

# THE CLEARBOARD



Rod Diridon, Sr., President      <http://www.ctrc.org>      Larry Murchison, Editor

## Directions

**CTRC President Rod Diridon, Sr.**



**33rd Annual Volunteer Recognition BBQ:** The CTRC leadership is scrambling to make the Thursday, 8/18, annual volunteer recognition BBQ another huge success. The BBQ will be preceded at 3:00 PM in History San Jose's Pacific Hotel conference room by the **annual board of directors meeting which is open for all to attend.** The BBQ begins to serve at 5:30 PM under the large oak tree near CTRC Locomotive 1215. Many community dignitaries will attend and our donors will be sharing

their support to cover the annual CTRC budget needs. Thanks again to the retired county firefighters led by **Dennis DeMellPine**, the meal will be free so make sure you RSVP soon, to help with planning, for you and your families to **Lynda Jones** ([unaduen@aol.com](mailto:unaduen@aol.com)). The volunteer hours for recognition are being tallied by **VP John Ezovski** for the Locomotive Department, by **VP Bob Schneider** for the Trolley Department, **VP Larry Murchison** for communications, **VP Marv Bamburg** for the museum, and by **VP Ken Middlebrook** for general volunteer activities so make sure your totals are up to date with each of them.

**CTRC Steam Rail Museum Progress:** A new and improved proposal has been developed by **Museum VP Marv Hamburg's** Museum Committee and has been presented to **Mayor Liccardo, VTA Chair Supervisor Chavez, Councilmember Peralez, the Guadalupe River Parks and Gardens Board liaison group** and others. (See page 4 for a picture of the proposed model created by Larry Murchison.) All have offered support though there are many important details to accommodate. Marv's committee has now been joined by three of the Valley top engineers who are CTRC Board members: **Jim Helmer, Joel Maniaci, and Brian O'Halloran.** Under Marv's leadership, the augmented committee will help accommodate the desires of the many community constituents supporting the project but with conditions. A final, fundable design is expected by the end of the year.

**Completion of Locomotive 2479:** Under **VP John Ezovski's** indomitable leadership, #2479 continues toward completion with a \$50,000 grant from the County funding current work on the pistons and drive train as well as the Federal Railroad Administration's Form 4 work. A grant for approximately \$250,000 is being negotiated to cover the last work to complete the long and careful reconstruction, assembly and testing expected to be fully implemented by the end of 2017.

**Kelly Park Trolley Line Stops and Poles:** Thought CTRC's History San Jose to Happy Hallow Kelly Park Trolley Line was completed years ago the four trolley stops have not yet been implemented. The benches have been donated and one of the concrete pads poured but three more pads and the station signage poles have yet to be installed. The engineering design has been completed by **Mott McDonald engineering** thanks to **Joel Maniaci.** A long-time CTRC friend is considering donating the concrete and will make a commitment within the month.

**Locomotive 1215 and OSH Car Display:** The Locomotive Department's team cosmetically restored switch engine #1215 a few years ago and has been working on that static display at San Jose History

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# CTRC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

CALIFORNIA TROLLEY AND RAILROAD CORPORATION (CTRC)  
Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting  
May 19, 2016

## MINUTES

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by President Rod Diridon, Sr. at 8:00 a.m., at the Pacific Hotel Conference Room, San Jose History Park, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose, California.

**Attendance:** Rod Diridon, Sr., Cindy Atmore, Alida Bray, John Ezovski, Rick Kitson, Mike Kotowski, Jody Meacham, Ken Middlebrook, Larry Murchison, Steven Pyle, Bob Schneider, David Sylva, and Lynda Ramirez Jones. Also present was Brandon McCracken.

- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES (2/18/16)** - A motion was made, seconded (Kotowski/Sylva), and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of February 16, 2016, as written.

III. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Updated as Items are Discussed)**

**A. Board Membership** - Kotowski introduced Brandon McCracken, who has been with the Billy Jones Railroad group for many years, and whom he is nominating as a new Board member.

A motion was made, seconded (Kotowski/Sylva), and unanimously carried to approve Brandon McCracken as a new Board Member.

IV. **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**A. Profit & Loss, Balance Sheets** - Pyle reported on the organization's financials, noting a savings account balance of \$8,331.49, and a checking account balance of \$52,552.70.

Pyle noted he did not have the exact current balance on the endowment fund, and Jones noted the petty cash fund has never existed in the years she's been with CTRC and it should be removed from the financial reports.

Pyle indicated the profit and loss and balance sheet figures would be more exact at the Annual Meeting in August.

A motion was made, seconded (Ezovski/Kotowski), and unanimously carried to accept the financials with detail not exactly precise and will be corrected at the Annual Meeting.

**B. Endowment Fund** - Eric Heckman submitted a report indicating a balance of \$292,365.00 in the endowment fund.

**C. Approve Budget for FY 2016-2017** - The auditors conducting the audit recommended approving an annual budget right before the new fiscal year begins. An operating budget for FY 2016-2017 was submitted for Board approval. Diridon spoke of the budget being slightly higher than last year and the need for Board members to assist in the upcoming Annual BBQ fundraiser.

Bray arrived at 8:10 a.m.

A motion was made, seconded (Sylva/Kotowski), and unanimously carried to approve the FY 2016-17 operating budget in the amount of \$22,260.

**D. Approve Expenses for ATRRM Conference** - Schneider presented an expense approval for up to \$3,000.00 to be divided equally among CTRC for volunteers to attend the ATRRM Conference at the Georgia State Railway Museum in Savannah, Georgia.

A motion was made, seconded (Schneider/Sylva), and unanimously carried to approve a \$3,000 conference expense for two volunteers to attend.

Kitson arrived at 8:20 a.m.

**E. Approve Expense for Herder's Shack Repair -**

Larry Murchison reported that the Herder's Shack needs lumber, windows, and a door.

Ezovski noted that any materials purchased should match the current materials.

Diridon suggested inviting others who know about this type of project to work together to propose a cost to repair the entire building. He will contact Jerry Estruth for a donation to get materials and name it after Mr. Estruth. The building should be redone in its original lines and the lumber should match.

Murchison requested approval for a \$500.00 expense for the materials needed now, and then it can be completely restored.

A motion was made, seconded (Diridon/Middlebrook), and unanimously carried to approve the \$500.00 expense, with cost for the repair of the entire building to be raised.

Murchison to take the lead on this project.

**VI. CURRENT PROJECTS**

**A. Trolley Barn -** Schneider distributed the attached Trolley Barn Report (see Attachment A), regarding the Barn's activities, specifically participating in History San Jose 's Transportation Day celebration on Father's Day, June 19, 2016.

Kitson requested a list of all activities on Transportation Day to promote community awareness of the Trolley Barn and History San Jose.

History San Jose will debut a car built in 1899, the oldest existing automobile on the West Coast.

**B. Locomotives 2479, Diesel, et al -** Ezovski distributed the attached report on the Railroad Division of CTRC operations. He spoke specifically of a major issue with the firebox internal throat sheet, and attached a photo to his report. He said the diagonal braces are in the wrong place and need to be corrected. He has found a person who will evaluate the situation. He said that it may be necessary to take tubes out for boiler inspection so that the clock on the boiler can be restarted. Cost to merely replace the tubes to gain access to the brace area could be in the vicinity of \$25,000.

**C. SCC (Santa Clara County) Rail Museum -** Diridon reported that the concept for the museum has been discussed with San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo, but the details have not. San Jose Councilmember Raul Peralez is to schedule an appointment with the Mayor for further discussion.

♦ **D. Kelley Park Rail Stops - Benches and Signage -** Diridon reported that he and Maniaci continue to seek a donor cement contractor for the bench stops. Bray mentioned she may have a person and will provide Diridon with contact information.

**E. Archival of CTRC Files -** Diridon reported that Bray and Middlebrook went to his office, and have agreed to archive all of Rod's possessions associated with CTRC.

**F. Acquisitions (Standing Item) -** No action - there are no new acquisitions.

**G. Fundraising/Grants -** Diridon reported that fundraising will focus on the Annual Volunteer Recognition BBQ.

Presence having administrative access to update it.

Schneider stated that a Facebook page has also been created for the Trolley Barn.

Diridon page should be controlled by the Board.

Kitson to develop a general policy statement regarding communications and bring it to the next Board meeting.

Sylva left at 9:25 a.m.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m. to the Annual Board meeting at 3:00 p.m., on Thursday, August 18, 2016, in the Pacific Hotel Conference Room, History San Jose Park, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose, CA, and followed by the Annual Volunteer Recognition BBQ at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Ramirez Jones



See ground view of the museum on page 7.

**SP-2479**

**Work on the locomotive may seemed to have stopped** but there are things happening.

One quote has been received for machining of new piston rings. This quote was significantly higher than estimated costs. A second request for quote is presently being draw up and a quote for just materials is also in the works.

Review of FRA Form 4 is also moving forward. Calculations on the various sections of the boiler have been reviewed by an individual that has generated several Form 4's. We are in agreement with most of the reviewed calculations. There were several questions pending and being worked on.

The restoration crew has been waiting for a machine capable of honing the locomotives steam distribution valves. A machine was located but was unavailable. That issue has been resolved. Al DiPalo, the restoration specialist at the California State RR Museum has made the needed tools available to CTRC. By the time this newsletter is published, honing of valves should be underway.

The crew is again cleaning parts that make up the steam distribution valve linkage. Once cleaned a coat of white paint is being applied to provide better long term storage protection.

**OSH Boxcar**



Repairs to the third and final damaged lower sill segment are complete. Removal of the sill required removal of interior wall sheeting and the floor. The damaged sill was then cut away and a new segment welded into place. Hot riveting the car's side sheets followed. See pictures at left.

The car's floor was a problem. The old material was no longer usable. Cost of new material was going to be way outside the budget. A big break came CTRC's way. History San Jose was vacating a warehouse located behind the trolley barn. Shelving in this warehouse was going to be discarded. CTRC was approached to see if this lumber could be put to good use. This lumber was near perfect for the boxcar floor!

Material had to be cut to length, ripped to required width and finally milled with tongue and groove



edges. All of this work is well within the groups volunteer's capabilities.

With the car's side sill repairs complete, floor installation on the caboose end of the boxcar began on May 29. Work was completed on July 5. Replacement of the floor on the locomotive end of the car will begin soon.

**Tie Pile Fire**

For many years, a stack of ties and rail have been stored in the flood plain located at the end of Phalan Ave. On June 29th fire destroyed virtually all of the ties. Arson?



More pictures on page 7.



# TROLLEY BARN QUARTERLY REPORT

From Bob Schneider.

## TRANSPORTATION DAY:

The museum held a Transportation Day event on Father's Day. Attendance was great and the weather was superb. Our numbers were Trolley riders 557, Trolley Barn visitors 300, Horse Car riders 313 and Hand Car Riders 124. We had a team of 10 people to include Jim Maurer, Eric Butler, Bill Traill, Bruce Compton, Frances Lam, Wil Lee, Pat Buder, Jack Stallard, John Zielinski and myself.

The horses were provided by our friends from Empire



Horse and Carriage.

We had two special happenings during the day;

1. The team pushed the Horse Car **completely** out of the Barn. That's some serious pushing.

2. We opened the Pit for visitors so they could see the underside of the trolley. One of us was also in the pit to explain the various hardware and we had signs posted as well.

During the day a special ceremony was held to announce the latest addition to the museum collection; an 1899 Osen and Hunt automobile. It is only one of 5 made

by them in San Jose (and California for that matter)



The automobile was purchased by Sam Seibert and his grandson, Luke Walton who then donated it to the museum.

The folks from Empire Horse and Carriage are scheduled to offer rides in their wagon pulled by their horses at the HSJ Holiday Festival to be held 12/3. They bring a wonderful team to this event. Mark your calendar.

**Weddings:** Our motormen and trolleys partici-



pated in two weddings in support of HSJ in July.

These are paid events, but we volunteer our effort.

**Wil Lee:** On 5/22 Wil passed his motorman's operating test. Jim Maurer said he did very well and Jens agreed. This is just in time as the "Event Season" is ramping up and another motorman is vital.

I played with the hours data and determined that it takes about 200 hours to train a new motorman. Half of that is the trainee's time and half the team's time in working with the trainee. **That is an impressive volunteer effort.**

I want to thank the entire team for helping as everyone contributed along the way.





Eccentric rods after and before



Cleaning and painting eccentric parts

View from Coleman Avenue of the proposed railroad museum.



*(Continued from page 1)*

Park on the corner of Phelen and Senter Roads. The latest effort, led by **John Ezovski** and supported by the whole team has been to repair the historic Orchard Supply Hardware (OSH) box car including major roof repairs, replacing rusted sills around the car, and milling and replacing the unique floor boards. The task has been arduous and often interrupted by inclement weather and the community events at History San Jose but is progressing well.

**Expanded Communications Committee:** Long time **Communication VP Larry Murchison** is now receiving help from new **Co-VP Rick Kitson** who has recently retired as Cupertino's communications director. While Larry continues to focus on the newsletter, visual effects with his modeling, and expanding our lists, Rick will broaden our outreach both by updating and expanding the web site and communicating more aggressively with the traditional as well as social media. The objective is to dramatically expand the CTRC community image to attract more volunteers and to prepare for the museum project implementation that will need all of the good will and support we can generate. New CTRC board members **Jody Meacham** (web site) and **Cindy Atmore** (creative writing), both professional journalists, will assist Rick.

**Note:** Many more of the CTRC board members and volunteers are working on various projects and their efforts will be highlighted in the project area articles from the vice presidents.



John and Art discussing



## Information

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

Work Schedule: Saturday 8:30 to 3:30.

CTRC Office: 1650 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.

CTRC's Tax ID Number is 94-2834764

## 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

Rod Diridon, Sr, **President.** The **Executive Committee** is: Mike Kotowski, Administrative VP, Marvin Bamberg, VP Design; Phyllis Perez-Sorenson VP Grants; Ken Middlebrook, VP Volunteers; Larry Murchison & Rick Kitson, VP Communications; Bob Schneider, VP Trolleys; Jack Young & John Ezovski VPs Locomotive; Treasurer; David Sylvia, Corp Secretary/Attorney; Steven Pyle, Treasurer. **Board Members** are Cindy Atmore, Linda Esquivel, Jim Helmer, Bob Kieve; Art Lloyd, Joel Maniaci, Denis Murchison, Brian O'Halloran, Charles Wynn. **Ex-Officio Members** are Alida Bray, Nuria Fernandez, Josue Garcia.



## CTRC Staff:

President: Rod Diridon, Sr <rod.diridon@sjsu.edu>

President Emeritus: David Ginsborg <dave@ginsborg.org>

First Vice President: Mike Kotowski

VP Design: Marv Bamberg

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

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

VP Grants: Phyllis Perez Sorenson

VP Motive Power: John Ezovski and Jack Young

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

Corporation Secretary/Attorney: David Sylvia

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>

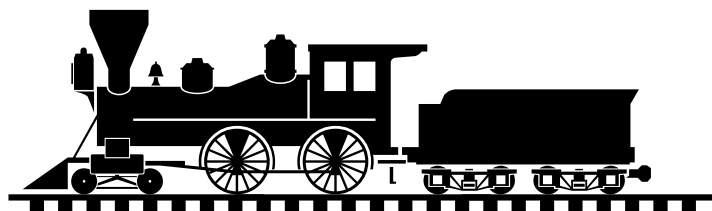
Editor: Larry Murchison <larrymurchison@comcast.net>

## COMING EVENTS

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



► The next CTRC board meeting will be Thursday, August 18, 2016 at 3:00pm in the History San Jose Pacific Hotel first floor conference room. BBQ to follow.



**California Trolley & Railroad Corporation**

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

**Restoring Your Transportation Past**

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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 our 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. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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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)