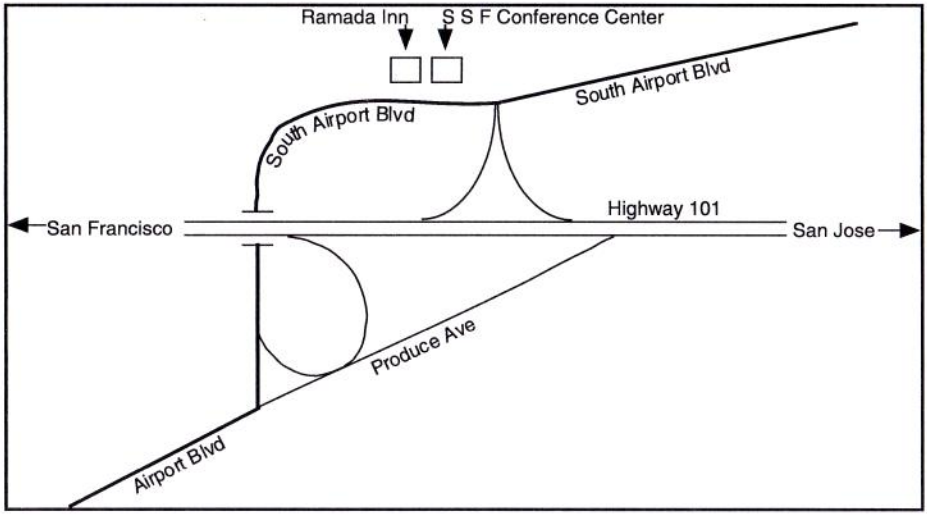
Trellis & Trestle

Volume XII, Number 3 Editors: Joseph & Irene Zajac March 1999

BAGRS Annual Meeting & Convention
March 5—7, 1999
South San Francisco Conference Center
255 South Airport Boulevard
South San Francisco

The Annual Meeting Schedule, dates, times and description of clinics, and special safety instructions for those who plan to sign up for the train ride at Hunters Point are all inside this issue.

Hang on to this newsletter and bring it with you!



New Members

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Richard C. Jones
270 Fairway Drive
Novato CA 94949
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Mark & Rhonda Castellucci
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Harry & Nancy Gierhart
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Palo Alto CA 94306
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Garrett Haislet
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Brin & Mary Jack
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254 Hillside Drive
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H: (650) 355-7612

Tom & Betty Plemons
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Palo Alto CA 94301
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New Members

Dean & Diane Schneebeck
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Address Change

Douglas & Rosalie Ferreira
4340 Monterey Court
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H: (510) 538-2282
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Terry Gray
8940 Ridgeway Drive
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E: terry.gray@nsc.com

Phone # Change

David & Debbie Hawk
H: (330) 896-9340

Please

Wear your BAGRS badge during the entire annual meeting and convention.

If you do not have one the registration desk will provide you with a name-tag.

Your dues must be paid up and current to attend this function.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Jack Verducci

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors some key decisions where made concerning the future of BAGRS. First of all, the club is in good shape in all respects. Membership is at an all time high, and we are in excellent financial shape. It was decided the majority of the income generated by the 14th NGRC, be placed in a special account. This account will generate interest income. This income will help offset some on-going expenses, which are not covered by your dues. We do not plan to touch the principle balance. This should keep us on a good financial footing for many years to come. If you have any questions regarding this issue, feel free to ask a board member or me for details.

Steam is building up. The club now owns a modular railroad designed for running live stream and battery powered equipment. This is a double tracked layout, featuring wide radius curves and long turnouts. It can handle the largest of "G" gauge locomotives. The line had its debut at the Great American Train Show held at the Cow Palace on January 30th and 31st. Several BAGRS members showed up to run their live steam engines. This event was put on without much advanced notice. In the future, we will announce steam up events in *Trellis & Trestle*. The Live Steam Short Line is a division of the BAGRS Short Line. We hope to see it at more events, like GATS. The line needs work to get it into top condition. People who are interested in helping develop this area of the club should contact **Harlan Barr**.

We will have the Live Steam Short Line set up at the annual meeting. Due to space constraints, we will only be able to run a point to point, but it will be a fairly long run. Bring your live steam engines and run them.

A new Goose is in the future for the BAGRS Short Line. The board of directors has agreed the old Goose should be retired. A smiling **Bruce Jahn** is on a happy search for Goose II.

Chatty Choo Choo

Date line Saratoga: What is that? Has a new mountain range sprung up next to Paul and Renee Jacobs' swimming pool? Could it be a garden railway?

Eric Struck now has a custom lettered caboose sporting the Baron Park Railroad name.

Something new from Berkley Locomotive Works? A two cylinder Cricket was spied running on the Live Steam Short Line at the Great American Train Show.

I have also heard that Leonard and Judy Chong have a new railroad. Maybe they will host an open house.

Board of Directors Election

by Ken Martin

As is required by our by-laws, there will be an election of Board of Directors members, during the business meeting portion of our Annual Meeting. There are eight candidates as follows:

Sherman Zell

Jack Verducci

Chuck Sanfilippo

Bonnie McGhee

Al McCracken

Ken Martin

David Gill, Jr.

Barbara Bierie

Ballots will be handed out at the meeting with these names listed and a space for a write-in candidate.

1999 Annual Meeting Model Contest

by Don Breitbarth

All contest entries should be entered Friday, March 5th from 7 PM to 10 PM. Categories will be determined by the entries, such as Engines, Logging Engines, Rolling Stock, Trains, Whimsey, Steam Engines, Structures, Dioramas and so on.

Don't forget to cast your vote Saturday 10:30 AM until Noon!

All entries will be on Public Display Noon until 5:00.

Please, pick up your models ASAP after the public display closes.

Awards will be presented, during the banquet festivities Saturday evening.

Oh yes, we're gona have fun!

Golden Gate Railroad Museum Visit—Sunday, March 7, 1999

by Jack Verducci

Due to delays in receiving detailed information, we were unable to include some of this information in the last *Trellis & Trestle* or in your information package. So here it is. As part of our annual meeting and convention events, we will be visiting the Golden Gate Railroad Museum on Sunday, March 7, 1999. You should have received a brochure on the museum with your information package. The event will cost $6 each. Tickets will be sold at the registration desk during the meeting and convention.

We are renting a locomotive and one or two cars (depending on attendance). This will be our train to run. We will have an engineer trainer who will instruct candidates on how to run the engine. A raffle will be held to determine who will get to run the engine. We figure we can have at least 8 sessions of 15 minutes each. So there will be 8 winners. This raffle will be separate from all other raffles. You may buy as many tickets as you like but you can only run the endine for one 15-minute session. You may give your second winning ticket to a friend.

We will be running on an operational short line railway. All safety rules must be strictly observed. Attached are the general safety rules for all visitors. The safety rules for the locomotive operators are also attached. Study these now, then when you win a running , you'll be that much ahead of the game. Also learn the hand signals.

General Safety Rules
Golden Gate Railroad Museum—San Francisco, California

1) **Do not cross tracks.**
2) **Do not cross in front of locomotive or cars unless authorized by train crew.**
3) **Do not cross between cars while train is in motion.**
4) **Do not stand on the steps of any moving equipment.**
5) **Do not stand on vestibule ends without authorization.**
6) **After boarding remain seated.**
7) **All children must remain seated.**
8) **Do not run.**
9) **No horse play.**
10) **Do not board or leave train until told to do so.**

1999 Annual Meeting Schedule

Friday—March 5, 1999

2:00 PM

- Early arrival help setup displays
- Registration desk opens. Registration at the door $7
- Ticket sales for Golden Gate Railroad Museum Tour and train ride at Hunters Point
- Vendor Set-Up.
- BAGRS Short Line Set-Up
- Begin Raffle Ticket sales

5:00—10:30 PM

- Display room open
- BAGRS Short Line
- Vendor Displays
- Model Contest
- Video Tape Lending Library
- BAGRS Baggage Car
- Raffle Ticket Sales

7:00—7:45 PM

- Clinic #1 .... Al McCracken ✦ Starting out in the hobby. Beginning a layout. Tailored to help new members.

8:00—8:45 PM

- Clinic #1A .. Jack Verducci ✦ Garden railway design and construction. There will be a question and answer session.

8:00—8:45 PM

- Clinic #2 .... Michael Limprecht ✦ DCC (Remote Control) how it works, controlling each locomotive, also accessories and bells & whistles.
- Clinic #2A .. Kermit Paul ✦ Lighting for locomotive, passenger cars and cabooses.

9:00 PM

- First drawing for raffle prizes at the prize display area

10:30 PM

- Display Room closed

Notice on Clinics

This schedule is subject to change. There may be last minute substitutions. Any changes will be posted in the clinic area at the conference center.

1999 Annual Meeting Schedule

Saturday, March 6, 1999

8:00 AM

- Registration desk opens. Registration at the door $7.
- Ticket sales for Golden Gate Railroad Museum Tour and train ride at Hunters Point
- Begin Raffle Ticket sales

9:00—10:30 AM

- Annual Business Meeting and Elections

10:31 AM—5:00 PM

- Display Room open

12:00—5 PM

- Display Room open to Public

1:15 PM

- Second drawing for raffle prizes at the prize display area

1:30—2:15 PM

- Clinic #3..... Don Herzog ✦ A lecture and hands on demonstration for pruning your trees and other plants. Also how to make a forest. Bring plant material, some will be provided by Miniature Plant Kingdom. This subject will be covered in three sections. There will be a question and answer session.
- Clinic #3A.. Andy Saporito ✦ Care and use of the airbrush in creating the look you want on your models.

2:30—3:15 PM

- Clinic #4 .... Don Herzog ✦ Second Session.
- Clinic #4A.. Scott Bower ✦ Weathering your structures, creating the antique look.

3:30—4:15 PM

- Clinic #5 .... Don Herzog ✦ Third Session.
- Clinic #5A.. Bob Bell & Gary Watkins ✦ Scratch building rolling stock, materials and techniques.

4:30 PM

- Third drawing for raffle prizes at the prize display area

5:00 PM

- Display Room closed

...Saturday, March 6, 1999 (continued on page 8)

Saturday, March 6, 1999 (continued)

6:00–7:00 PM

- **BAGRS** mixer, no host cocktails

7:01 PM

- Banquet
- Special Guest Speaker ✦ Michael Broggie, author of ***Walt Disney's Railroad Story.***

10:00 PM

- Break down display room, put your toys away
  Hall must be cleared by **1:00 AM**

Sunday, March 7, 1999

9:30 AM

- Those wanting to caravan to the Golden Gate Railroad Museum, meet in front of the conference center.

10:00 AM

- Golden Gate Railroad Museum tour and train ride at the old Hunters Point Shipyard
- A raffle will be held on site for a chance to run the locomotive. There will be multiple winners.
- Please note: Hunter's Point is a federal property. Current registration, proof of insurance and driver's license are needed at the gate for admission.
- This is a working railroad and machine shop. You should dress accordingly.

Talbots
HOBBIES
445 South "B" Street, San Mateo, California 94401
Phone: 650-342-0267 FAX 650-342-0415

Thank you,
Talbots Hobbies for sponsoring the Golden Gate Railroad Museum train ride!

Bay Area Garden Railway Society
1999 Annual Meeting
March 5—7, 1999
Event Registration
$7 at the door.

(This fee helps to defray conference center expenses.)

The registration fee for the Annual Meeting and Convention is for admission to the Exhibit Hall, Clinics, Banquet, and Museum Tour.

Fee need not be paid to attend the Saturday morning business meeting only.

For further information: Call Ken Martin at 510•727•9296 or E-mail: martinken@juno.com

BAGRS Short Line—Schedule 1999

Mar 5–7 ..... BAGRS Annual Convention

Mar 20 ..... Livermore Veterans

Apr 24 & 25 ..... Talbot's Salute to G Scale II

May 23 ..... Dunsmuir House—Oakland

Jun 5 & 6 ..... San Mateo Fairgrounds
Great American Train Show

Jun 19 & 20 ..... Fathers Day at Roaring Camp

Sep 18 & 19 ..... Truckee Railroad Days

Nov 27 & 28 ..... Pleasanton Fairgrounds
Great American Train Show

Short Line Module Coordinator
Bruce Jahn—925•455•9409 or bjahn@llnl.gov

Annual Meeting Accommodations

by Ken Martin

Many of our members plan to stay overnight at the annual meeting. There are five hotels/motels within easy walking distance of the Conference Center. If you are going to stay over, please make your reservations directly with the facility.

There are also several restaurants in the same area.Friday dinner, Saturday and Sunday breakfasts and lunches will be available at these restaurants. We arenot going to list them here but will try to have list available at the meeting.

The hotel/motels are:

Grosvenor Hotel, 380 S. Airport Blvd. (650) 873-3200. Across the street in the next block from the Center. $129.

Holiday Inn, 275 S. Airport Blvd. (650) 873-3550. Just across the alley from the Center. $129.

Ramada Inn, 245 S. Airport Blvd. (650) 589-7200. The closest facility to the Center. $125 single or double, plus the usual 8% tax and $2.50 city surcharge. To reserve a room, call Ramada Inn reservations at (650) 589-7200.

Travelodge, 326 S. Airport Blvd. (650) 583-9600. Across the street in the next block from the Center. $86 one bed, $99 two beds.

Vagabond Inn, 222 S. Airport Blvd. (650) 589-9055. Across the street from the Conference Center. $62 one bed, $70 two beds.

✧✦✧✦✧ For Sale ✧✦✧✦✧

Aristocraft .... 4 Streamline Passenger Cars (Union Pacific).
In original box with Kadee Couplers—$300.

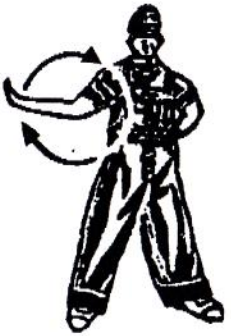
Call: Eric Struck—650•493•7367,
after 3 PM Mon—Fri or after 8 AM Sat & Sun.

SAFETY RULES FOR RENT-A-LOCOMOTIVE PROGRAM

- Safety is the most important element in the performance of duties.
- In case of doubt or uncertainty, take the **safe** course.
- The use of or possession of **alcoholic beverages** while on company property is prohibited.
- Employees must expect the movement of trains, engines, cars or other moveable equipment at any **time**, on any **track**, and in **either** direction.
- **Unauthorized** persons must not be permitted on equipment.
- Engines coupled to equipment that includes **occupied passenger cars** must not be left without an authorized employee in charge.
- Rolling equipment must not pass a **Blue Signal** on a track protected by the signal.
- On a track designated as "FRA Exempted Track" the maximum speed must not exceed 10 MPH.
- Before coupling to or moving cars or engines, verify that the cars or engines are **properly secured** and can be **coupled** and can be moved **safely**.
- Make coupling at a speed of not more than **4 MPH. Stretch the slack** to **ensure** that all the couplings are made.
- When possible, crew members on the engine must see that the switches and derails near the engine are **properly lined**.
- When not in use, switches must be **locked, hooked** or **latched** if so equipped.
- Employees must **not stand on the track** in front of an approaching engine, cars or other equipment.

Signals for Train and Engine Movements

Hand Signals

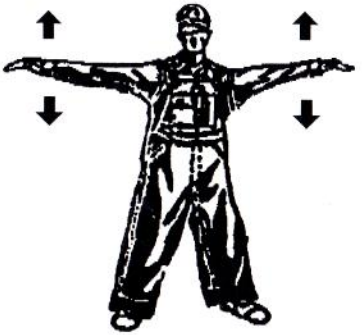


Come To Me

As if motioning a person to come toward you.

Go Away From Me

As if motioning a person to go away from you.



Easy/Slow

Move arms up and down in a rocking motion.

Stop

Swing arms at right angle to track. For emergency stop, swing violently.

Chatty Choo Choo

Mike Schneider has a unquie California license platel

The California DMV web site www.dmv.ca.gov is where you can look and see what has already been taken.

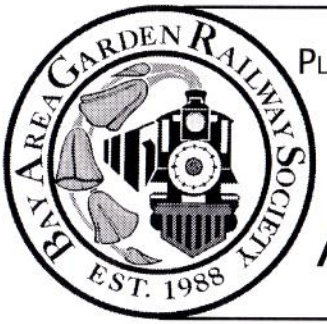
Adventures in Bachmannland

by Ken Martin

Remember, you heard it here first. Some of the new Climaxes were built with tight gears in the gear box. I mentioned this back in the December issue so you would be forewarned, but I am still getting feedback from members that are surprised to hear there is a problem with this new product. In addition, I said there would be a video with each unit that tells how to run the gears in to eliminate future problems. **Dick Maddox** advises me they are currently working on a process to insure proper gear fit. Future shipments of this locomotive should not have the problem.

However, there is another miscue in the Climax I only recently became aware of. If you install a sound system using the wiring from the cylinder switches as it comes out of the box, you will get a lot of silence! The reason is there are two switches, one in each cylinder, and they are wired in series rather in parallel as they should be. Hong Kong did this! I have not personally seen this but I am told it is relatively easy to run a second wire between the switches to get proper operation. As soon as I have more information, I will pass it on to you.

As for new Bachmann products, the Consolidation is still due later this year. This will be an outside frame version of the 2-8-0 in 1:20.3 scale. They are also planning some new 36' or 40' freight cars in the same scale to go with their current line of engines. These should go well with the 20' cars which are already on the market.



Please wear your BAGRS badge

At the Annual Meeting!

Registration Notice ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱ ✱

There will be no mailed confirmation. Upon arrival, check in at the registration desk and pick up your pass and banquet tickets. For your convenience, please bring this newsletter or the schedule which was mailed out to you.

If you have any registration question, please call **Pat Martin** at 510•727•9296.

Annual Business Meeting Agenda

I. Reading of the minutes ..... David Gill

II. Election of officers ..... Jack Verducci/Ken Martin

Candidates

- Barbara Bierie
- Bonnie McGhee
- Jack Verducci
- David Gill
- Ken Martin
- Sherman Zell
- Al McCracken
- Chuck Sanfilippo
- Write in_____

III. Treasures Report ..... Sherman Zell

IV. Membership Report/Newsletter ..... Irene & Joseph Zajac

V. BAGRS Short Line ..... Bruce Jahn

VI. BAGRS Live Steam Group ..... Harlan Barr

VII. State of the Club ..... Jack Verducci

VIII. New Business ..... Jack Verducci

IX. Old Business ..... Jack Verducci

X. Award Presentations

Open House Host ..... Ken Martin

Restaurants within Walking Distance of South San Francisco Conference Center!

The Brass Elephant
@ Grosvenor Hotel
380 Sout Airport Blvd
(650) 873-3200

Cafe on the Park
@ Ramada Inn
245 South Airport Blvd
(650) 589-7200

City Cafe
@ Holiday Inn
275 South Airport Blvd
(650) 873-3550

Hungry Hunter
180 South Airport Blvd
(650) 873-5131

International House of Pancakes
326 South Airport Blvd
(650) 583-8020

Lyon's Restaurant
10 Airport Blvd
(650) 871-5885

McDonalds
381 South Airport Blvd/Utah
(650) 871-6018

Rookies
@ Holiday Inn
275 South Airport Blvd
(650) 873-3550

Starbucks
176 Gateway Blvd
(650) 866-3904

Wendy's
176 Gateway Blvd
(650) 866-3904

BAGRS BOARD

President—Jack Verducci—San Mateo (650) 341-4088

Vice-President	**Secretary**	**Treasurer**
Ken Martin	David Gill	Sherman Zell
Castro Valley (510) 727-9296	San Jose (408) 371-7472	San Jose (408) 997-1992

Board Members

Charlie Allen	Al McCracken	Bonnie McGhee
Los Altos (650) 949-3441	Santa Clara (408) 249-2953	Los Altos (650) 968-0599

Membership Committee

Chairperson—Irene Zajac (541) 779-3420

Area (408)	Areas (510 & 925)	Area (650)
Mark Grzan 778-7816	John & Barbara Bierie (925) 736-1120	Leo Schlocker 341-0731

Hospitality Committee

Mark Grzan—(408) 778-7816 Al McCracken—(408) 249-2953

Scheduling Coordinator

Ken Martin—(510) 727-9296

BAGRS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting Schedule

Meetings start @ 7 PM

1st Tuesday
every other month

April 8, 1999*
June 1. 1999
August 12, 1999*
October 7, 1999*
December 7, 1999

*Note: * exceptions.*

BAGRS Baggage Car

BAGRS Apparel Source

Items are blue with BAGRS logo in yellow.

Jackets	All Sizes		$35
T-Shirts	Adult Sizes	(M, L, XL)	$10
		(XXL)	$12
		(XXXL)	$15
	Youth Sizes	(S, M, L)	$6
Caps	Mesh (Adjustable)		$6
Caps	Poplin (Adjustable)		$8
Golf Shirts w/Pocket		(L,XL,XXL, XXXL)	$20
Sweat Shirts	(L, XL)		$15
		(XXL)	$20
		(XXXL)	$25
Tote Bags		Small 14"	$10
Coffee Mugs—Blue w/Yellow Logo			$5

To order:

- List the items you wish to purchase (be sure to note sizes).
- Send a check for the total amount plus 15% for shipping to:

Ken Martin—3785 Somerset Ave., Castro Valley, CA 94546
510•727•9296

Deadline for *Trellis & Trestle* 10th of every month

Newsletter Editors

Joseph & Irene Zajac—(541) 779-3420 Fax (541) 779-5069 E-mail: zajac@aol.com

Mail all submissions to:

BAGRS Editors
424 Girard Drive
Medford, OR 97504-6314

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BAGRS Timetable

March 1999

✦ 5—7 BAGRS Annual Meeting ✦ South San Francisco Conference Center
255 South Airport Boulevard, South San Francisco
Questions—Contact: Ken Martin—510•727•9296

April 1999

18—Layout Tour — Sherman & Lois Zell—1120 Valley Quail Circle, San Jose—408•997•1992

18—Layout Tour — Ken & Alice Bradshaw—1135 Corvallis Drive, San Jose—408•268•6074

18—Layout Tour — Rosse Hemeon—6584 Fall River Drive, San Jose—408•268•1980

May 1999

18—Layout Tour & Steam-Up! — Fred & Tom Vertel, 1475 Redwood Drive, Los Altos—650•968•9056

18—Layout Tour — Mike & Nancy Schneider, 315 Galli Court, Los Altos—650•941•6160

18—Layout Tour — Charles & Elizabeth Garbett, 13906 Page Mill Road, Los Altos Hills—650•948•4001

••• Layout tour hours are Noon until 4 PM Unless Otherwise Noted •••
Please respect these hours for the benefit of our hosts.

BAGRS Members are welcomed to attend Sacramento Valley Garden Railway Society events. Contact Judy Arrigotti at (916) 933-4663 for directions and times.

BAGRS—*Trellis & Trestle*
Joseph & Irene Zajac—Editors
424 Girard Drive
Medford, OR 97504-6314

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED

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