



SCHSM

Southern California Home Shop Machinists

April 16, 2014

OFFICERS

President	Frank Kozlowski
Vice President	Charles Angelis
Secretary	Ken Rector
Treasurer	Jim Endsley

COMING EVENTS

May Meeting	
May 3	
El Camino College	
SCTA Dry Lakes Racing Event	
May 17	
El Mirage Dry Lake	
SCHSM Picnic	
June 14	
Alondra Park	
Antique Gas and Steam Engine Show	
July 21 or 28	
Vista CA	

The April monthly meeting of the SCHSM began as scheduled at 2:00pm on Saturday, April 5, 2014 in the basement classroom at El Camino Community College. As the scheduled speaker was unable to attend, the afternoon was devoted to discussion of club business and to show and tell presentations from the members. There were no new visitors present.

If you didn't get an email reminder about this month's meeting, you are not alone. The reminders are sent by the club yahoo group Calendar feature. Larry McDavid is going to look into this. As an aside, he pointed out that any member of the yahoo group can manipulate the calendar to add announcements if they like.

Planning for the annual club picnic continues. We have reserved our usual area in Alondra Park, 3850 Manhattan Beach Blvd., for the entire day of Saturday, June 14th. Our area is in the extreme north-east corner of the park, east of the golf course. It is conveniently located adjacent to the parking lot and Manhattan Beach Blvd.

There are several tables available for eating and to use to display member's projects. Everyone is encouraged to bring something to display that they think will be of interest to others. Usually the display includes metal-working projects such as engines,

machinery or tooling, but that is not a strict requirement. The main event for the day, aside from lunch, will be the Engine Performance competition. Engines entered in the competition are to be shop made of a certain external volume and meeting a specified

power takeoff standard. There is no rigorous engine design requirement and builders are encouraged to improvise. Engines will be compared based on their water pumping capability. You can get details about the engine standards from Willie Jordan or the club yahoo group.



During the Show and Tell discussions, Lorry Widger told about how he received some helpful advice concerning setup of a very delicate lathe job at last months meeting. Lorry took the advice seriously and produced some beautiful valve links for a scale steam engine he is building. His fixture was just as beautiful as the parts he made with it. You can see in the image that it is two parts, one for the head stock and one to be held in a collet in the tail stock. The part bolts into the fixture after the ball ends are

made to facilitate turning the central barrel shaped shaft. That's the great thing about this group; that members can share insights and experience to help others.



Jim Endsley has made arrangements for the club to have a display at the Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum Spring Tractor Show in June. The museum is delighted to have us exhibit at their show and has allotted us space with several picnic tables for our display. Member are needed to help man the exhibit, and to bring things for the display. Jim will coordinate setting up the exhibit, installing the compressor and electrical and raising our banner. Volunteers are needed to man the display and will be admitted free to the show as an incentive. There is lots to see at the museum. It is worth attending just to see the working antique engines and other displays and the Tractor Parade.

There will be a poll on the club yahoo group to determine which of the days we will attend, June 21 or 28.

Pat Dobbins likes hardware stores with lots of nuts and bolts. This month she told us about Kurt Hardware on Artesia Blvd in Redondo Beach. She said its an old fashioned kind of store that was recently refurbished but has not lost its charm. Other people chimed in with their favorite hardware stores. Everyone agreed that the main McFadden-Dale store in Anaheim is the best.

The opening event of the Southern California Timing Association 2014 racing season will be on May 17 and 18 at El Mirage Dry Lake. El Mirage Dry Lake is located about 15 miles north west of Victorville and about 20 miles east of Palmdale. You can find driving directions on the web at www.scta-bni.org. You can also find a lot of other information about SCTA



racing. There will be more information about this event in the May newsletter.

If you are looking more for electronics hardware and salvage, not material, check out Apex Electronics on San Fernando Road in Sunland, just up the road from IMS. They have a 1 acre yard and 10000 sq ft store crammed with electronics related junk. Its worth a visit just to see all the stuff people threw away, and you can actually buy stuff you need for your electronics projects.

Larry McDavid showed a bunch of stuff at the meeting including a stereo microscope. Larry described the advantages of this type of microscope and how useful it can be in the shop. One example was measuring and inspecting small screw threads. Larry showed some Tab screw thread calculators which he found on Ebay and told about a similar calculator offered by www.engineeringslidechart.com. As a climactic ending for his show and tell, Larry passed around some antique medical instruments to be used for serious unnamable medical procedures.

Richard Albers brought in an Harbor Freight AXA size tool holder and a letter stamp set with an automatic punch hammer, similar to an automatic center punch. Everyone found the letter set hammer very interesting.

As things normally happen, the shape of Lorry's connecting rods prompted Michael Vulpillate to tell about forging such rods and why they have a barrel shape. This led to further discussion about forging. The day ended with a lengthy discussion about cutting tools, ceramic and carbide inserts, brazed carbide and HSS. Of course this led to hardening, tempering and so on.

The meeting ended at 5:00pm.

If you would like to contribute an article, or suggest an improvement to this newsletter, please contact the editor, Ken Rector via the SCHSM Yahoo Group.

