

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsrcm.org

May 2016

Volume 43, Issue 5



## President's Report

By Heidi Bowie

May is here, so everyone's attention is on the Spring Meet. We are hoping to experience great weather and record crowds. The facility is really looking better than it has in many years following the numerous clean-up days and yard work by Rob Sharratt and Andy Berchielli.

With the Meet just three short weeks away, check the website information regarding meal tickets, reserving a Saturday BBQ dinner or RSVP to Clio Geyer (see details to the right). Registration for you and your guests is really important so don't skip the green tent! We will also have opportunities for signing up to help somewhere during the Meet. It's my goal to see my Board members out enjoying the meet more, but that means help from our membership. Everyone wants to be able to enjoy the Meet, so please sign up to work a one hour shift...it's a 3 day Meet, one hour shouldn't be so hard to find. And please extend considerate and courteous behavior during those three days. This is everyone's Spring Meet, so remember to follow the rules and policies and that includes your guests as well. Safety is always our number one priority but we also want to be good neighbors to the surrounding area and to each other.

A reminder that, beginning May 9<sup>th</sup>, the Board meetings will now be on the second Monday of the month. We encourage the membership to attend whenever possible. We have a lot of projects, plans and ideas that need membership input and support. The club needs more than your \$60 membership dues... your involvement is vital!



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



May 7 & 8 public run days. 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.



## The Annual Pacific Regional Spring Meet is May 20-22.

Bring your engine and enjoy three days of running. For additional fun we will have 2 raffles on Saturday afternoon, one for kid's items and then items for the rest of us. We are asking members to donate a raffle item and the club will furnish the grand raffle prize plus several items. But since this is a fund raiser, we need good donated items.

As done at previous meets, for parking your train please bring your train cone (number & name) to reserve a siding during the meet. Select a siding that will fit your train's length. Hope to see you at the Meet.



RV and Tent camping is available on first-come basis.

For more details see our web site: [svlsrcm.org/meet-notice.php](http://svlsrcm.org/meet-notice.php)

**Food:** Friday sack lunch \$6.

Prices listed below are Adult / Kid (12 and under)

Spaghetti dinner Friday night \$6 / \$5.

Breakfast Saturday or Sunday mornings \$6 / \$4.

Lunch on Saturday or Sunday \$6 / \$5.

Saturday dinner of BBQ Beef or Chicken, with several side dishes is \$15 / \$7.

**Special meal ticket** provides a \$6 savings for the 6 meals, Friday Spaghetti dinner, Saturday & Sunday servings and 3 drink tickets. The meal ticket: adult \$40 / kid \$25.

Buy your meal tickets or Saturday dinners only tickets [on-line](#) through PayPal or **RSVP** by calling Clio (916) 645-9154 or E-mail: [meet@svlsrcm.org](mailto:meet@svlsrcm.org)

**Saturday dinner must be bought or RSVP by May 16th.**

Tell your friends about the Meet; it is a great time to see many locomotives and the craftsmen who build them. Need an answer on how to build or run your engine? Then ask, as the knowledge is here.



As always we will need help for setup on Thursday of tables & canopies, then during the meet, food service, bathroom cleaning, trash pickup, & then clean up and put everything away. Also we can use donations of goodies for the bake sale. Please let us know how you will help.

Thanks! And it will be great to see you at the meet!

## SVLSRM Calendar

- May 7 Public run day - 11 AM - 3 PM  
 May 8 Public run day - 11 AM - 3 PM  
 May 9 ( Monday) Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.  
 May 20, 21, 22 Pacific Region Meet at SVLSRM. Join us, bring your train and ride the rails.  
 Jun. 4 Public run day - 11 AM - 3 PM  
 Jun. 5 Public run day - 11 AM - 4 PM  
 Jun. 13 ( Monday) Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.  
 Jun. 18 Member work day and run day. Please help in the AM then run your train in the afternoon. Pot Luck Lunch.

Dates to reserve on your calendar:

Fall meet Oct. 14, 15, & 16

Annual Christmas Dinner Dec. 17

Please volunteer to support the club events.

***How will you support SVLSRM this month?***

**SPIKE editor** requests ideas for articles.

I am also looking for members who would like to spotlight their projects - in progress or finished.

If you submit photos for publication please send high resolution photos. These would be files with a resolution of at least 240 dpi, or greater. A good rule is that the image file should be 1 megabyte, or larger is still better.

Please call or E-mail the editor. - Thanks.

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.**

## MEMBERSHIP

### Welcome new member

Colton Snell from Roseville.

**Member rosters** will be available at the registration table (the big green tent). When you register at the meet, you will get a welcome handout, souvenir button, & wrist band.

A **members only area** has been set up on our web server where we will keep a current version of the roster, and other useful documents for our members. To gain access, each *member (now including Associates)* must be a current paid member to register and create a user name and password.

Please use the link on the web page in the top menu section called "Members only." This is a two step process to register as the system will send an E-mail to verify that it is you. You will then use the link sent to complete the process. Please note this is to register so you can then use your user ID/password to view the protected area via the link shown on the registration page.

### 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: -- OPEN - please volunteer

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**



### Yard Masters Report

By Rob Sharratt

Hello fellow steamers. This so far has been a busy year. We have removed over 120 yards of debris from our location. We have cleared the dead trees out of the RV area and will soon take care of the others that are in our fence line.

I would like to thank all of the extra help I have received this year with yard duties (mowing, weed eating, and general maintenance). A special thanks to Tom and Stacy for the help with a backhoe during clean up and the mini excavator for digging water main out to fix the leak. Now we have sprinklers to keep the place green.

Dave McFarland brought his grandson out just to help with push mower duties and weed cutting. As always a HUGE Thank you to Andy for everything you do. The younger members helped a lot with cleanup which was very cool. A huge thanks to all!

Spring meet is right around the corner. There are many volunteer spots to fill set up, take down, greeters etc. I hope everyone helps with inviting guests to our friendly club. I only ask that we all, including our guest, follow the rules and enjoy the weekend together.



### Members at work/run day:



This is where many members were in deep discussion.



After lunch discussions, and special treats for Gordon.

### Train Masters Report

By Peter Welch



The 4271 steam engine is on the home stretch to be finished and will be track tested by the time you read this. I think Ken will be pleased to see his old locomotive running around the tracks again. I want to thank everyone that has helped me make parts for it, the awesome help has made the rebuild go faster.

The RS3 diesel is on the operating table next and will be ready to run soon. Please keep an eye on the locomotives that you are running. Make sure all fluids are topped off and the track is clear of obstructions. See you all at the spring meet.



### Safety Chairman Report

by Marty Carapiet

The Safety Committee has started the monthly, quarterly, and yearly inspection logs for the entire facility. We will be putting together inspection sheets for all trains, riding cars, track, buildings, containers, bathroom, grounds, electrical, and plumbing etc., to insure a safe and fun place for all to enjoy. This process will take a couple of months to complete.



We, are also asking all members to be on the look out for any potential safety items that need to be addressed, and to please contact me with any areas of concern.

As always, be safe and have fun!!

### Safety Rules for the month:

#### 3.04 Safety Chains

All trains running are required to have steel safety chains or cable (1/8" minimum thickness) connecting the locomotive and any car behind the engine, whether occupied or not. Draw bars are acceptable in place of chains or cables.

## Machining switch points.

*By Donald Yungling*

I was given a stack of 1" channel to turn into points for the club, so this is my story. The easy way to machine switch points would be to use a pair of lathe tool bits that fit snugly into the slots of the milling table positioned at the ends of the channel. Add a spacer, 7/16" in this case for the taper, clamp the channel down and, go to town. Well... easy if you don't have a vise and rotary table already on the table and have an aversion to moving heavy items.

Taking advantage of existing tooling plates I went about figuring out how to put them to use for our needs. The tooling plate has a series of drilled holes for 1/4" dowel pins that are parallel to the sides of the plate. I have a pair of clamping blocks which worked well in clamping against the lower flange of the channel.

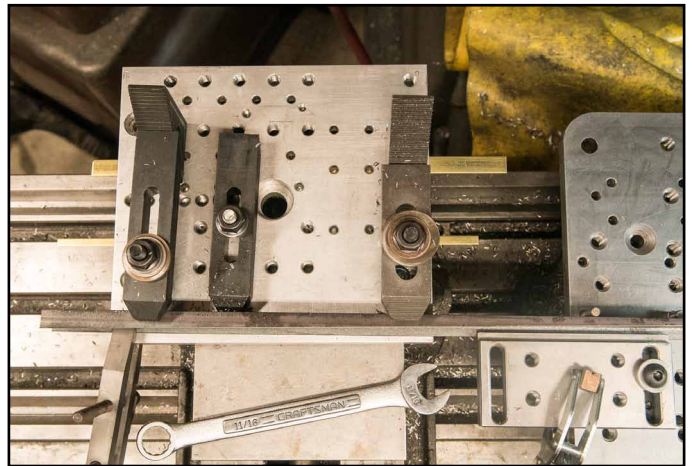
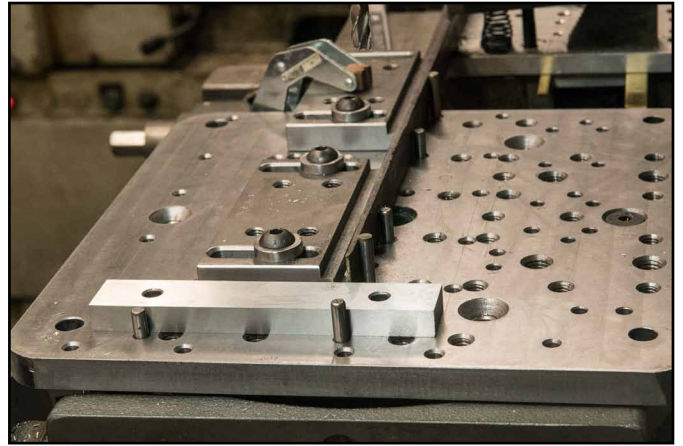
At the other end I have another plate that has a flat bar screwed to the bottom side and is held by the vise jaws, and happens to be within .010" of the same height as the rotary table. Using a straight edge, a clamp bar was bolted down to the plate and the other end of the channel rests against it. This ensures the channel is straight when clamped down. A pair of clamps retains that end of the channel.

To set the angle a round pin was held in the spindle and zeroed against one end of the channel, moving the table to the other end the pin was offset by 7/16" using the cross feed on the table. Once in this position the rotary table was turned until the channel met the pin.

The majority on the metal was milled off with one 3/8" end mill and then finished with a new cutter removing the last .010" of metal. A chamfer cutter was used to break the edge. A belt sander was used to round over the milled edge.

When using clamp blocks, generally one is only machining an individual part so time spent aligning the clamps is not a real problem. In production that time begins to add up so any thing that will make it easier to reposition the clamp would be useful. In this case I found a coil spring under the clamp near the part to be the cat's meow. Later I found putting the springs around the studs works even better.

The drill, that is my rapid traverse unit since I do not have a power feed on the table. It is too fast for feeding so machining is done by hand.



Our Trainmaster was training members to run the steamer, while Dick Patton and Ron King know about steam as they have 2 1/2 inch scale engines but burning coal, they wanted to learn about using propane. Dillon Post was also getting time on the steamer.



At the club on May 16th, your tutorial using the club 4-6-0 provided plenty of time for us to ask questions and review your instruction with hands-on operation of the engine - our first time running both propane and that engine. Due to your time and patience, we feel we now have the basics for what to do to convert our engines to propane, and to safely operate them. Thanks, Dick Patton



Evan Guinte



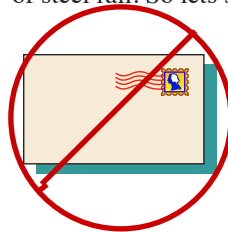
Michelle and John Guinte

April Board Summary by Chris Donhost, Secretary

- Board meetings are moving to Mondays starting in May (May 9<sup>th</sup>). Same location, same time.
- Facility security is an issue: items are being left open, unlocked, and left out. All members are responsible for security and helping to secure the facility at the end of the day.
- SVLS will participate in “Kids Day” this year; members need to use Ambassador Drive entrance.
- Board approved insurance purchase up to budgeted amount; Chris still looking for new carrier.
  - **UPDATE: New carrier found, club-only locomotive restriction of pulling public trains has been lifted.**
- Membership Chair has resigned position due to family obligations.
- Board discussed a “photography time” during the meet as proposed by a member.
- New directional signs have been posted along the road inside the park to SVLS.
- Republic Services donated a 3<sup>rd</sup> dumpster to complete the facility clean-up project.
- Steve Perry has taken over the steel rail purchase project, and will work with Bill to complete.
- All parties will now have a mandatory 3-person crew, adding a stationmaster.



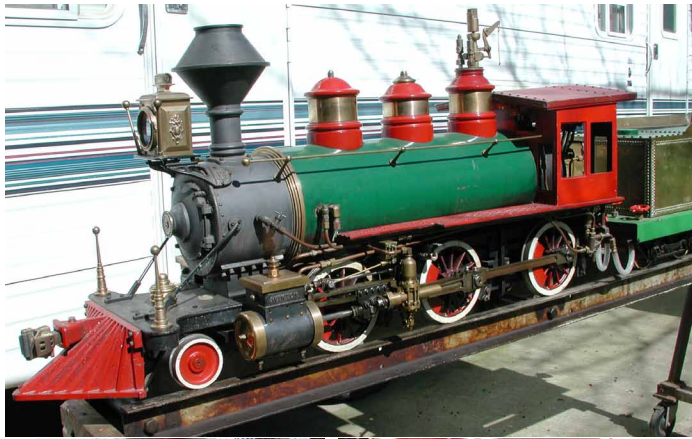
Help save SVLSRM each month and read the newsletter on-line. Printing is costing the club over \$1700. per year. We could be buying 100 yards of gravel, or over 800 feet of steel rail. So lets spend the club money on building more railroad, not paper piles. We have 47% of the members still receiving printed copy, so let’s move to the digital age and tell Membership that you don’t need the mailed copy. We will notify you by E-mail when ready to read online and download if you want to print it. Thanks.



Need a coupler repaired, then call Ross Crawford as he is offering to fix them free.

**FOR SALE**

Winton Mogul #8 \$8000.  
obo - Ross Crawford (916) 718-4162



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 \$6950 Or best offer.  
Call 559-281-3724 for more information.  
Email dboudrrtrain@sbcglobal.net  
Doug Boudakian



**Trolley for Sale.**  
Price \$1500 OBO, plus engine stand for sale.  
Call: Clio Geyer (916) 645-9154

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



**10 Years ago:** Irrigation water line extension  
Our new 4" water line from the Cordova Recreation and Park District is up and running. There is now enough volume to run many of our drip system heads all at the same time. In addition, all of our impact sprinkler heads have been converted to rotary gear driven heads with wide radius patterns on our high pressure hose system. Fewer settings are required for complete coverage, making each water cycle considerably shorter than in past years.

So how did you start an interest in TRAINS??  
Darrell Gomes shared this photo of him which was taken in Redwood park in 1957 with a man that his dad worked with. This was the start to the dream that has become a reality - Thanks to all my new friends in the SVLS.



**20 Years ago:** The club has obtained 6 new eight foot tables and 20 new chairs to use for the Spring Meet dinner. You may want to bring some folding chairs to make sure we have enough for everyone to sit down for dinner.

Dale Fowlar, a new member of the safety Committee, is working on a junior Engineer Program. Dale is willing to work with the Juniors during the week of the Meet.

**30 Years ago:** We finished the grading for the box car and caboose. All of the fence post holes were dug to move the fence by the box car site. There were some ties renewed and the grass was cut. On Sunday morning the fence posts were all set in concrete by a hard-working crew. Matthew Merkh and Robbie Sharratt took it upon themselves to work for a couple of hours getting rid of weeds around the track. (Believe it or not, they did it without even being asked!). We are trying to keep up with the present work, but it is going to take a better work day party in order to progress with the planned new projects of making our facilities bigger and better. Hope to see you there next month. - Amandus Drewes, Superintendent

**GGLS PARTY REPORT.** According to all who attended, the food and fellowship were great; the band was a great high-stepping jazz band. SVLS had a good turnout and a plaque was presented to GGLS from SVLS by Al Shelley in honor of GGLS' 50th Anniversary and wishing them many more successful years.

**40 Years ago:** Equipment for sale by Doc Harris - 1 1/2" scale, 7 1/2 gauge Rutland 4-6-0 as illustrated and described in Live Steam May 1973 Railroad Supply Co. of Texas ad. Constructed new by Torn's Machine and Engineering Co. of Austin, Texas. Delivered May 1, 1974. Boiler checked and run regularly on SVLS tracks. (Update this is now the club engine. Ed.)