

The Golden Spike



Newsletter of the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers
P.O. Box 273, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

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Next month's deadline for articles to THE GOLDEN SPIKE will be Friday, October 3

TIMETABLE

WORK DAY

Saturday, September 20, 1986 at the track.

SVLS Track Location: Paul Hagen Community Park, Rancho Cordova, CA.

Monthly Meeting: Friday, September 19 at 7:30 P.M. at the Cordova Recreation and Park District Building, Rancho Cordova, California (Chase Drive next to the High School). Buffett car will be hosted by Mary Shelley and Barbara Anderson. Program will be a film on Blacksmithing shown by Don Juergenson.

RUN DAYS

Sunday, September 21 Run Day, Snack Bar Open

Saturday, October 4 Run Day (I don't know if Snack Bar will be open)

COMING EVENTS

WANTED: New Golden Spike Editor. Your present editor has decided it is time for a change in editors and is looking for a volunteer to take over the SPIKE. At this point I am willing to continue on through the October issue, so if the mood to be a newsletter editor strikes your fancy, I would heartily encourage you to call me for further details on what the job entails (the sooner, the better). My phone is 362-3603:

WORK PARTY: On August 16th the following moved dirt, worked on the retaining wall and trimmed some trees: Howard Schrader, Darrel McWhirk, Mike O'Connor, Warren and Robbie Sharratt, Warren Wagner, Dick Quiring, Ed Spall, Dennis Gramith, Dick Esselbach and Amandus Dreves.

The Sharratts have been putting in time and a half working in between times on getting ready for the box car and caboose (which at the time of this writing are sitting on a siding in Rancho Cordova waiting for Sept. 11 or 12 to be moved onto our property).

Extra Saturday work days were put in on August 23 and 30 to move dirt, some sprinklers and waterpipes.

On August 30 some cutting of grass and weed spraying was also done. Ed Spall brought out another hoist for the steaming bays.

Thanks to all of the members that put in the extra hours to move the dirt and prepare the site for the box car and caboose.

Amandus Dreves, Superintendent

REMINDER: Next month will be my last month as Newsletter Editor. As of now we do not have a new editor. The job of editor consists of the following:

1. Receive and write up information which is given to you for publication.
2. Reproduce your final copy of the Newsletter.
3. Prepare address labels.
4. Assemble paper (put pages together, staple sheets, put labels on for mailing, stamp return address on, put stamps on).
5. Mail Newsletter.
6. Keep track of those members being dropped for non-payment of dues and remove their names from mailing list. Put names back on list when dues have been paid.

By Don Juergenson

The other day I was sitting in the shop pondering some seemingly insurmountable problem concerning locomotive construction when a thought occurred to me. Being somewhat unaccustomed to this kind of thing I immediately took a cold shower but the thought persisted: "surely other members of the club have been faced with some kind of problem and solved it... why not share these innovations with the rest of us, through the Spike?"

Therefore, I am proposing a regular column for the Spike, entitled "Shop Talk", or "Tricks", or "Misc Solutions", or "Genius Reincarnate", or whatever you prefer, and authored by various members of the club who "think" they have nothing to offer. The subject matter to be construction and machine shop related such as: Using a Rotary Mower to File Flanges off your Lead Truck, or Proper Care and Feeding of Rerailing Frogs, or Removing Broken Castings from Taps.

Seriously, I think many of our members have a great deal to offer and something like this could be interesting and informative to all of us...even a one paragraph article. To show good faith I will provide copy for the first two or three while the rest of you decide on a subject. After that you can:

- a. mail your article directly to the editor
- b. call me and suggest a subject... I will try to find an author
- c. call me and suggest an author...I will try to find a subject

And now for the good part:

Choosing Wheels for Bench Grinders

One of the unsung heroes in the shop, the bench grinder performs best when the proper grinding wheels are used. Here are some suggestions based on personal experience or Norton recommendations:

<u>Type of Abrasive</u>	Aluminum Oxide (Alundum)
	Silicon Carbide (Cryston)

Prefer aluminum oxide for nearly all applications...the carbide is too hard and dulls faster. Manufacturers use the symbol A for aluminum oxide and C for carbide.

Grit Size depends on what you're doing of course, but I find it better to exaggerate...a little too coarse and a little too fine.

Coarse wheels have grit sizes from 10 to 24

Medium is from 30 to 60

Fine is 70 to 180

Try a 20 or 24 grit on one side of the grinder for roughing and a 70 or 80 on the other side for finish work.

Grade or strength of the "glue" holding the abrasive. A rule of thumb is to use a hard grade for soft materials and a soft grade for hard materials like carbide cutting tools. Grade designations range from A, the softest, to Z, the hardest. Most wheels are in the G, H, I range.

Bond the type of "glue" is also shown by a letter symbol:

V vitrified or fused clay... the most common bond, it is often modified to improve some characteristics and the letters BE, G, or K are added.

B resinoid or synthetic resin... used for very high RPM or cut off wheels.

R rubber...used for high quality finishes and polishing.

The markings on the wheel give you all this information and more! Consider a wheel marked 32A 46 - H 8 V BE

32A type of abrasive

46 grit size

H grade of bond

8 grit spacing

V bond type

BE bond modification

Using this information I'll stick my neck out and suggest

coarse wheel 38A 24 - H 8 VBE

fine wheel 38A 80 - M 5 VBE

for carbides "greenstone" 39C 60 - I 8 VK

Remember, grinding wheels, like all cutting tools get dull. Use a "star wheel" (Huntington) dresser or a dressing stick to sharpen and true them from time to time for faster, cooler cutting.

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