



*The Shattock Barn retaining wall is slowly progressing but **HELP** is needed to get it done before the rains come!
Contact Rich Croll if you can help.*

The CallBoy

November 2024

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 November 2024	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:	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:	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, Matt Petach 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!

2024 Calendar of Club Sponsored Events

11/10	General Meeting/Board Meeting
11/16	BAEM meeting
12/08	General Meeting/Annual Meeting/Board Meeting
12/14	BAEM meeting

Announcements

It's getting close to election time for the 2025 Golden Gate Live Steamers Board Officers! We had a couple of people step up and volunteer for some of the needed positions at the last meeting, but we welcome any one else who would like to sign up.

The current slate for the 2025 GGLS Board Officers elections include:

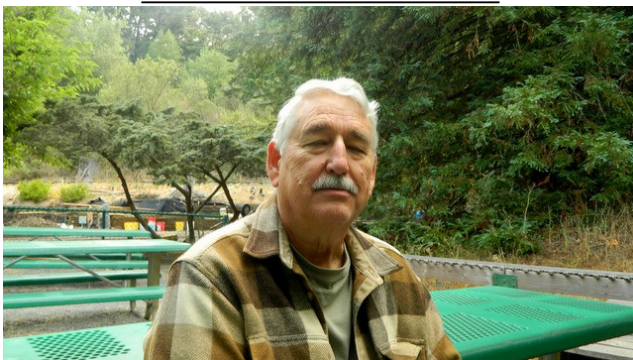
President:	Jon Sargent
Vice President:	Stephen Fares
Secretary:	Sarah Buhre
Treasurer:	John Lisherness
Safety:	Jerry Kimberlin
Director-at-Large:	Sammy Tamez
Ombudsman:	Lisa Kimberlin

Please email Lisa Kimberlin (ombudsperson@ggls.org or scorpeo@comcast.net) if you'd like to run for any of the positions and let her know which position(s) interest you! You may also nominate someone who you think would be a great fit (and nominated members have the option to decline). Remember, you (or the nominee) just have to be 18 years or older and be a voting member in good standing to run.

Dues and rental space fees are due now; if you pay dues before Dec 31st, you get a \$10 discount.

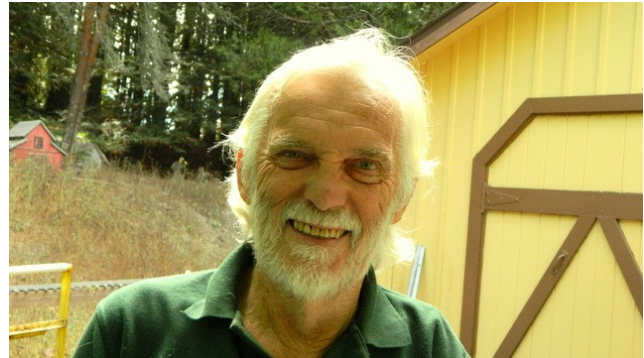
The Dickens Fair is coming to the Cow Palace this November & December, 2024. Jon has the paperwork and Red Barn Productions, the company that runs it, will be covering the insurance costs for us at the event. Evan Bautista will be providing his locomotive and we will be providing 3 riding cars. We're looking for some volunteers to help work the event, from November 22nd to December 22nd.

New Members and Guests



Bob Walker from Napa spoke of his two Baldwin

electrics and the ten-wheeler he's working on. He is also a member of the Sacramento Valley live steamers and his father was one of the founders of the Orange County live steamers. When he moved up to Milpitas, he was involved with the Portola Valley and Alpine Rail Road with Dick Thomas, John Grant and Lynn McGee.



Gordon De La Mare, a friend of Jerry Kimberlin's, is here visiting from England. He belongs to two clubs there and has his own 5" garden railway.

Railroading Activities

Walt went to Train Mountain with his grandson, spent seven days there and ran trains for 2-3 hours every morning for five days. He then got to show Sarah Buhre, one of our members, around Train Mountain. Sarah went around with her speeder on a big trek out towards Hope Circle but ended up getting towed back by Jeff. They spent several hours in the back shop with her getting it working again which allowed them to go out on some night runs.

Dee Murphy spent August back east running steam tractors, including an Avery steam engine which was the last Minneapolis steam engine ever built. As well as running a steam powered sawmill, she then came back to the west coast for the Roots of Motive Power steam festival.

Terry Strom, of the Redwood Empire Live Steamers in Santa Rosa, California, talked about their last public run of the season where it was 104 degrees and forced them to close up early. They will be running again in May, the first weekend of each month.

Michael Smith went with his daughter to Roaring Camp, where they rode up the hill behind the Heisler locomotive. It turns out that the Dixiana Shay is out of service for six months.

Steven Fares worked as a student brakeman on Sept 22nd for the first time, running steam on the Robert Dollar on the Niles Canyon Railway in Niles, California. While working as student brakeman, he discovered just how silent railroad cars can be when they are rolling towards you!

Jim Pate just got back from Rhode Island where he visited the New England Wireless and Steam museum, which has 3 giant Corliss engines running off a central boiler. He also visited the Mystic Seaport Museum in Connecticut, which has a steam boat that unfortunately now runs on electricity. The Rhode Island museum has lots of drawings and plans for old steam engines, so if you're looking for plans, they can be a good resource to reach out to.

Apple Time at Charlie Reiter's House

Jeremy Coombes was delighted to be invited to Charlie's house at the end of September for the Reiter family "Apple Time" event where the apples grown in Charlie's Garden are converted to apple juice.

Of course, being Charlie's house, the process must involve steam power, so Jeremy was put to work as the fireman and charged with maintaining boiler pressure.

The set-up is interesting and is powered by a good-sized propane boiler, which supplies steam to a stationary engine running the apple "shredder," and a small steam engine operating the hydraulic pump for the apple pulp crusher.

At the end of the day there was between 18 to 20 gallons of absolutely delicious fresh apple juice, made with a touch of that special ingredient. No, not love, steam oil!

Minutes of the General Meeting

Matt Petach, Jerry Kimberlin, Jon Sargent, Lisa Kimberlin, Sammy Tamez were present with Rich Croll & Rick Reaves absent.

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

Officer Reports:

President: Nothing to report.

Vice President: Not present.

Secretary: Nothing new to report.

Treasurer: We still have money and half of our new donations that came in were done electronically.

Safety: Nothing to report.

Director at Large: Thanks to Becky for all the work in the kitchen making September Fall Meet a success!

Ombudsperson: Lisa Kimberlin reported that Jerry Kimberlin was feeling overwhelmed doing boiler inspections during the Fall Meet, so Jeremy is now approved as a boiler inspector.

With regards to our 2025 Board elections, the usual suspects had agreed to run again although that changed later when Steven Fares nominated himself for the Vice President position.

Grounds/Landscaping: Andy Weber was not here this month, but Michael & Chris Smith put up safety handrails along the steps by the raised tracks leading to the steaming track turntable.

Ground Track: Jim McKibbin had a manual switch by the diamond mine rust out & fall apart. Since we have no spares, he used the mechanism from the shop track to repair it.

There are a bunch of disposable bags for collecting leaves in the garden tool shed and once collected, they need to be driven down to the green waste bin since we can't just push them over the hill.

High Track: Bruce Anderson pointed out the High Track ties are starting to bunch up. We really need someone to help give it some tender loving care soon, please!

Signals: John Davis reminded everyone that once the rainy season sets in, our signals will get flakey, so always proceed with caution!

Safety: Remember, don't pace the Public Train when running on the inside track. If you are alongside the Public Train, they will slow down to let you pull ahead. If you don't pull ahead, you'll both end up coming to a stop, so don't do that. Keep moving and let the Public Train fall behind you. If you need to cross from the inside track to the outside track, do it in front of the station where the movement can be done more safely. If you activate any of the push-button track switches on the outside track, make sure to put the cover back on so kids can't hit the buttons as trains are going past.

Locomotives: We got new lubricators for the RGS #20 & #22 locomotives but since they don't work property, we have gone back to using the old lubricators. The Heinz Atlantic needs to have its cowling bent back around the steam cylinders again. Paul put some holes with plugs into the steam chests so that in the future we can open them up to make the valve timing more easily.

Rolling Stock: No Rich Croll today.

Shop: No Rich Croll today.

Public Train: Weeds are growing back up again near the Dameron barn so we could use some help pulling them out. And please sign up to be engineers or

conductors; we'll train you on what you need to know.
Landscape: Jo Ann Miller has been fixing up the bank, and has been setting up Halloween decorations around the track.

Ellen Thomsen, our neighbor, would like us to move the vulture by the Heintz loop to somewhere else.

Roundhouse and Storage: It's time to pay the annual storage fees again and there is no grace period. Fees for 2025 must be paid by December 31st, 2024, or you forfeit your storage space. See Lisa if you would like to pay your dues for next year or pay for your storage and we can accept payment by credit card now, as well as cash or check.

Security: Matt's almost done repairing and upgrading the computer for the cameras.

Membership: See Sammy Tamez if you need a new safety book.

Library: Pat Young is still sorting out some older issues and consolidating materials

Website: Pat Young will be adding a donations link to the website so people can donate electronically.

Builders Group: Nothing to report.

CallBoy: Thank you for the articles & photos! At 19 pages, that was our largest issue yet!

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

None.

President Jon Sargent adjourned the meeting at 10:58 hours Pacific time and moved right into Bits and Pieces.

Minutes of the Board Meeting

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

President Jon Sargent called the meeting to order at 1126 hours Pacific time.

Old Business:

Last Month Board Minutes: Jon Sargent presented the minutes from the September 8, 2024 Board meeting for approval. Sammy Tamez made a motion that the Board accept them as presented and Matt Petach seconded the motion. With no abstentions and no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

Computer Status: Matt is almost done with the computer repairs & upgrades. It will have twice the memory, twice the speed and twice the storage when it's back in place. Jon asks to make sure it will power

itself back on when power goes out.

Closing out the Wells Fargo Account: John Lisherness pointed out we have two checks remaining against the Wells Fargo account that need to clear before we can close out that account.

Shattock Barn Retaining Wall: Work on the retaining wall is continuing, but more workers would really help out since we want to finish it before the rainy season starts again.

Election Progress: Lisa Kimberlin will publish the slate of 2025 Board election candidates in the CallBoy.

Boiler Inspector: Jeremy Coombes is our newest boiler inspector.

Rodent Infestation: Two rat's nests were found in the Dameron Barn since it is not part of the pest control list of patrolled structures.

We need to dig down and put galvanized hardware cloth down underground about a foot out from the building to keep rodents from burrowing in.

2025 Meet Date: We chose dates for the 2025 Spring and Fall meets next year: May 17th & 18th for the Spring meet, and September 20th & 21st for the Fall meet.

Port-a-Potty Supplier: We will look at identifying alternate port-a-potty suppliers for those weekends, along with the person that provides them for the sea scouts. They might be open to making some money for their port-a-potty.

Public Train Disable Rider Car: We discuss getting a riding car for disabled riders and decide the potential list of liability issues is too big a risk for the club.

Sammy Tamez moved to adjourn the meeting at 1152 hours Pacific time and with no objections, the meeting was adjourned.

Bits and Pieces

By Jeremy Coombes

Photographs courtesy of

Bruce Anderson and Pat Young

As mentioned in last month's Bits and Pieces Stephen Fares has been working toward becoming a brakeman at the Niles Canyon Railway, and to add some panache to his uniform he researched and purchased an authentic 1940's Union Pacific Brakeman's badge to add to his cap.



The badge is in really nice shape and Stephen is looking forward to attaching it. A very interesting way to smarten up a uniform and pay homage to those folks who made the railroads their life's work!

Mike Smith and his daughter took a trip to the San Francisco Cable Car Museum (1201 Mason Street for those interested in visiting) and gave a short report on the interesting exhibits.



While there he purchased a souvenir consisting of a short piece of the cable which runs under the streets and provides the means of propulsion for the Cable Cars. The sample shows evidence of wear, which is why the cable is routinely inspected and replaced. The design of the cable consists of six strands with nineteen wires each, and a Sisal core, which reduces internal wear between the strand bundles as they pass over the pulleys and drive wheels. The Sisal plant is native to Mexico and is used for making rope, twine, and a variety of other products. Mike highly recommends the museum to anyone interested in machinery, railways, or San Francisco history.



Sammy Tamez brought in a mid-1970's advertising item from the Southern Pacific Railroad. It is a tray with a very nice picture of the CP Huntington locomotive, and it has been kept in its original packaging resulting in it being in pristine condition. Sammy intends to donate it to the California Railroad Museum, but thought we would enjoy seeing it before he does.

Thank you, Sammy, for showing it and preserving it for many in the future to enjoy!

Charlie Reiter has been working on a propane burner for another members locomotive and briefly described his progress so far.

Charlie has been on a bit of a boiler building kick recently and brought in the ends for a Yorkshire boiler he is constructing.



They are approximately six inches in diameter and made from some pretty stout one-eighth inch-thick copper plate. Charlie made the ends by first annealing the copper plates, then clamping them between steel support rings and forming to shape in a hydraulic press using a shaped tool attached to the press ram. The operation was performed in a single try and the result is very pleasing to the eye.

What else would we expect from Charlie?

Roots of Motive Power Annual Steam Festival

By Sarah Buhre

My son and I attended the Roots of Motive Power Steam Festival in Willits on September 7th-8th, 2024.

They describe their event as:

"The major steam-up event of the year is the Roots of Motive Power Festival, held annually in September at the Roots facility. Our work efforts throughout the year are aimed at having every piece of operable equipment under power. Plumes of steam and the shrieks of steam whistles will fill the air as a variety of steam-powered equipment is fired up.

In addition to the steam-up we reserve the Recreation Grove Park across the street for the Early Day Gas Engine Society and Bill Rose's Model A Tour group to set up under the oaks. Late Saturday afternoon in the park we also hold the annual Roots Appreciation BBQ and raffle which has become legendary among the gourmet BBQ set. The smell of whole pigs roasting on the spit draws a huge crowd for the perfect ending to a wonderful day.

The steam-up is free and open to the public, however there is a charge for the BBQ."



Charlie and I got there first thing in the morning to watch the equipment get started up.



Dee working the steam crane.

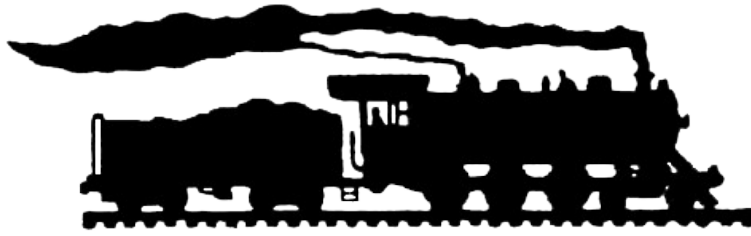
Right away we found Dee Murphy and her daughters

rushing around getting things ready for the crowds. Steam equipment on hand included shovels, tractors, steam-rollers, donkeys and cranes. There were other types of equipment as well including a demonstration of an old powered sheep shearing machine.



A favorite of mine was a print making activity at the park adjacent to the equipment site. I was able to carve a picture in a piece of linoleum and watch as it was inked, placed on the ground and run over by a steamroller. A unique keepsake to be sure!

Roots will have a steam class coming up in April, 2025 which Charlie & I will be taking for sure!



GOLDEN GATE LIVE STEAMERS, INC.
TILDEN PARK BERKELEY, CA.

Membership & Roundhouse Dues Renewal Notice

It is time to renew your Golden Gate Live Steamers membership & roundhouse dues for 2025.

Regular Member (lives within 100 miles of club facilities):	
If renewed on or before December 31, 2024	\$ 40
If renewed on or after January 1, 2025	\$ 50
If renewing after March 31, 2025, see note below.	
Associate Member (lives beyond 100 miles from club facilities):	\$ 30
Family Membership:	
If renewed on or before December 31, 2024	\$ 50
If renewed on or after January 1, 2025	\$ 60
Roundhouse & Storage Fees:	\$300
Boyer's Bluff:	\$100
Bulger Barn:	\$200
Diamond Back	\$150

Note:

Roundhouse & Storage fees are due now and must be paid by December 31st.

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

Lisa Kimberlin
324 Nevada Avenue
Point Richmond, CA 94801

If payment is not received by March 31, 2024, your name will be deleted from the club roster and require a \$25 initial fee to be reinstated.

The Golden Gate Live Steamers is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.