A lovely photo of guest Doug Fong and his amazing rail bike that he brought to show members of the club. Yours truly got a chance along with many others to get a ride around the club's inner loop.

The CallBoy

October 2026

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 **October 2026**	A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation www.ggls.org or www.goldengatels.org

Board Officers

President:	Jon Sargent	510-233-6481
Vice President:	Lew Breon	330-888-2428
Secretary:	Sarah Buhre	925-698-2765
Treasurer:	John Lisherness	510-647-8443
Safety:	Rich Croll	510-227-9174
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:	Lew Breon, Jeremy Coombes, Rich Croll, John Lisherness
Building:	John Erdkamp
CallBoy Editor:	Pat Young
Dues:	Lisa Kimberlin
Grounds:	Andy Weber
High Track:	Brian Parry
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!

2026 Calendar of Club Sponsored Events

(Dates may change without notice)

10/11 General Meeting/Board Meeting

11/08 General Meeting/Board Meeting

12/13 General Meeting/Board Meeting
End of Year Business Meeting

Announcements

I am sorry to have to report that my brother John, a long time GGLS member lost his wife Gail on Tuesday after a brief hospital stay.
He seems to be coping ok at this point and told me he may come up to the track on Sunday.

Richard Croll

If a member uses the clubhouse for an event, please clean it up as good or better than you found it. Also a reminder that you need to be trained on the electricity and water shutoff procedures before you can get a padlock code to the club.

William Yragui is running for District 3 East Bay Regional Park District. He was very interested in what we do at the club along with other establishments in the park such as the merry-go-round and the Little Farm.

Help Needed from our Sister Club

Hello fellow 7.5” enthusiasts!

This year we at the Portola Valley & Alpine Railroad are planning a work week in November and we invite you to come see, help to upgrade and play at our beautiful location in the hills above Portola Valley and Woodside.
We will tackle a variety of construction and track maintenance projects during the week of Nov 7 - 13 and would love to have you join us, meet our members, get to know our railroad, and complete some test rides on the upgraded track (the sooner we finish the work, the more time we have to ride!)

We are able to make some accommodation available onsite and will have lunch available every day - we have space for your (dry camping) RV, tent, some limited room on site in a real caboose or a spare bedroom in a member’s home. We also have a kitchen, refrigerators, bathroom and BBQ facilities at our Littlefield Station.
We’ll start each day at 8:30 am at the Littlefield Station to coordinate the day’s work.

If you are not yet familiar with the PV&ARR, check out some images below and our website at https://www.pvarr.org

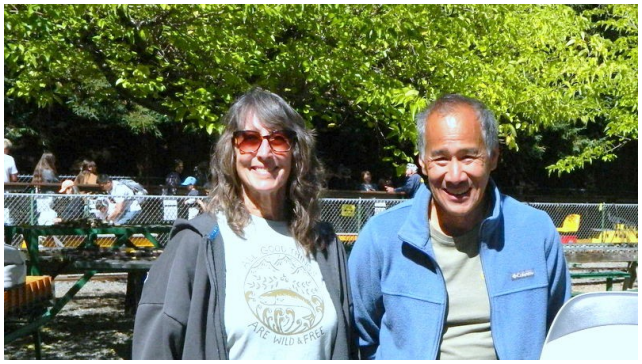
Please let us know if you are able to join us using this RSVP form at:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeCwM8LuHcu1HLYukeD1A_Oi-zv49op-10c6kT1hb6pfOX7Cg/viewform

We look forward to hosting you and mixing it up with other clubs !

Bill Boller
PV&A RR Chief Engineer
Co-Founder & Owner Rep.

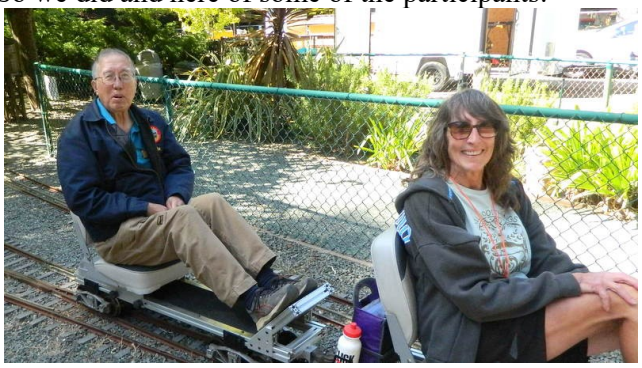
New Members and Guests

Steve Smith is a member of the Bay Area Garden Railway society (BAGR) and is here to learn about what signal systems we use.



Doug & Debbie Fong is doing a first visit to us from a club in Nevada. He has brought a rail pedal car and invited everyone to come & try it today!

So we did and here of some of the participants:



Pat Young was lucky enough to get the first ride around the inner loop with Debbie Fong. It was fun but we weren't allowed on the downhill leg of the upper inner loop.

Leo Sanchez and Cliff Stoll also had a chance to out the rail bike along a few other.

Railroading Activities

NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM, CARSON CITY

Leo Sanchez went to the Nevada State Railroad to celebrate his 15th birthday! He rode on number 25, went into the cab, rang the bell and was interviewed by Nevada County Media, (which was great)!

Jeremy Coombes went to Charlie Reiter's house, who does an apple harvest in his garden every year where they turn the apples into cider using steam power! It was a great time where Jeremy was the fireman and the juice was amazing!

Bruce Anderson saw a Billy Jones Railway engineer up at Redwood Valley Railway. The Billy Jones railroad runs on 18" gauge track in Los Gatos, California and runs trains Saturday & Sunday from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm.

CALIFORNIA STATE
RAILROAD
MUSEUM

Mono Mata-Lee and his mom went to the California State Railroad Museum for the Native Americans and Railroads exhibit which was a lot of fun!

Minutes of the General Meeting

Officer Reports

President: Nothing to report.

Vice President: The G-scale track addition to the High Track is fully operational. Colton Snell ran three times around with no derailments and no problems with the new bridges.
See Lew Breon for a tutorial on using the new bridge by-pass, as people need to know how to open and close them.
Great job to all who contributed to the construction, especially John Lisherness, Lew Breon and Rich Croll. They had a great group of helpers as well!
For the time being, Lew will stand by to help manage the bridges and show people how to use them.

Secretary: We are still working out the kinks on our email system. Please let Sarah Buhre know if you are not getting emails by contacting her at: Sarahbuhre@aol.com.

Treasurer: The club is in good shape despite paying the last insurance policy of the calendar year.
Donations from the Public Train are helping to keep our club to stay running.

Safety: Rich Croll is absent & excused.

Director at Large: Nothing to report.

Ombudsperson: Board member elections are in December, 2026 and we are asking members to join the elections committee headed by Lisa Kimberlin.
Lisa polled the current GGLS Board members and all are willing to continue to serve on their Board position for another year with the exception of the president. Jon Sargent will become Past President, Lew Breon is running for President and Brian Parry will be running for Vice President.
Note that any GGLS voting member 18 years or older can run for a Board position so please see Lisa Kimberlin to nominate a member or yourself to fill a position.

Current 2026 Board Candidate Slate:

President:	Vacant. Running: Lew Breon
Vice President:	Vacant. Running: Brian Parry
Secretary:	Sarah Buhre
Treasurer:	John Lisherness
Director at Large:	Sammy Tamez
Safety:	Rich Croll
Past President:	Jon Sargent
Ombudsperson:	Lisa Kimberlin

Committee Reports

Public Train: Walter Oellerich asks that if you unlock & open the gate to go to Redwood Valley Railway next door, that you lock the lock when you come back. We are now using vertical propane tanks and we now have a locker full of horizontal tanks that aren't wanted. Walt is asking the Board come up with a plan to get rid of them so that there is room for the vertical tank.
Walt is also looking for at least three more vertical tanks so if you have one laying around, please consider donating it.

Buildings: John Erdkamp has taken down part of the tiny building on the hill next to the club house to rebuild and hopefully it will be done by the Fall Meet Open House.

Since plywood rots from the end grain edge, John is trying to come up with a solution to protect these edges and make our buildings last a lot longer. If anyone has any ideas, please let John know.

Grounds: Andy Weber is excused.

Track: Jim McKibbin says that he had nothing much to report on the ground track. We had a couple of derailments on the spur track to Boyers Bluff, but he is addressing that.
If you want to rake, don't wait for the leaves to fall as we have many, many redwood needles to rake around the track!

Signals: John Davis says the signals are running well for the most part.
One issue is signal S27 which is the diverge to go into the station. It is an intermittent issue and John is working on a solution.

Locomotives: Paul Hirsh says the axle pump on the RG 22 is working and is being run today to make sure it is ready for the Fall Meet Open House.
The Heintz locomotive's lubricator was fixed and back on the train and soon we will be able to put it on the track to see how it runs.
The Pacific runs but it has a derailment problem with the lead truck on the locomotive or the tender wants to derail in certain conditions. When we extend the draw bar between them, it should be good.

Shop & Rolling Stock: Rich Croll is excused.

Landscape: Bruce Anderson & Jo Ann Miller have been placing many plants around the track and some of the problematic trees have been taken out.

Roundhouse & Storage: Jon Sargent reminds the club that if you are taking your train out, please close your doors of the shed so the rodents don't come in. The pest company recently came up and says we are doing pretty well.
If you want to keep your storage space for next year, you will need to pay your fee by the end of the year. If not, let Jon know as there is a waiting list for storage at the club facility.
Also please make sure you write down the dates of when you run your trains on the running sheet in the clubhouse bulletin board. You need to run four times per year as this is a requirement if you rent a storage space.

Security: If you are at the club and you are the last person on the property you need to make sure that all gates are locked and the electricity is turned off.
Make sure you put the bar on the front gate when locking up.
Membership: People applying for membership please meet Sammy Tamez in the clubhouse kitchen after the General meeting.

CallBoy/Web/Library:
Pat Young (phty95014@yahoo.com) says let him know if you aren't getting the CallBoy or have issues with the website. If you need a live steaming or home machining magazine, we might have a spare one in our library, including Live Steam Magazine, Home Shop Machinist and many more.

High Track: Brian Parry is going to make some modifications to the safety rules and come up with some signs for the bridges.

Old Business:
None.

New Business:
None.

Meeting end: 11:10 am.

Minutes of the Board Meeting

Meeting Start: 12:05 pm

OFFICERS PRESENT: Jon Sargent, Lew Breon, John Lisherness, Lisa Kimberlin, Sammy Tamez and Sarah Buhre
Excused: Rich Croll

Guests: Matt Petach, Brian Parry

Approval of Last Month's Meeting Minutes: Sammy Tamez moved to accept the minutes as written and Lew Breon seconded it. With no discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

General Updates/Old Business:
* The power to the club facility will be out on September 21, 2026.

* Brian Parry will make signage and work on the rules for the bridges & High Track.

* We will name our new High Track bridges Walt's Crossing. Many thanks to John Lisherness for planning and building the bridges!

* Our club insurance is paid and Jon Sargent will have electronic & paper copies.

* Bruce Anderson is picking some photos for our new brochure.

New Business:
None.

Board Meeting End: 12:57 pm.

Bits and Pieces

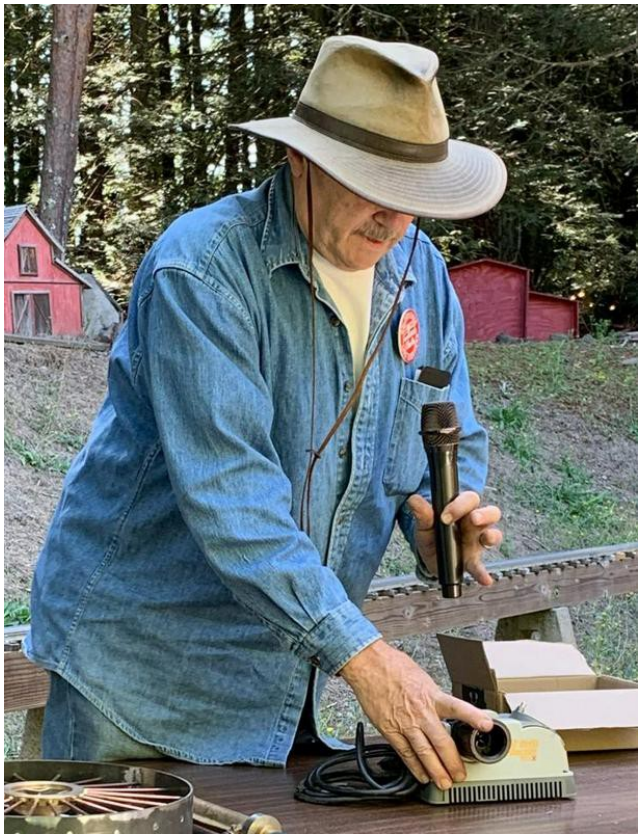
By Jeremy Coombes

Mono Mata-Lee continues to evolve his engineering understanding, coupled with his natural artistic eye, and is undertaking a caboose (from this time forward to be known as Ethel), with a pair of four-wheel trucks, which is proving to be more of a challenge than originally expected. And to maintain a balance with his artistic side the inside has some decorations, one of which is a framed Roblox picture.
Nice touch!

A simple drink can has been the subject of some experimentation as a simple flash steam generator (boiler) and Mono has had some success. Please be careful with things that are hot and/or pressurized (even to just a few pounds) as things can get out of hand quickly. Don't ask me how I know, I promised I'd never tell, just take it from me.

Huckleberry, the 0-4-0 saddle tank locomotive, has copper handrails added and a working hand winch that Mono fabricated and attached to the front of the locomotive. A nice item to include on a model of a working locomotive as equipment like this would have been common on yard engines 130 years ago!

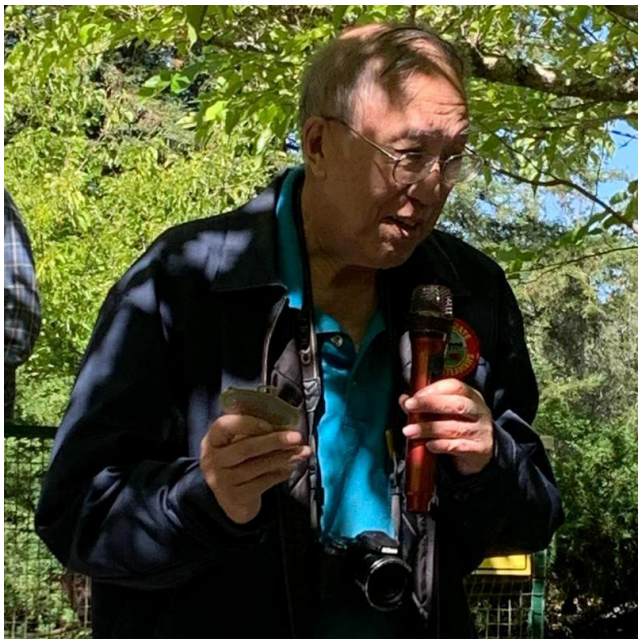
Ben Newton has been busy in his shop and recently did a quick refresh of a piece of 7½" gauge rolling stock obtained from Bob Morris. Ben is currently the caretaker of Charlie Reiter's two-truck Climax but had no rider/propane car, so he has outfitted the newly "outshopped" car. Must have been a success as I saw Ben circling the track without any issues.



Charlie Reiter brought in a “Drill Doctor” drill bit sharpener that he has been using for several years. In his opinion it worked quite well and was not too difficult to use and get good results. However, this machine is only intended for use on drill bits between ¼" -- ½" diameter and as you can imaging Charlie uses many smaller drill bits in his shop. So, he ordered a VEVOR drill bit sharpener as it had larger size range where Charlie would be able to make his own tooling, thus expanding the range that can be sharpened. Charlie kindly contributed the Drill Doctor to the club for a $50 donation to the GGLS, and it was quickly claimed.

One of the projects currently working its way through Charlie’s shop is a 2" scale Case steam tractor (traction engine if you’re from the other side of the Atlantic Ocean), and the recent work has centered around the rear wheels. No pun intended!

The tractor was begun in the mid 1960's by a Mr. George Gilman and so far, has been of a fairly high standard. Charlie explained why there is a set of tie-rods arranged in a square (it's to prevent the spokes from bending during powered movement) and also mentioned that Mr. Gilman meticulously marked each major component or sub-assembly by stamping his name and the completion date into the item.
From looking through the multitude of parts, it appears the boiler was the last item fabricated as it is dated as 1979. I guess it's up to Charlie to get this engine completed. Then the final date can be stamped. Maybe; C Reiter 2027!



Pat Young made a 3D printed badge celebrating Jerry Kimberlin's birthday, which was later that week.

One side has Jerry's name, and the other has the statement "I'm Vintage."
Happy birthday Jerry, from your friends at the GGLS.

GGLS Fall Meet Night Run

From Pierre Maurer

Hi,

Rowan and I had a fun time at the Fall Meet

& night run and spent the night with the others engineers!

Pierre Maurer

Night Run Photos

A dark Night Run photo from Jon Sargent of our steaming bay. Jon says that they are toasting marshmallows for smores on the BBQ in the far left. You have to have good night vision to see that and I wonder what the night creatures thought of this event!

PV&A Joint Meet with GGLS & SVLS

The tri meet at the Portola Valley & Alpine railroad in Portola Valley, California on the weekend of September 27-29th, 2026 was once again a wonderful gathering of live steam & railroad enthusiasts from Northern California.

After parking, you signed in at the Welcome booth with Carl & Paige.

Mike Ward, Mr Emeritus, was helping man the lunch booth table.

He & secretary Marty Walker helped the hungry members, visitors and guests get some of the wonderful preordered sandwiches which PV&A served.

As you can see, many enjoyed the lunch fare.

The highlight of this even was the near completion of the new roundhouse that Mike Ward was building last year in the main shop for the Rabbit Flats site at the far end of the loop.

Many viewed the impressive roundhouse structure and what else has to be done to get operational.

On one side, the track for the Rabbit Flats yard was brought in and Kevin Hayashi is eyeballing where the roadbed and track will eventually go. Stay tune for the 2027 joint meet to see what progress will be made.

Finally, at the end of the day, Carl Herrera was there to entice you with souvenir items to remember this event. Contact Carl if you missed this chance to stock up on PV&A memorabilia.