



## FEBRUARY 2021

The limited “Operating Meet” that Lamont Stolley was planning for January was canceled due to bad weather. Lamont is currently turning his energies into building some trestles for Gary Siegel's railroad.

“Some time this month I want to install the support bed for the ties and will need help for about 4 hours. That will entail putting in temporary supports, fitting and leveling the beams. 2 other people would be great. If they contact me at on the website or call me at 805-341-8019 we can work out the details.”

Those of you who have been to the Siegels in the last couple of years have seen what time and the elements have wrought upon the Boulder Creek branch line.

Here are a few pictures of some of the bridges and track work that needs to be rebuilt.

### *Lamont Stolley*



## Meets

February  
Nothing Scheduled

March 20  
Gary & Marilyn Siegel - Battery power.

April 10  
Jean Waterman - Track and battery power.

May 1  
Don & Linda Morgan - Track and battery power.

May 15  
Gary and Cathy Raymond - 1:32 scale only - battery power.

June 5  
John Power and Angela Wharton - Battery power.

June 19  
Richard and Jo Ann Abraham - Battery power.

July 17  
Gary and Marilyn Siegel - Battery power.

July 24 & 31  
Ventura County Fair booth prep?

August 7 & 14  
Ventura County Fair?

August 28  
Sal and Deborah Mele - Track and battery power.

September 18  
Gary and Marilyn Siegel - Battery power.

October 9  
Jim and Sylvia Eldridge - Track and battery power.

October 30  
Georges and Marie Arsenault - Battery power.

November 20  
Gary and Marilyn Siegel - Battery power.

December  
Open

Newsletter: John Lyans  
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Treasurer/Dues/Badges:  
Bruce Kuebler  
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Web Page: Gary Olmstead  
<https://www.gcgrs.com/>

Facebook: John & Kim Whitaker  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/145996342219253/>



The Boulder Creek branch line is a lot of fun to operate on and it is sad to see it deteriorate. Thanks Lamont for taking the initiative to get this section back in operating condition. Give Lamont a call if you are able to help with this project.

### *Crazy Charlie*

My wife didn't order anything from Amazon yesterday so the UPS guy knocked on our door to see if we're okay.

Who would've thought one day we'd be smoking weed at a family gathering, but the illegal part would be the family gathering. 🍓

## *Randy Bryie*

H John,

In Santa Rosa Valley, we were without power for a day and a half and the wind gusts were said to be as high as 95 mph. Blew the old wooden bridge right off of its end support and pushed the rest of the trestle off of the brick foundations. At least four limbs came down on the layout, three out of one tree and one out of the top of the big oak. Found two more limbs in the top that were cracked and had to be cut out so as not to fall on anyone. Luckily, a lot of the track around the leaning tree had been picked up weeks ago when I was trimming out the canopy of the two trees. Cracked a couple of the tunnel portals when the limbs hit them. The entire layout is covered with green leaves and twigs. I think I have enough twigs for a fleet of pulpwood cars!! Maybe after I get it all cleaned back up, I can get back to aligning the right-away and ballasting the track. If it doesn't all wash away with the rain later this week!

One of the skylights in the aviary blew out, but was recoverable, and the main driveway gate slammed hard enough to tear a welded hinge from the post! But the new rebar bridges didn't budge a bit. The fun of outdoor railroading!!

Randy



*Part of the fun of outdoor railroads is facing some of the same challenges that “real” railroads face. Fortunately the damages don’t run into the millions of dollars!*



## *Joe Bussing*

Well, Joe is at it again, using his isolation time to create more beautiful structures and features to his awesome railroad.

“.....a work in progress. Next up is fabricating the clapboard siding using the table saw and dado blades. It’s a new technique for me.”

“ Eight windows, four doors, three freight doors. This thing is gonna be big! All hand made. Each freight door is comprised of 52 individually cut pieces, doors are 16 pieces and window are nine pieces.”





So far Joe isn't revealing what type of structure this will be. I'm sure this will be one of the businesses that the railroad will serve. On the next page you can see how he is organizing a card system for operations. Nice, Joe!



## *Walt Thompson*

For all those interested in TRAINS, especially the ones that are 12 inches to the foot scale, and really who isn't? my son came across a show the other day i thought was really a fun watch. This fellow in Idaho bought a 100 + year old Washington/Idaho/Montana Combine rail Car that has been sitting in a barn rotting away. They moved it onto his property and the show goes through the entire restoration process of it.

To get to the show, first go on the Discovery Channel, next go into the Magnolia channel, then scroll over to locate "RESTORATION ROAD". So far it is the only program in there. This guy does a fabulous job of restoring the combine back to its original condition with a few upgrades, making it a beautiful site and on display for all to enjoy. Of course, his property there and the view from the car is also a beautiful site to see!! Anyone up for a road trip to Idaho??

Enjoy,  
Walt

## *John Lyans*

Send me some pictures of what projects you are working on while we are not having regular meetings. A few comments about your project would also be helpful and interesting for the group..

## 2021 Dues



### TREASURERS REPORT

Bruce Kuebler is in charge of collecting dues, keeping the membership roster updated and making the name badges. Dues traditionally were used to cover printing and postage for the newsletter and to pay for our December banquet. Now we have no printing or postage costs of which to speak. We do have some web hosting expense. Bruce reports that we have a surplus in our account, and he is wondering what we should do with it. Purchase some type of a club tool to share? What are your thoughts? Let me or Bruce know what you think?

**Reminder: Dues for 2021 are due: \$10 from January to December. Make checks payable to "Bruce Kuebler."**  
Do you need a name badge? Let Bruce know and he can make you a badge.

There has been a suggestion that we use some our excess funds to rehabilitate the Boulder Creek branch line on the Siegel's layout. Yes? No?