

# A PUBLICATION OF THE GOLDEN GATE LIVE STEAMERS SEPTEMBER 2017

# The Call Boy

# Thursday Projects at the Track



There are always things to do up at the track. Rich Lundberg is supervising building restoration. Details may be found elsewhere in this newsletter. Recently, a water leak developed out on the Heinz Loop next to one of the buildings hiding a garden hose. The building and hose post were leaning over, having been struck by unknown forces. Jerry Kimberlin excavated the plumbing to stop the leak. It appears that someone had an extra inventory of pipe fittings and used them here. Numerous 45 degree fittings instead of a single elbow were used to locate the supply line for the hose. Maybe our club plumber, Andy Weber, can explain! Repairs to be made will include attaching the hose and faucet to the trestle stand to avoid future damage. All are welcome to come up and help, if time avails, on a Thursday!

# Event Calendar

# September

9/09/17 John Smith Event 9/10/17 GGLS Member Meeting 9/10/17 GGLS Board Meeting 9/23/17 GGLS Fall Meet 9/24/17 GGLS Open House

# October

10/08/17 GGLS Member Meeting 10/08/17 GGLS Board Meeting 10/20-21/17 SVLS Fall Meet

## **November**

11/12/17 GGLS Member Meeting 11/12/17 GGLS Board Meeting

# **December**

12/10/17 GGLS Member Meeting12/10/17 GGLS Annual Meeting12/10/17 GGLS Board Meeting

# The Call Boy

Editorial Staff
Pat Young
Rick Zobelein

# **Officers**

President: Mark Johnson
Vice President: Rick Reaves
Secretary: Richard Croll
John Lisherness
Safety: Jerry Kimberlin
Ombudsman: Bob Cohen

#### GGLS Committee Chairmen

Track: John Lytle Mark Johnson Engines: Rolling Stock: Richard Croll Public Train Walt Oellerich Bits & Pieces: Sheldon Yee **Buildings**: Rich Lundberg Andy Weber Grounds: Signal System: Dan Swanson Boiler Testing: Jerry Kimberlin Jeremy Coombs High Track: Refreshments: Walt Oellerich

Sheldon Yee

Technical: Charlie Reiter
Round House: Michael Smith
Web Page: Pat Young
Librarian: Pat Young

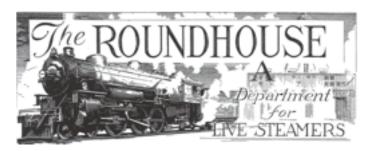
Membership Rick Zobelein rgz48@yahoo.com

#### 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 <u>phty95014@yahoo.com</u>

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



## Announcements

Richard Croll announced that a new propane storage cage has been installed by the roundhouse. Anyone wanting to store propane tanks or other fuel can contact him for the lock combination. Preference will be given to members renting storage space.

Richard also announced that the diesel fuel is mostly gone from the lower storage compartment of the signal box. Members who want to store gas cans may use that space also. It has the general combination lock on it and members are asked to put their name on cans stored in there.

Rick Reaves announced that the plaque has been installed on the Jim Dameron car barn out on Heinz Loop.

Sandy Morris announced that she is ordering more GGLS tee shirts shortly and they will be using the same design as last time.

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

## **Club Meeting Minutes**

Meeting was called to order by Vice-President Rick Reaves at 10:05 am. There were 28+ members present.

#### New & Returning Members, Visitors, Guests:



A visitor, David Neil, introduced himself. Hope you join, David!



New member Tom Battle introduced himself. He is a member of the New Jersey Live Steamers and is relocated here for work for a couple of years.

#### **Steam-related Activities:**



Ken Blonski mentioned that Miller Knox Park in Richmond, California, part of the East Bay Regional Park district, is the farthest western point of the original transcontinental railroad. They are doing an EIR renovation evaluation on buildings & structures that still exist, such as where they barged passengers to San Francisco.



Chris Smith reported that he attended the Great Oregon Steam-Up at Powerland Heritage Park in Brooks, Oregon. It is also the home of the Willow Creek Railroad where he played with the steam tractors.

# **Officers' Report:**

President Mark Johnson: Absent.

#### **Vice President:**



Noted that we are now storing tables in the new shed outside the clubhouse.

**Secretary:** Rich reported that the club's liability insurance policy has been renewed for another year.

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

**Ombudsmen:** Nothing to report.

**Safety Chairperson:** Nothing to report.

#### **Committee Reports:**



Buildings: Rich Lundberg reported that the Diamondback rebuilding project is bigger than expected but it is almost done, except for the roofing.



The roundhouse roof is almost done.



Rich also acknowledged people for helping with painting. Bruce Anderson on the roundhouse, Rick Reaves on Diamondback project and Dave Bradas on the clubhouse painting.



He also mentioned what to do with milepost markers laying in the dirt. He pointed out that there is a metal pin in the ground that a plastic tube slips over to support them and the nearest tie has a metal disc on it to help locate the metal pin. There are spare couplings in the tool shed.

**Grounds:** Andy Weber reported that we had a water leak by Tilden Station. It was a piece of polyethylene pipe which got brittle & is hard to fix. Most of these plastic water pipe will need to be replaced in the near future.

Signals: Nothing to report.

Ground Track: No report.

**High Track:** No report.

#### **Locomotives:**

**RGS 22:** Richard Croll repaired the throttle linkage, explained how it works and what he did to fix it. The Public Train crew reports it works well now. He also put a longer throw on the lubricator so it should put out less oil.



He stated that the new tender tank is almost done and it should be back at the club in a couple of weeks.

**RGS 20:** Nothing to report.

**Johnson Pacific:** Nothing to report. **Heintz Atlantic:** Nothing to report.

**Hunter Atlantic:** Mike Gershowitz reported that it is in running condition with the major item needing attention being the plumbing to the cylinder cocks (need new O-ring to seal them off better). He also suggested that the board adopt a policy that allows members who have taken the training coarse be allowed to run the locomotive for their own use.

**Diesels:** Walter Oellerich informed us that the diesel threw a chain this morning and is not running properly.

**Public Train:** Walter Oellerich happily reported that he has new people helping with the train and everything is going well. He did note that he will need additional help during the Open House in September to man the second Public Train.

**Rolling Stock:** Richard Croll reported that the air connection on the box car has been relocated to the top so it is easier to fill the air tank. A 12-volt air compressor & battery are going to be installed in the boxcar too.

Three-way air valves are to be installed on the new tender of RGS #20 & the conductor's car which will allow brakes to be applied to the entire train by either the engineer or conductor.

Callboy/Website: Pat Young reported all is fine.

**Builders Group:** Pat Young mentioned that Ben Lerman queried the group members about how to do silver soldering and several members responded with helpful suggestions.

**Roundhouse:** Roundhouse chairman Michael Smith was AWOL in Disney World but Chris Smith reported all is well.

**Membership:** Rick Zobelein spoke about our new member Tom Battle.

#### **Old Business:**

None.

#### **New Business:**

Sheldon Yee brought up that the creamer dispenser was missing from the kitchen this morning.

Rick Reaves reminded the members to pick up the trash they see around the facilities.



He also reminded us that the is a barrel with a can crusher out back (being used by Rich Lundberg).

Walter Oellerich announced that the handle for the rerailer is missing.

Richard Croll mentioned that he, Walter and Steve Wood had agreed that we did not need an electric throw on the new T-40 turnout. The signals will be operational, however.

Richard also noted that the Board of Directors will be discussing the red flags on the ground switch throws that he and others keep tripping over.

The Fall Meet was discussed and Rick Reeves is again the meet chairman. John Smith has the banner ready to put up on the bridge announcing the event. Sheldon Yee noted the attendance was light at the Spring Meet and asked a show of hands of who would be attending. Most hands were raised.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:34 am.

#### **Board Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 11:24 am by Vice President Rick Reaves. Also present were Bob Cohen, Jerry Kimberlin, John Lisherness and Richard Croll.

#### **Old Business:**

Roundhouse: Tabled.

By-Laws: Meeting to be held once rough draft

ready.

**Propane cage:** Installation is complete and ready

for use.

Lawn mower: Tabled.

**High Track Bridge Replacement:** Nothing new to report. John Lisherness did say the new High Track bridge will weigh about the same despite being 50% longer.

#### **New Business:**

Request was made by Steve Vitkovits to build 2 additional storage sheds in the steaming bay area. One is to be for 1" scale equipment and the other for 1½" scale. Steve showed how he plans to build them to sit on top of the existing track with nothing below. As with other member-built storage, he would have use for 10 years, then they will revert to the club. Motion was made to approve by Richard Croll, Seconded by Bob Cohen and the Motion was passed.

Rick Reaves requested that the club purchase 3 more folding tables for use at meets & other events. John Lisherness moved to purchase the tables, Richard Croll Seconded it and the Motion was passed. It was mentioned to Rick that a used office furniture store in Oakland had a lot of tables for sale.

Richard Croll made a motion to eliminate the red flag on the ground switch throws but there was no Second. The Safety Chairman then declared the flags a safety hazard, and they will be removed as time allows.

Bob Cohen asked if the club wanted the linear motor switch actuator he constructed several years ago. He will bring to club so it can be looked at.

#### **Additional Items:**

Mark Johnson sent a message to the Board to remind all members to clean up after themselves when working on either club or personal projects at the track. Rick Zobelein asked if we still had any complimentary tickets to Redwood Valley Railway. None could be found, so Ellen will be contacted for more.

Sam Tamez brought up the idea of a plaque listing the past presidents. The board felt it is a reasonable idea, but someone needs to do the research as we do not have a complete list after sometime in the 1990's.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:40 pm.

# Bits and Pieces by Sheldon Yee



Charlie Reiter – Steam hammer made from Stuart casting.



Rick Reaves – Cast Iron steam cylinder for his Little Engines 1½ " 0-6-0 switcher, in progress.



Michael Bergerman (friend of GGLS member, Vince Spadaro) - Vic Shattock's alcohol fired, 2-4-4 brass tank engine; refurbishment in progress.

# From Our Membership



Submitted by Loren Bryan, a 5:25 minute YouTube video where "This week we wanted to take some time and answer the most frequently asked questions that you have left on our live steam videos. We hope this video covered your questions, but should you think of anything else, feel free to leave it in the comment section below. Thanks for watching The Steam Channel."



From Bruce Anderson, A 17:35 minute YouTube video titled "The Railroad Signal - 1948 Educational Documentary" where the New York Central Railroad provides an overview of railroad signals and related safe working infrastructure used by trains.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h0HZytc1ykM



Internet news submitted also by Bruce Anderson: "WALNUT CREEK (Lisa Fernandez/KTVU) - Pleasant Hill police announced on Monday that a stolen electric train valued at about \$60,000 has been found, dumped on a street near a yoga studio in nearby Walnut Creek.

'We're ecstatic,' Amanda Sossoman, the daughter of the man who owns The Fun and Game Experts, an amusement rental company, told KTVU.

The train was stolen Sunday inside a trailer from Vincent Road, was found "a few exits away" from Pleasant Hill near some businesses in Walnut Creek, according to the Police Sgt. Janayla Pierson." http://www.ktvu.com/news/271104117-story

#### **Varsity Math**

Answers to last month's questions:

**Passing Fancy:** Trains are separating at a net velocity of 60mph + 30mph = 90mph, or 1.5 miles per minute. The trains together are 1.5 miles long, so it only takes one minute for the two trains to reach that point.

My Sort of Train: Two parallel tracks and at most 22 moves to sort the train. You can back the train into one track, and disconnect every car behind the one you want last. Now you pull back out into the main track and back into the other track. Drop off the car that goes in the rear, and return to the other track and repeat until sorted.

I'm assuming the 12-car train is 11-cars plus an engine. If it meant 12-cars plus an engine, then worst case is 24 moves. In either case, the worst case is when the cars start in reverse order, and you can never add two cars to the train in a single pair of moves.

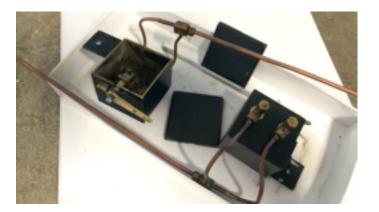
another answer...

Two parallel tracks work if you use a switch engine moving back and forth from the parking track to the output track. The worst case is putting the output train in complete reverse order, which requires the engine to move onto the parking track for each car, back out with the car, move onto the output track and leave the car, and back out ready for the next car. Total moves are 48, Also, each of the cars must be uncoupled and re-coupled and the switch thrown twice for each car movement.

#### For Sale



Pair of brand new ready-to-run ductile iron Titan Trains couplers for 1 ½-inch scale trains. Only one coupler shown in picture but \$50 for the pair.



Two mechanical lubricators with mounting brackets. Was told that they operate but am selling as-is. Size is 2-inches square by 1½ inches deep, complete with piping and two check valves on the discharge lines for each unit. \$100 OBO for both.



Miscellaneous Starrett Tools as shown, for \$50.

Please contact Michael Smith at (415) 558-4536. Can bring them up to GGLS for inspection most Sundays.

#### **Wanted**

Looking for a 12" lathe and also a milling machine to be used for building a locomotive.

Contact James Read: jamesbread74@gmail.com