	<b>\$ 50</b>
If renewed on or after January 1, 2018	\$ 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 payment is not received by March 31, 2018, 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.