

The Crank Calls



January 2012

President	Don Jones	(510) 566-3153	dj712@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Bob Kradjian		bkradjian@comcast.net
Treasurer	Ken Hurst	(707) 257-2481	icengine@comcast.net
Events	Ken Hurst	(707) 257-2481	icengine@comcast.net
Tech Topics	Carl Wilson		toolcarl@comcast.net
Editor/Printer	Larry Zurbrick	(408) 448-5752	lz_m57@pacbell.net

MEMBERSHIP \$25.00 US

Contact Ken Hurst at
(707) 257-2481
2650 Indiana Street
Napa, CA 94558

NEXT MEETING

January 21, 2012 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:
January 21, 2012
February 18, 2012
March 17, 2012

2012 DUES ARE NOW DUE

Editor's Note

To those members who did not receive or had late deliveries of their November or December newsletters: A large number of newsletters have been returned by the US Postal service in December as "Undeliverable". My local Postmaster could not tell me why they were returned as the addresses appeared (and are) valid. The newsletters were re-mailed in their original envelopes and several of the re-mailed newsletters were returned a second time. The envelope addressing this month has been "simplified" in order to see if the meeting reminder on the front of the envelope is causing an issue with the Postal Service's sorting equipment.

MEETING NOTES

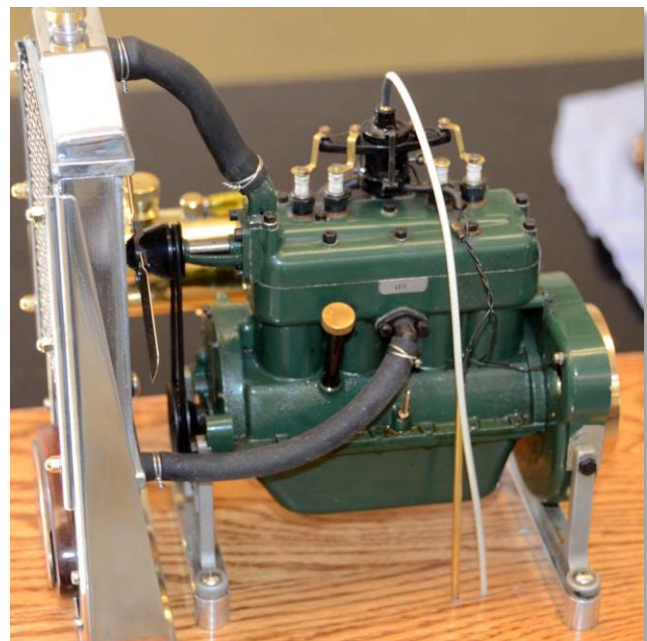
MEETING NOTES

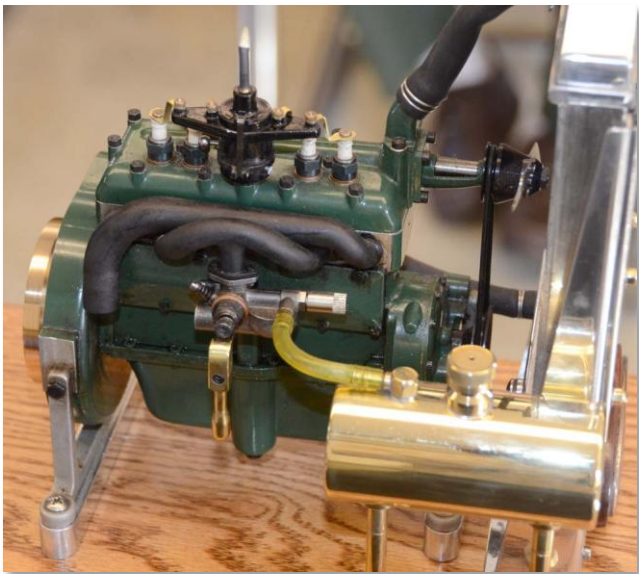
December 10, 2011

Bob Kradjian, Secretary

President Don Jones called the meeting to order at 11:00 am. One hour later than our usual to accommodate our annual Christmas Pot Luck.

We did have a lively "Show and Tell" in addition to our festivities. Treasurer Ken Hurst was busily taking club dues for 2012. Make sure you're up to date.





Dwight Giles showed us his progress on the Ford Model 'A' engine which now has a beautiful radiator, and a new brass flywheel based on the precise plans of a full-sized Model A. The completed wiring and electronics are tucked away in the base. To be completed is the exhaust manifold and muffler, as well as a Torrington bearing starter arrangement.

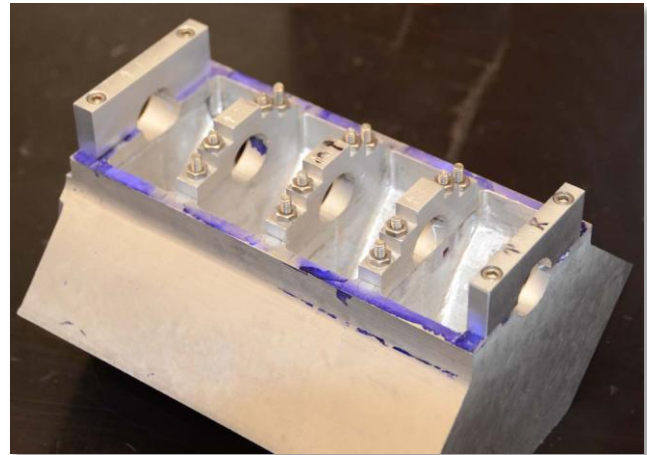


Dave Palmer showed us a matched pair of brass cannons modeled from those on the USS Constitution. The scale is 0.87 inch to the foot.

Each has 114 pieces and is built to the usual fine Palmer standard of fit and finish. Dave describes such cannons as “the first two-cycle engines”. Powder is the fuel, and ignition is provided by a fuse. Each power stroke results in a blown piston!

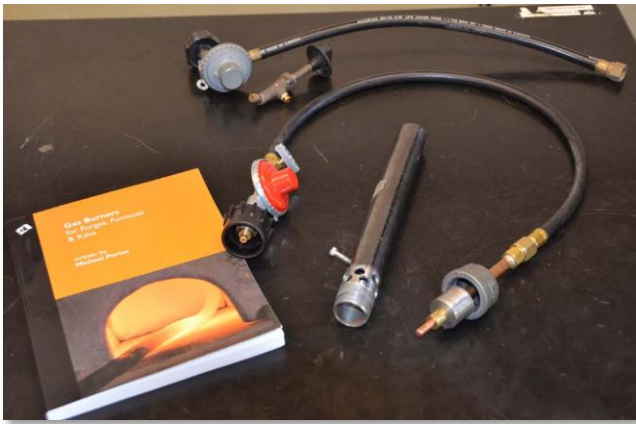


He also showed a pair of “Useless Machines”. These black boxes sport a toggle switch. When pushed to the on position, a hatch opens and a finger emerges to promptly shut the switch off. If this engages your fancy, a kit is available at: frivolousengineering.com. Warning, the kit is not cheap at \$61.00 with shipping. As in government, useless ain't cheap.



John Gilmore updated us on his “Black Widow V-8” progress. He has re-made all the main bearing caps with registers that “snap in” with a satisfying click. These caps are not going to twist or creep.

Eugene and Berneta Corl visited us again from Nevada. His display of the cast-iron, one third scale Chevy V-8 was a hit at the Goodguys show last August. He described his problems with melting iron at 5,000 feet of altitude. Several members suggested that he leave and return to Bay Area levels. He said: “No way!”



During the festivities, Eugene Corl showed us a video of his personal helicopter in construction and in flight! The man can build anything! Running the camera was our own Steve Meyers.

Our editor, Larry Zurbrick showed us his progress on his foundry burner.

A turkey-cooker 10 PSI propane gas regulator with higher flow rates has replaced the anemic food grill 0.5 PSI propane gas regulator arrangement. Refractory material is still to be determined.

His son, watching his efforts with burners, venturi, and jets, said: “Dad, they write books on this stuff”. He then gave such a book to Larry, which will guide his further efforts.



Next was our always-wonderful Christmas feast. How our ladies (and some lads) pull this off each year is a wonder. The food was delicious and varied, with plenty for all. The chance to have the leisure to talk with each other was a delight, as always.