

The Crank Calls



President	Paul Denham	pedenham@comcast.net
Secretary	Your name here!	Please consider volunteering
Treasurer	Deirdre Denham	pedenham@comcast.net
Events Coordinator	Steve Hazelton	steve.hzltn@gmail.com
Webmaster	Mike Byrne	mgbyrne3@comcast.net
Editor/Printer	Wes Wagon	weswag@ix.netcom.com

MEMBERSHIP \$25.00 US
Contact Paul Denham at
pedenham@comcast.net

NEXT MEETING
Saturday, July 17, 2021 at the
Golden Gate Live Steamers clubhouse in
Tilden Park, Orinda, CA
Gate opens at 9:00 am
Meeting starts at 10:00 am

Upcoming Events

- July 10: Penngrove Power Up
- July 17: BAEM meeting at GGLS
- July 29-Aug 1: EDGE&TA at Amador Cnty Fair
- Aug 21: BAEM meeting at GGLS
- Sep 18: BAEM meeting at GGLS
- Sep 18-19: GGLS Fall Meet & Open House
- Oct 2: Antique Equip Show in Galt, CA
- Oct 16: BAEM meeting at GGLS

See below for more details regarding events. Watch Crank Calls, BAEM emails and BAEM web page for updates. BAEM meetings are usually 3rd Saturday of the month except December.

MEETING NOTES

June 19, 2021
BAEM met at Golden Gate Live Steamers on June 19, 2021. 24 members and guests were present. Social distancing was relaxed and masks were not required.

NEW MEMBERS/VISITORS

BAEM members are reminded that visitors are welcome at our club meetings, and we're always looking for new members.

TREASURER'S REPORT

President Paul Denham reported that club balance is \$5839, and annual insurance has been paid.
The 2021 dues of \$25 have been due since the beginning of the year. Pay now if you haven't already done so. Give your check to Paul Denham. Dues can also be mailed to

Deirdre Denham at 1937 Merchant St, Crockett, CA 94525. Make checks payable to "BAEM".

CLUB BADGES

If you are a member in need a badge, contact Mike Rehms (mrehms@byvideo.com) who has offered to produce them.

UPCOMING SHOWS/EVENTS:

- Penngrove Power and Implement Museum will have their Power Up event on July 10, from 9 to 3. 200 Phillips Dr., Penngrove, CA. Members Ray Fontaine and Dave Palmer have shown engines here in the past.
- EDGE&TA Branch 13 will be showing at the Amador County Fair July 29 - August 1.
- Golden Gate Live Steamers Open House scheduled for September 18-19.
- Antique Equipment Show at McFarland Living History Ranch in Galt, CA will be the first Saturday in October: Oct. 2.

FIRST POPS

Paul Denham brought a very impressive Red Devil that is mostly complete. It is based on a 1903 vertical single cylinder hit and miss engine with low tension ignition. Castings were from Shelf Pet Models (<https://www.shelfpetmodels.com/kits/>). Paul reported he got first pops on propane after addressing some ignition issues. He believes he is 90% complete with only 90% left to go for tuning, tweaking, and finishing.

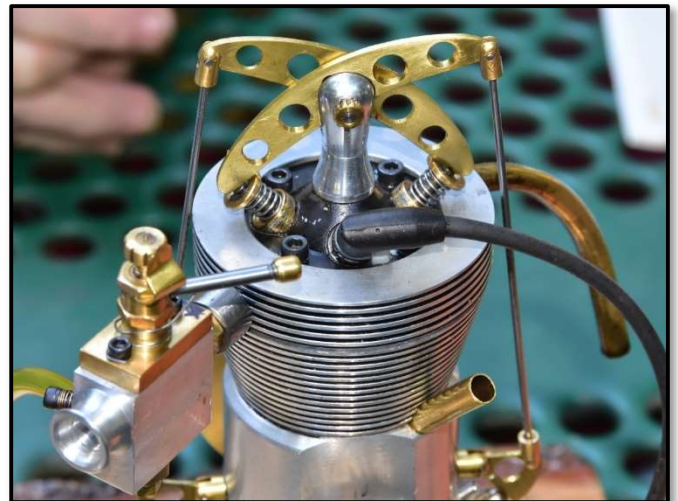


BITS AND PIECES

George Spain brought an interesting single cylinder vertical of his own design. It's a single-cylinder, air cooled, four-stroke engine, featuring a single lobe cam for both intake and exhaust. He calls it "Jules Verne #2". It was mounted on nicely finished log slab and ran very well.



George Spain's "Jules Verne #2", mounted on a natural-edge log base.



*Steampunk styling touches and high-quality machine work give it a distinctive character.
Nice job!*

Peter Lawrence reported progress on his ambitious project: a scale model of the mighty

V-12 Merlin aero engine. Peter used his original design, shop made cam grinder to complete the grinding of the cam shafts, which were fabricated from heat-treated 4130 steel.

In addition to the cam shafts, Peter also described his work on the prop shaft, which mates to the prop hub via splines. The challenging machining operation was the cutting of the interior splines on the prop hub, which was accomplished using a shop-made single-tooth broach made from a carbide groove cutter.



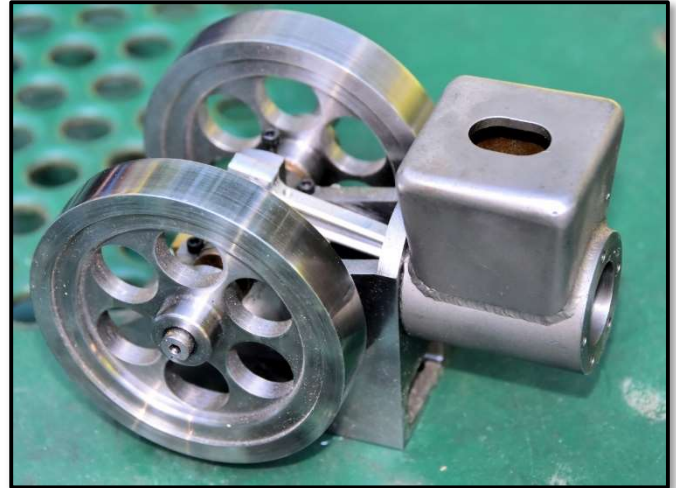
Peter's finished camshafts, prop shaft, prop hub and shop-made broaching tool.

Peter described a problem he encountered while drilling oil passages in the Merlin crankshaft: a broken drill. He would like to use an EDM metal disintegrator to remove it without damaging the crank. He recalled someone in the club had experience with this but can't recall who. Can anyone help?

Steve Ridgway has started a Black Widow V-8 and brought the block. He also brought in a nice looking GEM 1 that looks to be about three fourths finished.



Steve Ridgway's Black Widow V-8, showing initial machining work on the block.



Steve Ridgway's GEM 1

Larry Zubrick is also working on a GEM 1, using one of Dwight Giles' materials kits. Larry had several finished pieces as well as fixtures for cutting the connecting rod and polishing rings.



Larry's GEM 1 kit parts, showing initial work completed.



RAMBLINGS

Paul Denham had some mystery bronze castings he recently scrounged from Dwight, but he couldn't identify the engine. Seeking help, he posted some pictures on the Home Model Engineering Machinist site. Help was soon forthcoming, and the castings were identified as a Wall "Black Knight" steam engine that had been marketed by Coles. Paul admitted to some embarrassment to learn there is a picture in the January 2010 Crank Calls. Well, now there's one in the July 2021 Crank Calls as well!



Well, the brass plaque says it all, well, most of it. It is not well known, but Elmer Wall did design at least one steam engine: the Black Knight. It features an 11/16" bore and 11/16" stroke and is still listed in Coles' Power Models.

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Working on an interesting project? Got a great BAEM story? Share it with us here. Send us pics and project details, and your hard work will be shared with the entire club.

FOR SALE

BAEM member George Spain is offering for sale three different professional-level cylinder boring devices. All are used, but in good condition.

1. **VAN NORMAN 777-6 Boring Bar.**

Boring bar with stand and tool kit.
Price: \$ 1500

2. **VAN NORMAN 944 Boring Bar.**

Boring bar with stand and tools.
Seen elsewhere for \$ 2,200 – 4,800.
Price: \$ 1500

5. **STRONG Boring Bar.**

Boring bar, table model, with tools.
Bores 40mm to 70mm.
Seen elsewhere for \$ 1,600 – 2,750.
Price: \$ 1500

For further information, contact George Spain at
Phone: 707-342-2931
Email: geobev11@att.net

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BAEM member Carl Wilson is helping distribute the engine models and shop items of recently deceased BAEM member Tom Armstrong. Engine models were listed in last month's Crank Calls. Listed below are casting kits and a steam plant. All of these kits are currently being sold and details may be found online.

Gade gas engine, Martin Models, \$250

Stuart 10H, 3/4" bore by 3/4" stroke horizontal steam engine, \$150

Stuart Beam Engine, \$250

Stuart Score, twin cylinder horizontal steam engine, \$175

Stuart 9, 1 1/2" bore by 1 1/2" stroke horizontal steam engine \$300

Stuart hand feed boiler pump, \$50

Stuart Governor for beam engine, Victoria, or #9, \$75

Stuart Victoria, 1" bore x 2" stroke, horizontal steam engine, \$250

Hemingway Wyvern, 1 ¼" stroke by 2" bore horizontal gas engine, \$250

Hemingway Kiwi, 15cc, overhead valve, vertical gas engine, \$175

Reeves Vulcan, beam type steam engine, \$275

Steam Demonstration Plant



Henry Cranna, longtime member of West Valley Live Steamers, built this steam demonstration plant. It has a locomotive type boiler, twin cylinder oscillating engine, and a control panel. It was intended as an educational plant in how steam is generated, controlled, and utilized. Boiler operates on propane and a 5 gal tank is included. It is built on a shop cart with casters. Best offer.

Contact Carl Wilson for additional details.

Carl Wilson
Phone: 650-967-7715
Email: toolcarl@comcast.net

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Dwight Giles has some stuff he is offering:

-1.5 hp electric motor. 1750 rpm. 110/220v AC single phase. Heavy! Price: Free!

-Engine Mount Box. Beautiful wooden box for mounting your larger engine. Perfect for a Black Widow V8. 3 available. Price is \$200 donation to club.

Contact Dwight at jig313@aol.com or phone: 707-648-1481

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Paul Denham mentioned that he had received an e-mail from someone saying he had a Unimat 3 available. If interested, ask Paul for contact details.

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Got something you'd like to sell? Your ad is free and will be seen by likely customers.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Your contributions to this newsletter are appreciated: workshop reports, tech articles, reviews, historical pieces, whatever. You contribute, we'll figure out how to post it. Send your contributions to either or both of us. Thanks!

-Mike Byrne at mgbyrne3@comcast.net
-Wes Wagon at weswag@ix.netcom.com

