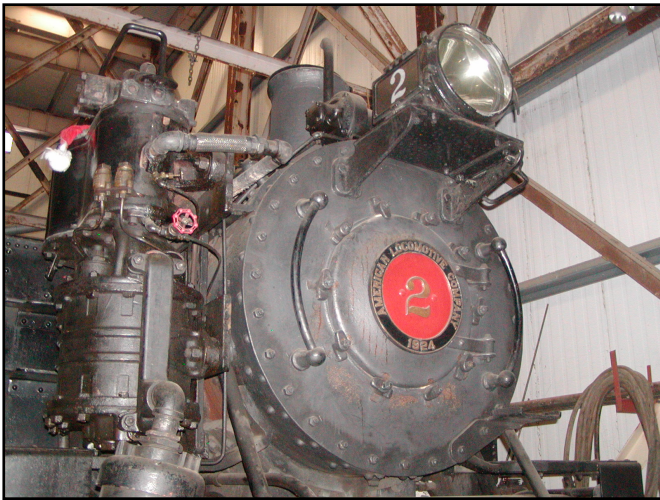




NEWSLETTER

WELL DONE!

Flyer Fest West 2008 has come and gone and we can sit back and enjoy all of our new acquisitions. The long hours of preparation and hard work leading up to the annual event paid off with a smooth running, fun weekend. Special thanks go out to **Jake Jacobsen** for all of his work arranging the hotel location, orchestrating and assembling the Shell tank car project, and chairing the event, **Paul Guaraglia** for accumulating a marvelous collection of donations for the raffle and door prizes, **Larry Lobb** for his great clinic, **Pete Goodier** for giving us an inside look at the Niles Canyon Railway, and **Vern Brooks** for opening his layout to visitors.



Additionally, club members **Stan Batynski** helped at the registration desk all day, **Leroy Wallace jr** provided security, **Hugh Salas** assembled the Shell sign centerpieces for the banquet, **Paul Moreci** and **Al DiMatteo** worked the raffle, and **Mark Boyd** provided all of the event buttons. **Bryan Moreci** photographed the event for us. I would also like to specially thank former GG AFC member **Ed Eckert** for helping to promote Flyer Fest West through his various club and online group affiliations and for providing contact information for the National Association of S Gaugers.

Thanks to everyone who pitched in and helped!

With over 90 vendor tables on Saturday, there was plenty of American Flyer and hi-rail equipment to choose from but a great aspect of the day is always the socializing and fraternal feeling that goes with it. The trains are the common denominator but the conversations often wander into other areas of similar interests or curiosity and it's a perfect opportunity to get reacquainted with old friends or make some new ones.

George Speeter from Silver Springs, Nevada has been a regular attendee at Flyer Fest West and, as usual, came ready to race. He dominated the 32 foot race track, taking on all challengers and winning everything except the "unlimited" category. There were some close finishes but George has definitely proven himself to be the man to beat at this competition.

The special black and orange tank car in the silent auction on Saturday sold for over \$500!

Stan Batynski was kind enough to point out at the Saturday evening banquet that since Jake Jacobsen has been the main force behind the Golden Gate American Flyer Club for years, he not only gets the credit for everything that goes right, he gets the blame for everything that goes wrong! He presented Jake with his very own bottle of "JAKE'S FAULT" wine which brought laughter and applause from the whole room.

This Friday, June 20, the club will meet at Ken Wilson's home in San Jose at 7:00P.M. so bring your show-and-tell and your sense of humor and we'll see you there.

