

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svls.org

September 2004

Volume 31, Issue 09

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Joel Corbin

### BY-LAWS

As promised, the vote on the suggested new by-laws was taken at the track following the dinner and train running with the several Rotary clubs in attendance. The reason for the changes and need to submit new by-laws was explained. Ballots were passed out and the result was almost two to one in favor of the changes.

At this point, these new by-laws will be submitted to the State for approval. When the State of California accepts them, they will go into effect. Until they do, a committee of members will work on the administrative rules discussed on several occasions. The committee will consist of several Board members and several members who represent the general membership. I will appoint the committee from those folks who, by their activity and participation, have demonstrated their interest and knowledge of the desires of most members of SVLS. Several have been contacted already and when complete the names will be presented to all.

Also, if you are a regular member, be sure to keep the by-laws copy sent to you recently. If they eventually are approved by the State, this will be your copy and will comply with the rule to send a copy to members. Associate members will receive theirs when they are approved and a special mailing to them is made.

### HOT AUGUST NIGHTS

Many thanks to all who participated in

*Continued on page 3*



*To the following members for giving their time and efforts to SVLS during the last two months.*

Paul Clifton  
Dale Dennis  
Lois Clifton  
Rich Lutrel  
Bill Yoder  
Amy Lutrel  
Milon Thorley  
Pete Arney  
Ross Crawford  
Barbara Moser  
Gordon Briggs  
Gordon Moser  
Jack Friedman  
Gil Beard  
Paul Skidmore  
Justin Schade  
Vern Geyer  
Clio Geyer  
Les Wilmunder  
Cindy Wilmunder  
Casey Wilmunder  
Marilyn Drewes  
Neil Heath

**FALL MEET**  
**CABOOSE NEEDS HELP**  
**Saturday and Sunday**  
if you are interested let  
Barbara or Lois now!



Les and Cindy Wilmunder on run day with the SVLS steamer giving rides.

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## COOKBOOK Fundraiser NEED RECIPES

Please Contact Lois Clifton  
E-mail Address [loisjune1@surewest.net](mailto:loisjune1@surewest.net)  
Home Address:  
6725 Auburn Blvd.  
Citrus Heights, CA 95621  
Phone # (916) 722-8514  
We would like to get this out before  
Thanksgiving!

**HURRY!**

## CALENDAR

Sept 6 Run Day - Labor Day (public rides noon to 4)  
 Sept 9 Board Meeting 6:30 at Caboose  
 Sept 17 General Membership Meeting  
       7:30 Hagan Park meeting room  
 Sept 18 Work day - all members invited  
 Sept 19 Run day (public rides noon to 4)  
 Sept 20 News letter deadline  
 Sept 25 Garden railroad meet

Oct 2 Run day (public rides noon to 4)  
 Oct 14 Board meeting 6:30 at Caboose  
 Oct 15 General Membership Meeting  
       7:30 Hagan Park meeting room  
**Oct 16 -17 FALL MEET**  
 Oct 18 News letter deadline  
 Oct 30-31 Terror Train and Haunted house

**Don't forget about work days**, every Tuesday and most Saturdays. Contact a committee member for Information on needs. Check the Project page at the SVLS web site ([www.svls.org](http://www.svls.org)).

There are always things to be done to support SVLS.

*How will you support SVLS 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 SVLS track is located in Hagan Community Park, Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA. Articles may be submitted to: [editor@svls.org](mailto:editor@svls.org).

## A dual small meet.

The Sacramento Valley Garden Railroad society, will be having a party and run of equipment, on September 25, 2004. They will have steam and electric tables for use of both Railroads. With a large modular set up in the trees east of the caboose bring out your equipment to run with them. And share our side with them on the larger scales. I will be looking for some equipment to show or just to run, for them. A good time to check out your equipment be for the fall meet. They will be serving a catered food setting and we are invited. Please give me a call if you would like to help or run Red Hadler (916) 455-7072

All members who plan to help at the station, work as trainmen or run the public are required to take 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.

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](mailto:vern78@onemain.com) or call 916-645-9154 to set up a time.

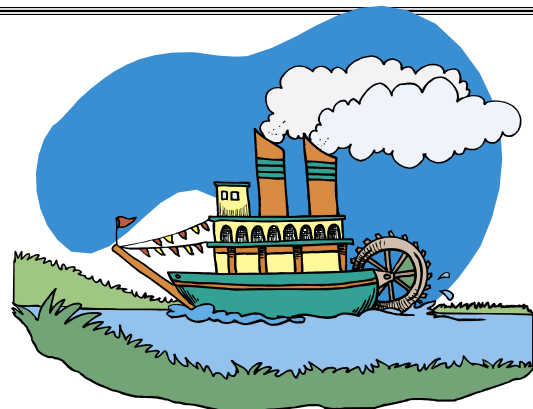


### NOTICE:

Hagan Park has added a gate on the road to our facility. This is by the petting barn on the dirt road. This was added to stop the public from dumping trash in and around the dumpster.

**The gate must be locked when we leave our facility.**

Keys are available to any member that needs one. There is a \$5. fee for the key so please see Lois to obtain one.



Annual steamboat meet at B&W Marina located near Isilton, CA the fourth week-end in September (24-25-26). 20+ steamboats in attendance and you can usually get a ride from someone. SVLS member Bill Cody will be there with RANEL II and he will be more than happy to give SVLS members a ride.

*President report - continued from page 1*

the fun run time on Hot August Nights. The Rotary Clubs in attendance were fine guests and enjoyed the time. In addition, Park Board members, City Council members and Board of Education representatives were a part of the group. We definitely put our best foot forward. The barbecue was very good too.

#### VANDALISM AND SECURITY

Following the Hot August Nights event, vandals destroyed about thirty feet of dual gauge track just outside of the fence in the old loop. By the time you read this, it should be fixed by our track workers. This brings up the subject of security at the track. The Board has agreed that it is time to change the locks at the facility. Of course, some of our track is outside of the fence but much of our track and property is inside. The last time we were vandalized, it was inside.



We are working on the designation of "key trustee." This title is available to all regular members who want keys to the facility. A grouping of keys will be developed and you will be entitled to those keys for areas you use. The main ones will be entrance gates and the restrooms. Others, such as the roundhouse and cabooses will be issued when appropriate. A list will be kept of those keys issued to you and "do not duplicate" will be the order of the day. This plan is in development stages so it will be a while before it is implemented. Again, something must be done to provide as much security as possible.

#### ELECTIONS

The by-laws require that the President announce the Nominating Committee at the September General Meeting. Two members have been selected thus far and one remains to be asked so we can have a panel of three. Current Board Members will not be a part of this committee. This year, the positions on the Board to be filled are: Vice President, Yardmaster, Treasurer and Track Superintendent. Candidates should be folks who are active and will participate in all of the SVLS events and meetings possible. The nominations will be made at the October meeting and the vote will be taken at the November General Meeting.

#### ROLLING STOCK

For many years we have used gondola cars loaned to the SVLS by Al Shelly. Following some recent discussions, Al advised he wished to have rights to use the cars in the event he completed his engine but wanted SVLS to use them in the meantime. The discussions resulted in the donation of the cars to SVLS so they now belong to us. We agreed that Al Shelly will have life rights for first use of the cars at any time he chooses in return for the donation. He can either use them behind his engine or use them with equipment of his designee. If Al is not present, the SVLS can loan them to our visitors for their use. Remember, these and other gondolas are not authorized for public hauling.

#### SEPTEMBER MEETING

Due to a family trip, I will not be at the September Meeting and Vice-President Pete Arney will preside. I'm sure he would appreciate some items for show and tell. Plan now to bring your projects in progress. This facet of our meetings has increased in quantity in recent months and we all enjoy it. Why not be a part of it and show off what you have done.

#### DONATIONS

Several members have made donations to SVLS in remembrance of some of our members and we appreciate this very much. Our most recent large donation was from David Lubliner who lives in Clio, CA. He explained "I regret that I can not get to the SVLS more often, but I work for the U.P. Railroad, and don't have much time off, as you know." The \$250 sent with the letter is much appreciated as is every donation. Thanks to you all.

Be sure to look me up at the track some time. See you all soon.



The Pres. taking the GP-40 back to the barn after some maintenance. Also notice the finished handrails.

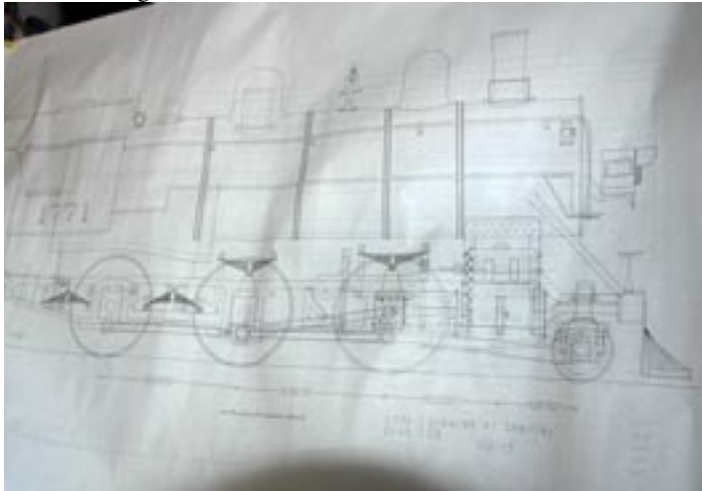
## WORK IN PROGRESS

By Karle Mahler

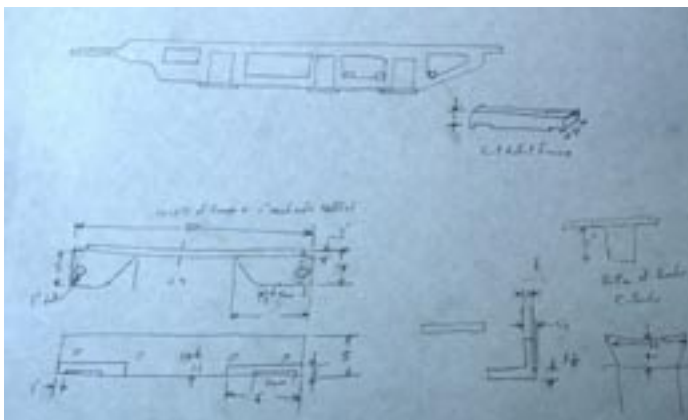
Inspired by a recent article in Live Steam Magazine entitled "Work in Progress". I asked Bill Yoder if he would like to take some pictures of my engine, definitely, a work in progress. Bill came by and took these shots and then told me that it would be "better" if I wrote the narrative, since I knew what all the parts were. Thank you Bill.

A little history. This project was started in early 1999 when Ross Crawford suggested that I build a live steamer. I told him that I had always wanted to but could not afford the cost of the machinery. Ross said he understood and then upped the anti by loaning me his 1923, 18 inch by 6 foot, South Bent lathe, and knew where I could buy a small mill at a good price. I was hooked!

Being a die hard Southern Pacific "foamer", I wanted my engine to be a S.P. prototype. I started looking for a kit engine that a first time builder with no machinist experience could tackle. The Allen mogul was the right size but it would have been tough to make, but it looked "S.Pish". At about this time, Al Shelly heard about my search and offered to help by drawing the plans for an engine that was at the State Railroad Museum, engine #1771, a S.P. M-8 mogul.



I started getting pictures and dimensions of the engine in May of 1999 and have been plugging away ever since. I also took classes



at Sierra College that covered machine operations, welding, and foundry. Ross and Al were both mentors on how to machine parts and make patterns for castings.

Bills shots show the engine frame disassembled for painting, the rust was starting to be a problem. The second photo is of all the parts that have been made. I was amazed at all the bits and pieces that have been made over the last 5 years. It occurred to me that I'm not building an engine but a whole lot of parts which I hope, when assembled, will look and work like a steam engine.



WORK IN PROGRESS - CONTINUED



This picture is yours truly holding one of the patters I made. (Although that pattern is one I made for Ross). Builders take note, if you launch off on a none kit engine you are going to make every part. Everything from cylinders to brake shoes. For me this is not a problem, building is the thing I enjoy. Running gets old in short order.



What next? More parts, cross heads, cross head guides, etc. etc....I'll invite Bill back when the frame assembly is together. In the mean time if your building something, right on! If not get started.....If you need help, ASK.

While some members are busy building new steam engines other are busy fixing their old steamer. Such is the case of Milon's Southern which blew a gasket on the axle pump. Due to the pump head screws next to the wheel axle the boiler needed to be removed.



Got a project you would like to show off that is to big to bring to the meeting for show and tell then give the editor a call/email and will take pictures for a feature.

The Rotary Clubs and guests and enjoying rides on our trains. - Thanks to all that helped.



GP40 looking good. Thanks to Kevin Sach for the painting and Milon Thorley for putting the hand rails on.



Gill Beaird has an easy pull with his Berkshire locomotive during our last run day.  
Thanks for your time Gill.



**We have several special events over the next few months and help is needed at these events. Also it takes work to get the track and facilities ready before the events. Please volunteer and support SVLS.**

**Sept. 6 - LABOR day run**

**Oct. 16 & 17 Fall Meet**

**Ross Crawford and Marilyn Drewes are the meet coordinators so call either to volunteer. (Don't forget help will be needed when people arrive Friday or before)**

**Oct. 30 & 31 Terror Train**

**Nov. 27 & 28 Santa run**



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.

### 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**



Please check the SVLS web site [www.svls.org](http://www.svls.org) for current information on SVLS activities. Also visit Matt's on-line diesel discussion group. [www.groups.yahoo.com](http://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**

215. When visibility is limited and after sunset, all trains shall have a lighted headlight (white) showing to the front on the engine and a marker on the last car showing red to the rear. Trainmen shall have a lighted lantern suitable for giving hand signals. Such lights shall be visible for a distance of at least one-hundred fifty (150) feet.

310. The Board of Directors may restrict or suspend from duty any operating personnel who consistently violates safety rules.

417. All equipment shall be built to clear all track side clearances as shown in these rules and standards. Any equipment on which the engineer, trainmen, or passengers ride with their feet outside the equipment shall have foot boards or bars to hold the feet of all riders in a position to clear all track side objects such as: switchstands, signals, mileposts, etc.

**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	
<b>Drinks / Dessert</b>	
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