

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsrcm.org

November 2019

Volume 46, Issue 11

## November

# ELECTION

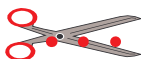
**Election for 2020:** Our annual General Membership meeting is also our general election meeting, and is on Saturday, Nov. 16 1:30 PM at the club. Ballots will be cast and absentee ballots accepted. All will be counted to elect four individuals to the Board of Directors.

The nominees for our Board of Directors are:

- President - Andy Berchielli
- Secretary - Stephanie Huntingdale
- Trainmaster - Peter Welch
- Director 2 - Steve Milward

# VOTE

We want all voting members (regular, family, & life members) to vote.  
Thanks.



*Voting Members if you can not come to the meeting on Nov. 16th, then please mail in your ballot.*

		<i>Vote on each below</i>
Y	N	President - Andy Berchielli
Y	N	Secretary - Stephanie Huntingdale
Y	N	Trainmaster - Peter Welch
Y	N	Director at large #2 - Steve Milward

Cut out or copy and mail to SVLSRM - election  
PO box 273 Rancho Cordova, CA 95741 -> **by Nov. 13th**

## President's Report

*By Andy Berchielli*



We kicked off October with our third annual Pumpkin Express Train. This year we had a good crop of pumpkins but attendance was down overall. Not sure why. Maybe we didn't get the word out enough. Maybe too many events going on in town that weekend. Who knows. We did still make a profit but it could always be better. Any ideas to spread the word let us know. Events like this enable the club to continue with improvements to the railroad.

After the pumpkin train we got a generous donation from a past members estate. The family of William Callow reached out to us to donate his large collection of Live Steam magazines, Model Engineer and several others titles. This will be added to our growing library. We also picked up several pieces of shop equipment including two mills, two band saws, bench grinders, table saw and dust collector. The club will organize and use most of the equipment. Those that don't fit will be offered for sale to membership. A big thank you to Dennis Gramith and Peter Welch for helping me pick up the equipment.

We had great weather for our Fall Meet. Although we were not at capacity we still had a great turnout. I always enjoy seeing familiar faces and saying Hi to all. At the end of the weekend I always seem to be losing my voice but that's good thing. We enjoy each other's company and hanging out for a weekend. Of course these events always require a tremendous amount of prep and setup work. I can't thank those enough how much their efforts are appreciated by others. I would like to name everyone but I'm afraid I'll leave someone out. So all of you who spend countless hours to help in some way your efforts do not go unnoticed. The fact that events go off without complaints is a testament to the work that goes into these events.

This November we will be doing a small mainline track replacement. We will be replacing the outbound curve track heading out the north gate. **See our Track Superintendent Report by Dennis Bowie on page 5 for details of this project and our January project.** So stay tuned to your Email. We will send out an Email with a work day or two in November.



## SVLSRM Calendar

- Nov. 4 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room  
Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
- Nov. 16 Membership meeting Elections 1:30 at track.  
Also Member run day & Pot luck lunch at Noon.
- Nov. 30 Rancho Rancho Cordova Christmas tree track setup
- Dec. 1 Rancho Cordova Christmas tree lighting.
- Dec. 2 Rancho Cordova Christmas tree track take down
- Dec. 7-8 Santa Train.
- Dec. 9 Board Meeting 6:30 P.M. (City hall)  
Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
- Dec. 14-15 Santa Train.
- Dec. 21 Member run day & Pot luck lunch at Noon.
- Jan. 1, 2020 Members Meeting & New Years Day Run  
- bring your train and let's run all day.
- Jan. expect work weekends during January and February.
- Jan. 13 Board Meeting 6:30 P.M.

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

**Rates have  
increased again  
and again.**



**Help us save money.**

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



Please check the SVLSRM web site  
[www.svlstrm.org](http://www.svlstrm.org) for current informa-  
tion. If you have not looked for a while,  
then you will have missed news or for  
sale items that are not in the newsletter.

The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc.  
is organized and operated exclusively for public benefit chari-  
table 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](mailto:editor@svlstrm.org).  
**The news letter deadline is 24th of each month.**  
**Member articles wanted.**

## MEMBERSHIP

by Barbara Rohrs

### Welcome to New Members:

Joseph Delgman, Concord  
Rick Oswood, Olivehurst  
Brad & Ren Strong, Diamond Springs  
Cliff & Emee Gertz, Alamo  
Jim Augustus, San Jose



## DUES ARE DUE NOW PLEASE PAY BY JAN 1, 2020

### MEET Stats:

5 New Members signed up  
91 Members attended with 62 family & friends  
Visitors from CA, CO, TX, IL, WA, NV  
Visitors each day:  
Friday, 10/18: 14  
Saturday, 10/19: 42  
Sunday, 10/20: 21

## Board of Directors

(##) *Ending year of term*

President: Andy Berchelli (916) 752-6697 (19)

E-mail: [president@svlstrm.org](mailto:president@svlstrm.org)

Vice President: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884 (20)

E-mail: [vicepresident@svlstrm.org](mailto:vicepresident@svlstrm.org)

Secretary: Alex Wilde (530) 919-5026 (19)

E-mail: [secretary@svlstrm.org](mailto:secretary@svlstrm.org)

Treasurer: Alison Berry (916) 983-9712 (20)

E-mail: [treasurer@svlstrm.org](mailto:treasurer@svlstrm.org)

Track Superintendent: Dennis Bowie (916) 337-9492 (20)

E-mail: [tracksuper@svlstrm.org](mailto:tracksuper@svlstrm.org)

Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (925) 876-0375 (20)

E-mail: [yardmaster@svlstrm.org](mailto:yardmaster@svlstrm.org)

Trainmaster: Peter Welch (916) 838 4998 (19)

E-mail: [trainmaster@svlstrm.org](mailto:trainmaster@svlstrm.org)

Director1: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113 (20)

E-mail: [director\\_bill@svlstrm.org](mailto:director_bill@svlstrm.org)

Director2: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (19)

E-mail: [director\\_steve@svlstrm.org](mailto:director_steve@svlstrm.org)

### Committee Chairpersons

Membership Chairperson: Barbara Rohrs (916) 730-1415

E-mail: [membership@svlstrm.org](mailto:membership@svlstrm.org)

Safety Chairperson: --- OPEN ---

E-mail:

Caboose Chairperson: Barbara Moser (916) 645-3425

E-mail: [caboose@svlstrm.org](mailto:caboose@svlstrm.org)

Birthday & Company Event Chairperson:

Phone: (916) 572-7857 E-mail: [Events@svlstrm.org](mailto:Events@svlstrm.org)

Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113

E-mail: [editor@svlstrm.org](mailto:editor@svlstrm.org)

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



**Wow!** We just finished 5 events in 2 months. Narrow Gauge Meet, Galt 150 Birthday Celebration, Folsom Railfest, Pumpkin Train, and the Fall Meet. That’s a lot a planning and coordination. How did we manage all this? It takes planning. Most of the planning falls on the shoulders of the SVLSRM Board.

Remember, all board members are responsible for their own board workload and planning events gets squeezed into that.

Here’s an idea – what if members step up to be an event planner/ coordinator?

Here is a list of our events:

- January – Winter Celebration Potluck
- April – Kid’s Day at the Park
- May – Spring Meet
- July – 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration
- August – Hot August Nights Potluck
- September – Folsom Railfest
- October – Pumpkin Train and Fall Meet
- November – Christmas Tree Lighting
- December – Santa Train

We had 2 special events this year – Narrow Gauge Meet and Galt 150 Birthday Celebration. There has been talk of rotating the Narrow Gauge Meet with some other clubs so it will happen again.

The Board has developed event planning documents for the majority of our events so there is a check-off list to follow. We really need members’ help and input. Are you willing to take on one or more of these events? We all know things are smoother with someone in charge. Please contact the board if you are interested.

Thanks!  
Alison



“Steaming Bay”



**Director - Steve Milward**

If you missed the 2019 Fall Meet, you passed up a good one! Happy visitors, great weather and lots of trains. It was a great chance to catch up with old friends and make new acquaintances. Naturally, there were little hiccups along the way (I managed to derail 3 times...), but these serve to point out areas that might need improvement. So that’s what we’ll do.

As always, none of this would have been possible without the all of the volunteers who came out to make it happen. The facilities folks had the area looking beautiful. Thanks to the people who set-up and tore down the tents and tables, and hauled items back and forth from the containers. A big thank you to Alison, Barbara R. and Bill F. for keeping registration, sales and concessions running smoothly. Of course, the real stars of the show were Barbara, Stephanie, Lisa, Kevin, and the entire Caboose crew for keeping us well fed and happy!

The G Gauge area looked great, and their hard work was well received, as evidenced by the number of trains running. One member mentioned to me how much he appreciated the fact that so many folks in our club are willing to help other members and visitors. That sort of attitude goes a long way. I know there were many more who helped to make this a memorable event, and we thank you for your efforts!

So what’s next, you ask? The Christmas tree lighting in Rancho Cordova, followed by the Santa Trains. Naturally, the Santa Trains are where we’re going to need all the help we can get! From setting up, decorating, making cookies, serving our guests, operating trains, and everything in between. If you can imagine it, It probably needs doing. The Santa Trains are our biggest fundraiser of the year, and the proceeds from this event allows us to continue operating and make improvement to our railroad. We’ll need help (lots of it) before, during and after the event! Yet the response from the visitors and their children makes it all worth it! We hope you’ll jump in and be a part of it.

Until then, we hope to see you on the rails.



Lunch food line at Fall Meet.

Dear kids,

I am member of the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers [S.V.L.S.]. I've got a question for you. Do you love trains? If so, I've got some things to tell you about it from me.

When my family first joined the club, I was so amazed. It was better than I imagined in my head. They had actual real trains that you could ride on. I thought it was a dream at first. I wanted to learn to ride and drive them. It took me a few years to learn but I eventually got the hang of it. I also got to drive the Gator truck and use a leaf blower. Our trains go around the park, near the river, and through our "woods". We often see deer, turkeys, and even jackrabbits. We could not go up and touch them though because they are very shy animals and are faster than you think. But you get to observe them while on the train. We have rides on public days at a low price.

Moving on, we added things over the years. We added a waterfall, a caboose library, and we're even building a mini saw mill by the waterfall. Plus we've added a G Scale train tracks down by the lower station. I'm telling you that you should come and join the club if you really like trains. We also have special events like the 4th of July celebration, pumpkin train, the spring meet, the fall meet, and the Santa train. We even hold birthday parties.

Hope we see you soon...very soon! Sincerely, Ryan Bowie



Setting up for Fall Meet, thanks guys!



Even our four legged friends enjoy a train ride.



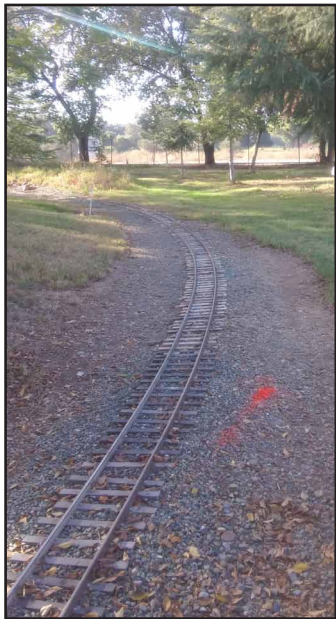
### Track Superintendent Report

*By Dennis Bowie*

With fall meet past and the cold approaching we have plans for the winter projects. One of the projects is to start the ground work for an inside loop; you may ask yourself what is the inside loop? This would be a section of track that would go around the north hill from memorial grove and reattach to the main line that is coming down from the box car yard. The thought behind this is so that we can keep our gates close for private parties or birthday parties and not worry about people wandering in the gates.

The plan is to get the road base graded before the winter rains so that the ground can settle over the winter. Reno has offered his services to do this for us and he will start this part of the project on Oct. 27th afternoon. One of the things that will happen it to remove about 40 feet of track just before the north gate. The grading will be done and then new ballast will be placed and new steel panels place to replace the old. So this will mean that the main line track inside our facility will be closed about 2 weeks and finished and made ready to run before Santa train. If you want to come out to run during that time you can use the park loop.

Other projects for the winter are: 1. replace the track from Hillview east, north switch up to the snow shed. 2. Replace 2 aluminum track switches with steel track switches.



Looking at the main line inside the north gate.



North: looking at memorial grove.



### SVLSRM Helpers:

These are the names on my list in the caboose as set up helpers on 10-15,16,17 I'm sure there is more. Also workdays: Bill Yoder, Dennis Gramith, Harry Voss, Bill Floyd, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Alison Berry, Stephanie & Phil Huntingdale, Steve Milward, Butch Floyd, Andrew Sach, Richard Lutrel, Marty Carapiet, Colton Snell, Paul Brink, and Paul Skidmore.



### Fall Meet Photos





**10 Years ago:** The track crew started laying the track panels for the Sugar Pine right of way last week. Paul Skidmore and Ben Klienwacher unloaded and placed the track panels and Jack Friedmean, Bill Yoder, and I started bolting the panels together. Terry Wiles has been very busy raking and sweeping the track since the storm made a mess. Pete Arney & Lee Frechett have

been installing the new crossing in the park. When completed the Hagan Park 7 1/2" gauge track replacement project will be complete. This will now give the operators of the 4 3/4" gauge the go ahead to complete their track.



**20 Years ago:** The 1999 Fall Meet was undoubtedly a success. The number of locomotives attending was so great, that we didn't even have enough time to write them all down (sorry guys, that's my fault). Steam locomotives numbered in the 30's and diesel and electric added another 15 or so. In all, we had in the neighborhood of 50 locomotives running at the track over the three-day meet. This was one of the best attended in my recent memory. The range of locomotives that showed up included everything from 0-4-0's, the Cab-forward, West Valley electric and large diesels. We also had locomotives under construction for viewing such as John Bailie's beautifully built Chloe-type locomotives. I have to thank everyone for operating safely, especially when the track becomes congested as it can. I also

need to thank Dave Mattox for helping check boiler certificates of visiting and local engineers. - Matt Mason

**30 Years ago:** Well folks, it seems hard to believe that 1989 is almost over but, it is not so hard to believe a year has passed when you stop and think about all the improvements that have been made on our facility since January. Some of the most significant improvements are: New steaming bays with air, water and electricity and a second loading hoist with a 20' access gate, 50 tons of gravel spread in the steaming bays, electricity and lights in the box car, automatic sprinklers system extended to the pump house, 70% of existing mainline track has been re-tied, re-ballasted and re-aligned (to get an idea of how much track work has been done, consider the fact that we laid 40 tons of ballast, by hand!) new siding in switch yard. Lead track from new transfer table, completed, re-laid on new ballast and radius widened, new security light on roundhouse. All of these projects and more (and we didn't even mention all the work done to keep up the lawn and trees) represent a tremendous amount of work, much of which was done by many dedicated members of our club with a strong helping hand from the Sheriff's work Crews.

- Doug Fulton, Superintendent.

**40 Years ago:** The President Speaks ... Thanks, members, for your cooperation during the past year which saw the construction of the inbound track to the steaming bay, a new power line and lift motor and the purchase of a riding mower. Although the m/w storage building isn't started, it is well along in promotion and planning. Special thanks to members and guests who made such a success of the Fall meet in spite of the rain.

Fall meet memories includes new members John and Florence Faria. John has a miniature steam traction engine big enough to ride. John and Flo are regulars at our meets. They also include the perennial Joe Yetter and son Wayne with their SP2-6-6-2 and caboose, Don Brodhead and the little SP2412 with the great big whistle, Charley Steinmetz with his C & I "Elizabeth", Bob Petersen with his sheen and green American CP 173, Herm Volz 'American John Haines' Santa Fe 4-6-4, Bill Fisher's logging train and Ken Schroeder's Shay, plus many more engines from members and others.



Fall Meet Photos - Three is always better than one.

Fall Meet Photos



Elections will be November 16th 1:30pm at the club, Please attend.

Year 2020 dues may be now paid. Please pay before first of year. Thanks.



The Yuma Territory Live Steamers Fall meet will be November 15-17 in Yuma, AZ. Call 928-782-1988 for more info or go the yumalivesteamers.org



**SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH**

**1.15 Children**

Parents or Guardians shall be responsible for the safety, supervision, and behavior of their Children at all times.

**2.04 Periods of Low Visibility**

All trains running during periods of low visibility or after sunset shall be equipped with a marker light, or with lights on the rear of the last car, displaying a red light to the rear and visible for at least 150 Ft.

**3.14 Approaching Stopped Trains**

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

**4.02 Requirement of Conductor**

All trains hauling passengers shall have at least one qualified Conductor on the last car of the train, or facing backward on the rear seat of the Engineer car. It shall be their responsibility to protect the rear of the train and to assist the Engineer in the operation of the train. Each Conductor on duty shall have a whistle (police type) and a red flag or light on the train.



**FOR SALE**



For sale Grizzly 2 HP dust collector \$200. Can be run on 115v or 230v. Currently setup to run on 230v.

Comes with some hose, fittings and two isolation gates.



Grizzly 3HP 230V. TableSaw. \$400

Needs a fence.



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