

Trolley Barn Newsletter

April 2009

By Bob Schneider

OPENING HOURS: Starting **MAY 1** we will be open/operating from 12:00 to 5:00.

Happy Hollow Line Electrification: Mass Electric got as far as they could on 3/7, but hit a safety issue that stopped them. Installing two of the steel poles directly under the 115 KV power lines was unsafe, so they could not proceed until PGE provides a solution (power shutdown or electrical insulating blankets). As of 4/10 PGE is still working through our request. Once that is solved, the remaining work will take just 2 days of work by Mass electric.

Mass Electric did install all the cross arm hardware. The copper wire could not be installed. Knowledgeable folks are impressed that we've held true to overhead wire design practices of the early 1900s. That is our goal. The steel poles supporting things at the corner are a concession (for engineering reasons) to that goal.

We are working on Car 124's pilot and installing whistles on the Birney. All the whistle work is our own design, so we are designing as we go. We are documenting our work for future reference. Both jobs are progressing very well.

Birney buzzers: Speaking of documenting. I have been in contact with a museum in Greeley Colorado that is restoring a Birney for static display. They first contacted me last summer through a local person, had no knowledge or contacts and really needed help on technical details. I helped them join ARM (Association of Railway Museums) and have been providing what guidance I could since then. Recently they asked for help on Birney buzzers, we provided 3 spare parts and drawings to restore them using Jack Stallard's drawings that he did in 1995 when we were restoring our Birney units.

Helping Others:

1. We helped the SJ City Parks folks move and return 14 picnic benches so that asphalt areas could be repaved.
2. We folded and taped the latest edition of **Volunteer Voices**.
3. We pruned around the Stables at the request of the Education folks.

Motorman/Host assignments for May:

<u>SAT.</u>	<u>Motormen</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>SUN.</u>	<u>Motormen</u>	<u>Host</u>
2	Huff	Ouimett/Boehm	3	Bingham	Stallard
9	J. Maurer/Huff	Raby/Compton	10	Ouimett	Schneider
16	Baker	Stallard	17	Westfall	Compton
23	Ouimett	Schneider	23	J. Maurer	Stallard
30	NO TROLLEY	Traill	31	Butler	Raby

HTE: 5/16 Baker/

5/21 Baker/

“NO TROLLEY” means events such as car shows on these days do not want them. This helps offset the extra shifts required for HTE.



Those 115 KV Power lines (note our iron pole on the ground)