

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svls.org

JUNE 2004

Volume 31, Issue 06

SVLS 2004 Spring Meet



Don Cure
Registration
Rick Zobelein
Joe Yetter &
Craig Craddock

Henry Aguirre
Don Yungling
bays



CALENDAR

- June 5 Club run day (public rides noon to 4)
 June 9 Rancho Cordova Fourth of July Committee meeting will be Wednesday, June 9th at 6:30 pm at the Rockingham Sheriff's Station (Public Meeting Room, 10361) David Sander, Chairman
 June 10 Board Meeting 6:30 Park room
 June 18 General Membership Meeting 7:30 Hagan Park meeting room
 June 19 Club Work Day - everyone come help
 June 20 Club run day (public rides noon to 4)
 June 21 News letter deadline.
- July 3 & 4 4th Mini Meet - Bring your train Public rides noon to 4 each day
 July 8 Board Meeting 6:30 Park room
 July 16 General Membership Meeting 7:30 Hagan Park meeting room
 July 17 Club Work day - all members invited
 July 18 Club run day (public rides noon to 4)
 July 19 News letter deadline

Don't forget about work days, every Tuesday and most Saturdays. Contact a committee member for information on needs. There are always things to be done to support YOUR club.

How will you help your club this month?

The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Corporation is organized and operated exclusively for public benefit charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Donors may deduct contributions to The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Corporation to the fullest extent allowed by law as provided in Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.

The Golden Spike is the published monthly by the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers, Inc., P.O. Box 273, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741. The club track is located in Hagan Community Park, Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA. Articles may be submitted to: editor@svls.org.

MEMBERSHIP

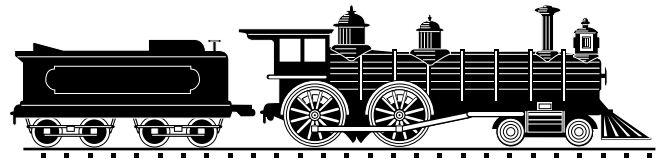
By Lorra Fowler

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

David and Lisa Brenner; Vacaville
 Gary Landeen; Sacramento
 Dave and Mary Fontes; Rohnert Park
 Edward Marsh; Fresno
 Tom and Lisa Philp; Carmichael
 Ben Schack; Rio Linda

Please add these renewals to your 2004 roster

Warren Sharratt
 Steve Alley
 Francis and Bev Simoneau
 Pam and Robert Naylor
 Donald and Toyoko Yungling



NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

All members who plan to help at the station, work as trainmen or run the public will be required to take these tests. Even those members who plan to help run the public with their own equipment will be required to take the tests so that there is documentation covering their knowledge of the rules set forth in the Rules and Bylaw handbook.

There are two tests for Engineers, one for the diesel and one for steam. If you are planning to run a steam engine, you will be required to take the test for the diesel Engineer first. The diesel test follows those rules set forth in the Rules and Bylaw handbook.

The steam test was revised by Red Hadler. The steam test requires one to be knowledgeable of the operation of the steam locomotive.

If you are going to run the club equipment and have not been certified in running such then please call to get certified.

Please see Vern Geyer to set up a time to take the tests, or come out during a Run Day and take the tests. Vern can be reached via E-mail at vern78@onemain.com or call 916-645-9154 to set up a time.

Remembering a friend

Long time member Dick Essenback died on May 27th after being hospitalized with heart problems. He contributed to the startup and success of SVLS - he loved steam locomotives.

Dick had commented he joined the group when he moved into the area near the park and heard the whistle from steam locomotives, he came over and got involved and stayed involved ever since.

Dick helped start the SVLS Golden Spike newsletter. He did the graphics design which we are again using for the paper. The original spike image was printed in bright gold ink and he was proud of that. He also designed our club logo.

Some recent comments he made to other members about the early days were: "We had only 5 steaming bays at first and one turntable. All of the steel for this project was paid for by Doc Harris, " author of the national best selling book, "I'm OK, You're OK". "Doc was a very interesting character and twice rear ended other trains."

"Doc Harris and Ken Spicer had engines that could pull the public." The Doc Harris engine was later purchased by Darrel McWhirk who later donated it to SVLS. It is still used to pull the public as engine # 1973.

Dick continued to help and support the club for over 30 years by holding many club office positions and giving extra donations. He provided keen insight to help with the 30th anniversary of this club last year.

We will all miss Dick for his knowledge of trains and his common sense wit.

His memorial will be held at the SVLS track site. Date and time will be announced on SVLS web site when known.

Spring Meet May 22-23

Keith Berry, Event Chairperson

Thank you everyone for your contribution and attendance at the SVLS Spring Meet 2004!!

To all of you who attended the meet, thanks for taking the time and energy to load up your equipment, drive across the miles, and operate over our Railroad. We are always pleased to see you arrive, and spend some time here in Sacramento. What an opportunity to see equipment from all over California and our adjoining states. We enjoyed your company, and hope you all returned home safely!

To those who produced the activities during the Meet, a sincere thank you for your contribution and capable handling of essential tasks and special activities! Thanks to all of you who prepared the track facilities, and security lighting for the event. Thanks to those who greeted and assisted each arrival with un-loading of a vast array of locomotives and rolling stock. Thanks to all of you who staffed the Membership, T-shirt, Raffle, and Dessert tables. Thanks to you in the caboose who kept everybody fed and beveraged. A special thanks to the early rising breakfast crew who took on the added chore both weekend days for those staying on the grounds.

Simply put, thank you to EVERY ONE of you who played a part of this event. The SVLS is privileged to host these events with the support of the Rancho Cordova Park District Administration. These meets continue to grow in attendance, and literally depend on a strong partnership with our park district to produce the event. We appreciate that support and approval very much.

So, the Meet is over, the trains have arrived and departed, and our visitors have returned to their homes. The Superintendent and track crews will assemble again this week to continue their endless work. The Trainmaster will be inspecting the locomotives and cars; the Yardmaster will be watering the great expanse of greenery during the

forthcoming "warm season". And the caboose crew is already dreaming of the 4th of July! But in all of these wonderfully dedicated people there lurks one thought, why YES; IT'S the Fall Meet 2004!!

On behalf of the officers and membership of the SVLS, thanks for attending our Spring Meet, have a great summer, and we'll see you in the fall, both here in Sacramento, but also at your club Meet, because attending a Live Steamers Meet is a great place to be in 2004!!

There were 170 people who registered for the two days of the meet, 142 just on Sat.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Joel Corbin

THANKS TO ALL

This month, first, I would like to say thanks to all of you folks who called, sent cards expressed your thoughts and prayers during my recent prostate cancer surgery and recovery. This has been an ordeal and it is not over yet. I have found that you Live Steamers are a caring group and building and running trains is not your only concern.

THE MEET....

I was able to make it to the meet for half of the day on Saturday and, although I was not 100%, I was happy to speak with many of you and see the great attendance out there. Several people mentioned to me that this was the largest attendance they had ever seen at one of our meets and I think they were right. It seems that working together to demonstrate that the SVLS is a fine group is proving successful. I would like to thank Keith Berry for his fine efforts as Meet Chairman and for those who helped him in the effort. When names are mentioned, I run the risk of missing someone but I would like to mention several in the thanks

Continued on page 6



Bill Cody with his vertical boiler engine from the Big Smokey RR.



Matt Mason showing 1" scale cars and engine and which made several laps on the 1" track during the meet on Saturday.



Jeff Badger with larger scale locomotive and several cars including a caboose workshop with tools. see page 7 for pictures.



Dave August from GGLS steamed up and ready to roll out from the turntable lead track.



Jim Martorella from Santa Rosa with his Shay



Don Yungling with his GS1. Grandson Jordan at the throttle with brother Rylan and Toy enjoying the ride.



Don and Patty Cure with #1 Soda Ridge Lumber engine.

WE'VE BEEN PLAYING ON THE RAILROAD (THE SPRING MEET THAT IS)

By Clio Geyer

Everyone seemed to really enjoy our Spring Meet this year. I heard no complaints and no arguments of any kind, just a lot of laughter and camaraderie.

Saturday was a very busy day with engines showing up starting on Friday and most of the day Saturday. The registration table was busy getting people to sign up so that they could get their free raffle ticket and their new roster. Lorra started asking people to make sure and note the equipment, if any, they had brought so that we would have an idea of just how many engines, etc. were visiting.

The T-shirt and bake sale table did a brisk business all day. Some of the older models were almost all sold out as well as the new. Marilyn is going to have to order more to cover the Fall Meet!

Saturday night dinner was a great success. Lois said she didn't sell all of the dinner tickets, so I don't think anyone went away hungry. It is hard to figure out how many dinners you are going to need from one event to the other. As promised in the May Newsletter the menu was as follows: B-B-Q Tri Tip and Chicken, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Caesar's Salad, Corn on the Cob, Green Beans and Grilled Sourdough Bread. This was all topped off with Dessert and Ice/Tea or Coffee furnished by the Club and those ladies who baked so the rest could enjoy. I'm sure the providers of this great meal will be asked to return for the Fall Meet and "Do It Again"!

The Raffle was big success. I found out Sunday that Keith and Gloria had donated ALL the prizes for the Raffle. Thank you very much! Gloria's baskets were great! She put together items that could be used for various themes so that each basket or jar was different. A lot of work that was greatly appreciated. There was a lot of Oohing and Aahing from those who were lucky enough to get one.



Gloria and Keith with the many raffle prizes.

Breakfast Kitchen crew - Marilyn Drewes, Norinne Murphy, Arlene Butler (behind) and Clio Geyer (not shown).



Veronica Taylor the queen raffle ticket seller.

Thanks Veronica!



THANKS

I had a great time the meet. It has been 2 1/2 years since my last visit. The number of great improvements were evident everywhere. I would like to thank everyone for all of the hard work they put in to make the meet happen. Having hosted several meets myself I know it doesn't just happen. Everything from a visitors stand point went smooth as glass including the track.

Thank you again
Craig Craddock

President report - continued from page 3

category. They include Gloria Berry, Lorra Fowlar, Vern and Clio Geyer, Paul and Lois Clifton, Gordon and Barbara Moser, Ross Crawford, Milon Thorley, Pete Arney, Karle Mahler, David Frank, Veronica Taylor, Marilyn Drewes, Norinne Murphy, and Arlene Butler. In addition, folks who prepared the place for the meet each week, include some of the same folks as well as Lee Frechette, Jack Friedman, Richard Lutrel, Bill Yoder, Bill Son, and Paul Skidmore. I have had calls and comments from several members that spoke with our visitors as they left. Every commenting visitor had praise for our successful meet and this is due to every SVLS member contributing to the good time, even if only by your attendance and displaying of your equipment.

RT GRAND OPENING

In a few days, on June 11, the SVLS has been invited to display some of our equipment at the Regional Transit's Light Rail station at Sunrise and Folsom Blvd's. The ribbon cutting ceremony for the grand opening of the line extension will be at 11:00 AM and the place will be open to the public from 5:00 PM until 9:00 PM. Since we will be set up at 10:30 AM, we will need volunteers to watch over our display during the afternoon when we will get some traffic from invited Regional Transit and Hwy 50 Corridor Association guests and the media before the place opens to the public. Also, we will be moving the display out there early to be set up by 10:30 AM so early help is needed too. Please let us know if you can help by sending me an E-mail (joel@steamtrainjoel.com).

JULY 4TH

Since Independence Day is on Sunday, the day before on Saturday, the park will be having its celebration as is the custom. Come on out for a special run day, to see your friends and to help the SVLS contribute to the event. We will have public trains running and help is needed with this effort. We have been offered a chance to run a booth to sell water and ice cream where profits go to the SVLS. We need help in all areas so would appreciate you volunteers out there. Later in the day, we can enjoy the usual fireworks and our track location is the perfect spot to see it all. Hope to see you there.

HANDICAPPED MEET

We are doing our best to sponsor a special meet for physically or mentally challenged people. If successful, this should take place later this year. During the Spring Meet I spoke with several folks who agreed to assist us by contacting several groups to see if they wished to participate. If you know of others, please contact them to see if they can be involved. Also, if you know of local business people or individuals who would like to sponsor the event, contact them as well. We need financial support for this and for regular support of the facility.

SPECIAL RUN DAYS

Last month, the Board approved plans on how special run days are to be handled. Some involve company parties, some are school outings and some are birthday/family parties. Members are involved in some of these and non-members as well. For company and school events, there will be a charge but members are different. All must be on the schedule to avoid conflicts and equipment availability. If you are planning an outing, contact Ross Crawford to place it on the calendar.

MEETING ACTIVITIES

Our Membership Meetings are held not only to discuss business, a place to see your friends and to share ideas but are a forum for showing your new and ongoing projects. Remember to bring your work in progress to give others ideas, help with others building plans and to add to the success of the overall program. Don't forget; put "Show and Tell" on your calendars.

....AND REMEMBER...

...if you have any ideas for the good of the group, feel free to contact me either by phone (916-961-5075 nights) or by E-mail (joel@steamtrainjoel.com). Thanks for your participation.



Track repair crew Richard Lutrel and Pete Arney adjusting rail to reduce caps at the rail joints during the Spring Meet.



Joe Yetter with two big locomotives he built: one is his 1.5 scale GS2 and a 1.6 scale GS4 which is now owned by Craig Craddock. Joe joined the club in 1977 and has been coming to meets every since.



Henry Aguirre and Neil Heath getting their steam engines ready for the days run. Red Hadler in the mist of the event too.



Jim Hoback with his "Pearl" 0-4-2 engine



Roy McInnes brought an 1-1/2" scale model of the Rocket engine. The engine was built by his grandfather and is coal fired. (It also started 3 fires along the fence which had lots of dry grass.)



Thanks to Paul, Les, Bill and others, we managed to keep the fire from spreading. That Rocket sure had a flame - just kidding Roy - great engine.



Jeff Badger's tool caboose with lots of tools and spare parts to keep the train running.



A testimonial to the good food - a line of people.



Small gas engine and a smaller electric (Big Mac).



Steaming bays: Gill Beaird with Nickel Plate Road #765 a Berkshire locomotive, the club engine and Neil Heath engine.



Dave August hidden by the steam popping from his engine.



Joe Yetter with lead GS2 and Ed Yungling on son's GS1 doing a double header run.

Trainmaster Report

By Ross Crawford

The GP40 is now back together and running but needs a couple of adjustments (neutral position & throttle) prior to using for passenger service.



I have one more Mountain Car truck to rebuild to give us two road-worthy gondolas.

We have twelve special runs scheduled for June and July for schools and birthday parties so if you would like to help please call Ross.

We had a 90% success rate on equipment passing the wheel gauge. The owners in most cases agreed to fix the problem. I still have wheel gauges or drawings if you need help.

The SW1500 had its 92 day inspection and is again ready for use.

Engineers, when you are putting trains away at the end of the day be sure to push the engine back far enough so that the "track bridge" will not hit the front railing on the engine. Also be sure to put a chain under the front truck so the engine cannot roll forward.

Oh yes, when you are running a train or light engine, always have a chain with you so if you have to stop, you can chain the engine so it will stay where you want it to. There are chains in the box car for this purpose.

To reclaim worn flanges:

1. Adjust back to back to 7.130
2. Turn narrowest flange to .140 thick at outside.
3. Turn other flange the same.
4. Turn tires to .300 smaller diameter with .1 radius.
5. Decide whether to keep the wheel set.
6. Round off the flanges.



Rick Zobelein with his #230 Sierra Pacific 2-8-2



Milon Thorley's Southern 4-6-2 locomotive



Bob Kownacki riding his speeder around the river view curve.

(Below) Justin Schade hauling public during Spring Meet. Passengers are watching steam engine coming back to main line from Oasis.



For SALE:



1" scale new 60 ton steeple cab electric locomotive, two trucks, two axle motors to each truck, much THRUST. \$3250 F.O.B. The unit is patterned after a Pacific Electric 60 ton GE steeplecab. (If buyer pickup unit then batteries are included.)
 OTHER items: Pacific Electric interurban, UP gondola, and 1" scale trucks.
 CALL: Ray Reiff 559-738-8447 Visalia, CA.

FOR SALE:

For sale: 2" scale 7 1/2 gauge Hall Scott gas mechanical motor car (N.G.B. #21) and one riding car with powered front truck. It has 2 cyl. OHV gasoline engine with 16 CID. Motor car is 10' long but can be shortened to 7' for hauling or small track running. \$6000.



Also a Ashton 600 P.S.I. test gauge with adapters and tools in original blue velvet lined case. Excellent condition \$200.00

Call Andy Clerici (707) 224-3735

Board of Directors

President: Joel Corbin (916) 961-5075
 E-mail: joel@steamtrainjoel.com

Vice President: Pete Arney (916) 988-2000
 E-mail: vp@svls.org

Secretary: Keith Berry (530) 642-0742
 E-mail: keithb@eskaton.com

Treasurer: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514
 E-mail: loisjune1@msn.com

Track Superintendent: Les Wilmunder
 (916) 372-2423

Yardmaster: Lee Frechette (916) 481-2820
 E-mail: leefrechette@yahoo.com

Trainmaster: Ross Crawford (916) 718-4162

Special Events: Ross Crawford (916) 718-4162

Caboose Ops: Paul Clifton (916) 722-8514
 E-mail: paulclifton@msn.com

Newsletter Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113
 E-mail: editor@svls.org

Membership: Lorra Fowlar (916) 962-0718
 E-mail: sphogger@ix.netcom.com

Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM

FOR SALE: Winton Mogul #8
 Contact Marilyn Drewes (916) 725-3525



Please check the club web site www.svls.org for current information on club activities. Also visit Matt's on-line diesel discussion group. www.groups.yahoo.com

SPIKE editor requests ideas for articles. I am also looking for members who would like to spotlight their projects - in progress or finished. Please call or E-mail the editor. - Thanks.



Sacramento Valley Live Steamers
P.O. Box 273
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741



SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH

214. Trains hauling passengers must

be operated by qualified engineers and trainmen who are members of S.V.L.S. or recognized live steam train club.

309. All operating personnel, while on duty, shall have a copy of these operating rules in their possession. (See rule #118).

416. All trains running during periods of low visibility or after sunset shall be equipped with a marker light, or lights on the rear of the last car showing a red light to the rear and visible for at least 150 feet.

Caboose Menu

Chili Burger	\$3.00
Chili Dog	\$3.00
Hamburger	\$2.50
Hot Dog	\$2.50
Grilled Cheese Sandwich	\$2.00
Bowl of Chili	\$2.00
Nacho's	\$1.50
Meal Deal (includes Chips, drink, salad & dessert)	\$4.00
Special of the Day	\$4.00
All hamburgers & sandwiches come with: Tomato, lettuce, & pickle. Onion upon request	
Drinks / Dessert	
Soda	\$.50
Gatorade	\$.75
V-8 Juice	\$.75
Water, Ice Tea, lemonade	\$.50
Hot Chocolate	\$.50
Coffee & Tea	Free
Ice Cream Bar, Ice Cream Sandwich, Crunch Bar	\$.50
Drum Sticks	\$.75
Popsicles	\$.50
Candy Bar	\$.50