



## President's Report

By Steve Milward

Greetings everyone, One look at the green grass and new leaves can only mean one thing – Spring is here! We're easing into our busy times, too. Ongoing track and clean-up projects continue in earnest.

First up is our April Public Run days on the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>. Following that on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, is Rancho Cordova's "Kids Day in the Park". We have been asked, and are happy to participate in this event. We will be running trains from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. We will need volunteers to assist with both events.

**Please note that on Kids Day, the main gate will be closed.** Access to the railroad will only be through the Ambassador Drive gate.

Moving forward to May is our big event – the Spring Meet! This will take place from May 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see many of you running trains, sharing good times, and enjoying what SVLS has to offer. Registration and more information should be available mid-April.

A big thanks to all our members and friends who have been coming out to assist at the track over the past few weeks! Your good work really shows. Also, many thanks to those folks working tirelessly behind the scenes. The finance, membership, secretarial, newsletter, and social media duties happen because dedicated people make it happen. Please know, your efforts are appreciated.



**Again, I ask, if you're able and willing to pitch in and help out with any of the events, your assistance would be most welcome. There's lots to do, and helping out makes it easier for all. We look forward to seeing you soon!**

## Vice President's Report

By christopher smith

**Hello all,** It is exciting to see the progress that is is happening around SVLS.

We have our Public Run Day coming up on April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 11A-3P. Come on out and lend a hand.

I have taken on the task of coordinating the meals for the upcoming Spring Meet. Barbra left some giant shoes to fill, but with enough volunteers, we can get it done!

Big thank you to those who have volunteered so far. We are actively looking for more volunteers to help cook, serve and clean.

If you are willing to help, please reach out to myself directly at 650-676-0118 / schristopher700@yahoo.com.

Chris



## SVLSRM Calendar

*Please check on-line about Public activity.  
Train tickets days may be purchased on-line.*

Apr. 5 Public run day  
Apr. 6 Public run day  
Apr. 14 Board meeting  
Apr. 19 Club Work day  
Apr. 20 Member Run Day  
Apr. 26 is Rancho Cordova's "Kids Day in the Park" We will be running trains from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

May. 3 Public run day  
May. 4 Public run day  
May. 12 Board meeting  
May. 16 Spring Meet  
May. 17 Spring Meet  
May. 18 Spring Meet

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



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

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

## RENEW membership on-line:

<https://www.svlstrm.org/membership>.

Or use the Q code:



### Board of Directors

(##) Ending year of term.

President: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (25)

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

Vice President: Chris Smith (650) 676-0118 (24)

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

Secretary: Robert Ress (916) 320-2781 (25)

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

Treasurer: Henry Nanjo (916)-207-1962 (24)

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

Track Superintendent: Jeff Burke (847) 815-7638 (24)

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

Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (916) 876-0375 (24)

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

Trainmaster: Craig Griffin (916) 365-1917 (25)

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

Director1: Mark Madewell (209) 603-1960 (24)

E-mail: [director\\_Mark@svlstrm.org](mailto:director_Mark@svlstrm.org)

Director2: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884 (25)

E-mail: [director\\_dennis@svlstrm.org](mailto:director_dennis@svlstrm.org)

### Committee Chairpersons

Membership: Stacy Reese (916) 960-6850

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

Librarian: Alison Berry (916) 956-4597

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

Caboose: Chairperson: -open-

Safety Chairperson: Mark Madewell (209) 603-1960

Birthday & Company Events:

Andy Berchielli Phone: (916) 572-7857

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

Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder

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

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



## Track Department by Jeff Burke

Hello members,

March was a great month for track work. There was little rain during the work weekends and we got plenty of work done in the Lower Yard. We had a plethora of members present on our 3rd Saturday of the Month Workday. The remaining panels of track got their ties replaced, the

ground was scraped flat with the tractor and the track panels were connected to each other to prep for alignment. As of this writing, all track panels have been replaced east of the bridge in the yard and they are ready for ballast and leveling. Just in time for that ballasting work is ballast car #2 with a freshly repaired truck, courtesy of Donald Yungling.

The Inside Loop was experiencing some very super elevated track right after the entrance turnout. We added more ballast and tamped the track back up to level. It is important to keep this small section of track in good shape so private parties have a smooth ride and get the most value out of their experience. Please check the website under the Parties & Events section to see when private events are scheduled so you can come out and help. Private parties are a great time to gain experience being a conductor or engineering the train.

Alan Shifley was also present to fix some signaling issues around Hillview West. While working out there, he found some broken bolts on a turnout. A temporary fix was implemented to keep the mainline running but we will

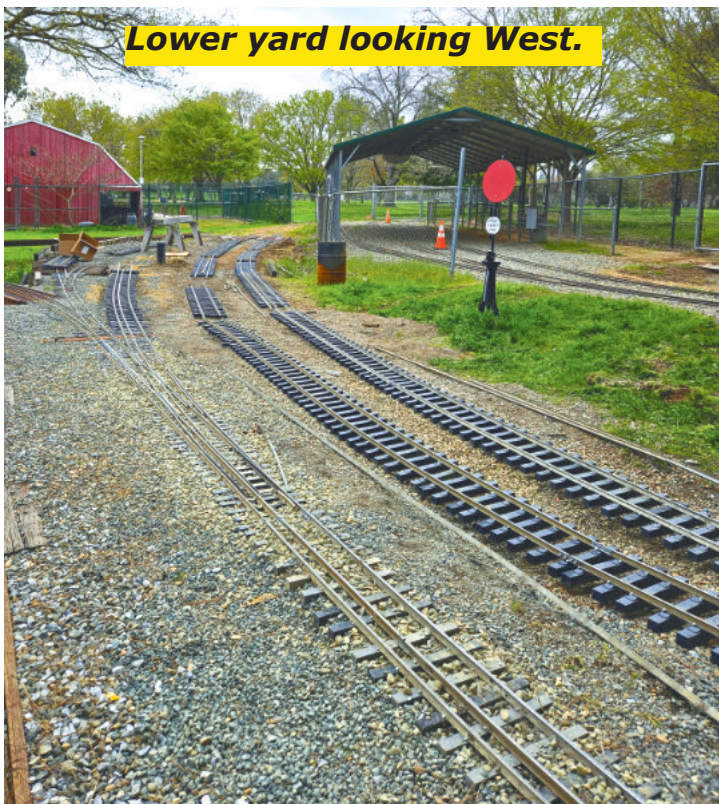
investigate this further to come up with a permanent fix. If you find any broken bolts or screws in the track please let a board member know so we can investigate that issue and correct it.

With the Spring meet fast approaching, we will see how far we can get replacing the ties on the west side of the bridge. We want the yard to be useable for the meet so please do not take apart too much track if you are working down there without other members present to collaborate with. With the Spring Meet on your mind, please let any board member know if you can volunteer for positions such as, check in and registration staff, caboose meal staff, drink vending staff and many more.

We will be out at the track most weekends till the meet to get the Lower Yard project through the finish line. I sent an email out to our Regular members reminding them of the coming work day. Our email list typically only has current paid members on it so please re-up your membership if you haven't done so already for the new year. I also got a lot of bounce back emails so if you think your email on file with us is out of date, please contact [info@svlsrm.org](mailto:info@svlsrm.org), [editor@svlsrm.org](mailto:editor@svlsrm.org), [membership@svlsrm.org](mailto:membership@svlsrm.org) or [secretary@svlsrm.org](mailto:secretary@svlsrm.org).

Also please make sure that my contact email, [tracksuper@svlsrm.org](mailto:tracksuper@svlsrm.org), is not blocked by your spam filter so you will receive updates about our work schedule.

We hope to see you out at the club for our second Public Run weekend of the year, April 5th and 6th, and please remember that our 3rd Saturday of the Month workday is April 19th.



**Lower yard looking West.**



**Lower yard looking East.**



**10 Years ago:** Our Friend Robert (Red) Hadler lost his fight with leukemia last week. There will be a celebration of Red's life at the CA State Railroad Museum in Sacramento. Red's 1/8 Scale version of the El Gobernador a 4-10-0 steam locomotive built by Central Pacific Railroad at the railroad's shops in Sacramento.



**20 Years ago:** New steps and two lead tracks ready for use, thanks to a hard working group of members.



**30 Years ago:** The big event for this month will be a visit to **Big Thunder Railroad** owned by Craig and Linda Craddock. As usual, it promises to be a wonderful weekend. Saturday night will be the BBQ potluck so be sure to pack your favorite pot luck dish.

Track work is progressing steadily and any extra help can and will be appreciated. The outbound track from the passenger loading area now has steel rail on the outside on the curve. That curve had aluminum rail laid in a little more than a year ago and the outer rail has been worn to the web. The original line needs to have ballast added for improved safety and operation.

## WORK DAYS VOLUNTEERS



### March

Keith Berry  
 Gloria Berry  
 Jeff Burke  
 Leonard Cassieri  
 David Cladianos  
 Chris Donhost  
 Craig Griffin  
 Stephanie Huntingdale  
 Phil Huntingdale  
 Richard Lutrel  
 Mark Madewell  
 Margaret Madewell  
 Matt Mason  
 Steve Milward  
 Henry Nanjo  
 Bob Ress  
 Tom Reese  
 Stacy Reese  
 Kevin Sach  
 Andrew Sach  
 Alexis Sharratt  
 Rob Sharratt  
 Mike Skums  
 Chris Smith  
 Barbara Schoellkopf  
 Harry Voss  
 Glen Wilson  
 Bill Yoder  
 Don Yungling  
 Toy Yungling

### February

Stephanie Huntingdale  
 Phil Huntingdale  
 Keith Berry  
 Gloria Berry  
 Barbara Schoellkopf  
 Mark Madewell  
 Steve Milward  
 Richard Lutrel  
 Christopher Sach  
 Kevin Sach  
 Andrew Sach  
 Henry Nanjo  
 Craig Griffin  
 Glen Wilson  
 Bob Ress  
 Matt Mason  
 Chris Smith  
 Leonard Cassieri  
 David Cladianos  
 Tom Reese  
 Stacy Reese  
 Ian Milward  
 Evan Milward  
 Jeff Burke  
 Chris Donhost  
 Bill Yoder

=====  
**40 Years ago:** On March 24 a small but constructive work party installed two new switches in the meadow near the river. At the last run day our "Anonymous Donor" struck again. There was another \$100.00 contribution to the bath room fund in the little caboose at the passenger station, wrapped in the same familiar note. Thanks you, Mr. Anonymous!

A news stamp was issued showing a narrow-gauge caboose used by logging in the Sierra Nevada during the 1890s.



**MEMBERSHIP**

By: Robert Ress

Of the 240 active members in SVLSRM, 118 have yet to renew their membership. Please mail in your dues or renew through the Club's website. If you have any questions, please let me know.

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

Or use the Q code:



**Secretary Report**

By: Robert Ress

Summary of March 10, 2025, Board Meeting

We are progressing toward the Spring Meet. We carried 350 passengers total the first weekend in March.

The lower yard track work is progressing well. We have purchased additional ties and screws from Allen Models.

The Board will devote the meeting's first hour in April to updating the Rule Book. If you have any suggestions, send them to a Board member.

The Memorial update is on hold for a couple of months.

If you are available during the Spring Meet, May 16 to 18, please volunteer. Send your availability to the Secretary at [secretary@Ssvlsrcm.org](mailto:secretary@Ssvlsrcm.org) or the President at [president@svlsrcm.org](mailto:president@svlsrcm.org).

The Club will participate in Kid's Day on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. We will be running two trains. Volunteers will be needed.

The next board meeting will be April 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 via Zoom. Contact the Secretary for an agenda and Zoom information.

**Trainmaster Report  
by Craig Griffin**



Gday Everyone,

We've had a couple of busy Saturdays down at the club. The club Mikado now has a new cylinder drain cock installed with some new steam piping made up by Don Yungling. Don also made up a new axle for one of work train ore car trucks. We had found it with both wheels loose on the axle and it was self gauging from 7 1/2 to 8" !! **Many thanks Don for all the great work.**

The gator got a new fuel filter and spark plugs. Now it runs a lot smoother.

We have the Spring meet coming up in May. If any member would like to help out with any of the many tasks that help the Spring meet run, please contact one of the board members. **Any time you can give is always appreciated.**

Hope to see you all down the club. Remember. It's your club, come down and play!



The club Mikado with its new cylinder drain cock installed with some new plumbing piping.





# ALL Aboard



4/1/25 WE NOW OFFER LARGER SCALE TRAIN RIDES.



## 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, Toot, 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..

## SAFETY RULES



### 1.10 Food and Refreshments

Passengers shall not take food, drinks, or other refreshments other than water aboard any train. Nor may any person, passenger or crew member, smoke while on board. Dumping of trash while on the train is strictly prohibited.

### 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 draw bar must also be installed between any fuel car or cars and the locomotive which it supplies. Some safety device is recommended for all cars.

### 3.02 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.

### 4.03 Length of Train

Trains carrying the general public shall not exceed 100 feet in length over all, exclusive of locomotive and tender or other motive power.



***Andrew Sach and his 2-8-8-2, Western Pacific 259, pulling the public train. - Thanks***



**For sale my mogul, it's a Southern Pacific Valley Malley**

**It's propane fired, and includes a propane car, with water filters, that is the shape of a refrigerator car. Locomotive tender and propane car \$19,500. This is Chris Donhost's old engine, and it's set up that even a kid could operate it. "It's pretty amazing, and so easy to operate."**

**Patrick Karnahan  
209 743 1565  
17368 Table Mountain Road  
Jamestown Ca 95337.  
Blackirish28@hotmail.com**



**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.

**\$6000. or Best Offer.**

**Locomotives are in Gardnerville NV. Contact Ken Schroeder  
775-265-3632  
aylocomotives@charter.net**

