

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsrcm.org

August 2020

Volume 47, Issue 08



TRACK UPDATE

By Phil Huntingdale

The G gauge railroaders had several days of great operations. Steam locomotives were keeping the rail polished. Live steam equipment included Shays, Mikado, C-25, K-24 Ruby, Forney, Daylight Northern, Millie, and Ragleth. We saw members out on Saturdays and Tuesdays. The live steam part of the hobby fits with the tradition of the SVLSRM. This allows the members with steam interest to fire their locomotives in a similar fashion as the larger 1 1/2" and 2 1/2" steam locomotives. Sometimes this is more affordable than the larger locomotives.

If you have an interest in steam, come out on one of our several run days. Weather in the mornings has been very delightful with the shade of the trees and the green grass that has started to return with the operating irrigation system. We have had several turkeys roaming in the park and they are constantly checking up on the participants. We plan on being open for the public run days August 1st and 2nd, if nothing changes.

Come out and see the table in operation. Please plan on social distancing and wearing a mask. Thanks to each one who ventured out to enjoy some time out in the park. See you about!



Garrett also gave the Doepke YardBird its initial test run with an engineer of the correct size. This little train was donated to the club and restored with the help of Andy Berchielli, and Bill Yoder. (See restoration photos on page 5.



President's Report

By Andy Berchielli



We continue our public operation into August following the safety protocol we have established. The public continues to support us. We had about 100 riders on July 5. August run days are the 1st & 2nd from 11-3pm. As a reminder most qualified crews will need to update their test to stay current. I'll be there both days so make sure to get the test to me. Also our Hot August Member run is Saturday the 15th. Members can bring their trains and enjoy the day and/or evening together. Please plan on your own food at this time.

I would like to thank everyone that has helped out with the irrigation issues. At this time I think most stations have been cleaned. However it seems that some have be come plugged up again. It looks like we have to do most again. However the grass is looking greener thanks to our efforts.

Our work day in July was well attended with groups in several different areas. From raking pines needles, to mowing grass, to replacing ties to trimming and picking up branches, all these things are ongoing maintenance items that keep our place on track for all to enjoy. Thanks to all your efforts.

My nephew Garrett turned 2 in July. He enjoyed his day at the track with family.

SVLSRM Calendar

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

Aug 1 Public run day - **check on-line**
 Aug 2 Public run day - **check on-line**
 Aug 10 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Meeting will be on-line video conference. If you want to participate please contact club President.
 Aug 15 Hot August Member run

Sept 5 Public run day - **check on-line**
 Sept 6 Public run day - **check on-line**
 Sept 14 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM -

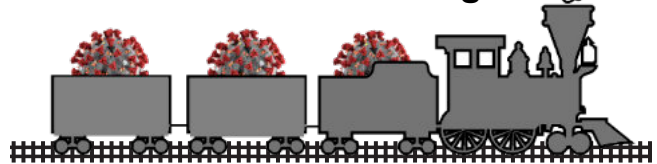
Please volunteer to support the club events.

How will you support SVLSRM this month?



Please stay safe and follow State guidelines to do your part in preventing the spread of this Covid-19 virus.

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



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)
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- Secretary: Stephanie Huntingdale (916) 580-7377 (21)
E-mail: secretary@svlsrcm.org
- Treasurer: Alison Berry (916) 983-9712 (20)
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- Track Superintendent: Dennis Bowie (916) 337-9492 (20)
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- Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (925) 876-0375 (20)
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- Trainmaster: Peter Welch (916) 838 4998 (21)
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- Director2: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (21)
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- 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

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.



Director - Steve Milward

Hello, Once again I hope that all are in good health and moving forward.

Life at the railroad continues. One ongoing problem with the irrigation system has created no shortage of headaches and additional work for a number of our members. A collapsed pipe on the supply side of the system allowed the introduction of a lot (actually, a breathtakingly great amount) of silt and grit into the sprinkler network. The result? Clogged sprinkler heads that require repeated disassembly, cleaning flushing out and reassembly. This is proving to be a very slow and labor intensive task, and it doesn't look to be completed very soon. The other result? Many grassy areas have turned brown, and we've lost some plants. The grass will survive, other areas will need to be replanted. Our thanks to those folks who've spent many hours at the park working this problem.

The good news department – The Garden Railway continues to be a real crowd pleaser. Ongoing improvements are attracting more and more operators, and new members! Tuesday seems to be the big day for operations and work, with a good number of folks at the club.

More good news – We waited for the hottest part of the year to begin refurbishing and upgrading the tracks between the turntable and transfer track leads up to the boxcar yard. This will be an ongoing project, done in such a way to minimize operating disruptions. Happily, a lot of this trackage is in the shade for the first half of the day. Some of the refurb work will involve the dual gauge track. That one additional rail will make the task exponentially more difficult and time consuming, especially through the turnouts. Thought has been given to eliminating some of the 3rd rail, unless those who use it can be counted upon to assist in the refurbishment.

In closing, a personal note. The SVLSRM has gained a new member. On July 7th my Son Ian and my Daughter in Law Anna welcomed Ethan Alexander into the world! He's 7 lbs 7 oz, 22 inches of healthy baby boy and future live steamer. Aside from being a bit sleep deprived, Mom and Dad are doing well, too.



Mystery photo: Where is this curve on are railroad? Be the first to send your answer to the Editor and claim your prize.



The following people spent time at the park working on projects.

Work Day 7- 18-2020 New Member Chris Klevesahl mowing lawn.

6-2-2020; Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Harry Voss, Gordon Dunham, Earl Martin, Steve Arrigotti, Rich Nelson, Alison Berry, Bruce Runner.

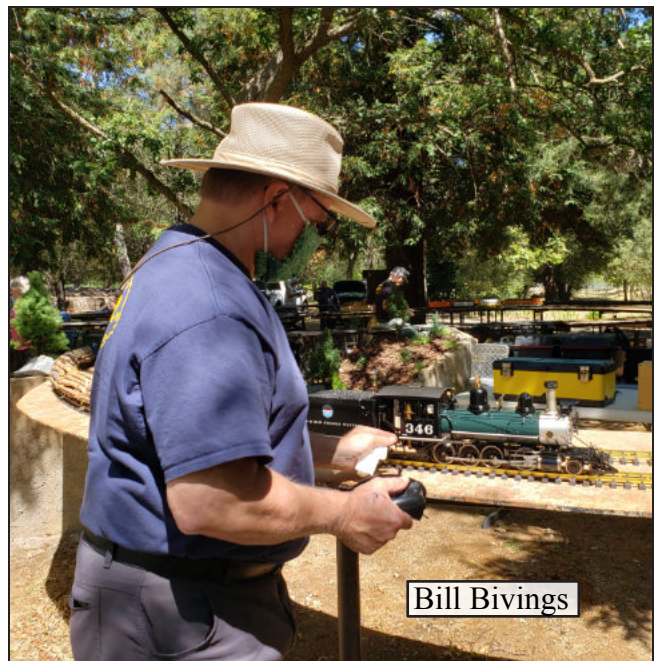
6-21-2020 Members Run Day: Andy Berchielli, Colton Snell, Dennis Gramith, Dennis, Heidi, Maren, Ryan Bowie, Ben Shell & boys, Christopher Roberts & Family, Gordon Dunham.

6-30-2020: Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Steve Arigotti, Earl Martin, Harry Voss, Bob & Mary Dean, Richard Van Slyke, Dave Fredan, Bruce Runner, Rich Nelson, Colton Snell.

7-5-2020 - Run Day Helpers: Harry Voss, Dennis Bowie, Craig Griffen, Kevin, Andrew Sach, Tom Nance, Gordon, Barbara Moser, Ben Shell, Andrew Merrit, Dennis Gramith, Mary & Bob Dean.

7-7-2020 ,G-Gage: Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Rich Nelson, Harry Voss, Steve Milward, Alison Berry, Steve Arrigotti, Colton Snell, Bill & Butch Floyd, Mary & Bob Dean, Ralph Merrill (visitor), Gordon Dunham, Earl Martin.

7-18-2020 - Work Day Helpers: Steve Milward, Dennis Bowie, Kevin, Andrew Sach, Glen Wilson, Craig Griffen, Phil Huntingdale, Harry Voss, Chris Klevesahl, Barbara & Gordon Moser, John Bailey.



Bill Bivings



10 Years ago: We had 21 people attend WCRR’s first meet. The place was in great shape and had many interesting things to see. If you couldn’t make it this year, make plans next year. Thanks for the invite WCRR. We had a great time with you guys and enjoyed your place very much.

20 Years ago: A word from the Vice President -- Milon Thorley It’s that time again. Before we know it November will be upon us and we will elect new officers for our board who will steer our ship for the next two years. The pool of grey haired old Geazers who have been heavily represented on the board for years is rapidly dwindling. During the last 8 months, we have lost six of our members to the great rail-road in the sky. If the SVLS is to survive, the younger generation of members are going to have to get involved either as decision makers or workers. The days to have fun but never contribute to normal and required up keep of our facilities. From time to time I hear members say “I didn’t join this club to eat grass” or “I didn’t join this club to lay or fix track.” If we all felt that way we wouldn’t have a track to provide pleasure for us on run days.

30 Years ago: In addition to hauling passengers several members worked on Saturday. Keith Berry, Amandus Drewes, Gordon, Paul and Lisa Moser, Marie Bailie, and Coleman Buelman all worked on digging out the cut just outside of the passenger station and removing the piles of dirt. All in all it was a very productive day. I certainly hope that I have not missed anyone. There may have been other individuals helping out on these three days, but I neglected to write down their names. We did pretty good in the station even though the weather was quite warm. Several of us got together again, afterwards and had a nice cool, relaxing dinner out. From the Cab - This long hot summer has been a scorcher. Our faithful few (and I do mean few) have not been slowed by the heat. Track work has been moving right along. The new switches in the Station replace the double switch which was moved down near the Box Car to augment the yard storage capacity. We are once again exhibiting at the State Fair, this time with an indoor (air conditioned) static display. - Dennis

40 Years ago: Put It In Writing, says Lori Esselbach. She should know. She was Spike editor the first five years ten months of its existence. From now on, people who want to see something in the Spike will please provide same in writing.

The hose bib at the passenger siding is now protected by a steel casing with a cover and hasp for a lock. Casing and a hard- faced tamping bar were compliments of Zeke Lewis, Karl’s dad. Relocating the bib and construction of two stairways and a lot of work on weeds was due to the efforts of the DF2, Warren Rose and Chuck Corothers. Ultimately the intention is to make a nice smooth bank where the large switch stands are sitting and to move the coal to the pile next to the pear orchard. The ridge between the orchard and the canopy is also going to be taken down.

Secretary Board Report

By Stephanie Huntingdale

July 2020 Board meeting:

The Board will continue to meet by ZOOM for August Board Meeting. Members are always encouraged to attend. The next meeting is August 10th, 6:30 p.m. If you would like to attend, contact Andy Berchielli, (916) 752-6697, for how to connect to ZOOM or Stephanie Huntingdale (916) 580-7377 for an Agenda.

FCR 2020-03 – Bill Yoder has 5 lights in his shop. He will bring them down and set on current poles to test lighting area. If necessary the poles will be raised by 5’. Work will start when weather cools down some.

A new member Welcome Packet is being developed by the Board.

Current events: Public Run, August 1 & 2. Hot August Night, Member Run: August 15th. Always check the website for current information as these events may be canceled.



SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH

1.05 Obligation to Transport

No engineer is obligated to haul any passengers on his train.

2.06 Wheel Dimensions and Coupler Heights

All wheel dimensions and coupler height standards shall conform to IBLIS standards. A copy of these standards can be found on the SVLSRM webpage.

3.03 Duties of Trainmaster

The Trainmaster or designee shall be responsible for the condition of all railroad rolling stock and preventative maintenance of all SVLSRM owned rail equipment. They will keep accurate records of maintenance and modifications to rolling stock and oversee boiler testing. They shall check wheel gauges for compliance with established standards on members' and visitors' equipment. The Trainmaster or designee is responsible for the issuance of all SVLSRM rail equipment for use at any and all activities.

4.02 Requirement of Conductor

All trains hauling passengers shall have at least one qualified Conductor on the last car of the train, or facing backward on the rear seat of the Engineer car. It shall be their responsibility to protect the rear of the train and to assist the Engineer in the operation of the train. Each Conductor on duty shall have a whistle (police type) and a red flag or light on the train.

Doepke YardBird

This toy train was donated to the club several years ago by Steve Hoxie. It was his train toy when he was young, and has kept it all these years since the 1950's.

While it did still move on the tracks, and in much need of a paint job, the axels were just about worn through as the axels did not have bearings.

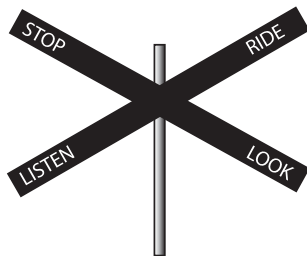
Thank to Andy Berchelli for restoring the body with a great paint job and getting a new logo to restore its looks.

Meanwhile back at the ranch Bill Yoder took on the task of rebuilding the trucks. New shafts were needed, and a little welding to provide round holes for the bushings for the axels, and updated the side rods with steel shoulder screws to keep the rods from binding.

Before



After



Below are some of the SVLS members who attended Willow Creek Railroad's first meet.



FOR SALE

Chloe comes with a stand and all the parts; it's ready to be tubed, it runs on air, and comes with a 6 foot flat car which needs trucks. \$800.

Leonard Cassieri (916) 257-9662

