

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsrcm.org

March 2012

Volume 39, Issue 03



March 3rd & 4th starts our new season of public runs. No kidding - we need your help. You Engineers, Conductors, and Stationmasters are needed.

The March members meeting will be on Saturday the 17th at the SVLSRM track. This will be a members run day and let's have a pot luck lunch and a short meeting. So get your locomotives ready. The trainmaster will be doing boiler testing which you need done each year.

Clio is also receiving reservations for birthday parties so please volunteer your time for these special events.

Presidents Report

By Bill Yoder

Well, while most of us would rather be running our trains, it seems that the bad people will not give us a chance. We have had continued vandalism every week of locks broken, chains cut, and gates pried off its hinges. This has cost the club several hundred dollars for locks, chains and fence repair. A big theft took place with the club's tractor being stolen. The container's lock bracket was cut off and the tractor was driven out the north gate then west on the bike trail - never to be seen (yet).

This vandalism has also greatly increased the need for more members to step up and help as the workload has increased at the track. So please come out and help on Run days and Work days.

We did get coverage by Sacramento TV channel 13 and the Sacramento Bee. No info on tractor has come in yet, but we did get some great help from Chris Johnson, a local resident of Rancho Cordova and owner of CJC Contractors, who saw the story on TV and brought his tractor out to help us last weekend.

Our February members meeting had good turnout (19 members) even with everyone needing to find our new meeting place for



the month. The members choose to have the March meeting at the track making it a members' run day and pot luck lunch. So please come out on March 17th - don't forget to paint your engine **green**. We also had a special showing of "Hidden Wonder", a video of the Transcontinental Railroad from Sacramento to Donner Summit. Traveling the route showed the marvel at how the master engineers and builders of the 1860s accomplished this heroic deed. I showed video of UP's Track Replacement equipment being used on the Sierra route. Really amazing.

Here is an idea to help with the maintenance of our track. Since we have about 6300 feet of mainline track and 123 Members (not counting associates), each member only needs to adopt 51 feet of main line track to maintain. While you're thinking of which section you will maintain, please take the time to note and say **thank you** to the following people that have been working these last few weeks: First is Paul Skidmore who has been out to the track more than once per week, Kevin Sach, Andrew Sach, Barbara and Gordon Moser, Jack Friedman, Gil Dominguez, Scott Forman, Les Gregory, Richard and Amy Lutrel, Sid Madden, Karle Mahler, Bob Silva, Harry Voss, Terry Willis, Matt Hall, Jeff Weeks, Les & Cindy & Casey Wilmunder, Wayne Harmer, Lois Clifton, Darrell Gomes, Clio Geyer, Dennis Gramith, Andy Berchielli, and special thanks to Justin Schade with Intel bringing their volunteer group out to do yard work.

So how will you help your club this month?

SVLSRM Calendar

Mar. 3 - Public run day Noon to 4 PM
 Mar. 4 - Public run day Noon to 4 PM
 Mar. 13 - Board Meeting 6:30 Community Board Room Rancho Cordova.
 Mar. 17 - Members Run Day and Pot Luck Lunch. We will also have a short members meeting to bring you up to date on current projects and needs. Bring your engine and train to a day of running the rails. Green engines not required.

Apr. 7 - Public run day Noon to 4 PM
 Apr. 8 - Public run day Noon to 4 PM
 Apr. 10 - Board Meeting 6:30 Community Board Room Rancho Cordova.
 Apr. 20/21 - Members meeting TBA - either at the track or meeting room - Please attend March 17th meeting to help plan.

Don't forget about work days, Contact a board member for information on needs. Check the Project page at the SVLSRM web site <http://www.svlstrm.org>.

Note our track project needs to be completed by Mar 1.

How will you support SVLSRM this month?



Please check the SVLS web site: www.svlstrm.org for current information on SVLSRM activities.



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.

The Golden Spike is the published monthly by the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc., P.O. Box 273, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741. The SVLSRM track is located in Hagan Community Park, Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA. Articles & Pictures may be submitted to: editor@svlstrm.org. The deadline is 4 days after Membership meeting.

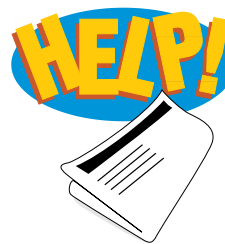
Welcome New Members

Jeffrey Weeks of Antelope, Ca

Amy Lutrel Membership



Membership renewal forms have been sent out, so please return yours with your dues payment as soon as possible, if you haven't already. If you didn't receive a renewal form, there is one printed in this newsletter, or print off a membership application from the website and mark it as "Renewal".



Your Editor is missing some Newsletters for the Year 1992, I need January, and September through December. If you have these I would like to make a copy so that we can continue to complete our archives.

Thank you - Bill

Save SVLSRM some money and read the newsletters on-line. Tell us that you don't need the mailed copy, we will notify you by E-mail so you can read it on-line.



Board of Directors - 2012

- President: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113
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E-mail: dennis.gramith@gmail.com
- Secretary: Clio Geyer (916) 645-9154
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- Yardmaster: Andy Berchielli (916) 348-7252
E-mail: ajberchielli@sbcglobal.net
- Trainmaster: Kevin Sach (916) 541-5718
E-mail: chicopacific9@yahoo.com
- _____ Committee Chairpersons _____
- Membership Chairperson: Amy Lutrel (916) 344-8989
E-mail: membership@svlstrm.org
- Safety Chairperson: Paul Skidmore (916) 444-6369

Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM

Train Masters Report

By Kevin Sach



I will be looking forward to seeing those of you with steam engine on the 17th for boiler inspection day. If you can prepare your engines before you come on down, it will be appreciated and make things go quicker.

Also with the up and coming running season, those of you who plan on pulling the public will be asked to retake any necessary test. Reminder that these test are open book.



YARD MASTERS REPORT

By Andy Berchielli



Who can use the yard equipment? The answer is anyone willing to help. We have rules in place so that the equipment will be used in a safe and proper manner. Originally I was to sign off on use of tractor, but really anyone with know how can show others how to use it as well. This applies to all yard

equipment, whether it be the trencher, mower, gator, trimmers, sprayers, hand tools, and etc. As long as you can operate the equipment in a safe and proper manner feel free to use it. If you don't know how, ask. We want all to feel welcomed and to give a hand were needed. Thanks to all for the effort!

The yard is in great shape thanks to the efforts of a work group from Intel lead by Justin Schade and some help by a Sheriff work program. We may use these groups more this year to maintain the grounds. With their help the clutter around caboose and containers have been cleaned up and moved and the yard cleaned of leaves.

I will need help watering this year. Currently I'm proposing permanent irrigation between oasis and midway. The rest of yard will still be watered by hoses. If we want to keep it green I ask that those on the work days and public run days turn the water on and off while you are there. I can do it once a week which is not enough during the summer. Let's work together to make our facility enjoyable. Thanks!



Chris Johnson of CJC Contractors in Rancho Cordova who heard of our stolen tractor volunteered with his Bobcat tractor and made quick work moving our piles of dirt - Thanks Chris

Track Superintendent Report

By Darrell Gomes



Our 2012 track replacement project is moving along as planned. When our tractor was stolen, I really didn't know how we were going to move the rock, but members Bill Yoder and Bob Silva step up and brought out their tractors to help complete the job. We also got a bonus when a local resident Chris Johnson used his Bobcat tractor to move all the dirt from along side the track right-of-way.

At this time I would like to acknowledge some of members who have helped work on this project. Thanks to Paul Skidmore, Jack Friedman, Scott Foreman, Nathaniel Hawkins, Bill Yoder, Kevin & Andrew Sach, Matt Hall, Jeff Weeks, Les & Casey Wilmunder, Les Gregory, and Richard Lutrel. Special Thanks to Barbra Moser and Lois Clifton for keeping the crews well feed at Lunch. I am sure that there will be more members to add to this list before this project is completed and I want to extend My Gratitude to all the members that have helped me make all my SVLSRM projects a success.



Mainline looking toward north - waiting for final alignment and ballast - where is a tractor when you need one.



Member Bob Silva from Merced who brought his tractor and helped move ballast. Andrew Sach (on the left) waiting to rake the roadbed before placing track panels.

Safety Rules Review



113. No one shall stand nor walk within five (5) feet of any track, unless his duties require him to do so. It shall be the duty of any and all SVLSRM members to help keep the public at a safe distance from the tracks. Responsible photographers and persons with recording equipment may obtain permission to get closer to the moving trains under certain conditions.

212. All trains hauling passengers shall have at least one qualified conductor on the last car of the train. Each conductor on duty shall have a whistle (police type preferred) and a red flag or light in his possession.

302. All members share equal privileges and use of the facilities. All members also have equal responsibility for the safety and maintenance of the facility, equipment, and the observance and enforcement of these rules. Every member is responsible to, and for, every other member. There are no so-called "privileged" members.

407. Steam boilers shall have a facility to shut off heat immediately in case of emergency. Oil fired (diesel, heating oil, kerosene, etc.) and LP Gas fired boilers shall have a valve or other means to stop the flow of fuel to the burner. Solid fuel (coal, charcoal, nutshells, fruit pits, etc.) fired boilers shall have a means of dumping the fire out of the fire box or smothering the fire with steam, water, CO2, etc.



10 Years ago: January and February were busy months at the track. At least 181 hours were recorded in January with people showing up almost every weekend at the park. The main work centered on pruning trees, chipping branches, mowing the grass, raking leaves and attending the flower beds. Saturday, Feb. 16th, had a very good work force. Tree pruners included: Lee Frechette, Hans Feickert, Pete Arney, Frank Dollosso, Jack Freidman and myself. Flower beds: Mayr Neville and Barbara Moser. Track Maintenance: Dave Mattox, Will Jordan, Dale Fowlar, Chris Donhost and Jon Wallace. Railroad Cars: Ross Crawford, Don Juergenson and Karle Mahler. Paul Clifton provided soup and corn bread for everyone.
- Yardmaster, Gordon Moser

20 Years ago: Due to the high level of activity and evolving track plan in the expansion area, a decision is needed to either construct a single or double bridge over the dry riverbed. Proposals and rational have been submitted for both options. A decision by the general membership is needed for work to proceed. Please plan to attend the March General Meeting Friday March 20, 1992 at 7:30pm. A review of the options, discussion and a vote of support will allow for the completion of the first expansion loop by the Spring Meet!

As Mention in "From the Board", we will be participation in the 3 day Mini-Railfair at the California State Railroad Museum. This will be a local event only. We will be providing a static display. Milon Thorley is looking for people to display and help. There are NO restrictions on display for this event.

Big Thunder Railroad (Craig and Linda Craddock) have selected June 5-6-7 (1992) for their annual invitation. This has been great fun in the past - this is our third year.

Did you know we have an official hat color??? Blue with white polka dots... there is a \$.50 fine for not wearing your hat... looks like we all owe the club a lot of \$\$\$.

30 Years ago: Matters that were discussed at the board meeting included: Keith Kirstein's suggested plans for the April Gold Spike Anniversary Celebration, master plan and track expansion, snack bar and dinner for the Spring Meet, the possibility of building restrooms at the club facility, the button machine and a change in the by-laws.

Al Shelley and Ed Yungling have been hard at work producing frogs for the much needed switches in the passenger loading area. As of this writing, Al is ready to start assembling the switches. We should see them soon. A car building team consisting of Earl McKenzie, Ed Yungling, Warren Rose, and Dennis and Judy Gramith have been raising dust and producing car bodies for the past few Wednesday nights. Al Shelley has received the first two for painting. The lawn mower is in good repair again, thanks to Warren Rose. Stripping and painting of the picnic tables has been started. Lots of earth was moved in preparation for the new passenger loading track. The last work day found Darrel McWhirk, the Willis family, Joe and Al deFreitas, Warren Rose, John Livesay, Chuck Corothers, Dick and Lori Esselbach, and the Gramith's. A "Super" thanks to John Livesa and his rototiller, which saved the track crew many hours of digging.

Did You Know: Q. How is the noise of steam which escapes from the safety-valve lessened, to prevent frightening horses when trains are standing at stations, and from being a general nuisance?

A. By a muffler, consisting of a coil of wire through the interstices of which the steam escapes, making much less noise that where it has to pour through a more contracted area. Other mufflers are made of boxes full of glass beads or of similar substances offering an immense amount of friction with a large discharging area.



I cannot forget to pay my dues. Supporting SVLSRM is needed.

Please send your 2012 dues now. \$60 for regular member and \$30 for associate member. Complete your membership form on back page and send to:

SVLS
P.O. Box 273
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741

FOR SALE

FOR Sale, a complete set of Allen Models 2-8-0 castings, with out boiler, the asking price is \$2400.00, or best offer. Contact Robert Stroud at 541 526-5726.



Allen Consolidation Steam engine and Tender
Coal burner
\$15,000 includes about 500 pounds of coal (in 50lb. bags)
Call Wayne Thorley 530-295-5518



FOR SALE: 1 1/2-inch scale detailed gondola car with Winton's fully sprung Bettendorf trucks. Over 6-feet long and made from aluminum/steel castings and plate. Perfect for hauling a family around the track or at your home railroad. Car is perfect for mounting a propane tank for propane fired locomotives while seating 1-2 passengers. Gondola may be viewed at GGLS most Sundays-please call to schedule. Asking \$1100-will consider reasonable offers. Michael B. Smith (415) 558-4536



FOR SALE - 7.5" gauge 4+4 Beam Engine built by Bill Conner in 2000. Propane fired 12" diameter vertical steel boiler with 306 3/8" diameter copper fire tubes. Engine is a 2x2.75" double acting twin driving eight 4.375" diameter wheels through a 20% overdrive. More than enough power to haul a train with 11 preschool children and 11 adults and enough speed to run away and hide. Four chime whistle, lights for night running, pneumatic brakes on engine and tender and a working sander. Carries 13 gallons of water and 12 gallons of propane. Reason for sale - Engine runs fine, I'm running out of steam.

Asking \$12,000/reasonable offers considered. Suggest pick-up from Reno, NV area or I can deliver, Western US only, for \$1.25/mile, one way, in advance, non refundable. Contact me at steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net or (775) 674-6512 for additional details.



Your editor is looking for pictures or movies of SVLS activities so we can make a copy and add to our Historical collection. If you have some please notify the editor.

Thanks - Bill



Check our web site FOR SALE page for pictures and more details. <http://www.svlsrcm.org/>



**DUES ARE DUE.
PLEASE STAY
ONBOARD.**

**SACRAMENTO VALLEY LIVE STEAMERS RAILROAD MUSEUM
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND DUES INVOICE**

To be filled out upon application for membership and/or membership renewal



NEW RENEWAL DATE: _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP DESIRED: REGULAR
 FAMILY
 ASSOCIATE

Your Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Spouse's Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Children living at home (names and birthdate):

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____ (Spouse) _____

List Email on web (Y/N)

List Email on web (Y/N)

Please select one of the following means of receiving your monthly issues of The Golden Spike news letter:

Receive E-Mail notice and read it on line at: www.svls.org (yes) or Send printed edition via snail mail. (yes)

Occupation: _____

Operable live steam equipment or under construction:

Do you have track at home? Yes No Someday Gauge: _____

Special skills and ways you would like to help SVLS:

Affiliations with other railroads:

PLEASE COMPLETE THE ABOVE AND RETURN WITH YOUR DUES TO:

SACRAMENTO VALLEY LIVE STEAMERS RAILROAD MUSEUM, INC
Attn: Membership
PO Box 273
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95741-0273

Make check payable to: Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc.
DUES RATE: REGULAR MEMBERSHIP (Individual or Family) is \$60.00 per year payable due on January 1.
ONE TIME INITIATION FEE: \$30.00 (In addition to the regular membership dues)
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: \$30.00 per year (NO initiation fee) Must live 100 miles or more
from track or belong to a recognized live steam club. An associate member who moves into
the 100 mile radius must convert to a regular membership by paying the \$30.00 initiation fee.

Membership use: Amount Paid: _____ Check _____ Cash _____

Name Badge Roster Rule Book Membership Card Car sticker Date completed: _____