

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svls.org

May 2007

Volume 34, Issue 05

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Joel Corbin

### SPRING MEET

It is once again time for the Spring Meet and you all are encouraged to attend on the 19th and 20th of this month. Some folks arrive on Fridays (this time the 18th) so we will have a light dinner for early arrivals. This is the normal time for our monthly meeting, but it will be suspended this month unless an announcement of importance arises.

Lois Clifton will provide the usual "caboose" fare so we don't go hungry and our dinner will be on Saturday evening. We will have a raffle, shirt and hat (RR style) sales, and lots of fun for all. Please bring your locomotives, projects, and anything you wish to run or display. To add to the railroad emphasis, we have invited the "G Scale" once again and the Golden Gate Live Steamers will join us since they will not hold their own meet this spring.

If you have not been at the track for a while, you have not seen the new section of track installed by workers over the idle months. The continuous steel rail entering the station area is class A and in fine shape for the Spring Meet. I trust you will bring your 7 1/2" gauge equipment and try it out. Unfortunately, we will not have the 1" scale track completed for the meet.

*Continued on page 3*



## SPRING MEET

MAY 19 & 20, 2007

BE SURE YOU ARE AT THE  
TRACK FOR TWO DAYS OF  
RAILROAD ENJOYMENT

### EVENTS:

- \*\* LIVE STEAMING TO IT FULLEST
- \*\* ADULT & CHILDREN'S RAFFLE
- \*\* SHIRT AND HAT SALES
- \*\* DAYTIME MEALS AT THE CABOOSE
- \*\* SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET (\$12.00)
- \*\* EXPERIENCE OUR NEW CLASS "A" STATION TRACK

### DINNER RESERVATIONS NEEDED.

CONTACT LOIS CLIFTON AT 916-722-8514  
OR SEND EMAIL TO: [loisjune1@surewest.net](mailto:loisjune1@surewest.net)  
BY MAY 16. ONLY A FEW TICKETS  
WILL BE AT THE GATE.

(Tri Tip, Marinated BBQ Pork Ribs, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Caesar Salad, Corn on the Cob, Sourdough bread, Dessert, Coffee, Iced Tea, Punch)

**CALENDAR**

*Note: Board meetings for 2007 have changed*

May 5 Public run day Noon to 4 PM  
 May 19 General members meeting at track 10AM  
 May 19 SPRING MEET  
 May 20 SPRING MEET  
 May 29 Board meeting 6:30 (location TBD)  
 May 31 News letter deadline.

June 2 Public run day Noon to 4PM  
 June 15 General members meeting  
 June 16 Work day  
 June 17 Public run day Noon to 4PM  
 June 26 Board meeting  
 June 28 News letter deadline.

Public run day calendar available on-line.

**Don't forget about work days**, Every Tuesday also Saturday after members meeting. Contact a committee member for information on needs. Check the Project page at the SVLSRM web site ([www.svls.org](http://www.svls.org)).

*How will you support SVLSRM this month?*



With mailing postage rates are 41 cents now we really need to have more members use the option of reading or downloading the SPIKE news letter from our web site.

Please notify Membership that you would like to receive the e-mail notice of news letter and not receive the mailed copy.

Thanks

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](mailto:editor@svls.org).

**MEMBERSHIP**

Amy Lutrel will be at the entry gate registering attendees at the Spring Meet. That is, she will be there if her baby does not say "I'm ready!" She has had a number of meetings with kids in the TAP program and they will be there too, at the gate, helping as needed, under Amy's direction. Not only does Amy take care of the TAP program, but she is also our membership chairperson. See her at the Meet if you are not already a member and sign up! We would like you to be one of us.

If you will be coming to the Spring Meet,

*Welcome*

to all!



**VOLUNTEERS**

Don't forget to volunteer to help on public run days. Train engineers, Conductors, Station master, and other helpers are needed to provide rides for the public. The more the better to make a great day for all to enjoy. See you in March.

**Board of Directors**

- President: Joel Corbin (916) 961-5075  
E-mail: [joel@steamtrainjoel.com](mailto:joel@steamtrainjoel.com)
- Vice President: Pete Arney (916) 988-2000  
E-mail: [vp@svls.org](mailto:vp@svls.org)
- Secretary: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113  
E-mail: [secretary@svls.org](mailto:secretary@svls.org)
- Treasurer: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514  
E-mail: [loisjune1@surewest.net](mailto:loisjune1@surewest.net)
- Track Superintendent: Darrell Gomes (209) 786-0623  
E-mail: [dggomes@caltel.com](mailto:dggomes@caltel.com)
- Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (916) 344-8989  
E-mail: [rjl1974@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rjl1974@sbcglobal.net)
- Trainmaster: Karle Mahler (916) 334-8283  
E-mail: [nancykarle@msn.com](mailto:nancykarle@msn.com)
- Committee Chairpersons -----
- Special Events: Clio Geyer (916) 645-9154  
E-mail: [vern78@onemain.com](mailto:vern78@onemain.com)
- Caboose Ops: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514  
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- Newsletter Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113  
E-mail: [editor@svls.org](mailto:editor@svls.org)
- Membership: Amy Lutrel (916) 344-8989  
E-mail: [amyl1979@sbcglobal.net](mailto:amyl1979@sbcglobal.net)
- Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM**

Presidents report - continued from page 1

PLANS AND BUDGET

Over the last month, I have been spending a lot of time on a complete review of our budget and expenses. Since Pete Arney is spearheading the additional track installation in the station and steaming bay bypass area I felt a good review was necessary. Pete had requested this too. Remember, we have embarked on a member approved three year project and only phase one of the three has been completed. We must be sure we budget all things correctly in order to use our funds to the best advantage. Several weeks ago, the Park Board approved the final steps of our plan so we are moving forward. A preliminary meeting was held with our Treasurer, Lois Clifton, to agree on a reporting spreadsheet and what goes in to the various categories of the budget. Every payment will be charged to a specific budget category so we will always know where we stand. The Board will have a discussion on these steps and will be charged with final approval.

As part of our financial review, we are reviewing our FCR's. Remember, these FCR's (Facility Change Requests) are how we maintain a program of installing only those things that are needed and/or desired. If you have a suggestion, get an FCR form, fill it out and give it to a Board member. The Master Planning Committee will review it and make their recommendation to the Board. The Board will then vote its mind, either pro or con. This is a member approved program that establishes a plan for not only installations, but wise usage of our money. Please do not install anything at the track until an FCR is approved for your project. You should be aware that our track realignment, three year project is FCR 20.

MUSEUM DISPLAYS

Since our name modification, adding "Railroad Museum" to SVLS we have been thinking of how to develop better displays of authentic railroad equipment. Although we have two railcars (caboose and boxcar), a couple of switch stands, among other things, we need more. This past month, Bill Yoder acquired a crossing arm with its activation equipment.

The **Trainmen Auxiliary Program** is going great! This last meeting the kids had a chance to learn the how to's on the Steam Engine. They even got a chance to run with Karle's help. What a site to see! We are excited to get the chance to share this with our youth... We had a new T.A.P. youth join and are looking for many more! Please come out and join us if this sounds good to you and you are 12 - 18 years old.

For information on the TAP program please call:  
Amy Lutrel (916) 344-8989  
E-mail: amy11979@sbcglobal.net



**YARD MASTER**

YARDMASTER RICHARD LUTREL suggests you read the President's report under the heading "WORK DAYS" since he has nothing additional to report this month.



**TRACK SUPERINTENDENT**



We do not have a track superintendent report this month since darrell has been in the hospital with pneumonia. He is home now and looks forward to being at the Spring Meet and possibly work days before this event. Be sure to greet him. He has had quite an ordeal.



The arm is about thirty feet, but it will be shortened. The place for installation has not been decided and its function is open as well, but we have another display for our collection. Although we paid for the crossing arm, we welcome donations for display. If you have authentic railroad artifact or equipment you're willing to donate, we welcome donations and will provide a receipt for tax purposes.

## TRAIN MASTER'S REPORT

By Karle Maler

Without fan-fare, we on the equipment side of the house have been quietly beavering away to have equipment to run on our nice new track. Ross and several members literally tore the floor off of the #3 car of the orange train to repair a sagging coupler. It was a mighty battle, but they won out in the end... thanks guys!

The water gauge and its associated plumbing have now been brought up to speck with the replacement of the sight glass and two defective globe valves. Take a look the next time the steamer is out! The next task is to replace the check valve supplied by the injector. It has been causing problems for some time.

The steamer was hydro'd in early April and I'm pleased to report that Milon's new electro rig works very well. We tested the boiler to 200 psig and found only minor leakage to external plumbing and one safety valve that starts to feather at 60 psig. This defect wastes steam but is not a safety issue. I'll have the safety rebuilt or replaced later in the season.

If you have really good eyes, or broke out a 7x optivisor, you could have read the updated SVLSRM rulebook in April's newsletter. The most significant item is the title change from trainman to conductor and the sharing of authority of the train's operation. This, of course, applies only to the SVLSRM public passenger train operations. The rest of the changes deal with updating the rules to reflect the organization, the name change from "club" to SVLSRM, etc. If you have any questions, please contact any board member or me.

I want to thank Vern and Clio Geyer for the outstanding job their doing taking care of the special runs. The special runs program has turned into a major funding source for the organization and requires a lot of time. Again, thank you Vern and Clio!

Finally, if you want to learn how to prep and operate the club steamer, let me know. I am usually on site by 9:30am on run days and would be happy to walk you through the process or call me and we can set up an off day to do it.

I'll see you at the track.

Karle Mahler

*Presidents report - continued from page 3*

## WORK DAYS

At the writing of this report, installation of the donated container is being prepared for, and concrete support blocks have been poured, the embankment has been cut away, and the blocks for the retaining wall are soon to be installed. Workers on May first fixed a lubricator on the steamer, checked electrical circuitry on the RS 3, mowed lawns to get ready for the Meet, as well as container prep. If you are free on Tuesday's, we sure could use your help on various projects. As I have mentioned before, the more we all contribute, the easier those needed jobs get. Please come out and help. We would like to count on you.

## SAFETY RULES

In our last issue you saw many unreadable lines in the printed copy of our safety rules. If you received your issue online, you were able to zoom in and read the rules. We have, however, reviewed the changes to the wording to eliminate conflict in terms, questionable grammar, spelling issues, and recent changes. The rules in readable form will be made available to all shortly. Bill Yoder has changed some of the signals and these have been incorporated into the material. The revisions have been the next step in our continuing effort to be as safe as possible while on the track. Next in line is completion of six riding toward our goal of twelve new depressed center cars. They are nearing half way completion at present.

## FINAL COMMENT

Please bear with the lower quality of this issue. Bill Yoder is out of town and I am finishing the newsletter for him.

Joel



**10 Years ago:**  
 FROM THE 4/18/97 GENERAL  
 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Amandus gave update on the track. Oasis Yard is almost complete. He has been levelling. Has removed and replaced some old ties in places around the track. Ballast pile is going down. Vern gave update on new air horn installation on the UP. New headlights have been installed. In his spare time he has been helping with any mowing that

needs to be done.

Milon has the sprinklers fixed again. Air horn had acoustical problem with the sound bouncing off the cover. After putting some foam in front of them, solved the problem most of the time.

Show & Tell:

Curtis brought in 40 ground throws for the switches. Many people have helped put all this together. Bob Reedy from Pioneer & Steve Arnold from Grants Pass, Or are just a couple. Matt Mason is building a couple of cars for his locomotive. He needed a chop saw, so made one. He showed outside frame he made using the saw.

Milon is going to put a locking device on the new remote switch coming off the Twin Bridges hill to prevent someone from throwing the switch.

Keith brought in the sight glass from the Shay they are restoring in Placerville, Engine will be steamed up on May 3. There will be an open house as well.

Adjourned to Buffet Car @ 8:10pm.

**20 Years ago:** "Sidelines - Reporter: Dennis Gramith"

Come out, come out where ever you are! Where did everybody go? I have been led to believe that there are in excess of 100 members in this club. Why is it that the same SMALL handful of people are still doing all the work for the rest of YOU???

The projects listed above by warren indicate that a very, very large amount of work has recently been put into the facilities for your club. What is not evident is that the major portion of the labor was supplied by less than 10 people. While there are different people coordination projects, in most cases the few people doing the work are working on more than one project. If you shinning face has not been seen at the work day recently,, perhaps it is time for you to re-evaluate what our fair share really is. While most of you will enjoy running and visiting at the Meet, please remember that a lot of work has been done to help make the meet a success and any help you can provide during the meet will be greatly appreciated. When you look at the major changes in your club's facility, please realize that most of these projects will still require a tremendous amount of labor to complete after the meet is history.

**30 Years ago:** The Board will be treated to an outdoor barbeque dinner at the home of Austin and Mary Knoff, Sacramento. All members are invited to the meeting at 8:00 P.M. If you have something to bring before the Board.

Annual Run Day at the EL Dorado & Southern. Sunday at Milon and Connie Thorley's. Just one year ago we celebrated the completion of this new railroad with a Golden Spike Ceremony. This year we will have a pot luck lunch and you are asked to contact Mary as she will be coordination the menu. Please bring your own dishes, silverware, cups, glasses and chairs. Connie will have ice, tea and coffee and if you prefer another type of beverage you are welcome to bring it. Lunch will be at 1:00 P.M. and if we can all get there on time we can all eat together.

Bring your engine, cars and fuel and enjoy he ride over 1100 feet of 7 1/2" ga. track.

Water is limited to 96 gallons per day at the EL Dorado & Southern and all guests will use the chemical toilets outside the house and not add to the difficulties of our host and hostess.



**SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH**



107. The Station Master will have complete charge of the station. He may appoint any qualified assistants needed. All passenger loading and unloading, and the arrival and departure of the trains, will be under his supervision.

221. Communicating signals given by the trainman:

- A. OO When standing, proceed.
- B. OO When running, STOP.
- C. OOO When standing, back up.
- D. OOO When running, stop at the next station.
- E. OOOO When running, reduce speed.

310. The Board of Directors may restrict or suspend from duty any operating personnel who consistently violates safety rules.

412. Steam locomotives shall be operated so as to prevent anyone from being burned or having their clothing soiled by steam from cylinder cocks, exhaust, blow-down valves, whistles, or other emissions.

# for sale



Dual Gyra-Light for sale. This light works on 3vdc and comes with wiring instructions and is ready to mount on your GP9 or SD9 in the vertical position or horizontal position on the later locomotives that used them. You only have to drill two #10 holes and another hole for the power cord. This dual gyra-light comes with a 3 vdc power supply

to wire into your 12 vdc system. This unit also comes with extra light bulbs, housing door lenses and 0-80 set screw wrench to take lamp housing off the frame to change the light bulbs. There is only one dual gyra-light for sale with free shipping in continental usa. only \$250.00

Figure "8" MARS LIGHTS are available again and have been upgraded with an "LED" in stead of the incandescent bulb. These LED's put out over 50 lumens of light and the LED's have a reported life span of 100,000 hrs... \$300.00 ea. plus shipping.



Switch stands, point throw mechanism and point plate for attaching the points is included with the switch stand. A complete set-up for \$85.00 plus shipping. They may be viewed on my website under photos in the for sale album:

<http://www.timbercreekrr.zoomshare.com/>

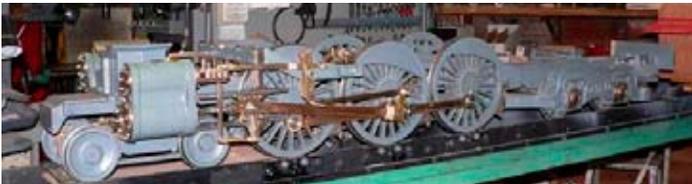
Contact me by phone or e-mail for questions and quantity discounts.

**Gordon Briggs timbercreekrr@yahoo.com (530)273-9145**

1926 Hudson No.5200, 4-6-4 - Length of Engine 84 inches, Tender 56 inches Height 22 inches Weight 900 lbs. Width 15-1/2 inches Track Gauge 7-1/2 inches Bore & Stroke 2 -1/2" X 3 -1/2" Valves 1-3/8" diameter piston Fuel Coal,Oil or LPG, Boiler 10-3/4" diameter Minimum turning radius 45 feet

We are in Eugene, Oregon. If anyone is interested or knows someone who is, please contact me at:

**lynnv@compuhelpnow.com.**



FOR SALE Rail systems 1.7 sw-1500 16 hp V twin will pull like a pacific! Custom painted & lettered & Mountain car co. 6 ft gondola trucks & couplers custom painted & lettered , NEW cannonball 6ft gondola trucks & couplers I want to sell every thing including eng. storage stand & hauling system set up for pickup truck \$9000.00



call Dave 916-315-9574



FOR SALE - Bill Conner designed and built (1999) 4+4 Beam Engine, tender and two 7.5 foot riding cars of my design. Pneumatic brakes and parking brake on riding cars and tender. Recently refurbished and updated from original configuration. Current SVLS boiler certificate on a 12" diameter vertical steel boiler, propane fired with 306 half inch diameter copper fire tubes. Power is two cylinder double acting with a bore and stroke of 2x2.75" driving 4.375" wheels through a 20% overdrive. Engine weighs about 400 pounds, dry with eight driving wheels arranged in two four wheel trucks. There are no springs on this engine or riding car, trucks are equalized so springs are not needed. Engine and tender are rock solid on the rails, NO side to side rocking. The engine has a functional headlight.

Asking only \$12,000 - RTR

The engine, tender and both riding cars can be carried in a standard size PU with an 8 foot bed.

The train will be available over on the storage tracks East of the lunch area during the Spring Meet..

Contact Bill Cody at [steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net) or (775) 674-6512 (Home) or (775) 815-2263 (Cell) for additional information/pictures.

## WANTED:

Ready to run 7.5 inch gauge / 1.5 scale cars, looking for Flat car, Box car, and Tank car. Contact Les Wilmunder at (916) 372-2423

I am looking for a well built 2-6-0 or 4-6-0, 1 1/2 inch scale, 7 1/2 inch gauge. Preferably Winton or Allen type locos. It must run well, and be a turn key loco. An Allen 4-4-0 would also work. Please call John Bothwell at (949) 294-5719 or write to [john.d.bothwell@biola.edu](mailto:john.d.bothwell@biola.edu) if you have or know of an engine.