

Bay Area Engine Modelers Club

The Crank Calls



January 2016

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MEMBERSHIP \$25.00 US

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DUES ARE NOW DUE

NEXT MEETING

January 16, 2016 at
Chabot College, building 1500
25555 Hesperian Blvd, Hayward 94545
Doors open at 9:00 AM
Meeting starts at 10:00 AM

Upcoming Events

BAEM meetings: 3rd Saturday of the month

MEETING NOTES

December 12, 2015

Bob Kradjian

President, Don Jones called the meeting to order. This is an abbreviated meeting prior to our Christmas Pot Luck lunch.

VISITORS: None.

FIRST POPS: None reported.

MEETINGS: There are no planned meetings for the near future. Only the WEME show in late August is firmly scheduled at present.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Paul Denham says that we are solvent. We had a wonderful surprise this meeting. His wife Deidre is here. She is the "brains" behind the managing our finances. We appreciate her knowledge and skill. We also received our check from Good Guys for compressor costs. Thanks to the Good Guys. **He is accepting dues for those who need to re-enlist for 2016. Dues are \$25.00 per year.**

CLUB BADGES: If you need a badge, contact Mike Rehms (mrehms@byvideo.com) who has offered to produce them.

BITS AND PIECES

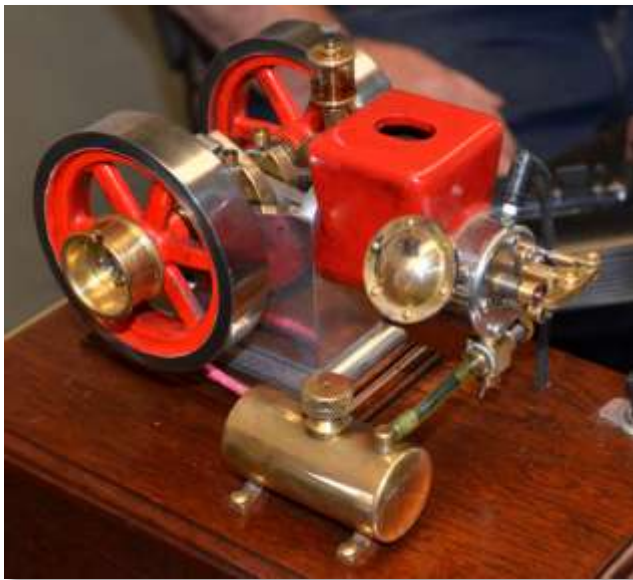


Ray Fontaine discussed the problems associated with the articulated crankshaft on the Randall Cox open engine. For those who haven't seen this engine, the shaft is made from keyway stock and dowel pins all bolted together. Randall used a simple pinch joint to grip the dowel

pin journals. This works just fine for Randall and we've had only two failures. He is also working on an ancient Turman Dock engine featured in Mike's magazine. It is an internal combustion engine that uses the old "wobbler" system for valving. Ray is attempting to build the engine guided by the old patent drawings. This is an ambitious and difficult project.



Your secretary ran a Sea Lion. Questions about the carburetor were fielded. It is a Perry carburetor with a new aluminum housing. The original Perry plastic body swells when exposed to gasoline.



Dwight fired up his re-design of the old Upshur Farm Engine, the GEM 1. Three of these are being built and will be the subject of a build article in "Model Builder Magazine". It's a much improved design over the original. It is a throttled engine, not a hit and miss.

Jim Piazza has been "making parts" not an engine. This is for the legendary Offenhauser 270. He was given a smaller scale Offenhauser block from Georgia Model Products to give him inspiration for additional pieces.

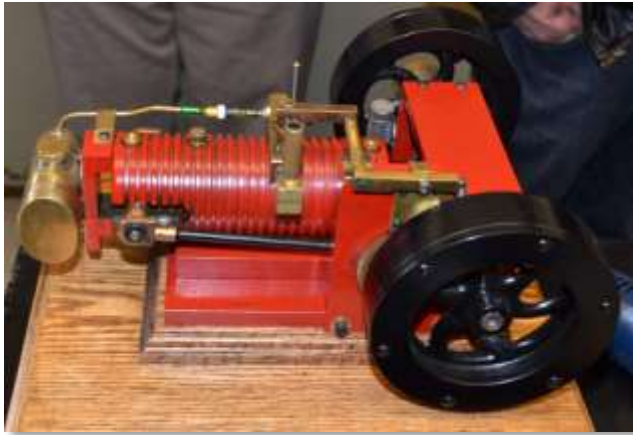


Peter Lawrence likes to recondition early electric motors. He finds most of them on E-Bay. He will use them as generators at subsequent engine shows.



Peter showed us his latest version of a compression checker. This one works well, but sadly, it showed huge leaks on all valves tested. He then decided to press fit the valve cages, and that failed. He feels that it was due to distortion from the press. He is

now relying on Lock-Tite. He next marked the valve seats with a colored Sharpie and worked these down with very fine paper to finally achieve a good seal that takes ten seconds to leak down from 49 psi.



George Gravatt ran his original opposed-piston engine. This is only one of several entirely new designs that this remarkable man has produced.

Jerry Franklin acquired an old milling machine from another member and made his first test cuts on a block of wood.

At this point in the meeting, we had a very pleasant surprise visit from Carolyn O'Connor. Welcome back!



Paul Denham brought his latest modification to his magneto design. It's an ingenious device that speeds up rotation at precisely the right time in the shaft rotation. It uses an elliptical gear that he generated using Gearotic. It is similar to the Geneva cross. Incidentally, he found that searching for Gearotic videos would often lead to erotic videos, so be careful with your spelling if the kiddies are looking over your shoulder.

Don Jones keeps us up to date on the latest acquisitions for the college machine shop. This time it's a high tech burn table for plasma cutting, welding, water jet, and tracing. Don also told us of one of his enterprising students who has started a new microbrewery as an adjunct to their entrepreneur classes.

Steve Hazelton is always looking for opportunities to reach out to new members. He has been in touch with Makerspace in Benicia. This would be an opportunity for a newcomer to start using a completely outfitted shop for \$40 per month. Steve plans to use this facility to upgrade his welding skills. They are putting on a show on April 16 and may invite us to attend with engines. There is also the Tech Shop line with facilities in San Jose, Redwood City, and San Francisco. At \$150 per month, it's a great deal more expensive than Makerspace.

Penngrove Power in Petaluma has a yearly show and may extend an invitation

We have been attending the Hobby Show in Petaluma for several years and may attend this year as well. Dave Palmer has been active with this group for some years.

The issue of opening a Facebook account to follow our club activities and link with others is another outreach possibility. It can be joined using a false name and a different, free e-mail address if one is concerned about spam.



A Chandler Model D boring and facing head purchased on e-Bay was shown by Jamie Iriki. It's old, but lovingly cared for and shows that there are still good buys to be had on eBay.

At this point, we concluded our abbreviated Christmas meeting, and joined the ladies next door for a fabulous meal and a prolonged time to chat with each other and enjoyed catching up on personal news. Thanks to all contributed to the fine banquet.



Later, in December, we learned of the very sad news that Gary Meadors, Founder and CEO of the Goodguys organization, had passed away. Gary was a friend to literally thousands who were fortunate to know this genial and talented man. For our Bay Area Model Engine group he was a stalwart supporter going all the way back to 1998. It is very likely that his involvement has allowed our group to grow by exposing us to talented machinists who attended his many shows and joined our group. We will miss his smiling face and enthusiastic visits. We extend our sympathy to Marilyn, family, and entire Goodguys staff.

THE PICTURE PAGE

A few pictures from our December 2015 meeting

