

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsm.org

July 2022

Volume 49, Issue 07



## President's Report

By Andy Berchielli

Steam train birthday parties are very popular this year. If you look at the party calendar, 11 parties are booked, so far 9 of them are steam. What does this mean. We have like 5 people qualified to fire up the steamer and most of the 5 are not available all days. We need more qualified people to fire up the steamer at parties. If interested show up to the public run days early to get use to the fire up procedures. Due to light party crews I will only be booking one party a day. No more double parties until I get more help.

Next up is the Fourth of July Celebration. The event is back in full force with carnival rides, concerts, yes a Circus and fireworks at 9:45 both nights. We run trains from 4-8pm on July 3 and 4.

Saturday the second is limited access in the park.

For those attending and helping with our event enter through Ambassador gate.

We have gate access passes in the caboose. Bring your own dinner or something to share.

Reminder please pull on locks after locking. I have shown up several times with the locks set to 0000 but not locked.



## TRACK UPDATE

By Phil Huntingdale

With the warmer summer months we have those beautiful Tuesday mornings where we can get out and run our steam, battery, and electric locomotives with their consists. I have not been running on the track Tuesdays, but several have. Lots of steam locomotives have been occupying the track with consist of cars. Harrison Sanford came to Spring Meet with his Orchard Supply steam train set and entertained all of us. Also, Dave Frediani and Bill Bivings came down from Sonora. I have been out with battery locomotive for parties. I can tell you the public flows down and greatly enjoys the railroad. With the youth and their parents down, you're an ambassador for the club and potential new members. We need the young people in the hobby for tomorrow.

Thanks to all that help make this layout a place to share and enjoy the hobby. Just remember this is your SVLSRM for all to enjoy. — See you about!



Dave Frediani



Old Timers Work Party

## MEMBERSHIP

by Stacy Reese

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Tom Pierce. Thank you for coming up and visiting the park.

**We need help with the birthday parties!** Please give me a call if you are interested in helping and we will get you on the train crew list. Let's get more people on the list so that the work does not fall on the same small group. There are several of you that need to update your train test qualifications by August.

**SVLSRM Calendar**

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

July 3 Rides 6 PM to 8:30 PM - special event  
 July 4 Rides 6 PM to 8:30 PM - special event  
 All attendees will have to purchase tickets for park access in advance online.

[www.ranchocordovajuly4th.com/](http://www.ranchocordovajuly4th.com/)

July 11 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via Zoom

July 16 Work Day.

July 17 Member run day

Aug. 6 Public run day 11AM - 3PM

Aug. 7 Public run day 11AM - 3PM

Aug. 8 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via Zoom

Aug. 20 **HOT August Night Run** Please bring your train and enjoy the day and evening.

**Dates to reserve on your calendar:**

**Fall meet Oct. 14, 15, & 16**

Please volunteer to support the club events.

**How will you support SVLSRM this month?**



See [www.svlsrcm.org](http://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](mailto:editor@svlsrcm.org).

**The news letter deadline is 24th of each month.**

**Member articles wanted.**



I cannot forget to pay my dues. Please send your 2022 dues now!

Send check or pay on-line at [svlsrcm.org](http://svlsrcm.org). Send forms to SVLSRM P.O. Box 273, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741



Help the club save money by receiving your newsletters on-line.

Save SVLSRM some money and read the news letters on-line. Tell Membership that you don't need the mailed copy.

**Board of Directors**

(##) Ending year of term

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Director2: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (23)

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



**Librarian - Alison Berry**

I want to thank everyone who stopped by the library during the Spring Meet. I really enjoyed talking to everyone. Now that summer is here it is too hot for me to work in the library caboose most days.

I am still busy editing the entries in the library application currently being used by the club. One thing I am doing is identifying textbooks and training manuals. Many are reprints of books originally published over 100 years ago. We also have several original books that were published in the 1890's through the 1920's. These books can only be looked at in the library and not checked out due to their age and often fragile condition. The reprints can be checked out – some titles are “Elements of Steam Engineering” and “Steam Engineering Design “ which are part of the “Lost Technology Series.” “Copper Work” and “Working Sheet Metal” are 2 new additions to the library.

I will be sending a file to Bill Yoder, Webmaster and Editor, that will be a list of all the books currently in the library. These will be listed in alpha title order so members can see what books are in the club library. I am still making some corrections to the file but look for it in the next month.

I have a lot of “souvenir” booklets and wonder if these are of interest to the members. Please email me at [librarian@svlsrm.org](mailto:librarian@svlsrm.org) and let me know if this is something to keep or let go. Samples would be the booklet about the Skunk Railroad, or booklets about special and unique trains and events. We also have boxes of timetables. Keep or toss or put out at the Fall Meet for members to take?

I have been asked what the library is accepting. Books that have some railroad/train connection. We do have multiple copies of some books so you can contact me to ask do we already have a copy. We also will take DVD's but no VHS tapes.

The caboose library is not climate controlled so fragile media like film, slides, or VHS tapes will not store well. No magazines at this time as I still have hundred to sort through.

Have a great summer!



**Director - Steve Milward**

Greetings to all! For me, one of the aspects of this hobby that I most enjoy is the comradery. Most of our members are quite willing to share their time and knowledge to help others. I, for one have learned a great deal, and have greatly benefitted from those who have helped me along the way. For that I'm most appreciative. To them I say “Thank very much!”.

I'm also pleased to see the number of younger folks getting involved in the hobby. There is some incredible interest and talent out there, and we should encourage that. We should mentor them, as well as being willing to learn from them too. This next generation is the future of our hobby.

This year I was fortunate enough to spend a day at the Train Mountain Triennial. Of course, a single day at an event like that is never enough! Nevertheless, I was again impressed by the number of participants, the number of and quality of trains and the willingness of members and visitors to jump in and help out.

Back at our home railroad, Summer is upon us. The long warm days are punctuated by pleasant mornings and evenings – a perfect time to run a train or just come out and visit. We hope you'll join us!

Until then, take care and see you on the rails.



**Secretary Board Report**

*By Stephanie Huntingdale*

The Board meets by ZOOM. Members are always encouraged to attend. The next meeting is November 8, 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.

Public Run ride count for June is 638 riders.

Membership – 198 paid. Dropping past due members

Gator has been repaired and is up and running.

Library caboose has been leveled, thanks to John Bailie for the help

Final Bylaw revision was approved at the Spring Meet Membership Meeting.

Train Crew Qualifications – Tests will be given, member will not be added to train crew list until they have been trained on equipment.

*Continued next page.*



Harrison Sanford

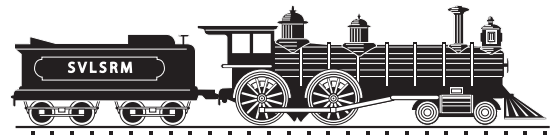
*Secretary Board Report continued*

Fourth of July – trains will be running from 4 -8 pm on July 3 & 4<sup>th</sup>. Members will need parking pass and enter from Ambassador Drive. On the 4<sup>th</sup> there will be a pot luck early dinner at the park.

The Board is looking into a tree service for removal of some dead/dangerous trees.

SVLSRM will not be participating in International Railfair in October, based on their attendance.

Work continues on camera replacements and the 3 level of storage for the Box Car container.



Bill Bivings



**Members working.**

Birthday Parties: , Chris Klevesahl, Craig Griffin, Larry Curtin, Tom Nance, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Keith Berry, Andy Berchielli.

June 18th Workers: Gordon & Barbara Moser, Bob Ress, Dave Cladianos, Paul Skidmore, Carl Kitzmiller, Logan Allen - Guest , Mark Cundiff.

6-20: Chris Klevesahl - working on sprinklers

Tuesdays, Saturdays & Miscellaneous other Day: 5-17, 5-18, 5-19, 5-31, 6-4, 6-5, 6-7, 6-14, 6-21: Chris Klevesahl, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Larry Curtin, Mike Skums, Richard Corbell, Dennis Gramith, Paul Skidmore, Sid Madden, Bob Ress, Dave Silvernail, Bill & Butch Floyd, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Andy Berchelli, Keith & Gloria Berry, Harry Voss, Steve Milward, Dave McClain, Alison Berry, Bill Yoder, Dennis Bowie, Rich Nelson, Augie & Judy Berchielli, Leonard Cassieri, Colton Snell, Chris Klevesahl, Ray Smith, John Bailie, Chris, Eli, Paul Donhost, Glen Wilson, Craig Griffin, Tom Nance, Stacy & Tom Reese, Bart Cook, , , G-Gage Attendees:, Bruce Runner, Steve Arigotti, Chuck San Filippo, George Blount, Colton Snell, Butch & Bill Floyd, Dave Freiani, Richard Van Slyke, Bill Bivings.



Sorting water bottles and Soda Cans.  
Thanks GUYS!



**SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH**

**1.04 Gauge Requirement**

We have two gauges of track. 7 1/2” and 4 3/4” gauge equipment can be used.

**2.05 Safety Chains**

A chain, cable or draw bar must be installed between any car on which the Engineer is riding separate from his locomotive. A chain or draw bar must also be installed between any fuel car or cars and the locomotive which it supplies. Some safety device is recommended for all cars.

**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:

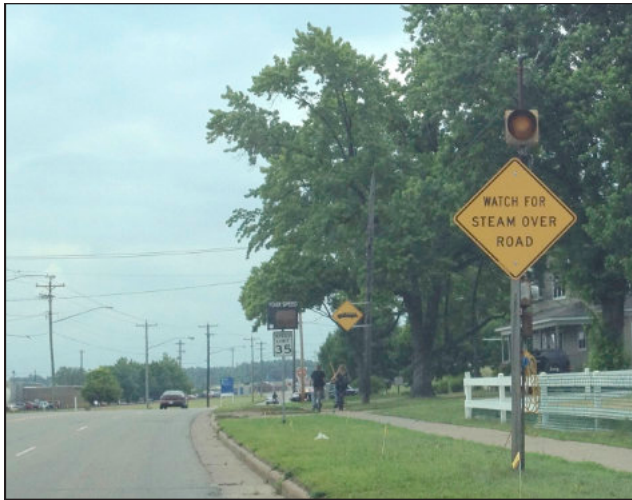
1. Remain seated facing forward at all times while the train is in motion.
2. Remain seated on the train until it returns to the station.
3. Not to lean out or reach for anything along the right-of-way while the train is in motion.
4. Keep hands and feet within the boundaries of the riding car at all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

**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.**



10 Years ago: The Track crew has been busy this month building track panels that will be used for our Winter track projects (when mainline is out of service). Andy and helpers are keeping the grounds green and adding automated sprinklers to reduce people needed. Special thanks goes to those helping with public and special event train rides.

Now here is a sign I had not seen before. Makes you wonder what kind of machine goes on this road. Could it be a steam engine that needs no track?



20 Years ago: For quite a little while Milon Thorley has been expressing an interest in placing a flag pole in the vicinity of Ol' Gus' grave. If you were at the Spring meet you know where that is. Well it looks like Milon is going get his flag pole thanks to one donated by Caboose Chairman Paul Clifton, who has been saving this thing for a number of years for "just the right occasion."

Don Yungling, a long time member of SVLS, recently had an article published in the March/April 2002 issue of Live Steam. It tells the story of the cab-forward and its recent upgrades along with information about Rod Danley's Western Pacific 257 class 2-8-8-2, which along with the cab-forward was at our 2002 Spring Meet. Don's story continues the saga of his building his 4-8-4 GS-1, and their construction history. Ed Yungling has also recently been published in a "Down Under" magazine.

30 Years ago: In the last month we have laid approximately 625 feet of new track in the expansion area bringing the total so far this year to nearly 1800 feet. This just about doubles the amount of track what we started with in January. We expect to lay about 1000 feet more before the fall meet.

Milon Thorley and Bob Lovel have been working on the two new bridges that will cross the dry creek at the north and south ends of the expansion area. The board has approved a girder deck bridge for the southern crossing and a curved wooden trestle for the northern crossing. - Doug Fulton, Superintendent

40 Years ago: Father's Day we had a good crowd of our members and their families, having a terrific time railroading, barbecuing, and socializing. Passengers were hauled by Darrel McWhirk's engine and a very able assist from the "Little club engine that could". Also on the scene were: the Danley Allegheny, Al Shelley's fire starter (with a new ash pan), and Bob Bonswor with his newly acquired equipment. July 3 and 4 once again found a bunch of people having a good time eating riding and talking followed by the best seats in the park for a beautiful fireworks display complete with toasting the marshmallows. During the weekend run, passenger traffic was handled by Ed Spall's "Jolly Green Giant, Warren Wagner's cow and calf, the Christianson's "Mighty blue", Darrel McWhirk's Rutland 10 wheeler, Ken Willes' hard working switcher, the club's engine and on display was Cliff Gnevo's Mogul which should be in service in the very near future. Hang in there 117.

No pets of any kind shall be allowed to run Cliff!

Unfortunately, once again we had equipment damaged by intentional acts of vandalism. This time it was the tracks. This is in addition to the damage vandals bestowed on the linkage for the passenger station switch. Maybe we need a Bengal Tiger for a "watch dog"?

