

The Crank Calls



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MEMBERSHIP \$25.00 US

Contact Paul Denham at
pedenham@comcast.net

NEXT MEETING

**Saturday, July 16, 2022, at the
Golden Gate Live Steamers clubhouse site in
Tilden Park, Orinda, CA**

Gate opens at 9:00 am
Meeting starts at 10:00 am

Upcoming Events

- July 16: BAEM meeting at GGLS
- Aug 20: BAEM meeting at GGLS
- Aug 26-28: Goodguys Show, Pleasanton

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

The monthly Bay Area Engine Modelers meeting was held at the Golden Gate Live Steamers site on June 18, 2022. Sixteen members were present. President Paul Denham was unavailable, and Mike Byrne chaired the meeting. Mike mentioned the great job Wes Wagon had done with the June edition of the CrankCalls newsletter featuring the first run of Peter Lawrence's Merlin V12.

Ray Fountain reported that BAEM engines shown at the recent GGLS open house were very well

received and there was some interest in BAEM membership.

IMPORTANT CLUB BUSINESS

An item of interest is potential use of the Museum of History in Palo Alto as a BAEM meeting venue. This was discussed during the meeting. Here's a summary of what appeared to be the consensus of those present:

- a. The club would be better served by a single meeting site, rather than alternating meetings in South Bay and North Bay

b. Commute distance from South Bay to GGLS is less than distance for some members from North Bay to Palo Alto. South Bay members present felt GGLS was not an unreasonable location.

c. The consensus of those present seemed to favor GGLS as the regular meeting venue. However, it would be useful to solicit views from club members not in attendance. We could possibly meet in South Bay at less frequent intervals.

Your comments on this issue would be appreciated. Send them to Paul Denham: pedenham@comcast.net

NEW MEMBERS/VISITORS

No visitors were recognized.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

No treasurer report this meeting.

Reminder: 2022 dues of \$25 are due. Give your check to Paul Denham at the next club meeting, or mail 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 Rehmus (mrehmus@byvideo.com) who has offered to produce them.

UPCOMING SHOWS/EVENTS:

The Goodguys West Coast Nationals custom car show is scheduled for Friday – Saturday – Sunday, August 26-28 at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton. They have invited us to exhibit our model engines. We need to decide if we are going to participate.

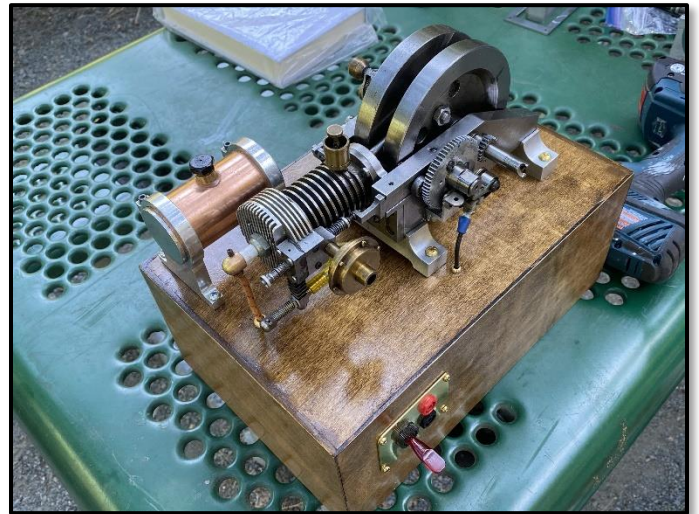
Participation in this show requires a solid commitment by our club members. We need to know if that level of commitment is there. We will discuss at our next meeting. If you can't attend the meeting, please contact Steve Hazelton and/or Paul Denham, and let them know if you favor BAEM participation in this year's show, and if you are willing to personally commit to participate.

Steve Hazelton: steve.hzltn@gmail.com 707-501-3535

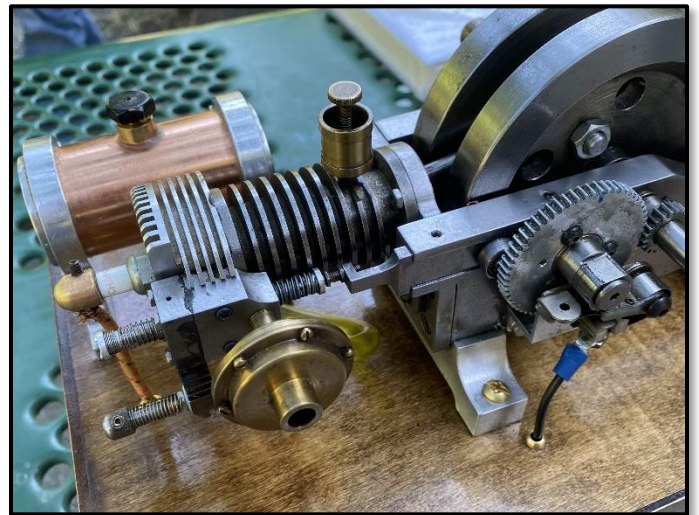
Paul Denham: pedenham@comcast.net 925-917-1987

FIRST POPS

As reported last month, Ray Fontaine was showing engines at the Rio Vista Early Days Engine meet and was approached by someone who said he had a model engine with a stuck piston. Engine turned out to be a Philip Duclos 6-cycle "Oddball Engine". Ray took the engine home, unstuck the piston, added a fuel tank, replaced the camshaft and re-timed the engine to get it running. He then negotiated a purchase from the former owner. Nicely done!



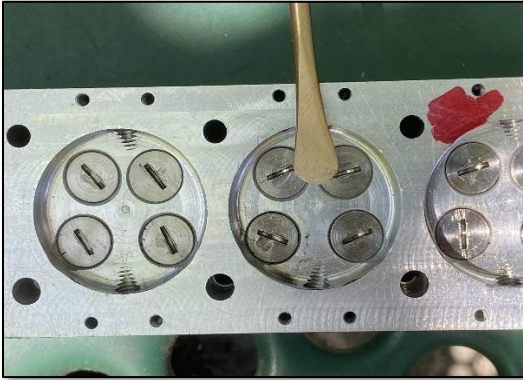
Ray Fontaine's nicely re-worked Oddball Engine



A closer view

BITS AND PIECES

Peter Lawrence described some of the Merlin finish work he had deferred while working toward “first pops.” For example, the oil system needs completion. He then discovered the engine would not run after the rework. He found several valves were no longer seating. He showed the shop made stethoscope he used to identify valves with issues.

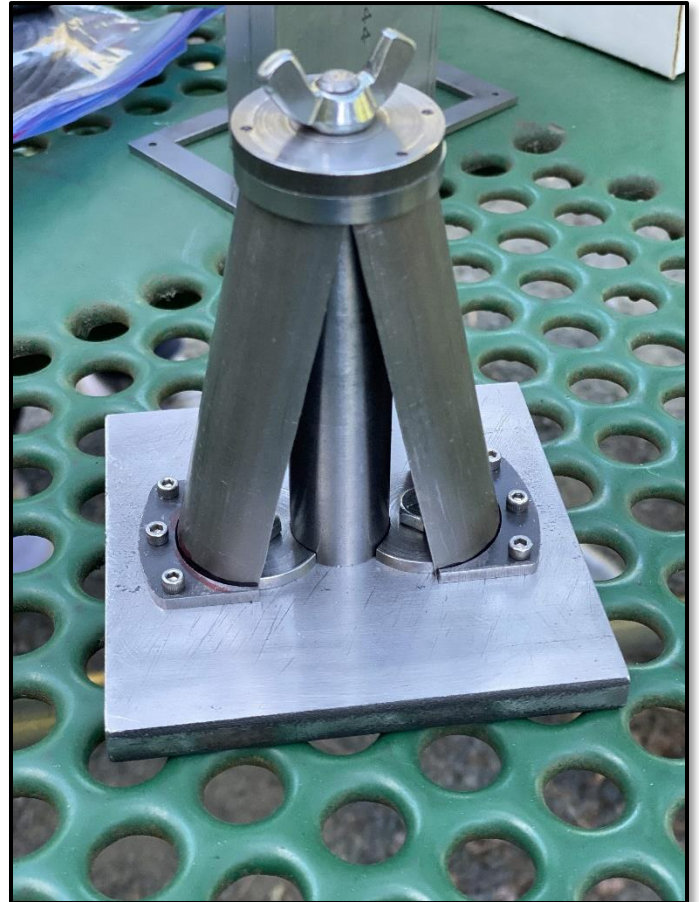


Peter's valve grinding setup. Modified screwdriver fits slot in valve head for grinding.



Photo of a Hansen A-frame diesel

Peter likes to multiprocess his engine projects. His newest interest is a single cylinder vertical diesel inspired by Find Hansen, as seen in YouTube postings https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xh0Vzq6_C2s. No plans are available, and Peter is reverse engineering his own design. He shared with us his initial work on a fixture for welding the A-frame. Peter is intrigued by an engine that does not require a battery, ignition, distributor, or coolant to run.



Peter's fixture for fabricating the A-Frame



Dwight Giles has been constructing model engines for many years. He shared with us his very first model engine project. His first engine was built in 1969 from plans published by Popular Science magazine, in April 1961. http://plans-for-everything.com/downloads/stirling_engines/ST%20Pop_Sci.pdf This Sterling engine includes an alcohol burner made from a recycled STP can, and a displacer made from a metal cigar tube. Dwight's date on the base was 1969.



Dwight's first model engine

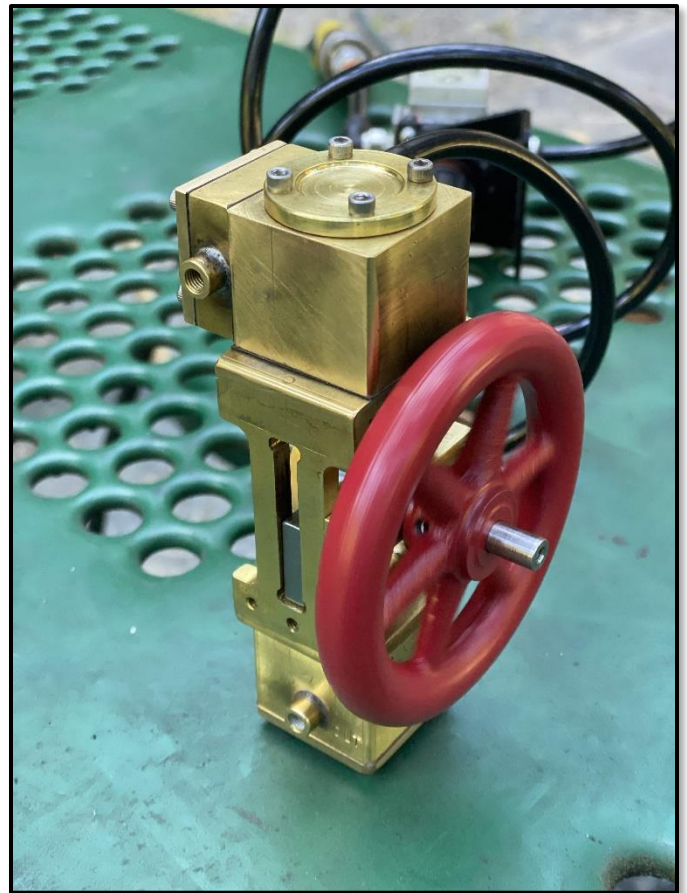
Dwight also shared his latest model engine: a vertical hit and miss featuring a build-up flywheel and internal dimensions similar to Dwight's horizontal GEM1. Dwight calls this engine the GEM-2 while Mike Rehms refers to it as GEMini in a future Model Engine Builder article.



Dwight latest model engine, the GEM2. Note the molded rubber spark plug cap.

Dwight also brought in his molds for ignition wire caps. He recommended US Composites, an online dealer of moldmaking and casting materials located in Florida. The specific product used was 75-60 RTV Liquid Urethane Mold Rubber from www.uscomposites.com.

(Ed: similar urethane products can be obtained locally from Douglas & Sturges retail stores in SF and Richmond. <http://www.douglasandsturgess.com>)



One of Charlie's flywheel pumps

Charlie Reiter showed two air operated brass flywheel pumps he designed (similar to a scotch crank steam pump). He speculated about applications and wondered why one was used with a horse drawn fire engine with a separate boiler. Charlie also demonstrated his "safety valve tester" which could be used as a tell-tale tester for both air and steam.



Charlie describing his flywheel pump



George Spain's Jules Vern 2

George Spain brought in his Jules Vern 2 throttle governed vertical with an interesting wood base. He demonstrated his cylinder pressure tester using a

Harbor Freight gauge. The tester could be used to diagnose issues with rings, valves, or perhaps ignition.



George shows cylinder pressure measurement gauge

Anthony Rhodes shared a book on the evolution of metrology. He felt it would be of interest to model engineers, and he recommended it highly:

"The Perfectionists: How Precision Engineers Created the Modern World" by Simon Winchester.

The revered *New York Times* bestselling author traces the development of technology from the Industrial Age to the Digital Age to explore the single component crucial to advancement--precision--in a superb history that is both an homage and a warning for our future. -- Amazon..

RAMBLINGS

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.

WANTED

BAEM member Larry Bunch wants to purchase a Logan 11 x 36 Lathe and asks that anyone who knows of one for sale please contact him.

Larry Bunch 209-404-6700

wendyrocky2@gmail.com

FOR SALE

Dwight Giles has a vintage motor he is offering:
-1.5 hp electric motor. 1750 rpm. 110/220v AC single
phase. Heavy! Price: Free!
Contact Dwight at jig313@aol.com
or phone: 707-648-1481

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-Mike Byrne at mgbyrne3@comcast.net

-Wes Wagon at weswag@ix.netcom.com

