

# European Train Enthusiasts



Newsletter of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter  
July 2005

## JULY CHAPTER MEETING

Saturday, July 9, 2005, 1-5 pm.

### The Museum of the San Ramon Valley

Corner of Railroad and Prospect Avenues, Danville, CA 94526

925-837-3750 — <http://www.museumsvr.org> — Host: Rolf Krumbiegel (925) 939-7576

Agenda: Operate trains on module SIG layout; Business meeting; EuroWest 2005

Refreshments: *Bring your trains to run and your appetite for Bratwurst and Beer!*

## Future Chapter Meetings

**JULY 9:** Museum of the San Ramon Valley, Corner of Prospect and Railroad Aves., Danville. Host: Rolf Krumbiegel (925) 939-7576

**AUGUST 13:** Hiller Aviation Museum 601 Skyway Rd. San Carlos (parallel to Hwy. 101). Peter Barnes is our host. This will also be a swap meet and a EuroWest briefing.

**SEPTEMBER 10:** Andreas and Annie Hildebrandt will host this Octoberfest meeting at their house. THE MEETING WILL START AT 3 PM. PLEASE NOTE THIS TIME CHANGE.

**OCTOBER 8:** Walnut Creek Model Railroad Society 2751 Buena Vista Ave. Walnut Creek

**NOVEMBER:** No meeting – conflicts with International Railfair.

**DECEMBER:** TBA

## Upcoming Events

**AUGUST 20-21:** EuroWest 2005, Basque Cultural Center, South San Francisco (our third here).

**SEPTEMBER 24-25:** GATS, Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, San Jose.

**NOVEMBER 12-13:** 29th Annual 2005 International Railfair Placer County Fairgrounds Roseville, CA ([www.internationalrailfair.com](http://www.internationalrailfair.com)) Washington Blvd. North of downtown Roseville. ETE Sacramento Chapter operates their modules and runs the consignment Country Store. Here's another great place for European model bargains and a chance to support the Sacramento Chapter.

**NOVEMBER 26-27:** GATS, Alameda County Fairgrounds 4501 Pleasanton Avenue, Pleasanton

## Highlights of Recent Meetings

### June Meeting in Menlo Park

A special thanks to Joe Freese and the West Bay Model Railroad Association (Menlo Park) for hosting our June Meeting. Members were able to run and view European HO two rail and O scale operations on this scenic layout. A video on London's trains was shown and commentary was given.

Chris Vais outlined the upcoming EuroWest program. Many volunteers are needed to make this venue a success. Please contact Chris to offer your help.

Peter Barnes introduced a unique postcard that we could print with our ETE Chapter's name and particulars on it. These could be used as EuroWest souvenirs for participating in the various contests. Peter was given the go-ahead to print these up for use at EuroWest.

Dieter Vorbach brought in the price list of ETE European style bumper stickers in one and two color formats. This item is still in the discussion stage but looks very promising and a chance for all of us to "show our colors".

Don Winslow and John and Lalo Ruehle have volunteered to look into future meeting places at their respective church halls.

Jim Lowe is doing very well and reports that he is looking forward to seeing us at the next meeting and EuroWest.

Please remember Stretch Andersen's father-in-law, Roger Toms, in your thoughts and prayers. He recently passed away. To Stretch and Michelle, we send you our sympathies and condolences. **I**



## The Reverse Corner

Fourteen modules in a 4x1 format are now running our European trains to the wonderment and amusement of the public at the Museum of San Ramon Valley. This venue opened Sat. June 25 and will continue until Sun. July 10. Big Train Day, June 26, was sponsored by the Museum and hosted approximately 400 visitors to our layout.

In the lineup are Rolf Krumbiegel's two modules — the windmill and the brewery, Ian Lorentzen's three rural modules, Chris Vais' rural module, Stretch Andersen's two modules — the mountain staging yard, and Steve Imialek's (formerly Jacques Vuye's) two-module Pont St. Hubert commuter station (Belgium) sans rain clouds and passengers with umbrellas, *n'est pas?*

Steve had the help of a "cast of thousands" reworking this original module": Jacques, Ian Lorentzen, Hans Beck, Jim Lowe, and Rolf Krumbiegel. The layout shows well and has run flawlessly.

Because of its smaller size, the block signaling system is not being used. Many thanks to Rolf for securing this venue. This event marks our third annual appearance.

We are gearing up and sprucing up for EuroWest. We are anticipating that all our modules will be operating there.

With new growth comes growing pains and discussions have been informally held about increasing our power to the modules. And, as always, anyone interested in becoming a partner and helping a module owner should contact Tom Melka or one of the module owners.

Besides EuroWest and the two or three annual Great American Train Shows (GATS) that we participate, we are now on the museum circuit.

We make our annual appearances at the Blackhawk Automotive Museum, the Hiller Aviation Museum, and the Museum of the San Ramon Valley.

We will be at the Pleasanton Museum next year for the second time. It's been a good mix of weekend shows and long term appearances.

None of this would have been possible without the module owners, operators, docents, and a very supportive chapter membership. Kudos also to the museums' staffs for their help and support. **I**

### EuroWest Publicity Note

**Please mention ETE and EuroWest to your local hobby dealers when you shop there.**

It will help to make them aware of our chapter and, hopefully, they will generously support EuroWest 2005.

## CHAPTER OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

**Capo:** Chris Vais (510) 521-4347; christopher\_vais@urscorp.com

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**Coordinatore capo dei moduli:** Tom Melka (415) 927-7477 melka@pacbell.net

**Lavoratore capo dei moduli e delle riunioni:** Rolf Krumbiegel (925) 939-7576 rolkru@earthlink.net

## A Message from the Chairman, SF Bay Area Chapter, ETE

EuroWest — August 20-21 — is approaching rapidly. The Planning Committee consists of Andreas Hildebrandt and myself as co-chairmen, Steve Stern, Peter Barnes, and Steve Imialek. Some of you have offered your assistance, but we are still critically short of help in a few key areas.

EuroWest generates revenue for our Chapter, but that will only happen if there is someone to **staff the tables** and **collect entrance fees**. So far, I have only two volunteers for this important function. The show runs 10 AM to 5 PM on Saturday and 10 AM to 4 PM on Sunday. I'd like to have enough volunteers so that each needs to work for just two hours. If you volunteer, you will receive **free admission** to the show on the day that you work.

Another area where we need assistance is setting up the **vendor tables** on Friday afternoon. There will be a floor plan so the task should be easy — only a couple of hours from four individuals. Again, if you help out here, you will receive free admission on the day of your choice.

Finally — and perhaps most importantly — we need some volunteers to do **presentations and clinics** on any aspect of our hobby. Many of you are expert modelers, photographers, or have some other talent or passion about this hobby that you can share. Three or four presentations on Saturday afternoon and on Sunday morning will be plenty. Again, you get free admission on your presentation day.

Never given a presentation before? There is nothing easier than taking to fellow enthusiasts about something that you know and enjoy. So far, I have only one — a photo presentation on Semmerling.

If you'd like to volunteer or need help deciding, please contact me or one of the other committee members. I can be reached at (510) 521-4347 or Christopher\_vais@urscorp.com. Or, talk to us at the July or August meetings.

Thanks for your support. See you at EuroWest!

Christopher L. Vais  
Chairman, SF Bay Area Chapter ETE



# DIRECTIONS to the JULY 9 ETE MEETING

## The Museum of the San Ramon Valley

Corner of Railroad and Prospect Avenues, Danville, CA 94526

Exit the 680 freeway at Diablo Road and go west to Hartz.

Turn left on Hartz (south) and go one block.

Turn right (west) on Prospect.

Go one block west to Railroad.

The museum is at the corner of West Prospect and Railroad.

925-837-3750 (phone) - 925-552-9693 (fax)

P.O. Box 39 - Danville, CA 94526



Lost and Found: Joe Freese advises that someone left a modeler's screw