

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsrcm.org

October 2019

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Elections for President, Trainmaster, Secretary, and Director at Large are upon us, and we need you! If you consider SVLS to be an asset to yourself, your family, and your friends, then please consider making yourself available to fill one of the open positions.

Serving on the board can be very rewarding to those who fill those roles in that they help ensure the viability and continuity of our organization. Most of the positions don't require specialized skills to do the job. Only the trainmaster position necessitates a mechanical aptitude to care for our club's locomotives and cars.

What is most beneficial is a willing member who has a desire to see the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers thrive now and into the future. Service to the club in this way is beneficial to all concerned: our members, our riders, our community, and guests that visit us from other live steam clubs within this unique hobby. Every regular member should consider serving our club by taking a role on the board of directors.

Those interested should contact the nominating chairman Chris Donhost at (916) 208-7295. Specific job duty information will be provided to those considering a board position.



President's Report

By Andy Berchielli



I have just returned from visiting Vancouver Island Model Engineers. This marks 19 tracks my equipment has run on. What is amazing is that every track is different but the one thing they all have in common is the generosity of the people that host us. I enjoy visiting all of these clubs and meeting some great people. And in the process maybe incorporating some of the ideas out there to our track.

September has been a very exciting month. We started it off with SVLSRM first Narrow Gauge Meet! This happened over our Public Runs and the public enjoyed riding on and seeing some amazing pieces of equipment. We had 22 Narrow Gauge Engines and many pieces of very detailed railroad cars. And the G gauge was in full swing too. The weather was perfect and hanging out with everyone was quite enjoyable. I would like to thank all who helped make this a smooth meet. From the food crew to the merchandise crew to the track crew and train crews; everyone that attended was quite pleased with the track and the way they were treated. Again that shows all the hard work that goes into the club is noticed by others.

The second weekend we were invited to attend Galt's 150th Celebration. This weekend was hot but we still had a decent crew show up Friday to setup the portable track and then run on Saturday from 10-4. The event was well attended and had great entertainers and many events to check out. We gave over 400 rides and handed out many Pumpkin Train flyers.

Speaking of Pumpkin Train...It's here! October 5 + 6 from 11-3pm. We will do setup on Thursday, October 3 and Friday, October 4. This is the third year for this event and attendance has grown each year. So this means we need our efforts to increase. Train crews are needed! But more important than that is the staff we need to process the pumpkin purchases and of course a food crew in the caboose, and station help. Volunteering is more than just running trains. Without the support group, events like this would be difficult. When we all work together events like this go off without a hitch. The operation is to transport passengers from the Main Station to the RV area where the pumpkins are. Once they got their pumpkins, we will pick them up from the RV Station back to the Main Station. If we had three to four trains running that

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SVLSRM Calendar

- Oct. 5 Pumpkin Express train - 11 AM - 3 PM
- Oct. 6 Pumpkin Express train - 11 AM - 3 PM
- Oct. 14 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room
Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
- Oct. 18 Membership meeting 7:30 PM at track.
Nominations for 2019 board.
- Oct. 18-20 Fall Meet

- Nov. 11 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room
Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
- Nov. 16 Membership meeting 1:30 at track.
Also Member run day & Pot luck lunch at Noon.
- Nov. 24 Rancho Cordova Christmas tree lighting.

- December 7-8 & 14-15 Santa Train.

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

**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 for current information. 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 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.
The news letter deadline is 24th of each month.
Member articles wanted.

MEMBERSHIP

by Barbara Rohrs

Welcome to New Members:

REGULAR

- Robert & Amanda Anzar Jamestown CA
- Kyle Winberg Folsom CA
- Jim Augustus



ASSOCIATES

- Raymond Bjerrum Kerman CA
- William Boller v Saratoga CA
- Ed & Linda Elkins Salinas CA
- Mike & Lisa Masee Tehachapi CA
- Doug & Shelley Maywald Garden Grove, CA
- Richard & Donna Van Slyke Mountain Ranch CA

Fall Meet Registration Hours:

Friday: 10-4 Saturday: 8-4 Sunday: 8-1

Board of Directors

(##) Ending year of term

- President: Andy Berchelli (916) 752-6697 (19)
E-mail: president@svlstrm.org
- Vice President: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884 (20)
E-mail: vicepresident@svlstrm.org
- Secretary: Alex Wilde (530) 919-5026 (19)
E-mail: secretary@svlstrm.org
- Treasurer: Alison Berry (916) 983-9712 (20)
E-mail: treasurer@svlstrm.org
- Track Superintendent: Dennis Bowie (916) 337-9492 (20)
E-mail: tracksuper@svlstrm.org
- Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (925) 876-0375 (20)
E-mail: yardmaster@svlstrm.org
- Trainmaster: Peter Welch (916) 838 4998 (19)
E-mail: trainmaster@svlstrm.org
- Director1: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113 (20)
E-mail: director_bill@svlstrm.org
- Director2: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (19)
E-mail: director_steve@svlstrm.org

Committee Chairpersons

- Membership Chairperson: Barbara Rohrs (916) 730-1415
E-mail: membership@svlstrm.org
- Safety Chairperson: --- OPEN ---
E-mail:
- Caboose Chairperson: Barbara Moser (916) 645-3425
E-mail: caboose@svlstrm.org
- Birthday & Company Event Chairperson:
Phone: (916) 572-7857 E-mail: Events@svlstrm.org
- Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113
E-mail: editor@svlstrm.org

Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM



SVLSRM Helpers:

The following people have been out to help on one or more of the following work days.
8/24/2019 - 8-27-2019 - 8/31/2019 - 9/3/2019
- 9/10/2019 - 9-21-2019 - 9/24/2019 -

Dennis Gramith, Dennis Bowie, Keith Berry, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Paul Skidmore, Harry Voss, Bill Yoder, Tom Reese, Gordon & Peggy Durham, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Andrew Sach, Tom Nance, Alison Berry, Bill Floyd, Austin Unruh, Dennis & Ryan Bowie, Steve Milward, Glenn Wilson, John Bailey, Barbara Rhors



Garrett Augustus, Sara Abberton, Gil & Janet Domingues popped in to say Hello on 9-24-2019 See picture above

Public Run Day & Narrow Gage Helpers 9/6 - 9/7 - 9/8 - 2019
Glen Wilson, Bill & Butch Floyd, Gordon, Barbara, Lisa Moser, Marshal Post, Harry Voss, Andy Berchielli, Peter Welch, Barbara Rhors, Brue Renner, Dennis Gramith, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale.
Paul Brink, Richard Lutrel, Bill Yoder, Chris Donhost, John Bailey, Austin Unruh, Dale Dennis, Paul Skidmore, Kevin & Andrew Sach, Abbey Thomas

Narrow Gage Engineers and their families helped pull trains on Public Run Day. Thank You!

Not everybody signed in so not sure if I missed anybody



NEW PRICE FOR REPLACEMENT/ ADDITIONAL SVLS BADGES
Due to increasing production costs, etc., the Board recently voted to increase the cost of replacement/additional family member club badges to \$20 each.

One badge will still be included in the regular membership at initial sign-up. Just a reminder that family members are current spouse & children who live in the same household & are under the age of 21. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.
Barbara Rohrs, Membership Chair.



Director - Steve Milward

It's official, Fall is here! With the shorter days and cooler temps comes a sense of urgency. There's a lot to do in the next few weeks, so I'll cut to the chase. We're going to need your help. Over the course of two weeks we are going to host the Pumpkin Trains and the Fall Meet. We really need folks to help set up, decorate, run and crew trains, and just be there for our guests.

The Pumpkin Trains are potentially valuable fund raisers for our club, and of course the Fall Meet is a chance to showcase our organization.

The real railroads used to refer to this time of year as the "Fall stock rush". It was all hands on deck to get through the season and get the job done. Of course, we're hoping you come out and be a part of the fun!

Until then, I hope to see you on the rails!



October 5 and 6 is our annual Pumpkin Train. We will need lots of people to help with this event. We will be doing the set-up on Thursday, October 4 and Friday, October 5. We will be clearing the tracks of leaves and tree debris, decorating the Station, the Pumpkin area and, all along the track.

We will have areas where people can take photographs and these will need to be set-up too. We will need train crews for Saturday and Sunday. We will also need people to man the Pumpkin area. People will board the train in the station, they will ride down to the RV area where they can exit the train to pick out pumpkins and take lots of pictures. We will be charging \$2 to ride the train. Pumpkins will be \$5 for small, \$7 for larger. We will need people to work in the pumpkin area to collect the money for the pumpkins. This has become our second biggest revenue opportunity, right after the Santa Train.

PUMPKIN PATCH EXPRESS!
A FUN TRAIN RIDE AND YOU PICK A PUMPKIN
 1st full weekend in October
 11 AM to 3 PM
 Weather permitting

The Pumpkin Patch Express train ride is only \$2.
 Choose your own pumpkin for an additional charge.

Please come help! It is loads of fun! If you have any questions, please call Alison at 916-956-4597.



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.

2.03 Night Time Operations

All locomotives operating after sunset shall be equipped in the following manner:

- Working headlight.
- Lighted cab on steam engines.
- Marker light or lantern on the rear of the last car.
- Conductor/Brakemen shall have a lighted lantern or flashlight suitable for making hand signals.

3.13 Backing

Any train or engine about to back up must give the correct signal. All trains or engines backing up shall run at reduced speeds. Engineer must have a clear view 50 feet behind the rear car to back up without a Conductor/Brakeman. Otherwise, a Conductor/Brakeman is required to walk 50 feet behind the rear car with a red flag. Any train of 7 or more cars is required to have a Conductor/Brakeman to walk 50 feet behind the rear car with a red flag.

4.01 Qualifications of Crew

Trains hauling General Public must be operated by qualified Engineers and Conductors who are members of SVLSRM. All operating personnel, while on duty, shall have a copy of these operating rules in their possession or on the train. The Board of Directors may restrict or suspend from duty any operating personnel who consistently violate safety rules.

Qualifications/Restrictions of an SVLSRM Engineer:

- 18 years of age or older.
- Member of SVLSRM in good standing.
- Passes a current Written Qualification test showing knowledge to operate specific locomotive (steam, diesel, etc.).
- Passes a current Practical Examine demonstrating the judgment and ability to competently operate specific locomotive (steam, diesel, etc.).



Members News

Elections will be in November, Nominations are made at the October meeting. Please attend.



Year 2020 dues may be now paid. Please pay before first of year. Thanks.



Paul Skidmore and Ross Crawford
Famous for their many years of work at SVLS.



Photo opportunity at the Narrow Gauge Meet.



Austin Unruh

President's Report continued

would be great! Next up is the Fall Meet. We will continue reservations for RV spots; Steaming Bays and sidings. Look for the link on the website. If you are not computer literate give us a call. Again support staff is needed in many areas. Ideally everyone would be assigned a job but that's not realistic. So I'm asking those that show up to help in some way. Just like the Narrow Gauge Meet. When we all pitch in, events go much smoother than relying on the select few to do all the work.

Speaking of the select few, several positions are up for election this year. This is a perfect opportunity to reach out and show your support for the club. Fresh input is always a positive change to continue to grow the club.



NEW G SCALE TRACK FOR SVLSRM

By: Phil Huntingdale

If you attended the narrow gauge meet this month, it was spectacular with 2 1/2 scale locomotives of several types operating. Our new Redwood Flats track was busy as well with the number 1 narrow gauge trains. Friday and Saturday many members and guests operated their 1/20.3 and 7/8th scale locomotives with fleets of various cars. During the day, observers were gathered around sharing in the camaraderie of narrow gauge railroading. This was a great opportunity to show case the layout to the outside hobbyist.

Thanks to members that brought locomotives to the meet, including Steve Aragotti, Bill Bivings, Bart Cook, Dave Frediani, Colton Snell, Bill and Butch Floyd, Craig Griffin, Paul Brink, Phil Huntingdale and Les and Casey Wilmunder. A new member joined, Richard Van Slyke. We also had guests: Jerry and Jane Bohlander from Annapolis, Maryland. They were attending the Narrow Gauge and they travel with their G Scale trains. Their railroad is called Spa Creek and McKendree. Dick Friedman, from Sacramento Garden Railway also ran his steam engine. Forgive me if I have missed anyone.



Jerry and Jane Bohlander

Are you coming to the Fall Meet? If so, bring your 1 gauge trains to run on Redwood Flats. As of this date, steam, battery, and windup locomotives may be operated on the track. Electrical wired tracks for locomotives will be available shortly.

We are working on modified plans for the phase 2 part of the project. This will include continuation of two of the lines forming a double dog bone shape, with trestle and some landscaping. Time to set aside for helping with the build will be this winter. Donations are still needed to get this phase completed. Please consider helping out, with dollar donations, material or as a volunteer helper.

Make donations specifically for the "G Scale Project" through the club Treasurer, Alison Berry, address as listed for the Club. You can also do Paypal online at the website.



10 Years ago: Keith Jackman made a donation of a operating crossing signal. Bill Yoder picked the signal up on the Tuesday before the meet and supervised the installation and was able to complete the job in four days.

Right: Bill Yoder and Jack Freedman installing signal.



Below: Keith Jackman with his train along with Gordon Briggs.



20 Years ago: (missing news letter - if you have Oct. 1999 let me know.)

From 9/99: "Fruit of many labors"

When you look at the SVLS facility today, you are actually looking at the result of ideas conceived back in the early 70s with the charter members of SVLS. Many are still members of the club and some are watching us from above; but these inspired men had a vision of what the club could be and would look like in the future and started working toward that goal.

Without a doubt, it took a lot of good old-fashioned hard work to make the club what it is today - a lot of body aches, sweat and blood when part of someone's anatomy was at the wrong place at the wrong time. But all that hard work can be and should be appreciated as one rides around our facility.

BUT it still takes a lot of good old-fashioned hard work to keep SVLS operating today and to continue operating tomorrow as many of us well know. Those of us who are present members will need to continue to be futurists and perpetuate this legacy given us.

I believe that it can never be said too often so I am going to take this opportunity to say "THANK YOU" to all of you hat have given us, your fellow members of the club, the fruits of your

labors.

For those who have passed on, we say thank you to you too and ask you to watch over your new hard-working crew members.

- Tony Rohrs

30 Years ago: "Roundhouse Rumors" by Keith Berry On Tuesday, Sept. 12, 1989, Red Hadler, Jeff Brown (a friend and prospective member), and I were re-laying track in the "Meadow" area near the bridge. Everything was going well until about 7:00 PM when he park sprinklers all came on with a "whoosh"! Red, sizing up the situation, grabbed the tool can and placed it over the nearest sprinkler which was directly blasting us from about 8 feet away. The can covered the sprinkler all right, but soon rose into the air and the water came pouring down. Red, always equipped with great insight, grabbed the can, ran over thru the spray, and placed the can down over the sprinkler. This time he sat on it (he did not rise into the air). There he sat, water pouring down, sacrificing himself to allow Jeff and I to gather our tools, pick up the old railroad ties, and move the train over the bridge. Although we thought we were moving with great haste, Red kept reminding us of his plight, which we slowed down to consider further. Ted then resorted to threats which I thought was bold talk for a man, sitton on his "can", all wet, in the middle of the park. We think Red has taken the phrase "going to the can" to new heights! He should be commended.

40 Years ago: Work Day (9/22/79) found the Hilmar Heros Al and Joe DeFreitas leading the pack out at the track...but a wee sma' pack it was, consisting of Dick and Erich Quiring, Gerry Carney, Chuck Corothers and Tom Anderson (I hope I left no one out.) It was the same group, less Carney, who were out the previous work day, Sat. 8 Sept.



Happy



Halloween



Got Something for Sale?

Send to Editor@svlsrm.org