

# *The* GOLDEN SPIKE



VOLUME X

MARCH 1983

NUMBER 3

## TIMETABLE

Monthly Meeting - March 18, 1983, 7:30 p.m. at the Cordova Recreation and Park District Building, Rancho Cordova, California (Chase Drive next to the High School). The "Buffet Car" will be hosted by Phyllis Feil and Wilma Beaumont. The program for the evening will be presented by Don Juergenson - a slide presentation on "Narrow Gauge in the Rockies".

Work Day - Saturday, March 19, we will have a work day, weather permitting. We will pick up the rest of our donated building and do some mowing, cutting, trimming and weeding, again weather permitting.

Run Day - If enough people are interested, we will have a run day on Sunday, March 20.

Board Meeting - Thursday, April 7, 1983, at the home of Dennis and Judy Gramith, 2972 Weston Way, Rancho Cordova, at 7:30 p.m.

## FROM THE BOARD

At the March board meeting plans for the land acquisition were again discussed, and the bathroom plans were sent in for further revision. Samples for the large flyers were displayed by Dick Esselbach. They are beautiful, as usual! Discussion and some preparation for our planned GGLS/SVLS Day was started. The board approved the repairs for the riding mower, club engine and acquisition of more lights for the steaming bays and shelter.

## BY-LAW CHANGE

The following by-law change will be added to Article III. Section 4 shall read: Three (3) directors shall be elected during the November meeting each year or at such other time as designated by the board and shall commence their terms of office on the first day of January following the election. They shall serve a two (2) year term of office. In the event a director must be replaced due to a vacancy for any reason, his replacement shall be selected by a majority vote of the board of directors remaining, and shall complete the term of office of the person he is chosen to replace.

The following by-law change will be added to Article X: Impeachment/Expulsion. Also an additional sentence may be added to the existing Article X: A member may be expelled for unbecoming conduct, as seen by the board. Any expulsion may be appealed to the general membership.

The proposed by-law changes and additions as listed above will be voted on by the membership at our next monthly meeting, (3-18-83).

## GOLDEN SPIKE CELEBRATION

Plan now for "April 17, 1983"! We will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of our Golden Spike Ceremony. Preparations are now being made. Further details will be included in next month's bulletin.

## FLYERS

Help spread the word! Please take the enclosed flyer and post it on your office bulletin board, at your grocery store, church, local library or any other place where interested people will see it.

## MAKING STEAM

Saturday, February 19, 1983, proved to be a very successful day. The weather was beautiful, engines plentiful and the turnout tremendous. Our special guests, the Sacramento County Park Commissioners, the Cordova Park Board and several other special visitors found a large gathering of live steamers doing what they do best. Some of the

MAKING STEAM (CONTINUED)

guests enjoyed themselves so much that they re-visited again on Sunday. A large variety of equipment kept the mainline busy with train loads of happy people enjoying a taste of history on our fun-sized railroad. The pot luck "feast" that has become a tradition with our club, was again "lip smacken good"!

ROUNDHOUSE RUMORS

Determination! John Livesay just could not stay away. He was released from the hospital Saturday morning, February 19, 1983 and he was a very welcome sight at the track on Saturday afternoon, February 19. It was great to see you John, and we hope that you make a FULL recovery soon. Speaking of hospitals, Ken Spicer is once again under the weather and at this writing is again residing in Sutter Memorial Hospital. Madeline reports that he is doing well and will hopefully be home soon. The long-lost Lehigh Valley Mastadon, "Champion", adorned a steaming bay recently and judging by the proud smile on Austin Knoff, it will soon be running once again on our railroad.

FROM THE CAB - (President's Comments)

*A friend in need! When your club needed you - you were there! Thanks to all those who showed up for the "Special Run Day" on such short notice. Your efforts and talents were greatly appreciated and most definitely necessary to make this day the great success that it was. At the Park Commission meeting the following week, your efforts paid off when the Commissioners directed the Sacramento County Park Department staff to work with the Cordova Park District and the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers to develop an expansion plan acceptable to all. The indications of negative attitudes which I perceived at the January Park Commission meeting, completely disappeared after the "Special Run Day", and were replaced by comments such as, ...really family motivated.... ...the children seem to love it... ...it does represent a large investment of time and money... and ...thank you, I really enjoyed it! We have crested this hill, but the summit is still ahead of us. If we all pull together, we will make the grade and have adequate room for many years of good railroading and healthy growth. Our club also owes a "Special Vote of Thanks" to our good friends and partners, Mr. Paul Hagan and the Cordova Park Board. Without their aid and support our expansion project would never have gotten off the drawing board. Even if we do not make it to the summit, we have established a much closer relationship, and more important, friendship with them.*

RULES AND REGULATIONS

219. Engine whistle signals: o = a short blast  
- = a long blast

- A. o Apply brakes; STOP
- B. oo Answer to any signal not otherwise provided for
- C. ooo When standing, back up; answer to 221C. When running, answer to 221D
- D. oooo Call for signals
- E. -- Release brakes; proceed
- F. --- Flagman return to train
- G. ---ooo Flagman protect rear of train
- H. --oo Call attention to green classification signals
- I. ---o-- Approaching public crossing, area of restricted visibility or a train on adjacent track
- J. ----- (8) approaching a station or railroad crossing
- K. oooooooooo (8) warning to people or animals on track; general alarm



DID YOU KNOW?

- Q. *What should be the duty of an engineer before starting out of the yard on round-house?*
- A. To look at the crown-sheet and flues and be sure that the water-level is all right; to see that the fire is good; to examine all parts of the engine and tender to see that there is nothing amiss or broken; to test the rod keys by trying to drive them back with a copper hammer; to see that bolts and nuts are home; that the brakes go on and come off easily; that there is sufficient fuel and water in the tender; that all tools for repairs and for firing are at hand; that the headlight is all right and all lamps are at hand, filled, and ready for service, all signals at hand and ready for use; that there is a supply of oil and tallow, and that the sand-box is full of good dry sharp unfrozen sand.

"Locomotive Catechism" By Robert Grimshaw (1902)

NEW MEMBERS

Please add the following new member to your "temporary roster".

George L. Chelemedos  
318 Chilverton Street  
Santa Cruz, Ca. 95062

CLINKERS!

For those of you who are interested in train brake systems, here is an excerpt from "THE WHISTLE" (The Official Publication of the British Columbia Society of Model Engineers). President Lindsay McDonnell explains, ... "An electric vacuum pump is now fitted to each caboose and with the batteries (24V) provide an emergency brake that the conductor can apply by pulling the lever on the right side. It works extremely well. With 10 cars fully loaded (30 passengers), the pump evacuates the line almost instantly and can bring our 4-8-4 to a grinding halt even on full throttle. We think our system of vacuum brakes on all cars is excellent with this addition making for even better safety.

PLEASE wear your name badges to all meetings and run days. It would be a great help to both old and new members. If you would like to purchase a new name badge or a club patch, they are available for \$3.00 each from Lori Esselbach.

Who is building what? Please let us know what the progress is on your pet project. To you it may seem some what insignificant, but someone else may be very interested because they may be approaching a problem on their project which you have just solved on your. So please share your progress with us.

Don't be shy or embarrassed! Bring in those "Show and Tell" items to our general meetings, so that all may share your pride of accomplishment.

Keith says, please no more milk containers. He does need, however, 1 gallon and 5 gallon plastic or metal cans.

*Dennis and Judy Gramith*

STEVE BANKS  
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LIVE STEAMERS  
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