

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlstrm.org

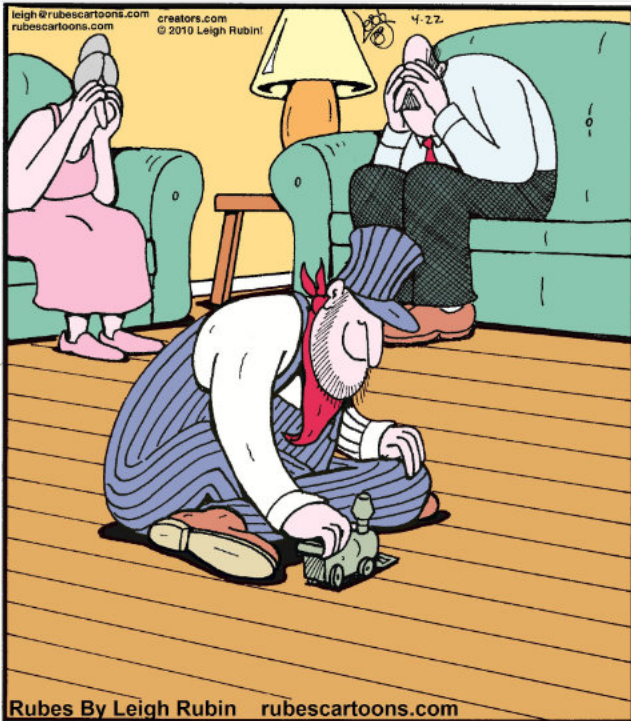
May 2020

Volume 47, Issue 05

This Spring marks our 47th year as a club. The club has continued to grow with great members, and we continue to add to, or modify our facilities to provide a great place to run, learn and teach people about trains, in particular Steam Locomotives.

As we deal with the current COVID-19 of staying home, keeping our distance from others, and hoping to prevent the spread of this virus, we find things to do at home (either old projects not finished or new ones, and being careful if we go out.

Lets have some fun and celebrate our 47th year this spring as you play with your trains at home. Now is the time to tune up your locomotive and cars so that when we are all at the club track again, we can run trains on our new added track. *Happy railroading to everyone.*



Rubes By Leigh Rubin rubescartoons.com

By age 47, it became clear that Lester and his parents had distinctly different ideas on what it meant to grow up and become a successful engineer.

"By permission of Leigh Rubin and Creators Syndicate, Inc."

President's Report

By Andy Berchielli



The concerns and restrictions of the COVID-19 virus have put a damper on the month of April for us. Parties and public runs were canceled. The board also decided to cancel the Spring Meet. However we have continued to work at the park in small groups. No scheduled work days have happened. Rather a few of us get together to get some maintenance done. Raking leaves, doing repairs on mower and gator, and continuing track work are a few things done this month. It's a good thing to keep the park looking good during these times. The last thing we want to do is to make the place look vacant. I have seen it on my mail route. The moment a business leaves, the homeless seem to take over within days. So I plan to be there at least one day a week to keep a presence of activity at the park.

The park remains open. Members are allowed at the park as long as we maintain social distance and keep gatherings small.

The good news is the inner loop track has been run on several times during this last month. Everything works flawlessly. Work in progress for the loop is installing a lollipop switch stand for entering the inner loop. We are also in process of installing signals for the diamond.

The city has canceled all meetings at city hall until further notice. So our board meetings held on the second Monday of the month are now held on Zoom video conferencing.

Members have always been allowed to attend. So if you would like to join in on our Board Meeting, reach out to me and I will let you know how to do it.



Keeping their distance from each other while eating.

SVLSRM Calendar

Club future activity will depend on VIRUS GUIDELINES. Public activity is Canceled.

May 7 Public run day - CANCELED
 May 8 Public run day - CANCELED
 May 9 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM - meeting will be on-line video conference. If you want to participate please contact club President.

June 6 Public run day - CANCELED
 June 7 Public run day - CANCELED
 June 9 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM - Location to be determined.

Please volunteer to support the club events.

How will you support SVLSRM this month?



Help us save money by not mailing newsletters.

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.



www.svlstrm.org for current information. 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 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.

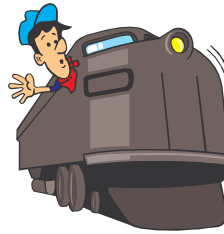
The Golden Spike is the published monthly by the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc., P.O. Box 273, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741. The SVLSRM track is located in Hagan Community Park, Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA.

Articles & Pictures may be submitted to: editor@svlstrm.org.

The news letter deadline is 24th of each month. Member articles wanted.

MEMBERSHIP

by Barbara Rohrs



**Welcome New Member
 Chris Klevesahl
 Mather, CA**

Due to the Spring Meet being canceled the 2020 Membership Roster will be printed and delivered for the Fall meet.

The current (paid) membership is always available on-line at our club web site.

Board of Directors

(##) Ending year of term

- President: Andy Berchelli (916) 752-6697 (21)
E-mail: president@svlstrm.org
- Vice President: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884 (20)
E-mail: vicepresident@svlstrm.org
- Secretary: Stephanie Huntingdale (916) 580-7377 (21)
E-mail: secretary@svlstrm.org
- Treasurer: Alison Berry (916) 983-9712 (20)
E-mail: treasurer@svlstrm.org
- Track Superintendent: Dennis Bowie (916) 337-9492 (20)
E-mail: tracksuper@svlstrm.org
- Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (925) 876-0375 (20)
E-mail: yardmaster@svlstrm.org
- Trainmaster: Peter Welch (916) 838 4998 (21)
E-mail: trainmaster@svlstrm.org
- Director1: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113 (20)
E-mail: director_bill@svlstrm.org
- Director2: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (21)
E-mail: director_steve@svlstrm.org

Committee Chairpersons

- Membership Chairperson: Barbara Rohrs (916) 730-1415
E-mail: membership@svlstrm.org
- Safety Chairperson: --- OPEN ---
E-mail:
- Caboose Chairperson: Barbara Moser (916) 645-3425
E-mail: caboose@svlstrm.org
- Birthday & Company Event Chairperson:
Phone: (916) 572-7857 E-mail: Events@svlstrm.org
- Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113
E-mail: editor@svlstrm.org

Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM



TRACK UPDATE

By Phil Huntingdale

April was very eventful for the Phase 2 table build out. The Hardie Backer Board installation was completed. Even with the stay at home business, a few members showed up to relieve the home fever by painting the deck, marking the track layout, and installing the no.1 (outer) track for the 230 feet of main line. Keeping social distancing, the trestle is being completed and track is being installed. The original goal was to have this finished by the Spring Meet. The lift bridge was built by Nate Polen and installed by Craig Griffin. The trestle has been installed and the planter retaining wall is almost complete by Bob Dean. Some locomotives have been run on the new rail and it is spectacular to see. This is a great addition to the club.



While we have been installing the track, we discovered someone had provided several feet of new Accucraft G201-01 Code 332 6ft Flex Track and Piko switches. I wish to thank you. Again I wish to thank Jim Welch, Chuck Sanfilippo, Mike Falkenstein, Paul Brink, and others for their generous track donation in the past. Also, thanks to those who have donated money, supplies, labor, and support to the G scale projects. This project could not have been built without your generosity.

A little tidbit, *Steam in the Garden*, a national magazine, featured a several page article about the G scale build with the plan and many photos in the March/April issue. A copy is in the caboose; check it out next time you're at the park.

Hopefully, we have all been following our shelter in place, and when out and about, the 6 foot distance. If we've done

this right, maybe by May 1st some of the restrictions can be lifted. I for one want to run my train on the new crossover! See you at the park then.

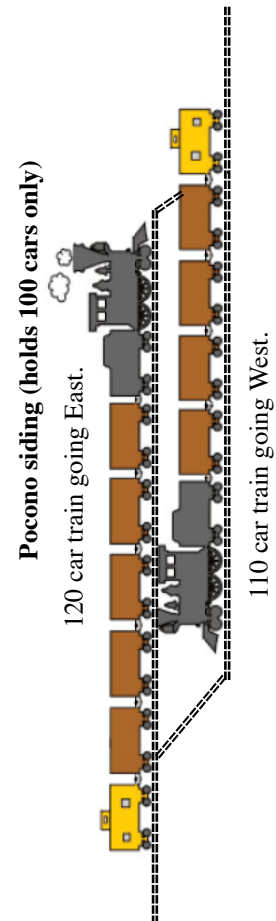


Harry came down on a Tuesday to run his engine he got back from being repaired by Phil's friend. It is a F3A and F3B Southern Pacific. He also kept social distancing as we were working on Phase 2.

Here is a railroad problem to solve in your idle time at home.

Two Long Trains

The following is a true story that happened on the Milwaukee Road in 1978. The Pocono siding as 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?





SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH

1.01 General Restrictions

All equipment to be run on the club track is subject to inspection by the Trainmaster at any time. Failure to

submit to or pass such inspection may result in removal of the equipment from SVLSRM facilities subject to SVLSRM Trainmaster.

2.02 Daylight Operations

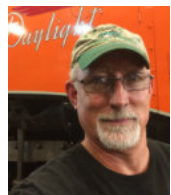
All Locomotives shall be equipped with a whistle, horn, or other sounding device producing audible signals. Such sounding devices shall be powerful enough to be heard distinctly for at least 150 feet. All locomotives shall carry a red flag and whistle to warn traffic of emergencies and for passing on visual and audible signals.

3.19 Bad Order Cards

Equipment that is taken out of service shall be tagged for cause. Tagged equipment must not be operated or coupled to any engines or cars except for repairs or corrections. The bad order card shall not be removed until repair is fixed.

4.09 Brake Requirements - Large Trains

Any train consisting of more than 7 cars available for passengers shall have at least one half of the cars equipped with operable brakes, such brakes to be operated by the engineer from the locomotive.



Director - Steve Milward

Hello to all. I hope all are in good health and are managing to move forward with your lives during these uncertain times. These last few weeks have been challenging for a lot of people. Our organization has had to make changes too. The Board of Directors made the difficult, yet prudent decision to cancel the Spring Meet in addition to all official run and work days until further notice. Also canceled for the near term are public and private events. When these events might resume will be determined by the Board, based on direction from public leaders.

That said, a small number of members have spent some time at the park to perform ongoing maintenance, repair and improvements on the track, grounds and facilities. The folks down there were practicing social distancing in and about their tasks.

I can say that my time away from work and the club has allowed me an opportunity to get a lot done around the house, and I've made great progress on some of my railroad projects. I can also say that I miss seeing and spending time with my fellow club members. I hope others have had the opportunity to work on their pet projects too. So, until we can all get together on the rails again, be patient, be safe, and be productive.



10 Years ago: Its time for Spring Meet and the track is ready!

This is the time for me to Thank the members of the track crew and the members for there time and dedication to keeping the right of way in Great operating condition. I would like to Thank Paul Skidmore, Ben Kleinwachter, Jack Friedmen, Richard Lutrel, Garrett Garnes, Terry Wiles, Leonard Houpt, and

Bill Yoder.

Andy Berchielli has done a fine job spraying the road bed for weeds. I would like to reminded all engineers and conductor to check the switch points and be sure they are free of rocks and that the points are closed. There is a lot of foot traffic and rocks get kicked !

20 Years ago:

The Easter Egg Hunt was cold and wet! The hunt began at 10:00 AM and by 10:05, our line was quite long. The hunters and their families rode behind the RS3 running in the reverse direction with Matthew Mason as engineer, Venessa Mason as flagman, and Don Hyberg and Anne Bruner-Welch were station attendants. What a different track the old layout becomes when traveled on in a different direction. (Presidents report) ... So, as you travel and arrive for our Spring Meet to visit with old friends and hopefully make some new ones, please remind yourself that this wonderful facility is due to a lot of man hours by your elected Board members and fellow club members who unselfishly give of their time. Please just don't take all this work for granted. Like the commuters thinking the conductor just punches tickets, don't think that all the club had to do was open the gate to welcome you.

30 Years ago:

On Saturday, April 21, our regular Work Day, many of our members joined the Railroad Museum and Volunteers from the Unit Shop for a trip to Davenport for a picnic at Al Smith's (the gentleman who donated the Overfair Engine #1915 to the Railroad Museum). Despite the chilly weather, everyone seem to have a wonderful time. Mr. Smith was extremely generous in allowing all of us to wander around the railroad right-of-way on his property and lead a guided tour of his roundhouse. Milon Thorley, who is the "crew chief" for the volunteers that are working on the Overfair Engine at the Unit Shop.

40 Years ago:

PROGRESS AT THE RAILHEAD has been unexpectedly good. The passenger siding will be operable by the meet... on slow order to be sure, but operable just the same, and for revenue service. The celerity with which events have unfolded is due to efforts put in by Andy Anderson, Tom Anderson, Chuck Corothers, Dick Esselbach, Earl McKenzie, Wally Ripley, Warren Rose, Al Shelley, Ed Spall, John Siebert, Bill Wells and Gerry Carney, but especially by the Hilmar Heros, Joe and Al DeFreitas. Ken Spicer, the club's GOM, never fails to drop around to lend encouragement to the good work.



It is with sadness we report that Marty Carapiet at the age of 64 has lost his battle with cancer.

Marty made a big impact with his short time as a member of the club. He was the first one to greet you and help unload your equipment at meets.

He served as a chairmen for several years and liked to take on projects that have helped out the club in more ways than you can think. The rolling RV gate was a donation from his company. The stairs to the boxcar was a huge improvement. He also took on the rebuilding of twin bridges.

His greatest contribution was the donation of his Allen 10 Wheeler he enjoyed building. He told me he wished he would have done more. I told him members like you make this hobby of ours enjoyable for all.

Thank you for the time you spent with us. Your contributions will live on forever. Our condolences go out to his family in this time of grieving.



Yardmaster report

By Richard Lutrel

Thanks to everyone that has been coming down to the track and helping work on projects. If anyone wants to help mow please let me know and if so give me the chance to give you a little once over on the mower before taking it out. There is always push mower work or weeding that can be done Remember this is OUR club for all to enjoy. There is always something that can be done besides just coming down and playing trains.

Secretary Board Report

By Stephanie Huntingdale

April 2020 Board meeting:

Covid-19, after discussing options, the Board has canceled the April public runs, birthday parties, and the May SPRING MEET. California restrictions change daily, the Board will revisit and make other changes as needed.

Maintenance on the Gator and Lawn Mower will continue.

Board accepted the Policy on LEVI donation and operation.

FCR 2018-2 G Scale Layout – Craig Griffin reported that following Covid-19 regulations the deck is done and track is being installed

FCR 2020-02 Track Plan for inside loop – DONE

FCR 2020-03 – hoping to do some work in June. It is planned to have the loading dock light working by Fourth of July meet.

FCR 2020-04 – Signals for the inside loop and cross over track. Alan Shipley is working with Dennis Bowie designing the new switches. They will be automated. Work will continue as allowed.

Board is working on developing a “Legacy Plan” to enable the club to continue operations with little interruption.



The following people were being good and keeping their distance from each other while working on track, G-Gage table, helping with mowing and weed eating at SVLS.

4-18-2020 Work Day

- David McFarland & Grandson - leaves, branches
- John Bailey - Pine Needles and branches
- Barbara Moser - Cleaned Caboose
- Gordon Moser - Mowing
- Harry Voss - Weed eating
- Richard Lutrel & family - Mowing
- Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale - G-Gage Table
- Craig Griffin - G-Gage Table
- Bob & Mary Dean - G-Gage Table
- Steve Milward - Power for Signal Lights for new crossover
- Dennis Bowie - Power for Signal Lights for new crossover
- Alan Shifley - Power for Signal Lights for new crossover
- Andy Berchielli -
- Peter Welch
- Alison Berry

FOR SALE

A complete 7.5" gauge train in 1/8 scale. Included is the locomotive, boxcar, gondola and caboose. There are many extras included, be sure to watch the video as there are many details explained throughout. Asking \$22,500.00
Please call (916) 208-7295 Video: <https://youtu.be/RuOj3HUU3MI>

