

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlstrm.org

August 2019

Volume 46, Issue 08



## SVLSRM Helpers:

**July 3rd & 4th helpers** (May of missed a few who didn't sign in on the lists)

Dennis Gramith, Christopher & Jenn Roberts (Guests), Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Colton Snell, Austin

Unruh, Bill & Butch Floyd, Andrew Clark, Peter Welch, Chris, Evelyn, Eli & Paul Donhost, Tom Nance, Ed Zeis, Craig Griffen, Tony & Lori Sorber, Robert & Wendy Forren, Alex & Sawyer Wilde, Richard, Amy, Sarah & Brianna Lutrel (Guests), Paul Brink, Glen Wilson, Marshall & Dillan Post, Harry Voss, Kevin & Andrew Sach, Paul Brink, Dean Sheets, Alison Berry .

## Seen on either Tuesday or Saturday Workdays:

Gordon & Barbara Moser, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Dennis Gramith, Bill Yoder, Colton Snell, Craig Griffen, Glenn Wilson, Harry Voss, Paul Skidmore, Andrew Sach, Bruce Runner, Gil Dominguez, Dennis Bowie, Dennis Gramith, Austin Unruh, Keith Berry, Harry Voss, Paul Brink, Steve Arrigotti, Alison Berry, Gordon Durham.

**Member Run Day 7-21-2019:** Steve Milward, Kevin & Andrew Sach, Dennis Bowie, Butch Floyd, Phil Huntingdale, Austin Unruh.



## Come to the track August 17th for a Fun Time Train Run and Pot Luck Dinner.

Join us during the day and run your trains into the night for a good old-fashioned evening of Live Steaming SVLS style.

Come early and bring the kids. Bring engine and some rolling stock and your *favorite food dish to share*. The barbecue will be hot and the lights will be on for ya. So hang FRED on the last car and *come on down!*

## President's Report

By Andy Berchielli

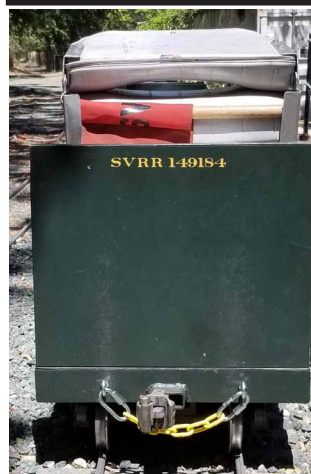


I would like to welcome all the new members who have joined due to the construction of the G Gauge layout. This is an exciting addition to the club. I recently attended the Steam Up Convention held at McCellan Conference Center and met several who were interested in checking us out and possibly joining. Once again I would like to thank everyone behind the G Gauge project. Your contributions are having a positive effect on the club.

As many of you know I'm still doing the party coordinator position. I am still looking for someone that would be willing to take on this position. It takes good communications and planning. Recently I forgot to book a crew for a party, 1st time in five years. Thankfully Andrew Sach was at the club and a quick call to Rich and Peter we had the party covered. Thank you guys for changing your plans to help the club at the drop of a hat. Much appreciated.

Join us for our Hot August Night runs held on August 17. This means no official work day for the month. But we all know that's not true. The railroad is always in need of work. We have members show up throughout the week to accomplish small tasks. From yard work to building track panels to cleaning bathrooms and picking up trash. All these things are noticed. Thanks for your contributions.

Once again, to pull public, you need to be current on conductor and engineer test. Retake test every two years to stay fresh on the operation rules.



We're making it easier to hook up and change riding cars at the club.

Every car will now have 2 chains. If you are looking at the end of the car the quick link on the right is on TIGHT and is not to be undone. When not in use the chain hooks to the other side also.

See more details on page 5.

## SVLSRM Calendar

- Aug. 3 Public run day - 11 AM - 3 PM
- Aug. 4 Public run day - 11 AM - 3 PM
- Aug. 12 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room  
Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
- Aug. 17 **HOT** August **Night Run** Please bring your train  
and enjoy the day and evening.
- Sept. 7 Public run day - 11 AM - 3 PM
- Sept. 8 Public run day - 11 AM - 3 PM
- Sept. 9 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room  
Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
- Sept. 21 Member WORK day - please help on club projects.
- Sept. 22 Member RUN day - bring your train to run all day.

Please volunteer to support the club events.  
**How will you support SVLSRM this month?**

Dates to reserve on your calendar:  
Fall meet Oct. 18, 19, & 20

**Rates have  
increased again  
and again.**



**Help us save money.**

Save SVLSRM some money  
and read the news letters  
on-line.  
Tell Membership that you  
don't need the mailed copy;  
we will notify you by E-mail  
so you can read it on-line.



Please check the SVLSRM web site  
[www.svlstrm.org](http://www.svlstrm.org) for current informa-  
tion. If you have not looked for a while,  
then you will have missed news or for  
sale items that are not in the newsletter.

The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc.  
is organized and operated exclusively for public benefit chari-  
table 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 news letter deadline is 24th of each month.**  
**Member articles wanted.**

## MEMBERSHIP

by Barbara Rohrs

Welcome to New Members:

Rich & Sharon Nelson  
Orangevale, CA

Bruce Swanson  
Los Gatos, CA



There are plenty of projects to work on at the railroad so you  
need to come out and give time to your organization.

Come and help. Your help is needed. Don't know what to do  
then call a board member and ask, then volunteer.

## Board of Directors

(##) Ending year of term

President: Andy Berchelli (916) 752-6697 (19)

E-mail: [president@svlstrm.org](mailto:president@svlstrm.org)

Vice President: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884 (20)

E-mail: [vicepresident@svlstrm.org](mailto:vicepresident@svlstrm.org)

Secretary: Alex Wilde (530) 919-5026 (19)

E-mail: [secretary@svlstrm.org](mailto:secretary@svlstrm.org)

Treasurer: --- OPEN ---

E-mail: [treasurer@svlstrm.org](mailto:treasurer@svlstrm.org)

Track Superintendent: Dennis Bowie (916) 337-9492 (20)

E-mail: [tracksuper@svlstrm.org](mailto:tracksuper@svlstrm.org)

Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (925) 876-0375 (20)

E-mail: [yardmaster@svlstrm.org](mailto:yardmaster@svlstrm.org)

Trainmaster: Peter Welch (916) 838 4998 (19)

E-mail: [trainmaster@svlstrm.org](mailto:trainmaster@svlstrm.org)

Director1: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113 (20)

E-mail: [director\\_bill@svlstrm.org](mailto:director_bill@svlstrm.org)

Director2: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (19)

E-mail: [director\\_steve@svlstrm.org](mailto:director_steve@svlstrm.org)

### Committee Chairpersons

Membership Chairperson: Barbara Rohrs (916) 730-1415

E-mail: [membership@svlstrm.org](mailto:membership@svlstrm.org)

Safety Chairperson: --- OPEN ---

E-mail:

Caboose Chairperson: Barbara Moser (916) 645-3425

E-mail: [caboose@svlstrm.org](mailto:caboose@svlstrm.org)

Birthday & Company Event Chairperson:

Phone: (916) 572-7857 E-mail: [Events@svlstrm.org](mailto:Events@svlstrm.org)

Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113

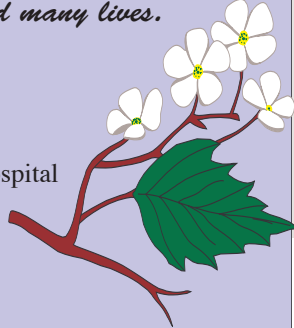
E-mail: [editor@svlstrm.org](mailto:editor@svlstrm.org)

**Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM**

*Long time club member Linda Craddock passed away on July 10th.*

*She had many friends at SVLS.*

*We know the loss of Linda to her family and friends is great. She will be missed by all who knew her as she touched many lives.*



**DONATIONS**

St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital  
Shriners Hospitals for Children

**G Scale Layout:**

The National Summer Steam Up for G scale steam engines was held at McClellan Conference Center in Sacramento on July 11-14. Many attendees, from near and far, had already heard about SVLSRM’s permanent G scale layout. Interest was high and local G scalars were invited out to the park on Tuesday, July 16th. Dennis Gramith and Gordon Moser brought out the UP and gave everyone a ride. A great day was had by all, and several asked about membership, becoming an engineer and conductors.

At the Spring Meet we collected possible names for the G scale layout area. The Board voted and it is officially “**Redwood Flats**”. We give a BIG thank you to Kevin Sach for creating the sign. Craig Griffen recently installed two shelves to add storage for equipment.

Excitement is brewing for the second phase of the layout. Our G scale track can have steam, battery and soon electric. Hopefully, if we receive enough donations this work can start in the fall. Have you been thinking about donating? Now is the time. Please consider supporting this track. You can go to the website, [www.svlstrm.org](http://www.svlstrm.org). There is a donation tab on the left side of the home page. Questions? You can call any Board Member or Phil Huntingdale, (510) 599-1200.



**Train Masters Report**

*By: Peter Welch*



It has been brought to my attention that our testing procedure for pulling public have been misunderstood. If you are using club or private equipment you still need to be engineered certified through our club. Members hauling public need to have a current engineer and conductor test on file. The Trainmaster or one of my assigned members are the only ones allowed to grade the test and do check rides on club equipment. Running club equipment is a privilege. Members found to be abusing club equipment will have this privilege revoked. Thanks



**Director - Steve Milward**



A quick look at our schedule for the next few months should give everyone an idea of how busy we’ll be. Public run days, Hot August night, the Narrow Gauge meet, Pumpkin Trains, our Fall Meet, just to name a few. What does this mean? Simply, it means we’ll need help, lots and lots of help! Train crews, set up, tear down, track, greeters, crowd control, if you can imagine it, well probably need it. Which brings me to a point I’ve made before. If folks choose to not come out and help, we will fail. It’s as simple as that. I doubt that’s what our members want, but if we’re going to commit to hosting events, we need the people to make it work. I’m hoping that we’ll see many folks out there pitching in to make our events successful, and will find and make the time to have fun too! So, as always, we hope to see you on the rails.



**10 Years ago:** The work on the steamer is progressing, slower than I would like, but it is getting done. The new boiler is not an exact copy of the old one so none of the old parts quite fit. I find this to be an interesting challenge, every part has to be fiddled or jiggered with to get it remounted on the engine and this, as I said, eats up time.

The plumbing for the throttle is good example. The alignment of the throttle valve to the cut out in smoke box had to be dead nuts on, that's about .010" plus or minus, to prevent binding. This required some serious fiddling, the manufacturing of a new lever arm. (See the smoke box photo), and some precision tape and die work to get everything just right. The rest of the project has been a matter, so far, of getting all the bits and pieces that need to be welded on before I start the lagging. The hand rail stanchions are screwed into half inch square blocks which were easier to weld than ¼ inch nuts and will act as depth gages for the lagging. The cab shots show the new engineers throttle lever, it's longer, and the quadrant, which was missing on the old boiler.



**"The Amtrak two step"**. # 5 (rear above) needed to use the #1 rail into Roseville but # 6 (engine on-coming) needed to use same rail due to parked trains on #2 rail out of Roseville, so with a little shuffle in Rocklin by #5 parking on #2 track west of the crossover then letting #6 pass, then backing up onto #1 rail it was able to then proceed forward into Roseville on the # 1 rail.



**20 Years ago:** Planting in the yard have started! Several butterfly and pineapple bushes went in July 18<sup>th</sup>. We are planning to plant some more bushes Sunday Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Come around 9:00 if you would like to help. Next month I'm hoping to have many day lilies to plant (donated by a friend) and will need help putting them in.

I would like to extend a HUGE thanks to Glen for keeping the bushes alive.

We also need to do much sprinkler/air line fixing. Please contact me if you are willing to help and I'll get parts.

Thanks to all who tackle the mowing chores. It is a huge job and we all appreciate it.

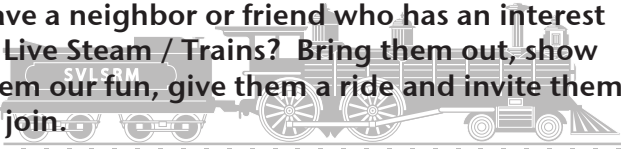
An additional Railfair '99 Thank You to Dick Esselbach and Don Hyberg for helping me out! They showed up just in time for me to get a much needed water break, and then spent the afternoon telling, "tales" and giving me the low down on the Live Steamers. So thank you again guys, I really enjoyed it.

Pat Mattox

**30 Years ago:** **ROUNDHOUSE RUMORS!** Well, I just can't stand it any longer. I have to return the "ROUNDHOUSE RUMORS" column. I will start it off with "one" on me. Several months ago I realized that I couldn't find a particular piece of my Tupperware. I looked high and low and everywhere for that dumb piece of Tupperware. I even accused my daughter, Cricket of misplacing it. Well, almost a month later I found the mystery piece of Tupperware. It was sitting on the counter in the Caboose at the park... in the "heat"! Unfortunately, I was not the one to find it. Poor Amadus and Marilyn Drewes were the first to arrive at the Caboose that particular day and found the Tupperware (and this is the embarrassing part) on the counter, right where I left it.... it contained month old raw hamburger patties left from the month before when some of us stayed for a BBQ after a Run Day. Needless to say, I immediately made an apology to my daughter. (Judy Gramith)

**40 Years ago:** President Quiring speaks.... We need someone to provide a new operator for the "in" switch on the passenger siding before the meet. We still have plenty of ballast material itching to go from pile to track... bring shovel and truck. Then there is the little matter of mowing... bring mower. Once we get our building, the tools will be waiting for you. Speaking of the building, preliminary sketch is attached for information of members not present at the last meeting. Suggestions as to how we can get more for our money are welcome. Before next meeting the building idea will have been passed before Mr. Hagan of the Park district so we can see where we stand with them. In closing we promised a Lady John for the meet.

**Have a neighbor or friend who has an interest in Live Steam / Trains? Bring them out, show them our fun, give them a ride and invite them to join.**



Tom Reese has finished fabricating the engineer car. It is now with Kevin Sach for painting.

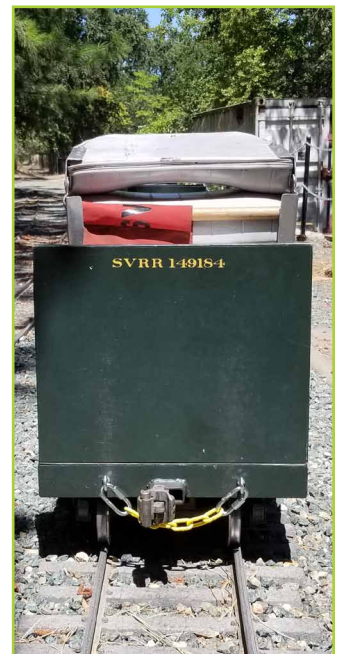


Great Job Tom! Thanks.



I Have taken on a project of my own to make it easier to hook up and change riding cars at the club. I have every riding car done except the gondolas that is next.

So as you look at the end of the car every car has a chain on the right side. The quick link attached to the car is on tight NOT to be removed. Every chain has 2 quick links and every car has two eyelets at each end. The eyelet on the left is used for the chain from the adjoining car or to hold the chain on when not in use. My goal is to paint one side RED and the other side Green to make it idiot proof. --- Richard Lutrel





G GAGE members enjoying a ride.



There is always something to talk about at Redwood Flats.



***There are plenty of projects to work on at the railroad so you need to come out and give time to your organization.***



Got Something for Sale?

Send to Editor@svlsrcm.org

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



**SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH**

**1.14 Pets**

No pets of any kind shall be allowed to run free within the facility. All pets shall be confined on a leash not over 6 feet in length, or inside a crate or pen. The owner of such pets shall be responsible for immediately cleaning up any manure or other disagreeable mess caused by such pet. Any violation of this rule may result in both pet and owner being asked to leave the facility. Animals may not ride on public passenger trains. Owners may be asked not to have their animals ride at the discretion of the station master. Animals must be kept away from any areas of food preparation or consumption.

**2.09 Sight Glasses**

Steam boilers shall have a water level gauge located such that water at the bottom of the glass is covering the crown sheet by at least 5/8" for 1 1/2" scale (or larger) when the locomotive is level. The top of the water glass fitting must be connected to the top of the boiler, not the turret. The sight glass must be capable of being "blown down" and shall be checked during the steam up process.

**3.05 Departure from Steaming Bays**

Prior to steam locomotives departing their bay for the main line, the following shall be accomplished:

- Steam shall be brought up to operating pressure.
- Safety valves and pressure gauges shall be checked to ensure they are operating correctly.
- Water glasses shall be blown down.
- Feedwater devices shall be checked to ensure they are in proper working order.
- Whistle or other audible signaling device shall be tested to ensure they are operating correctly.
- Brakes shall be checked and operating correctly.

**4.11 Conduct of Passengers**

The Stationmaster and all members of every train crew of any train hauling the public shall ascertain that all passengers are informed of passenger safety rules before the train leaves the station.

Passengers shall remain on the train during unscheduled stops unless otherwise directed. Engineers and Conductor are responsible for orderly passenger conduct.

The train crew shall inform the passengers to:

- A. Remain seated facing forward at all times while the train is in motion.
- B. Remain seated on the train until it returns to the station.
- C. Not to lean out or reach for anything along the right-of-way while the train is in motion.
- D. Keep hands and feet within the boundaries of the riding car at all times while the train is in motion.
- E. Not to yell or scream while riding on the train, except in an emergency.
- F. Do not lean over or turn around while taking pictures when the train is in motion.