

The Crank Calls



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MEMBERSHIP \$25.00 US

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NEXT MEETING

**Saturday, June 15, 2024, 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

- June 15: BAEM meeting at GGLS
- June 15 & 16: GGLS Spring Meet/Open House
- July 20: BAEM meeting at GGLS
- Aug 17: 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

The Bay Area Engine Modelers met at the Golden Gate Live Steamers clubhouse on May 18, 2024. Thirteen members were in attendance. Paul Denham welcomed attendees.

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

Paul Denham reported that treasurer Deirdre Denham had continued her efforts to file 10 years of neglected federal income tax returns. She apparently has things "under control" but it appeared to be a significant pain in the exhaust pipe.

2024 BAEM dues of \$25 are payable. Checks can 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 of a badge, contact Mike Rehmus (editor@modelenginebuilder.com) who has offered to produce them.

SHOWS AND EVENTS

Engine shows and similar events provide an opportunity for BAEM members to display their craftsmanship to an appreciative audience. They also serve to publicize our club's existence to potential future members, helping build our membership.

BAEM encourages all its members to participate in shows. Your help is needed to populate our display tables. You don't need an impressive collection of model engines to display. In fact, you can help without anything at all to display, as we always need people to provide coverage. It's a lot of fun interacting with members of the public, explaining what the engine model building process is all about.

-GGLS Spring Meet and Open House

GGLS is having their "Spring Meet" on Saturday/Sunday, June 15-16, at the GGLS site. Saturday's event is for "members only" and includes a luncheon at 11:30 am. Sunday is an all-day open house, open to the general public. BAEM members are invited to participate and are encouraged to attend on both days. We will have outdoor tables set up for display of models by BAEM members, and you can expect a knowledgeable and highly interested audience on both days.

GGLS has asked that BAEM members planning on attending Saturday's luncheon please sign up in advance, using this website:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080849A8A72EAAFB6-49785432-ggls#/>

GGLS leaders need to know how many are expected to attend, so they can plan accordingly. Please indicate what side dish you could bring and/or how you are willing to assist with setup/cleanup or other tasks. Sarah Buhre is organizing, and she would appreciate signups as soon as possible. Her awesome website makes it easy to volunteer.

FIRST POPS

No first pops at last month's meeting.

BITS AND PIECES

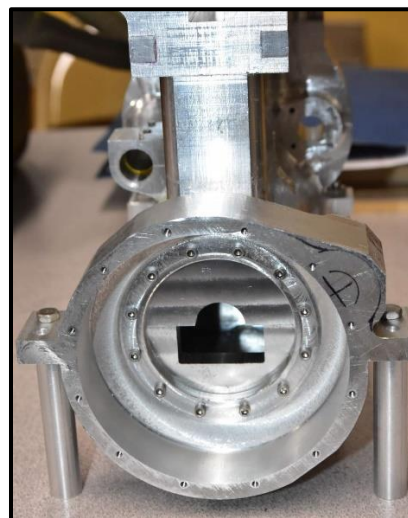
Paul announced that Dwight Giles was continuing to downsize his shop and is selling his extremely well tooled Nardini lathe and a variety of tooling, including collets, chucks, work holders, grinders, end mill sharpeners, drill sharpeners, gear cutters, rotary table, and other goodies. Dwight also made Peter Lawrence custodian of a large collection of small ball bearings suitable for model engine applications. Dwight is also seeking a new home for his cam grinder, so it can be available for future use by club members. Finally, Dwight also has some quantities of sheet metal (used in airplane fabrication) that he would like to dispose of.

Peter Lawrence brought in several engines he is preparing to show at the GGLS open house:

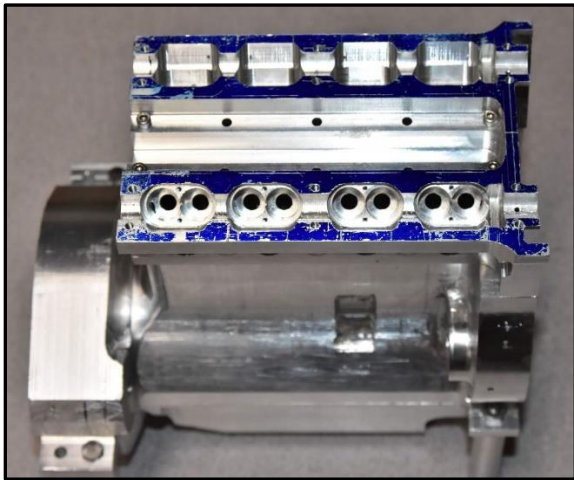
-He reworked the ignition of his Hansen vertical.

-He had mounted an instrument panel on the Merlin V12 engine stand. The panel base was welded to the engine mount after bending a cold rolled steel tube to provide the inclined panel mount.

Peter's Duesenberg 4-cylinder has been an ongoing project. He mounted the water pump and installed new drive belts connecting the crank and cam shafts. He machined the flywheel/clutch housing and added some mounting lugs. He is clearly making significant progress on this challenging project.



Bell housing for Peter's Duesenberg

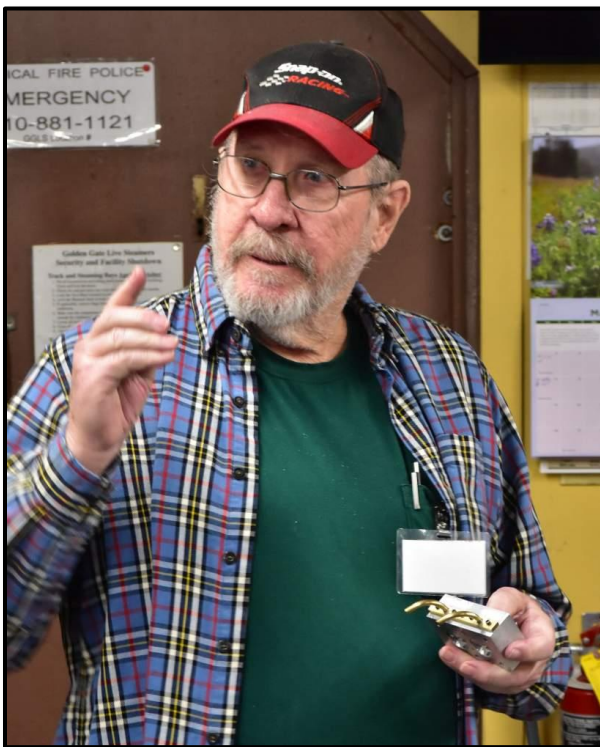


Head shot of Peter's Duesenberg

During the April BAEM meeting, Peter Lawrance described his efforts to design and build a three-phase power supply for an attitude indicating gyroscope from a WW II aircraft. Larry Zurbrick volunteered to help with the analog switching, and after discovering and correcting drawing errors, the power supply was successfully spinning up the gyro. Peter is continuing to tune the power supply to achieve the targeted 20,000 RPM.



A portion of the crankshaft on George Spain's six-cylinder engine



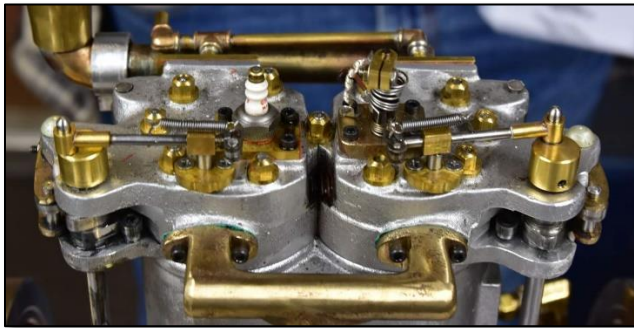
George describes his engine design



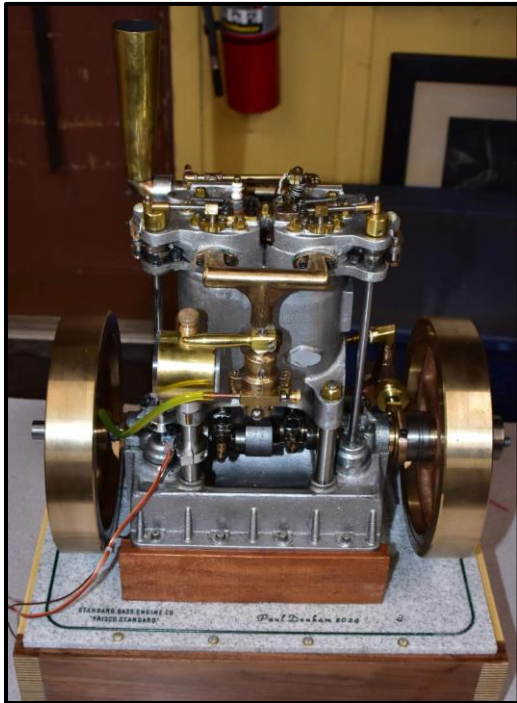
A portion of the cylinder head array on George Spain's six-cylinder engine

Paul Denham reported further progress on the construction of his very impressive Frisco Standard vertical twin, which is now running with both cylinders using low tension ignition. He mounted it on a finger jointed wooden box with a spiffy brass exhaust trumpet. The original engine used low-tension, and Paul described his efforts to get one of the ignitors working. Machining challenges, spring design, and coil performance were among the challenges. Here's a link to a video of it running:

<https://youtu.be/or0u4-zMOyY?si=TLceTzxXi1ntRsq7>



Head of Paul's Frisco Standard



Paul's Frisco Standard

Paul also discovered some boxes of cards to be handed out at engine shows to describe BAEM and perhaps recruit membership. Cards are available for future shows.

Ken Brunskill mentioned an internet resource called Google Lens. Google Lens is a tool developed by Google that makes the use of AI and image-recognition technology to scout the internet for information relevant to a particular image. This information can be visual or text, objects, websites, in fact, it can be anything that you find yourself curious about.

Google Lens is most popular for its built-in infrastructure on Android devices. Since its introduction as a Google Pixel exclusive feature back in 2017, Google Lens has been integrated into the Google Photos app, Cameras of Android devices, and very recently with Google Chrome on PC. Highly useful when searching for information about a part or tool when you don't know the proper descriptive terminology. Thanks to Ken for bringing this to our attention.

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.

FOR SALE

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

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTION

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