

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsm.org

September 2010

Volume 37, Issue 09



by Clio Geyer

Well it is almost September and things are moving right along and the Fall Meet is this September 24 - 26 I have had a number of requests for parking and dinner. There are still a lot more available for those who wish to attend. Please let me know if you need to reserve parking and dinner. (916-645-9154)

There are a number of jobs that need to be done in preparation for the Meet, as well as part of the Meet. **Please volunteer!**

1. We need to have someone greet our guests and help unload their equipment and let them know where they can park their trailers.
2. There is also a need for help in setting up the canopies for the Raffle, Registration and the Bake Sale/T-Shirt/Soda sales. There is also a need for volunteers to help with the sale of various items. (Anyone?)
3. Breakfasts will be covered by Barbara Moser. She is talking about doing a "Continental Breakfast" for Saturday morning and follow up on Sunday with Biscuits and Gravy ala Marilyn.
4. Lunches will be covered by Lois and she will need help.
5. Friday night dinner is a Pot Luck.
6. Saturday night dinner\*\*. Cost \$10 per adult, Children under 12 is \$7. Bar-B-Q - Chicken (Breast & Thighs) Pork Tenderloin, Green Salad, Green Beans, Dinner Rolls, Desserts + Sheet cake  
\*\* Please RSVP for dinner reservation

If there is anyone who is willing to volunteer for any of these preparations/jobs, please let me know.



Don't forget that Fall Meet Friday night is a Pot Luck Dinner

## President's Report

By Lee Frechette

It was great to see everybody out for our not-so-hot Hot August Nights event. Once we get past that, we are headed into Fall and all the great activities the change of season brings.



Pot luck dinner was enjoyed by all

Fall Meet is slated for Sept. 24-26 and is a time for all railroaders to gather to talk about their summers and what winter projects will look like. I certainly hope you are all planning to come and participate. We know we have a large group of visitors from the Willow Creek Railroad in Oregon heading our way. We expect excellent weather, our facility is in great shape and there will be plenty of shade. I can't remember our railroad ever looking better.

Lois and Clio, as always, are putting in long hours planning for the Meet. I certainly appreciate all their efforts and I know we will all enjoy a great weekend of railroading as a result.

Although construction on the Halloween project has begun and taken up a couple of RV parking spots, we have established a few new slots along Ambassador Drive. There will be room for everybody. If you are planning to bring your RV, please contact Clio for reservations.

Our Haunted Hagan is coming together well, but we could use more help. I invite you to cook up a plan for an attraction along the track, take ownership and see what you can do! This has become the major fund-raisers for the railroad and success at Haunted Hagan is critical to our financial success. Gone are the days when our membership dues alone can support the needs of our organization.

I believe we may be at the point where LALS was several years ago. At the time, their Halloween event was greeted by the membership with mixed feelings. However, the popularity of the event and fun had by the members has turned it into a highlight of the LALS year, and suggesting it be canceled could earn a person a new suit of tar and feathers.

We hope to make a final decision on the location of the new caboose soon. We have already received many donation pledges

*Continued on page 4.*

## SVLSRM Calendar

Sept. 4 Run Day - Public rides Noon to 4 P.M.  
 Sept. 14 Board meeting 6:30  
 Sept. 17 Member Meeting 7:30 at park building  
 Sept. 18 Work Day  
 Sept. 19 Run Day - Public rides Noon to 4 P.M.  
 Sept. 24-25-26 FALL MEET

Oct. 2 Run Day - Public rides Noon to 4 P.M.  
 Oct. 8, 9, 10 Halloween event  
 Oct. 12 Board meeting 6:30  
 Oct. 15 Member Meeting - new time will be announced due to Halloween run.  
 Oct. 15, 16, 17 Halloween event  
 Oct. 22, 23, 24 Halloween event  
 Oct. 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 Halloween event

\*Mark your Calendar\*

Fall Meet changed to Sept. 24, 25, 26 Due to Halloween events on four weekends in October.

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 <http://www.svlstrm.org>.

*How will you support SVLSRM this month?*



Please check the SVLS web site: [www.svlstrm.org](http://www.svlstrm.org) for current information on SVLSRM activities.



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 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 deadline is 4 days after Membership meeting.

## Members News

Our Track Superintendent Darrell Gomes went through double bypass surgery Wednesday August 25, 2010 and is recovering. He should be out of the hospital in about 5 days. If you wish to send a card, his address is:

8779 Siegel Street  
 Valley Springs, CA.  
 95252-9568



Our best to Darrell.

**Friday update:** Just had a report from Bob Silva Darrell is progressing well and Bob said "Darrell has more plumbing in him than the back head of a steam loco".

## Welcome New Members

We welcome the Unruh family, Carter, Julie, and Austin Unruh of El Dorado Hills. Welcome aboard!

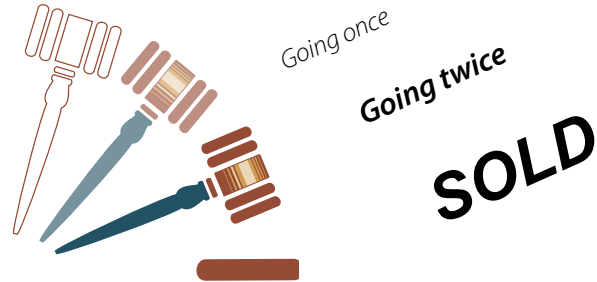
### Board of Directors

- President: Lee Frechette (916) 205-6791  
E-mail: [leefrechette@yahoo.com](mailto:leefrechette@yahoo.com)
- Vice President: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113  
E-mail: [byoder@vfr.net](mailto:byoder@vfr.net)
- Secretary: Clio Geyer (916) 645-9154  
E-mail: [vern78@onemain.com](mailto:vern78@onemain.com)
- Treasurer: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514  
E-mail: [loisjune1@comcast.net](mailto:loisjune1@comcast.net)
- Track Superintendent: Darrell Gomes (209) 786-0623  
E-mail: [dggomes@caltel.com](mailto:dggomes@caltel.com)
- Yardmaster: Andy Berchielli (916) 348-7252  
E-mail: [ajberchielli@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ajberchielli@sbcglobal.net)
- Trainmaster: Bradley Jones (916) 687-4866  
E-mail: [actioniron@msn.com](mailto:actioniron@msn.com)
- Committee Chairpersons -----
- Safety Committee: Ed Zels (916) 861-0917  
E-mail: [drwg463@aol.com](mailto:drwg463@aol.com)
- Special Events: Clio Geyer (916) 645-9154  
E-mail: [vern78@onemain.com](mailto:vern78@onemain.com)
- Caboose Ops: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514  
E-mail: [loisjune1@comcast.net](mailto:loisjune1@comcast.net)
- Newsletter Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113  
E-mail: [editor@svlstrm.org](mailto:editor@svlstrm.org)
- Membership: Dale Dennis (530) 406-8600  
E-mail: [mailto:denclan2@wavecable.com](mailto:mailto:denclan2@wavecable.com)

**Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM**

## Hagan Haunted Express

**Volunteers** will make the Hagan Haunted Express part of the Screampark happen. The show we put on is in *direct proportion to the amount of effort* we put into its construction. With few volunteers, we will have just a few events. More hands on deck will accomplish more. How well do you want us to present ourselves at this event? Haunted Hagan is going to happen, whether we as individuals support it or not!



**Donation:** Thank you to the Honorable Linda Budge, Rancho Cordova City Council Member and the City of Rancho Cordova, for a donation of \$1000 towards the implementation of our Halloween events. This donation helps tremendously. Our budgeted amount this year has already been spent plus the amount that Ms. Budge donated will enable us to put together a nice series of events, volunteer response permitting.

### Tentative work days for September are:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Th	9/2	8a-12n	
Fr-Sa-Su	9/10-11-12	8a-12n	
Fr-Sa-Su	9/17-18-19	8a-12n	Run day 12n-4p
Mo thru Su	9/20 thru 26	Fall meet;	no scheduled work
Daily	9/27-10/7	9a-open ended	

Work will be occurring on almost all days in September and October other than those listed above on an as needed basis. *If you plan to come out on a scheduled work or any other day, please let us know ahead of time so that we will have tasks for you to do.*

Updates will be provided through [www.haganhauntedexpress.org](http://www.haganhauntedexpress.org), Emails, and direct postal mail for those who request it.

### Halloween run days for October are:

<u>Days</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Fr-Sa-Su	8-9-10
Fr-Sa-Su	15-16-17
Fr-Sa-Su	22-23-24
We-Th-Fr-Sa-Su	26-27-28-29-30-31

Haunted House runs: 7:30p until about 10:30p  
 Volunteer hours: 5:30p until after last run. Some tear-down may take place after each run night. Work days will be scheduled in between run weekends for repairs and updates.

### **Web sites to check out:**

**Hagan Haunted Express** at [www.haganhauntedexpress.org](http://www.haganhauntedexpress.org) . Our SVLS site, primarily for members and volunteers, will have up-to-the-minute info on our work schedule, planned trackside events, tasks to be done, volunteer information.  
**Haunted Hagan Screampark** at [www.hauntedhagan.com](http://www.hauntedhagan.com) . This site, primarily for the public, will have information for the public with ticket information and pricing, haunt descriptions, operating hours, and much more.

To help SVLS out, email us at [hauntedhagan@pacbell.net](mailto:hauntedhagan@pacbell.net) or call Pete Arney at 916-988-2000.

Make sure to bring your old stuff for the Saturday auction. It can be anything lying around in your shop or library: an odd wheels casting, old hammer, old tool you don't use anymore, part of a set of plans, old antiques, car project that never got off the ground - you get the idea. It can also be for ANY scale, 1", 1 1/2", 2 1/2", 3/4", 1/2", G scale, 12", or whatever.



The auction will be at 3 p.m. Saturday of the meet. All proceeds go to the club, you get a tax deduction, someone gets a new toy, and you get rid of some stuff in the shop. Everyone wins.

If you have questions, send me an e-mail.

Matthew Mason  
[matt@homerailwayjournal.com](mailto:matt@homerailwayjournal.com)







## Track Superintendent

*By Darrell Gomes*

Those who made it to Hot August Night had a change of Direction. Kevin Sach started the day by running in reverse direction. We ran till about 4:00 pm then changed direction inside the expansion area at Hill View using the center track as Bi-directional and entering Oasis in the normal direction. The feedback I received was positive so we will do it again.

The track crew has worked very hard over the last year to bring the right of way up to standard and to add dimension to our railroading experience.



Our Fall Meet will be here in a few weeks and the Halloween runs will be starting soon after. Members will be needed to make this work, so please come down and volunteer to HELP set up and operate these events.

See You At The Track !!!!!



## YARD MASTERS REPORT

*By Andy Berchielli*

It is the month of September and Halloween is approaching fast. We need all the help we can get to build and run the event. Contact Pete to help with construction and Clio to volunteer for the runs.



Our Fall Meet comes first and the yard is in great shape. I plan on helping Pete out in construction so I will need help in maintaining the grounds, either cutting the grass or spraying the track. Contact me if you can help. I was able to get 71 plants in the ground on August 14 with the help from Lee, Babara, and Gordon. They are mostly Scarlet and Maraschino sages. Most of you noticed them while driving around on the Hot August Night Run. We had a great turn out and thanks for the great comments. I will continue making cuttings to help fill in the yard.

Our next yard project will be the memorial area. (located next to flag pole) The memorial should be ready in 90 days or so. I am designing the area around it. I am looking for concrete benches. If any one has molds or knowledge to make some please contact me. Also if you have any preferences for the area let me know.

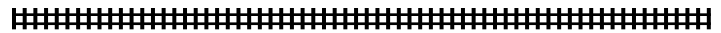
Volunteer your time to make the club successful. If we all work together this place would be amazing! See you at the Fall Meet!

*Presidents - continued from page 1.*

and it appears we are nearing our goal of having all the money raised for its relocation and set up. What a remarkable addition it will be to our railroad and what a tribute to the donors who put forth the funds for its procurement.

Speaking of tributes, member Chris Donhost has facilitated the Memorial Project in a spectacular fashion. Installation will occur this winter with the dedication at the Spring Meet. Yardmaster Andy Berchielli is bringing forward plans for a Memorial Garden to enhance what will be a moving remembrance of departed friends who built our railroad.

It's been a great summer of railroading in Hagan Park. Our unusually cool summer weather has allowed the vegetation to flourish and our railroad looks outstanding. If you have not been down for awhile, it's a great time to make the trip.



## Special run schedule

Date	Time	Event type	Num.	Engines
Fri. 9/3/10	1-3PM	Swatzky Party	25	Diesel
Sat. 9/11/10	Pending	LDS Church		
Sat. 9/18/10	10-Noon	Domico Party	25	Diesel



## Safety Rules Review



110. Passengers must remain seated, facing forward, in the cars at all times, unless directed to do otherwise, until the train returns to the station. Arms and legs must be kept inside the cars at all times while the train is in motion.

223. No one under the influence of alcohol or narcotics shall operate any equipment within the SVLSRM facility, nor shall any such person be a part of the crew of any equipment operating within the facility.

303. All conductors 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.

408. Steam boilers shall have the water level gauge located with the bottom of the gauge high enough above the crown sheet level to show ample water covering the crown. The water glass shall be located so it is readily seen from the engineers operating position.

### RFE's Report

by Karle Mahler

I apologize for not getting this report in last month's Spike. A lot of things were happening and I wanted to add my 2 cents worth of commentary to the events. First, although belated, I want to add my thanks to the members of the Willow Creek Railroad for inviting us and hosting a great meet. They have raised the bar on how an invitational meet is conducted and should take pride in their accomplishment.

During some down time we had on Saturday, Chris and I decided to take up an invitation that we had received from Gene Flanders, my lost friend from 35 years ago. When we met at Train Mountain he invited us to visit his home track, the Pacific Northwest Live Steamers, just east of Molalla, Oregon. It's about 25 plus miles from Willow Creek. The name of their rail road, Shady Dell Pacific, pretty much describes their track. It is an impressive facility and they already have the forest that we are planting here at SVLS. I was given the opportunity to run an engine and I seem to recall the track dogging a few trees. That, less someone take umbrage, is a compliment. We seem to have hit the jack pot the day we were there, Larry Anderson had his 2-8-8-8-2 triplex steamed up and running. I rode on his train and took the track pictures from it. Engine Robert, a close friend of Thomas, is owned by Bob Donckels. It's a great engine for children's parties. Dave Workman had his 2-8-8-4 Yellow stone running and was gracious enough to let me run it. That is a lot of engine to have out in front of you. We have been talking about stations lately and they seem to have an excellent example. Gene told me that it is a pole barn without the sides. I know I'm off topic but I did want to comment on our trip and let you know that both tracks are worth visiting.

1973 is back in service, again! The problems with the lubricator are under control and the replacement has arrived. The new one is mounted differently than the old unit, of course, so my plan is to design a new mount and change it out this winter.

We are seeing some problems with soot building up in the boiler tubes. This was discovered on the last run day when we could not reach operating pressure. After a cool down Ed and I pulled the smoke box front off and discovered that all of the tubes were over 50% blocked with soot. We punched the tubes, of course, and the engine ran beautifully during our Hot August Night party. I have since been told that steel tubes will soot up faster than copper due to the difference in heat transference(?). In any event the fuel air mixture of the burners is still not right and needs to be corrected. If any one has any ideas I would appreciate hearing from you, for now we can manage by punching the tubes out every month or so.



Larry Anderson and his triplex.





# for sale

Cannonball Little Gasser locomotive, 3.5 HP Briggs and Stratton engine, forward/reverse/neutral gearbox with side and rear shifter. Has electric horn, headlight and mechanical bell and lead weight.  
\$1,500.

Railroad Supply Company 5 foot Gondola with Karlson mfg. Bettendorf trucks, Cannonball aluminum couplers, removable/sliding/revolving seats and retractable foot pegs. Has full length steel center sill.  
\$600.00 (\$500 with loco purchase).

2-5 foot un-completed flat cars with full length steel center sill, retractable foot pegs, Cannonball flat car end castings, aluminum couplers, and Arch Bar trucks. One car has ball bearing trucks and the other has bushings with operating journal box lids for oiling.  
\$450 each.

Mountain Car wood caboose modified as a combine. Has steel frame, Mountain Car trucks, Cannonball aluminum couplers. Needs some attention and paint. \$550.

Approximately 275 feet plus of used Cannonball Club Rail (1" with 3/8" head) and one left hand switch.  
\$200.

View and pick up at Merced California  
Bob Silva  
1232 S. Hwy. 59  
Merced, CA. 95341-6943  
(209) 722-4681  
ajax2400@aol.com



Check our web site FOR SALE page for pictures and more details.  
<http://www.svlsrcm.org/>

## TWO STEAM Trains for sale. Buy one or both.

1: 1.5" scale, 7.5" gauge Clishay locomotive and riding car. \$6,500. Engine is a two cylinder double acting 1 1/4x1 1/2". Boiler upgraded from the original 8" diameter water tube to a steel 10" diameter propane fired fire tube boiler with 73 1/2" copper fire tubes. Pneumatic FWD/REV shift and brakes on locomotive. Usual Accessories: working headlight, bell, new whistle, two new relief valves, engine driven feed pump and a hand pump. New body and trucks on riding car. Engine and tender set-up on a single axle trailer for transport.

2: Recently refurbished CRAB locomotive and tender. Loco is about 14" wide and 22" long. Two cylinder double acting engine with a bore and stroke of 1.375 x 2.5". Slip eccentric valve gear, a mechanical lubricator and crosshead driven feed pump. Boiler is about 9" in diameter and 14" tall, propane fired with 8 individual burners in a ring. Burner control manifold is on the tender along with the pilot light control. Boiler feed is by a crosshead pump with a hand pump for back-up.

Tender has mechanical brakes and is about 16" wide by 5 feet long. Holds about 12 gallons of water and a 5 gallon propane tank. Tender is freshly painted.

Asking \$3,500, RTR. Reasonable offers considered.  
Contact Bill Cody at (775) 674-6512 or [steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net) for additional information/pictures.



## 10 Years ago: Time must Pass.

As we enjoy Sacramento Valley Live Steamers, we also think it will last forever. Will it? Or will time pass by the need of SVLS also? I know that every member has the true desire to see SVLS last forever for all to enjoy for generations and generations. But the question is: Are our members willing to expend the energy along with the desire to see this happen?

I know they have in the past. Now we in the present need to think about our desires and check our energy levels. How are you doing?

(Author unknown)

**20 Years ago: EDITOR request: I need newsletter copies for the months of: 3,9,10,11,12 of 1990. If you have these please call Bill.**

**30 Years ago:** Finally, A club Building. The parts for the 21-ft. dia x 12 foot high ex-grain storage building recycled from up Glenn, CA, way with the help of Keith Kirstein are at last safely in the SVLS yards. On Sat 23 Aug (1980) Al Shelley, Keith, Dick and Erich Quiring, Karl Lewis, Andy Anderson, Darrel McWhirk, Ed Yungling, Bob Lyons and the everpresent De Freitas Duo disassembled and loaded it on a truck obtained by the Lewis's. On Sun, pretty much the same crew plus Tom Anderson and Chuck Corothers unloaded the proposed maintenance equip and rolling stock "Roundhouse".