



THE CLEARBOARD



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

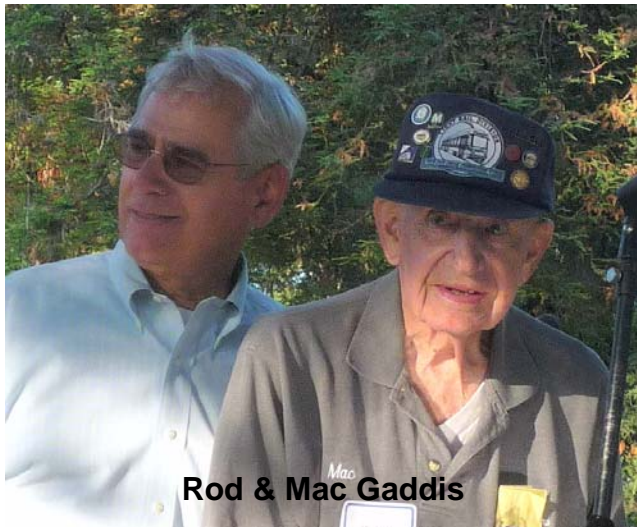


NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT FROM ROD DIRIDON

~~THE~~ DIRECTIONS ~~TO~~

26th Annual Awards BBQ: The California Trolley and Railroad Corporations predecessor corporations were founded in 1982 and each subsequent year a BBQ celebrated the tremendous and ever-growing contributions by the individual volunteers to the Valley community.

Well over 400,000 hour of donated time, many millions of dollars in professional services and material and over \$4 million in cash have allowed CTCRC to create and operate, at no taxpayers' cost, over \$20 million in community assets. This year the event was enjoyed by over 100 volunteers and friends on August 20 at the History San Jose's Kelly Park BBQ area. The sponsors included: **Bottomley Distributing Company, Hatch Mott MacDonald Engineering, History San Jose, HNTB Corporation, Mass Electric Corporation, San Jose Parks Department, San Jose Rotary Club, Santa Clara County Firefighters Local Union 1165, Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Commission and Parks Department, Stacy and Witbeck Construction, and the Singing Conductors.** Most of those have supported CTCRC for more than a decade. The volunteers received the following awards: **Mac Gaddis – Lifetime Achievement Award, John Ezovski – Iron Man of the Year Award, Gene Martin**



Rod & Mac Gaddis



John Ezovski

and Larry Murchison – 5,000 Volunteer Hours Award, Loren Cantrell – 1,000 Volunteer Hours Award, and Eric Butler 500 Volunteer Hours award. The following CTCRC Vice Presidents were singled

(Continued on page 6)

CTRC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

CTRC Board of Directors

Board Meeting Minutes

Pacific Hotel, History San Jose

August 20, 2009

Meeting was called to order at 3:09pm.

Attendance: Tom Anderson, Marv Bamburg, Rod Diridon Sr., Meg Fitts, Mike Kotowski, Gene Martin, Denis Murchison, Larry Murchison, Ron Pugh, Bob Schneider, Charley Wynn, and Jack Young.

Minutes: (Diridon) The minutes of the May 21, 2009 CTRC Board meeting be approved after Ken's changes.

Chair's Report: (Diridon) Rod Diridon reported that he is working diligently with Councilman Sam Liccardo. Councilman Liccardo needs schematic Milpitas line to west of the creek's top bank and onto property.

Financial Report: Fitts/Diridon reported, Diridon reports that more money is being spent than bringing in. It was suggested that money could be saved if the newsletter was sent electronically with an elected officials list which Gene Martin will create. Diridon will call Shilo (sp?) for approval for a contact list.

This Action was unanimously approved.

Diridon will be meeting with Alida to discuss whether claiming the collection or not.

Current Projects:

- A. **Trolley Barn/HSJ** -VP Bob Schneider on the Trolley Barn Reported from worksheet.

OPERATIONS:

Lines: Kelly Park Line fully operational

Motormen: 7 Fully qualified, 1 almost, 2 in training-
Diridon asked if the trolleys can run during commuting hours and have a banner or sign on the fence advertising the need for volunteers for trolley operators.

Schneider was worried there weren't enough operators to do it, but will think it over.

TROLLEYS:

124 – Replacing caning on 4 seats (normal wear).

Birney – Recently replaced brake shoes.

VOLUNTEERS:

Dick Maurer – Leg problem keeps him away.

Mac Gaddis – Host once a month, but frail.

Lee Westfall – No longer Host or Motorman

Keith Baker – Attendance limited by wife's condition

Mike Brownlee – Back as Host for four months

Mike Hurley – Ready to start Motorman Training

Larry Larson – Back to do various projects

“Fred's Stash”: 3 crates of Montreal PCC car parts discovered. Some went to RVJ and rest to SF Muni.

HSJ:

For the Annual Volunteer Recognition, Eric Butler has 25 years of volunteering, Chuck Ryan and Terri Schneider have 10 years, and Larry Bingham and Mike Hurley recognized for 5 years of service.

RECOGNITION:

Eric Butler will be recognized at the BBQ for his investment of 500 hours of service with a CTRC Cap to say thank you. Gene Martin will be recognized for 5,000 hours of service with a CTRC Buckle.

ARM:

Squamish, BC September 16-19. Gene Martin and Bob Schneider are attending.

- B. **Locomotive 2479** – Jack Young reported the total volunteer hours for 2008-2009 are 3879; 3479 hours invested in SP2479, and 400 hours put in on SP1215; with a crew size from as little at 2 to as many as 12 on Saturdays and weekdays as scheduled. Current projects for SP2479 are getting bids for material for the running gear restoration, rework on brake cylinder, and site maintenance. The current

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

projects for SP1215 are cosmetic restoration which started in April still continuing with the Tender clean and paint, the replacement of the Firemen's side floor, and the cost for materials were \$720.50.

- C. **SCC Rail Museum** – covered in Chair's Report.
- D. **Happy Hollow Rail Electrification** – Covered in Trolley Barn/HSJ Report by Bob Schneider.
- E. **Volunteers Report** – Young reported on behalf of Ken Middlebrook. Young voiced the huge need for more volunteers.

Diridon suggested the need to have an epic event and write an article about it including the need for volunteers.

New Business

- A. **Acquisitions** – Diridon mentioned Middlebrook sent out a notice about a Railroad Museum in the Midwest is closing and liquidating everything which is a target of opportunity.
- B. **Historic Heritage Commission/Grant Applications** – Diridon reported he has an appointment to talk with HHC about permits.
- C. **Fundraising Efforts** – Diridon reported the difficulty for fundraising at this time and has asked for help. Diridon got \$25K from Rotary for a Display Case at Diridon Station for CTRC. Diridon suggests heavy display cases, something nice and durable.
- D. **Volunteer Recognition/Plaque** – Today HHL Dedication Ceremony – Complete

Next Meeting – The next CTRC Board Meeting will be November 19, 2009 at 8:00am and the Meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Meg Fitts



1215 RESTORATION AT HISTORY SAN JOSE



For story and more pictures of the 1215 restoration see the next page.

By Jack Young

SP2479-

The project is focused on the running gear renewal. The bushings in the side rods will need to be replaced because the pins in the drivers were turned during the driver renewal a few years ago. The side rods and main rods are currently being surveyed. This process requires that the bushing be pressed out of the side rods and measured. The side rods are approximately 6 to 8 feet long and weight in the neighborhood of 600 to 700 pounds each. The process to press the bushing out requires the use of the biggest press in the CTRC machine shop. Once all the side rods, links and pins have been surveyed a detailed list of actions will be generated to outline the repair task for each component part.

In addition to the running gear renew one of the locomotive's brake cylinder required a new gasket. A new gasket was procured and installed in the brake cylinder. The cylinder was reinstalled on the locomotive and air tested.

Additional maintenance and clean up along with winterizing has been done to the locomotive. The area around the pilot and steam chest have been wire wheeled and painted. All the drivers have been covered with tarps to protect them from the weather as well as the Locomotive brake cylinders.

SP1215 –

You know they say a picture is worth a thousand words!!! The week day crew headed by John Ezovski has done a incredible job on 1215!!!



For more pictures see the previous page. Also visit the following web site for all the 1215 restoration pictures.

<http://www.ctrc.org/gallery/v/1215+Photos/Restoration+Progress/>



From Bob Schneider **Kelley Park Line:**

The track groove on the last 750 feet of the line was cleaned by dragging a pick along it then sweeping the dirt out. The groove was there but Mother Nature filled it with dirt over 10 years. Sweeping is now a monthly maintenance item.

We now have 8 fully qualified motormen. The role of the conductor is more challenging now that we have a crossing where automobile drivers try to demonstrate their incompetence.

On a number of occasions we have run on the new line without an event being held. We have seen rider ship numbers of those days to be roughly double our normal numbers. What we're seeing is that people are riding for the journey not the destination. During the Antique Autos event overflow parking was at the Happy Hollow lot. Riders had to be turned away because the trolley was full upon arrival and no one got off. We're working on a simple fix for that. We have found that large events on the History Park Site are too crowded for safe trolley operations. Using the new line solves this problem.

In summary, the new line is a big hit with everyone.

Trolley Maintenance:

Birney – The Birney brake shoes were replaced. Because Fred designed the parts rather than use off the shelf ones, we had them cast at a nearby foundry. Fortunately we have the sand casting pattern on hand.

Car 124 – The caning on the seats is gradually wearing out, so we've started replacing bottoms or backs as needed. Finding the right materials and learning techniques is a challenge. Fortunately, a report (and CD with pictures) written by an ARM (Association of Railway Museums) member has been a big **help**.

Volunteer Recognition:

Eric Butler was recognized for 25 years of service at the HSJ Annual Volunteer Recognition Picnic.

At the Annual CTCRC Recognition BBQ the following people were recognized:

Mac Gaddis – Lifetime Achievement Award

Gene Martin – 5000 hours of service

Eric Butler – 500 hours of service

Outlook:

The Trolley Barn team will be participating in HSJ's "History Haunt" event on Halloween, October 31.

We will also be participating in HSJ's "Heritage Holiday" event on Saturday December 5. We plan to run the trolley on the Kelley Park Line and offer rides on a hand car we will be borrowing from our friends at Ardenwood.

(Continued from page 1)

out for special recognition: **Marv Bamburg (Railroad Museum), Gene Martin (Grants), Ken Middlebrook (Volunteers), Larry Murchison (Communications) Bob Schneider (Trolley Barn), Jack Young (Locomotives) and Alida Bray (HSJ President/CEO)**. Finally we shared a moment of sadness at the passing during the year of long-time volunteers **Frank Huff and Rod Sohn**.

The celebration followed the annual meeting of the **CTRC Board of Directors** held each year in History San Jose's historic Pacific Hotel's conference room. Those meeting minutes are included in this newsletter.

CTRC's San Jose Steam Railroad Museum: After almost 20 years of planning and re-planning, with the help of **San Jose City Councilmember Sam Liccardo** CTCRC has been asked to plan, jointly with the **Guadalupe Parks and Garden Corporation**, the large open area south of the airport and north of Coleman Avenue. **Marv Bamburg, Ken Middlebrook, and Larry Murchison** have developed a concept and the joint planning effort is proceeding. This seems to be a near ideal place for the deconstructed historic San Jose Lenzen Railroad Yard's roundhouse, turntable, water tower, signals and tracks to be rebuilt as the home for the four CTCRC locomotives, passenger cars and caboose. Marv and his design crew are standing by to work cooperatively with the master planning group at Councilmember Liccardo's instruction.

Hurray to the Volunteers: The wonderful **CTRC volunteers** continue to rebuild locomotives, operate and maintain trolley cars and the Trolley Barn, attend the myriad meetings and discussions relating to our never-ending task and seem to enjoy every minute of the effort. The Valley owes all of you each a strong debt of gratitude. That appreciation will be silently shared with each of you as every young and not so young person enjoys the CTCRC programs now and into the future.



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: CTCRC, 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 CTCRC 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**; **Vice Presidents** are Marvin Bamberg, Design; Ken Middlebrook, Volunteers; Larry Murchison, Communications; Bob Schneider, Trolleys; Jack Young, Locomotive. **Board Members** are David Bottomley, Dick Campisi, Tom Collins, Carl Cookson, Sr., Brenda Davis, John Davis, Hon. Jerry Estruth, Mac Gaddis, Mignon Gibson, David Ginsborg, Robert Kieve, Rick Kitson, David Knight, Mike Kotowski, Jim Lawson, Art Lloyd, Joe Maniaci, Edward McCauley, Kit menkin, John Neece, Annette Nellen, David Niederauer, Larry Pederson, Gary Ross, Gary Simpson, Tim Starbird, Robert Stromsted, Chuck Toeniskoetter, Beth Wyman, and Charles Wynn.



CTRC Staff:

- President: Rod Diridon <diridon@mti.sjsu.edu>
- Vice President: Ken Middlebrook <kamiddle@rockwellcollins.com>
- Motive Power: Jack Young <jyoung99@pacbell.net>
- Electrical: Bob Paddleford <bobpadd@sbcglobal.net>
- Site Maintenance: Denis Murchison <dmurch@charter.net>
- Equipment Maintenance: John Zielinski <johnz2@sbcglobal.net>
- Technical Assistance: Art Randall <arandall@earthlink.net>
- Historian: Larry Murchison <larrymurchison@comcast.net>
- Editor: Larry Murchison <larrymurchison@comcast.net>
- Treasurer: Annette Nellen
- Membership: Gene Martin <trains4@attglobal.net>
- Time Keeper: Hugh Crawford <hugh@hughcrawford.net>
- Trolley Barn: Bob Schneider: <schneiderri@att.net>
- Acquisitions: Mac Gaddis <macgaddis@peoplepc.com>
- Public Relations: Ken Middlebrook <kamiddle@rockwellcollins.com>
- 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 7:00pm CTCRC 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 CTCRC board meeting will be Thursday, November 26th, 2009 at 8:00am in the History San Jose Pacific Hotel first floor conference room. Picnic time...



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

