

THE CLEARBOARD



Rod Diridon, President

<http://www.ctrc.org>

Larry Murchison, Editor

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP. CHECK THE BACK PAGE FOR THE SIGNUP FORM. THE CALIFORNIA TROLLEY AND RAILROAD CORPORATION NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT.

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT FROM ROD DIRIDON

Special points of interest:

- What is the progress for locating the Steam Railroad Museum?
- Will the newest primary location for the museum?
- What is a shaper?
- Who recreated the beautiful sign shown on this page?
- What happened to car 1943?
- What did the Muster Team get?

San Jose Railroad Museum: After years of delay and faltering starts, the City of San Jose leadership seems now to be taking our San Jose Steam Railroad Museum proposal seriously. Several sites are under consideration, though that process was slowed by recent distractions regarding a possible ballpark, soccer stadium and concern regarding the Mayor. With those issues settling, the CTRC leadership has meetings scheduled with Redevelopment Agency Director Harry Mavrogenes, new Council member Madison Nguyen and others during the coming month. All are supportive and are attempting to identify the ideal site.

Trolley Barn: The CTRC volunteers enjoyed a potluck holiday gathering in The Trolley Barn on December 18 at which the beautifully restored sign for the building was unveiled. Special thanks to new CTRC volunteer Bruce Bartlett who has a remarkable way with wood, paint

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and gold leaf. CTRC Vice President Bob Schneider and the great trolley volunteers are enjoying the new inspection pit and involved with several projects.

CTRC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

CTRC Board of Directors
Pacific Hotel, History San Jose
Board Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2005

Meeting was called to order at 7:35am.

Attendance: Marv Bamburg, David Crosson, Rod Diridon, John Ezovski, Mac Gaddis, Mike Kotowski, Gene Martin, Ken Middlebrook, Denis Murchison, Larry Murchison, Charlie Wynn, John Zielinski, and Brendan McCarthy (staff).

Minutes: (MSC – Middlebrook/Crosson) that the minutes of the August 18, 2005 annual CTRC Board meeting be approved with the following change: “VP Middlebrook suggested that his traveling to the American Railroad Museums Convention would be helpful.” and that “American Railroad Museums” be changed to “Association of Railway Museums”.

Chair’s Report: President Diridon deferred his report to be made as comments to the Vice President’s reports.

Financial Report: President Diridon reported \$262,000 in the bank and \$140,000 pending reimbursements from the County Parks Department form the last of CTRC’s Historical Heritage Commission Grant contracts. President Diridon has requested payment from the County several times over the past two years and has been assured that the reimbursement was appropriate and pending. If no payment is received by the end of the year, Rod will meet with County Executive Kutras on the issue.

Current Projects:

- A. Trolley Barn/History San Jose – VP Bob Schneider presented the Trolley Barn 2005 Annual Report to the Board. The concrete trolley inspection pit was completed and unveiled to the gathering of dignitaries following the 8/18 annual meeting. Board Member Martin indicated that there had been continuing great work done by the volunteers at the Barn and that a new gold life embossed restored sign had been donated to adorn the outside of the Barn. The lights in the Barn were also fixed by the volunteers.
- B. Locomotive 2479 – VP Jack Young’s written report was presented to the Board by VP Ken Middlebrook. The report summarized the history of the 2479 project for the newer Board Members and lauded the countless volunteer hours that have been invested into the project. The volunteers continue to work on the reno-

vated drive wheels, shoes, and wedges provided by Robert Franzen. In addition, the brake rigging, pins and associated materials continues to be renovated and reinstalled. Jack Young reported that the FRA boiler use authorization will lapse in 2015 unless a waiver was obtained specifically for 2479. Jack’s memo indicated that, though unprecedented, this waiver and the remaining boiler work were of utmost importance. VP Young supplied a cost estimate for all remaining work on the locomotive which totaled just over \$216,000 for completion of the project. Finally, VP Young’s report provided an overview of the work in process on 2479 including: locomotive pistons – which were removed for inspection in mid-September; the Running Gear – a job that should conclude in early 2006; and the site – which is cleaned by 1-2 volunteers every weekend.

- C. SCC Rail Museum – VP Marvin Bamburg noted that several sites continued to be under consideration within San Jose with the Firefighters’ Training location and the former UP Bassett Street rail yards being



most promising. Meetings had been conducted with Vice Mayor Chavez, Council member Yeager and city staff to determine the best approach to designate a site. Other Council members will be apprised of the prospects and asked to be supportive.

- D. Happy Hollow Rail Extension – Chair Diridon reported that a meeting had occurred with SBC/AT&T Regional VP Birt Johnson and his staff to define the project now that the City had approved the plans. Johnson is committed to the project and has asked his staff to develop a plan to be implemented in the early Spring.
- E. Volunteers Report – VP Middlebrook reported that volunteers had been working to refurbish the Trolley Barn sign and lauded the work done to clean up the Barn as well as the work on Locomotive 2479. VP

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Middlebrook indicated that the CTRC website was being updated and would bring more visibility to the organization and further encourage volunteer support. Chair Diridon passed along his compliments for VP Middlebrook's continued support and hard work on behalf of CTRC.

New Business

- A. Acquisitions – No acquisitions are currently contemplated.



But we did acquire a shaper

- B. Historic Heritage Commission/Grant Applications – Chair Diridon noted that the 2006 Parks Charter Measure would hopefully pass creating more funding.
- C. Fundraising Efforts – Nothing new to report

Work on the Recognition plaques for the pit continues. The plaque will be placed where the public can see it, not down in the pit. Brendan continues to work to assure that all of the names are included and are accurately spelled. A sample was shown to the BBQ attendees, giving board members the opportunity to have some input on the final product. Coast Engraving and Kearney Pattern Works are committed to donate the pattern and casting.

Next Meeting – The next CTRC Board Meeting will be Thursday, February 16th at 7:30am at the Pacific Hotel, History San Jose.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Brendan J. McCarthy



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Locomotive 2479 Running Gear: The Steam Services America contract to rebuild the drive wheels, shoes, wedges and other running gear has been completed and Robert Franzen work has been exemplary. A continuing relationship with Robert has been negotiated and CTRC looks forward his assistance in completing the work on The Locomotive. Of course, the bulk of the work on site has been completed by the remarkable 2479 volunteers lead by CTRC Vice President Jack Young!

CTRC Membership: Under Vice Precedent Ken Middlebrook, the Membership Committee continues to meet monthly on the first Monday evening at the historic Santa Clara Train Station. And, thankfully, CTRC Newsletter Editor Larry Murchison continues



Your editor

to publish all our news that's fit to print. It's a bit remarkable to recall that the CTRC's trolley and Locomotive 2479 efforts were originally incorporated in 1982. We've reached maturity with much more grout ahead!



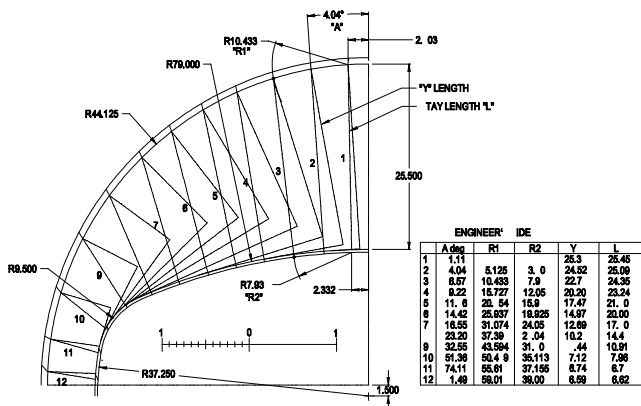
LOCOMOTIVE NEWS

Boiler

Work continues to collect the necessary measurements and generate the necessary drawing packages on the boiler to satisfy the form 4 requirements. John Ezovski has been heading up this mammoth task with many hours spent inside



and outside the boiler making measurements of every aspect of the boiler this includes the spacing of the flexible staybolts, crown staybolts, spacing of the staybolts and creating drawing with the help of Larry Murchison, and taking thickness measurements of the boiler shell. With



all of these measurements he has generated 100's of pages of calculations on the boiler structural soundness.

Brake rigging

There is light at the end of the tunnel there is only a hand full of bushing to make!! Once that

is complete all the new pins and bushings will be sent out for heat-treating. Once that process is complete the bushing will be pressed into the brake parts.

Frame running gear

Work continues to repair the number 3 pedestal binder on the Engineers side it was badly worn and would not allow the wedge to fully engage with the pedestal face



Art Randall grinding pedestal face

correctly. Thermal couples have been installed on all 6



Jack Young drilling thermal couple holes

driver boxes this will allow the bearing temperature to be monitor from the cab of the locomotive. Next step will be to fit the boxes to journals to check fit and align-

TROLLEY BARN NEWS

Submitted by Robert Schneider especially for the Clear-board newsletter.

1905 Cadillac: After appearing in the December 4th San Jose Christmas Parade, the Cadillac finally returned to its home at the San Jose Fire Department's Museum at the old Beechnut Property. As always, there are a few loose ends to take care of. Our restoration effort took a total of 42 months and 8637 hours of volunteer effort. Various local shops helped with this work on such things as painting of the body, re-building of the engine, upholstery and beautiful pin striping. This is our first effort in support of the Muster Team. The Muster Team has other projects waiting for us.

Rauch Lang: Rebuilding of the battery compartments and the battery charger is moving right along. The undercarriage has been cleaned up, repainted and reassembled.

Witte Tractor: Work on the engine is being done off site. Oak handles are being made.

Happy Hollow Electrification: The next step is for SBC to make an on site survey of the job.

Car Stop Sign: The "Car Stop" sign near the Trolley Barn was installed after re-finishing recently. A second sign was also refinished and installed near the hotel, but the recent storm blew it down. It's been repaired and is ready to be re-installed.



Trolley Barn Sign: Re-finishing the sign was completed and it was re-installed early this month. The "Trolley Barn" letters were re-finished in gold leaf and are brilliant



in the sunshine. The original sign was also done with gold leaf. Bruce Bartlett summarized his work in a short report that we will keep in the library for future reference.

Trolley Barn Display Case: Chuck Hopkins has been re-doing the contents of the display case near the porch door in the Trolley Barn. The "Sunday Guys" have repaired the lighting in the case. Chuck continues his work to focus on early transportation in Santa Clara Valley.

Car 1943 (Italian Car): Over 15 years ago this car was brought in as a source of spare parts for Car 2001. Once Car 2001 was completed, Car 1943 was used as a "paint booth" and storage of materials. As part of the HSJ cleanup, we have been working toward finding a new home for this car. No outside parties are interested (we've tried 4), so we are in the process of dismantling the car. We are giving San Francisco Muni window glass and various other parts for their "F Line" cars.

A major step forward was made on January 14th when a group from SJSU helped us remove 90% of the car's non-iron parts. See the following pages for a few of the pictures from that effort. The next steps are to finish removal of the non-iron parts, cut up the body, sell it as scrap metal then clean up the area.

Now let me tell you about this group. They arrived 12 strong by 9:00 with tools in hand and quickly went to work. It started to rain late in the morning and didn't let up. We said "enough" at 1:30 as folks were getting tired, very wet and cold. The ground was slippery and an inch

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ment of the boxes.



Bill Jump tapping thermal couple holes



John Blaine adding sleeves to the flexible stay bolts.

New equipment

CTRC took possession of a 10 inch Gould and



Art Randall preparing the shaper for use

Eberhardt shaper from Samax Precision, Inc on December 29, 2005. Many thanks to Vicki Murray who is the president of Samax Inc. for the donation. The machine is being ready for its first task at the locomotive site. Also thanks to the crew who helped move the equipment on the 29th.

Submitted for this newsletter by Jack Young.

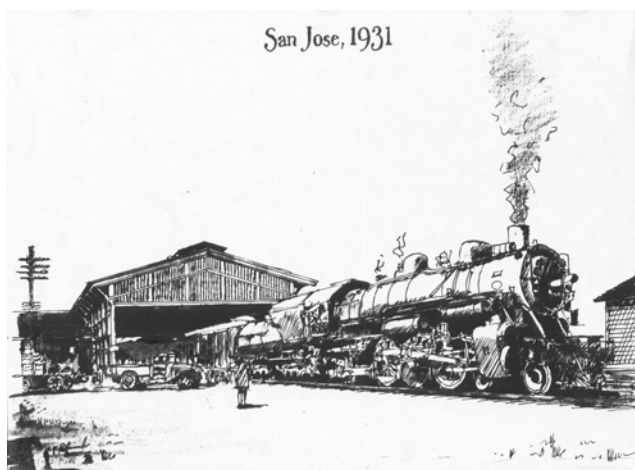
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deep in mud. The site wasn't pretty as we left, but that will easily be fixed later. I estimate that over 60 hours of effort were completed. The other interesting observation is that, in my opinion, the ladies were the stars. The guys put out, but the ladies excelled. Don't argue with a lady that has a crow bar in her hands.

The group from SJSU was made up of two organizations: Phi Alpha Theta, a national history honor society and the History Club. This was their first service project for HSJ and they hope to do more projects for HSJ, perhaps monthly.

Cable Car: We've been working with a local person who is acting as a broker to help us sell the cable car. He has talked to several interested parties, but they've gone away. He has also listed it on e-Bay at his own expense and has several possible interested parties. We are incurring no expenses from this effort. More to come.

San Jose, 1931



Information

Membership Meetings: First Monday of each month at 7:00pm at the Santa Clara Train Depot.

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 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 Santa Clara County Railroad Museum 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, President; Fred Bennett, David Crosson, Jack Ybarra, Marvin Bamburg, Peter Cipolla, Mac Gaddis, and Charlie Wynn, are the Executive Committee; Dick Campisi, Carl Cookson, Sr., Brenda Davis, Mignon Gibson, Robert Kieve, Mike Kotowski, Kit Menkin, Greg Mitchell, David Niederauer, David Sylva, Chuck Toeniskoetter, Larry Pederson, Beth Wyman, Tim Starbird, Tom Collins, John Davis, Jerry Estruth, Rick Kitson, Art Lloyd, Ken Middlebrook, John Neece, Gary Ross, Steve Tedesco, Leigh Weimers, Glen Simpson, Pat Restuccia, and Jack Young are the Board Members.

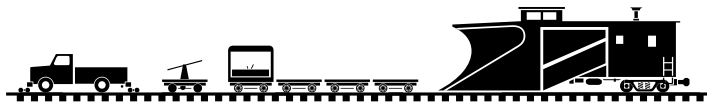


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COMING EVENTS

- ▶ Remember the Saturday workdays and the Wednesday work evenings. Check with John Ezovski at SLBTrainer@aol.com. All very important events. See you there.
- ▶ The first Monday of the month 7:00pm CTRC meeting at the Santa Clara train depot. Be there for a lively discussion about something or you can just look at the displays.
- ▶ The next CTRC board meeting will be Thursday, February 16th, 2006 at 7:30am at the History San Jose Pacific Hotel first floor conference room.



Do you want to view this lovely newsletter in color? Why of course you do! I don't know of anyone who wouldn't. You can even zoom in on the images to see them better? Isn't technology wonderful?

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

