

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlstrm.org

March 2022

Volume 49, Issue 03



March 5th & 6th starts our new season of public runs. No kidding - we need your help. You Engineers, Conductors, and Stationmasters are needed.

If you need to update any of your tests, they are good for two years, please come down to the park and re-certify. Copies of the tests are available on the website.



New main lines at Hillview.



President's Report

By Andy Berchielli

The month of February had been busy. With great weather we had works crews every Tuesday and Saturday. The main project is to complete Hillview track replacement in time for our public runs. That should be accomplished on February 26. The center siding and new yard will be completed during the run season. We also had many hands helping clean up leaves and spruce up the area by cleaning up junk piles. Thanks to all that contribute to the betterment of the club.

Another needed project has been updating our security. Larry took on this task and has made great progress adding cameras in strategic locations.

Our public runs begin March 5 & 6 and many parties have already been booked. Check the calendar online to see when you can help. We can always use a hand with train crews and party crews. If interested in helping come out to our run days to see how you can contribute.

The club received a utility trailer donated by Dick Gilman. It has already come in handy hauling leaves to the dump pile.



Team work - getting the leaves removed. - thanks all!



Donald Yungling and his Southern Pacific GS-1 is on the cover of LIVE STEAM & OUTDOOR RAILROAD for the current MARCH / APRIL 2022 issue. Donald wrote an article for the magazine that describes the building of the GS-1 locomotive. (It is a great article, buy the magazine.)

SVLSRM Calendar

Club future activity will depend on VIRUS GUIDELINES. *Please check on-line about Public activity.*

Mar. 5 Public run day 11AM - 3PM - **check on-line**
 Mar. 6 Public run day 11AM - 3PM - **check on-line**
 Mar. 14 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via Zoom
 Mar. 19 Work day.

April 2 Public run day 11AM - 3PM - **check on-line**
 April 3 Public run day 11AM - 3PM - **check on-line**
 April 11 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via Zoom
 April 16 Work day & SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Dates to reserve on your calendar:

Pacific Regional Meet May 20, 21, & 22
Fall meet Oct. 14, 15, & 16

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



See www.svlsrcm.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.

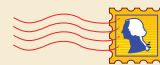
The Golden Spike is published monthly by the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc., P.O. Box 273, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741. The SVLSRM track is located in Hagan Community Park, Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA.

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

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



Dues are due.
Your prompt payment is appreciated.



Help the club save money by receiving your newsletters on-line.

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.

Board of Directors

- (##) *Ending year of term*
 President: Andy Berchielli (916) 752-6697 (23)
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 Vice President: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884 (22)
 E-mail: vicepresident@svlsrcm.org
 Secretary: Stephanie Huntingdale (916) 580-7377 (23)
 E-mail: secretary@svlsrcm.org
 Treasurer: Tom Nance, (714) 795-4630 (22)
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 Track Superintendent: Dennis Bowie (916) 337-9492 (22)
 E-mail: tracksuper@svlsrcm.org
 Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (925) 876-0375 (22)
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 Trainmaster: Craig Griffin (916) 365-1917 (23)
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Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM



Trainmaster

By Craig Griffin

Gday Everyone, We have our first public run day coming up in two weeks. Since the new year, we have replaced the leaking main gas valve on the propane car for Steam locomotive 1973. Tom Nance and I also replaced all the old water piping under the Pacific's tender. It now has new ball valves for the injector supplies and all under tender piping and fittings are brass and copper. This should stop the issues we have been having with the injectors.

I will be going through all the public ride on cars, top to bottom, over the next month to make sure they are ready for our up coming busy run year.

We will be using the new safety chains we got from Allen Models between each of the cars from now on. If you have not seen them or are unsure of how to use them, please let me know and i will give you a quick lesson. Also, if you see something not right with any of the club loco's, cars, etc, please let me know so we can address the problem in a timely manner.

Please do not take it upon yourself to fix/alter or work on any club equipment without contacting me first. My email and cell number on the club website.

Hope to see you out at the park soon.



Members working.

Saturdays, 1-29-2022, 2-5-2022, 2-12-2022, 2-20-2022: Alan Shifley, Mike Skums, Dennis Felleen, John Bailey, Paul Skidmore, Harry Voss, Steve Milward, Tom Nance, Dennis Bowie, Chris Klevasahl, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Alison Berry, Dennis Gramith, Dave Cladianos, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Larry & Tami Curtin, Bill & Butch Floyd, Craig Griffin, Richard Lutrel, Barbara & Mike Schoellkopf, Michael Fitzgerald, Dave Silvernail, Richard Corbell, Andy Berchielli, Augie Berchielli, Tom & Stacy Reese, Seth, Kane, Darth, Snow, Hansen, Kevin & Andrew Sach, David & Rose Ansson, Chris Donhost, Glen Wilson, Jim & Peter Welch.

Tuesdays, 1-25-2022, 1-30-2022, 2-1-2022., 2-8-2022, 2-15-2022, 2-22-2022: Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Barbara & Gordon Moser, Dennis Gramith, Keith Berry, Richard Corbell, Larry Curtin, Bart Cook , Augie Berchielli, Mike Skums, Dave Frediani, Chris Klevasahl, Rich Nelsen , Colton Snell, Sidney Madden.

Odd Days, 1-23-2022, 1-30-2022, 2-13-2022, 2-16-2022, 2-18-2022: Stephanie & Phil Huntingdale, Tom Nance, Andy Berchielli, Dennis Gramith, Chris Klevasahl, Dennis Bowie, Craig Griffin, Glen Wilson, Peter Welch.



Vice President's Report

By Dennis Gramith

Work is continuing on preparations of the Measure H grant request for construction of an on- site locomotive storage building. Chris Donhost is preparing the grant proposal documents, Phil Huntingdale is doing the drawings and some of the cost estimates while I attempt to pull all the details together. The current spike in inflation has had a great affect on this project. The proposed storage facility will be accessed via existing steaming bay #5. The building will be concrete block with a metal roof, approximately 22' by 24'. The plan includes a new transfer table with lifting ability to access two levels of racks thru 3 double steel doors. Each set of doors will provide access to six storage tracks on two levels for a total of 18 tracks.

I am also working with Larry Curtin on a project to modify the car storage rack in the boxcar. The existing 2nd level will be lowered approximately 10" and a third level will be added providing an additional 80 feet of badly needed car storage space. Once the plans and the F.C.R. are filed and approved I will be looking for a crew to help empty the boxcar, remove modify and replace the existing second level, and put all the cars back in the boxcar. This must be done in one day unless we can get a member to spend a weekend at the track for overnight security, which would let us complete this portion over two days.

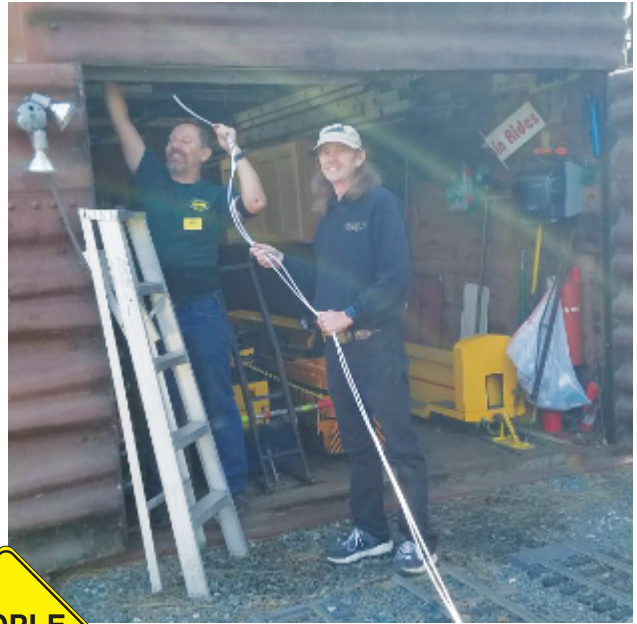


Glen Wilson, Phil Huntingdale, and Dennis Gramith hauled several loads of leaves & branches away.





Chris running the little tractor and hauling branches & leaves to the dumpsters



Larry & Mike working on new cameras





Glen Wilson & Richard Corbell cleaning up leaves along the fence line



Building track switches.



Train with no track...

**Dues were due January 1, 2022.
Support your club, Send check
or pay on-line.
Please complete your membership form
noting changes.**



Alan Shifley - wiring signals.



Rescuing Switch Stand from DMZ



Have a neighbor or friend who has an interest in Live Steam / Trains? Bring them out, show them our fun, give them a ride and invite them to join.



Director - Steve Milward

We've been busy, really busy at the railroad!



Progress on the Hillview East and West track replacement is moving at a feverous pace. Taking advantage of favorable weather (we really need the rain, though), a small, but dedicated crew led by Dennis Bowie will have the mainlines ready for the March public runs. The center siding and other turnouts will be installed as time allows. Led by Paul Skidmore, another crew is busily rebuilding turnouts for current and future projects.

Larry Curtin has been overseeing the installation of a new security camera system. This should help us to ensure the safety of our facility. Other members have spent many hours raking, pruning, clearing debris and working to make our railroad look great for our members and visitors.

All of this goes to prove that without the participation of our members, we would never be able to move forward. To all who have contributed their time and energy to help us work towards a bright future, Many thanks!

Now, if you're a procrastinator like me, there's a chance you haven't paid your 2022 dues yet (Okay, I just did...). That said, your annual dues contribution helps us to make the improvements to *your* railroad. So, if you haven't done it yet, bust out that checkbook and help us look ahead. If you've already done so, thank you!

It promises to be a great year. So, until next time, we hope to see you at the park!



Capt'n keep a-holletin' 'bout the joint ahead, Ain't said notbin' about the hog and bread. Hey boys, can't you line, hey boys, just a hair, Ho boys, line them over, hey boys, just a hair.

Gang song "Can't You Line' Em" ("Linin' Track")



10 Years ago: 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.



20 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 Fowler, 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

30 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 \$\$\$.

40 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 f 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.



**BEFORE
YOU
COMPLAIN...

...HAVE YOU
VOLUNTEERED
YET?**



TRACK UPDATE

By Phil Huntingdale

This February we had wonderful weather on Tuesdays to run trains. It was almost 70 degrees days later in the month. We had some 20 club members running G scale engines! There was steam, electric and battery. Some just got a chair, watched the trains and visited. That's what makes this hobby so much fun. We always have something to talk about, some idea to make your engine operate better and best of all we all share our knowledge and expertise freely. Dave Frediani had his project out to share. Everyone enjoys helping and sharing.

We have continued to pick up tree branches and leaves and the park has never looked better. Thanks to all that helped with the cleanup. The club is getting ready for our first public run days on Saturday and Sunday, March 5 & 6. Bring your engines out and enjoy. I can assure the public that ride the trains and stop by the table love the little railroad. All the activities help with nurturing the next generation to the railroad hobby.

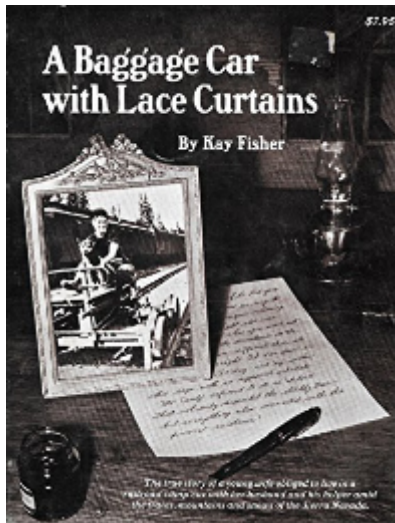
See you about!



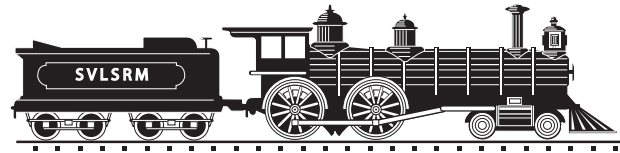
Librarian - Alison Berry

The featured book this month is "A Baggage Car with Lace Curtains" by Kay Fisher. This book is a favorite of mine as I had the honor of meeting Kay and her husband Bill (author of "30 Years Over Donner"). Kay autographed a copy of her book for me.

Kay and Bill were still dealing with the depression when they married in 1940. Both were working various jobs as full-time employee was difficult to find. Bill was finally hired by the railroad. At first, he worked in the Roseville yard but soon was transferred



to the signal division which meant he would be working in the Sierras. Kay stayed behind at first but seeing Bill only once a week for one night was difficult for both of them. Kay agreed to join Bill and live in the "outfit car" Bill and his helper shared. The "outfit car" was an old baggage car with no privacy, no



word puzzle

S B O F L Z A Y V F Q N D C L
H T T W O E R A I J I O A L V
X F E E C K A W U A S B P Z K
L Y B A O T B B R S O D M R W
T E T V M E B T I O C D I X M
R E S S O E A L S R E D N E T
U A K E T M R E W H I S T L E
C D W S I R G W H L A T B G D
K W P B V D R L H U R B Z I G
A Q R J E G Q A L E C M N U F
S M O K E S T A C K E N V B E
A I R B R A K E S E E L F Q R
D E X Y O S R N U R M X G F T
L O R E P E E L S W Z O L J U
I H V F C F P N H J W U D I I

- airbrakes caboose diesel
dinner domecar grabbar
locomotive sleeper smokestack
steamer tender train
truck wheel whistle

Find the above words in the puzzle. Words can go in any direction. Words can share letters as they cross over each other..

Answer will be in next months newsletter.



toilet, and parked along the mainline around Cisco. It follows Kay's adjustment and life as they are moved around for Bill's job, including having to live in the snowsheds in Norden. I can't imagine living along the mainline having your "home" rattled and shaking every time a train went by - which happen frequently.



Secretary Board Report

By Stephanie Huntingdale

The Board meets by ZOOM. Members are always encouraged to attend. The next meeting is November 8, 6:30 p.m. If you would like to attend, contact Andy Berchielli, (916) 752-6697, for how to connect to ZOOM or Stephanie Huntingdale (916) 580-7377 for an Agenda.

\$600 has been allocated to put a new engine in the Gator.

Measure H application process opened on February 7th and will close on March 18, 2022. SVLSRM is submitting a request to build a train storage building. Material is being gathered for the application.

6 security cameras are being installed at the park. 2 on caboose, pointing at round house, 2 on box car ends, 1 outside bathroom pointing to entry gate and containers. They will be trenching to middle light post in steaming bay for round house. Security system will be motion detected to start.

Track work continuing and main line will be done for public runs on the first weekend in March.

All ride cars will be inspected before March public runs.

Our current insurance carrier is no longer writing this class of business. We are working with Kaliff and another carrier has been found. We will turn our application in after February 24th.



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 2022 dues now! Send check or pay on-line at svlsrm.org. Send forms to SVLSRM P.O. Box 273, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741



SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH

1.14 Pets

No pets of any kind shall be allowed to run free within the facility. All pets shall be confined on a leash not over 6 feet in length, or inside a crate or pen. The owner of such pets shall be responsible for immediately cleaning up any manure or other disagreeable mess caused by such pet. Any violation of this rule may result in both pet and owner being asked to leave the facility. Animals may not ride on public passenger trains. Owners may be asked not to have their animals ride at the discretion of the station master. Animals must be kept away from any areas of food preparation or consumption.

2.05 Safety Chains

A chain, cable or draw bar must be installed between any car on which the Engineer is riding separate from his locomotive. A chain or badraw r must also be installed between any fuel car or cars and the locomotive which it supplies. Some safety device is recommended for all cars.

3.16 Propane Fueling

The Trainmaster and his appointees are allowed to fill approved propane tanks. All filling must be done at least 10 feet from the round house door. Round house door must be closed.

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.

Qualifications/Restrictions of an SVLSRM Conductor

- 15 years of age or older.
- Member of SVLSRM or child of SVLSRM member in good standing.
- Passes a current Written Qualification test showing knowledge to supervise passengers and scale railroad equipment.
- Passes a current Practical examine demonstrating the judgment and ability to competently and safely supervise passengers and scale railroad equipment.



Not Fully Vaccinated

then Wear your MASK!

