

# THE CLEARBOARD



Michael Kotowski, President

<http://www.ctrc.org>

Larry Murchison, Editor

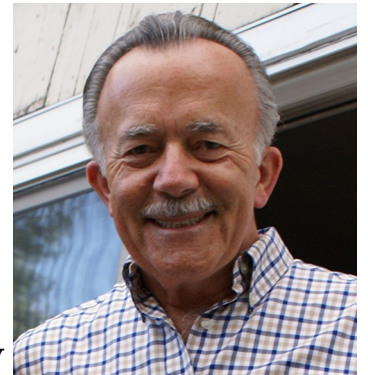
## SPECIAL EDITION



### Directions: President Mike Kotowski

### READY FOR THE FAIR?

From time to time, over the years while the 2479 has been under restoration, CTCRC has participated in the Santa Clara County Fair by providing a noted historical display designed to tell our on-going story. This is the only time the public can “come on in” and see a BIG steam locomotive and learn about what it takes to restore this 95 year artifact back to operating condition. This is also the time to request their donations to support this effort as well as the restoration of “other” historical pieces of the CTCRC collection.



We need to update all of the “hand out” materials (i.e. brochures about the equipment, tech sheets, photographs, stand up display and lighting for the evenings). Most important is the need for board volunteers and friends to help us do all these things before and at the Fair August 1<sup>st</sup> thru the 4<sup>th</sup>. We will be working with the Fair Board to secure our work area along with directions to guide the public to our display. The Fair also provides us the opportunity to direct visitors to “come on out to History San Jose” to ride the historic trolleys and to experience the rest of the CTCRC collection – the 1215 switch engine, the OSH box car, the MOPAC caboose (all of which need to be painted – donations please) and the trolley barn with “The Little Butter Cup” steam locomotive, steam tractor, restored vehicles, railroad equipment and some very interesting

#### FIND US ON THE INTERNET

<https://ctrc.org/>

<http://historysanjose.org/wp/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern\\_Pacific\\_1215](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Pacific_1215)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern\\_Pacific\\_2479](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Pacific_2479)

<https://www.facebook.com/Southern-Pacific-2479-Steam-Locomotive-159989580109/timeline/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0cNtjBoUH5g> (Little Buttercup walk-around movie)

<https://www.gluseum.com/US/San-Jose/185593484919580/Railroads-of-California>

<https://www.gluseum.com/US/San-Jose/114047105293462/Trolley-Barn>

**A BIG THANK YOU** goes out to Art, John (x2), Larry & Denis, Randy, Tom and the rest of the regular weekend team that keeps the dream alive for 2479; to Bob Schneider and his team of operators, conductors & docents that keep the trolleys repaired and operating every weekend and on education days and holidays; to the team of Marvin & Margie who are pursuing what continues to be the elusive dream of finding a CTRC museum site to call home; to David & Ken for researching the necessary historical documents to bring us into historical compliance and of course our now 80 year young Chairman Emeritus, Rod Diridon for filling in so many of the details that cement our story together; to Steve Pyle, the keeper of the ex-checker; to Eric for keeping our endowment safe and the person who reminds me of my forgetfulness – Lynda Ramirez Jones, Administrator & Chief, who wants to retire! Yes we are looking for her replacement. To Kit & Cindy who keep coming up with ideas to promote our efforts and Larry Murchison, Editor & Chief of the “Clearboard” and to Karl & Chris – look at our website!!! And to the rest of the board; “Thank you for your continuing service”.

Let's Roll, MK



From Art Randall.

We are continuing to try to get the locomotive ready for Fair Grounds display. It is going more slowly than planned, but we are making progress. The smokebox front has been installed,



← the air tanks are hung,

the spool that was removed from the exhaust steam line to the feedwater heater has been re-installed, →



← the balance spring mechanism for the reverse cross shaft has been re-installed, as have the hangers from the cross shaft arms to the radius rods,

and the right side eccentric has been installed and the eccentric rod connected. —————>

The left side is next.

That will complete the valve gear re-assembly.



<————-The sand dome has been installed.

The cab interior has been painted. —————>



The piston rings are being manufactured by Oakland Machine Works, the piston rod packing is being cleaned. It would be nice to be able to re-install the pistons for the display, but we are short of time (only 14 Saturdays left until the fair).

Important things left: Install the numbers on the headlight bracket and the headlight bracket on the smokebox door; Install the train number boxes; obtain and install the faux bell, whistle, headlight, pop valves, etc. on the boiler; set up the burner wall on the firebox; install the cab; paint the locomotive; couple the locomotive to the tender; sort out important piping, and install as much of it as possible; clean the tender and the GE loco; set up displays.

No shortage of things to do.

**TROLLEY BARN DISPLAY:** Based on a suggestion from the Hansen Family, Tom and I constructed a display showing;

1. A simplified sketch done by Fred called "How a Trolley Works"
  2. Two trolley poles; one with a wheel and one with a slider. Based on a reference book we have, wheels were used up to World War 1 and sliders after that. Sliders are still in use today, but the pantograph mechanism is current state of the art.
  3. Signs with black string running from words to the actual parts.
- Our trolleys use one of each type, but they are seldom noticed because they are over 15 feet off of the ground.

**SPECIAL VISITOR:** ( pictures thanks to Tom Ruffo) On 4/1 and 4/2 we had 3 First grade classes visit us from Washington Open school (Santa Clara) to tour the Trolley Barn and ride our Car 124. What a wild bunch. I noticed a number of things to include;

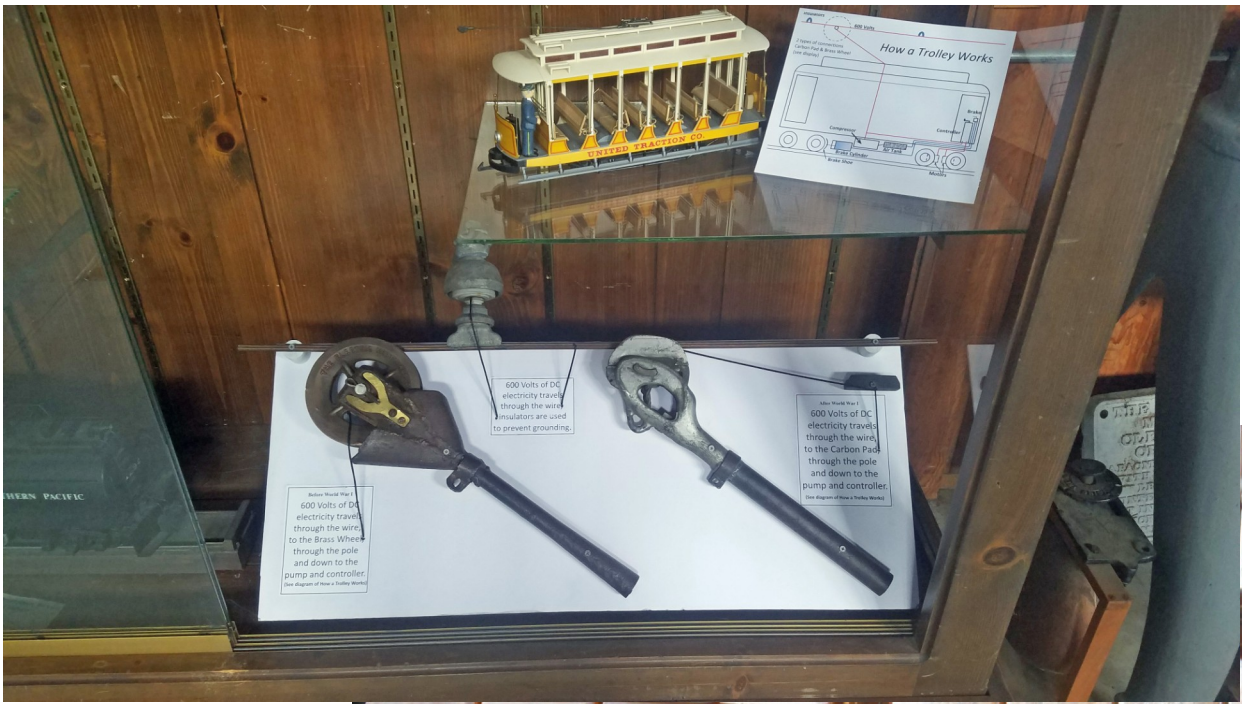
1. They were very disciplined, but could get wild given the opportunity.
2. The teachers/parents had instilled in the kids a very effective means such as "eyes on me" which brought the kids immediately to their attention.
3. The class sizes were about 22, but parent support was another 10. Amazing.
4. We gave the kids (1) a tour of the Trolley Barn, (2) talk about trolley details and (3) trolley rides.
5. Tom had a number of students notice that Little Butter Cup's drive wheels were 51 inches and they wanted to know how their height compared to 51 inches. Tape measurements were made of all that asked.
6. The students posed for pictures by parents, but I heard the teacher say "Ok, this one is serious", then another was taken where the kids were told they could pose with their "funny faces".

**TROLLEY BARN CLEANING:** On 3/23 a group called "Beautiful Day" from the Westgate Church came to the History Park to help us improve things as needed. A team of 9 people gave the Trolley Barn a SUPER cleaning to include (1) vacuuming under things and on work surfaces plus sweeping the floors (2) washing windows (best can do) and (3) pruning the Bottle Brush plants. This was a very hard working group and the results are SUPERB.

I will provide information from the Sacramento Conference for the next Clearboard. Too little time.

Bob Schneider







# CTRC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

## CALIFORNIA TROLLEY AND RAILROAD CORPORATION (CTRC)

Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting

February 21, 2019

### MINUTES

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - The quarterly meeting of the California Trolley & Railroad Corporation (CTRC) Board of Directors was called to order at 8:10 a.m., by President Michael Kotowski, at the Pacific History Hotel Conference Room, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose, California.

**Attendance - Board Members:** Rod Diridon, Sr., Jim Helmer, Michael Kotowski, Ken Middlebrook, Denis Murchison, Larry Murchison, Brian O'Halloran, Steven Pyle, Art Randall, Bob Schneider, David Sylva, and Jack Young.

**Others Present** - Eric Heckman, Lynda Ramirez Jones, Peter Savoy, Randy Savoy, and Eugene Vicknair.

- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES (11/15/18)** - A motion was made, seconded (Sylva/Middlebrook), and unanimously carried to approve the minutes as written.

III. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT (UPDATED AS ITEMS ARE DISCUSSED)**

**A. Conflict of Interest** - Jones reminded Board members that a Conflict of Interest Statement is required from Board members at the first meeting of the year. Board members present complied with the policy.

**B. Establish Two Ad Hoc Committees to Review and Upgrade CTRC Agreements with History San Jose (HSJ) and Fair Management Corporation (FMC)** - Kotowski referred to three sets of agreements: 1. Agreement with HSJ allows CTRC to have building on site for displays (Trolley Barn) - needs to be updated to include items added to display; 2. Agreement with FMC expired 2015 after 20 years. Neither side of the agreement has disputed the contract, and it will remain the same as long as neither side contests the agreement; 3. Bamburg and Matthews are working on trying to develop a site for the railroad museum, and an agreement is necessary for establishing the museum site.

Kotowski briefly referred to the agreements with the County of Santa Clara (\$50,000 for locomotive 2479) and the Valley Transportation Authority.

Kotowski announced he has asked Sylva and Middlebrook to serve on the ad hoc committee to address updates to the agreements. He has appointed Schneider to serve on the HSJ agreement committee; assigned Bamburg to serve on the FMC agreement committee; and will need two more members to review the general agreement with the County.

Kotowski further stated that the May 16, 2019 Board quarterly meeting will be full of reports regarding the status of the agreements.

IV. **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**A. P/L, Balance Sheets** - Pyle distributed the attached financial reports, indicating a balance of \$49,396.34 in the checking account, and \$8,333.98 in the savings account.

A motion was made, seconded (O'Halloran/Sylva), and unanimously carried to accept the financial reports as presented.

**B. Endowment Fund** - Later in the meeting, Heckman distributed the attached report on the endowment fund, indicating an ending market value as of February 20, 2019, of \$326,339.26.



Heckman responded to Board members' questions, and a question arose regarding whether the account had insurance to protect it in case of a market crash. Heckman responded he would look into this and report back to the Board.

## V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

**A. Communications** - Nothing new to report.

**B. SCC Rail Museum** - Nothing new to report.

## VI. CURRENT PROJECTS

### A. Trolley Barn

Schneider distributed the attached Trolley Barn report, noting the high number of attendees at the Children's Holiday festival and Chinese New Year celebration.

Schneider requested Board approval to allow up to five people to attend the 2019 Heritage Rail Alliance Spring Conference in Sacramento, CA, April 25-27, 2019. The cost would be \$200.00 each for registration only, and other related costs would be absorbed by each participant.

A motion was made, seconded (Sylva/Middlebrook), and unanimously carried to approve up to \$1,000.00 for registration of five persons to attend the 2019 Heritage Rail Spring Conference. Should five persons not be able to attend, any money left over would go to defray other costs.

### B. Locomotive 2479, Diesel, et al

Randall noting that since the wedge project was completed, focus has been on the condition of the boilers, of which several elements have not been completed.

Randall further reported that most of the work has been superseded by preparing #2479 for display at the County Fair in August 2019. He said the front end is almost done, and there have been problems with finding parts.

Diridon indicated he knows someone who would provide the sheet metal for the new jacket, per the specifications which Randall could provide.

Sylva requested a copy of the \$50,000 contract with the County of Santa Clara for #2479 with the amendment extending the contract to March 31, 2020.

Middlebrook reported that the original Orchard Supply Hardware (OSH) sign has been found and it will probably be placed with the OSH Boxcar in the display at the corner of Senter and Phelan at History San Jose Park.

### C. Feather River Rail Society Partnership

Following the November meeting, Middlebrook met with Abe Andrade, FMC Executive Director, who agreed to the WP wooden reefer being moved to CTCRC's restoration site at the Fairgrounds. Middlebrook and Vicknair met, and Sylva prepared a contract for this partnership.

Following discussion, a motion was made, seconded (Diridon/Sylva), and unanimously carried to reaffirm the acceptance of the car from Feather River Rail Society, located at the Fairgrounds for restoration, subject to the agreement of the Fair Management Corporation.

Kotowski noted he has met with Andrade twice; reported that the FMC does not have a problem with CTRC 's presence at the fairgrounds site, and that CTRC can have a maximum of eight rolling stock on the premises.

**D. Kelley Park Rail Stops - Benches and Signage**

Schneider reported that this project has been delayed because of the rainy weather.

**E. Archival of CTRC Files/Mementos - Nothing to report.**

**F. Acquisitions (Standing Item) - Nothing to report.**

**G. Fundraising**

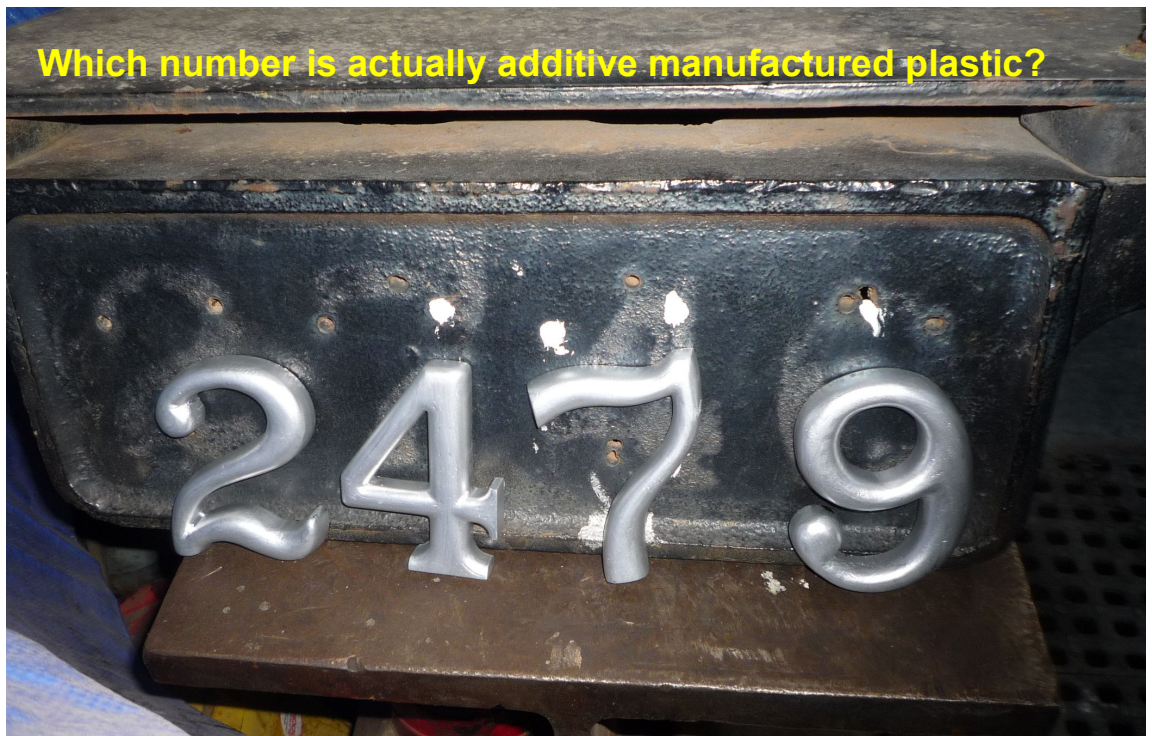
Kotowski reported that the Board has a big job in raising operating funds. He announced that CTRC is not establishing a PayPal account as previously discussed. He announced he will be meeting with Karl Auerbach to identify potential donors. Kotowski mentioned possibly looking at a "Go Fund Me" account.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS - None.**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m. to the next quarterly meeting at 8:00 a.m., Thursday, May 16 (this is a corrected date), 2019, Pacific Hotel Conference Room, 635 Phelan Ave., San Jose, CA**

Respectfully submitted, **One last note: CTRC (us) is looking for an administrator to the corporation Contact M. Kotowski at 408 – 378-9157.**

Lynda Ramirez Jones



## Information

### Work Schedule:

Saturday 8:30 to 3:30.  
2479 Healey Avenue, San Jose

### CTRC Office:

1650 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112.

### Mailing Address:

California Trolley & Railroad Corporation  
1650 Senter Road  
San Jose, CA 95112

Friends: \$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 San Jose History Park and the San Jose Railroad Museum Park currently in the early stages of development.

CTRC's Tax ID Number is 94-28348764.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the California Trolley and Railroad Corporation (CTRC) is to restore and promote the legacy of rail transportation in the Santa Clara Valley.

## CTRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Kotowski, **President**. The **Executive Committee** is: Marv Bamburg, Chair of Museum Project, Ken Middlebrook, VP Volunteers; Larry Murchison & Rick Kitson, Co-VPs Communications; Bob Schneider, VP Trolleys; Jack Young & Art Randall, Co-VPs Locomotives; David Sylva, Corp Secretary/Attorney; Steven Pyle, Treasurer. **Board Members** are Cindy Atmore, David Bini, Alida Bray, Nuria Fernandez, Mignon Gibson, Jim Helmer, Bob Kieve; Brandon McCracken, Jody Meacham, Denis Murchison, Brian O'Halloran, Matthew Quevedo, Johnathan Seager.

Rod Diridon, Sr., Founder/Chair Emeritus

**Board Executive Assistant** Lynda Ramirez Jones



## CTRC Staff:

President: Michael Kotowski <mfkcdk@pacbell.net>

First Vice President: Marv Bamburg, Museum Dewvelopment

VP Volunteers: Ken Middlebrook <kamiddlebrook@comcast.net>

VP Communications: Larry Murchison <larrymurchison@comcast.net> & Rick Kitson <rickk@cupertino.org>

VP Motive Power: Art Randall <arandall@earthlink.net>

VP Trolley Barn: Bob Schneider <schneiderri@att.net>

Corporation Secretary/Attorney: David Sylva

Technical Assistance: Art Randall <arandall@earthlink.net>

Treasurer: Steven Pyle <steve@cpasllp.com>

Equipment Maintenance: John Zielinski <johnz2@sbcglobal.net>

Time Keeper: Larry Murchison <larrymurchison@comcast.net>

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

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

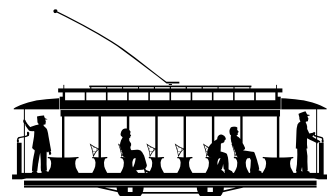
Editor: Larry Murchison <larrymurchison@comcast.net>

## COMING EVENTS

► Remember the Saturday workdays. Check with Art Randall at arandall@earthlink.net for other work schedules including the 1215 beautification. All very important events. See you there.



► The next CTRC board meeting will be **Thursday, August 15 at 3:00pm** (Third Thursday) in the San Jose History Park Pacific Hotel first floor conference room. Picnic is after the meeting.



**California Trolley & Railroad Corporation**

California Trolley & Railroad Corporation  
1650 Senter Road  
San Jose, CA 95112

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San Jose, CA

**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. **We need volunteers.** Please contact Ken Middlebrook at kamiddlebrook@comcast.net.

Like yourself, we are individuals with different backgrounds, talents, and skills who share a common interest in preserving our rail heritage. Friends 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 \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to the California Trolley and Railroad Corp.

California Trolley & Railroad Corporation  
Is a non-profit tax exempt organization  
dedicated to the restoration and preser-  
vation of historic transportation equip-  
ment. All donations to the corporation  
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