

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlstrm.org

June 2020

Volume 47, Issue 06

President's Report

By Andy Berchielli



Good day Live Steamers. Due to the corona virus restrictions the club has been unable to operate for the public so far this year. Our insurance company has given us a small credit due to the stay at home orders. The county has recently added guidelines on how we can operate safely. At the time of this writing, the board is still not in agreement on how to move forward. Since this is a membership club, if you have an opinion on how to move forward feel free to reach out to me. Your opinion matters and I look forward to hearing from you.

The City of Rancho Cordova has canceled all 4th of July plans. Assuming we are running for the public by then, the public runs will be July 4th & 5th from 11-3pm

I am please to see all the members that have shown up over the last month to continue to work on improving the club and running your equipment. We now have a fully functional signal system for the diamond which has already been put to the test. Works great! Thank to Alan Shifley for designing the system and all those who helped with the installation. Job well done. Due to social distancing pat yourself on the back. Your efforts do not go unnoticed.

For those who have been at the club you cannot miss the new trackside building. I built this station from plans provided by Dave Herzog. The wood for the framing was provided by myself. The siding material was generously donated by Wendy and Robert Forren. The shingles were donated, cut and installed by Dave Herzog. And Amy Lutrel did a great job of painting the classic SP yellow and she will be adding signs shortly. Overall it took me a week to build. A lot more cuts than anticipated. Thankfully Richard Lutrel gave me a hand to help me get this finished by May 18th. Surprisingly a lot of members still showed up to run their equipment and enjoy the day together on their own free will. Overall I'm happy with the way it turn out, and is a great addition to the railroad. Another photo opportunity for sure. Looking for inspirations for my next building. Any suggestions?



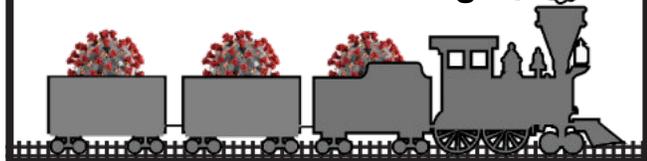
Treasurer

By Alison Berry

It was so strange not to have our Spring Meet. I really missed seeing everyone but this is a different world today. Many of you pay your dues at our Spring Meet. If you have not paid

your dues yet, please consider paying online via PayPal or mailing a check. Needless to say our usual revenue sources (parties and public run days) have not happened. Our only source of income these days is membership and donations. Please support our club by keeping your membership current.

For the latest info on our public runs and activity Please check on-line. www.svlstrm.org



SVLSRM Calendar

Club future activity will depend on VIRUS GUIDELINES. *Please check on-line about Public activity.*

June 6 Public run day - **check on-line**
 June 7 Public run day - **check on-line**
 June 9 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM -
 Location to be determined. - Meeting may be on-line video conference. If you want to participate please contact club President.

July 4 Public run day - **check on-line**
 July 5 Public run day - **check on-line**
 July 13 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM -
 Location to be determined.

Please volunteer to support the club events.

How will you support SVLSRM this month?



Help us save money by not mailing newsletters.

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.



www.svlsrcm.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.

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Articles & Pictures may be submitted to: editor@svlsrcm.org.

The news letter deadline is 24th of each month. Member articles wanted.

MEMBERSHIP

by Barbara Rohrs



Welcome New Member
Earl & Jody Martin
Roseville CA

Sadly, Garrett Garnes recently passed away.

He had been a member for several years, and had provided the club with graphic posters and signs. He had just finished a new sign to advertise membership to the public at our station.

Board of Directors

(##) Ending year of term

- President: Andy Berchelli (916) 752-6697 (21)
E-mail: president@svlsrcm.org
- Vice President: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884 (20)
E-mail: vicepresident@svlsrcm.org
- Secretary: Stephanie Huntingdale (916) 580-7377 (21)
E-mail: secretary@svlsrcm.org
- Treasurer: Alison Berry (916) 983-9712 (20)
E-mail: treasurer@svlsrcm.org
- Track Superintendent: Dennis Bowie (916) 337-9492 (20)
E-mail: tracksuper@svlsrcm.org
- Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (925) 876-0375 (20)
E-mail: yardmaster@svlsrcm.org
- Trainmaster: Peter Welch (916) 838 4998 (21)
E-mail: trainmaster@svlsrcm.org
- Director1: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113 (20)
E-mail: director_bill@svlsrcm.org
- Director2: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (21)
E-mail: director_steve@svlsrcm.org

Committee Chairpersons

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

Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM



TRACK UPDATE

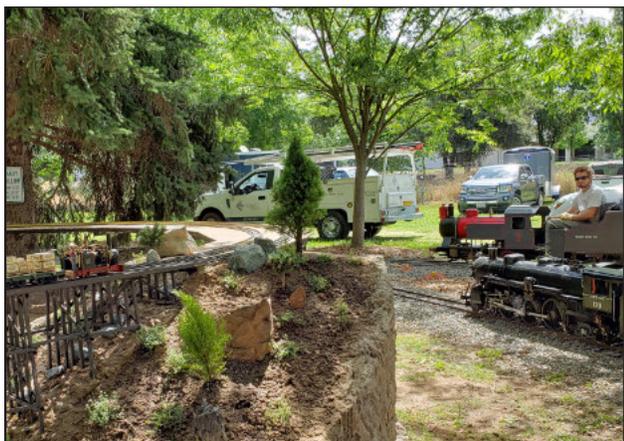
By Phil Huntingdale

May has treated the G scale railroaders very well. The table build out has been completed, and our trestle - landscaped area is complete. The track looks spectacular! Several have operated their steam, battery, and an electric engine with multi car consists on the track. Those showing up practiced social distancing. This proved challenging at times, but everyone did their best. The fun and joy of being with great folks with common interest is what this hobby is all about.

Thank you to Ryan Bowie for adding the beautiful rock to the trestle landscaping. Thanks to each one who ventured out to enjoy some time out in the park.

If we are allowed with Covid 19 and the Phases, we will try to get together on Tuesdays and run locomotives, usually about 10:00 AM, and again on the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month at Public Runs.

You as an SVLSRM club member can come out at your convenience other times. It is always best to enjoy with others. Please remember, the Virus is still around, be safe and stay away if not feeling well or have been exposed to any diseases.



Track Superintendent Report

By Dennis Bowie

Well here we are the end of and we have made great strides on the Inside loop. With the help of Alan Shifley, Steve Milward, Tom Nance, Harry Voss, Phil Huntingdale, Craig Griffin and others we have installed a working inside loop with signals.

This picture shows the work train in the diamond crossing.



The signal system is in phase one. This shows that the inside loop is occupied and will give a "clear" to the train in the loop when there is not traffic on the main line from the box car yard or the line out the north gate. If there is a train in the loop and traffic is approaching the crossing they will get a stop until the train clears the loop.

Also I have been installing the red lollipop switch throw for the main line to the loop. This was concreted in place today. I still have to install the spring throw and remove the kick switch





10 Years ago: 1973 back in service SVLSRM achieved another milestone as we put our ten wheel type steam locomotive (#1973) back into regular service this last month after two back to back forced maintenance cycles. 1973's burner collapsed after 30+ years of service at the beginning of the run season in 2008. Karle Mahler researched, designed, built and installed a new burner for the combative and had it back in service before the end of the 2008 run season only to have the boiler fail shortly after returning to service.

That failure resulted in virtually a complete rebuild of the locomotive and tender. 1973 now has a new boiler, new piping ,new electrical system and many other improvements. The tender was completely rebuilt including new trucks designed and built by Karle, tender brakes were added including an operating hand wheel and a new liner was put in the tender. The locomotive was returned to a more prototype appearance now sporting an all black livery in Sacramento Valley Railroad lettering.

20 Years ago: (June 1990) The Spring Meet this year was not blessed with very good weather. Never-the-less, we still managed to have a fairly good Meet. Financially, we did almost the same as we had done the previous year. "Thank You" to Gordon and Barbara Moser for the wonderful job that they did on the Big Door Prize Drawing (The best that we have ever done). And, "Thank You", to all those wonderful people who donated items to that on Saturday. The steaming bays were not overflowing but we did have about 20 pieces of equipment running and on display.

30 Years ago: Back Pressure from the Prez - It was a tremendous meet at SVLS last month. oh the people who helped put it on, "THANKS", also for the fabulous dinner the Gnevo family put out. It makes a tough act to follow...can we get them to do it again? SVLS was well represented at the IBLs meet at LALS and I'm sure that our members that attended enjoyed themselves. *Beat the Drum about the Club Building*, said the board. I don't have to pound very hard to remind members who have waited lo! these many years of the many advantages of a building. With one of reasonable size, say, a nice big roundhouse, and strong enough to depend on, we have a whole new ball game. Engines and cars can be stored at the track, track workers can use the rolling stock,Smith's (the gentleman who donated the Overfair Engine #1915 to the Railroad Museum). Despite the chilly weather, everyone seem to have a wonderful time. Mr. Smith was extremely generous in allowing all of us to wander around the railroad right-of-way on his property and lead a guided tour of his roundhouse. Milon Thorley, who is the "crew chief" for the volunteers that are working on the Overfair Engine at the Unit Shop.

40 Years ago: PROGRESS AT THE RAILHEAD has bee unexpectedly good. The passenger siding will be operable by the meet... on slow order to be sure, but



SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH

1.02 Speed Limit

No locomotive shall be operated at an excessive speed, and shall not be operated at a speed greater than that at which the locomotive and its train can be slowed and stopped within a reasonable distance, depending on the traffic, track conditions, visibility and weight of the train. Train speed shall not exceed 7 mph. Trains transporting the general public shall not exceed 5 mph. All engines must be run at reduced speeds in congested areas and in areas with close clearance, such as yards, stations, etc.

2.02 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.

3.01 Responsibilities of the Engineer

The Engineer is responsible for the safe handling of the train and the cars at all times. They must be in close cooperation with all other operating personnel, observing all rules and signals (whistles, hand, flag or light) given by the conductor and stationmaster. They must run their engine in conformance with SVLSRM safety rules at all times. They must see that any SVLSRM equipment used by them is returned to its proper storage space at the end of their run, unless another engineer takes over the responsibility of such equipment and agrees to see that such equipment is properly stored after its use.

4.10 Passenger Train equipment

Each public passenger train shall be equipped with proper documentation materials i.e.; clip board, Conductor report, incident/accident forms, operable writing pen, whistle, two way radio, red flag, and current rules book.



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.



operable just the same, and for revenue service. The celerity with which events have unfolded is due to efforts put in by Andy Anderson, Tom Anderson, Chuck Corothers, Dick Esselbach, Earl McKenzie, Wally Ripley, Warren Rose, Al Shelley, Ed Spall, John Siebert, Bill Wells and Gerry Carney, but especially by the Hilmar Heros, Joe and Al DeFreitas. Ken Spicer, the club's GOM, never fails to drop around to lend encouragement to the good work.

Secretary Board Report

By Stephanie Huntingdale

April 2020 Board meeting:

Covid – 19 - Our park activities are shut down. We have not been able to do Public Runs and Birthday parties. Party losses from March and April because of Covid 19 are around \$2,900. The Board will continue to monitor what the City of Rancho Cordova and the Governor’s office mandate and decide if and how we could open on June 6 & 7 for Public Runs. More discussion will be done on how to conduct the runs and comply with mandated restrictions.

All necessary tax forms have been completed and filed. A financial review was done by Seth Hansen and he found no discrepancies.

Insurance – We have not been operational since March. Kaliff, our insurance carrier, has issued a credit on our General Liability policy. We will advise Kaliff when we resume operations.

FCR 2018-2 G Scale Layout – DONE

FCR 2019-27 – On site locomotive storage – ON HOLD

FCR 2019-28 – Prospective Member signage for Station Area – DONE

FCR 2020-03 – Lighting for Steaming Bay Area – material to be ordered soon. It is still on the calendar for work to be completed by July. Will need work party.

FCR 2020-04 – Signals for New Inside Loop and Cross-over. DONE

FCR 2020-05 – Oasis Station Building Project – Andy Berchielli and Dave Herzog are building a station to be by the Oasis area.

Legacy Documentation – Continuing Project

The Gator needs a new engine. That repair is on hold for now.

If we are able to have our Hot August Nights, there will be a remembrance for Marty Carapiet. LEVI will be running.

Due to the Spring Meet being canceled the 2020 Membership Roster will be printed and delivered for the Fall meet.

The current (paid) membership is always available on-line at our club web site.

Director - Steve Milward



Hello to all our members and friends. Again, I hope all are in good health and are managing to move forward with your lives.

Over the past few weeks a small number of members continue to meet at the park to get in a little run time, do maintenance and repairs at our facilities.

Sadly, all of the current events have had a dramatic financial impact on many of our individual and local economies. We can hope that better times are ahead for those affected by these economic troubles. As you might surmise, our organization has been affected too. Any revenues from birthday parties, public run days and any income from the canceled Spring meet are non existent. In addition, membership renewals have dropped off. Some are due to financial hardships, others possibly due to redirected priorities. In any event, these lost sources of income can and will dramatically lessen our ability to continue to make repairs and improvements to our railroad.

With these thoughts in mind, I would ask that if you've not renewed yet, but are able to, please do so. Also, if you know someone who might consider joining our group, or making a donation, please mention it to them. If you've already done so, thank you!

Keep looking forward and I hope to see all of you on the rails soon.



The following people spent a few hours at the park working on miscellaneous projects - 5/5-2020, 5-9-2020

Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Peter Welch, Richard Lutrel, Dennis Gramith, Paul Skidmore,

David Federini, Dennis Bowie, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Jim Welch, Tom Nance, David McFarland, Alan Shifley, Steve Milward, & Bill Yoder.



FOR SALE

A complete 7.5" gauge train in 1/8 scale. Included is the locomotive, boxcar, gondola and caboose. There are many extras included, be sure to watch the video as there are many details explained throughout. Asking \$22,500.00
Please call (916) 208-7295 Video: <https://youtu.be/RuOj3HUU3MI>

