

# THE CLEARBOARD

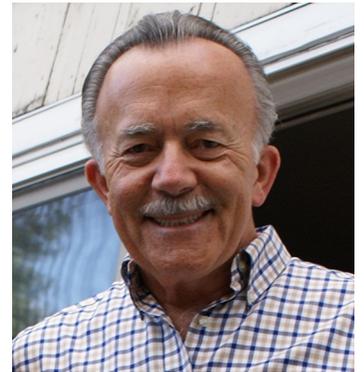
Michael Kotowski, President    <http://www.ctrc.org>    Larry Murchison, Editor



## Directions: President Mike Kotowski

### One Year and Counting

It is a strange feeling to acknowledge that last year at the Annual Board of Directors' meeting the board elected me to replace Rod Diridon as the President & CEO of CTRC. Since then it has been a whirlwind of meetings and emails with our various board members, attending FMC (Fairgrounds Management Corp) board and internal staff meetings with the folk who have the responsibility of making the County Fair work and, for the first time last year, it was a profitable enterprise.



I had the opportunity of meeting Abraham Andrade, the CEO of the FMC, who has a very vested interest in CTRC and its future. The FMC has an interest in having the current on-site CTRC develop into a full museum that the public can become aware of and participate in and thusly become a working function of the Fair Grounds activities schedule. Although the details are still in the "talking stages" one of the suggested proposals spoke to turning our Harriman coaches into a restaurant related to the Fair and CTRC activities. I stated that I was "ALL EARS". In the meantime our meetings with the Fair-ground staff for the County Fair planning have been productive regarding pedestrian access, security and scheduling of CTRC volunteers to act as docents for the Fair; August 1-4.

Art Randall and the 2479 mechanical & site crew have made the work area a place to show the star of the collection, looking like it just rolled out of the shop. Art commented that the 2479 hasn't looked this good in over 15 years

*(Continued on page 2)*

#### FIND US ON THE INTERNET

<https://ctrc.org/>  
<http://historysanjose.org/wp/>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern\\_Pacific\\_1215](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Pacific_1215)  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern\\_Pacific\\_2479](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Pacific_2479)  
<https://www.facebook.com/Southern-Pacific-2479-Steam-Locomotive-159989580109/timeline/>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0cNtjBoUH5g> (Little Buttercup walk-around movie)  
<https://www.gluseum.com/US/San-Jose/185593484919580/Railroads-of-California>  
<https://www.gluseum.com/US/San-Jose/114047105293462/Trolley-Barn>

(Continued from page 1)

with its paint and polish.

Vice President Marvin Bamburg and former San Jose councilmember and CTRC advisor, Margie Matthews, have been forging ahead with a new museum site proposition and have had their first meetings with the City of San Jose staff members in charge of development of the Guadalupe Park plans. There are more meetings planned to study what details need to be worked out to reposition CTRC into a new museum site.

### August 15<sup>th</sup> BOD Meeting & BBQ

Time to say “Goodbye” to Lynda Ramirez Jones who has been the administrator to me, the Board of Directors and of course to Rod Diridon for many years. She has grandchildren, hobbies and family who are calling. Filling in for Lynda will also be a retired executive administrator and grandmother, this time from the San Jose State Police Department, Claire Kotowski and yes we are related. The job is temporary until another “admin” becomes available. She also comes over from the Campbell Veterans Memorial Foundation and several other non-profit corporations where she served as corporate secretary. We will also be recognizing many volunteers for their hours of specialized work that makes CTRC what it is today. We will also be saying “Hello & Welcome” to Bill Schroh, the new President & CEO for History San Jose. He comes from New Jersey to replace Alida Brae who is retiring after many years of directing the HSJ operations as president & CEO. CTRC thanks Alida for all of her help. The “Singing Conductors” will be entertaining us and the BBQ will be at the great hands of the “Santa Clara County Fire Fighters Union” as always.

Michael F. Kotowski,  
President & CEO, CTRC



From Art Randall.

The objective of this last quarter has been to prepare the locomotive for display during the Santa Clara County Fair. We didn't get as far as we would have liked, but the result definitely looked good.



Art made the windows.

Peter mounting the headlight.



We mounted the whistle to the compressed air riser, so we could blow it, and it did attract at least a few people our way. We wound up installing the locomotive's bell instead of a dummy, as we couldn't separate the bell from its hanger.



75 parts needed to create the headlight

Peter Savoy, using Larry Murchison's CAD model, created a 3D printed replica headlight that looks just like the real thing.

Ken Middlebrook made display signs explaining the artifacts present, and the process of restoration. Did a great job. He was worried about their lasting the weekend without distorting or fading (they're ink-jet printed on plain paper), but they held up well.

During the fair, we were way too isolated. Beyond our remote location with respect to the fair, the route one had to follow was so obscure that grim determination was required to make the trip. In spite of the obstacles, a few people did (not very many). Were we to do it again, we would have to make some changes to make access easier.



**General Electric 65-ton Diesel**  
Kaiser Cement #881-002

Depending on their business needs, large railroad customers may have their own equipment or perhaps their own railroad. Located in the hills above Cupertino, the Permanente Cement plant is active around the clock requiring on-going availability of locomotives to move rail equipment around its site.

Permanente Cement Facility, circa 1950

FIGURE 4-1. Major components - location.  
US Army Technical Manual

General Electric marketed small diesel locomotives for light or switching operations. Because rules determined crew size by locomotive weight, these smaller locomotives only needed a one-man crew.

Built in 1941, locomotive 881-002 served most of its entire active life at the Permanente facility, switching inbound coal shipments for furnaces and outboard cement for customers. The Shasta Dam, one of the largest concrete dams in the world, was constructed with Permanente Cement.

Replaced by a larger locomotive, 881-002 was donated by Hanson Cement.

881-002, Permanente, June 2015

## 2019 CTRC ANNUAL BBQ

The 2019 Annual CTRC BBQ was a big success. August 15th turned out to be a very warm afternoon but that didn't keep 60 volunteers and their families away. A large turnout of the Board of Directors, who were present for the Annual Board meeting that preceded the BBQ and friends made for a fun evening. The "Singing Conductors" led by Bob Boehm have provided the CTRC entertainment for many years with an assortment of jazz and historic railroad tunes that reflect what CTRC is about. The BBQ, as always, was provided by the Santa Clara County Firefighters Local 1165, directed by Dennis DeMellopine, retired firefighter. The menu was chicken breasts and Portuguese sausages. Also wearing the lead Chef apron was Retired County Fire Chief, Doug Sporleder, who is also the President of the Billy Jones Wildcat Railroad in Los Gatos.

Highlights of the evening were "the presentation of recognition certificates" from the offices of Supervisor Cindy Chavez, San Jose Councilwoman Mia Esparza and State Senator Jim Beall. Special awards in the form of railroad illustrations by Mike Kotowski, were given out to several of the volunteers and Board members. President's Award plaques were given to 13 board members and volunteers who shouldered the "extra heavy work" this past year. President Mike Kotowski gave these plaques to those who made his first year as President a success - keeping the trolleys running at History San Jose; maintaining the CTRC site at the Santa Clara County Fair Grounds, the ongoing work on engine 2479 to nearly 90% finished and the Website improvements a reality. The newly designed website has begun to generate donations to CTRC. HSJ Operations Manager Barbara Johnson and retiring CTRC Administrator, Lynda Ramirez Jones were both honored for their years working with and for CTRC. Barbara's behind the scenes coordination with CTRC and Lynda's 12 plus years as the Corporate Administrator were noted by Kotowski. Also, Bill Schroh, the new CEO of History San Jose was welcomed to the Board of Directors. He replaced Alida Bray who recently retired from History San Jose.

Of special recognition was Jack Stallard for volunteering 5,000 hours in the CTRC Trolley Barn. For this recognition Jack received the CTRC "Brass Belt Buckle", a distinction of honor for his service.

### THE 2019 CTRC/COUNTY FAIR REPORT

The Santa Clara County Fair took place from August 1 thru August 4<sup>th</sup>. The weather was hot and the public turnout was less than expected for the Fair and sparse for the CTRC site. A big "Thank you" was expressed by President Kotowski to Art Randall and his team of loyal volunteers who worked hard for months at preparing engine 2479 for "Beauty Queen" duty. Art and his team were calling out with its beautiful whistle to Fair goers every hour and half hour using compressed air. Now sporting a new paint job, lots of accessory piping, a bell and a rebuilt cab by the Murchison Brothers, Larry and Denis. The engine's "new" headlight was a first - thanks to Peter Savoy's thousand hour 3-D printing effort. A special "thank you" was expressed to the board members and other volunteers who spent several hours a day on "Docent" duty during the Fair. Another "thank You" to the Fair Management Corporation (FMC) for providing security fencing and Port-a-Potty facilities with a hand cleaning station. A constant visitor to the site was the County Sheriff's Department due to a very large security presence in light of the Gilroy tragedy a week before.

The FMC staff has requested that CTRC assist with the planning of the 2020 Fair and that we have a board member assigned as the CTRC representative. President Kotowski has begun that process and will make an appointment.

## NEW CORPORATE ADMINISTRATOR – CLAIRE KOTOWSKI

President Mike Kotowski announced the appointment of an “interim” Corporate Administrator for the Board after an eight month search for a volunteer and the circulation of the job description through several agencies to replace Lynda Ramirez Jones, who is retiring as of the end of August. Claire Kotowski volunteered to perform those duties. Claire is the retired Executive Administrator for the Chief of Police at the San Jose State University Police Department. She spent 20 years in that position after being hired as the Financial Analyst for the Department. She has many years as the business manager for ViCom Services and M. F. Kotowski Design. Claire earned her BA from San Jose State University in Municipal Recreation Management and worked as a Recreation Supervisor for the Los Gatos–Saratoga District Recreation Department and later as Public Relations manager for Villa Montalvo and Pathway Society.



Claire has served as Secretary to the Campbell Historical Museum Association and the Campbell Veterans Memorial Foundation, Inc. She sang for 33 years with the Mission Valley Chapter of Sweet Adelines, Inc. an International Award-winning chorus. She and her husband served as Presidents of the West Point Parents Club of Northern California and she is a member of CERT in Campbell. After raising two sons, she is now the Grandmother of six grandchildren (4 boys and 2 girls). Welcome Claire!



Mike and Claire

Mike and Bob Schneider

**Our quest for a home for the 2479 continues.**

**quest**

Efforts of late are focused on the Guadalupe River Park (GRP) off of Coleman Avenue. Access to the CalTrain tracks can be made behind the Target store and carried across Coleman into the Park. Our initial design placed the railyard behind the existing ROTARY PLAYGARDEN, but meetings on site with the GRPC management and the City Parks Department nixed that location due to the ongoing expansion of the Playgarden and the relocation of the Carousel from the park adjacent to the Sharks Arena.

Our current proposal (plan attached) places the rail yard along the Guadalupe River north with access from Taylor Street. This actually provides better freeway access and separates us a bit from the Playgarden and Carousel.

There are many political difficulties with the GRP location, and steps are being taken to address all of them. Former councilwoman, Margie Matthews, is leading our effort to convince the City's leaders to support this location. Hopefully, with their support, a master plan update for the Guadalupe River Park will be commenced and will include our rail yard. This process is normally lengthy and involves much public input. Once our way is cleared to begin the master plan process, we all will have to help convince the public that our project is needed in that location.

Stay tuned – much yet to do!



# CTRC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

## CALIFORNIA TROLLEY AND RAILROAD CORPORATION (CTRC)

Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting

May 16, 2019

### MINUTES

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** The quarterly meeting of the California Trolley & Railroad Corporation (CTRC) Board of Directors was called to order by Board President/CEO Mike Kotowski, at 8:20 a.m., at the Pacific History Hotel Conference Room, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose, California.

**Attendance: Board Members:** Marvin Bamburg, Rod Diridon, Sr., Mike Kotowski, Ken Middlebrook, Larry Murchison, Pat Buder (representing Bob Schneider), and David Sylva. A quorum was not present; however, all those present are members of the Executive Committee. President/CEO Kotowski made a decision to vote only on timely pertinent issues.

- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5/17/18)** - Not acted on; deferred to next meeting.

- II. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (UPDATED AS ITEMS ARE DISCUSSED)**

- IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**A. Profit & Loss and Balance Sheets** – Pyle was not present to make a report; however, he submitted the attached Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet for the period ending April 30, 2019, which were distributed to members present. The documents reported the balance of the checking account at \$49,084.57, and the savings account at \$8,334.99.

**B. Endowment Fund** – Eric Heckman was not present to make a report. However, he submitted the attached Performance Summary which was distributed to members present. The ending market value of the fund is \$331,382.53 as of April 30, 2019.

**C. General Liability Insurance Renewal** – Jones reported that the renewal for period May 21, 2019, to May 21, 2020, is \$5,698.55, higher than last year. She reported that the insurance broker tried obtaining comparables, but there is no other insurance company which provides this type of coverage.

A question arose about the insurance company deemed a “non-admitted” or “surplus line” insurer.

Sylva explained that the term refers to insolvency of the insurance company. Example: If the carrier, Scottsdale Insurance Company, were to go bankrupt, the insurer would not be subject to the financial insolvency regulation and enforcement that apply to California licensed insurers. He mentioned his past experience as an attorney with this company, and sees no problem.

A motion was made, seconded (Diridon/Randall) and passed unanimously to approve the renewal.

**D. Approval of Budget FY 2019/2020** – Jones explained that the proposed budget in the amount of \$26,000.00 is higher than last year. The reason is that line items have been added for a computer and printer/copier as CTRC offices are moved from the Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI) offices, where MTI shared their equipment with CTRC, and CTRC will now have to purchase this equipment.

A motion was made, seconded (Sylva/Middlebrook), and unanimously carried to approve the budget for FY 2019/20.

#### IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Communications** – L. Murchison reported that CTRC's newsletter, *The Clearboard*, was mailed out yesterday.

Bamburg mentioned he would include quarterly reports on the status of the railroad museum in future editions.

- B. SCCO Railroad Museum** – Bamburg reported that he has been working on this project since 1990, and most recently produced a third reiteration, which was presented to the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy Board last night. The potential site would now be off Taylor Street instead of off Coleman, stating that the PG&E easement is in the way of the second iteration. He said there are many political problems, especially with the Airport Commission and the Airport Director. He further stated that the issue would have to go back to Mayor Sam Liccardo and City Councilman Raul Peralez, and that fair market value is to be discussed.

He distributed the attached report.

- C. Review of CTRC Agreements** - Sylva conveyed that he has been reviewing CTRC's agreements with the Valley Transportation Authority, the City of San Jose, the County of Santa Clara, and the Fairgrounds Management Corporation (FMC.)

Middlebrook noted he is looking at the City of San Jose agreement, and there will be a new agreement with the City, awaiting the Trolley Barn stock on display at History San Jose.

Sylva stated that researched the records of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors and the FMC minutes. The current agreement with FMC appears to be obsolete as many items in the agreement have changed since the agreement was written. He intends to meet with FMC management and their attorney and enter into a new agreement regarding CTRC's stock, the right to work at Fairgrounds, CTRC volunteers working at the restoration site, etc.

Sylva also reported that he is creating a new temporary agreement with the Fairgrounds to display Locomotive SP-2479 at the County Fair August 1-4, 2019.

#### VI. CURRENT PROJECTS

- A. Trolley Barn** – Pat Buder, representing Bob Schneider, distributed the Trolley Barn report noting the activities at the site. He reported that he, Bob Schneider, and Peter Savoy attended the HRA Spring Conference in Sacramento.
- B. Locomotive 2479, Diesel, et al** – Randall distributed the Project Report on the activities at the Fairgrounds Restoration Site. He reported the problems he is encountering in preparing Locomotive 2479 for the County Fair August 1-4, 2019, and mentioned he is missing a big piece of the whole picture. Middlebrook offered to help him with this issue.

Diridon said that Acosta Sheet Metal is ready to donate sheet metal for the restoration.

**C. Kelley Park Rail Stops – Benches/Signage – No Report.**

**D. Archival of CTRC Files** – Middlebrook stated this is an ongoing job, and authorized removal of this item from future agendas.

**E. Acquisitions (Standing Item)** – Nothing to report.

**F. Fundraising**

i. Approve Resolution of CTRC Board Approving Application for a County of Santa Clara Historical Grant.

ii. Designate Lead Person/s for SCCO Historic Grant.

A motion was made, seconded (Diridon/Randall), and unanimously carried to approve the resolution and to designate Mike Kotowski as lead person.

Diridon reported on another \$500,000 grant program for stationery projects coming out in the Fall from the County Parks & Recreation Department. He also noted that the Rotary Club has set up a committee to review a possible \$500,000 to \$1 million grant program.

Middlebrook revealed that the John Emery Rail Heritage has announced available grants for this year, and the applications are due February 1, 2020.

**VII NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Approve Purchase of a Table for HSJ’s Annual Valley of the Heart’s Delight Event June 22, 2019 -**

A motion was made, seconded (Bamburg/Sylva), and unanimously approved to purchase a table for ten at a cost of \$2,000.

**B. Planning for the County Fair August 1-4** – Discussion to continue outside of meeting with Kotowski, Middlebrook, and Randall.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m. to the **Annual Meeting, at 3:00 p.m., Thursday, August 15, 2019**, Pacific Hotel Conference Room, 635 Phelan Avenue, San Jose, CA, followed by the Annual Volunteer Recognition BBQ at History San Jose Park.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Ramirez Jones  
Board Executive Assistant

## Information

### Work Schedule:

Saturday 8:30 to 3:30.  
2479 Healey Avenue, San Jose

### CTRC Office:

1650 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112.

### Mailing Address:

California Trolley & Railroad Corporation  
1650 Senter Road  
San Jose, CA 95112

Friends: \$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 San Jose History Park and the San Jose Railroad Museum Park currently in the early stages of development.

CTRC's Tax ID Number is 94-28348764.

## 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

Mike Kotowski, **President**. The **Executive Committee** is: Marv Bamburg, Chair of Museum Project, Ken Middlebrook, VP Volunteers; Larry Murchison & Rick Kitson, Co-VPs Communications; Bob Schneider, VP Trolleys; Jack Young & Art Randall, Co-VPs Locomotives; David Sylva, Corp Secretary/Attorney; Steven Pyle, Treasurer. **Board Members** are Cindy Atmore, David Bini, Nuria Fernandez, Jim Helmer, Bob Kieve; Brandon McCracken, Jody Meacham, Denis Murchison, Brian O'Halloran, Matthew Quevedo, Johnathan Seager.

Rod Diridon, Sr., Founder/Chair Emeritus

**Board Executive Assistant** Claire Kotowski



## CTRC Staff:

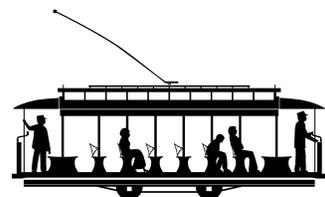
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First Vice President: Marv Bamburg, Museum Dewvelopment  
VP Volunteers: Ken Middlebrook <kamiddlebrook@comcast.net>  
VP Communications: Larry Murchison <larrymurchison@comcast.net> & Rick Kitson <rickk@cupertino.org>  
VP Motive Power: Art Randall <arandall@sonic.net>  
VP Trolley Barn: Bob Schneider <schneiderri@att.net>  
Corporation Secretary/Attorney: David Sylva  
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Editor: Larry Murchison <larrymurchison@comcast.net>

## COMING EVENTS

► Remember the Saturday workdays. Check with Art Randall at arandall@sonic.net for other work schedules including the 1215 beautification. All very important events. See you there.



► The next CTRC board meeting will be **Thursday, November 21 at 8:00am** (Third Thursday) in the San Jose History Park Pacific Hotel first floor conference room.



**California Trolley & Railroad Corporation**

California Trolley & Railroad Corporation  
1650 Senter Road  
San Jose, CA 95112

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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. **We need volunteers.** Please contact Ken Middlebrook at kamiddlebrook@comcast.net.

Like yourself, we are individuals with different backgrounds, talents, and skills who share a common interest in preserving our rail heritage. Friends 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 \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Make checks payable to the California Trolley and Railroad Corp.

California Trolley & Railroad Corporation  
Is a non-profit tax exempt organization  
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vation of historic transportation equip-  
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