



# *The Call Boy*

## Comic Relief On The Railroad



Off and on, over the years, the comic pair of Spike and Rail have appeared in the Club newsletter and also on the Club website. Conversations between the two sometimes require a little imagination but reflect ongoing activities at the track. Many of the club members have additional skills besides engine building and operation. One in particular is our very own Rich Ratto who not only has the skills of a cartoon artist but has the ability to poke fun at the hobby in a very humorous way. When you see Rich up at the track, ask him how he does it!

### Event Calendar

#### April

4/12/15 GGLS Member Meeting  
4/12/15 GGLS Board Meeting

#### May

5/03/15 GGLS Member Meeting  
5/03/15 GGLS Board Meeting  
5/10/15 Mother's Day  
5/16-17/15 Sacto LS Spring Meet

#### June

6/06/15 GGLS Spring Meet  
6/07/15 GGLS Open House  
6/14/15 GGLS Member Meeting  
5/14/15 GGLS Board Meeting

#### July

7/12/15 GGLS Member Meeting  
7/12/15 GGLS Board Meeting

# *The Call Boy*

## *Editorial Staff*

Pat Young  
Rick Zobelein

## Officers

*President:* Jim Dameron  
*Vice President:* Andy Weber  
*Secretary:* Pat Young  
*Treasurer:* John Lisherness  
*Safety:* Michael Smith  
*Ombudsman:* Ken Blonski

## GGLS Committee Chairmen

*Track:* Jim Dameron  
Bill Smith  
*Rolling Stock:* Richard Croll  
*Engines:*  
*Public Train* Richard Croll  
*Bits & Pieces:* Sheldon Yee  
*Buildings:* Rich Lundberg  
*Grounds:* Andy Weber  
*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*

The new security system, including a new door and keypad combination lock, has been installed at the rear entrance to the club house. Those who attended the water shutoff class (taught by Andy Weber) are eligible to receive a PIN number that will unlock the door. Access is open from 7 am to 7 pm with few exceptions and the testing period seems to be good. An access log can be generated by either Rich Lundberg or Rick Reeves when needed. An automatic door closer will be installed shortly. Rick Reeves is the "co-operator" of the door and either he or Rich Lundberg can be contacted for questions or problems relating to the new security system.

Dan Swanson advises that this lock that has been around for many years, is known for its reliability and is used in high security applications for access control. It also logs ANY key button entry regardless if it is valid or not, which is helpful if deleted PINs are used at a later date or any false entries that indicates possible random attack activity.

There was an unexpected & regrettable incident that occurred during the club meeting which many attending found distasteful and embarrassing. The Board is apologizing for the incident and to all those who were present during this incident. In the future, the Board will do its utmost to prevent any similar incidents from happening again.

**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 March 8, 2015 at 10:03 am by President Jim Dameron with an attendance of large 34+ individuals on a unseasonably warm day.

### **New Members and Guests:**

There was one new face at the meeting who introduced himself as Ron Buchwalker who has a Railroad Supply 0-4-0 locomotive. Welcome Ron!

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



Ken Blonski related his experiences riding to Reno on the Amtrak.



Bob Morris had an interesting story to relate. There was a train wreck in Southern California last month where an Amtrak train struck a truck at a railroad crossing and several passenger cars derailed. A friend of his was aboard that fateful train and that friend & the engineer helped passengers before the engineer succumbed to his injuries.



While attending to the affairs due to the sudden death of his younger brother, Pat Young had a chance to visit Turtle Bay Museum in Redding, California. He took 200-300 photos of the Mich-Cal 2 shay locomotive to augment the details of the Bill Harris Mich-Cal 2 shay construction book offered by Live Steam magazine. If anyone is interested in the photos, please contact Pat ([phty95014@yahoo.com](mailto:phty95014@yahoo.com)).

Also, Rich Croll ([railroc66@yahoo.com](mailto:railroc66@yahoo.com)) has a set of 2.5" scale Harris engine castings for sale if anyone is interested.

### **Committee Reports:**

Grounds Chairman Andy Weber was pleasantly surprised that there were no problems on the club grounds and especially pleased there were no freezing pipes this season.



Finally, someone took the top off the recycle barrel and it is now missing. Please return it or tell Rich Lundberg ([luckylundy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:luckylundy@sbcglobal.net)) what happened so that people don't put trash in the barrel.





The Engine Committee presented the following status:

**Heintz Atlantic:** A new brake valve has arrived from LocoParts but before it can be installed, John Lisherness needs to finish clearing space in his shop so he can use his chain hoist to raise the boiler for better access.

**Hunter Atlantic:** The new whistle valve, whistle & piping is ready to be installed. The new turret valves to replace the old ones have arrived. Additionally, the new injector starting valve is ready to be installed.

**Johnson Pacific:** It is ready to run but only once with the new burner. The firing parameters of this new burner need to be refined by further testing.

**RGS #22:** There are issues with the brake and Rich replaced a broken hose today.

**Baldwin diesel:** Engine is in excellent running condition.



**UVAS diesel:** It has a new Briggs & Stratton engine and is in excellent running condition.

Rolling Stock Chairman Rich Croll mentioned that members are allowed to use the club's four orange work flat cars stored in the Clerici Barn but are reminded to return them back in the original (or better) condition that they were found.

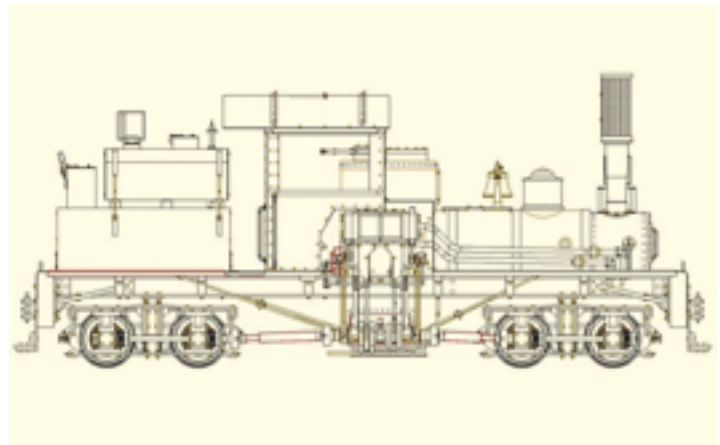
It has been 3 years since the club's web site has been brought up on HostPapa's servers and the club is now paid up for another 3 years of service. The cost was quite reasonable as it averages about \$9.75 per month for access. Web master Pat Young ([phty95014@yahoo.com](mailto:phty95014@yahoo.com)) can provide more information for those interested about web pages or having comments.

The club has been publishing both an online & printed version of the CallBoy to service our membership. Interim editor of the printed version Pat Young wanted to commend Rick Zobelein for his creative work on the online version and wanted members to compare the differences between the two.



The GGLS Builder's Group had some activities starting with Ben Lehrman who sent in an interesting link to an online article from the New Yorker. It talks about the work done by club members, John and Perrin Meyer, who are audio experts here in Berkeley and are donating a sound system for use at Tilden Station. Be impressed when you read the article at:

[www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/02/23/wizards-sound](http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/02/23/wizards-sound)



Also there were several CAD drawings of the Mich-Cal 2 shay from the Bill Harris book uploaded on to the group.

Finally, the secretary has been in touch with a live steamer for several months who wants to convert a 3/4" Atlantic to use propane instead of coal. John Lisherness thought that because of the small size, he would have to have a custom burner created and another member thought that the St. Croix Live Steamers who have many small engines might also be a source of information.



## **Bits and Pieces**

by Sheldon Yee

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

Secretary Pat Young had nothing to report.

Treasurer John Lisherness gave a detailed report stating that this month had reduced expenditures while income increased due to membership renewals & round house dues. More details can be obtained from John if interested.

### **Old Business:**

The term of Sheldon Yee (as a member of a three member GGLS Trust Fund) was up at the end of last year. Jerry Kimberlin was elected as the next trustee.

### **New Business:**

No new business.

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

The March 8, 2015 Board Meeting began at 11:30 am with Board members Ken Blonski, Jim Dameron, John Lisherness, Rich Lundberg, Michael Smith, Andy Weber & Pat Young with Rick Zobelein attending.

### **Old Business:**

Last month, the Board offered to extend the contract with a member who agreed to assemble a locomotive like the RGS #22 by a certain date, at which time the club would purchase the locomotive for Public Train service. The member did not agree with the new terms of the contract, so the club is continuing its search for another locomotive for the Public Train.

A few months ago the Board had a discussion about future goals of the club and doing strategic planning towards that goal. The Board then requested a recap of information that lead up to the proposal. Next, they will use it to create a Future Development committee.

### **New Business:**

The Trust Fund access by the club Trustee is under review and steps are being taken to improve access & additional coverage in case of incapacitation or inability to manage the Fund.



Jerry Kimberlin - 1" Bore "KEIM" Water Pump for his Shay (in progress). Exceptional quality, but expensive.



Also a Chinese-made (cheap) tool holder, BXA size for use on an lathe quick-change type tool holder, similar to the Aloris system.



Miles Archer - "Marty" burner (built "on the cheap"); consisting of a simple threaded nipple and machined flame spreader in "star" pattern. Intended for use on his Little Engines 0-4-0 1-1/2" scale Narrow Gauge loco.

### Editor's Video Choice



A wonderful 22:36 film suggestion from Jim House and made by Union Pacific Railroad to commemorate the last of the giant steam locomotives, the UP 4000 class "Big Boy".

### To All Members



The Board has recently approved the formation of an Ad Hoc committee to look at methods for determining future plans for the Golden Gate Live Steamers. As a member of that committee, I invite all Golden Gate members to participate by answering just two very important questions:

First, what is the one thing about the Golden Gate Live Steamers that you like very much and would not want changed?

Second, what is the one thing you dislike about the Golden Gate Live Steamers and would want very much to change?

No need to write an essay – a simple one-line answer will do. Of course, if you have the urge to elaborate or add items, please do! Reply by phone, post or email.

Thank you,

Steve Vitkovits  
1760 Dolores Drive  
San Jose, CA 95125-5203  
408-269-0475 or  
[ferrous1991@gmail.com](mailto:ferrous1991@gmail.com)

### Chinese Bullet Train

From Paul Thompson



*Back in 2013, Paul Thompson sent in an article on the Chinese Bullet Train and there was not enough space in the CallBoy to accommodate it until now. So please enjoy looking at what can be done and hopefully the California Bullet Train will match or exceed this system! --Editor*



The trains have 1st class, business and VIP cars, as well as economy class, of course.





The trains have 1st class, business and VIP cars, as well as economy class, of course.



There are also dedicated disabled areas, wheelchair accessible bathrooms and corridors.



So quite! So smooth!

So how did they do this? They copied the United States' ideas of the 40's & 50's and combined them with today's technology!