



Eagle scouts Robert, Alex and David McDonalds helping the club by painting its benches

The CallBoy

January 2025

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

The CallBoy Newsletter

Official Publication of the Golden Gate Live Steamers, Inc.
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Tilden Park 2491 Grizzly Peak Blvd, Orinda, California USA 94563	Pat Young, Editor phty95014@yahoo.com January 2025	A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation www.ggls.org or www.goldengatels.org
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Board Officers

President:	Jon Sargent	510-233-6481
Vice President:	Steve Fares	
Secretary:	Sarah Buhre	
Treasurer:	John Lisherness	510-647-8443
Safety:	Jerry Kimberlin	510-809-7326
Director at Large:	Sammy Tamez	510-706-5614
Past President:	Rick Reaves	510-479-3386

Ombudsperson

Lisa Kimberlin 510-214-2595

GGLS Trust Fund Members

John Lisherness
Jerry Kimberlin (elected March 2015)
Sammy Tamez (elected August 2022)

GGLS Committee Chair People

Bits & Pieces:	Jeremy Coombes
Boiler Testing:	Jerry Kimberlin
Building:	Rick Reaves
CallBoy Editor:	Pat Young
Dues:	Lisa Kimberlin
Grounds:	Andy Weber
Landscape:	Jo Ann Miller, Bruce Anderson
Librarian:	Pat Young
Locomotive:	Paul Hirsh
Membership:	Sammy Tamez
Public Train:	Walt Oellerich
Refreshments:	Walt Oellerich
Rolling Stock:	Rich Croll
Security:	Jon Sargent
Shop Foreman:	Rich Croll
Signals:	John Davis
Technical Talks:	Charlie Reiter
Track:	Jim McKibbin
Train Storage Rental:	Jon Sargent
Web Site:	Pat Young

Club Correspondence

All correspondence to the Golden Gate Live Steamers should be sent to the secretary, Sarah Buhre at this email: secretary@ggls.org

Membership

To qualify for membership, attend 2 monthly meetings. At the first meeting, please introduce yourself and obtain a membership application from the Membership chairman or Secretary. At the second meeting, return your completed application, a signed release form, the yearly prorated club dues, together with the \$25 initiation fee and you are officially a member.

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 CallBoy editor at phty95014@yahoo.com

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

2025 Calendar of Club Sponsored Events

01/01 Chili Run
01/12 General Meeting/Board Meeting

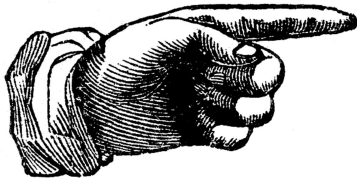
<Rest to be determined>

Announcements



We were saddened to hear the news that Jon's wife Christine passed away last month due to congestive heart failure & stroke. We extend our deepest sympathies & condolences to Jon & his family, and repeat his admonition to the rest of us—take care of yourselves & your loved ones, especially during this holiday season.

Please Notice This



Membership dues & storage rental space fees are due now and if you pay your membership dues before Dec 31st, 2024 you get a \$10 discount. There is no grace period for rental space fees so if you don't pay by Dec 31st, you lose your storage space.

Guests and New Membership

Walt Oellerich will be submitting paperwork for his grandchild, Anthony Kosnick to become a member. He has been helping clean the tracks on Thursdays and has been up to Train Mountain.

Railroading Activities



Walt Oellerich took the Coast Starlight from Jack London square up to Seattle for his 11th trip. Due to Lisa Kimberlin putting a GPS speedometer application on his phone, he now knows they do about 81 miles per hour on the open stretches of track.

More information about the Coast Starlight can be found at: <https://www.amtrak.com/coast-starlight-train>



Last month Becky Pereira did some good promoting for GGLS, making a steam engine and gondola decorated with GGLS stickers for collecting food donations at her university food drive.



Jon Sargent's daughter & grandson took him to Rio Vista for their holiday train. After riding the train south, they head back north to the "North Pole" inside their car barn. All the equipment were decorated with holiday lights and at the end, you meet Santa & have some hot chocolate.

More information on the Rio Vista can be found at: <https://www.wrm.org/>

Minutes of the General Meeting

Matt Petach, Jerry Kimberlin, Jon Sargent, Lisa Kimberlin, Rich Croll, Rick Reaves, John Lisherness with Sammy Tamez absent.

President Jon Sargent called the meeting to order at 1005 hours Pacific time and we established that a quorum of members for conducting the annual meeting was present.

President: Nothing to report.

Vice President: Rich met with the two Sarahs from the East Bay Regional Park District and they would like to meet with us on a quarterly basis going forward to address any concerns that might crop up. They gave recommendations for weed killers and will come to treat poison oak if we have any along our right of way.

Secretary: Nothing new to report.

Treasurer: October was an expensive month but we're still doing OK in terms of money

Safety: Nothing to report.

Director at Large: Out sick today.

Ombudsperson Lisa: We have a slate of nominees for the coming year. If you want to run, let Lisa Kimberlin or Steven Fares know.

Current slate is:

Jon Sargent for president,
Steven Fares for Vice President,
Sarah Buhre for Secretary,
John Lisherness for Treasurer,
Jerry Kimberlin for Safety,
Sammy Tamez for Director at Large,
Lisa Kimberlin for Ombudsperson

Committee Reports:



Buildings: The clubhouse is decked with the holiday lights.

Grounds/Landscaping: Ground persons Andy Weber was not present this month.

Ground Track: The shop spur track is being reconstructed. Five track panels have been built so far but another five are still needed. If you can show up on Thursday to help build, that would be appreciated.



Rahim Pereira raking the leaves into the large disposable bags.

Please help with raking leaves and there are a bunch of disposable bags for the leaves in the garden tool shed. Once collected, they will to be driven down to the green waste bin. Huge thanks to Bruce Anderson for driving 13 bags down to the golf course dumpster!

High Track: Still needs someone to become chair person to can give it some Tender Loving Care!

Signals: Jim McKibbin walked the track after the rain and found 11 signals with phantom reds. Until they dry out, please proceed with caution any time you see a red signal.

Safety: Nothing to report.



The McDonalds Eagle scouts painting the club benches

Locomotives: The Eagle scouts are painting our benches for us today, so check carefully before you sit down and they will also be painting the narrow gauge steaming bays.

The RGS #22 lubricator lid was adjusted so it fits better to keep steam from getting in & condensing. We will also swap out the ball check valves for Schrader vertical check valves.

The RGS 20 is running well and Jerry Kimberlin machined some new parts for it.

The Heinz Atlantic needs to have the external parts that were removed, put back on.

The Mark Johnson locomotive needs 2 people to lift the top off it so the engine can be worked on since it is running very rich right now.

The 4760 electric needs to be inspected since it can't pull an 8-car train around the loop anymore.

Rolling Stock: Walt Oellerich will be picking up replacement wheel sets from Accucraft for cars that need new wheels.

Shop: Now that Shattock barn retaining wall project is winding down, the shop club cleanup will begin.

Public Train: Thank you to everyone for helping out!

Landscape: Jo Ann Miller and Bruce Anderson have been busy keeping it looking good.

Roundhouse & Storage: Remember to close the doors as soon as you pull your equipment out to prevent rodent infiltration.

Security: Jon met with the Digital Watchdog team, and will coordinate with Matt on some fixes for it.

Membership: No Membership chair person Sammy Tamez today.

Library: Nothing new to report.

Website: Nothing to report.

Builders Group: Nothing to report.

CallBoy: Jon Sargent has a story about his grandfather's railroad he that he will send to Pat.

Old Business:

Evan is carrying about 700 riders a day at the Dickens Faire, using about 25 gallons of water and two propane tanks a day. He would still love help if you can show up to give assistance which would be much appreciated.

New Business:

We adjourn the regular meeting at 1032 hours Pacific time, and convene the annual business meeting.

Annual 2024 Business Meeting

We have at least 25 people present which is sufficient for a quorum to conduct business.

Lisa and Steve present the slate of officers:

President:	Jon Sargent
Vice President:	Steve Fares
Secretary:	Sarah Buhre
Treasurer:	John Lisherness
Director At Large:	Sammy Tamez
Ombudsperson:	Lisa Kimberlin
Past President:	Rick Reaves

Jeremy made a motion to close the nominations and Charlie Reiter seconded the motion. With no objections, the motion to close the nominations passed unanimously.

Anthony Rhodes made a motion we accept the slate of candidates by vocal acclamation and Rich Croll seconded the motion. With no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

Jon calls for a vocal acclamation for the election of the slate of candidates. No voices were raised in objection and the slate of candidates was approved unanimously.

Anthony Rhodes made a motion to close the annual 2024 business meeting and Becky Pereira seconded the motion. Jon Sargent called for the vote and with no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

The annual meeting is closed at 1037 hours Pacific time, and the General monthly meeting is re-opened.

Back to New Business

Walt Oellerich may draft his grandson Anthony into

taking on the weed spraying work along the right of way.

Big round of applause & thanks to Rich Croll who is serving his last term on the Board, maybe.

Jon adjourned the meeting at 1040 hours Pacific time, and we moved right into Bits and Pieces.

Minutes of the Board Meeting

Officers present: Jon Sargent, Matt Petach, Rich Croll, Rick Reaves, Jerry Kimberlin, John Lisherness, Lisa Kimberlin, incoming officers Steve Fares & Sarah Buhre with Sammy Tamez being absent. President Jon Sargent called the meeting to order at 1108 hours Pacific time.

Old Business:

Last Month's Minutes Acceptance: Jon Sargent presented the minutes from the November 10th 2024 Board meeting and the copy he had with him was the not the updated version. An updated version was put forth for approval where Rick Reaves made a motion that the Board accept the updated minutes. Matt seconded the motion and since there was no discussion, no abstentions and no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

Mudslide: There was a new mudslide after the last meeting. We will be putting broken concrete above the rebuilt retaining wall to provide more support and Rich Croll brought a 25-foot roll of rice straw wattle which will be placed halfway up to keep mud from washing down.

New Business:

2025 Club Calendar: Secretary Matt Petach will send the 2025 calendar to GGLS editor Pat Young for putting up on the website.

Sarah asks if we have a list of projects to be worked on at work days for 2025?

We confirmed that the joint meet at PV&A will be September 27th, 28th 2025, to avoid colliding with Train Mountain Triennial activities.

A brief reminder that 2026 is our 90th anniversary so let's plan to do something nice for it.

Clubhouse Meeting Room Remodel: We will be starting on an effort to revamp the meeting room. First step will be taking down the existing photos and scanning them in to preserve digital versions of them.

We have a member who is a cabinet maker, possibly Justin Annuevo that we will reach out to about suggestions for display cabinets.

Green Bin for the Club: Could we get our own green bin for work days, so we can clear out more dead leaves and branches without having to drive them all down to the golf course?

Landscape Topics: We have an oak tree above the tunnel area that needs to be cut back, but how to do it safely is the concern.

There is a fugitive pine tree on the Heinz loop the park would like us to remove. They are very happy for us to remove any bay trees and Monterey pines that show up. Likewise, scotch broom should be pulled up if we see it.

We tentatively talk about having a work day in March to do landscape cleanup. Park recommends SpecraFlow as weed killer, mixed with a surfactant like dish soap. We heard recommendations for ExperTree and ArborWorks for tree removals.

Clubhouse Stove Chimney Pipe: We need to clean our chimney pipe out next summer when we're not using the stove.

Club Library Asset Catalog: We discussed creating an electronic catalog of what books and magazines the club owns.

Club facility Usage Fee: We discussed opening up rental of the facility for birthday parties, but ultimately decided to stay with the current rule of needing a sponsoring member to schedule the use of the facility, with a suggested donation rate of \$2 per adult, \$1 per child.

We adjourn the meeting at 1143 hours Pacific time.

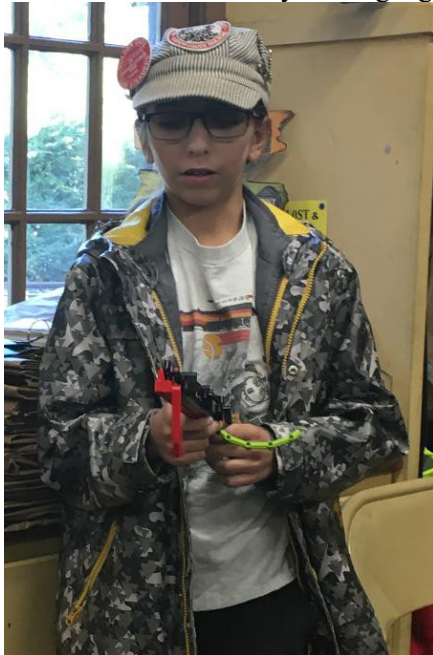
Bits and Pieces

By Jeremy Coombes

Additional photographs courtesy of Pat Young



Charlie Buhre is building a 7½” gauge Marie Estelle to the design by the late Don Young and brought in his latest work to share with the group. Charlie enjoys lathe work and decided to have a go at the cylinder covers, which came out quite nicely. I expect we will see a lot more from this young man as his skills and confidence increase. He’s already making a great start!



Rahim Pereira continues to expand his engineering knowledge using Lego and constructed a working fishing rod & reel. Upon closer examination it is clear Rahim is figuring out how mechanisms work and how to create his own version.



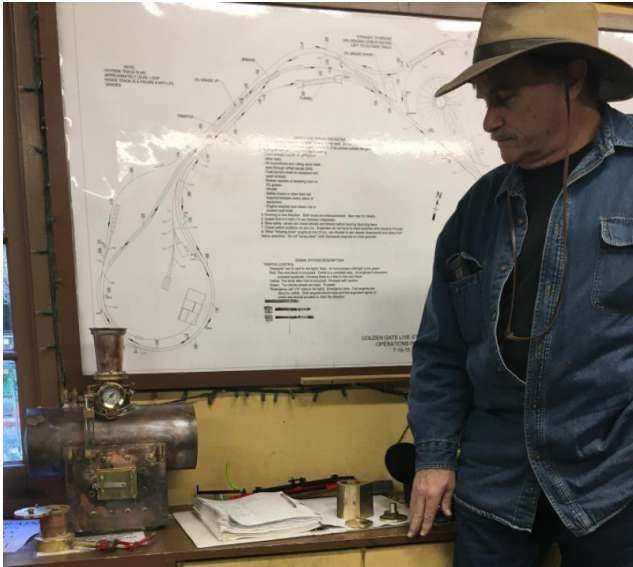
He also made a nice “GGLS” placard, which he kindly donated to the club.



Rich Croll saw a need to drill the rail ends quickly and accurately for connector plates. After a little planning he produced a simple but effective drill jig made from . . . what else, something from his scrap bin, the source of material for all model engineers.

The design Rich settled on is easy to set up & use. It reduces the frustration level for a tedious job that requires fairly high accuracy and repeatability.

Nice job Rich. Now explain to me why your scrap bin is so well stocked!



Charlie Reiter has been busy in his shop recently and brought in two interesting pieces. The first was a Suffolk boiler, which Charlie explained is a simplified Yorkshire boiler. I, for one, was glad he made that point clear as I didn't consider it a simplified version of anything! Charlie described the order of operation and assembly but did state that he had it together & apart many times before completion & final testing.

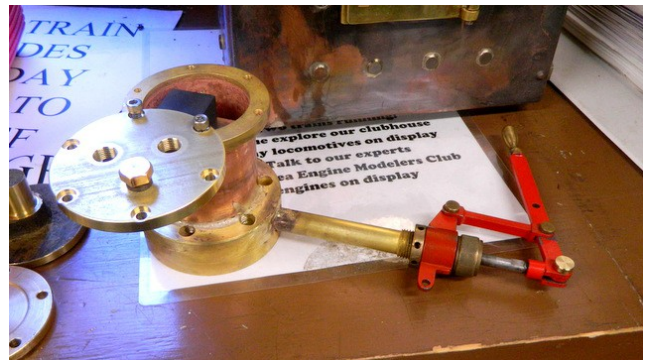


The boiler ends were shown during the October meeting and are secured with 20 studs & nuts and sealed with an O-ring. In full-size they were mounted between the front wheels of a Steam Waggon (British spelling), and several are preserved in running condition in the UK.

Are we going to see a Steam Waggon in the future, Charlie? Or will this be like the steam fire engine you're not building!



The second item from Charlie was a regulator for the 7½" gauge Climax he is (completely) rebuilding.



The valve is Charlie's own design and incorporates a sliding plate made from carbon on a phosphor bronze body. The original design by Kozo is a needle in a tapered hole, which works well in ¾" scale, but in 1½", Charlie believes it's a little inadequate (I agree). In his usual easy-going style Charlie made the design and construction seem easy, but I'm sure it wasn't! I look forward to the day this locomotive is finished & ready for testing on the track.