

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsrcm.org

May 2023

Volume 50, Issue 5



President's Report

By Andy Berchielli

Last month we finished up the trestle #1 rebuild. Once that was finished we moved to the Y trestle leads to the steaming bays. That project is done now too. The Tuesday group has been painting the steaming bays giving a fresh new look. Many thanks to all who help on a weekly bases. The work put in definitely shows. Chris and I have been pruning many trees. My humble opinion the place looks as good as it ever has been. Thanks to everyone's effort.

Spring meet is here. Currently I have 38 steam engines and 40 sidings reserved. This will be one of the most attended meets we had. Due to max capacity, do not leave your train unattended in Oasis area. Park trains only at your assignments. I will begin sending out track assignments soon. If you had not heard from me please contact me to make sure I have you down. If you can't make it let me know. I have a waiting list if space is available. Please check in with me upon arrival to see if anything changed. Camping is allowed. Please don't block road access. Road markings will be visible on grass area.



The 50th ceremony will be held at 2pm Saturday near Tin Man Bridge. Attendees from the city and park departments will make a brief presentation recognizing our achievement. The track will remain open. All are welcomed to join the ceremony or continue to run.



Saturday dinner must be purchased by May 12th.



The 1973 view of the Golden Spike ceremony and Looking south to the steaming bays.

Milon's engine on the left, Ken's on the right.

SVLSRM Calendar

Please check on-line about Public activity.

- May 6 Public run day 11AM - 3PM
- May 7 Public run day 11AM - 3PM
- May 8 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via. Zoom
- May 19 Pacific Regional Meet
- May 20 Pacific Regional Meet & 50th anniversary of our Golden Spike
- May 21 Pacific Regional Meet

- June 3 Public run day 11AM - 3PM
- June 4 Public run day 11AM - 3PM
- June 12 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via. Zoom
- June 17 Work day.
- June 18 Member run day.

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



See www.svlsrm.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 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@svlsrm.org.

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

Dues are due. Please stay onboard.



Board of Directors

- (##) Ending year of term
- President: Andy Berchielli (916)752-6697 (23)
E-mail: president@svlsrm.org
 - Vice President: Tom Nance (714)795-4630 (24)
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 - Secretary: Stephanie Huntingdale (23)
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 - Treasurer: Stacy Reese (916) 960-6850 (24)
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 - Director1: Larry Curtin (279) 900-5367 (24)
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 - Director2: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884 (23)
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Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM



Track Superintendent
by Steve Milward

Greetings from the Track Department!

By the time you are reading this, our Spring Meet and 50th Anniversary will be less than a month away. Much has been accomplished, yet so much more needs to be done. The bridge rebuild project has been completed, the turntable leads rebuild is complete. Steaming bay and transfer track extensions are done.



Alan Shifley has been working tirelessly on installing new signals and electric turnout machines in and around the Hillview siding and yard area. He anticipates having them operational by the meet. As with all operational signals on the railroad, train operators will be expected to abide by, and follow all signal indications.

None of these projects would have been possible without a huge effort by a group of dedicated volunteers. For fear of leaving somebody out, I'll simply extend a hearty "Thank You" to those who answered the call and pitched in!

As mentioned, there's still more to do. Several sidings and spurs need additional ballast and leveling, and some mainline areas need attention. As on the full-sized railroads, track maintenance and upkeep is an ongoing job. Please consider coming out and helping with track, or some of the many other tasks we'd like to complete before the meet.

Hope to see you out here soon.



Red for a Reason
Signal System Upgrades

By Alan Shifley

The signal system at SVLS has been undergoing some significant upgrades. Changes for this year include new signals and powered turnouts at Hillview West and the removal from service all non-functioning signals.

The signals at SVLS are more than just decorations. The signal system is designed to provide an additional level of safety for train operations, especially at locations where tracks cross and converge, locations where turnouts automatically realign for the mainline after a train enters the siding, and sections of track with limited sight distance.

Signals are Red for a Reason. A Steady Red signal means STOP your train at least 5 feet BEFORE the red signal and wait until something other than Steady Red is displayed. A red signal may indicate that there is a train in the block ahead or that a train is moving towards you on a conflicting route (even if it's not yet visible to you) or a turnout is not aligned. Don't risk derailing your train or causing a collision with another train by passing a Steady Red signal.

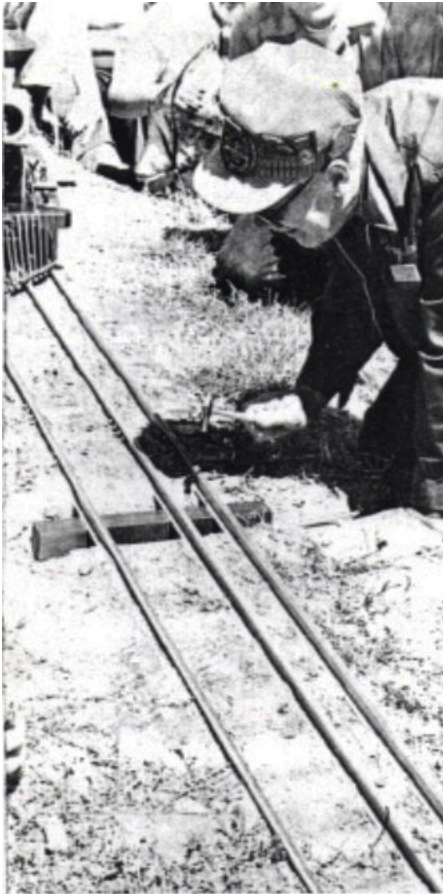
Other signal indications include Flashing Red, Yellow, Flashing Yellow and Green. These indications tell you what to expect ahead. Look for more information about these signal indications at the Spring meet. Bottom line is Steady Red means DO NOT PASS the signal. Anything else means it is okay to pass the signal.

Two signals together, one above the other, tell you which route you are set up for. Both signals showing Steady Red means neither route is cleared – DO NOT PASS the signal. Otherwise, the upper signal indicates the mainline route and the lower indicates the diverging route.



As we get together to celebrate 50 years at SVLS and share the rails with an incredible variety of scale railroad equipment, let's keep it fun and KEEP IT SAFE!





SACRAMENTO VALLEY LIVE STEAMERS GOLD SPIKE CEREMONY
 May 19th and 20th, 1973
 REPORT AND PHOTOS BY LARRY H. BADGER



More than 350 persons were on hand for the First Annual Meet and Golden Spike Ceremony at the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers' track at Rancho Cordova Park.

With as many as 20 engines of various sizes filling the partially-completed steaming bays, the two-day meet saw engines of all classes and sizes operating over the dual-gauge (4 1/4" and 7 1/2") 2200 foot loop. Blair Phillips (above), President of the Golden Gate Live Steamers, pulled passengers behind his 1 1/2" scale "LION" all day Sunday. The little coal-burner out-performed several larger locomotives on the 3% grades.

Saturday saw mostly operation and registration with a lot of discussion and note-taking in the steaming areas. Saturday night, club members honored track

boss Ed Yungling's efforts during the past year spearheading construction of the track which was first opened to around-the-loop operation last January... just over nine months from the day the first spike was driven.

Youngling, who took time from construction of his 1 1/2" scale Southern Pacific cab-forward and a 15" narrow gauge engine to push the line to completion, was given a steam gauge and water-glass from a long-since scrapped cab-forward in recognition of his efforts.

Harry Dixon (left) Western Region Secretary for the BLS, furnished the solid gold spike for the occasion and was assisted in driving it into a special walnut tie by Cordova Park officials, Ed Youngling and SVLS President Allen Shelly.



Secretary Board Report The Board meets by ZOOM. Members are always encouraged *By Stephanie Huntingdale* to attend. The next meeting is May 8, 2023, 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.

Did not qualify for Measure H – other grants will be pursued
 Santa Fe engine has been delivered to Oregon for rebuild to battery power.
 Work begins on completing electrical transformer move to box car area.
 Level 3 box car storage is nearing completion, minor adjustments
 Work container has been pressure washed; work to begin first weekend in May
 Insurance has been renewed.

Continued planning for Spring Meet and 50th Anniversary. Currently all steaming bays, sidings and RV spots have been reserved. Contact Andy Bircheilli for any availability. Meals can still be purchased, **Saturday dinner must be purchased by May 12th.**

Pre-orders for sweatshirts and t-shirts have expired.
 Contact Stephanie Huntingdale for merchandise orders.

TRACK UPDATE

By Phil Huntingdale



For the railroad fans in the club, that's all of us, the Spring Meet is from Friday, May 20 thru Sunday, May 22. This is the 50th Anniversary of the club track. Originally driven in 1973, the track had about 1700 feet of track. It has grown to about 6000 feet of track with many sidings and steaming bays. The G scale track will be available to you for running over the full weekend, including the evenings under the lights. This will be the time to come out and share the hobby in person, visit with old and new members in the club.

Reminder, during meet's, you are not permitted to park inside the fenced area. You may drive in, off load and load out, but your vehicles must be parked outside the fenced area. This is because there are many people in attendance; RV's and tents within the park. Meet weekends we must adhere to the Board's request. We will be able to steam up and put your smaller equipment together on the sidings on the G layout, however, please consider others should they be wishing to stage their equipment also on the various sidings. Share the tracks, as others may wish to run over the weekend. If you will not be running for a shout time, park on the siding, otherwise, remove it from the track.

Don't forget the first weekends of the each month are the public run events, hours 11:00 to 3:00. This is a great opportunity as well to run on the layout without other equipment on the track, and a great way to encourage young folks to get into the hobby. With the great weather, bring out your significant other and folding chairs and relax under the shade of the canopy trees.

See you about!



Want a chance to work with others in a real caboose on real rails?

Then here is your opportunity to fulfill that dream. If you know the difference between a spoon and a fork then you can help during the Spring Meet by preparing sandwiches in the caboose for the Friday lunch, or be a person of good standing and serve food during the Friday evening Spaghetti dinner.

When there are enough people that give some of their time then all of the work does not become one persons burden.

The caboose chairman Barbara Moser ask for help in last month's newsletter but no one has offered yet, so now is the time to call her and offer some of your time working to help make the meet successful.

Barbara Moser (916) 871-8368



1973 spike event.



Ed Youngling driving in one of the golden spikes.



Steve Milward replacing wood ties on lead tracks with Stephanie Huntingdale watchful eye.



Dennis Gramith & crew Larry Curtin, Kaden Prudhomme, Bob Ress - adding 3rd level storage.



Keith & Gloria Berry working on added steaming bays.



The following people were putting in some, long days on Tuesdays, Saturdays & many, Misc. Days during April working on different , projects getting ready for the 50th Golden Spike Spring

Meet May 19th, 20th, 21st.

Andy Berchielli, Keith & Gloria Berry, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Stephanie, Phil, Robin Huntingdale, Dennis Gramith, Larry Curtin, Kaden Prudhomme, Harry Voss, Alan Shiftley, Richard Corbell, Butch & Bill Floyd, Barbara Schoellkoph, Michael Fitzgerald , Kevin & Andrew Sach, Craig Griffin, Mark Hadewell, Brian Schaubmayer, Robert Forren, Todd Bishop, Dennis Bowie, Chris Klevesahl, John Bailie, Bob Ress, Paul Skidmore, Dave Cladianos, Mike Skums, Tyler & son Reese, Don & Toy Yungling, Leonard Cassieri, Bill Yoder, Tom Nance, Dave McClain, Sidney Madden, Richard & Brianna Lutrel, Sabrina Carrera, Glen Wilson, Gil Dominguez.

G-Gage Members: Richard Nelsen, Ralph Merrill, Dave Frediana, Jim Hearn, Bart Cook, Richard Van slike, Colton Snell, Kaden Prudomme.

Public Run Days: Don & Toy Yungling, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Tom & Stacy Reese, Tom Nance, Stephanie ,Phil, Robin Huntingdale, Alan Shiftley, Steve Milward, Keith & Gloria Berry, John, Jackie, Marie Bailie & family, Kevin & Andrew Sach, Colton Snell, Mike Skums, Dennis Bowie, Dennis Gramith, Chris Klevesahl , Robert Forren, Todd Bishop, Joe Rothwell, Larry Curtin, Brian Schaubmayer, Paul Skidmore, Dave McClain, Richard & Brianna Lutrel, Harry Voss, Glen Wilson, Dave Silvernail, Marianna Seusen/Lie /Doneguly (visitors), Victor & Anita Owens, Jeff Burke, Rob Sharratt, Steven Sosa-Marcon, Leonard Cassieri, Svend Nance (Skip), Gil Dominguez.





Public run day.



Needed Discussion !



Stay a Member and pay your dues!



FOR SALE. Steeple cab locomotive, 1 year old. Two 450 watt 24V motors, Ride Trains controller with sound system, built in IOTA 24 volt battery charger, Two 12V deep cycle batteries. \$7500.00.

Can deliver to the SVLS Spring meet.

Contact Ken Schroeder, 775-265-3632, shaylocomotives@charter.net



FOR SALE. RS GE 25 toner. Has about 50 hours of use. Fire up easily and runs with no trouble. Fiberglass shell. Great runner for someone to start out with in the hobby

About 200 pounds in weight, easy to transport.

Christopher Smith 650-676-0118
schristopher700@yahoo.com



For SALE: contact Robert Morris Leave message at 925-240-9034

Item 1: 1/2" Brass Atlantic and Tender \$2500.



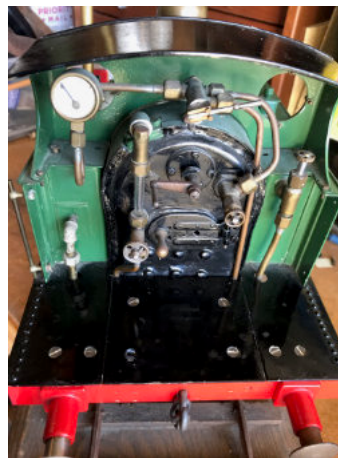
Item 3: 1 1/2 inch Allen 2-6-0 Mogul and Tender \$13,500.



#4: 2 1/2" Scale Passenger car - baggage combo, top comes off 3,000.



Item 2: 3/4" scale Tich 040 \$1250.



#5 2 1/2" D&RGW gondola Denver & Rio, scale trucks. \$1500.



#6: 1" Scale Coles 040 \$1500



[Look on line at more photos.](#)