

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svls.org

November 2004

Volume 31, Issue 11

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Joel Corbin

THE FALL MEET

For all of you who were able to attend the Fall Meet you already know what a good time was had by all. Ross Crawford and Marilyn Drewes planned the event and they even had the SVLS canopies set up in the event of rain. Saturday was beautiful and on Sunday, the anticipated light rain did come. I was told there were over 50 engines and I saw all of them running. Marilyn Drewes and her crew prepared breakfast on the two mornings and Lois Clifton and her crew fixed lunches. The Saturday catered dinner was attended by 90 members and guests. Returning for a visit to display his "model jewelry" was Barry Hague of SuperScale Locomotive Company. (See his web site at www.superscale.biz for a complete catalog.) Veronica Taylor was once again very vocal with the raffle and Lorra Fowler and Clio Geyer staffed the registration booth. Marilyn sold shirts and collected enough to pay for the expenditure prior to the meet to fill in the supply. Once again, a good time was had by all and the weather was perfect for a full day running on Saturday.

DUES

On Friday, as the Meet was getting started, the monthly Membership Meeting was held at the SVLS track site. The meeting was well attended since many folks arrived early for the Meet. The Board issued a recommendation on a dues increase as has been discussed off and on throughout this year. The motion presented was to increase the dues starting next year to \$60 for a Regular member, \$30 for an Associate member

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Doug Fulton leaving the steaming bay ready to enjoy the day.



John and Jeff Smith with one of several engines their dad built. Two of the engines were at the Fall Meet. These are coal burners and Jeff's face could prove it.



Dave Mattox (left) the new owner of a one inch scale 4-6-2 steamer.

CALENDAR

Oct 30-31 Ghost Train and Haunted house

Nov 4 Board meeting 6:30 at Park meeting room

Nov 13-14 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
MODEL RAILROAD SHOW - Roseville

Nov 19 General Membership Meeting
7:30 Hagan Park meeting room

Nov 20 Work Day

Nov 21 News letter deadline

Nov 27&28 Annual Santa Train - come ride and have
your picture taken with Santa

Dec 9 Board meeting 6:30 at Park meeting room

Dec 17 General Membership Meeting
7:30 Hagan Park meeting room

Dec 18 Work Day

Dec 20 News letter deadline

Jan 1 Run Day

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).

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 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.

Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Santa Run November 27 & 28 Noon – 4:00 P.M.

Come take a ride on the Santa Train and
visit with Santa

Enjoy Free Cookies & Hot Chocolate

Have your picture taken with Santa \$7.00

COOKBOOK Fundraiser NEED RECIPES

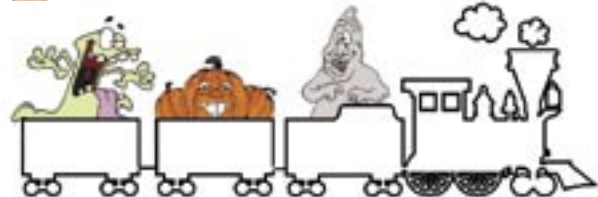
Please Contact Lois
Clifton

E-mail Address
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 ! HURRY !



Ghost Train

Anyone who would be interested in helping out with the Ghost Train please contact Cindy Wilmunder at (916) 372-2423. We will be running three evenings at the end of October.
October 29 - 5:30pm to 6:30 PM for VIP run.
October 30 & 31 - 5:30 PM to 9:30 PM (tickets required to ride)

Email address correction for Dale & Allison King:
the-kings@sbcglobal.net



Paul and I would like to acknowledge the people that donated prizes to the Fall Meet Raffle. Without them it wouldn't have been such a great success. Thank you ALL

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Bruce's Train Shop (Sacramento) | Book Titled: White Pine Route |
| Railroad Hobbies (Roseville) | \$50 Gift Certificate |
| The Lighthouse (W. Sacramento) | Set of Auto Driving Lights |
| Car-Quest Rancho Cordova Tools | 210-piece tool set w/lifetime warranty |
| Walker Hardware (Rancho Cordova) | \$25 Gift Certificate |
| Lehr Auto Electric (Sacramento) | \$25 Gift Certificate |
| California General Tire (Sacramento) | (4) \$25 Gift Certificates |
| Bar-Heim (Sacramento) | 2 Professional Looping Shears |
| Sugar Shack | 2 Boxes sugar-free Jelly Belly Candy |
| | 1 Gift Basket Jelly Belly Candy |
| | Mr. Jelly Belly Dispenser with Jelly Bellies |
| O'Conner's Catering (Carmichael) | Gift Certificate for one pound of Beef Jerky |
| KW RV Center (Citrus Heights) | \$20 Gift Certificate |
| Paul & Lois Clifton | DVD Maid in Manhattan |
| | Bette Midler CD |
| Barbara & Gordon Moser | Book Titled: Britain's Mainline Railways |
| Keith & Gloria Berry | 8 Several Gift Baskets and teapot gift set |
| Bob & Arlene Butler | George Forman cooker |
| Marilyn Drewes | 2 crystal wine decanters, mini chopper & other misc gifts |
| | Children's Engineer set |
| Veronica & Dale Taylor | 1000 piece puzzle |
| Clio & Vern Geyer | |

I feel I have forgotten someone and I am sorry. Thanks to all of you, with out your donations there would not have been such a good selection for the raffle. Many thanks to Veronica for doing such a great job calling those numbers. Lois & Paul Clifton

I would like to express my appreciation and many thanks to the following people:

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------|------------|
| Barbara Moser | Mary Neville | Anne Sach |
| Toyoko Youngling | Matt Hall | Kevin Sach |

Matt and Kevin did a great job cooking of the hamburgers, hot dogs, & chicken. Toyoko kept the condiment table full all the time.

Barbara & Mary worked hard on Friday night cutting the onions, lettuce and tomatoes. Then on Saturday they worked hard putting it altogether on the plates.

Barbara made the potato salad & chili. Paul made the macaroni salad and baked beans. Anne collected all the money. Arlene & Bob Butler kept the popcorn in our popcorn machine.

Thank you all for such a great job I hope everyone enjoyed the food.

Lois & Paul Clifton



to those members that help prior to the meet getting the track and facilities in shape. Big cheers to Robert & Arlene Butler from Tehachapi for cleaning and oiling the switches and Robert for helping out with track work for signals on Thursday & Friday.

The Fall Meet was well attended with over 130 registered members, guests and visitors. Distant visitors included John Morris, a friend of Tom Messer, came from Kensington, MD. Also Carl Carlson and Kari Winfield from Gardner, MA.

From the North we had Dan & Kris Morris from Lake Stevens, WA.

See more pictures from the meet on SVLS web site. www.svls.org



The Sacramento Valley Garden Railroad society also was at the Fall meet. They set up two modular tables to run trains on. One table was for the electric while another table was running live steam engines on "G" gauge.



Jim Martorella with his new speeder that he custom built. He also own a beautiful Shay engine.



Gordon Mosers steam engine getting a test run by Stathi Pappas with Casey Wilmunder looking on and wanting to know why so much smoke.

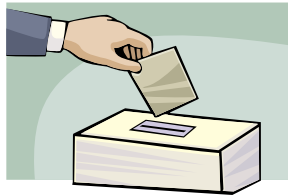
President report - continued from page 1

(living over 100 miles from the track site in Rancho Cordova), full enforcement of the 100 mile rule, and no discount for early payment as in the past. The discussion included reasoning for the increase, in that the Associate members' dues of \$15 had just covered the cost to send the newsletter and other mailings with no extra, the full computation by Treasurer Lois Clifton resulted in an annual cost of \$25 per member so we were fully dependent on donations to exist and our maintenance and planning costs continually increase. It was explained that this million dollar track would be available to members at a cost of only \$5 per month at the suggested rate. Due to constantly increasing costs in all areas, the membership was advised that further review of the dues will continue and there may be additional discussion at this time next year. When the vote was held, the amounts mentioned were unanimously approved.

Pete Arney used his computer to acquire a list of zip codes for all cities within the 100 mile radius. Our Membership Chairperson will check to see if the appropriate dues amount is being paid by each member to comply with the by-laws to be fair to everyone. Now is the time to send in your 2005 dues at either \$60 Regular or \$30 Associate to Lois Clifton, SVLS Treasurer, Post Office Box 273, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee (Bill Yoder, Barbara Moser, and Red Hadler) advised the membership that following their efforts, and since some folks would not accept offered nominations, the slate presented was the incumbents. That is, running again for Vice President will be Pete Arney, Track Superintendent Les Wilmunder, Treasurer Lois Clifton and Yardmaster Lee Frechette. The vote will be taken at the November Annual Membership Meeting.



SECRETARY

Following the resignation of Keith Berry as Secretary, the responsibilities of the position were divided on an interim basis. Lois Clifton will be the Interim Reporting Secretary and Lee Frechette will be the Interim Corporate Secretary. Several people are being considered for this position on the Board and the replacement will be announced by the first of the year.

PROTOTYPE RUN DAYS

At the October Board Meeting, Lee Frechette suggested that the SVLS have Prototype run days several time throughout the year. This means train orders, signal operation, scheduled times, etc. In other words, run our place like a real railroad. With Board approval, Lee is formulating these plans for 2005. Let him have your feedback on this and I'm sure he would appreciate your help.

DONATIONS

During the Fall Meet weekend and before, your Board of Directors was gratified to receive four donations of money for the treasury. A lady in the neighborhood made a donation after reading about our track vandalism in the local newspaper, The Grapevine. A city council member saw the same article and did the same, two of our members saw our needs and what we provide and did the same. The total of these checks was \$900. What can we say but a hearty THANK YOU to Bob McGarvey, Dave Lubliner, Robert Williams and Ms. Updyke. It is thoughtfulness like this that keeps us going.

MEETINGS

Note that the next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on November 4, 2004 at 6:30 PM. This is a week earlier than previously announced. The Annual General Membership Meeting and vote will be on Friday, November 19, 2004 in the Hagan Park building complex.



Members and Guests enjoying Lunch by the Caboose Saturday during the Fall Meet.



One inch scale car on display from Casey Wilmunder.



SVLS SANTA RUN

Nov. 27 & 28 2004 12 – 4 PM

SANTA RAFFLE Nov. 28 - 3:00 PM

Hagan Park Chase Drive Rancho Cordova

Raffle Ticket Price \$1.00

You don't need to be present to win

HURRY !

Contact Lois Clifton for tickets

FALL MEET Co-Chairpersons Reports

By Marilyn Drewes

Our Fall meet has come and gone and it was a success because of the labors of a great many people, regardless of the rainy Sunday.

Ross and Marilyn want to thank everyone that worked so hard:

Karle Mahler, our official greeter, who registered and checked in engines.

Lorra Fowler and Clio Geyer took care of member and guest registration.

Paul & Lois Clifford did a great job of selecting items for the raffle tables, both adult and children, also to Veronica Taylor for doing the raffle itself.

All the engineers, conductors and station attendants. Mike & Claudia Dreiling, Dale Fowler, Jack Friedman, Butch and Bill Floyd, Paul Clifford, Vern Geyer, Gordon Moser, Karle Mahler, Joel Corbin, Lee Frechette, and Pete Arney.

The Bake sale table crew of Norinne Murpy, her friend Linda, Betty Quick and Arlene Butler. They also sold cold drinks & popcorn.

Lois and lunch crew, Barbara Moser, Mary Neuille, Matt Hall, Aane and Kevin Sach. They were very busy judging from the never ending line to eat.

Our breakfast crew, Rosinne Murphy, her friend Linda, Clio Geyer and Mary Mahler.

To Lois Clifton for arranging the very good banquet on Saturday night.
Arlene Butler and Mary Mahler for helping set up the shirt sales tables.

To Pete Arney, Bill Yoder & Lee Frechette for their overall trouble shooting and looking out over the track, signals and all.

Everyone who helped with the setup on Thursday and tear down on Sunday between rain drops.

If we have missed anyone please excuse our oversight. Again our heartfelt *thank you* to one and all for all your hard work and great jobs done.

By Ross Crawford

Karle Mahler was our principal greeter and wheel gauge screener.

Nine nonconforming wheel sets were discovered and the owners were asked to repair them before the Spring Meet. They all seemed to appreciate this information and agreed to correct their back to back dimension.

If anyone has a question about how to do this then call Ross at (916) 718-4162 or Karle at (916) 334-8283 or Les at (916) 372-2423.



Due to the predicted rain for Sunday most people left Saturday except for the clean up crew and one member who was out on the track for hours steaming his engine around the track rain or shine. Does anyone know if Sidney is still out there?



Kim Reichhold steaming through the yard with his 2-8-0.



John Smith with the "Lionel" steam train. For a coal burner this is a very clean engine and cars.



Robert Morris from Healdsburg shoveling coal at Oasis.



Don Yungling with his GS1 class steam engine.



Special Thanks to Pete Arney & Richard Lutrel for fixing this speed bump in the main line by the flag pole. This was discovered on Monday before the meet. The consense is that it was not vandalized but someone turning around backing over the track and some how hooking the rail - the roadbed drop off fast there. **Please don't drive over the track - use the crossings.**



Gil Beard's Berkshire locomotive. He had two new water tank cars (below) to provide water for long hauls like at Train Mountain.



Logging disconnect truck for 24 inch gauge track. This was hand made by Curtis Bonville.



A Signal committee has been formed to enhance the signal system at the track. The committee will provide a short range plan to add more signals in critical spots and a long range plan for type of signals to be used, placement, and method of operation with the intent to have block monitoring or CTC operation if wanted.

If you would like to help with suggestions for signal style, placement or design circuit/wiring methods please contact Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113 or email byoder@vfr.net

Fall Meet Pictures



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



Board of Directors

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 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
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 E-mail: sphogger@ix.netcom.com

Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM

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	
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