



HEMI running mill in November 2004

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“The primary objectives and purposes of this corporation shall be for public purposes: acquiring, restoring, and preserving authentic historic working sawmill and hard rock mining equipment for public education through display and demonstration, together with related activities.”

Chrysler Hemi: The ongoing restoration of the 1953 Chrysler industrial engine to be used as an alternate source of mill power is finished. After restoration in the shop and a test run on the Baker Fan the unit was set up and used in November at the annual pot luck to cut 6 logs.

Container: A 20’ steel container was donated by Pete Garibaldi and set up near the mill site to house the Chrysler Hemi, spare parts, hand tools and extra saw blades. This container will also be renovated.

Skids: The Board of Directors has decided to have all mill equipment on skids so we can set up quickly or move it to different venues to display. The APU can be set up quickly with the use of a fork lift and come alongs. We now have the components to mount the steam donkey engine on old retired car carrier axles with suspension air bags. The Corliss engine will be mounted on a steel 12”x12” H beam frame so we could move it around too. But it weighs about 8 tons with its 7’ flywheel!

Corliss: The Corliss steam engine cylinder valve bores were measured and found worn out. They will be built up with aluminum/bronze and bored out in the shop. Should last another 101 years!



Auxiliary Power Unit, under full load, turning The Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association Baker Fan

Donkey Fuel: Bill is building a diesel fuel filter out of a 30 gallon drum so we can use old donated drain oil and diesel fuel in the donkey steam boiler. Be nice to run the Chrysler on used drain oil too, my how it uses gasoline!

Volunteer Projects: Jerry Virtue donated a skid mounted 1000 gallon diesel tank to store and settle the filtered fuel for the donkey engine. It will be cleaned and set up on a level spot at Bills shop. There are a lot of volunteer projects like this to do at the monthly work days the third Saturday of each month at the mill site or machine shop. Call 209-245-3448 to confirm dates and place. The donkey engine, by great effort, has been rolled into the machine shop for replacement of a stay bolt, plumbing of the water feed pipes, painting the inside of the water tank and a shiny new paint job.

For the last six months volunteers have been taking apart the 2 pile drivers with cranes and fork lift. Each piece went through stages of inspection, restoration or replacement. The stockpile of plumbing fittings gleaned from the retired Fort Bragg steam power station came in very handy. Young and old alike had fun on these educational workdays the last Saturday of each month. Each one of us has a skill to share with others and these workdays/field trips we conduct offer us a chance to pass on and learn other ways to preserve and restore historic machinery for the public good.

Workdays before the fair will concentrate on renovation of the container by removing and installing shelves, chip and paint the outside and put vents in the roof. The June workshop dates are June 18th. If you can't make the workshop scheduled dates please call Bill and he will fit you in when you can make it.



Jim and Jake Headd drilling and tapping 1” holes restoring the 1945 steam pile driver. Passing down the craft of work. Learning by doing.

Sawmill Contracts: We are still looking to custom cut lumber for other not for profit historic restoration projects in northern California as a means of raising funds. We bid on a timber contract for the Laws Railroad Museum in Bishop, CA. where they are restoring their 1895 railroad turntable and needed large Douglas fir cants. We missed out on that one but are giving out business cards to prospective clients. One group in Sausalito, Spaulding Boat Works, may need wood to deck over their pier. Please call Bill, 209-245-3448 if you want to get some business cards to hand out to help you talk up our Amador Sawmill Association and what kind of timber we can produce. What non profit do you know that could use our sawmill services?

Grants: Another source of income we are looking at are matching grants. If say the Amador Community Foundation granted us \$3000 we would have to come up with a match of \$3000 of cash, assets, or grant moneys from other organizations. We did this using the appraised value of the two donkey engines equaling the grant amount in the grant year 2004. This year we will need a diesel truck to haul the donkey engine trailer around to the various county fairs and antique machinery shows. A matching grant of a serviceable diesel truck would fit this match. We have also started up a ledger to document the hours volunteers put in at workdays as these can be used as a match for certain grants.

Support ASMA: Our organization is not a membership organization so that we can keep down the cost of administration forms like government filings and records. This means we do not ask for annual dues or donations. However we encourage you to donate money or assets to the association and take these as a deduction if you itemize your taxes. The Amador Community Foundation has a great way to do this. The Foundation was conceived to develop, receive and administer endowment funds from private sources and manage them under community control for charitable purposes primarily focused on local needs. Please call them at (209) 223-2148 or log on their web site: www.amadorcommunityfoundation.org.



Workday fun making sawdust!

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