

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svls.org

September 2003

Volume 30, Issue 9

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Dale Fowlar

I would like to thank everyone that attended the Hot August Nights night run and pot luck. Many members brought guests and several new members were on hand as well. Some even stayed over for the Saturday work day! Thanks go to Paul and Lois Clifton for coming out early to open the caboose and get things set up, and to Ross Crawford for manning the barbecue during preparation of the all important steaks. I was pleased to see the private equipment that made an appearance. Most notable was a beautiful Pacific belonging to Henry Aguirre of Nevada City. The engine has SP overtones but Henry says that he has given it many Mid-Western touches. Frank Dolloso and Bob Kownacki were out with their motor cars and the Wilmunders brought out their hand car. Paul Clifton fired up the Club steamer and Mike Presson marshaled out the two active Club diesels and two sets of riding cars. After a very satisfying meal, Milon Thorley presented the Club with a really nice yellow banner with the Club logo in red, which will fly along with "Old Glory" at official functions. You undoubtedly recall that prior to the 2003 Spring



Meet, Milon donated and installed the flag pole which stands proudly adjacent to 'Ol Gus' grave. Once the presentation was completed, we all shared the rare experience of train rides in the Summer night air, the unmistakable sounds of steam, and the shimmer of the American river in the moonlight.

Now, on to business. The Board has spent quite a bit of time preparing a workable budget. Printed material was made available to those in attendance at the August Board Meeting. We intend to discuss the budget and also a report of the 2001-2002 Treasurer's audit at the September General meeting. We welcome appreciate your interest and encourage your comments.

For those who have been awaiting membership badges, they are being mailed to you.

The Placerville Harvest Fair is September 13th & 14th. Your Club will be there operating a joint static display in conjunction with Keith Berry's Placerville railroad and Shay restoration group. There will be equipment displays and a taped program along with various live steam catalogues and castings. Help out if you can or just come by and see the show. I would like to hear from you if you wish to participate.

I am happy to report that several people have answered my call for S.P. equipment for the S.P. Historical and Technical Society run on October 5th. I would like to encourage everyone who can, to come by and take in this event. You will see some equipment that only rarely makes an appearance. This event will not be limited only to SVLS members...If you have S.P. or Central Pacific or any related subsidiary road equipment be sure to take part in this event if you can. One other note...We can use freight cars of any road. It would really make the show complete to operate a couple of really big trains. So if you can, bring out your stuff and let the die hard S.P. fans see it I would like to hear from anyone who is anticipating bringing steam. Please contact me at (916)962-0718 or e-mail spfogger@ix.netcom.com. I am really looking forward to this one. Thanks.

CALENDAR

Sep 1 Run Day
 Sep 1 Board Meeting
 Sep 19 General Membership Meeting
 Sep 20 Club Work Day
 Sep 21 Run Day
 Sep 22 *News letter deadline

Oct 4 Run Day
 Oct 6 Board Meeting
 Oct 17 General Membership Meeting
 Oct 18-19 **FALL MEET**
 Oct 20 News letter deadline

Don't forget about work days, every Tuesday and most Saturdays. Contact a committee member for information on needs. There are always things to be done to support YOUR club.

How will you help your club this month?

HELP WANTED

SEASONAL PART-TIME

2 to 4 hours per week
 pick your own hours

We need a little help with the care and watering of our grounds at SVLS, April thru September. Small, manageable areas need some TLC, localized watering and a bit of weed whacking (tools provided), and maybe planting some flowers. Pick the area and customize it to your taste, put your signature on our Sacramento Valley Railroad. Call the Ding-a-Ling (Glen Bell) at 362-3078.

Have a neighbor or a friend who has an interest in Live Steam? Invite them to join SVLS. Take the Membership form on the back page and give to a friend to join SVLS.

The Golden Spike is published monthly by the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers, Inc., P.O. Box 273, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741. The club track is located in Hagan Community Park, Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA. Articles may be submitted to: editor@svls.org

HOT AUGUST NIGHT RUN



The club diesel with Benjamin Shell & Mike Persson going through the yard with Frank Dollosso electric just entering the yard.

Glen Bell SVLS Irrigation Engineer

The grounds are looking better now that we have some help watering. Bill Son is our newest irrigation technician. He has agreed to come down to the railroad on



Wednesday mornings and water the area from the ditch to the caboose and boxcar. My thanks and appreciation to you "Cannonball". Justin Schade has been on the job for a month now and is doing a great job, and therefore it is only appropriate that he is promoted to irrigation technician II. Congratulations, Justin!!!

The September work day is the 20th. Some weed whacking needs to be done here and there, a bit of localized mowing around trees, some spot watering, and maybe some planting of flowers. If you have any ideas for improving the appearance of the grounds call and let me know (362-3078). We'll ask the board for a modest amount of \$\$\$ to buy some plants and add some color to the place. I hope to see you on the 20th, I'll be there at 8am. We will be provided lunch at noon and at 1pm we will run for an hour for a family reunion in the park and then we can run for ourselves. A bar-B-Q in the evening sounds like a good idea, too. So come on out a work for a little while then let's have some fun and enjoy the fruits of our labor.



Friends of the Sacramento Railway Museum will recognize this engine. Begun in October, 1986, the 1/12th size (4-3/4 Gauge) live steam version of the Gov. Stanford, all done in stainless, brass and birdseye maple, is finally out for the builder's photo. The copper boiler was designed to burn wood. There is a hand pump in the tender water space and two crosshead pumps. The tender trucks have working brakes. The only commercial parts were the valves and pressure gauge from Reeves' and the fasteners from Coles-Ventura. My thanks to members Barry Garland and Don Cure who assisted with the tape measure and camera detail recordings that got the idea going. - John Haines.

Train Master Report by Ross Crawford

Did you ever have a truck that randomly derails for no apparent reason? The truck may be improperly aligned because it wasn't built right or because it has been damaged. I hate to say this but many new trucks are coming from the builders with improper alignment. This includes diesel locomotive trucks too. So if you are buying trucks be sure to check them.



Here how: measure the distance between the front and rear wheels with an inside caliper, trammels or two 6 inch scales. Both sides should be the same within .015 or 1/64 of an inch. If they are not (and your pedestal/journal clearances are less than .020) send it back, or if you want to fix it yourself, I'll tell you how to make an offset journal box that will solve your problem next month. For questions call me at 916 718-4162

HOT AUGUST NIGHT DINNER & NIGHT RUN

was well attended with over 35 people to enjoy the dinner and train rides. We all had a great time that we didn't realize what time it was and gotten locked in the park and had to call Glen Bell to let us out. Thanks to all who helped by setting up for dinner, bringing food, bringing trains to see and run and sharing stories with friends.



Club steamer ready for night run.

Board of Directors

President: Dale Fowlar (916) 962-0718
 mailto:president@svls.org
 Vice President: Joel Corbin (916) 990-9432
 mailto:vicepresident@svls.org
 Secretary: Chris Donhost (707) 469-9039
 mailto:secretary@svls.org
 Treasurer: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514
 mailto:treasurer@svls.org
 Track Superintendent: Pete Arney
 (916) 988-2000 mailto:track@svls.org
 Yardmaster: Lee Frechette (916) 481-2820
 mailto:yard@svls.org
 Trainmaster: Ross Crawford (916) 718-4162
 Speical Events: Glenn Bell (916) 362-3078
 mailto:event@svls.org
 Caboose Operations: Paul Clifton
 (916) 722-8514 paulclifton@juno.com
 Newsletter Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113
 mailto:editor@svls.org
 Membership: Cindy Wilmunder (916) 372-2423
Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM

CABOOSE notes: by Lois

Chinese Cabbage Salad

2-16 oz bags cabbage salad mix
 3 pkgs. -Ramen Noodles
 1/4 cup - Sesame Seeds
 1/4 cup - Sunflower Seeds
 1/2 cup - Almonds
 1 pkg. - Chopped Green Onions
 4-6 Tbl. - Margarine

(1) Melt Margarine add broken noodles, seeds, nuts brown in oven & cool
 (2) Mix separately: 1 cup - Sugar, 1 cup Oil, 2-3 Tbl. soy sauce, & 2/3 cup vinegar

Mix cabbage mix, green onions, with (1) & (2) just before serving

SPIKE editor request ideas for articles.
 I am also looking for members that would like to spotlight their projects - in progress or finished.
 Please call or email the editor. - Thanks.

UP COMING RUNS

Glen Bell SVLS Run Coordinator

August was a great month for special runs, we had six in all, three birthday parties, two school visits and a group picnic for the Rohr family and church group. Birthday parties are quite popular and we have others that are interested in having parties for their children at our facilities, so look for more coming up. Peter J. Shields After School Care joined us for rides on the thirteenth and thoroughly enjoyed their time with us. While some children were riding the train others went on a nature walk within our grounds, guided by the ever vigilant Ding-A-Ling. It seems the kids were fascinated with the wild life inside the yard, especially some Rollie-Pollie bugs under one of our trees near the bike path. The boys and girls were mindful of the adult chaperons and were a joy to be with. This group will probably be joining us again in the fall when school starts.

For September we have our two regular runs, the 1st Monday, Labor Day, and Sunday the 21st. We have special runs coming up. The first is for Saturday the 6th, Paul & Lois Clifton are hosting a birthday party for their granddaughter, Mariah. On the 7th we will be running for Superior Vision, Inc. It is their annual company picnic and their first time with us. And while we are on the subject of company picnics, the County Dept. of Child Support Services has asked us to run on the 13th, a Saturday, for two hours between 12 and 4 (time to be decided later). We have a tentative day for Saturday, the 20th, in the afternoon for a family reunion.

If you would like to help with any of these runs please call me at (916) 362-3078.

Please check the club web site www.svls.org for current information on club activities. Also visit Matt's on-line diesel discussion group. www.groups.yahoo.com.



**SACRAMENTO VALLEY LIVE STEAMERS
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND DUES INVOICE**

To be filled out upon application for membership and/or membership renewal



NEW RENEWAL DATE: _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP DESIRED: INDIVIDUAL
 FAMILY
 ASSOCIATE

YOUR NAME: _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

SPOUSE'S FIRST NAME: _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

CHILDREN
LIVING AT
HOME
(Names _____
and
month/day
of birth): _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP+4: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

OCCUPATION: _____

OPERABLE LIVE STEAM EQUIPMENT: _____

LIVE STEAM EQUIPMENT UNDER CONSTRUCTION: _____

Do you have track at home? Yes No Someday Gauge: _____

Special skills and ways you would like to help SVLS: _____

Other railroad club affiliations: _____

PLEASE COMPLETE THE ABOVE AND RETURN WITH YOUR DUES TO:

SACRAMENTO VALLEY LIVE STEAMERS

Attn: Membership

PO Box 273

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95741-0273

Make check payable to: Sacramento Valley Live Steamers

DUES RATE: REGULAR MEMBERSHIP (Individual or Family) is \$30.00 per year payable and due on January 1 or \$27.00 per year if paid by December 31st of the preceding year.
ONE TIME INITIATION FEE: \$30.00 (In addition to the regular membership dues)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: \$15.00 per year (NO initiation fee) Must live 100 miles or more from track or belong to a recognized live steam club. An associate member who moves into the 100 mile radius must convert to a regular membership by paying the \$30.00 initiation fee.

Membership is conditional for a period of six (6) months, at which time acceptance as a regular member will be voted upon by the general members at a regular meeting. In the event of a negative vote, the initiation fee and 1/2 of the yearly dues will be refunded.

Amount Paid: _____ Check _____ Cash
 Name Badge Roster Rule Book Card



SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH

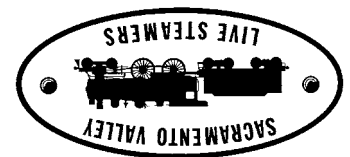
228 No locomotive shall be operated at an excessive speed, and shall not be operated at a speed greater than any speed from which the locomotive and its train can be slowed and stopped within a reasonable distance, depending on the traffic, track conditions, visibility and weight of the train.

#308 For insurance purposes: engineers and trainmen on trains hauling the general public **MUST** be qualified members of S.V.L.S. and pass a qualification test, or be a member of a recognized live steam train club.

415 All locomotives operating during periods of low visibility or after sunset shall be equipped with a working headlight that may be seen clearly for a distance of at least 150 feet and sufficient lighting in the locomotive cab to read the gauges and see the controls clearly.

Caboose Menu

Chili Burger	\$2.75
Chili Dog	\$2.75
Hamburger	\$2.00
Hot Dog	\$2.00
Grilled Cheese Sandwich	\$1.75
Bowl of Chili	\$2.00
Nacho's	\$1.50
Meal Deal (includes Chips, drink, salad & dessert)	\$3.50
Special of the Day	\$4.00
All hamburgers & sandwiches come with: Tomato, lettuce, & pickle. Onion upon request	
Drinks / Dessert	
Soda	\$.50
Gatorade	\$.75
V-8 Juice	\$.75
Water, Ice Tea, lemonade	\$.50
Hot Chocolate	\$.50
Coffee & Tea	Free
Ice Cream Bar, Ice Cream Sandwich, Crunch Bar	\$.50
Drum Sticks	\$.75
Popsicles	\$.50
Candy Bar	\$.50



Sacramento Valley Live Steamers
P.O. Box 273
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741