

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svls.org

July 2005

Volume 32, Issue 07

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Joel Corbin

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER....

In past articles I have mentioned the need for all to contribute to the success of SVLS. There have been some who have heard the call and come forward to help out, and thereby, they have received back what they have put in. There are several ways to do this. One way is to bring out your locomotives and equipment to run and display to members, friends and the public. Another is to help maintain the track and grounds so our operations continue. Thirdly, you can help with peripheral jobs involving building, painting, electrical, plumbing, rolling stock maintenance, future planning, etc.

We are just past the Father's Day weekend as I write this message. This brings to our minds the needs to spend time with our families. I am a complete advocate of this and will not ever suggest that a person give up these activities in favor of some SVLS need. Also, my own wife became tired of spending a lot of our free time at the track of one of the live steam groups I have belonged to in the past. I am told that we have about 200 members and less than ten percent keep this place going for all of us. You may say that \$60 a year is enough to pay for someone else to do the work. It is not. We do not hire laborers. Following the vandalism a few weeks ago, the public showed more interest in us than our own membership. Many donations were made by them. Just a couple came from our own membership. The dues did not cover this eventuality. The public donations did. I am sorry to say that most of our own members complained that the repairs were not completed by the Spring Meet when they said they would not help. I suggest that a person does not have a



At the last meeting Joel accepted a donation of \$1000 from Rain Bird corporation. The check was presented by Dave Fulton. We thank Rain Bird for their donation of \$1000 .

Thanks also to Lee Frechette for coordinating this great donation - very much appreciated.



What is crowd looking at? Something must have their interest

basis for a complaint if they have only expectations of others and will not contribute to the resolution of the work that needs to be done. Even if a small effort is made by an individual, there is no basis for a complaint if they have an expectation that others should finish the job. They may not have the schedule to help more, but should not complain about the remaining small staff of workers who have limited time too.

You may detect a concern on my part about the participation of our membership. This is a correct interpretation. Even more of a concern to me is the gossip going around that complains about those, including me, who are working to better the SVLS. It seems many folks feel that if the idea isn't theirs, it is not a good one, and they are looking for opposing ideas so they can have fodder for another complaint. The current members of the Board have good ideas. Will you, from now on, consider that they want to do

Continued on page 5

CALENDAR

July 1 Board meeting 6:30 at Park meeting room 3
 July 2-4 3 Day 4th of July celebrations - bring your trains and run. Public rides - noon to 4 PM.
 July 15 General meeting 7:30 at Park meeting room 1
 July 16 Work Day - come out and help
 July 17 Public run day - noon to 4 PM.
 July 18 Newsletter articles due to editor

Aug 5 Board meeting 6:30 at Park meeting room 3
 Aug 6 Public run day - noon to 4 PM.
 Aug 19 HOT AUGUST NIGHTS 6:30 at track
 Food and night running.
 Aug 20 Work Day - come out and help
 Aug 21 Public run day - noon to 4 PM.
 Aug 22 Newsletter articles due to editor

2005 public run day calendar available on-line, or hand-outs at caboose.

Don't forget about work days, every Tuesday and Saturday after meeting. 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?



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.

The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc. 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 Railroad Museum, Inc. to the fullest extent allowed by law as provided in Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.

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Membership

Lorra Flowar

Welcome new members

John Carleton P.O. Box 172 Citrus Heights, CA 95621 916 726-3511	Jason Van Horn 24343 Kennefich Road Galt, CA 95632 209 333-0782
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Special Events will be coordinated by Vern Geyer (916) 645-9154 for July through September while Ross is on vacation.

Please help Vern with our special events.



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: edorberry@aol.com

Treasurer: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514

E-mail: loisjune1@surewest.net

Track Superintendent: Les Wilmunder
 (916) 372-2423

Yardmaster: Vern Geyer (916) 645-9154

E-mail: vern78@onemain.com

Trainmaster: Ross Crawford (916) 718-4162

----- Committee Chairpersons -----

Special Events: For July through September call Vern Geyer (916) 645-9154

Caboose Ops: Paul Clifton (916) 722-8514

E-mail: paulrclifton@surewest.net

Newsletter Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113

E-mail: editor@svls.org

Membership: Lorra Fowlar (916) 962-0718

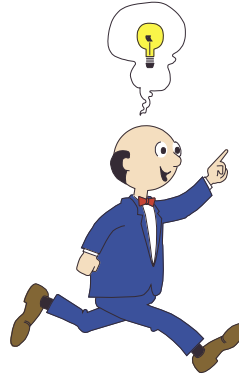
E-mail: sphogger@ix.netcom.com

Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM



The above is an example of a cover for the station area. The propose size would be 14 feet wide and 41 feet long.

Thanks to those that have submitted ideas already. If you have not please do.



Master planning committee is wanting input from the members as to needs and ideas to improve the running of trains, the facilities, Hauling the Public, and anything else you can think of.

Please submit your IDEAS to Bill Yoder. Thanks.



The new well that was being drilled over the last several weeks for the Hagan Park seems to have found the water it wanted. They were testing it on June 21st and it was pumping over 900 GPM = that is 900 gallons per minute in the 10 inch pipe. Too bad its not oil we could all be rich. Anyway this will give the park a much better supply of water to keep things green during the summer months.

Trainmaster Report

by Ross Crawford

Some years ago Jimmie Durham gave SVLS a huge steel flat car. I have had it turned in to a stake side gondola for the MOW department. The conversion was done by Lorra Fowlar with the paint job by Marilyn Drewes.



All passenger hauling engineers are requested to set all switches to your direction of travel. This will reduce wear on spring switches and wheels and the possibly of derailments.

I will be on vacation in July, Aug, and Sept. If you break anything you need to fix it. Keep the railroad safe for all.

Also while I am gone Vern will be taking the calls for the Special Event runs for me. - Thanks Vern-



Bill yoder on a recent hike with the Placer Sierra Historical Society visited the Texa Hill area where the Towle brothers had trains for logging. A couple of old ties still on the grade for a lumber tram. Some rail was also found dating in the 1890s.



Gondola converted from flat car by Lorra Fowlar, Marilyn Drewes, and Ross Crawford. - THANKS ALL for your help.



Paul Clifton under the watchful eye of Tom Nance replacing the brake linkage that was broken by the derailment due to rocks on the tracks.

Milon working on the engineer car's solid bar coupler.



Ross Crawford and Jack Friedman doing routine car maintenance

Here is a strange item growing on our grounds. Anyone know what it is?



President report - continued from page 1

good for you before you automatically oppose them? We can be more of a success if you do. If you have need for discussion on an issue, take it to the person responsible and not to another member as a complaint. Every one is trying their best to make this a better organization and not one Board member that I know of has ever received an unsolicited "good job" comment. These facts exist in spite of the fact that no Board member, in over thirty years, has ever had a raise.

SAFETY FIRST....

A brief comment about accidents: A large size adult rider and his wife leaned over on a train several weeks ago and fell in to the grass (me too since I was the conductor). They were warned not to lean but did so anyway and the wife admitted it after the accident. As a result, we have our first insurance claim under this year's insurance policy. Two weeks later a park party adjacent to out track was filled with kids and adults. The adults did not watch their kids and they kept putting rocks on our track. Although we watched for them, we missed one of these vandalism acts and a train derailed, causing one man to fall and become hurt. He has an attorney now and this is another claim. No matter how hard we try, we are being accused of being at fault for the acts of others. This is another reminder to be extra careful when you run trains. Also, if you believe any person should not ride your train for some safety reason, you can explain the concern over safety and you are not obligated to give them a ride under the circumstances. Although the riders or vandals and/or their parents who fail to watch them, may be at fault, we still have to deal with the results of accidents. Do your best to be safe.

BOARD ACTIVITIES...

At the last meeting of the Board of Directors, the discussions consisted of:
Comments related to the name change of SVLS (filed with the Secretary of State is: Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc., A California Corporation), confirmation of the fact that the bylaws approved by the membership last fall do not need filing with the state and they have been in force since the vote approved them, the appointment and approval of Pete Arney as librarian and the naming of the library as The Dick Esselbach Memorial Library. The Spring Meet was reviewed and the need for a book on meet handling was reviewed as it has in the past. Hopefully, this will be done in short order. (Note: If you have suggestions to include in the Meet Planning Handbook, send them to Secretary Keith Berry.) Under New Business, there was a presentation by a Rotary Club member regarding help with their fireworks booth for a share of the profits. This is why you all received notice of the need for help with your last newsletter. There were about 10 volunteers and more will follow on this. Bill Yoder was confirmed as the Chairman of the Master Plan Committee after I asked him to take this position several weeks before. Following this discussion, Bill presented his first report of the Master Plan Committee which had already had two meetings. As part of his report, one FCR was presented. This FCR was submitted by Milon Thorley and was in response to requests from a number of members for a shade structure in the

passenger loading area. The concept was accepted by the Master Plan Committee and also by the Board but final approval must be taken to the members due to the cost for the metal canopy. It is planned to remain permanent but is movable in the future if park plans require us to move it. It was agreed to vote on this installation at the next meeting.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS....

At the last meeting, Friday, June 17, 2005, a motion was presented regarding the approval or disapproval of the expenditure for the station canopy (see above). Due to the amount, membership approval is required before we go forward. Originally, it was thought the cost would be \$4,100 for a sheet metal RV type canopy. Later, Milon Thorley, who submitted the idea, said he would pay the tax and, further, he said he would try to get a better price for us. Since applicable deadlines for the Golden Spike kept the motion from being announced to all in advance, the membership asked the vote to be taken in July. If you wish to vote on this issue, please attend that meeting, which will be held on July 15, 2005.

Although the canopy has been discussed already at a Board meeting and is not on the agenda, if you wish to attend the next meeting of the Board of Directors, it will be on Friday, July 1, 2005 at 6:30 PM. This is the day before the Independence Day weekend event at Hagan Park where we will participate for all three days and need much help in this undertaking.

CUB SCOUT JAMBOREE...

On Monday, June 20, 2005, Pete Arney and I took the SVLS steamer and the GP40 to a church around the corner from our track where a Cub Scout Jamboree was being held. The engines never left the transporting trailer but could be seen by over 100 boys, who asked lots of questions. I was able to describe the use and type of equipment to the boys, as well as how to find us in Hagan Park to get a ride. This was done in our ongoing attempts to provide educational programs for the community. Pete has submitted photos of this activity for publishing in the Spike. This is just another way many of you can help SVLS, and it is very rewarding.

That is all for now, see you soon....



Yardmaster Report

by Vern Greyer

There was a meeting with Luanne from the California Tree Association on Monday June 5th. Paul and Lois Clifton came out to take the tour of our expansion area trees to judge their health. For the most part Luanne felt that everything was looking really good. However...



there are a number of our trees that do need to be removed or trimmed. The redwood coming into Oasis is diseased and needs to be removed before it can pass the disease on to the other redwoods in the area. There is also a fir tree along the Main that needs to come out as it is dying. There is another tree at the end of the fence in the parking/motor home area that is dead and needs to be removed.

I am looking for those of you who have chain saws and some time to come out and help remove these trees. If there are those who would like to have the wood after the trees are down, let me know. There is one stipulation: if you want it you have to come out and help take the trees down and cut them up! I hope to be able to do this sometime after our 4th of July run weekend. Right now I would like to do this around July 16th. If you would be able to come out and help, please give me a call at 916-645-9154.

Luanne also wants to plan for a pruning party sometime in January, weather permitting. During this time those trees that need to be pruned, and any that still need to be removed can be done before the Spring leaves come on. The mulberry by the fence in the steaming bay area needs to be come out completely. The roots are just too close to the surface and present a danger to people walking around the first bay by the fence. Also the new tree that is planted next to it needs the area to expand in. I will be looking to rent a "cherry picker" for that weekend to accommodate reaching higher branches to make it easier to bring the tree down and also reach higher branches in those that need to be trimmed.

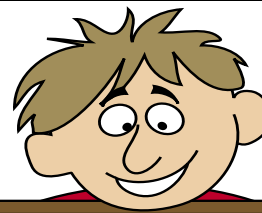
There is currently a plan in place to plant new trees for Dick and Lori Esselbach during the Fall Meet. Lori's daughter has agreed to wait until then to plant new trees as the rainy season will be here and the trees have a better chance of surviving. Also it would be a good time for those who knew Dick and Lori to be able to attend a memorial tree planting in their memory.



These Members spent their time on track work, grounds, and facility is greatly appreciated by all and thanks for a job well done. Anyone else who work but I missed getting their name. Thanks to all !!

Jack Friedman
Gordon Briggs
Milon Thorley
Richard Lutrel
Paul & Lois Clifton
Clio & Vern Geyer
Barbara Moser
Cindy & Les Wilmunder

Joel Corbin
Bill Yoder
Pete Arney
Dale Dennis
Marilyn Drews
Ross Crawford
Butch Floyd



Note corrections to Roster published Spring 2005.

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carbino1@ltnl.gov



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.
- 310. The Board of Directors may restrict or suspend from duty any operating personnel who consistently violates safety rules.
- 410. Before leaving the steaming area operating steam locomotives shall have steam pressure brought up to operating pressure, have safety valves and pressure gauges checked and operating correctly, have water gauges and try cocks blown down, have feed-water devices checked and in working order, have whistle tested and operating properly, and have brakes checked and operating.

