

*Sort of says it all for Father's Day*

# **The CallBoy**

June 2022

Pat Young CallBoy Editor  
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Cupertino, California  
95014

# The CallBoy Newsletter

Official Publication of the Golden Gate Live Steamers, Inc.  
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| Tilden Park<br>2491 Grizzly Peak Blvd,<br>Orinda, California 94563 | Pat Young, Editor<br><a href="mailto:phty95014@yahoo.com">phty95014@yahoo.com</a><br><br><b>June 2022</b> | A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Museum<br><a href="http://www.ggls.org">www.ggls.org</a> or<br><a href="http://www.goldengatels.org">www.goldengatels.org</a> |
|--|---|--|

## Board Officers

|                    |                 |              |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| President:         | Jon Sargent     | 510-233-6481 |
| Vice President:    | Rich Croll      | 510-227-9174 |
| Secretary:         | Matt Petach     | 408-256-2883 |
| Treasurer:         | John Lisherness | 510-647-8443 |
| Safety:            | Jerry Kimberlin | 510-809-7326 |
| Director at Large: | Mark Johnson    | 510-889-9451 |
| Past President:    | Rick Reaves     | 510-479-3386 |

## Ombudsperson

Lisa Kimberlin 510-214-2595

## GGLS Trust Fund Members

John Lisherness  
Jerry Kimberlin (elected March 2015)  
Ken Blonski (elected December 2019)

## GGLS Committee Chair People

|                  |                               |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bits & Pieces:   | Jeremy Coombes                |
| Boiler Testing:  | Jerry Kimberlin               |
| Building:        | Rick Reaves                   |
| CallBoy Editor:  | Pat Young                     |
| Engines:         | Paul Hirsh                    |
| Grounds:         | Andy Weber                    |
| High Track:      | Sheldon Yee                   |
| Landscape:       | Jo Ann Miller, Bruce Anderson |
| 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:         | John Davis                    |
| Technical Talks: | Charlie Reiter                |
| Track:           | John Lytle                    |
| Web Site:        | Pat Young                     |

## Club Correspondence

All correspondence to the Golden Gate Live Steamers should be sent to the secretary, Matt Petach at this email: [secretary@ggls.org](mailto: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 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](mailto:phty95014@yahoo.com)

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

## 2022 Calendar of Club Sponsored Events

|             |                                 |
|-------------|---------------------------------|
| 06/12       | General Meeting/Board Meeting   |
| 06/18       | BAEM meeting                    |
| 07/10       | General Meeting/Board Meeting   |
| 07/16       | BAEM meeting                    |
| 07/23       | Club reserved for Shanna O'Hare |
| 08/14       | General Meeting/Board Meeting   |
| 08/20       | BAEM meeting                    |
| 08/27-08/28 | PV&A, SVLS and GGLS Joint Meet  |
| 09/03       | Club reserved for John Smith    |
| 09/11       | General Meeting/Board Meeting   |
| 09/17-09/18 | Fall Meet/Open House            |
| 09/17       | BAEM meeting                    |

10/09 General Meeting/Board Meeting  
10/15 BAEM meeting  
  
11/13 General Meeting/Board Meeting  
11/19 BAEM meeting  
  
12/10 Club reserved for BAEM potluck  
12/11 General Meeting/Annual Meeting/Board Meeting

### Announcements

## Please Notice This



Paul Hirsh reminded everyone that you must not store cans of oil, paint, or other liquids on the ground in the Roundhouse or other storage buildings; those should be kept on your equipment, off the ground.

## Please Notice This



### IMPORTANT TO ALL MEMBERS

FROM: GGLS Board of Directors

**Last year your Board of Directors amended a ten-year old policy which had previously stated:**

#### *Policy on Club Owned Locomotives*

The club locomotives and public train rolling stock are reserved for hauling the public, and support of construction and maintenance only.

#### *2.13 Policy on Club Owned Locomotives*

The Board of Directors adopted this policy in 2011 to minimize the need for repairs and maintenance since our supply of people with the knowledge and skills needed to perform this work is very limited. The policy is that all locomotives, including steam engines and "diesels" are to be used only for club activities and not for personal use. Authorized activities include use on the public train, staging the public train, club work party support, and training runs under the direct supervision of an authorized adult trainer. Personal use for general riding around the tracks is not permitted.

**In November 2021 this new paragraph replaced that:**

“2. CLUB OWNED LOCOMOTIVES AND ROLLING STOCK: The RGS20 and RGS22 Steam Locomotives and the Dash-8 Electric Diesel locomotive are reserved for hauling the public and for support of maintenance only. The Hunter and Heinz Atlantic Steam Locomotives are for use by Club members on Sundays only, who have been trained in their use. The 1936 and 1972 Diesels are for use by qualified Club Members at any time, provided they are not in use by maintenance crews who have priority. Riding cars available for member use are kept in the Clerici barn (next to the tool house). After use these cars shall be returned to the barn and chained together.”

**This change was made with the best intentions to benefit members, but there was no training program or plan in place for qualifying new members and their children.**

**We now have a plan to create a written uniform training program so that members can become qualified. Our locomotive chairman Paul will be drafting training segments leading to how members can demonstrate their learned knowledge, and then qualification can be achieved. The draft will then go to our Safety Chairman and Board of Directors for consideration and amendment or approval. There are liability and insurance matters that will need to be reviewed and resolved, and qualified volunteer members sought to help make this new program work. As you can imagine, this is all going to take some patience and time to work through to completion as we are 100% volunteers.**

**For our newer members who are unwilling to wait and find this unacceptable, we apologize, and we will refund your initiation fee + dues in full, and cancel your membership.**

**While the railroad equipment that the organization maintains may seem to be like a fun toy, it is not. The railroad equipment can be very dangerous if not used properly. The Golden Gate Live Steamers has always maintained an excellent safety record and will always seek to do so.**

**Thank you,  
The Golden Gate Live Steamers Board of Directors**

## Guests and New Members



Hi,

Thank you for the warm introduction to GGLS and a tour of Tilden Park.

I come from a long line of mechanical enthusiasts and for me it's model sailboats and for my granddad it was all things steam. He had at various time a steam launch, miniature steam tractor with miniature hay bailer and a railroad speeder car.

In the 90's he acquired Ottaway C-61-1074 from J.S. Marshead in Redwood City according to the history I have. The train, riding cars, and track are still stored on site and ran when parked.

I am looking to connect with people that knew Donald Hineman, gather information on live steam operations, and help out GGLS where possible. Do you need people on Sunday?

Paul Wallace



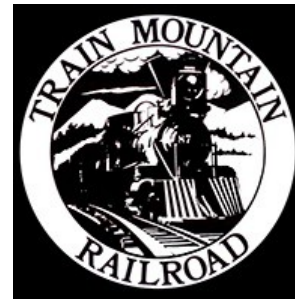
Dale Wingard introduced himself too.

If you have a chance, please say 'Hi' to all of them.

## Steaming Activities

Mark Johnson went on a tour of the Southwest. He was riding in the track at the McCormick Park Live Steamers in Scottsdale, Arizona.

He then stopped at Maricopa Live Steamers, then went to Pacific Palisades park, which has a 15" train, and a nice shop with belt-powered equipment. They also have large G scale, O scale, HO scale and N scale layouts.



Rich Croll, Walt Oellerich & Matt Petach went up to Train Mountain to do some work and if you want to attend the Triennial, you should sign up soon (it is scheduled from June 20 to June 26, 20220). You must be a registered member to bring equipment up to run, but you can buy a day pass if you just want to look around.

## PLS Announcement

*Editor: Received from the Pennsylvania Live Steamers:*

"We regret that due to current conditions at PLS, the Board of Directors recommended that we cancel the Anniversary Celebration that had been rescheduled for this Fall. The membership approved their recommendation.

The original decision to reschedule was caused by the COVID 19 pandemic. This decision was caused by the historic flood we suffered on September 1, 2021 which flooded every building on the property including the club house which sits at the highest elevation. It will be some time before the property is presentable so we are dropping the Anniversary event altogether and will plan an Open House sometime in the future.

We are sorry that we will not have the pleasure of your company this year but look forward to greeting you in the near future.

Sincerely,  
Mark Cahill  
PLS Secretary"

## Minutes of the General Meeting

President Jon Sargent called the General Meeting to order at 1001 hours Pacific time.

### Announcements

Jo Ann Miller & Bruce Anderson requested and were granted permission to take down the rest of the old roller shades in the kitchen since they attract bugs & nobody ever actually uses them.

### Kudos



Many thanks to John Lisherness for spearheading the Roundhouse rodent elimination project! If you see a rodent in one of the traps, please clear it & reset the trap.



Thanks to John Davis, Paul Hirsh and Rich for clearing the way for the upper fire access gate, so that emergency crews can get inside in case of a fire. The signal head that was in the way was moved further along the track, out of the way for access by emergency vehicles. This means as you approach the signal, it will turn red in front of you before you get there but that's OK.



Also many thanks to Jo Ann Miller & Bruce Anderson for an overdue clean up & update of the club house kitchen. Hopefully their efforts will help in reducing or eliminating the rodent problem also.



Andy Weber wished to express his thanks to David Luther who brought down his back hoe, Richard Croll who rented a Bobcat, Lou & Thomas Bradas, as well as all those who helped with the parking lot french draining project.

### Officer Reports

The only report came from the Treasurer, who listed our income & expenses for the month. All other officers had nothing to report.

### Committee Reports

**Security report:** Don't forget to spin the combination locks to zero again after opening them, twice; Jon found locks left with the combination numbers still showing on them.

**Signals:** John Davis reiterated what was said earlier, in that signal S3 was moved further down so it will turn red before you reach it. T41 on the inside loop is the same way, it reacts before you actually get to it and that's OK. He will be working on T43 just outside the station on the mainline for the next few weeks, so it may be in manual mode. You can kick it to change the turnout while the electrical work is being done.

**High Track:** Sheldon noted that Bob Cohen donated two boxes of high track ties to help with repair of loose spots on the high track. Now we just need some volunteers to help put them in.

**Locomotives:** Thank you to Rich Croll for the new cylinder cock valve for the Hunter Atlantic where the first replacement valve didn't work. The second one tested well on compressed air.

**Rolling Stock:** the new combine car that goes behind the RG has made it into Long Beach Harbor; we hope to see it arrive on the railroad in the next few weeks.

**CallBoy:** I strongly urge members to subscribe to the online version because the printed version is an abridged version. You will miss out on some articles, photos and probably the humor section if you do.

**Website:** Nothing to report.

**Builders Group:** A member was looking at the club web site and it mentioned something about a Builders Group maintained by Yahoo. This facility was abandoned by Yahoo a few years ago but people who have a question about a problem or need help can always contact the CallBoy editor who can either put that person in contact with someone knowledgeable or we can put a request in the CallBoy.

**Library:** We have limited space in the club house and it forces me to make decisions on what to throw out so that I don't impact the cleaning & maintenance by Mel. I was asked to keep some of the donated magazines of marginal interest but it would not be fair to the rest of the club. So please take what you want to read; otherwise leftover items will get recycled.

General Meeting adjourned at 1059 hours Pacific time.

### **Minutes of the Board Meeting**

ATTENDEES: Jon Sargent, Matt Petach, John Lisherness, Jerry Kimberlin, Mark Johnson, Lisa Kimberlin, Rick Reaves, Rich Croll, Ken Blonski and Pat Young

President Jon Sargent called the meeting to order at 1115 hours Pacific time.

#### **New Business**

**Storage Lease Termination:** Rich Croll made a motion to terminate Derek Schipper's storage lease based on him not occupying the space for the past year. Mark Johnson seconded the motion. There were no abstentions and no objections, so the motion passed.

**Additional Propane Storage Purchase:** John Lisherness made a motion to approve getting a second propane tank storage cage for \$1,500. Rick Reaves seconded the motion. During discussion, it was noted that Walt can get propane tanks for \$175. No objections, no abstentions, the motion passed.

**Unpaid Porta-potties Invoice:** There was an outstanding invoice for \$590 for porta-potties for the Spring and Fall meets that needed to be paid before our special event permit could be fully approved. Secretary Matt Petach forwarded the invoice to Treasurer John Lisherness for payment.

**Rodent Control:** Mark Johnson made a request to John Lisherness to reach out to the rodent control company to get an estimate for extending their service to our other storage buildings.

**Storage Shed Proposal:** John Lisherness made a request for approval to build a storage shed on the High Track bay across from Steve Vitkovits, using the same design that Steve used. Rick Reaves made a motion to approve John's request and Rich Croll seconded the motion. There were two no votes. The "ayes" carried the motion, and the motion passed.

**Bylaws:** Rich Croll raised the question of updating the Bylaws to do away with the requirement for three 10-year members to act as trustees; if we have an external company handling the investment, do we need three trustees? The idea was discussed but no action was taken.

The point was made that the Bylaws require the Board to appoint two members who are \*not\* on the Board to do the financial audit for the company. Several names are tossed out, but no decision was made as to which members will be appointed to the audit committee.

**Increase Roundhouse Fees:** Mark Johnson made a motion to raise storage fees starting next year, with roundhouse fees increasing \$100/year, and other storage buildings increasing by \$50/year. Rick seconded the motion. There was one vote against, one abstention. The ayes carried the motion, and the motion passed.

Jon adjourned the Board meeting at 1220 hours Pacific time.

## **Bits and Pieces**

*Editor: We have just found out that after many years of doing the Bits and Pieces segment for the CallBoy, Sheldon Yee is retiring from his position. We sincerely wish to thank Sheldon for his time & effort in doing this.*



### **From Bruce Anderson:**

*“The Stuart #9 — once upon a time, there was a wonderful member named Roy Motz. While joining him in his shop one day, I spotted a partially built vertical boiler in a dusty dark back corner. I mentioned how my Stuart Walking Beam engine might run on steam someday and asked if it were for sale. He then showed me the Stuart #9 he had acquired from the DeFreitas Brothers and said no, it’s another project. A few months later he would offer to sell me both the boiler and engine. After writing a check and moving things to my truck, he pulled out another box containing the Stan James 0-4-0T Juliet. “Here, why don’t you take this too.” Honestly folks, I stopped buying locomotives at number three!*

*The Stuart #9 is a model horizontal mill engine having a 1-1/2” bore x 1-1/2” stroke. Probably around the 1890s to 1930s, full sized engines like this would be used to power shops. In 1970, the castings cost \$41, current cost is \$575-ish while a machined kit goes for about \$2,100.*

See <https://www.stuartmodels.com> for more details.

*Sometime if you’re in northern Indiana, visit the Hesston Steam Museum at <https://hesston.org> and see how shops were powered by engines like this.”*



**From Charlie Reiter:** *“I have Ron Downner's first stationary steam engine. He machined the parts in 10th grade machine shop at his Polytechnic High School in San Francisco in 1953. I just cleaned the engine up and replaced its cracked wooden base. Ron was a long time member of GGLS, steam collector and pipe organ builder.*

*I also showed an intake screens for the water lifter on a Burrell tractor & another for a steam fire pumper.”*

## **Landscape Report**

By Jo Ann Miller

### **PLANTINGS**

We are working on weeding and planting several areas that are highly viewable to our guests on the Public Train.



New plants have been added to the upper tunnel hill, including a couple of California native flowering plants. Look for the yellow flowers of Tidy Tips and

red flowers of Red Buckwheat. The purple flowers of Erysimum 'Bowles Me Away' is a relative of the California native wallflower.

The plants along the entrance driveway have been updated to include a couple of varieties of the Euphorbia plant. Look for the colorful foliage and flowers mixed with between the lavender plants. Poppies, Iris and Grevillea have been added to the Shattock Barn Hill to keep the bears happy.

### **OTHER LANDSCAPING ACTIVITES**

We are working on removing redwood tree suckers, both for looks and for the health of the tree. The suckers on many of the redwoods were left untrimmed for several years and thus sprouting on some trees is considerable. It is best and easiest to remove them when they are new and small. When small, they can be removed with a pair of clippers and should be cut off as close to the tree trunk as possible. Feel free to adopt a redwood tree and keep it free of suckers.

We are also working on removing the dead plant and tree growth around the track.

A lot of the dead growth is coyote brush. Coyote brush is considered to be one of the more flammable native shrubs. It is only moderately fire resistant when the plant is healthy. But if the plant is not regularly trimmed and watered, a lot of dead wood accumulates, increasing the fire hazard. Because of the high maintenance and water needs, some organizations recommend removal, at least within 30 feet of structures. If not removed, it should be pruned and watered regularly to keep it healthy and free of dead growth.

Some very invasive plants of concern around the track are the French Broom and Poison Hemlock. French Broom is very pretty when covered in yellow flowers, but due to its invasive nature, Tilden Park is recommending removal.

Poison Hemlock has leaves that look a lot like carrots or parsley. Poison Hemlock is highly poisonous to humans and animals when ingested, but it is not poisonous to touch. It can be identified by its stalks, which are round and hairless. The more mature stalks are covered with reddish purple splotches. We are working to remove it from our area.

### **Photos from the Readership**



From Andy Rogers: On Thursday , April 28, 2022, many engines were out of the roundhouse for roundhouse maintenance.

Here's a photo with Max Rogers (who was there briefly for the work-day). Max is standing next to the American John Lisherness has been working on for Max.

### **From the Past**

From Librarian Pat Young

*From the March 1940 issue #6 of the Modelmaker is the following article that GGLS readers might find interesting:*

#### **What Other Modelmakers Are Doing**

Victor T. Shattock, 1877 38th Ave, Oakland, California. a motivating force in the recently organized Golden Gate Live Steamers' Association, has built four locomotives and dozens of cars, making his live steamers fit into an operating railroad rather than just operating them as deadhead locomotives.

He's a sort of 'missing link' between the live steamers and the electric-drive model railroad fan, for he combines the two most prominent features -- operation by steam on the one hand and layout operating on the other -- to make a really complete live steam railroad hobby. He has 350 ft. of 2½" gauge track in his basement. Because of the closed quarters he uses alcohol for fuel. Passengers can ride on the flat cars, but as a rule trains are run the same as the electric-drive fan runs them -- as trains to watch, not to ride.

He follows Southern Pacific prototype. Among his locomotives are a Pacific and a Mikado which carry details to the nth degree. All engines were entirely built up.