

THE CLEARBOARD



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

DIRECTIONS FROM ROD DIRIDON



Happy Birthday #124: Car Number 129 was placed into service in San Jose in 1912 and is still hard at it. The beautiful candy-apple red and gold-leaf double-end car was rebuilt by the California Trolley and Railroad Corporation volunteers, led by Master Car Builder Fred Bennett, with the **\$150,000 Sponsorship of San Jose Mercury News** and the **\$50,000 Honorary Conductor donation from Peninsula Crane and Rigging**. On November 18, 1988

the car was rededicated to service on the Valley Transportation Authority's (VTA) downtown transit mall loop. Car 129 and four other trolleys, all rebuilt by CTCRC volunteers, provided cheery daily shuttle service from the transit mall to the County Buildings until 1998 when San Jose and VTA could no longer support the related cost. Car 124 was shifted back to the CTCRC Trolley Barn at History San Jose and has hosted hundreds of thousands of riders, many of them history-hungry school children. Car 124's sponsoring newspaper is preparing to do a photo spread and story on the "bell of CTCRC's fleet's" 100 year birthday.

Locomotive #f1215 On Display: CTCRC's little steam helper engine number 1215

now sits atop an authentically ballasted section of rail on the south west corner of History San Jose. The display will feature the addition of CTCRC's wide-cupola caboose number 13522, long-stored in Salinas, by the end of May. The objective is to create a visual attraction to encourage visitors to HSJ and CTCRC and to ultimately be an



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CTRC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

California Trolley & Railroad Corporation (CTRC)
 Board of Directors
 Meeting Minutes
 Pacific Hotel, San Jose History Park
 February 16, 2012

- I. **WELCOME** – The meeting was called to order by President Rod Diridon, Sr., at 8:15 a.m., at the Pacific History Hotel, 1650 Senter Road, San Jose, California.
- Attendance:** Alida Bray, Rod Diridon, Sr., David Ginsborg, Mike Kotowski, Joel Maniaci, Ken Middlebrook, Larry Murchison, Bob Schneider, and Charles Wynn. Also present were John Ezovski, Steve Raby, and Lynda Ramirez Jones.
- II. **MINUTES** – A motion was made, seconded (Schneider/Wynn), and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of November 17, 2011, with corrections to names (Ken Middlebrook and Linda Spencer.)
- III. **CHAIR’S REPORT** – The Chair to provide reports as each item is discussed.
- IV. **FINANCIAL REPORT**
- A. **P/L, Balance Sheet** – A motion was made, seconded (Schneider/Ginsborg), and unanimously carried to approve the financial statements dated February 15, 2012, attached.
- B. **2010 Tax Filing** – A copy of the attached tax filing for fiscal year July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011, was noted.
- C. **D&O Insurance** – Diridon presented quotes for the insurance. A lengthy discussion ensued.
- A lengthy discussion ensued. Consensus was to hold off until input was obtained from Board members not present.
- V. **CURRENT PROJECTS**
- A. **Lease Request from Willamette Shore Trolley Consortium** – Schneider reported that there has been no activity on this matter by the Consortium.
- B. **Trolley Barn** - Schneider submitted the attached report dated February 16, 2012. He noted that 2012 is the 100th birthday of Car 124. Diridon to call reporter at San Jose Mercury News about writing an article to commemorate the event. An idea was proposed that CTRC partner with the Girl Scouts who are also celebrating a 100th anniversary.
- C. **Locomotives 2479 and 1215** – Ezovski reported that last week over 17 yards of ballast was installed in the Locomotive 1215 area. He took measurements and noted the caboose will fit in just right. He said

that after several setbacks, the left crosshead guides are in on Locomotive 2479. The bottom sides are bronze and one is eroded. He noted the covers need to be replaced and are costly. A mechanical engineer is preparing drawings to submit to vendors for approximate costs. Additionally, a new cage is needed. Diridon asked Ezovski to get estimates without making any commitments.

- D. **SCC Rail Museum** – Diridon reported he is still working with Councilmember Madison Nguyen on the Beech-Nut site. Raby noted “For Sale” signs have gone up on the property. Diridon to follow up with Councilmember Nguyen and Supervisor George Shirakawa.
- E. **Kelley Park Rail Stops – Benches and Signage** – Maniaci has obtained six fluted poles to support the trolley stop signs, but has not yet identified the needed historic benches. Raby will arrange a truck to pick up the poles for storage until they can be installed.
- F. **Volunteers** – Nothing new to report.
- G. **Acquisitions** – No report.
- H. **Historical Heritage Commission Grant Applications** – Bray reported that the deadline for submitting a grant application is in August. Diridon to send Gene Martin the HHC link to alert him to when the HHC grant application comes out.
- I. **Diridon Station Museum** – Diridon commented that lighting is still an issue. He also announced that the new operator for Amtrak is Herzog Corporation with an old friend as the president.
- J. **Future Local Event** – No report.
- K. **Fundraising** - Nothing new to report. Diridon noted that the annual BBQ turned into a fundraiser but more was needed. He is meeting with various parties next month and would be discussing fundraising.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Conflict of Interest Statement** – A motion was made, seconded (Schneider/Wynn), and unanimously carried to declare the Conflict of Interest adopted by the Board May 20, 2010, null and void, as a Conflict of Interest Policy was previously adopted on May 5, 2008, and will remain in effect.

Board members present were asked to review, complete and sign the Conflict of Interest Policy, noting that, per the auditors instructions, Board members will be asked in the future to submit a Conflict of Interest statement at CTRC’s first meeting of the year.

- VI. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m. to the next quarterly meeting at 8:00 a.m., on Thursday, May 17, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Ramirez Jones



Several new tasks have begun now that repairs to the locomotive's crossheads and associated guides are complete.

Repairs to the crosshead and guides for the steam distribution valve have begun. These crosshead must



**Adding brazing material to the
Steam distribution crosshead.**

also be set parallel and on valve center. The right side valve was selected as the start point. A wire was set down center of the valve and a number of measurements were taken. It was decided that re-brazing of the crosshead's upper and lower surfaces was necessary. Brazing was completed and machining of the surface performed. The crosshead was then set into place. Measurements were again taken. The crosshead was found to be low from center. Shims were machined. These shims are now ready to be mounted so that final adjustments can be performed.

While work on the crosshead and guides for the right steam distribution valve was taken place, analysis of the steam and aux dome covers was undertaken. Both covers were thought to be not serviceable from previous studies but not pursued. These measurements and calculations were reviewed. Several errors were identified, corrected but did not help. Both

covers must be replaced before operation.

The aux dome cover was selected to be replaced first. This cover has two large holes that hold the boiler's safeties. Each of these holes is near four inches in diameter, have a three quarter inch per foot tapered with a pitch of 8 threads per inch. There are two additional but smaller holes for the whistle and a hand operated valve. A thicker aux dome cover also requires removal and replacement of the 20 mounting studs. These studs were removed without damage to holes.

With an unknown cost, guidance was necessary with regards to limit of spending. A very generous member of the CTCRC Board of Directors offered to cover costs of material to a limit. Suitable material was located and quote of \$420.00 delivered was obtained. Stud material was an additional \$56.00. A big thank you to the donor which allows work to continue.

Not wishing to destroy a high cost part, a test plate was prepared for practice. CTCRC has one machine that is capable of performing the required work; the Leblond lathe located in the trolley barn. This large machine has not seen service in a number of years, thus required clean up and repairs. It was also noted that an important part was missing and required fabrication. During cleanup, there were many concerns as to this machines abilities. Many of these concerns vanished on April 21, when the first large hole in the test plate was finished. The second hole will be machined into the test plate to gain further experience. Once the second hole is completed, a plan will be devised as to how to proceed with the blank. One very serious concern remains. The ability of the Leblond lathe to turn a 235 pound part set about 5 inches off center.

Unfortunately work on the locomotive steam distribution valve repairs has come to a stop. 2479's master mechanic and available crew have been spending all time on the aux dome cover.

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From Bob Schneider

VISITORS:

26,239 Trolley riders (+3% YTY)
13,073 Barn Visitors (-9% YTY)
1,569 Hand Car riders on 8 days.
99% Motormen & Host Coverage
11 trolley operating days lost due to rain.

VOLUNTEERS:

20 work each month out of 25 active.
11 Fully Qualified motormen , 2 qualified as conductors. Of those;

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

1. **Happy Hollow Line** operated approximately 50% of the time. Everyone loves it.
2. Group **"Celebrates" 8 full years** of being an all volunteer organization
3. Attended Fall ARM Conference in Chattanooga, TN, 11/9-12.
4. Cars given their annual cleaning
5. Three people worked at Western Railway Museum during their "maintenance week"

PROJECTS:

1. Anti-climb panels plus "Please Keep Off" signs made and installed on 1215.
2. Birney bumper and panel painted with help from a special friend.
3. Clean up: We have been cleaning up the "back yard" to include;
 - a. removal of 4 tires
 - b. removal of 15 gallons of used oil mixed with 25 gallons of water
 - c. helped move 2 large machine tools and 2 large crates to 2479 site.Thanks John.

- d. sold 2 tools on our list plus 12 unlisted, loose items.
4. Submitted Rotary Grant for section isolation switch (\$3865). Received as requested.
 5. Did a complete tune up on the HSJ yellow fork lift. It was inoperable.
 6. Approached by a consortium in Portland to lease a restored trolley from VTA for their temporary use on the Willamette line. Idea dropped for now by Portland, but it was a good exercise of our thinking and policies.

RELATIONS:

1. HSJ - Excellent
 - a. Contact daily with Education Team and frequent contact with Facilities and Events Teams. Steve Raby is now Facilities Manager and a TB volunteer.
 - b. Helped with HSJ events
 - (1) Family Days (over 7)
 - (2) Historic Transportation Experience (education classes – **16 total**)
 - (3) Assist with various facility and education tasks

RECENT EVENTS:

Childrens' Holiday Festival on 12/11 was a big success Santa was on the Birney and had over 200 visitors. Our TB volunteer, Mike Brownlee, was a superb Santa.

We're in the Winter quiet time. Weather keeps our visitors down, but we keep plugging.

Our friends at VTA have installed part of the section isolation. Other parts are on the way.

Coming of spring brings issues with site appearance. Weeds and grass require constant attention. The remainder of the small Saturday crew has been working hard at maintaining a neat site.

A "new" computer and monitor has been donated to the CTRC locomotive site compliments of Larry Murchison. Although it is an XP version it was originally configured for high powered Computer Aided Design work so should accommodate the needs of CTRC for a while. Also a cable was found to connect the scanner/printer and it is now working OK. John Zelinski discovered that his company was discarding a large-format plotter and donated it to the CTRC. After a parallel cable was discovered in Murchison's garage the plotter is also now working.



Printer/Scanner, Monitor, Computer, & Plotter

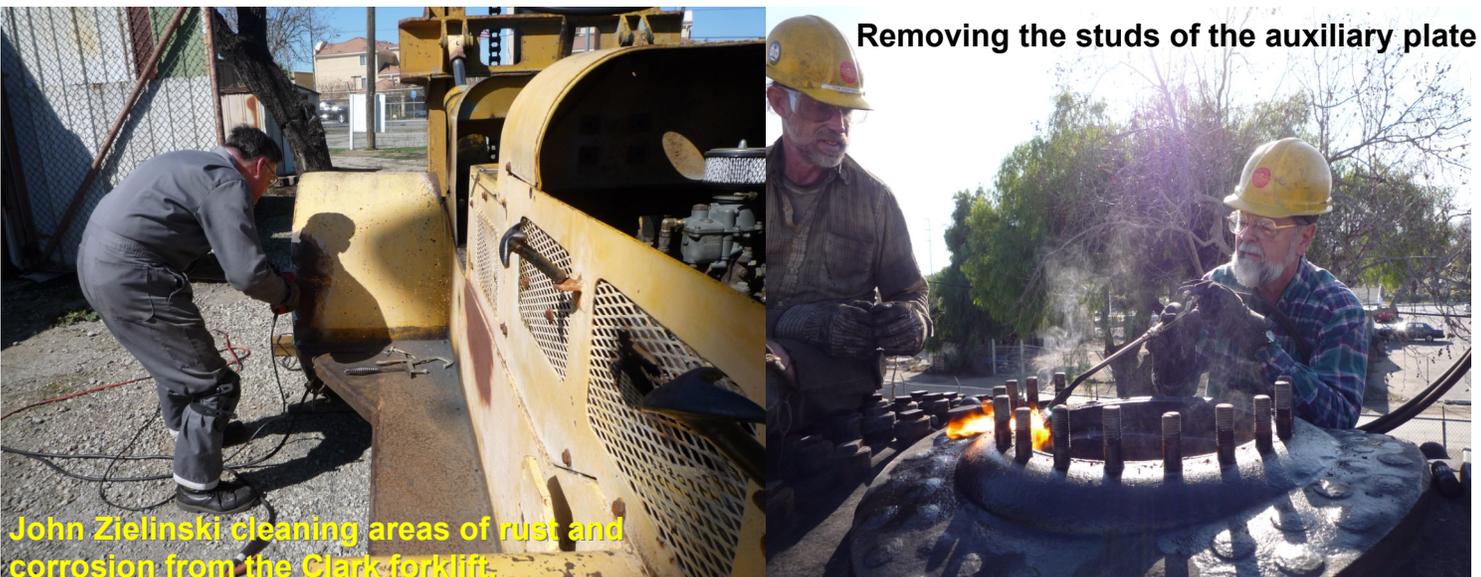


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authentic bit of "Rail Americana" for visitors to climb through. Baldwin Locomotive #1215 entered service in 1913 in Dunsmuir (my home town) then on to Sacramento, Bakersfield, Tucson, and was finally put out of service in 1953 in San Francisco. The locomotive is identical to the San Jose Depot switcher from 1935 to the 1950s end of the steam era.

The display was created by CTRC's purchase of #1215 from the Western Pacific Railroad Museum at Portola using a small portion of the CTRC funds obtained from the sale of trolley # 129 to the Sacramento Regional Transit Authority. **The Rotary Club of San Jose provided a grant** to support the development of the display and move of the caboose. Helping all along the way has been **Joe Bauer of Peninsula Crane and Rigging, Stevens Creek Quarry, Reed and Graham, A Tool Shed**, and many others donated material and equipment. The glue that has made that all come together was provided by the wonderful CTRC volunteers lead by **John Ezovski and supported by Gene Martin, Ken Middlebrook, Steve Raby, Bob Schneider, Jack Young, Tom Anderson, and Larry & Denis Murchison**. And we must always thank **Alida Bray**, President of HSJ, for being such a supportive land lord!

Major Progress on #2479: Led by **John Ezovski and the CTRC locomotive volunteers** have created a breakthrough...literally drilled and threaded a precision hole...in a one inch thick test plate in preparation for doing the real thing to the new 2-inch thick auxiliary dome plate. That 400 pound plate will receive four of those threaded, precision hole for reinstallation to the boiler. To accomplish this project, John and the 2479 crew had to rebuild the long unused and antiquated **LeBlond** lathe which now works like a charm. TLC and lot of lubricant do wonders!



John Zielinski cleaning areas of rust and corrosion from the Clark forklift.

Removing the studs of the auxiliary plate

Information

Membership Meetings: First Saturday of each month at 10:00am at 2479 Healy Avenue, San Jose, the locomotive restoration site double-wide 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**; **Executive Committee** are Marvin Bamburg, 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.

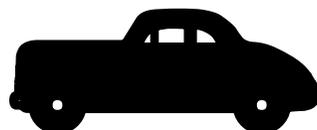


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 Web Site: Karl Auerbach <karl@cavebear.com>

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 16th, 2012 at 3:00pm in the History San Jose Pacific Hotel first floor conference room followed immediately by with the annual volunteer recognition BBQ at 5:30.



California Trolley & Railroad Corporation

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

Restoring Your Transportation Past

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
STD PRST
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit 17
Los Gatos, 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.

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. \$ _____

Name: _____ Total \$ _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

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)