



*Brian Parry's buddy, Gil the gorilla, is ready to hit the road during the Fall Meet!*

# The CallBoy

November 2019

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

# The CallBoy Newsletter

Official Publication of the Golden Gate Live Steamers, Inc.

Copyrighted 2019

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 2019</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>
---	---	--

## Officers

President:	Rick Reaves	510-479-3386
Vice President:	Andy Rogers	510-332-0401
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  
To Be Determined  
Jerry Kimberlin (elected March 2015)

## GGLS Committee Chair people

Bits & Pieces:	Sheldon Yee
Boiler Testing:	Jerry Kimberlin
Building:	Rick Reaves
CallBoy Editors:	Pat Young
Engine:	Mark Johnson
Grounds:	Andy Weber
High Track:	Sheldon Yee
Librarian:	Pat Young
Membership:	Sammy Tamez
Public Train:	Walt Oellerich
Refreshments:	Walt Oellerich, Sheldon Yee
Rolling Stock:	Rich Croll
Round House:	Michael Smith
Security:	Jon Sargent
Signals:	(To Be Determined)
Technical Talks:	Charlie Reiter
Track:	John Lytle
Web Site:	Pat Young

## Membership

To qualify for membership, attend 2 monthly meetings. At the first meeting, please introduce yourself and obtain a membership application from Membership chairman or Secretary. 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, Rich Croll at his email [railroc66@yahoo.com](mailto:railroc66@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, the interim CallBoy editor at [phty95014@yahoo.com](mailto:phty95014@yahoo.com)

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

## Calendar of Club Sponsored Events

11/10/19 General Monthly Meeting/Board Meeting  
12/08/19 General Monthly Meeting/Annual Meeting/  
Board Meeting

### Announcements

The next Steam Engine Class will be held over four Saturday mornings, starting at 10 AM, January 11, January 25, February 8 and February 22nd, conducted by Vladimir Kovalevsky & Andy Rogers. Please contact them to let them know if you're interested so that they can plan. It was noted this is a required class before anyone is allowed to operate the club's engines. It was also noted that the January 25th class may need to be moved (more info soon about that particular date).

## Membership Renewal *Annual Dues*

The 'Board has agreed to discount the 2020 membership renewal dues for members who pay before January 1, 2020. The membership renewal form is in this issue of the CallBoy and if you want to pay early, please give or send a check to Lisa Kimberlin as instructed in the renewal form

### Minutes of General Meeting

The Meeting was called to order by President Rick Reeves at 10 AM. Andy Rogers was acting as Secretary. There were 30+ members present.

Guests were Don Fisher and his son Spencer.



Ken Blonski re-introduced his wife Louise.

### Steaming/railroading activities

Paul Denham and his friends thanked people for running trains at the Celebration of Life on October 12, 2019. Apples were crushed by steam in the process of making apple juice.

Paul has a 12 volt air compressor from a Jaguar; let him know if you're interested.

*If you want to reserve the club for activities like this, please contact the web site person Pat Young ([phty95014@yahoo.com](mailto:phty95014@yahoo.com)) for availability.*

### Officer Reports

**President:** Rick is back from his injury.

**Treasurer:** John Lisherness reported on the finances for the prior month and about the club's reserve fund. Anyone wishing further information should contact him.



**Ombudsman:** The candidates for next year's Board Officers has been announced. Currently Bob Cohen has the following people running:

*Rick Reeves for President*

*John Sargent for Vice President*

*Rich Croll for Secretary*

*Bob Cohen & Mark Johnson for Member at Large*

*Jerry Kimberlin for Safety*

The role of Ombudsman, no longer a Board office, is looking for a replacement.

**Security:** The club house replacement lock has arrived and we are waiting on having it reprogrammed, which may be finished this week. We plan to use the same combinations people previously had and if you can't remember your combination, see John Sargent. AT&T has apparently pulled a permit to run the fiber optic cable.

Dave Weaver is the new Tilden Park Manager and he took a tour of our club facilities.

There have been some cars broken into when people have left valuables visible, so please don't be a victim.

## **Committee Reports**

**Grounds:** Two cubic yards of ballast material have been delivered and Jo Ann Miller continues her good work on planting. Winter club operations protocol will begin soon.

**Roundhouse:** A reminder to Roundhouse leasers to log the date of when you're running so it can be verified that the Roundhouse stalls are being used properly.

**Ground Track:** Our new address is still in progress, where Orinda had a small delay, but is still working on this.

**High Track:** Repairs are completed.

**Locomotives:** RGS #22 is operational after some problems were fixed. RGS #20 has a knock on the right side and is under repair.

The Sacramento Live Steamers completed their purchase of the Johnson Pacific. Rory is monitoring the gas engines.

The 4760 Diesel has had its batteries serviced by John Davis who looks for some assistance with additional service, so volunteer if you can.

**Public Train:** Thanks to the volunteers at the Fall Meet.

**Membership:** New badges for lifetime members have been made.

**CallBoy:** The November CallBoy will be probably be the largest to date due to the inclusion of a Fall Meet Report by Pat Young & Bruce Anderson.

**GGLS Web Site:** For those who care, the latest approved version of the club Bylaws has been uploaded to our web site.

**GGLS Builders Group:** Last month, GGLS Builders Group moderator Pat Young uploaded an article from Bruce Anderson, describing the fixes that was done to Harley, his 0-4-0T locomotive, to get it to pretty much operational status.

## **Minutes of the Board Meeting**

The Meeting was called to order by President Rick Reeves at 11:02 AM as Andy Rogers was acting as Secretary for the absent Richard Croll.

**Firewood Storage Shed:** A request was made to erect a 4' x 8' storage space for firewood. The Board smiled on this proposal.

**Trust Fund:** A discussion was held about the club's Trust Fund and the Trustees members that oversee & manage this fund.

It was noted that a Board resolution is required for Schwab to change names on the account. Treasurer John Lisherness will look into creating such a resolution for the Board to approve at its next meeting. It was noted the Membership needs to vote on adding a third person to the committee, and it was further noted that Ken Blonski has volunteered for that position.

**Turn Table:** A steel ring for support under the roundhouse turntable has been ordered.

**Black Diamond Storage Space:** There was discussion about swapping storage space in Black Diamond for Roundhouse to accommodate a disability. The Board smiled on this proposal, and it was noted that there will soon be a space available to the next person on the Round House waiting list.

**Ombudsman Position:** There was a discussion about the Ombudsman position. Details forthcoming.

## **Bits and Pieces**

By Sheldon Yee



Michael Smith – Two (2) samples of super deluxe stainless steel rods that are extremely resistant to corrosion.





John Lisherness – Exterior boost pump for attachment to human heart.

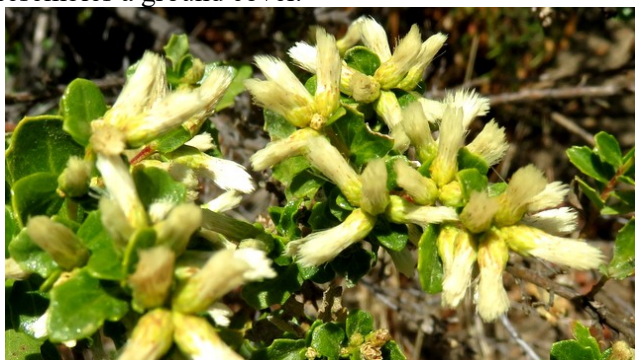


Jerry Kimberlin – For the RGS #22 lost wax casting “tree” of small parts on the left and a set of cast number plates for the GGLS Club engine on the right.

## **GGLS LANDSCAPE**

By Jo Ann Miller

*Baccharis pilularis*, commonly known as Coyote Brush or Coyote Bush, is a native, perennial, evergreen shrub. The upright subspecies can grow up to 12 feet in height, but is more often in the 4 to 6 foot range. It can be found in many places in the GGLS landscape. There is also another subspecies that more closely resembles a ground cover.



Coyote Brush develops a deep strong root system, which contributes to its drought resistance. It can tolerate a wide variety of soil types, but does require

full sun. It is not very palatable to wildlife, and hence is spared by the deer around the club. Coyote Brush tolerates pruning well. I have noticed that branches have sometimes broken because they were unable to support their own weight, so pruning may help maintain shapely, healthy plants.



Coyote brush has male and female plants. Male plants have staminate flowers, with pollen, and female plants have pistillate flowers, which, when pollinated, develop into seeds with a lot of fluff. The male flowers are soft yellow turning to brown with age. The female flowers are creamy white and resemble little paint brushes. The flowering period can range from July to December. Some of the shrubs at the club are just starting to flower. These photos were taken on a recent hike on the SF Peninsula. Seed is produced from late fall to early spring. Because of the large number of seeds produced, and the ease of germination of seed in many soil types, Coyote Brush can become invasive in some areas. If the goal is to have just a few ornamental shrubs, the best way to manage this is by selection of all male shrubs.

As you walk around the club grounds, see if you can find both male and female Coyote Brush shrubs.

## **2019 Fall Meet Report**

By Pat Young & Bruce Anderson

Saturday, September 21, 2019

The 2019 Fall Meet on Saturday September 21, 2019 had a fair number of live steamers, past & present GGLS members and friends in attendance. And by their faces, a good time was had by most.

I haven't done a Meet report in several years, hoping someone else would do one, but I am back for this meet.



Special thanks to those who displayed their equipment, Bob Morris, Walt Oellerich and those many who volunteered.

### Steaming Bay Action

Many locomotives were on display and on the track but not as many as there were in the past. But the following did show up, were steaming up & running and I apologize to those that I missed.



This is Artie Debeling's *Susanna* getting ready to be steamed up.



Bruce Anderson got a great photo of Artie & Sue Debeling posing with their *Susanna*.



Bob Petersen was there with his green Southern 4-6-2 Pacific. My past interview says that it took 30 years to build, most of the parts were fabricated to look like castings, steel boiler with rolled in copper flues, and the green paint was matched from a sample off the original locomotive. It also sports a Rizzoli whistle

made by Rich and Chris.



Bruce Anderson got another photograph with Leigh Meyer, Victoria Petersen and, of course, Bob Petersen.



In the past couple of years, Bruce Anderson has amassed a stable of iron horses and became one of the club's railroad tycoons. Here is one of his later acquisitions, a very nice Climax geared locomotive.



Chris Rizzoli was there with his Niles Line American 4-4-0.





Bruce got a nice close up of Chris's locomotive.



In the steaming yard, I saw this hopper car. I think that it would roll better the other way, but maybe the owner bought the car from "down under".



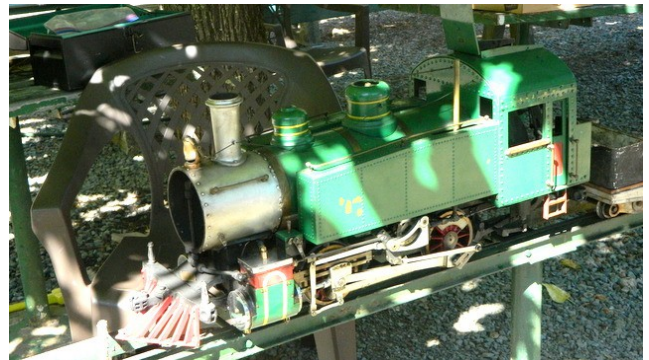
Here Jim Martorella stands proudly next to his 4-truck Shay. Check out his locomotive if you have a chance.



Bruce Anderson took this photo of Jerry Kimberlin talking to Jim Martorella probably discussing some earth shaking issue few have engaged with.



Lew Breon is seen here working on some ground level problem. He must have fixed it since he is smiling.



This green little engine looks familiar and I think this belongs to Steve Vitkovits, but I could be wrong.



It turns out that I was wrong.



Bruce took a photograph of Bob Morris & Pierre Maurer checking out a 1" scale Little Engines 0-4-0T. The locomotive was built by GGLS member Bill Ray and finished during his high school years.



Three iron horses waiting to be steamed up and unleashed on the club track.





This locomotive I recognized as the 90-ton light Mikado that belongs to Steve Vitkovits. Wonderful locomotive!



Bruce took this photograph because he likes Thomas a lot, too!



During the Public Open House on Sunday, the kids always recognize Thomas the Tank Engine, owned by Bill Smith. It is electric and has remote controlled eyes.



From Bruce Anderson, we have Dave Keitel & hopefully new member Matthew Petach each talking track.



From Bruce Anderson, here is Thomas the Tank Engine, its owner Bill Smith and fellow GGLS member Andy Weber, all three enjoying the sunshine.



From Bruce Anderson, we have John Nicholson & Kevin Lee enjoying the morning.



### Heading Out



From Bruce Anderson, Steve & Ray Vitkovits check out their trolley last year on August 25, 2019.



Speaking of the Vitkovits, here is Ray & his father Steve who is recovering from heart surgery. Still weak but seeming to enjoy spending some time outside.



John Lisherness is enjoying the ride on his Southern Pacific Daylight until it derailed later on.



Ken Blonski, with Bob Corshen and Jon Sargent are enjoying their ride on Ken's Richmond Pacific diesel.

Bruce Anderson sent in several photos of those running on the club track:



We have two shots of Dave & Mary Keitel heading out to the mainline.



Whoa?! Looks like a engine hijack had happened to Dave's train, maybe while in the tunnel?





Chris Rizzoli enjoying a solitary run on the inner loop.



Rich Croll doing an inner loop run by his trusty 'ten wheeler'. Does it have a name?



Bruce caught Brian Parry taking his electric diesel for a turn around the club with Mel McDonough providing ballast to keep the train stable. Good job, Mel!

### People Interactions

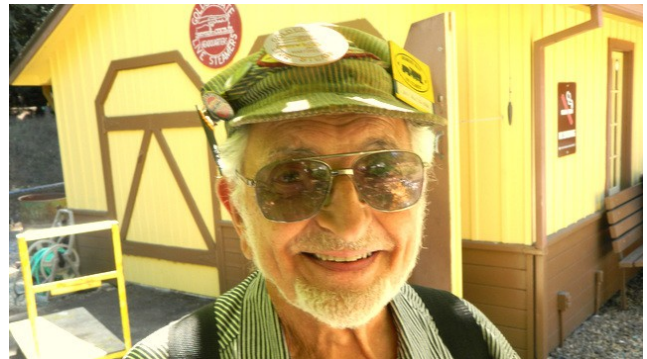
One aspect of the attending a GGLS Meet is to talk to past members and the visitors attending. You don't need any motive power to enjoy yourself.



I met Bill Schaefer, former GGLS member sporting his "I am Retired; Do it Yourself" hat.



Here is Bob Corshen who is from Point Richmond and attending the Meet with Ken Blonski.



It was a pleasure to meet Jim Martorella. He lives up in Santa Rosa and has the 4-truck Shay shown here, a 3-truck Shay, 4-6-0 ten wheeler, a 3-truck Heisler and a 2.5" Mich Cal Shay. Hope you bring some of your other locomotives to future Meets.





Jo Ann Miller & Walt Oellerich were photographed next to the road side garden by the ballast pile.



Jo Ann planted this California Native Verbena De La Mina.



Walter is a little tired & haggard because of the recent death of his brother & past member Norman Oellerich. Our sympathies go out to you & your family.



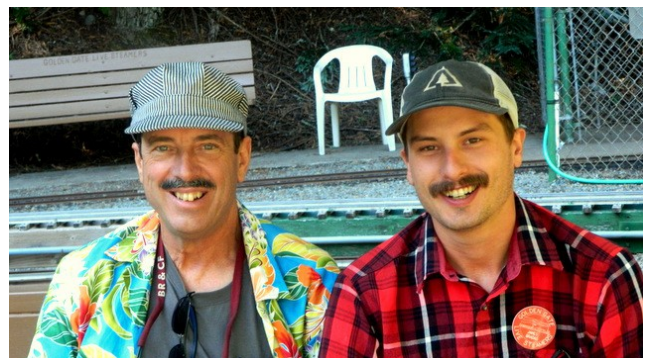
Ken Dado, former GGLS member is seen here enjoying the Fall Meet. Good to see you again, Ken.



Jo Ann is diligently taking care of the plants that she has planted for the further beautification of the club. Thank you for doing this, Jo Ann.



Visitors Leigh Meyer & Victoria Petersen, daughter of Bob Petersen are seen here enjoying the equipment & rolling stock of the steaming bay. Pleased to meet both of you!



Lou & James Bradas came down to see what was happening at the Fall Meet. What did you find, guys?





The gathering mob around the turntable, searching for the unusual and warming up.



Later that day, the gathering mob moves to the shade of the club house to cool off.



There were some action in the Roundhouse area, but not much. Here we see Rich Croll and Walt Oellerich working extremely hard at something.



Susan Debeling has the right idea. Find a shady, quiet spot in the Roundhouse area and converse with Nature & a good book.

### Something Special

It seems that every Meet has some special happenings there, and this Meet was no different.



On Saturday, Channing Cheng (Sales Director) of Accucraft had set up a small table to introduce himself & some of the Accucraft products at the Fall Meet.



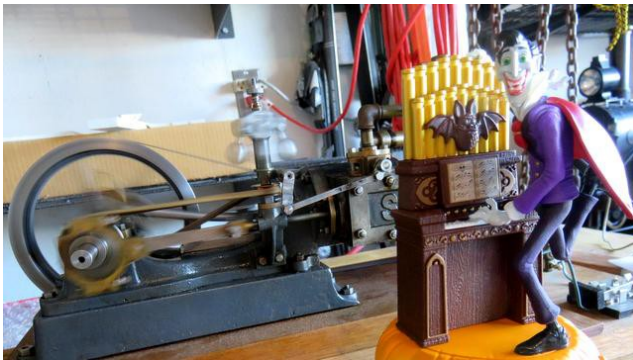
Queenie Hu was there with Channing to help out and





it seems that Queenie got a free ride from Ray Vitkovits to see the sights of the club.

I got a free sales brochure from Channing for the club and hope Channing might consider dropping by during a monthly meeting (and even joining up, since he resides in Union City).



Bruce Anderson prepares a steam powered electricity demonstration for visiting families.



An unhappy looking John Lisherness is staring at his Southern Pacific Daylight locomotive that derailed at the cutout.



The 4 wheel pilot truck and the front driver had jumped the track.



But John had Colton Snell hook up the club diesel to his locomotive to see if it could pull it back through the cutoff switch.



Lo and behold, the switch was able to rerail the driver & pilot back onto the track! Pretty tricky there, John.







Bruce took two photographs of the many friends that helped rerail John Lisherness' Daylight.



I don't know if the photo is legible, but Jim Boyer put together a bulletin board with 4 items for sale. The first & second photo appears to be a 2-8-0 Consolidation with tender & caboose which is for sale for \$20,000 or best offer, the third photo is of a small yellow electric switch for \$2,000 and the last photo is that of a 2.5" scale 7.5" gauge gas trench engine with riding car for \$5,000 or best offer.

If interested in any of the above items, I am sure Jim Boyer would be happy to talk to you at his phone (530) 282-3272 or by mail at:

James Boyer  
Box 1815  
Chester, California  
96020



Jim Pate has this 2.5" scale flat car for sale for \$350 or best offer. The text is partially readable and says "Four

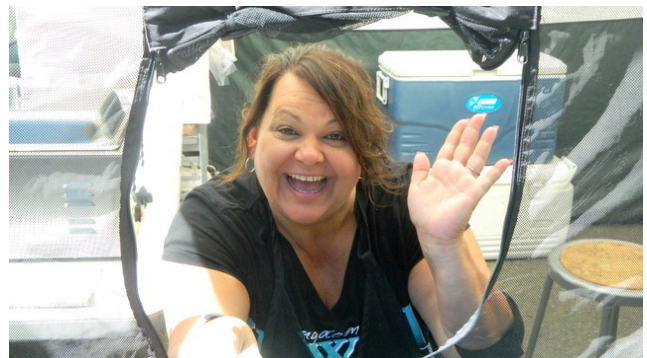
wheel box car. Was a water tender car for a locomotive lost in the campfire last year. Has a water tank inside. Would make a good base to make a bobber caboose. Make me an offer! If interested call 510 303-9762 or ask for Jim Pate".



Jim Pate also had this 2.5" scale flat car for sale for \$650 or best offer. The text says "Was a water tender car lost in the campfire last year. Has a plastic water tank inside. Cannonball ball bearing arch bar trucks. The car frame and decking are redwood. Make me an offer!. If interested call 510 303-9762 or ask for Jim Pate".



Jeff's Pit Stop once provided food at the meet and it was first rate. He has been feeding the crowd for several years and thanks Jeff for your service.



Cherie of Jeff's Pit Stop was very happy to help you out. I think everyone was happy to be there.





Finally, Dave Keitel's license says it all when it comes to live steaming and the club.

#### Sunday, September 22, 2019

I usually attend the Open House on Sunday when the club grounds is open to the Public to visit. There are displays set up from the Bay Area Engine Modelers (BAEM) along with free train rides around the club. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend that day but a few members did send me photographs of the activities for that day.



From John Lisherness, BAEM Paul Denham demonstrated his water wheel to the delight of some young visitors to the Open House.



John Lisherness also sent this photograph of this miniature supercharge race engine built by BAEM member John Gilmore.

Bruce was there on Sunday also and was gracious enough to send me these photos:



The steaming bay had locomotives ready for viewing by the Public but past Meets had bigger turnout. But I am sure that the Public still enjoyed what was displayed. Here Thomas and friends anxiously await families of the 2019 Open House.



Even more locomotives await families for the Open House.



John & Richard Croll display a couple of their cars.





Bruce displays his collection of cars built by Dave Gumz.



Jeff's getting ready their YUMMY items for sale.



Jeff Smith (right) prepares the 4-4-0 *Tahoe* and Street Car while Walt Oellerich enjoys a bit of calm before the storm.



And the crowds arrive!



Members of the Bay Area Engine Modelers prepare their wonderful models for display.



John's Shay, our Public Train and Jeff Smith head out on the road.



Our friends at Jeff's Pit Stop prepare great grub for our guests!





Don Ratto thrills guests with his 0-4-0 Crab.



Bill Smith & his Thomas the Tank Engine wow the families & the Public!



Richard Croll takes the RGS #22 out for a run.



Train driver Rob Vastino brings the Public Train out of the Tilden Station. His son Rory is one of Walt's station agents.



Accucraft again displayed garden scale equipment to the guests. Thank you for coming to the Fall Meet.



Jim Pate relaxes after running his 4-6-2 #6601.





John Lisherness & Jim Pate talk steam after a good day of runnin'.



Jelani Hall checks out the Mountain Division's winch.



John Lisherness returns his Shay to the Round House.



The logging train is pulling into Mel's hand powered saw mill station while some GGLS members took photos.



At Boyers Bluff the men of the Mountain Division (James Bratus, Peter Bratus, & Jelani Hall) prepare logs for transport to Mel's Saw Mill.



Wallace & Grommet, of the Bay Area Engine Modeler's says:

**"Time to see you at the 2020 Spring Meet"**



## 2019 Spring Meet Video

By Bruce Anderson



"Hi Steam Friends,

Yes, I realize the season is just changing to fall but here is a video the the Golden Gate Live Steamers 2019 Spring Meet. When you click on the link below, hopefully you will get a web page with a photo of John Lisherness and his Daylight. Mouse-over the photo and you should see a red "play button," a click anywhere on the photo should start the 9:56 minute YouTube video.

GGLS 2019 Spring Meet video can be found at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/embed/QvDA0gDzf2Q>

Enjoy, Bruce"

## For Sale

Andy Clerici's 4-2-0 Essex

October 10, 2019



This lovely locomotive has a new lead truck and new tender bearing. And a second safety valve I installed to comply with many club's regulation.



This locomotive has been converted to run on propane and runs smoothly. As shown, this comes with a riding/auxiliary water car.

Asking price is now lowered to \$7,000.

If interested or have questions, contact:

Dave Bradas  
[dabradas@yahoo.com](mailto:dabradas@yahoo.com)  
(707) 252-7390



## Membership and Roundhouse Renewal Notice

It is time to renew your Golden Gate Live Steamers membership and Roundhouse dues for 2020.

Regular Member (lives within 100 miles of club facilities):	
If renewed <b>on or before December 31, 2019</b>	<b>\$ 40</b>
If renewed on or after January 1, 2020	\$ 50
If renewing after March 31, 2020, see note below.	
Associate Member (lives beyond 100 miles from club facilities):	\$ 30
Family Membership:	
If renewed <b>on or before December 31, 2019</b>	<b>\$ 50</b>
If renewed on or after January 1, 2019	\$ 60
Roundhouse dues:	\$200

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

Lisa Kimberlin  
324 Nevada Avenue  
Pt. Richmond, CA 94801

***If payment is not received by March 31, 2020, 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.