

2021 GGLS Open House

By Pat Young

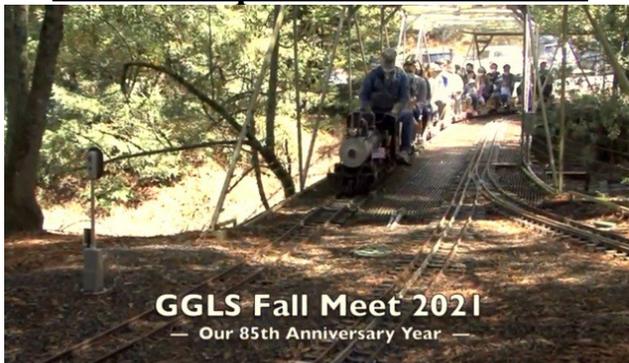
With photos from Pat Young, Bruce Anderson,
Shanna O'Hare

May 2021 was the first General meeting allowed at the track as the club slowly moved back towards after pandemic activities.

There was no 2021 Spring Meet/Open House and the membership voted to limit the 2021 Fall Meet to just an Open House for the Public on September 19, 2021 due to current COVID situation by the members.

But the 2021 Fall Open House turned out to be a pretty successful, although limited, event for the Public and for those who attended.

2021 Fall Open House Video Tour



For those who couldn't make it in person or want to relive this event again, a 12:46 minute YouTube video, admirably produced by GGLS member Bruce Anderson, does a fine job of showing what it was like at the Fall Open House.

This video can be found at:

https://www.youtube.com/embed/BS1f_rTjiE

At the Track:

The steaming bays were reasonably crowded with many old favorites showing up and getting ready to take a couple of laps around the club.



Secretary Rich Croll is getting ready to warm up his Fiddletown & Crooked Creek 4-6-0 ten wheeler for some steaming action.



Other locomotives and trains started to fill up the vacant steaming bay tracks. Some were there to run, others to display their equipment to our appreciative Public.



Here is new member Dave Peterson's Western Pacific ten wheeler (4-6-0) being steamed up. He bought the engine in December 2020 from an ad in Discover Live Steam. Built by John Darby about 30 years ago, it had been stored partly outside and needed a lot of tender loving care but was mechanically sound.

He is planning on converting it to run on propane this winter, give it a new paint job and possibly a new tender. If all goes well, he is planning to take it to Train Mountain next June. Good luck on your project and there are many experienced members that you can talk to about it.



The striking red 0-4-2 locomotive name Taurus is owned by Bob Cohen (hiding behind the smoke stack) talking to Joe Osbord. It is rumored that Joe is interested in it.



Jim Pate has owned many locomotives and this time he brought his Southern Pacific 4-4-2 Atlantic for a run on our track.



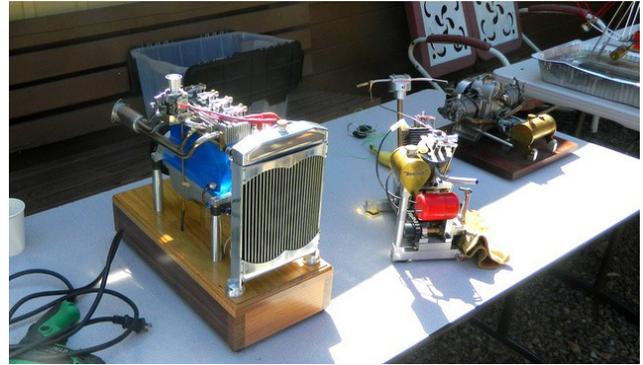
Off to the side of the steaming bays, by the loading zone, we see Marc Foster & Paul Krommenhoek setting up a story board outline of their new locomotive & car barn structure. It looks to be a grand structure which may spawn a new structures building boom in the area.



Jon Sargent introduces Conrad to this train (Ken Blonski Special)... and off they went! Photo from Shanna O'Hare.



And we can't say too much about our beloved Public Train crew. They tirelessly run every Sunday, safely & cheerfully, and epitomize the spirit that we all should strive for. They are the life's blood of the club and may you all be rewarded for the dedication & service to our club.



On Paul Denham's first table, there were several engines of note. Starting on the left is the blown Black Widow V8, followed by a Hoglett V twin (with "Beulah" etched on the brass fuel can) and then a Wall Wizard horizontal opposed twin cylinder.

The BAEM Displays & Exhibits

The Bay Area Engine Modelers (BAEM) set up their display tables next to the club house and was well received, again by the membership & by the Public. BAEM members attending included Paul Denham, Peter Lawrence and Ray Fontaine.



Most prominent was this model.



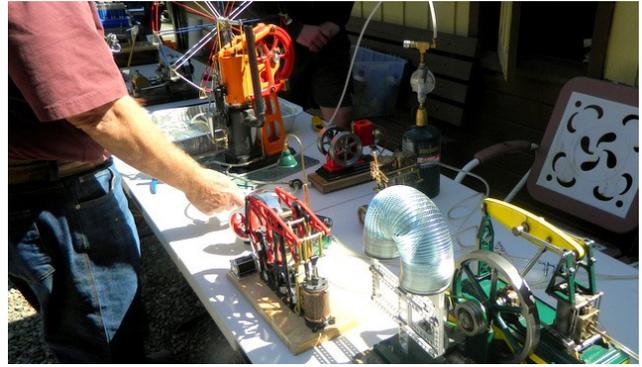
Ray Fontaine had his 3 truck Shay running on air in front of the club house. The last time I saw this engine was in 2016 and he was asking \$12,000 for it with some additional parts.



My 2016 report said that this is Ken Hurst's 1/2" scale of the Black Widow V8 engine (believed to be a modified Challenger V8) designed, built & perfected by Ken & Dwight Giles over an 8 year period and completed in 2020.



On the left of Black Widow V8 is the 1903 Red Devil hit & miss engine and at the left end of the table is the green Aermotor 8 cycle with pump for a well.



Sitting on Paul's third table, from left-to-right, are the following models: the orange Denny Hot Air pumping engine driving a water wheel, a beam engine with red arms using Peaucelliar linkage designed by Paul and a Stuart 1/2" scale beam engine driving a slinky.



One of the engines that I haven't seen before is the Red Devil engine, circa 1903 in 1/3 scale. Google says that the real engine was made by Cavanaugh Darley Gas & Gasoline Engine Company in Chicago, Illinois, but was no longer heard of after 1904.



Another one of my favorites that Paul brought back is the water wheel display taken in 2016.



It's powered by the Improved Ericsson Engine by the American Mgm Co which turns the water wheel on the left.



On another table, Paul has taken his green walking beam engine (taken in 2016) and



expanded it to be a slinky exercising machine! Pretty eye-catching!



On Paul's fourth & last table are three Atkinson cycle engines.



Here we have Ray Fontaine's table and some of his models. To the right is his model, I believe, of a John Deere Model model E type stationary engine in 1/3" scale.



Seems that Ray liked the model so much, he got a full size one, or is it the other way around?



I believe that this is Peter Lawrence's table and has some interesting project under construction. There is a Rolls-Royce V12 aircraft engine used by the famed Spitfire & Mustang WW2 fighters, a de Havilland Cirrus aircraft engine and a Duesenberg J 8 automobile engine. I am eager to see them completed.

The Barbeque Beckons



It's no surprise that everybody enjoys visiting the barbeque when it is operating and this time was no exception.

My encounter in the food line was somewhat brief but what was special was that the barbeque was staffed by a group of members that Shanna O'Hare dubbed the "BOXCAR BBQ" team.



"BOXCAR BBQ" team (from left-to-right Jo Ann Miller, Robert & Sara Buhre, Shanna O'Hare & John Davis)

I did not spend much time at the lunch area but a wonderful article written by Shanna can be found in the October 2021 issue of the CallBoy. It talked more in detail about those individuals who were instrumental producing an delightful eating experience.

Memorable Moments



One of the most pleasant of surprises is the meeting of an old friend & past member John Bulger. In the past, he was dealing with some severe illness but was pleased to see him at the track well at the track. Hope you become a member again, John.



To me, Pat Young, GGLS CallBoy newsletter editor, Amy Herman is an unsung hero. She and her husband Ray Kennedy unflinchingly month-after-month generate the printed Call as long as I have been editor (almost 10 years). That's a lot of copier work and a lot of stamps!



Photo sent in by Shanna O'Hare and it's 5 pm, well past our scheduled closing time. But Station Master Walt Oellerich is still loading passengers and Conductor Lisa Kimberlin is taking it all in stride with a well deserved rest. We love the Public Train gang!



When I saw this photo of Rocket & his mom, sent in by Bruce Anderson, I saw myself, I saw Bruce, I saw our club, and all the past, present and future club members.

Bless you all...