New Year’s Day
Chili Run

The first day of January is always a cause for celebration that includes parades, and football games. Many sleep in after an “all-nighter” and nurse a deserved hangover. GGLS members have a different perspective on the “first day” as an excuse to get together, run trains and chow down on the club’s delicious recipe chili. If the weather cooperates, trains are out on the track with lots of chili ready to serve in the clubhouse. Here we have our newest member, Sandy Morris, ready to fill your bowl along with Lisa Kimberlin. We thank Sheldon Yee for coordinating this annual event. Pat Young, seen here, brought some of his special recipe chili to share.
Announcements

This month’s meeting will include a vote by the membership to purchase Bob Cohen’s engine. It has been checked out and meets all criteria for pulling the public train. The vote was to take place last month but due to the weather, there were not enough members present to have a quorum.
Club Meeting Minutes

President Mark Johnson called the General Meeting to order at 10:03 am. There were only 18 members present.

Discussion was held regarding number of members for quorum. The Ombudsman, Bob Cohen, checked the Bylaws, and the number for a quorum is 20 members. Therefore no actions could take place. The president acknowledged the new club secretary, Richard Croll.

General Announcements:
Nothing to report.

New & Returning Members, Visitors, Guests:
None.

Steam-related Activities:
Bruce Anderson reported that he had run his 0-4-0T locomotive aka 'Harley'.

He also mentioned that he participated in Redwood Valley Railway’s holiday events as Father Solstice.

Officers' Report:
President Mark Johnson: “Hello Everyone. On behalf of the Golden Gate Live Steamers Board I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. We had a great turn out for the “Chilli Run” on January 1st. While the weather was a bit chilly, the day was clear and dry. I especially enjoyed the opportunity to see and talk with a lot of members that may not have been at the track for a while. I want to thank Sheldon Yee for heading up the event and all those who helped out. I would like to especially thank all of those who brought the wonderful food for all of us to eat.

In case you were not aware there was an injury at the track during the last Thursday work session. One of our members fell from the roof while inspecting the roof for leaks. The roof shingles have lost their grit and have become slick. An emergency response was requested and fortunately the member is now on the mend. This incident does bring home the fact that accidents can happen when they are least expected. As such it is always a good idea that when you are working at the track that you let others also know what you are doing.

When climbing ladders it is a good idea to have a spotter assisting you. Remember 'Safety First' is always the rule of the day and try to NEVER WORK ALONE at the GGLS facility.”

Vice President: Absent.

Treasurer: Reported on expenses for month and balances in accounts. For details, please see John Lisherness. The President reminded committee heads that they should provide the Treasurer with a projected expense budget for 2017.

Secretary: Reported that Portola Valley & Alpine Live Steamers has invited GGLS to a joint meet with Sacramento Valley Live Steamers at the PV&A track on June 24 & 25.

Safety Chairman: Refer to President's report regarding ladder safety.

Ombudsmen: Nothing to report.

Committee Reports:
Buildings: No report.

Grounds: No report.

Signals: Dan Swanson reported that T-23, the signal repeater, will be moved out of the way of the side access gate and will be located close to the brick wall. He also said he is trying to cure the false reds caused by moisture.

Ground Track: John Lytle reported that he worked for Amtrak for many years and they had false red signals also.

High Track: No report.

Locomotives:
RGS 22: Nothing new to report on the #22. The engine continues to pull the Public Train on Sundays.
Still having some issues with propane freezing when firing the engine.

Johnson Pacific: No additional work has been done on the engine since last month.

Heintz Atlantic: No additional work has been done on the engine since last month.

Hunter Atlantic: Wrapping up on the engine's miscellaneous small stuff: safeties, injector, new oil cups, brake adjustment. A a broken leaf spring was discovered on engineer’s side that needs to be replaced.

Diesels: Both engines are running. Use of these engines should be alternated so that one engine is not left unused and sitting idle for extended periods.

After doing the Monthly Engine Report for a number of years, Mark Johnson is now looking for someone from the Club to take over the this responsibility which lets everyone know what is going on with the club’s engines. Please see Mark if you want to know what is involved; This is a pretty easy task.

Public Train: Walter Oellerich was introduced as the new Public Train chairman. He thanked Rich Croll & John Lytle for their efforts on the equipment & track and announced that Bruce Anderson will be his chief station agent. The Public Train crew hauled 22,000 riders in 2016!

Rolling Stock: Rich Croll reported that the club purchased two hydraulic Toe Jacks to use in re-railing locomotives (the Toe Jack is reviewed in the Bits and Pieces segment). He reported that a pair of mountain car trucks had been assembled from parts & a pair of Tom Bee trucks have been purchased as back up for the Public Train.

Callboy/Website: Pat Young stated that the web site's calendar will be updated as soon as the Board has provides the dates for 2017. He continues to monitor a Norton Utilities related problem that is not allowing two members from logging into our web site; but there is a work around. Finally Bruce Anderson has been scanning old Callboys that will be available soon on our website.

Builders Group: It had been quiet on the Yahoo Builders Group, but Pat Young is going to upload some of his CAD drawings soon.

Membership: Rick Zobelein reported that the club has around 150 members and that Sandy Morris has become a regular member. Rick has been talking to a prospective new member who has an automotive machine shop that specializes in Porsche sport cars.

Roundhouse: No report.

Old Business:
The vote to purchase Bob Cohen's locomotive could not be done due to the lack of a quorum.

New Business:
Brian Perry is donating a whistle valve. No action was necessary.

Good of the Order: Sheldon Yee announced that the donuts were free this time.

General Meeting adjourned at 10:55 am.

Board Meeting Minutes
The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by President Mark Johnson at 12:13 pm.

Old Business:
Roundhouse: Three members have not paid their round house rent. They will be contacted.

Committee Heads: Noted that the Public Train chairman is now Walter Oellerich & Ground Track chairman is now John Lytle. All other chairmanship remains unchanged.

Yearly Calendar: Discussion was held on the proposed 2017 dates. Bob Cohen moved to accept the proposed calendar, Jerry Kimberlin seconded it and the Motion was passed. The 2017 calendar will be posted in the Callboy and our web site. Secretary is to contact Discover live Steam, Live Steam magazine and others with the dates of our Spring/ Fall meets.
Work Priorities: Discussion held regarding work projects for coming year. John Lisherness moved, and Jerry Kimberlin seconded, for the following projects (in order of importance):
1. Install turnout from inside loop to roundhouse lead and re-grade the mainline track.
2. Install longer bridge section on the High Track over roundhouse lead.
3. Install grade crossing and improve access through the side gate for larger vehicles.
4. Construct crossover from inside loop to outside loop track to allow access from inside loop to Tilden Station for the Public Train.
5. Install additional turn table track in roundhouse area.
Motion was passed.

Bylaws: Bob Cohen, Richard Croll and Jerry Kimberlin will work on the Bylaws and propose changes.

New Business:
Discussed what to do with donated locomotive bell. John Lytle will do a drawing for a metal post that will go to member John Nicholson for fabrication.

Motion was made by Richard Croll and seconded by Bob Cohen to purchase the Sony audio recorder from Chris Smith for $45 for use by the secretary. Motion passed.

Discussion was held about posting member roster information at the club house. Officers & emergency contact information will be posted by the phone in the club house kitchen. A copy of club roster will be put in one of the file cabinets, but not posted.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm.

Bits and Pieces
by Sheldon Yee

Bob Cohen – Wooden Locomotive – from a company called UGears, it is a 4-6-4 Outline Steam locomotive, made of thin, laser-cut plywood, toothpicks & rubber bands (in other words, better than most of our locomotives). It is a “wind-up” toy and actually runs. It can be lubricated with wax, Vaseline, etc. It took Bob one week to assemble. If interested, see the following URL: www.ugears.us/

Rich Croll – Toe Jack - Purchased from a company called TEMCo, from a store called Tower Electric Motor, it is a hydraulic, spring-loaded 2.5/5 ton jack (#TH0025 for $145), intended to be used in conjunction with certain jigs or fixtures, for the purpose of re-railing and/or lifting heavy loads such as our model locomotives or similar devices. If interested, see the following URL:
http://www.temcoindustrialpower.com/search.html?t1=toe%20jack
Jerry Kimberlin – Conduit Fitting – Showed the lost wax casting procedure he used to produce multiple copies of a scale brass electric conduit angle fitting, with emphasis on the steps undertaken & material requirements to produce a vulcanized rubber casting mold.

From Our Membership

During the chili run Dan Swanson had a familiar passenger accompanying him on this trip, his wife Cecelia looked over his shoulder, to ensure he was operating the engine properly. The trip went smoothly and the public train returned to the station on time with no derailments thanks to all the recent great track work by John Lytle.
Bad Passwords

With almost daily news articles about computer hacking, breaches in email, online shopping thefts, I came across an article that reveals the naked truth on how people abuse security by choosing simple password patterns. See how much this applies to you! Ed.

If you lost your ATM card on the street, how easy would it be for someone to correctly guess your PIN and proceed to clean out your savings account? Not long, according to data scientist, Nick Berry, founder of Data Genetics, a Seattle technology consultancy.

Berry analyzed passwords previously from released and exposed password tables and security breaches and filtered the results to just those that were exactly four digits long [0-9]. There are 10,000 possible combinations that the digits 0-9 can be arranged to form a four-digit code. Berry analyzed those to find which are the least and most predictable. He speculates that if users select a four-digit password for an online account or other web site, it's not a stretch to use the same number for their four-digit bank PIN codes.

What he found, he says, was a "staggering lack of imagination" when it comes to selecting passwords. Nearly 11% of the 3.4 million four-digit passwords he analyzed are 1234. The second most popular PIN in is 1111 (6% of passwords), followed by 0000 (2%). (Last year SplashData compiled a list of the most common numerical and word-based passwords and found that the "password" and "123456" topped the list.)

Berry says that a whopping 26.83% of all passwords could be guessed by attempting just 20 combinations of four-digit numbers (see table).

"It's amazing how predictable people are," he says.

We don't like hard-to-remember numbers and "no one thinks their wallet will get stolen," Berry says.

Days, months, years

Many of the commonly used passwords are, of course, dates: birthdays, anniversaries, the year you were born, etc. Indeed, using a year, starting with 19__ helps people remember their code, but it also increases its predictability, Berry says. His analysis shows that every single 19__ combination be found in the top 20% of the dataset.

"People use years, date of birth — it's a monumentally stupid thing to do because if you lose your wallet, your driver's license is in there. If someone finds it, they've got the date of birth on there. At least use a parent's date of birth [as a password]," says Berry.

Somewhat intriguing was #22 on the most common password list: 2580. It seems random, but if you look at a telephone keypad (or ATM keypad) you'll see those numbers are straight down the middle — yet another sign we're uncreative and lazy password makers.

The least predictable password

The least-used PIN is 8068, Berry found, with just 25 occurrences in the 3.4 million set, which equates to 0.000744%. (See the second table for the least
popular passwords.) Why this set of numbers? Berry guesses, "It's not repeating pattern, it's not a birthday, it's not the year Columbus discovered America, it's not 1776." At a certain point, these numbers at the bottom of the list are all kind of "the lowest of the low, they're all noise," he says.

A few other interesting tidbits from Berry:

- The most popular PIN code (1234) is more popular than the lowest 4,200 codes combined.

- People have even less imagination in choosing five-digit passwords — 28% use 12345.

- The fourth most popular seven-digit password is 8675309, the Tommy Tutone song.

- People love using couplets for their PINs: 4545, 1313, etc. And for some reason, they don't like using pairs of numbers that have larger numerical gaps between them. Combinations like 45 and 67 occur much more frequently than 29 and 37.

- The 17th-most common 10-digit password is 3141592654 (for you non-math nerds, those are the first digits of Pi)


For Sale
November 20, 2016
British Railways Class 16 electric Locomotive

Two year old 1" scale, 4.75" gauge locomotive with wireless radio controlled system for control of speed, braking and pressure regulated dual tone air horn.

There are 4 motors where each axle are powered and it includes a new Extreme Racing 30 12v battery and trickle charger.

It's lightweight but has plenty of power, easy to pick up and I have pulled 6 adults with it.

Asking price: $1,400

Purchaser can pick the locomotive up in Berkeley or it can be shipped for approximately $130.

For more information, please email me, Armando Epifani, at acetmr2014@gmail.com or call me at (510) 508-7180.