Golden Gate Live Steamers Facility

There have been many changes and improvements to the club since it moved to the current location in the early ‘70s. Buildings have been added, along with a major rework of the original track plan. This, thanks to all the past and present members devoting endless hours to make the facility what it is today. The most startling is how the landscape has matured over the years. As we move into the Fall and Winter season, it is important that attention be given to all the culverts and drainage in preparation for a hopefully wet season of much needed rain.
Announcements

Included in this newsletter on the last page is the dues reminder for 2019. Special attention here shows that if you pay up early, you get a discount. Since the economy is booming these days, we thought you deserve a “deal” and everyone likes a “deal” but, in this case, the only “strings attached” are that you pay before the end of the year!

Recently, Union Pacific is following the “track” of other railroads in restructuring their operations to become more efficient with better “on time” performance in product transportation and delivery. They are now expecting customers to arrange their railcars for a quicker departure than before. This could be a second career for Richard Croll as a consultant. He has spent many hours at Train Mountain sharpening his skills in arranging cars there.

For further details on how this change may work out, check with Lou Bradas who currently spends quite a bit of time in the cab of various UP motive power.

Additionally, for UP stories that may “stretch the truth” a bit, member Paul Thomson is a good source (provided he stays off his motorcycle).
Called to order at 10 am by President Richard Lundberg. Secretary Richard Croll was absent and Rick Reaves acted as Secretary.

Guests/New Members
Two new members presented themselves.

John Faucon

Lou Breon, a G-Scale enthusiast, who has recently retired.
Rich Lundberg spoke about the Thursday work crew meetings at the club where it is a great opportunity to meet other members and to work on the club facilities.

Steaming activities:

Announcements:
There were no steaming activities to report on or any announcements.

He was reminded by Rich Lundberg about the RGS 20 running off the end of the turntable, the replacement of its wheels and the addition of locks to the turntable's folding end tracks to prevent equipment from rolling off. Rich Lundberg reminded everyone that the safest way to use the turntable is to push equipment on/off the table rather than use power from the engine.

Ombudsman: Bob Cohen noted that there was no change to the slate of candidates for running for club offices. Rich Lundberg encouraged anyone wishing to run for office that there is still time to add their name to the slate.

Rich Lundberg spoke for the Security Committee's Jon Sargent that low level lights were added to key spots of the surveillance system to enhance the recorded images. Michael Smith noted that the lock combinations are being changed to the Roundhouse on Sunday the 21st of October. He also asked members to not store equipment in another person's stall without permission and to not block the door so that it has to be forced closed. Rich Lundberg added that the space is "real" tight and not to try to put 10 lbs. in a 5 lb .space.
Buildings Committee: nothing to report.

Grounds: The Grounds Chairman was absent so Rich Lundberg reported that the pine tree removal was in the works. Andy Weber also wanted acknowledgment for Bill Smith's rebuilding of the grate on the brick BBQ pit where upon thanks & appreciation were given to Bill by the members. Someone then asked when the burgers would be done, eliciting a laugh.

Rich Lundberg spoke that cold weather mode is coming and water will be turned off when not needed during the winter months. Members were reminded that it does freeze at the club and the importance of draining the pipes (please ask Andy Weber if the procedures are not known).

Bob Morris described the work that JoAnn Miller has done in planting the garden areas of the track to an applause from the members present.

Signals: Signal Chairman Bruce Anderson spoke that the work done on the signal at the new switch added near the Roundhouse is making progress.

High Track Committee: nothing to report.

Ground Track crew: nothing to report.

Locomotives:
The Engine Report was given by Rick Zobelein as follows:

RGS #22: Being rebuilt with new wheels and reassembly is commencing.

RGS #20: In service and is pulling the Public Train on Sundays.

Hunter Atlantic: To be used for training of new steamers by Vladimir Kovalevsky & Andrew Rogers starting in January. Details are on the bulletin board.

Heintz Atlantic: Continues with its reassembly by Vladimir Kovalevsky.

Johnson Pacific: is running and will also be used for the steaming class.

Diesels: The two diesel engines are working fine. The new diesel electric engine, which pulled the Public Train during the Fall Meet, pulled the 10-car Public Train on the following Sunday. The train tripped the on-board circuit breaker when given a high throttle engagement when entering the Heintz loop grade since the motor & controller are rated at 300 amps which easily tripped the breaker. The breaker was reset after rescuing from the track with no further problems. It should be noted that an easy hand on the throttle should prevent future breaker tripping.

Public Train: Walter Oellerich reported that the Fall Meet ridership exceeded that of the Spring Meet and that more people wanted to see Bill Smith's Thomas the tank engine. This also elicited an applause from the members.

Last week we had a group from the Colorado Live Steamers and Walter related a story that the elder of the group was seated on the engine tender and was in heaven as he has a Shay at home. The rest of the family lamented that they would have to put up with him the rest of the day because he had such a great seat.

He also thanked everyone who helped on the Public Train at the Fall Meet.

Rich Lundberg had a story of a visitor coming up to him and noting he was the President of the club and thanked him for having the event on his grandson's second birthday. They said they were having a grand time at the club that day.

Web/Callboy: The Web and Call Boy status was read by Rich Lundberg that Pat Young has appended the 2019 membership dues/roundhouse lease renewal form to the CallBoy. Dues are expected before the end of the year where there is a $10 discount to dues if submitted by that time.

The renewal form is also downloadable from the GGLS website (www.ggls.org) and please note that they are begin collected by Lisa Kimberlin.

Vladimir Kovalevsky related how he & Pat are cleaning up info on platforms like Google maps and Yelp to correct opening times etc.

Membership: Membership Chairman Sammy Tamez asked that prospective members see him to be shown around the track and to answer any other questions. Rich Lundberg asked if an info sheet handout is available because one used to be available in the past at the Tilden Station.
Train Meet: Meet Chairman Bob Morris thanked everyone that worked on the Fall Meet. There wasn't as many trains as he had hoped but it was still a good turnout. He felt there was a good turnout of the Public on Sunday with no incidents. Rich asked for any comments on the Meet and Bruce Anderson asked for acknowledgment to Bob & Sandy Morris for their work organizing the Meet for which they received a well deserved round of applause.

Old Business
Rich Lundberg related that the coal tipple was moved to make way for a new track to the roundhouse turntable. It ended up at a spot behind the Roundhouse rather than a spot by the Diamond Mine. The move proved to be too big a task for the available crew at that time. Rich Lundberg asked for someone to take on its move & restoration.

John Lisherness related how bulky & heavy it is to move under bridges, over track and other obstacles. The roof is shot and will rot if not fixed & painted. Rich believes it is a structure that adds to the ambiance & flavor of the facility. A discussion about various methods to move it ensued and Brian Perry volunteered to look at it and see what could be accomplished.

New Business
Vladimir Kovalevsky spoke about declining membership and spoke to Pat Young about ways to approach marketing people to reach potential new members. The GGLS web site appears to be OK where a web search directs users to it but lacks good information about opening times and club meets. He corrected some things and took ownership of the Facebook page where he added public times and meeting info which he also added to Yelp.

He then solicited any ideas that could help this endeavor where one member suggested a GGLS presence at local small scale train shows. Rich Lundberg suggested a one-sheet handout available at the train station and or GGLS business cards to hand out at casual meetings, since personal contacts are more effective in marketing the club. "We're not wanting to market to the wide Public but to those who have a serious interest in trains".

Dave Bradas talked about possible lawsuits because of falls or injuries to inexperienced people if we open up to too many people. Rich doesn't want too many people at Meets as the parking and facilities can't handle a large crowd. Bruce Anderson doesn't want the club to be a childcare facility where parents drop off their kids.

Sandy Morris expressed her feeling that perhaps the current club members are not being appreciated and that communication needs to be improved to help reduce declining membership. Perhaps more pictures of activities, more emails and a printed Call Boy. Rich stated that a printed Call Boy is too much work and the electronic version is sufficient.

A new member asked who to talk to about ideas and was directed to Vladimir Kovalevsky, Pat Young or Sammy Tamez.

Dave Bradas spoke of coming to Thursday work days and not feeling welcomed. Another member spoke of not being able to reach the website until recently and Vladimir said those type of issues are being addressed.

Another member talked about setting membership goals. Rich talk about the club reaching a smaller number of people with distinct interest in small scale trains.

Vladimir also spoke about anyone interested in attending the Maker Faire with equipment to see him. He encouraged members that want to run the club locomotives to sign up for the upcoming steam classes in January. Rich Lundberg added that it is a good opportunity to learn about steam engines and to get checked out on the running the Public Train and running the club engines.

Rick Zobelein asked if anyone had seen the Yelp posting about the Grumpier Old Men at the club.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 am.

Minutes of the Board Meeting

Board Meeting commenced at 11:35 am and was recorded by Rick Reaves.
Under Old Business it was announced by President Rich Lundberg that Jon Sargent is fully in charge of all security matters at the club.

A Motion was made by Rich Lundberg & seconded by Bob Cohen that all club owned buildings utilize club managed locks. A vote was taken & passed by 4 Board members without any 'no' votes. Rich Lundberg reminded everyone the club locks will have the combinations changed on April 1st.

The proposed contract form for member-built buildings is being revised by Michael Smith with input from Mark Johnson.

A discussion was had about class of membership concerning young people, started by Bob Cohen, about the rights and responsibilities of underage members. The Bylaws committee is preparing to address the situation in new Bylaws language. It was suggested by Rich Lundberg to have the Committee address the issue with a separate document ahead of the full Bylaws presentation. This will give prospective members a written set of rules for their children seeking membership to peruse before seeking full membership. It was noted by Jerry Kimberlin that this is a Bylaws Committee issue and will be dealt within that Committee as it is a complex issue.

The writing of a one-sheet handout for prospective members was discussed and tabled until Secretary Rich Croll can be involved.

Bob Cohen reported the officer recruitment slate has been finalized.

The issue of the Bulger Barn being transferred to the club and the setting of rent was tabled until the full Board can meet next month.

It was noted that Bob Cohen has 2 more years to organize candidate recruitment for club offices.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

**Bits and Pieces**

Charlie Reiter – Windemere Kettle – used to heat water for tea while in a steam boat, or it can be used to generate hot water for any purpose during steam operations on Lake Windemere in England. Copper kettle with brass bands.

Bob Cohen – Hit ‘n Miss model gas engine in progress, based on a plan by long-time “Home Shop Machinist” magazine contributor, Philip Duclos. Mr. Duclos is the author of many projects in this magazine.

**2019 Board Election Slate**

Bob Cohen reported the election slate of Board officers for 2019 is as follows:

Rick Reaves for President
Andy Rogers for Vice President
Richard Croll for Secretary
John Lisherness for Treasurer
Jerry Kimberlin for Safety
Rich Lundberg encouraged others to run for office this year, or in the future. If interested, please contact Bob Cohen or Secretary Rich Croll.

**From the Membership**

From Dan Swanson:

**How to Fire Up a Steam Locomotive**

Guys,
The link below brings you to a more recent YouTube video about firing a steam locomotive in great detail of one of the D & R G engines, #491. It is over an hour in length and the quality is excellent. If you are interested in viewing it just click on the link below. Hope you enjoy it. - Dan

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xx9Q8PphAVo

From Bruce Anderson:

While passing through the foothills of the Sierras in search of a new whistle for my 0-4-0T, an old GGLS member approached and said, “Hi.” During our conversation, he mentioned he had an old VHS tape of the early years of Victor Shattock and the GGLS. This past weekend the tape was dropped off and now it’s up on YouTube in four pieces (sorry for the ads, I’m figuring the music algorithm triggered them). I believe most of this was shot on film between the 1930s to the 1960s and transferred to VHS around 1974.

**History Of Ken Shattock:**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7AZYKVnxqrM

Live Steaming In The Basement (Oakland, CA):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QB6zZu8MvuI

Live Steaming In Stockton, CA:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V93mzDHZ26k

Live Steaming In Redwood Park, CA:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bZtFZkSv-54

Enjoy, Bruce

**For Sale**

Harper 2-6-0 Mogul and Tender
October 6, 2018

0-4-2 Chloe
October 6, 2018

A beautiful 2-6-0 Ed Adams masterpiece is for sale. This is a Wabash style Mogul which looks to be an early Allen kit. It is in pretty good shape and was converted to burn propane.

It has a water pump, injectors, scale fitting and much more. It has not been steamed for many years and probably will require a boiler test.
The photos speak for themselves since Ed Adams does museum quality work and you must view it (in Napa) to appreciate it. Please feel free to contact Dave for more information.

An 0-4-2 Chloe that is propane fired with a steel boiler. Beautiful workmanship!

Asking price is $9,500 or Best Offer.

If interested or have questions, contact:

Dave Bradas
Napa, California
94558
(707) 252-7390
Membership and Roundhouse Renewal Notice

It is time to renew your Golden Gate Live Steamers membership and Roundhouse dues for 2019.

Regular Member (lives within 100 miles of club facilities):
- If renewed on or before December 31, 2018: $40
- If renewed on or after January 1, 2019: $50
- If renewing after March 31, 2019, see note below.

Associate Member (lives beyond 100 miles from club facilities): $30

Family Membership:
- If renewed on or before December 31, 2018: $50
- If renewed on or after January 1, 2019: $60

Roundhouse dues: $200

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

Lisa Kimberlin
324 Nevada Avenue
Pt. Richmond, CA 94801

If payment is not received by March 31, 2019, your name will be deleted from the club roster and require a $25 initiation fee to be reinstated.

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