

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsm.org

February 2016

Volume 43, Issue 2

## President's Report

By Heidi Bowie



January started off with a great turn out for our New Year's Member Run Day. It was definitely cold, but we had a great group of members, trains and potluck items to enjoy! And then the rains started.

We have several projects planned for Jan & Feb. but the rain is bogging things down a bit. It's having the bad habit of showing up on the weekends with a vengeance! Rain or shine, Dennis Bowie and his die-hard track crew is working hard to get the area around mile post 20 back together and better than ever.



Andy Berchielli lucked out by scheduling his crew in between storms and was able to accomplish all the necessary repairs to Tin Man Bridge. We still need to give it a new paint job and will be planning that for later in the year. When I last saw Marty Carapiet, he was in a trench that will be getting concrete very soon for the new electronic driveway gate. We're hoping that the weather will cooperate and keep things dry for a few days.

SVLS was visited twice by the Sheriff's work crews in January. As much as we love our trees, they do provide a lot of fallen leaves and branches. The sheriff's department provided all the rakes and tarps that were used by the crews. These individuals spent many hours raking, loading, and hauling downed foliage to the green waste pile out in the Park's dump area. They did a fantastic job! SVLS certainly benefits from this great relationship with the sheriff's department and we look forward to having them come back in the future.

To combat the large quantity of items around the SVLS facility that no longer benefit the club (a.k.a. "junk"), Republic Services has generously donated the use of a waste container. The container will be delivered in early February and stay over two



March 5th & 6th are first public run days for 2016. Engineers, Conductors and Station attendants will be needed so please come out and help. Not qualified then come out get qualified or help with other activities.



## President's Report continued

weekends. We will be having several work days to clean up all around our facility...meaning we will need several helping hands to get the work done. This is a wonderful opportunity to get rid of broken, useless, damaged, questionable ("why did we save this?") items. Check the website for upcoming "Clean up days." I encourage all of you to find your way out to club over the next several months.

We have lots of projects, large and small, that need help from members. The board is developing a list of projects scheduled for upcoming work days and that information will be put up on the website in the near future. Please remember that SVLS does not require members to log work hours for the club. Your membership dues provide some monetary support but your donated time is invaluable to the success and continuation of SVLS. Plus, you never know what you might see when you come out!

## Yard Masters Report

By Rob Sharratt



to everyone who has been out to help with all of the yard work that has happened in January. A lot has been

accomplished thanks to all the dedicated members and 2 days of Sheriff's work crew. Unfortunately there are still lots of projects that need to be completed before we start public runs in March. I am now asking for as much



## Clean Up Days



coming in February!

help as possible on Saturday, February 6th and Sunday 7th, as well as the weekend of the 13th and 14th. We will have a dumpster on site for a major club clean up both weekends. So come on out, grab a rake and have some fun in the sun (or rain) making our club a beautiful place to be.


## SVLSRM Calendar

Stay tuned for work days in January and February as we work on the mainline and other projects. Help is needed!  
 \*\* Due to rain, help is needed other days, too.

- Feb. 6 Members Work day
- Feb. 9 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room  
Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
- Feb. 13 Members Work day
- Feb. 20 Members Work day (if needed)
  
- Mar. 5 Public run day - 11 AM - 4 PM
- Mar. 6 Public run day - 11 AM - 4 PM
- Mar. 8 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room  
Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
- Mar. 19 Member work day and run day. Please help in the AM then run your train in the afternoon.

Dates to reserve on your calendar:  
 Pacific Regional Meet May 20, 21, & 22  
 Fall meet Oct. 14, 15, & 16  
 Annual Christmas Dinner Dec. (tbd)

Please volunteer to support the club events.  
**How will you support SVLSRM this month?**



**DUES WERE DUE  
 JAN 1, 2016**

Please complete your membership form noting changes. You can download forms at [svlsrm.org](http://svlsrm.org). Send check or pay on-line at [svlsrm.org](http://svlsrm.org). Send forms to SVLS P.O. Box 273, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741

**THANKS**  
**Deadline for dues is March 1st.**

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.

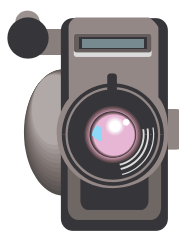
Donors may deduct contributions to The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc. to the fullest extent allowed by law as provided in Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.

**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@svlsrm.org](mailto:editor@svlsrm.org).  
**The news letter deadline is 24th of each month.**  
**Member articles wanted.**



Yuma Territory Live Steamers is having a Galloping Goose, Rail Car and Trolley Meet on February 26 -28. We are inviting anybody with small Equipment to come and have fun at this event.

We have room for about 20 units. There is dry camping at the park. Please RSVP if you are coming, ( when arriving , what equipment ) - contact E-mail [livesteamersofyuma@yahoo.com](mailto:livesteamersofyuma@yahoo.com) or phone 928-782-1988



New videos have been placed on club website. Please take a look on line at: <http://www.svlsrm.org/Video.php>  
 A special feature is our meet in 1974. Enjoy.



### Board of Directors - 2016

- (##) *Ending year of term*
- President: Heidi Bowie (916) 383-1461 (17)  
E-mail: [president@svlsrm.org](mailto:president@svlsrm.org)
  - Vice President: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884 (16)  
E-mail: [vicepresident@svlsrm.org](mailto:vicepresident@svlsrm.org)
  - Secretary: Chris Donhost (707) 301-0739 (17)  
E-mail: [secretary@svlsrm.org](mailto:secretary@svlsrm.org)
  - Treasurer: Alison Berry (916) 983-9712 (16)  
E-mail: [treasurer@svlsrm.org](mailto:treasurer@svlsrm.org)
  - Track Superintendent: Dennis Bowie (916) 337-9492 (16)  
E-mail: [tracksuper@svlsrm.org](mailto:tracksuper@svlsrm.org)
  - Yardmaster: Rob Sharratt (916) 631-8963 (16)  
E-mail: [yardmaster@svlsrm.org](mailto:yardmaster@svlsrm.org)
  - Trainmaster: Peter Welch (916) 838 4998 (17)  
E-mail: [trainmaster@svlsrm.org](mailto:trainmaster@svlsrm.org)
  - Director: Steve Perry (209) 323-5490 (16)  
E-mail: [director\\_steve@svlsrm.org](mailto:director_steve@svlsrm.org)
  - Director: Gordon Moser (916) 645-3425 (17)  
E-mail: [director\\_gordon@svlsrm.org](mailto:director_gordon@svlsrm.org)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Committee Chairpersons \_\_\_\_\_
  - Membership Chairperson: Dean Sheets 707-317-0242  
E-mail: [membership@svlsrm.org](mailto:membership@svlsrm.org)
  - Safety Chairperson: Marty Carapiet Phone: (916) 792-8803  
E-mail: [mrctrader@yahoo.com](mailto:mrctrader@yahoo.com)
  - Caboose Chairperson: Barbara Moser (916) 645-3425  
E-mail: [caboose@svlsrm.org](mailto:caboose@svlsrm.org)
  - Birthday & Company Event Chairperson: Andy Berchielli  
Phone: (916) 572-7857 E-mail: [Events@svlsrm.org](mailto:Events@svlsrm.org)
  - Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113  
E-mail: [editor@svlsrm.org](mailto:editor@svlsrm.org)

**Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM**



### Track Superintendent Report

By Dennis Bowie

Another installment of looking down the track...

It's hard to believe that it's almost the end of January. We have started the first of our planned projects. I would like to give a big thank you to Andy for taking on the replacements of the ties and walkway on Tin Man Bridge. I would also like to thank all those who helped with this project: Rob, Chris (with Paul & Eli), Andrew, Gordon, Butch, Steve 1 & Steve 2, Heidi, Maren, Ryan. If I missed anyone I apologize.



Heidi, Maren and Ryan painting the tops of the girder. Gordon and Andrew installing the guard rails.



The second project that we are in the process of is replacing the aluminum rail from MP 20 to the new trestle. We have also removed the old road bed and started to work on the preparation for the new road bed. But we have had a little hiccup in the process, RAIN. I am all for the rain and love every inch we get but when the tractor starts to sink in and you make small ponds. We need a break from the rain.

On Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup>, we had a good work party which allowed us to trench under the main line to install water line for sprinklers. Better now than when the track is finished.

With the help of Gordon, Bill and Butch, Steve Milward and Andrew, the old rail was removed.



As you can see we are training Ryan in all of the aspect of running a railroad, with the support of fellow members giving advice and encouragement. A big thank you to Steve Perry, Steve Milward, Dave McClain, Butch Floyd, Rich Lutrel. And thank you Bill Yoder for your advice and laser level.



The stakes are the path of the new road bed.

As always, thank you to all that help. We are hoping for a break in the rain so that we can finish the grading of the road bed. When that is done, then comes the easy part of cloth then rock. So do your exercises and get ready. We will need lots of help and yes we have plenty of shovels and rakes. I look forward to everyone getting involved. Remember it's your track too.



January Board Summary by Chris Donhost, Secretary

- Treasurer will be working on budget with committee.
- President Heidi reminded that FCR's are needed for projects.
- RS-3 motor is at shop; awaiting quote for repair.
- Valve on air compressor was left open again: sign will be made.
- Track is closed for repairs; expected reopen March 2016.
- New gate and fencing projects underway.
- SP Caboose plans for renovation well underway.
- Rob secured donation of 30 yd container for mass clean-up project.
- Steel rail purchase options being explored for 2017 rail needs.



I cannot forget to pay my dues. Life may be busy but supporting SVLSRM is needed, both monetary and with labor, many projects to be done this year.

Please send your 2016 dues **now!**  
Send check or pay on-line at [svlsrm.org](http://svlsrm.org).  
Send forms to SVLSRM P.O. Box 273,  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741

**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.



The young teaching the old.

Lots of great help rebuilding the bridge deck.



**Safety Rule for the month:**

4.12 Approaching Stopped Trains

An engine approaching a stopped train on the same track must come to a complete stop no less than fifty (50) feet from the stopped train.  
The stopped train may then be approached slowly with caution.



5.01.04 Riding Cars

Only approved riding cars of SVLSRM are allowed to haul the general public. A chain or draw bar must be installed between any car on which the Engineer is riding separate from his locomotive. A chain or draw bar must also be installed between any fuel car or cars and the locomotive which it supplies. Chains will be installed on all cars carrying the general public.



Please check the SVLSRM web site [www.svlsrm.org](http://www.svlsrm.org) for current information on SVLSRM activities.

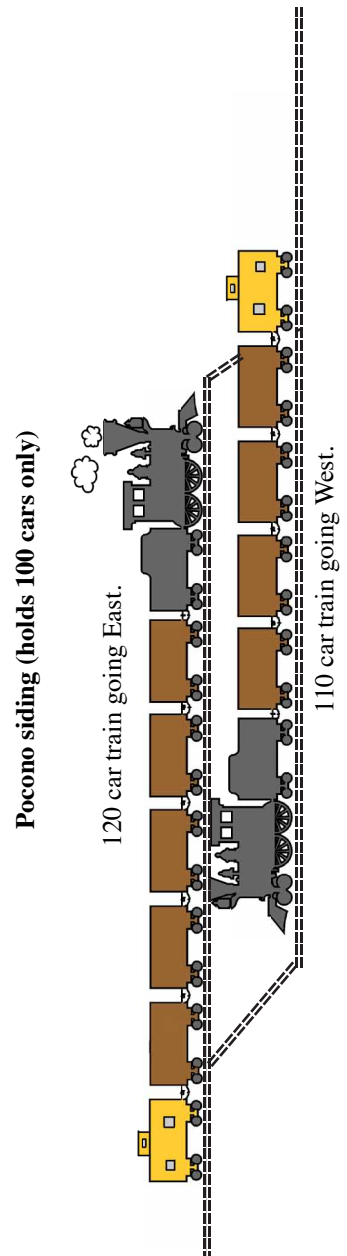
**Two Long Trains**

The following is a true story that happened on the Milwaukee Road in 1978. It took place at a siding located between St. Maries, Idaho and Avery, Idaho. The Pocono siding was 6,062 feet in length, and, had a capacity of 100 cars. Because of its length, it was used for many train order meets.

On this day two trains were to meet at Pocono the East-bound train length was 120 cars, so when they stopped waiting for the West-bound train the rear of their train extended about 20 cars lengths west of the switch. The West arrived and headed into the siding at the East end. When their engines arrived at the clearance point at the West end, the rear of their train was still east of the east switch by about 10 cars. Both trains were radio equipped.

They got together and came up with a plan. It was just not practical or safe to back these long trains up to either Avery or Calder. They did fulfill the meet and both trains were able to pass!

Do you know how they accomplished it? (This is from 1986 news letter item thanks to Gordon and Red)



### Party & Events Chairperson

Andy Berchielli



This year I took on the task of replacing the deck on Tin Man Bridge. It took one week thanks to some great help! Sunday Marty, Gordon, Chris, Paul, Eli, and Butch helped me tear out the old deck. Monday, Wednesday, Friday I received help cutting, treating and staining from Rob and Peter at my place. Then Heidi, Maren, Ryan, with Andrew helped paint the Ibeams Saturday. That enabled us to install everything on Sunday. Thanks to my install crew; Steve M., Steve P., Gordon, Chris, Paul, Eli, Butch and Peter I could not have done it without you! Thanks for putting in a long day to finish it up!

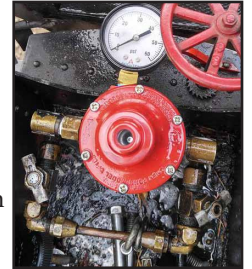
### Train Masters Report

By Peter Welch

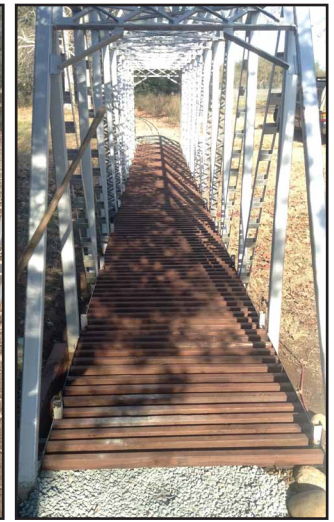


With a boiler full of steam and a hand on the throttle my projects are moving ahead at a good pace. I spent the last few days cleaning up the round house so I can continue to work on the 0-4-0 project. I want to thank Dennis Gramith, Kevin Sach, Chris Smith and anyone else that has helped with this steam engine. It looks awesome and should be done soon.

The 1973 steam engine is sporting a new regulator and is getting the number boards fixed. The engine for the Rs3 is in the machine shop getting a fresh rebuild and will be ready to hit the rails real soon with 9 1/2 hp.



SAFETY TESTS & CERTIFICATION ....I know a lot of members are due for safety certification. Steve Perry and I are working to set aside a few days for testing. If it has been over two years since you have been certified, you will need to recertified so watch for upcoming dates soon.



# FOR SALE

## Trolley for Sale.

Price \$2000  
with engine stand \$3000.

Call: Clio Geyer  
(916) 645-9154



1 1/2 scale, 7 1/2 " gauge 4 wheel Diesel locomotive with 5hp Briggs & Stratton engine.  
Hydraulic powered.  
Easy to run and maintain.  
Flat car support car included . Has Mountain Car trucks and couplers.



\$8250. Now \$7400 Or best offer.  
Call 559-281-3724 for more information.  
Email dboudrtrain@sbcglobal.net  
Doug Boudakian

Fuel tank, pressurized, soldered brass construction.  
9x7x4 \$20. obo - Ross Crawford (916) 718-4162



For Sale San Francisco Bridge Units 1 1/2" Scale RTR  
I am proud to offer these for sale, since The owner builder says it's time they go to a new home.  
They measure around 14' but break down easily for transport.  
Included are 2 all steel stands for home storage. They operate on (4) 12-volt batteries which I just replaced. Plus (2) 6-volt batteries which are still good. Also included are 3 battery chargers. The 12-volt chargers do 2 batteries at once. There are (6) 24- volt motors that power these units. It also comes with a mercer flat car with mercer trucks plus 2 boat seats.  
Price is \$12,500  
Bob Morris, at 925-240-9034 or cell 209-743-1300



## 10 Years ago: ALTHOUGH WE ARE ON HIATUS,...

...we are still working in the background on the SVLS Railroad. Currently in the works is the plan for installing a complete, timer controlled sprinkler system to keep our facility watered. Vern has done a great job of keeping the place green but dragging those hoses are too much for anyone to

have to continue doing. When finished, the hoses will be a thing of the past. As many of you know, the Park put in a new well this past summer, and there are plans for us to attach to its outlet. A meeting was held with park staff by Pete Arney and me to identify our plans and to request their installation of the appropriate 4 inch valve and fittings for our attachments. Having been involved with project management, Pete Arney is spearheading this installation with park people and he is being helped in the design process by Bill Yoder. Things are progressing nicely so far. The connections should be installed by the park staff soon.

**20 Years ago:** The membership has been asked to submit names for sections of the track. A map will be published in the March news letter. The broken airline and water line have been repaired (damage was due to tree roots). The riding cars are being painted by Dick Esselbach. Several trees have been planted thanks to Milon Thorley and Richard Bristow.

**30 Years ago:** "From the Cab - President's comments" Our insurance has been solved. Come to the meeting and find out. - Alan Shelley, President.

January Work Party: The following were seen hard at work at the track on Saturday: Earl McKenzie, Dick Quiring, Jim and Scott Durham, Amadus Drewes, Darrel McWhirk (who also brought a wonderful pot of chili and cornbread), Howard Schrader and all four Gramiths. John Bailie has been working at home on the club lawn mower. Chuck Corothers and Eric Quiring have been seen hard at work during the week helping to prepare our property for the boxcars.

## 40 Years ago: (Jan. 1976) GANDYDANCERS

Club thanks goes to the guys who turned out for track repair and cleanup on Sunday preceding the meet. Lending a hand were; Barry Garland, Larry Edwards, Joel Corbin, Doc Church, Dick Quiring, Ken Yeo, Earl McKenzie, Keith Jones, Don Yungling, and Art Brune. Apologies to anyone left out. Seems like the same names keep cropping up on these jobs. It's nice to see new ones sometimes.



It's that time of year again, **RENEWAL !**  
!! Time to get them in. Please fill out the entire membership form and send it in. You can pay on-line too.

**Deadline for dues is March 1st.**  
**Please pay before late fee is charged.**