

THE CLEARBOARD



Rod Diridon, President

<http://www.ctrc.org>

Larry Murchison, Editor



DIRECTIONS, FROM ROD DIRIDON

Grant Activities: Lead by Bob Schneider and Ken Middelbrook, grants have been submitted to the Rotary Club of San Jose for support for moving the CTRC caboos from Salinas to History San Jose and another for a main conducting line cut-out switch to isolate the History San Jose loop from the main line. San Jose Rotary has been very generous with CTRC over the years, most recently providing \$27,000 to complete the Kelly Park Trolley line along Senter Road and create four trolley stops.

Continuing Work: Under Jack Young and John Ezovski's leadership, the work on Locomotive 2479 is continuing to progress while accomplishing the more technically demanding running gear alignment and drive rod challenges. A budget has been created for the remainder of the work and efforts are proceeding to obtain that assistance pro bono and via grants. The objective is to finish 2479's rehabilitation and FRA inspection within the next two years.

Work also continues on the maintenance and operation of the trolleys under Bob Schneider's guidance. I rode the trolley (The MercuryNews Car, 124) with my three year old granddaughter three weeks ago and became, "the best Grandpa in the world" in that mesmerized little girls eyes. I guess that's what we're all about.



Railroad Museum: It was noteworthy that two councilmembers spoke at the Volunteer Recognition BBQ this year with one begin Vice Mayor **Madison Nguyen (picture above)** in who's distinct the Trolley Barn is located. She has promised to help us find a site and access for a railroad museum. Now, we've heard that more than once before but it's nice to have another couple of coun-

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CTRC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

California Trolley & Railroad Corporation (CTRC)

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Pacific Hotel, History San Jose

August 18, 2011

- I. **WELCOME** – President Rod Diridon called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. at the Pacific History Hotel, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose, California.

Attendance: Rod Diridon, Sr., Mike Kotowski, Ken Middlebrook, Denis Murchison, Larry Murchison, Steve Raby, Bob Schneider, Charles Wynn, John Zielinski, Lynda Ramirez Jones, and Patti Murchison (guest.)

- II. **MINUTES** – A motion was made, seconded (Kotowski/Wynn), and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of May 19, 2011.

- III. **CHAIR'S REPORT** – Diridon announced he would provide the Chair's Report as each item is discussed.

IV. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

- A. **P/L, Balance Sheet** – Diridon reported on the fiscal year-end (June 30, 2011) and current profit and loss statements and balance sheets in the agenda. A motion was made, seconded (Schneider/Wynn), and unanimously carried to approve the financial statements.

Middlebrook inquired about the status of Directors and Officers (D&O) Liability Insurance, which had been discussed at an earlier meeting. Jones responded that she had been looking into it, and will be submitting certain documents for a quote from CTRC's insurance agent.

V. **CURRENT PROJECTS**

- A. **Lease Request from Willamette Shore Trolley Consortium** – Schneider reported as per attached report.
 B. **Trolley Barn** – Schneider reported as per attached report.

Schneider also announced that trolley ridership figures are above the normal rate despite admission costs now being charged by History San Jose Park (HSJP); that HSJP is promoting more Family Day gatherings; that Steve Raby is now an employee of HSJP; and that the Tapestry Arts Fair, which has always been held Downtown San Jose, will be held at HSJP this year.

Schneider commented that CTRC hardware from the backyard of the Trolley Barn will have to be moved to make room for the Master Gardeners' new growing area. He will check to see if the tools are needed in the area or if they are of historic significance, in which case they should be listed on the asset list. Staff to provide Schneider with the asset list.

Diridon reported that Bray and Nellen are trying to evaluate the value of the rolling stock, take them off the balance sheet, and show them as archival assets.

- C. **Locomotives 2479 and 1215** – Middlebrook reported that some ties were added to the floor panel of 1215, but were not attached together, as they will have to be moved out to install the rock and ballast.

Diridon reported that he spoke with Marc McKenna, who is willing to advocate for CTRC with other quarries. Diridon suggested that McKenna be invited to serve on the CTRC Board.

Middlebrook has communicated with Granite about moving the caboose from Salinas; however, it is necessary get the rock and ballast in before the caboose can be moved.

Steve Raby mentioned that if "Keep Off" signs are not put up around the 2479 exhibit, it could become an "attractive nuisance." He also stated that fencing around the exhibit will be going in after the caboose is moved on site.

Diridon directed that the signs be put in as soon as possible.

Middlebrook said he envisioned a kiosk-like structure around the exhibit.

Regarding Locomotive 2479, Middlebrook reported that Ezovski was unable to attend today's meeting; however, work is progressing on the crosshead guides.

- D. SCC Rail Museum – Diridon reported there is no new information with the Santa Clara County Rail Museum; that San Jose Vice Mayor Madison Nguyen is willing to assist in locating a site; and mentioned that 50 contractors are willing to build it for nothing.
- E. Kelley Park Rail Stops – Benches and Signage – Diridon reported that the Rotary Club donated approximately \$25,000.00 to do the extension and stops, and that the sign has been accepted by the City of San Jose. One stop bench is already in; however, still need pads, benches and historic light poles for three other bench stops.

Diridon indicated that CTCRC might be eligible for another \$10,000-15,000 grant from Rotary Club.

Middlebrook to look at Rotary's grant cycle and look into requesting \$8,000 to move the caboose from Salinas to San Jose.

- F. Volunteers – Middlebrook commented that he continues to try to get additional volunteers. Diridon asked Middlebrook to prepare a PowerPoint presentation to recruit volunteers, and he (Diridon) will add it to his speech presentations.
- G. Acquisitions – i. Name new VP of Acquisitions – Diridon asked members to let volunteers know this Board position is open.
- H. Historical Heritage Commission (HHC) Grant Applications – Diridon announced that the HHC grant-funding cycle has begun, and asked Schneider and Middlebrook to consider what projects could be funded.
- I. Diridon Station Museum – Diridon commented he has been to the train station several times and observed that a significant number of people have been looking at the displays. He noted that one of the openings, which is falling down needs to be stabilized and left open. He said because the train depot is open all the time, the lights for the displays could be lit all the time, or a timer could be installed. He suggested revisiting the lighting issue to draw more people to the displays.
- J. Future Local Event – Middlebrook reported that the group he is working with is progressing forward; still trying to work toward holding the event in May 2014; and still deciding who is going to be the operator. Diridon mentioned that Amtrak lost its contract to run Caltrain and the new operator is Herzog. Middlebrook noted that the new non-profit entity probably will not be created until the end of the year. Diridon suggested Middlebrook speak with CTCRC Board Member Sylva who could probably file the paperwork without a fee. Middlebrook further reported that he is scheduled to meet with Team San Jose.

Diridon offered to help, specifically with buy-in from other potential partners.

- K. Fundraising – Diridon reported that he was able to bring in more sponsors for this year's Volunteer Recognition BBQ, for a total of \$7,500., which will help with operating costs.

VI. New Business – It was mentioned that the organization needs \$250,000 to complete Locomotive (which one?), and Diridon agreed to work on the fundraising.

VII. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m., to the next quarterly meeting at 8:00 a.m., Thursday, November 17, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Ramirez Jones

Repairs to the right side crosshead guides was completed on Saturday October 15. The final mounting bolt was pressed into place and the crosshead set into position.



Back in May, 2010, the position of the right crosshead guides to the center of its piston rod were measured and found to be significantly out of line at the end of stroke. When the upper and lower guides were removed, near all of the mounting holes were found to be significantly out of round. Repairing those holes was no simple task. Methods were created. Results were unsatisfactory and a new method was devised. It wasn't until early this year that a solution provided satisfactory results.

Holes that were out of round had to be drilled or bored. Boring holes in the guides was not a difficult task as the guide could be set on the Bridgeport mill. It was the holes in the loco-



otive frame that presented issues. It was here that all of the special tools were needed.

If a hole in the frame or guide grew beyond 1 5/8 inch, a bushing was pressed in and welded into place. Once each hole pair was made round, the guide was returned to the locomotive and the repaired holes match bored or drilled. Holes at the front end of the guides were drilled. There was sufficient clearance for the magnetic base drill in this area to be used with appropriate size drill bits.

The holes at the back end of the guides presented the greatest challenge and consumed the most time. Boring of each hole took in excess of 20 hours.

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From Bob Schneider

SAN JOSE HISTORY PARK EVENTS: Family Day events continue with great ridership, Barn visitors and Hand Car riders. Our outside line is getting more use all the time.

The Tapestry Arts Fair will be held September 3rd and 4th. We will operate on our outside line. Crowds could be big.

PORTLAND: (Willamette Shore Trolley Consortium)

Line repairs/upgrades have delayed operations.

Short term they may use their new/old cars from their transit system. Actions for 2012 are to be determined. This was a good "soul searching" adventure for us.

SACRAMENTO: We were invited by the CSRM to operate our Horse Car at their "Gold Rush Days" in Old Town Sacramento September 3rd and 4th. We accepted based on them covering cost of car transportation, a horse operator and possible help with lodging and food costs for our team.

As of August 11th the project was dropped because they were unable (in their estimate) to find affordable transportation. The other items were not mentioned. This is not a rail event. Late planning made me nervous.

MASTER GARDENER:

There is a good possibility that we will have to remove all CTRC hardware from the "back yard" to

make way for the Master Gardener's new growing area.

John Ezovski and team removed two crates and two machine tools already with more to follow. Previously the old 1215 site was completely cleared as well.

We will work with HSJ to find room for some of the items locally. Good chance to do some needed house cleaning.

VOLUNTEERS:

1. Holding steady at 22 (11 motormen with two in training.) The crew is growing but need more hosts.

2. Steve Raby is now an employee of HSJ on facilities. Hope to see him return as a Trolley Barn volunteer. Michael Bray doing pretty good.

RELATIONS: Excellent with HSJ, VTA, WRM.



The 1215 on display at History San Jose

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Since all of the work on the locomotive is outdoors, all equipment must be locked up at the end of the work day. Much time was lost in setup and tear down. (So much time could be saved if the locomotive were stored indoors!)

Work is now underway on the left crosshead and guide pair. Here again the guides are not in line with the piston rod. The lower guide has already been reset. Holes appear to be okay but one bolt must be replaced. Resetting the upper guide is in progress.

Not all news is good for the left side. The babbitted surfaces in both shoes of the crosshead is very thin. Neither surface is serviceable. Over the next several weeks babbitt will be added to each shoe. Some machining will be required afterwards.



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cilmembers helping with the project.

Readings: For you train buffs, two new novels have been published recently that extensively focus on the Northern California SP lines and feature a Pacific Model locomotive...at one point nearing 100 MPH. The novels "The Chase" and "The Wrecker" are by Clive Cussler and are a kick to read...thinking that the Pacific could have been our very own 2479!



CROSSHEAD IN PLACE AND READY TO GO

Information

Membership Meetings: First Saturday of each month at 10:00am at 2479 Healy Avenue, San Jose, the locomotive restoration site doublewide trailer.

Work Schedule: Saturday and Wednesday after work of each week.

CTRC Office: 1600 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112.

Mailing Address: CTRC, c/o MTI, 210 N Fourth Street, 4th Floor, San Jose, CA 95112

Membership: \$25.00 regular, \$10.00 Seniors. All memberships expire December 31 yearly.

To join please send dues, name, address, phone number, and e-mail address if available to the mailing address above.

The CTRC is a California 501(c)(3) not for profit educational corporation established in 1982. The organization is the official support group for the Trolley Barn at History San Jose and the San Jose Railroad Museum Park currently in the early stages of development.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the California Trolley and Railroad Corporation (CTRC) is to restore, preserve and interpret railroad, trolley, and related equipment as it was used to serve the people in Santa Clara Valley, California.

CTRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rod Diridon, Sr, **President & Founder; Excutive Committee** are Marvin Bamberg, VP Design; Gene Martin, VP Grants; Ken Middlebrook, VP Volunteers; Larry Murchison, VP Communications; Bob Schneider, VP Trolleys; Jack Young, VP Locomotive; Annette Nellen, Treasurer; David Sylvia, Corp Secretary/Attorney; Lynda Ramirez Jones, Administrator. **Board Members** are Alida Bray, Michael Burns, Dick Campisi, Carl Cookson, Sr., John Davis, John Ezovski, , David K. Ginsborg, Bob Kieve, Rick Kitson, David Night, Mike Kotowski, Art Lloyd, Joel Maniaci, Kit Menkin, Denis Murchison, David Niederauer, Gary Ross, Sr., Tim Starbird, Neil Struthers, Leigh Weimers, Steve Whitaker, Beth Wyman, Charles Wynn.



CTRC Staff:

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Acquisitions:

Public Relations: Ken Middlebrook <kamiddlebrook@comcast.net>

Web Site: Karl Auerbach <karl@cavebear.com>

COMING EVENTS

► Remember the Saturday workdays. Check with John Ezovski at SLBTrainer@aol.com for other work schedules including the 1215 beautification. All very important events. See you there.

► The first Monday of the month 10:00am CTRC meeting at the Santa Clara Fair Grounds locomotive site. Be there for a lively discussion about something or you can just look at the displays.

► The next CTRC board meeting will be Thursday, August 18th, 2011 at 3:00pm in the History San Jose Pacific Hotel first floor conference room



Do you want to view this exquisite newsletter in color? Why of course you do and you should. Who knows, the time may come when that may be the only way to read this informative missive. Progress you know.

On your computer go to:
www.ctrc.org/newsletter.html

California Trolley & Railroad Corporation

CTRC, c/o MTI 210 N Fourth Street,
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An invitation to join

The CTRC strives to restore, maintain and operate the few surviving examples of our local rail history for the education and recreational benefit of current and future generations.

Like yourself, we are individuals with different backgrounds, talents, and skills who share a common interest in preserving out rail heritage. Supporters who contribute \$25 or more annually will receive our monthly announcements and our quarterly newsletter THE CLEARBOARD. Contributions of materials, equipment and skills are also welcome.



THE CALIFORNIA TROLLEY AND RAILROAD CORPORATION

Yes, I wish to contribute to preserve our railroad heritage in the Santa Clara Valley.

Please accept my tax deductible gift of: \$25 \$50 \$100 \$200 \$500 \$1000 \$ _____

Membership: regular \$25, retirees and full time students \$10. \$ _____

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California Trolley & Railroad Corporation
Is a non-profit tax exempt organization dedicated to the restoration and preservation of historic transportation equipment. Membership is open to all. Yearly dues help finance the Corporation goals. All donations to the corporation are tax deductible. IRS #23510C(3)