



Newsletter of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter  
October 2005

**Next Meeting Saturday, October 8, 1:00-5:00 pm**  
**Walnut Creek Model Railroad Society, 2751 Buena Vista Ave.**  
**Walnut Creek, CA 94596 – in Larkey Park - <http://www.wcmrs.org/>**  
**Club phone: (925) 937-1888      Host: Gordon Laughland**  
**Refreshments:** If your last name begins with letters as follows, please bring:  
**A – G:** Drinks      **H – O:** Finger foods and/or salads      **P – Z:** Desserts  
**NOTE: PLEASE BRING YOUR EXTRA PLATES, NAPKINS, UTENSILS, CUPS, ICE!**

## Future Chapter Meetings

**Oct 8:** Walnut Creek Model Railroad Society, Gordon Laughland, host (see above and map, last page)

**Nov:** No meeting – go to International Railfair, instead.

**Dec:** Blackhawk Automotive Museum, Danville

## Upcoming Events

**Nov 12-13:** International Railfair, Roseville fairgrounds.

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

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## Highlights of past meetings...

### September Meeting

Chris Vais opened the meeting at 4:00 PM. There were approx. 40 members present. The membership warmly thanked Annie and Andreas Hildebrandt for their gracious hospitality.

They provided an *Oktoberfest* buffet and, of course, plenty of *Spatenbrau*. There were flags and banners typical of an *Oktoberfest* tent.

Andreas mentioned that we were using the same benches and tables that Spaten uses in Munich in their *bier* tents. ¶

## PLEASE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome Dr. Stefan Maat, Michael Beck, Edgar Aguirre, Michael Tuason, Karen Tiegel, Michael Flagiello, Charles Mc Keown, Rajik Tandon, Gerard Putallaz, Will Revilock, Michael Vavra, and Andres Acevedo

The new members need to be added to the Membership Directory, which should be mailed to the membership soon. ¶

## International Railfair, Nov. 12-13

There will be no formal meeting in November; instead, please consider attending the 29th Annual International Railfair at the Placer County Fairgrounds in Roseville on Nov. 12-13. Sat. 10-5 through Sun. 10-4. Adults are \$6, and those under 12 free. Parking is \$1. The Sunday Family special \$10.

The Sacramento ETE Chapter operates two modules and the Country Store plus some other vendor tables. The event itself takes up three fairground buildings and a 7 1/2" gauge live steam provides rides on the grounds courtesy of the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers. For more information, see [www.internationalrailfair.com](http://www.internationalrailfair.com). ¶

## This And That ...

### EuroWest 2005

From all accounts, this venue had many positive aspects. Over 350 people attended the two-day show. Vendors seemed "happy" and did a brisk business. The



*EuroWest, continued.*

clinics were well rounded and well attended. The dinner was sold out.

The modular layouts from San Diego, Bay Area and the Meter Gauge Group were a crowd pleaser. Peter Barnes's "Games of Chance" was well received.

Chrissa Imports provided the free libations, always appreciated, and generously paid for the use of the facilities.

**Please note:** We need to form a EuroWest 2006 committee in the very near future to plan for next year's event. Unfortunately, ETE will not be able to use the Basque Cultural Center in 2006 due to conflicting events. A new location must be found.

There is also a need for many more members to volunteer time to work a "shift" at a few of the tables, especially the Entry table. Please contact Chris Vais if you can volunteer your services to work on a committee or man a table at EuroWest 2006. ¶

## Bumper Stickers Very Popular

Dieter Vorbach delivered 1500 ETE bumper stickers, which were sold at EuroWest for \$1.00. Approx. 75 were sold. All the other chapters were mailed a complimentary sticker and orders are being taken. ¶

## Camino Medical Center Layout

Plans have been put in abeyance until we hear from them. We will be initially looking at the floor plan and discussing the possibilities of at least a 4'x8' layout in the pediatric waiting room. ¶

## Module SIG

The group will not be participating in any venues for the remainder of this year except for the fifth annual Blackhawk Museum holiday show from Friday Nov. 25, 2005 through Sunday Jan. 8, 2006.

Two corner modules were transported to Jim Lowe's for reconditioning and repair. When those are finished the remaining two will go to Jim's.

There was a "work party" at Robert DeJong's on Sat. Sept. 24 to recondition and repair any modules needing attention.

Plans are underway to start a staging yard to fill in for Stretch Andersen's mountain yard, which has been pulled out of the line-up for reconditioning and repair. ¶

## Chapter Treasury Report

There is \$6,365 in the account. EuroWest grossed approx. \$5,200 and there is around \$1,600 in profit. There are still outstanding bills. The membership decided to keep the EuroWest account separate from the Chapter funds to provide seed money for next year's tenth annual EuroWest. ¶

## Chapter Newsletter

Ryan Hoover, our current newsletter editor, will retire at the end of July, 2006, and will be leaving the Bay Area for Ohio in just under a year.

Robert DeJong has volunteered to take over as editor. Ryan will have been the editor for two years and will gladly pass it along to Robert, starting in January.

It gets a little easier every year in our increasingly electronic data world. Microsoft Word, Adobe Acrobat Reader and image software are used currently. Ryan will turn the templates over to Robert after the December issue is published. ¶

## Items, Sightings, and Insidings ...

*(thanks to the late Herb Caen for this title)*

- Charles Schiess passed around his copy of the *Swiss Review* magazine for the Swiss railfans abroad. It can be found at [www.revue.ch](http://www.revue.ch). ¶
- Phil Woods shared his copy for the Niles Canyon Railway's 2005 Train of Lights scheduled holiday run dates and times. It can be found at [www.ncry.org](http://www.ncry.org). ¶
- Don Good was seen running his G Scale European trains at the Sept. 17 Bay Area Garden Railway Society Open House. ¶
- Ed Rikkelman joined BAGR Steve Imialek for a tour of other open houses also featuring European trains. ¶
- Steve and Bill Tharp are interested in building Z Scale modules <http://members.aol.com/zbandtrack/main.html>. A non-ETE group started by Tobias Giles and called Bay Area Cooperative Z Scale Module operated their modules at the San Jose GATS. Call Steve or Bill if you are interested. ¶
- Congratulations to Rolf and Irmgard Krumbiegel who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in Germany. They renewed their vows in the same church in which they were married. Rolf generously shares his modeling and scenery building expertise; his home layout is a real treat. Irmgard displays her intricate 1/2" scale dollhouse at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley during the Christmas holidays. Welcome back home to you both! ¶

- Former member, George Rask, can be seen on KRON TV during the afternoon/evening news doing weather and traffic. He provided a fantastic commentary during the LAX Jet Blue nose gear landing crisis. Three years ago, George narrated an 8-minute video on California high speed rail, which Gordon Laughland and Ryan Hoover produced for the BayRail Alliance, an organization advocating better rail transit in our region ([www.bayrailalliance.org](http://www.bayrailalliance.org)). The video features scenes shot in Europe by Gordon and Mark Cihlar and in Japan by Ryan. **I**
- Sadly, please remember David Baird and his family in your thoughts and prayers. David's father passed away recently after a lengthy illness. **I**

## New Märklin and Trix PRR GG1

Just before Jacques Vuye left for France, he delivered my new Pennsylvania GG1. It is a beauty. I rushed out and bought the Trix version, as well. It appears to be the most accurate HO model produced yet.. They have captured the slight crease in the welded sheet metal around the bottom of the ends so that it looks like all of the photos. Broadway Limited's version, while very nice, only hinted at this crease. The air intake vents on the right sides of the noses are also very well executed. Märklin is to be commended. The only nit to pick is that Märklin / Trix don't let you play sounds in DC analog. This is the trend in DC / DCC now. **I**

– Ryan Hoover

## Directions to WCMRS, 2751 Buena Vista Ave, Walnut Creek

Take I-680 to the Treat Blvd / Geary Rd exit. At the traffic signal, turn west onto Geary Rd (this street is Geary Rd west of I-680 and Treat Blvd east of I-680). Geary narrows to two lanes. Drive about 0.8 mile to the traffic signal at Buena Vista Ave and turn left. Go one block to Larkey Park. Just past the swimming pool is a parking lot. WCMRS at 2751 Buena Vista Ave is at the far end of the parking lot. If you reach 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave and a STOP sign, you've gone too far.

