

European **T**rain **E**nthusiasts

Bay Area Chapter **Kveten 2003 Newsletter**

May Meeting Notice

When: Saturday May 10, 1:00 to 5:00 PM

Where: West Bay Model RR Club

1090 Merrill Street

Menlo Park 94025

(See map)

Host: Joe Freese (650-326-2325)

Meeting Agenda:

- Running DC HO scale trains

Special assignment...

Refreshments: If your name begins with: A through H, bring **Finger food \ salad**
I through P, bring **Dessert**
Q through Z, bring **Drinks**

Meeting Agenda

The West Bay Model RR Club in Menlo Park has several scales. Check out <http://home.earthlink.net/~pesce/westbay.htm> which includes a web-based map of the club location in Menlo Park. The HO tracks will be available for us to run our trains on (analog DC only). The layout has very large radius curves, so if your trains have felt a little cramped lately, running them on this layout will stretch them out. Long passenger trains on 6' radius curves look really nice here, so don't pass up this chance.

Please note that West Bay does not have public drinking water or restroom facilities. However, Kepler's Bookstore and McDonald's are but one block away. The West Bay club is right next to the Menlo Park CalTrain station.

Upcoming Meetings

June 14 : Walnut Creek Model RR, host Gordon Laughland

July 12 : Danville Museum, host Rolf Krumbiegle

July 26/27 : EuroWest 2003, South San Francisco

August 2/3 : EuroEast, Marietta, PA (check out

<http://www.eurobahntrains.com/euroeast/index.asp>)

Recap of the April Meeting

David Baird and Jeff Keuscher presented information on their HOm modules. David started off with a brief slide show of Swiss narrow gauge trains, then moved to a series of overheads describing the modules. Jeff finished off with video footage of the modules at EuroWest 2002. There is a website showing the HOm modules. <http://www.ete.org/HOm.html>

There was a very good display of items related to European Post. There were wagons, busses, autos, stamps and photos.

There was an animated discussion of pricing policy for EuroWest 2003. The EuroWest committee has not yet finalized the entrance fees. Joe Freese pointed out that in previous EW's, Bay Area members and volunteers have been given free admission. A motion was made and seconded that a vote be taken regarding free admission for volunteers and module exhibitors. The vote was 16 in favor and 8 opposed. The EuroWest committee agreed to take the issue back for further consideration.

EuroWest 2003 update (compiled by Peter Barnes)

Sacramento Chapter has taken on many responsibilities for EuroWest and the Saturday Banquet including: providing a clinic, an N scale layout, many volunteers: also preparing a handout program for banquet, assembling an ETE history and list of ETE accomplishments, a banquet presentation, and a display of memorabilia from the start of ETE. They are also preparing and sponsoring a pin/medallion that commemorates ETE and its 30th birthday.

Reservations for the Banquet have passed 40. Get your check to David Baird, payable to ETE for \$35, or use the flyer in the soon-to-be-delivered Express to assure a place.

A list of nearby hotels for out-of-town visitors prepared by Ian is now on the ETE Website. Check out <http://www.ete.org> under the EuroShows heading

The new idea suggesting we have an ETE consignment table was seen as too daunting to take on for this year's EuroWest .

People to contact for involvement, suggestions, help in EuroWest activities :

- Sales tables – Andreas Hildebrandt
 - Layouts - Dave Pryor
 - Presentations/Clinics – Jacques Vuye
 - Video – Gordon Laughland or Mark Cihlar
 - Publicity - Sue Davis, Ian Lorentzen, Bob Carlson
 - Static or poster Displays - Ian
 - Contests - Peter Barnes
 - Children's Activities - Steering Committee
 - Volunteer to help before or during EuroWest - Steering Committee
 - Prizes - Steering Committee
 - Suggestions and concerns - Steering Committee
- We are especially looking for help in organizing Children's Activities and in developing displays and posters.

Reverse Corner - notes from the Module SIG **by Tom Melka**

Running model trains and talking to folks about European Railroading all day long. Does that sound like fun to you? It certainly is to us! That's really what the module SIG (Special Interest Group) is all about. Coming together with other club members and sharing our interest with the public is what we do.

Several SIG members have the skills, time and knowledge to have built model railroad modules. We are witness to their outstanding award winning work in our group. But many of our members have never built modules. They don't need to. Some have acquired modules from other members. Others have taken over responsibilities for our mutually owned components. Steve Stern stores, transports and sets up the

power and control module at our shows. Bob Carlson stores, transports and sets up our audience ropes and stanchions at shows that do not provide them for us. Over time, other members have helped out in the same manner, taking responsibility for a group owned component and then participate as though they are a module owner. It can take some time, setting up and tearing down. But when we are working as a group, we make fast work of it and enjoy the camaraderie. The last few shows, we've had small groups go out to dinner after a Friday night set-up. The Sunday tear-down at the last Cow Palace Show took less than an hour! That's teamwork! Most importantly, we get together to discuss our favorite subject.

Of course, we are always looking for members to participate as docents. They engage the audience and further the interest in both European trains and our club. Docents have made the difference for us in audience acceptance and have been integral to our winning recent awards.

Our next show is at the Marin County Civic Center, Saturday and Sunday, May 17 & 18. Those of you that have been there before know that this building is one of the finest examples of Frank Lloyd Wright architecture in this part of the country. This will be one of the smaller GATS (Great American Train Show) venues. We will have a smaller, 4 module by 1 module (25' X 10') layout. This smaller size show and layout tends to drive a lot of audience conversation. It's "easier to talk". I believe we will drive a lot of interest and new members at this show. Of course, we will also have another stab at winning the Best of Show layout. I appreciate those who have expressed interest in participating so far. I'll firm up the schedule in the next week, or so, and let you know your exact participation times.

We are currently looking for someone to help out with the four corners, starting at the May show. We also have the tunnel corner and reverse corner sections needing "owners". Are you interested in participating in the group? Vehicle requirements can be a car with a big trunk or any size SUV or station wagon. We can work it out with you. We welcome new participants to join in the camaraderie and fun. Email me at melka@pacbell.net or call me at (415) 927-7477, for more information.

Don't forget our upcoming events:

May 17 & 18 at the GATS show at the San Rafael Civic Center.

Danville Museum, **June 21 - July 6.**

GATS - San Mateo Expo Center **July 19 & 20**

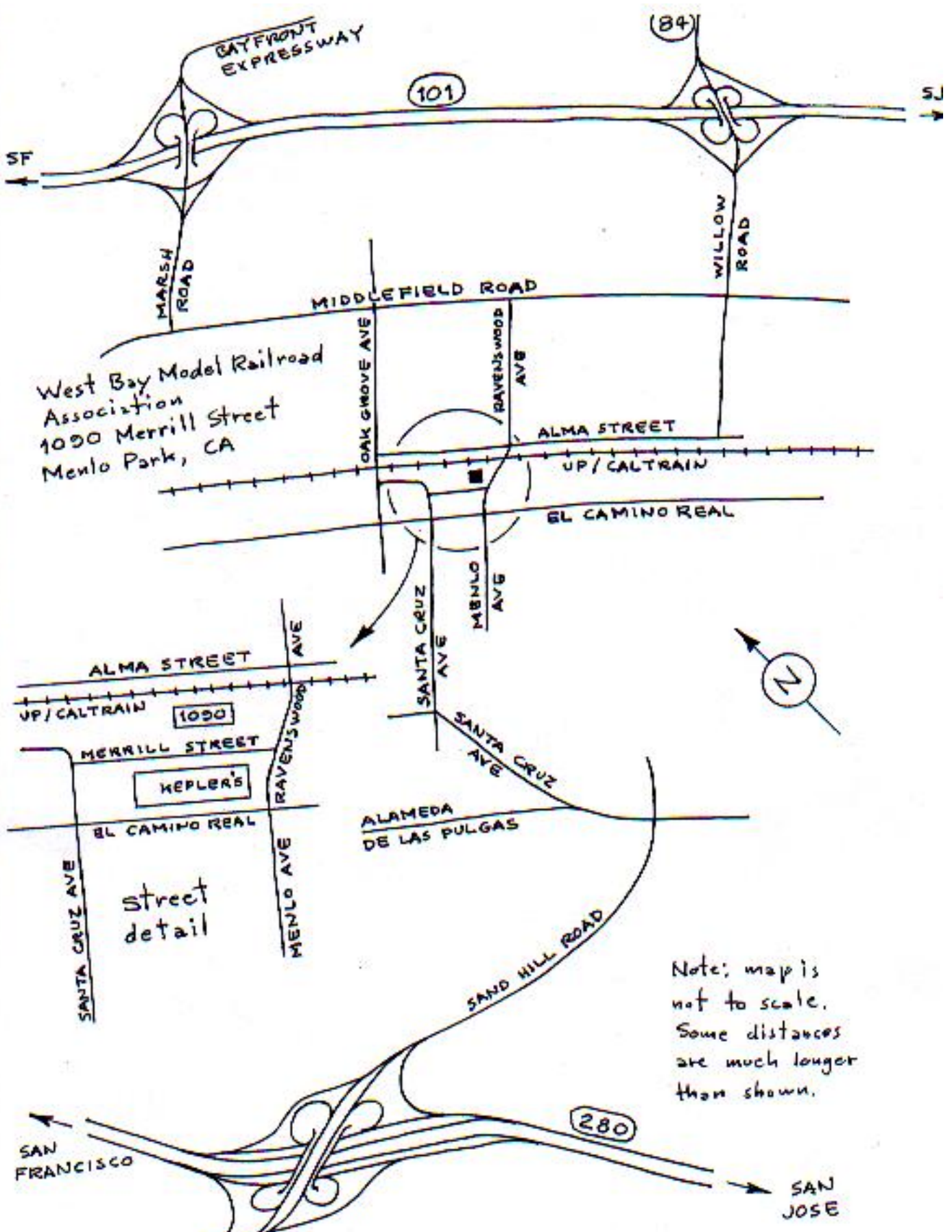
EuroWest, July 26 & 27

Stretch Andersen's house - October SF Chapter meeting

Blackhawk - Thanksgiving, 2003 to January, 2004

Eurosnips May 2003 (compiled by Jim Recker)

Euro snips will return in the June newsletter.



West Bay Model Railroad
 Association
 1090 Merrill Street
 Menlo Park, CA

Street
 detail

Note: map is
 not to scale.
 Some distances
 are much longer
 than shown.

