

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsm.org

August 2023

Volume 50, Issue 8



President's Report

By Andy Berchielli

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the Fourth of July event! Over the course of two days, we managed to attract close to 1000 attendees. After the runs, we all gathered by the waterfall to enjoy a drone show followed by fireworks on both nights.

In July, Rob and I took care of a dead pine tree near the boxcar with the assistance of a man lift. The following day, several members joined in to help with the cleanup of the downed tree.

We have been chosen to participate in a month-long public art display project organized by the esteemed SK Group and SK pharmteco. This project aims to showcase the vibrant community of Rancho Cordova. You can visit Village Green Park anytime between July 12th and August 11th to witness this display featuring 24 organizations and their contributions to the community. *See photo on PAGE 4*

To ensure smooth public operations, we have updated the tests that cover the essential knowledge for pulling the public. We encourage both current crew members and those interested in getting more involved to take the new test. The testing period will be held every 5 years, and the tests will be made available during the August run days.

Members can join us on August 19th for the Hot August Run Day. Bring your trains and join us for a fun-filled day of running and enjoyment.



Our club president working at a higher level.

SVLSRM Calendar

Please check on-line about Public activity.

- Aug 5 Public run day 11AM - 3PM
- Aug 6 Public run day 11AM - 3PM
- Aug 14 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via. Zoom
- Aug 19 **HOT August Night Run** Please bring your train and enjoy the day and evening.
- Sep 2 Public run day 4PM - 8PM
- Sep 3 Public run day 4PM - 8PM
- Sep 11 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via. Zoom
- Sep 16 Work day.
- Sep 17 Member run day.

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



See 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.

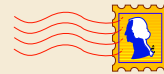
The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc. is organized and operated exclusively for public benefit charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (C.) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

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 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.



Help the club save money by receiving your newsletters on-line. Average price per mailing over \$2.

Save SVLSRM some money and read the news letters on-line. Tell Membership that you don't need the mailed copy.

Board of Directors

- (##) Ending year of term
- President: Andy Berchielli (916)752-6697 (23)
E-mail: president@svlstrm.org
- Vice President: Tom Nance (714)795-4630 (24)
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- Secretary: Stephanie Huntingdale (916)580-7377 (23)
E-mail: secretary@svlstrm.org
- Treasurer: Stacy Reese (916)960-6850 (24)
E-mail: treasurer@svlstrm.org
- Track Superintendent: Steve Milward (24)
(530) 559-2472
E-mail: tracksuper@svlstrm.org
- Yardmaster: Chris Klevesahl (916)517-9347 (24)
E-mail: yardmaster@svlstrm.org
- Trainmaster: Craig Griffin (916)365-1917 (23)
E-mail: trainmaster@svlstrm.org
- Director1: Larry Curtin (279)900-5367 (24)
E-mail: director_larry@svlstrm.org
- Director2: Dennis Gramith (916)988-7884 (23)
E-mail: director_dennis@svlstrm.org

Committee Chairpersons

- Membership Chairperson: Stacy Reese (916) 960-6850
E-mail: membership@svlstrm.org
- Librarian Chairperson: Alison Berry (916) 956-4597
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- Caboose Chairperson: Barbara Moser (916) 871-8368
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Phone: (916) 572-7857
E-mail: Events@svlstrm.org
- Safety Chairperson: Larry Curtin (279) 900-5367
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- Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder
E-mail: editor@svlstrm.org

Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM



Trainmaster Report by Craig Griffin

Gday Everyone,
I hope everyone is staying cool
in this heat.

The 4th of July runs were great and busy. We ran lots of trains and watched some great fireworks.

This was the first good run for the Santa Fe since it came back from its conversion to battery power. We learned a few things but overall we were impressed with its pulling power. If you want to learn how to run the Santa Fe, let me know and we will get you qualified to run the engine. We do know now that it needs to be fully charged to run all day. The 1973 was run on Monday the 3rd for public runs. At the end of the evening we had an issue with engineers side cross head and now it is out of commission till we get it evaluated and repaired.

On a totally different note it was great to see our Club Vice President propose to his girlfriend during the 4th July fireworks show. A big congratulations to Tom & Emily! Let's wish them all the best.

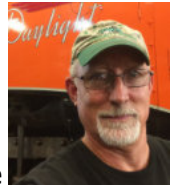
Remember, if you find a problem with any of the club equipment, let me know so we can get it taken care of. Anyone needing a boiler pressure test let me know so we can organize to get it done and keep you running.



Join us during the day and run your trains into the night for a good old-fashioned evening of Live Steaming SVLS style.

Come early and bring the kids. Bring engine and some rolling stock and your favorite food dish to share. The barbecue will be hot and the lights will be on for ya. So hang FRED on the last car and come on down!

Track Superintendent by Steve Milward



Greetings from the Track
Department!

As promised, work on the 1" scale track in the lower yard has begun. Most of the old track and bridge timbers have been removed. One turnout has been rebuilt and new bridge timbers installed. Another course of keystone blocks were installed to allow us to raise the roadbed. With assistance from Glenn Wilson, bricks and cobbles were also added to retain the ballast. Lesson learned – Don't use rapid set mortar on a hot day! The other turnout will be rebuilt in place on the new bridge ties, and the old track panels will be rebuilt and reinstalled. The dual gauge yard will be rebuilt as time allows, on a non-interference basis.

While we don't have many folks operating with 1" scale, those who do should enjoy good track to operate on. Perhaps others may jump aboard. If you're interested in helping with this project, please contact me.

Looking down the line, our plan is to relay the sidings at Oasis yard. Also, upgraded or replacement turnouts and mechanisms to be installed in that area and elsewhere around the railroad. As mentioned before, these are ambitious goals, but waiting for failures is not a very good maintenance policy.

If you'd like to get involved, or just discuss our plans, feel free to contact me at stevo2472@yahoo.com

Hope to see you at the park and on the rails soon!



Golden Gate Live Steamers are having their Fall Meet Sept. 9-10

Located in Tilden Park in the hills
above Berkeley, California.

See their web site for details:

GGLS.org



Volunteers on 4th of July Run Days, Work days and Birthday Parties.

Andy Berchielli, Rob Sharratt, Lee Frechette, Jim Welch, Stephanie & Phil Huntingdale, Brian

Schaubmayer , Dennis Bowie, Steve Milward, Craig Griffin, Tom Nance, Emily North, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Kaden, Kat, Jim Prudhomme, Stacy & Tom Reese, Alex Marcopulz, Troy Wilkerson, Leonard Cassieri, Richard Corbell, Harry Voss, Richard Lutrel, Robert & Wendy Forren, Todd Bishop, Austin Unruh, Glen Wilson, Bill & Butch Floyd, Vickie Costanzo, Dennis & Judy Gramith, Kevin & Andrew Sach, Chris Klevesahl, Skip Nance, Larry Curtin, Harry Voss, Paul Skidmore, David Cladianos, Dennis Bowie, Chris Donhost, Darrell & Gail



Andy Berchielli

President, Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum
I've been the president of the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers for the last six years. Our goal is to keep the history of steam engines and railroading alive. This year we celebrate 50 years of public operation in Hagan Community Park. We currently have 200 members who help with all aspects of the railroad through maintenance, building and operation. This engine took roughly two years to build. Many members continue working on details of their engines for many years.

ABOUT SK



10 Years ago: We should have a permanent station cover in place by the August Public runs. This will be like the Oasis cover but not as long or tall. Photo - Working on project: Dennis Gramith, Butch Floyd, and Bill Yoder.

We are taking our portable track and trains to Truckee for their celebration of "150 years of Railroad History".



20 Years ago: Some 400 members of the Garden Railroad Society visited the SVLS in mid-July as part of their Western Region convention. Tony and Barbara Rohrs entertained a couple of dozen of the group the evening before the main event with a very nice barbecue and private run. Some members were visiting from as far away as Portland.

40 Years ago: "Roundhouse Rumors" "Oriental Express" runs again! Once more, our always accommodating member, Ken Willes is spending his mornings in the park giving train rides to children. This time (as he did last year) it was a group of Japanese Exchange Students. If mud packs really help your complexion, "Wilbur-the-pig" (in the petting zoo) should be radiant soon. It seems that one of our sprinklers created a small mud hole just Wilbur's size. Wilbur entertained us by rolling, diving, rooting and belly whopping through Saturday and Sunday (July 30 and 31).



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Our primary attractions include the Pumpkin Train in October and the Santa Train in December, with Santa Train alone drawing in 2,500 riders last year.



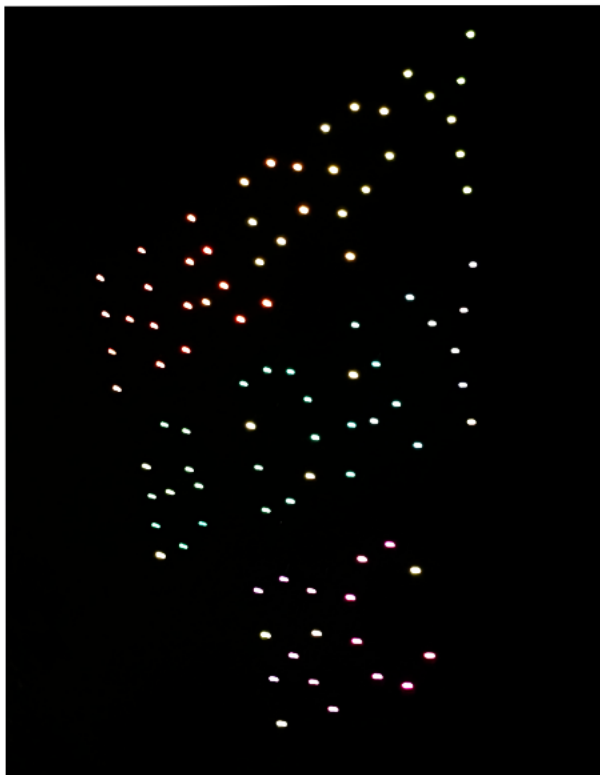
TRACK UPDATE

By Phil Huntingdale

With the warmer summer months we have those beautiful Tuesday mornings to get out and enjoy our locomotives and consist, and visit with friends at the park. Remember this is for all to us either on weekends, or during the week. Arrange to meet with friends down there as your schedule permits.

Darryl Bramlette, has donated an Eagle Wings turntable and roundhouse. Member Dave Frediani has acquired this for the club. Now we need to determine where to locate this very large setting. Perhaps it will need to be located adjacent to the present table with removable bridge accessing the area. That decision will be up to the club directors. Make suggestions to Craig or myself!

See you about!



In celebration of Rancho Cordova 20th Anniversary the Drones spelled out: "HAPPY B DAY RC"

Secretary Board Report

By Stephanie Huntingdale

The Board meets by ZOOM. Members are always encouraged to attend. The next meeting is July 10, 2023, 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.

Art Exhibit at Village Green Park – supporting Rancho Cordova community. SVLSRM participating by Andy B. Starts July 11 and goes through August 11th.

Redoing bridge timbers and 1" track by steaming yard.

July 4, 2023 - 1973 derailed at the end of the day. Considerable damage has been done. Side cross head support guide broke. Cross head yoke is a bronze casting. Board agreed that it should have an overhaul.

Converting the UP engineers car to an engineer's car for RS3

Scale Building will re-use current ticket booth with security changes.

Park pump has been off, broken sprinklers will be repaired.

Motion was made by Tom Nance to accept the new engineer and conductor/stationmaster tests with comments and change the testing period to every 5 years. Seconded by Steve Milward. Motion carried.

A committee of Andy, Steve, Dennis G., Chris K. will meet to review any current policy and recommend a future policy for Memorial. Names to be added at 2024 Spring Meet.



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.



Steeple cab locomotive, 1 year old. Two 450 watt 24V motors, Ride Trains controller with sound system, built in IOTA 24 volt battery charger, Two 12V deep cycle batteries. **\$6900.00.**
Contact Ken Schroeder, 775-265-3632, shaylocomotives@charter.net



A pair of battery powered lamps marked Union Pacific for sale.



**\$20.00 for the pair please.
(new batteries are needed)
Donald Yungling
916-471-9100**

FOR SALE

Tom Artzberger designed 2 ½ inch scale ten wheeler (2-6-0) steam locomotive kit with boiler and tender. All parts have been machined by Pike Lake and Eastern Hartford Shops and waiting to be assembled. Chassis has been assembled and run on air. Includes all drawings. \$23,000.00.

Contact George at sagebrushslrr@gmail

