

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svls.org

October 2005

Volume 32, Issue 10

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Joel Corbin

COME TO THE MEET
ON OCTOBER 8 & 9

Please remember that this year the Fall Meet was voted to be held earlier to avoid possible bad weather and the weekend will be October 8 & 9. We hope many will come. As is our custom, a catered, all you can eat dinner is planned. If you want a reservation, call Lois Clifton at (916) 722-8514 or send an e-mail to her at loisjune1@comcast.net. Also, a raffle will be conducted again and the prizes will be fewer but more valuable and more interesting. This is one of our few special times each year to see your friends and to run your equipment. The one-inch track is now finished, following the vandalism so bring out both scales of equipment. Don't miss the Meet!



Private tracks are no different than club tracks...lowlifes stealing essential parts of the railroad for operation.
- see STOLEN TRACK on page 3



**GHOST TRAIN RIDES TO THE
HUANTED HOUSE
OCT. 29 & 31**

SPECIAL WEEKEND

On September 9, 10 & 11 we, being a railroad interest museum, were invited to attend a weekend long display of local museums and the grand opening of the Stanford Mansion. Historical groups from Sacramento, Folsom, Columbia, and Rancho Cordova (us) were asked to put on a display to coincide with the Stanford Mansion opening. The event was very successful and our new brochure was passed out to many folks who came by our display. On Sunday, September 18, some of those same people came by our regular run day and saw our operation. We are getting more visibility and we hope to get more members through these events. Our next one is in Folsom on October 15 to celebrate the completion of the light rail to Folsom. Our invitation to this event came from the Mansion opening event when Folsom Historical folks found out the SVLS was named after the Sacramento Valley Railroad. We found interest in building a locomotive and our recent announcement of our group to do just that has interested some. If you haven't signed up for this, contact Pete Arney.



FACILITY PLANNING

Currently on the drawing boards is an irrigation plan for the facility. We have been without water due to the Park District drilling a new well just outside our west fence. Now, we will be given a 4" pipe connection that should provide much of the water we need to keep our grass and trees alive. Once we have this plan done, the park staff will



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CALENDAR

- Oct 8 - 9 FALL MEET
Public rides - noon to 4 PM.
- Oct. 9 - Special Tree Planting for Dick & Lorrie Esselbach
11 a.m.
- Oct 21 Members meeting - Park building 1
- Oct 22 Work Day - come out and help
- Oct 24 Newsletter articles due to editor
- Oct 29,31 Ghost Train - train rides to Haunted House,

- Nov 4 Board meeting
- Nov 18 Annual meeting - elections
- Nov 19 Work day.
- Nov 21 Newsletter articles due to editor

2005 public run day calendar available on-line, or hand-outs at caboose.

Don't forget about work days, every Tuesday and Saturday after meeting. Contact a committee member for information on needs. Check the Project page at the SVLS web site (www.svls.org).

There are always things to be done to support SVLS.

How will you support SVLS this month?



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

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.

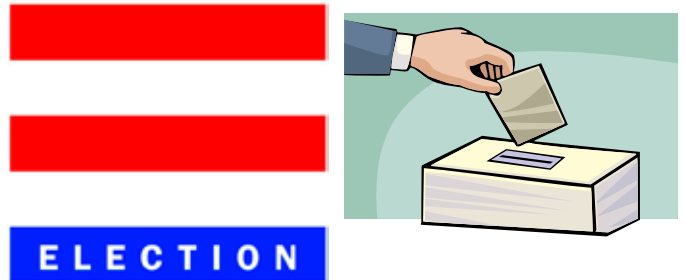
The Golden Spike is the published monthly by the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc., P.O. Box 273, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741. The SVLS track is located in Hagan Community Park, Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA. Articles may be submitted to: editor@svls.org.

MEMBERSHIP

by Amy Lutrel

I will be doing registration at the Fall Meet so please stop to register and say HI.

Don't forget elections will be in November.



Special Events will be coordinated by Vern Geyer (916) 645-9154 for July through December. Please help Vern with our special events.

Board of Directors

President: Joel Corbin (916) 961-5075

E-mail: joel@steamtrainjoel.com

Vice President: Pete Arney (916) 988-2000

E-mail: vp@svls.org

Secretary: Keith Berry (530) 642-0742

E-mail: edorberry@aol.com

Treasurer: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514

E-mail: loisjune1@surewest.net

Track Superintendent: Les Wilmunder (916) 372-2423

Yardmaster: Vern Geyer (916) 645-9154

E-mail: vern78@onemain.com

Trainmaster: Richard Lutrel (916) 244-8989

E-mail: rjl1974@sbcglobal.net

----- Committee Chairpersons -----
Special Events: call

Vern Geyer (916) 645-9154

Caboose Ops: Paul Clifton (916) 722-8514

E-mail: paulrclifton@surewest.net

Newsletter Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113

E-mail: editor@svls.org

Membership: Amy Lutrel (916) 244-8989

E-mail: amyl1979@sbcglobal.net

Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM

Vice-President's report

by Pete Arney

California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference:

About 400 teachers from all over the state, with as many as 200 from the Sacramento Area, will gather at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Sacramento on October 20 - 22. The three day conference is sponsored by California Foundation for Agriculture In The Classroom (CFAITC) to promote the teaching of agriculture in grade school classrooms. The organization also publishes a statewide Teacher Resource Guide for K-12 teachers. The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum (SVLSRM) will be presented as a Sacramento area resource for school field trips in the 2006 edition.

Teachers attending the conference can choose to sign up for any one of six tours being offered for Friday, October 21. SVLSRM will be featured on Tour 1: American River Water Education Center. & Cordova Recreation & Park District. The Hagan Park portion of the tour will arrive about 2:00pm and offer teachers an opportunity to view the Petting Barn operated by Lisa Skaarup and Luanne and ride the trains at SVLSRM. Up to 60 teachers can sign up for the bus tour. Upon arrival at Hagan Park, the group will be split in half: one half visiting the Petting Barn and the other SVLSRM. Then the process will be reversed. SVLSRM volunteers will present a short program of the history of railroads as they relate to the agriculture industry past and present.

An excerpt from a CFAITC lesson plan for students on Sacramento Transportation History Overview is as follows: "Sacramento also played a key role in the development of the major railroads in California. As agriculture replaced gold mining as the major industry, first boats and then the railroads became critical in moving produce among cities in the Sacramento Valley. The Sacramento Valley Rail Road, which traveled 22 miles from Folsom, was the first train to arrive in Sacramento and the first in California."

We want to present SVLSRM as the present day embodiment of the early railroad history of the 1850's SVRR as well as the role railroads played during the subsequent centuries. If any member would like to participate on Friday, October 21, or help prepare for the presentation contact Joel Corbin or Pete Arney.

See the CFATIC website <http://www.cfatic.org/Conference/Conference.php?info=tours> for more information on the tours and the organization itself.

2005 Halloween Run:

The 2005 SVLS/Jewell Ghost train is coming down the

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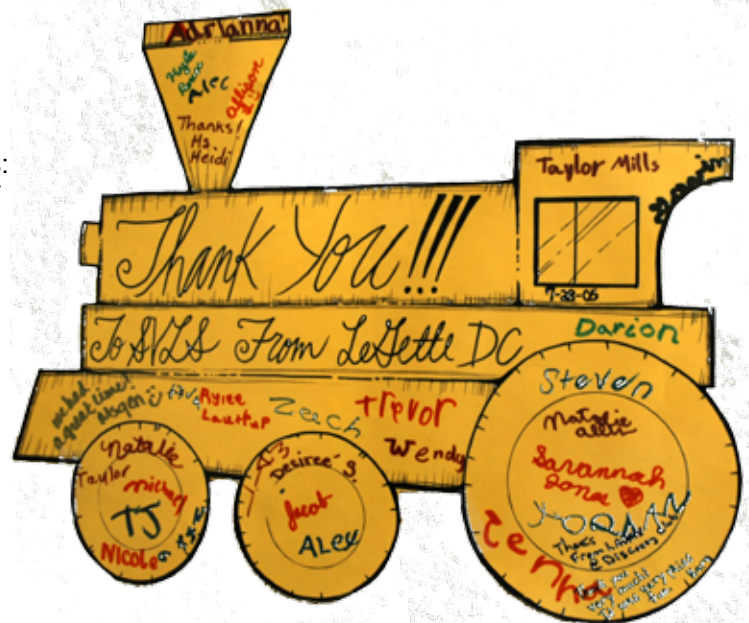
STOLEN TRACK

Private tracks are no different than club tracks...lowlifes stealing essential parts of the railroad for operation.

140 feet of my home 4 3/4" track in Sacramento was stolen September 8th. This includes 16 panels of track along with two switches. That constitutes a good portion of the 538 feet that was its previous total length.

These guys knew what they were doing, taking the time to unscrew the fishplates as well as bringing along a nutdriver to unscrew rail from the plastic ties. They were kind enough to leave one crossing panel for me (how generous!). My guess is that they took the track for the aluminum as is usually the case at SVLS (hopefully to help hurricane victims, but I doubt it).

If you see anyone trying to sell you some track (it was 1/2" and 1" high rail), please contact Matt Mason at 916-366-7438.



Boys and Girls from the Legette (Earl) Elementary School were out to our track and took rides on our trains and to show us their thanks they sent us their home made thank you card.

THANKS KIDS

President report - continued from page 1

have to approve it. Other approvals involve our station shelter. Our submission has been made and we expect an answer shortly.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

As we have done in the past, we entertained the G Scaler's on September 17. They brought out their portable electric layout and the small layout for steam too. Our steamer was run to provide rides. They have been invited to our Fall Meet to add to the railroad interest of the event.

A convention in Sacramento of agriculture teachers is planned for October 21. They will be offered several field trips, and one of them is to see the Petting Barn adjacent to our track. When they saw our facility, while checking out the Petting Barn, they asked if they could include us on the tour. The Board approved this event and we will provide a train ride and special "agriculture and the railroads" talk.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

At the September Membership Meeting, the Nominating Committee was announced. The Chairman is Milon Thorley, along with Barbara Moser and Red Hadler. The slate they develop will be announced at the October meeting. If there are desired nominations from the floor, they may be presented then. If a floor nominee is not present, there must be written confirmation that they will accept the nomination. This is being requested since all nominees will appear on a ballot that will be sent to all eligible voting members. We do not wish to present anyone that will not accept the nomination for any position. Again, the positions needing to be filled for 2006 are President, Secretary, and Trainmaster.

HALLOWEEN

Jerry Jewell and his theater troupe will once again have a haunted house as a fund raiser for this group. As we have in the past, we will run trains to the haunted house and share in the profits of the event. He will have a VIP night on Friday, October 28 and then the first public display on Saturday, October 29. Sunday the 30th will be skipped and it will open once again on Halloween night, Monday the 31st. SVLS volunteers are needed. If you can help, contact Clio or Vern Geyer (916-645-9154) who are planning special events until the first of the year. Those who have helped the past two years have really enjoyed the event. The parents with kids in costume make the place lots of fun.



That's all for now folks. Come talk with me at the Meet. If I don't know you, I'd like to get acquainted.

YARDMASTER REPORT

by Vern Geyer

It has been a long hot summer. Trying to keep things green has been a chore with a severe water shortage. The new well is now in and operating, but not as well as was originally thought. Still things are looking a lot better in most areas. We did lose a few trees that will be replaced this fall.



I want to thank those who have come out and watered and mowed. I know that Richard and Amy Lutrel have been out quite a bit to water and maybe mow. Paul Skidmore has been out and mowed. Jack Friedman comes out and gathers all the trash and limbs that have fallen. Darrell Gomes has been coming out and helping on Tuesdays with what watering we can do, as well as taking out the dead trees. I don't know who else and keep blaming it on the little elves that sneak in and do things. It would be nice to know who is helping. Give me a call and let me know what you have done so that I know how to plan for those days when I can make it out.



TRAINMASTER REPORT

by Richard Lutrel

In our on going effort to keep all equipment in safe running condition we have ordered one pair of trucks and 12 couplers. Please report any problem with any of the rolling stock or diesels so that we can fix. Thanks.



The California State Railroad museum placed this loco on the street at 7th & O for the Stanford Mansion opening.

VP report - continued from page 3

line on Saturday, October 29, and Monday, October 31. A VIP run will be help on Friday, October 28, for corporate donors. There will be no run on Sunday, October 30. Joel Corbin will be attending a coordination meeting at Jerry Jewell's home on Wednesday, September 21, and will have more information after then.



The Cordova Recreation and Park District, under the supervision and construction of Lee Frechette, is installing a 42 foot square concrete pad in the North Cobble Creek area where previous haunted house events have been



held. A 40ft. by 40ft. tent furnished by the park will be erected on the pad to provide 1600 square feet of scary space. Dust and wet ground have been a serious issue to Jerry and his staff over the past years. The new pad will allow a brand new haunted house to be put together and promises to be even more haunted than ever. The tent and pad will available for SVLS events as well and will be a nice addition to the property.

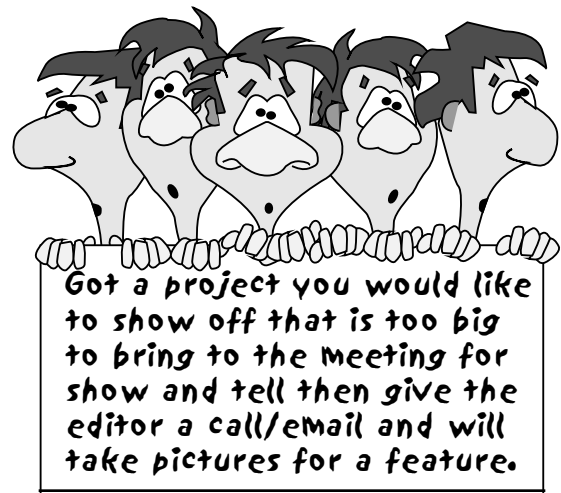
To prepare for the event, we need volunteers to work on track, security, and site preparation. On the run nights, trains run in a reverse direction part of the way. Leaving the station, we take Reverso to approach the truss (Tin Man) bridge southbound instead of northbound, then proceed to the haunted house drop off point. Track, especially at Reverso, needs to be levelled and rebalasted due to ground squirrel activity, and trees trimmed. On run nights, volunteers are needed to provide watchful security, especially at the north end bike trail area. Volunteers are particularly needed to run the station, drop off and pickup locations. Let Joel or another board member know that you would like to help.

Check the SVLS website www.svls.org for updates.

New irrigation pump and connection to SVLS update:

The Cordova Recreation and Park District (CRPD) has completed the installation of their new irrigation water well project begun last March. Last month's irrigation status article was written with the anticipation that the park would be installing a new 4-inch irrigation line to a demarc point that SVLS could extend on into the expansion area.

While a 4-inch tap has been provided at the pump location, the park has backed off their original agreement to extend the line to the demarc point. SVLS has now been asked to submit plans and drawings for park approval before any work can be done. The planned connection of the 4-inch service to irrigate the expansion area will thus be delayed to some future unspecified date. While usage is now being limited by the park to no more than 200 gallons per minute, SVLS can still use the existing 2-1/2 inch system to continue watering and should have enough water to keep the vegetation mostly green for now. We will continue with plans to automate the irrigation process progressively over the next few years.



Got a project you would like to show off that is too big to bring to the meeting for show and tell then give the editor a call/email and will take pictures for a feature.



Museum visitors looking at our steam engine on display during the Stanford Mansion opening. SVLS displayed our steam locomotive, several cars, and other items on the CHP building roof garden located between 7th and 8th, and N and O streets in downtown Sacramento.

SPECIAL EVENTS REPORT

By *Clio Geyer*

After a very busy August, September was relatively quiet.

September 14th had Roseville Parks and Rec. "Moms & Tots" special at the park. Everyone seemed to have a good time. Thanks to Richard & Amy Lutrel, Pete Arney, Darrell Gomes and Vern Geyer for being there to run the two trains needed.



September 17th was the Garden Railroad Meet and potluck. It was suppose to be a joint event with SVLS and the Garden Railroad, but not very many of our folks showed up. There was lots of food and everyone seemed to have a good time. Thanks to Paul Clifton, Les, Cindy and Casey Wilmunder, Joel Corbin, Vern Geyer, Ken, Nadine and Terry Willis, Butch Floyd, Red Hadler for being there to help give folks rides on the steamer.

October is going to be another busy month.

October 1st – a birthday party from 11-1.

October 8th and 9th of course is our Fall Meet.

October 21st – Ag Teacher Conference in Sacramento. Our facility is one of many stops they will be making on their various tours that day. I will be calling for help as we plan to discuss how trains and agriculture work together. This will be from 1p.m to 4p.m.

October 22nd – Roseville Cub Scout Troop 804 will be coming out from 12 to 4 p.m. We will be discussing the various types of engines and other things railroad related as well as giving rides. I will be calling on some of you to come out a talk about various things as well as assist in giving rides.

October 29th & 31st – This is the Halloween weekend, with the Jerry Jewel haunted house and train rides. This has been a lot of fun for the last couple of years. The kids are great with their costumes coming out to see the haunted house. We take them by train to the haunted house and drop them off, and pick up those that have finished going through and take them back to the station. Come out and join the fun!



Mystery photos from last month's SPIKE got a fast response from Louise Yungling with the name of Katherine Lions for the person running the cab forward.



Berry Haig (left) and Paul Cline were the others named. Thanks Louise.



Also the person in the middle of the group photo is said to be Nolan Hinshaw. This info came from Mary Shelley.



SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH

217. Hand signals may be given with the hand, flag or light, as follows:
- A. "STOP" . . . swing at arm's length down from the shoulders across the track; any object waved violently on or near the track.
 - B. "PROCEED" . . . Raised and lowered vertically
 - C. "BACK UP" . . . Swung vertically in circles across the track.
 - D. "REDUCE SPEED" . . . Arms held horizontally with slight motion of hand

303. All Trainmen and engineers must be able to demonstrate thorough knowledge of basic rules of safe operation to the satisfaction of the Trainmaster or his designated alternate and in addition all engineers shall be thoroughly briefed on the individual engines they are to operate.

404. Couplers or drawbars between engine and engineers riding car, or between any combination of engine, riding car and fuel car shall be of a drawbar with lockpin type or equivalent that cannot become accidentally uncoupled nor disconnect any fuel lines in case of derailment.



SL RANEL II

20' open fiberglass launch with a new canopy. Has three steam whistles.

Powered by a Semple Model 354 compound engine with Stephenson valve gear running full condensing and driving a 19x28" three bladed propeller. Steam supplied by a Semple FT40 oil fired boiler. Carries 22 gallons of soft make-up water (water softener on board) and 22 gallons of fuel oil, 7+ hours of steaming. Operates equally well on diesel, home heating oil or kerosene.

Equipment includes lights for night running, lighted compass, GPS, spotlight, paddles, boat hook, life jackets, ropes, fenders, steam heated coffee pot and a first aid kit.

Two axle trailer included. Trailer has hydraulic brakes and almost new tires.

Asking \$13,500, RTR, with trailer

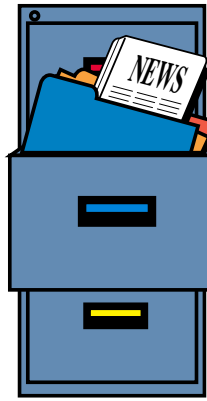
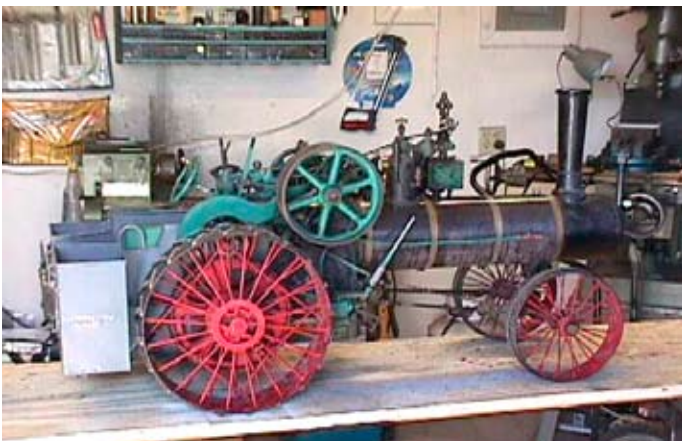
Contact Bill Cody at (775) 674-6512 or steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net for additional information and pictures.

2" scale Case steam tractor with riding surrey.

RTR - Complete with everything needed except a shovel and coal.

Asking \$3,500.00. Reasonable offers considered.

Can be seen at the SVLS 2005 Fall Meet or contact Bill Cody at (775) 674-6512 or steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net.



10 Years ago:

"FROM THE FAR SIDE OF THE CAB"
The Fall Meet is not far out which rings out another year of activities. We have accomplished several major tasks: 1 - six new steaming bays, 2- rewire the entire facility, 3- put in sidings, and 4- kept ahead of the weed growth - to name a few. I am surprised, shocked I suppose, at the utter lack of depth on the club - those willing to take on an office. The group of active members is very small. You have all heard this before. It bears repeating, it

bears watching, it requires fixing.

Bob Lovell, Vice-President

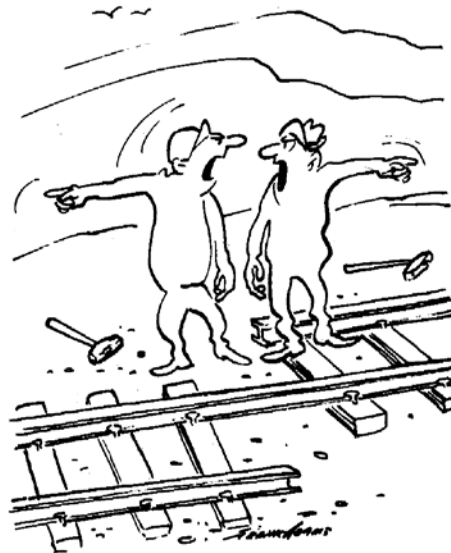
20 Years ago: "FROM THE CAB"

A BIG Thank You to all those members and visitors and all who pitched in so willing to help get the work done and make the Fall Meet a success. I would also like to thank those of you who have generously contributed to our "Storage Facility Fund". To date approximately 15 of our 120 members have contributed to the "fund" with donations ranging from \$5. to \$150. We have received approximately one half of the estimated cost for moving the two cars to our track site, so we still have a long way to go. In addition to the moving costs there will be some expense incurred for ties and ballast to prepare their display site.

Dennis Gramith, President

30 Years ago: (Sept. 1975)

Track work: Our own Fall Meet will soon be upon us and it's time to think about what needs to be done to put track and grounds in good condition. You can expect a call from the work committee soon after the Golden Gate Meet. Ed Yungling had an encouraging word --- things aren't in too bad a shape.



Looks like a train meet in the early years.
I see steaming bays aournd the turntable but no round house.

Must be different years by difference in trees.

Photos from Milon Thorley collection.

Mystery



Photos

Well lets see how good we can do this month.

I have no date on these photos so your help is needed.



Please forward your correct answers to the editor.

Thanks



A History Lesson: SVLS Presidents 1971 through 1983

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1971 ... Ed Yungling | 1978 ... Don Yungling |
| 1972 ... Alan Shelley | 1978 ... Dick Esselbach |
| 1973 ... Alan Shelley | 1979 ... Dick Quiring |
| 1974 ... Larry Badger | 1980 ... Alan Shelley |
| 1975 ... Barry Garland | 1981 ... Alan Shelley |
| 1976 ... Barry Garland | 1982 ... Dennis Gramith |
| 1977 ... Dick Esselbach | 1983 ... Dennis Gramith |

