

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlrm.org

March 2024

Volume 51, Issue 03



Ballast spreaders-Kevin Sach, Mark Madewell, Alex Dobbins, Vince Barto.



Putting new track turnout together - Steve Milward, Margaret Dobbins, Henry Nanjo, Tom Nance.



Stephanie & Dennis playing pick up sticks.



Daffodils are blooming

February was another busy month on the railroad with plenty of activity happening on a daily basis. General park maintenance as well as several winter projects are in the works, and while the weather hasn't always been ideal, our volunteers have done an amazing job to get the railroad ready for our upcoming run season. Our first public run weekend is quickly approaching, and is scheduled for March 2nd and 3rd. Trains will be running from 11-3, but volunteer help is always needed before and after each run day. In addition to the public run days, birthday parties are being scheduled, and we have several booked throughout the month of March. Please check the club's online Parties & Events calendar to find out when we have events scheduled, we can always use help with both train and party crews. If you are interested in helping, contact our Event Coordinator, Andy Berchielli.

## President's Report

By Tom Nance



Thank you all who have contributed to keeping our railroad looking and operating at its best!

### SVLSRM Calendar

Please check on-line about Public activity.

- Mar. 2 Public run day – **check on-line**
- Mar. 3 Public run day – **check on-line**
- Mar. 11 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via Zoom
- Mar. 16 Work day.
- Mar. 17 Member run day.

- Apr. 6 Public run day 11AM - 3PM
- Apr. 7 Public run day 11AM - 3PM
- Apr. 8 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via. Zoom
- Apr. 20 Work day.
- Apr. 21 Member run day.

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



See [www.svlsrcm.org](http://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](mailto:editor@svlsrcm.org).

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

**Dues are due. Please stay onboard.**



**RENEW membership on-line:**

<https://www.svlsrcm.org/membership.php>

### Board of Directors

- (##) Ending year of term.
- President: Tom Nance (714)795-4630 (25)  
E-mail: [president@svlsrcm.org](mailto:president@svlsrcm.org)
- Vice President: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (24)  
E-mail: [vicepresident@svlsrcm.org](mailto:vicepresident@svlsrcm.org)
- Secretary: Stephanie Huntingdale (916)580-7377 (25)  
E-mail: [secretary@svlsrcm.org](mailto:secretary@svlsrcm.org)
- Treasurer: Stacy Reese (916)960-6850 (24)  
E-mail: [treasurer@svlsrcm.org](mailto:treasurer@svlsrcm.org)
- Track Superintendent: - open - (24)  
E-mail:
- Yardmaster: Chris Klevesahl (916)517-9347 (24)  
E-mail: [yardmaster@svlsrcm.org](mailto:yardmaster@svlsrcm.org)
- Trainmaster: Craig Griffin (916)365-1917 (25)  
E-mail: [trainmaster@svlsrcm.org](mailto:trainmaster@svlsrcm.org)
- Director1: Richard Lutrel (916) 876-0375 (24)  
E-mail: [director\\_richard@svlsrcm.org](mailto:director_richard@svlsrcm.org)
- Director2: Dennis Gramith (916)988-7884 (25)  
E-mail: [director\\_dennis@svlsrcm.org](mailto:director_dennis@svlsrcm.org)

### Committee Chairpersons

- Membership: Stacy Reese (916) 960-6850  
E-mail: [membership@svlsrcm.org](mailto:membership@svlsrcm.org)
- Librarian: Alison Berry (916) 956-4597  
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- Caboose: Barbara Moser (916) 871-8368  
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- Safety Chairperson: -open-
- Birthday & Company Events:  
Andy Berchielli Phone: (916) 572-7857  
E-mail: [Events@svlsrcm.org](mailto:Events@svlsrcm.org)

Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder  
E-mail: [editor@svlsrcm.org](mailto:editor@svlsrcm.org)

Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM





**Track Superintendent**  
*by Steve Milward*

Greetings from the Track Department. Work on the Oasis Station rebuild continues in earnest. This is one of the most ambitious track undertakings in many years. When completed we will have relayed almost 600 feet of track and built or rebuilt 8 turnouts.

For the most part we've benefited from decent weather. When necessary, we worked under the shelter. Turnouts are being installed, as well as the new track panels. Additional ballasting, leveling, and tamping will follow. This ongoing work won't impact public run day or parties, as the mainline is intact.

None of this progress would occur without the dedication and commitment of our members. Our continued thanks for their assistance!

As always, if you're willing to help out, please contact me at [stevo2472@yahoo.com](mailto:stevo2472@yahoo.com), or text me at: 530 559-2472.

We hope you can join us at Your railroad.



**Trainmaster Report**  
*by Craig Griffin*



Gday Everyone, Well we have been busy down at the park. Lots getting done.

With the help of Don Yungling, we got the new steel wheels installed on the Santa Fe. Now Don is helping me with the brakes on 1973. He has been machining up new brake assembly linkages so we can the brakes to work properly. 1973 came back to the park a few weeks ago after spending time at Jim and Peter Welch's shop. As you may remember, 1973 had a mishap over the 4th of July weekend run and damaged her running gear.

Peter has been getting it all back together and also doing some much needed tuning up. She also got a good pressure wash once back at the park and we will be test running after the public run weekend in March.

Don't forget our first public run days is next weekend and anyone that can come down to help volunteer would be greatly appreciated.

We've been getting great turnouts of volunteers during the winter work weekends and the more the merrier.

Hope to see you down the park soon.



**TRACK UPDATE**  
*By Phil Huntingdale*

In February the weather was damp and cool on Tuesdays, however, the trains were running. Several members stop by and run on other days and enjoy the railroad to themselves. Remember it is a great place to enjoy your steam, electric and battery lash-ups.

March should bring warmer and dryer 70 degrees days and we'll look forward to seeing you there. The first weekend, March 2 and 3 (11am to 3 pm), will be the beginning of our public runs for the year. It's always the first weekend of the month and those passing through will enjoy the little railroad. Many migrate down to ask questions and look for a close up experience. When talking to these folks, we will be ambassadors for the club and the model railroad hobby, make them feel comfortable for having visited. For you, just bring a chair, watch the trains and visit. 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. Everyone enjoys helping and sharing.

When you are running trains at the park, take a look around the G scale area. Do you see branches or leaves? Bring a rake with you and help out. Don't have a rake, the club does and there is usually a rake in the bathroom. This is your area to enjoy running trains; it is also your area to keep clean. Our yard master Chris Klevensahl will pick up the leaf piles if you will rake them up. It's not his job, or mine, to do it all. Remember, we are all volunteers and this is your club. If you can, take a few minutes while down at the park it would be much appreciated.

Also, this month we plan replacing four switches and track on the outer loop, and could use some help. I'm planning a work day on Tuesday, March 19, 10am to 1pm. Let me know if you can help. 510-599-1200

Again, first public run days on March 2 & 3. Bring your engines out and enjoy.

See you about!

Secretary Board Report  
By Stephanie Huntingdale

The Board meets by ZOOM. Members are always encouraged to attend. The next meeting is March 11, 2024, 6:30 p.m. If you would like to attend, contact Tom Nance, (714) 795- 4630, for how to connect to ZOOM or Stephanie Huntingdale (916) 580-7377 for an Agenda.

Santa Fe engine has new wheels and flange. It is up and running. The 1973 is back at the park, but needs work.

Membership coming in slowly. Notice in Gold Spike and emails to be sent.

Electrical work to upgrade from round house to Oasis and RV's to continue after March 1st.

Memorial expansion design, previously approved by the membership, has been approved by the Board. The plan is to have work done by Spring Meet.

Oasis yard project continues. Volunteers are needed, contact Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 for scheduling and volunteering to help.

Dave McClain has approached the Board to donate his Mikado Steam train to the club. The Board accepted and further discussion for storage is to be researched.

Board approved an additional \$500 for the work container mural project to complete the roof. Work to be done on Saturday, February 24.

SVLSRM will participate in the RC Community Kids Day in the park on April 27, 2024, 11am - 3pm.

RC Parks will start a cement walkway project around the lake after the 4th of July event. It should not interfere with our track.



**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**



**10 Years ago:**

Our 2014 track project was completed on time thanks to the large turn-out of members and friends that attended our Saturday work days in January and February. Our first project was to regrade and replace the drill track at Cordova Junction. The second project was to remove 225' of old Right of Way north of the trestle. The track crew worked hard to prepare the new road bed and lay the new track in time for Opening Day.



**20 Years ago:** During the week, Les Wilmunder delivered the metal shed he donated to the organization. Using his company's crane, Les lifted the shed over the mower building and placed it on the concrete pad that was poured in January.



Thanks to Les for the donation of the shed and the use of this crane, and to Richard and Lee in placing the shed.

**40 Years ago:** Roundhouse Rumors: Retired or not, Earl McKenzie's old boss just can't seem to get along without him. He keeps requesting that Earl return to help him out. It seems that the S.P. still cannot figure out the cause of last month's train wreck near Elk Grove, Al Shelley wasn't even the Engineer.

We will all miss the twinkling smile of Clifford Willes, who has returned to his home in Utah after an extended vacation in Rancho Cordova with his son, Ken Willes.



**SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH**

**1.02 Speed Limit**

No locomotive shall be operated at an excessive speed, and shall not be operated at a speed greater than that at which the locomotive and its train can be slowed and stopped within a reasonable distance, depending on the traffic, track conditions, visibility and weight of the train. Train speed shall not exceed 7 mph. Trains transporting the general public shall not exceed 5 mph. All engines must be run at reduced speeds in congested areas and in areas with close clearance, such as yards, stations, etc.

**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.

**3.02 Responsibilities of the Conductor**

Each conductor shall have a whistle (police type) and a red flag or light in their possession at all times while acting as conductor. They shall assist in loading or unloading passengers on the train. They shall be certain that all passengers on their train have been informed of the safety rules before signaling to the engineer to proceed from the station. They shall enforce all passenger safety rules while the train is in motion. They shall enforce rules and shall prevent any passengers from throwing any trash, garbage or other refuse from the train along the right-of-way. They shall align all switches (turnouts) for the mainline after use of such switches by their train. They shall assist the engineer when necessary and shall call for help when necessary to enforce any rules.



Several Volunteers showed up on Tuesdays & Saturdays to help build track, work on signals, get ahead or clean up after the storm.

- Alan Shifley
- Gordon & Barbara Moser
- Brian Schaubmayer
- Dave Cladianos
- Richard Lutrel
- Harry Voss
- Kevin & Andrew Sach
- Steve Milward
- Mark Madewell
- Vince Barto
- Henry Nanjo
- Craig Griffin
- Chris Klevesahl
- Glen Wilson
- Paul Skidmore
- Gary Cousin
- Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale
- Troy Wilkinson
- Rob Sharratt
- Bill & Butch Floyd
- Dennis Gramith
- Tom & Emily Nance
- Andy Berchielli
- Alex & Margaret Dobbins
- Don & Toy Yungling
- Kaden Prudhomme
- Richard Corbell
- Tom & Stacy Reese
- Bob Ress
- Sidney Madden
- Leonard Cassieri



I cannot forget to pay my dues. Please send your 2024 dues now!

Send check or pay on-line at [svlsrm.org](http://svlsrm.org). Send forms to SVLSRM P.O. Box 273, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741





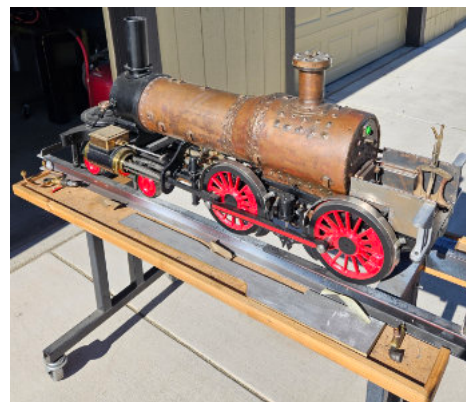
**2 Locomotives for sale: 1. Great Nothern 2-6-6-2 mallet.**



Propane fired, injectors, axle pump, Van Brocklin duplex pump, operating power reverse, ball valve throttle in steam dome. \$28,000.00. Also available for extra is a propane car for the locomotive, 30 gallon capacity commercial horizontal tank inside a box car, tank does not require any recertifications. This locomotive has been run at Sacramento and Train Mountain. Large tender suitable for 2 people to sit on.



**2. locomotive is a complete set of castings including a brand new copper boiler.** This was all purchased from Railroad Supply when it was owned by Chet Peterson. All the running gear castings have been machined and assembled on the frame, the locomotive is running on air. Twin cross head pumps, original blued sheet metal lagging for boiler. Comes with a complete Railroad supply fibreglas tender tank including frame, trucks etc. All of the drawings are included. The boiler is a copper boiler, never installed to frame as supplied by Railroad Supply and has the original shipping crate. \$6950.00.



**Locomotives are in Gardnerville NV. Contact Ken Schroeder 775-265-3632 [aylocomotives@charter.net](mailto:aylocomotives@charter.net)**