



GOLDEN GATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

January 2020



In 1956 SP F7 6378 was in San Francisco briefly and pulled commute train 136 in the afternoon rush hour fleet in final months of Steam. Today it awaits moving to a restoration site to be reengined and brought back to service. See page two.

# From the Head End

By Garrett Brissbee

Happy New Year, everyone! Hope you all had a great holiday season, and that you and yours are healthy during this cold and flu season.

I've personally been trading colds with the kids, but we're all on the mend at this point. The GGRM volunteers that have remained healthy have been hard at work and

completing tasks that have sat dormant for way too long (see article inside). Aside from the hard work being completed for some of our restoration projects, hard decisions need to be made in regards to our collection. I cannot stress enough the need for the GGRM to have its own land to build a permanent museum on.



I wanted to say thank you to Jims Bunger and Prettyleaf, as well as Jay King, Severn Edmonds and Scott Vogel for working diligently on the window frames of the 5901. This is one of the very last steps in finishing the 5901 and preparing it for display and excursion duties. I also want to thank Steve Coon for staying on top of the maintenance of our running diesels in Brightside Yard. Thank you, also, to Peter Schulze and Mike Nichols for their repeated days of showing up and enduring the elements with the rest of the crew.

While we work on tasks to prepare an operable train set and display train, we are faced with hard decisions with other equipment in our collection. The F units, which are significant artifacts are in question. While I personally love the F units, moving them and restoration would break the bank for us. Storing them until restoration is possible will be an ongoing expense. The room we had allocated for the F units in Sonoma county is no longer available. A relatively inexpensive move by rail to relocate them never materialized. The changing landscape for our direction leads us to a difficult impasse; come up with a lot of money to move, store and restore these units or part ways with them. Make your voice heard as a member and let me know how you would like to proceed. If we were to keep the F units, how would you be able to help the cause? Cubic money is needed to keep these artifacts, and even more will be needed to restore them. How can you help out the GGRM in this endeavor? I look forward to your feedback at: [president@ggrm.org](mailto:president@ggrm.org). We need over \$120K in donations to the Diesel fund to save them.



### **Antioch Storage yard - Peter Schulze:**

Most of the GGRM ground storage materials were successfully moved to a temporary location in Antioch in 2018. Continuing "clean-up" has made these two 26 foot truck boxes available to move GGRM passenger car parts from box car 41. This has the added advantage that no track space is needed for this surplus box car. " Contact Project Manager Peter Schulze for more information & to help with the materials storage we will need for our new site ! "

## **FACILITIES FUND NEEDS DONATIONS**

Our site improvements track work, fencing, and Utilities have cost over \$400 K of museum funds. And we haven't even started on a needed engine house and shop. Please help make our new facilities first class for our members, equipment, and visitors. Please consider a donation to our facilities fund. Use the form on the last page if needed. Please mark all check donations either **general fund**, **facilities.**, **moving**, or **Diesel Fund**



At the Schellville Victory Station yard for our cars there are only tracks, a perimeter fence and portable outhouse. Please make a donation to our facilities fund.

*Ron Vane -photo*

## **Member Board Seat Election**

The election for two member elected seats will be held early in 2020. North Bay directors are desired for attendance at Sonoma meetings. Come to our meetings if you are interested in serving. Nominations are open. Contact Ron Vane of the nominating committee if interested.

# **GGRM Workdays**

## **By Jim Prettyleaf**

### **Summary of the December 21, 2019 GGRM workday at Schellville.**

- No work was done on the ex-Southern Pacific #2979 tavern lounge car during the December 21, 2019 Schellville workday.
- All of the large ladders that were previously stored in the former Union Pacific #5901 Railway Post Office car were removed and have been moved to the GGRM's Antioch storage site
- The 8 foot stepladder that was formerly stored in the #5901 Union Pacific RPO car was moved to the ex-Southern Pacific #3722 bi-level gallery car.
- The tool-boxes currently stored on the #5901 RPO car still need to find a new home.
- The majority of the December 21, 2019 was consumed removing dust from the air conditioning machinery compartment that is located above the center sliding doors of gallery car #3722.
- No action was taken to vacuum out #3722's squirrel-cage air conditioning and heating blowers during the December 21, 2019 workday.
- The blank-off plate for #3722's obsolete and unsupported Levelometer diesel fuel level sensor was installed.
- During upcoming workdays, the defunct Levelometer fuel level sensors that are currently attached to the #3714 and #3720 bi-level gallery cars need to be removed and replaced by the blank-off plates that Jay King manufactured.
- The new 32-volt golf-cart batteries installed in the #3722 gallery car were fully charged on December 21, 2019.
- Thanks go out to Steve Coon, Jay King, Peter Schulze and Mike Nichols who donated their time on the Saturday before Christmas to make the December 21, 2019 Schellville workday a success.

### **Summary of the January 4, 2020 GGRM workday at Jim Prettyleaf's garage shop.**

- The focus of the January 4<sup>th</sup> workday was to complete the ongoing cleanup and restoration of the aluminum-framed Adlake windows for the Union Pacific #5901 Railway Post Office car.
- We discovered that the original 1/8 inch thick by 15/16 inch wide Bakelite plastic spacers that determine the compression of the gas-

kets for the double-pane windows were brittle and falling apart and needed to be replaced.

- The new 1/8 inch thick by 15/16 inch wide Acrylic spacers that were purchased from Tap Plastics were cut to length and drilled to accommodate the #8-32 machine screws that hold the two halves of the aluminum window frames together.
- All of the threaded blind-holes for the machine screws that hold the halves of the aluminum window frames together were cleaned out using #8-32 bottoming taps. This thread cleaning operation was slow and tedious since each of the aluminum window frames are held together by 26 machine screws.
- An inventory of the items that need to be purchased or remanufactured to complete the restoration of the windows for the #5901 UP RPO car was compiled.



◀ Thanks go out to Jay King, Jim Bunger and Scott Vogel who helped out Jim Prettyleaf during the January 4, 2020 GGRM workday on the window frames.  
*Photo by J.Bunger*

I would also like to take this opportunity to once again thank everyone that has been volunteering to participate in the workdays that began on September 7, 2019 at the GGRM's new display and storage site in Schellville, California. Many years ago, in 1976 volunteers started "Project 2472" and have continued to be an essential component of the non-profit museum that eventually became known as the Golden Gate Railroad Museum.

# Monthly Calendar

**MEMBER MEETINGS:** Millbrae on Third Tuesdays

We are looking for a new site and time for member meetings in Sonoma county that is also easy for our South Bay members to attend. Saturday meetings are being considered.

## **GGRM BOARD MEETINGS:**

GGRM Board meetings are on selected Saturdays **of each month at 6:00pm**,

Next: Jan. 18, 2020, **Vintage Aircraft Company Hanger**, [Address](#): 23982 Arnold Dr, Sonoma, CA At the Sonoma Valley Airport west of Schellville in the rear hanger behind entrance

**GRRM Work days:** Schellville: **first and third Saturday of every month**

**Wear railroad safety clothing**

**You must sign liability release.**

**Attend safety briefings at 9:00 am Victory Station yard**

**Contact Jim Prettyleaf 408-667-0124 [Jim.prettyleaf@GGRM.org](mailto:Jim.prettyleaf@GGRM.org)**

**Or Peter Schulze at 925 200-2907.**

**[Peter@trackservicesinc.com](mailto:Peter@trackservicesinc.com)**

## **January Joint Members Meeting with NorCal RR Club**

**Tuesday January 22, 2020**

**Peter's Café serves dinner only until 5:30 pm**

Peter's Café in Millbrae at El Camino and Millbrae Ave is next to the Caltrain and Bart station. Dinner at 5:00 pm , Discussion 6:00pm  
Program at 6:30 pm

**CANCELLED**

Next Meeting Feb 18, 2020

Wanted: meeting place in Novato or Sonoma for diner meetings



# Help Support Historical Preservation!

Share your support of GGRM with a friend or loved one with a membership or donate to the general fund or one of our special funds. The GGRM needs to move from Niles Canyon to Sonoma County in order to operate regularly from a new home. Funds are urgently needed to make this happen and to keep it happening in the long term. Also consider making a bequest to the GGRM in your will. Bequests will help pass along our love of steam train operations to future generations. Help make steam trains rides a part of the trip to wine country for families and tourists in the Bay Area. Your support enables the Museum to complete special projects and enhance operations. The GGRM is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, IRS #94-2844499.

## MEMBERSHIPS

**Friend \$25 (newsletter only), Regular \$40,**

**Family \$65, Sustaining \$75, Patron \$150+     \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please accept my tax-deductible gift to the GGRM: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**MOVING FUND**     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**DIESEL FUND**     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**FACILITIES FUND**     \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total:     \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed     \_\_\_\_\_ Visa or Master Card

CC# \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to: GGRM Membership Secretary,  
1755 East Bayshore Road, Suite 19A,  
Redwood City, CA 94063**

**Or Join online at [www.ggrm.org](http://www.ggrm.org)**

Redwood City, 94063

## Board of Directors

Garrett Brisbee, President 408-438-0504

Dave Varley, Vice President

Jim Prettyleaf, Secretary 408-835-7530

Ron Vane, Treasurer 650-445-1954

Jim Bunger

David Hensarling

Chris Prevost

Ben Pechner

Jonathan Kathrein

## Staff & Project Managers

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uManager 925-200-2907

Dave Varley, Chief Mechanical Officer 408-667-0124

Jim Prettyleaf, Diesel Shop Manager

Jim Bunker, SP141 "Oakland" Project

Dave Varley, SP2472 Project

Phil Figel SP6378 F7 Project

Ron Vane, Editor and Publisher –Dispatcher's Sheet

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