

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsm.org

July 2023

Volume 50, Issue 7



President's Report

By Andy Berchielli

In June, we received our Santa Fe unit back from Dale Furseth of Train Mountain, who successfully converted it to an electric system. The new setup is a 36-volt, 360-amp, 14-horsepower system. You can see its start-up and running in action on our YouTube channel. We wasted no time in putting it to the test for parties, and it proved to be precisely what we needed.

Our recent Portola Valley and Alpine Meet saw a turnout of 10 members. Two members brought their own engines, and we had a delightful day of running trains. We extend our gratitude to PVARR for inviting us to join in the fun. Running on their track is always a pleasure.

Looking ahead, we're excited for the upcoming Fourth of July Event. On July 3 and 4, we'll be

running trains from 4-8pm. Access to the event can be obtained by entering from Ambassador Dr. Parking passes can be picked up at the caboose.



We'll be providing BBQ hamburgers and hot dogs, but we kindly ask attendees to bring a side dish or dessert to share. The park will have various activities, including a hot air balloon ride, a carnival, a concert, and an exciting drone and fireworks show around 9:45pm on both nights.



Long time SVLS member Darrel Gomes and his wife Gail visited SVLS on June 17th and with his new Steam Engine.

I found the Railroad Supply American locomotive for sale at the Sagebrush Short Line in Ridgecrest, CA. In April, 2022. The chassis was built running on air and all parts needed to complete the



locomotive were included. With the help of our friends in Ridgecrest, we were able to assemble and steam up by October. There was no tender, so I bought an Allen tender tank kit then Gail assembled it at home. We were back at Ridgecrest in January to fabricate the tender frame and plumbing.

On March 23, 2023, the American was out on the track in Ridgecrest for first run. Our second outing was in June at SVLS. Thanks to my wife and our Railroad Family for making this dream come true.

Our next visit to SVLS will be Hot August Night. Hope to see you!

SVLSRM Calendar

Please check on-line about Public activity.

July 3 Public run day 4PM - 8PM
 July 4 Public run day 4PM - 8PM
 July 10 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via. Zoom
 July 15 Work day.
 July 16 Member run day.

Aug 5 Public run day 11AM - 3PM
 Aug 6 Public run day 11AM - 3PM
 Aug 14 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via. Zoom
 Aug 19 HOT August Nights. Bring your train and food.

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.

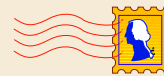
The Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc. is organized and operated exclusively for public benefit charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (C.) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

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.



Help the club save money by receiving your newsletters on-line. Average price per mailing over \$2.

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

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- (##) Ending year of term
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 Trainmaster: Craig Griffin (916) 365-1917 (23)
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Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM



TRACK UPDATE

By Phil Huntingdale

Just to put my two cents in on the memorable spring meet. This 50th Celebration meet was incredible!

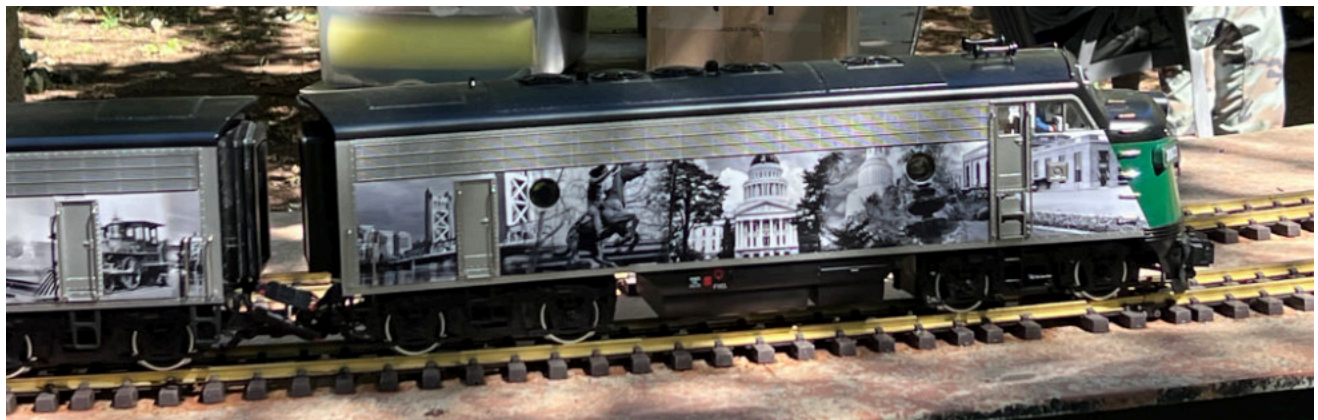
Thanks to all that put the event together including so many to mention, but just say Andy B. was running everywhere for at least a week, I know he put many hours into the organizing of the various phases. My wife Stephanie was in constant motion for several weeks along with Barbara Moser. Stacy Reece was her right hand at the meet. Those that attended the Spring Meet were treated to a fabulous weekend. The park was filled with trains all sizes, types, and shapes for three days and nights. I understand over 300 registered members and guests attended.

Steam locomotives with their consist were in motion throughout the event, and the G table was filled at various times with all tracks occupied. We had many members in attendance bring their G equipment down for day and evening runs under the lights. Rich Nelson was running three days; large consist of logging cars and shay locomotives. I saw from photo that a Big Boy with beautiful passenger car consist was there. Some of the 7.5" guys with locomotives included Dennis Bowie, Craig Griffin, and Andy B. The Sonora

guys including Dave, Bart, Bill, and Richard were on hand Saturday with their many varied equipment. George, Colton, Ralph Merrill also attended. On the electric side, there were Bachmann's Big Hauler with consist running on Saturday evening and others. What I saw that weekend indicated the G scale part of the hobby is alive and doing well. With the table being used for these events, it always amazes those venturing over to see the hobby. Thanks to everyone who attended and brought trains to run on our table.

This last Tuesday was well attended in the morning with several members running locomotives. Special attendance with Matt Abreu's F7 battery powered ABA locomotives commemorating the Sacramento Valley Garden Railroad Clubs announcement of the 2025 National Convention to be held here in Sacramento. Matt applied sheet stencils to the USA equipment, and Ralph Merrill did the battery conversion.

Don't forget we will be there on July 3 and 4 to offer rides to attendees for the Rancho Cordova Fireworks show in the evening. Trains will run from 4pm to 8pm. Come out and help if you're able, run your G's. Enter by way of the Ambassador drive gate (the Yellow gate west end of Ambassador), the main gate will be closed all day. - See you about!





May 2023 - Work Day

Helpers: Helping get ready for the Spring Meet:

Keith & Gloria Berry, Kaden Prudommee, Larry Curtin, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale,

Robbin Huntingdale , Dennis Gramith, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Chris Klevesahl, Paul Skidmore, Dave Cladianos, Bob & Sarah Ress, Steve Milward, Sid Madden, Brian Schmeyer, Bill & Butch Floyd, Rob Sharratt, Jim Prudommee, Dennis Bowie, Craig Griffin, Harry Voss, John Bailie, Andy Berchielli, Betsy Reeves, Augie & Judy Berchielli, Barbara Schoellkopf, Bill Yoder, Mark Mackwell, Kevin & Andrew Sach, Don & Toy Yungling, Tom & Stacy Reese, Tom Nance.

May Run Days: Steve Milward, Dennis Gramith, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Bill Yoder, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Colton Snell, Tom & Stacy Reese, Larry Curtin, Kaden Prudommee, Alan Shifley, Mark Mackwell, Chris Klevesahl, Bill & Butch Floyd, Dale Dennis, Jeff Burke, Tom Nance, Richard Lutrel, Craig Griffin, Andy Berchielli, Harry Voss, Bob Ress, Leonard Cassieri, Tyler & Reece Albrecht, Vic Owens, Don & Toy Yungling.

June Run Days: Chris Klevesahl , Gordon & Barbara Moser, Tom Nance & friend, Skip Nance, Dennis Gramith, Harry Voss, Kaden Prudommee, Larry Curtin, Craig Griffin, Bill & Butch Floyd, Dale Dennis, Brian Schclubmayeyer, Ed Fossbert, Jim Hearn.

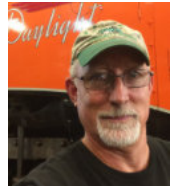
Birthday Parties May & June 2023: Leonard Cassarri, Kaden Prudommee, Larry Curtin, Mike Skums, Chris Klevesahl, Andy Berchielli, Tom Nance, Leonard Cassieri.

Father's Day Weekend: Gordon & Barbara Moser, Troy Wilkerson, Craig Griffin, Andy Berchielli, Tom Nance, Chris Klevesahl , Darrell & Gail Gomez, Bill Yoder, , June Workdays, , Bob Ress, Leonard Cassieri, Craig Griffin , Harry Voss, Dennis Gramith, Tom Nance, Andy Berchielli, Kaden Prudommee, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Sid Madden, Stephanie & Phil Huntingdale, Bill Yoder , Larry Curtin, Richard Corbell, Keith Berry, Glen Wilson, Steve Milward, Mike Skums.

Track Superintendent

by Steve Milward

Greetings from the Track Department!



Welcome to Summer, finally! After many cooler than average weeks, it's starting to warm up.

I'll admit, after the crazy, intense preparations for the 50th/Spring Meet, track work has slowed to a crawl. That said, the show must go on. We've started work on some known problem areas, and I hope to begin work on upgrading the 1" yard trackage soon. If you're out and running, or notice track issues, please let me know.

There are many folks who works tirelessly to make ours a great railroad. I'd like to recognize one in particular. **Chris Klevesahl** is our Yardmaster. His dedication to our organization is beyond belief. When he's not mowing, pruning, clearing brush, weed wacking and generally keeping the park beautiful, he helping folks with other projects. When you see him, take a moment and thank him for his efforts.

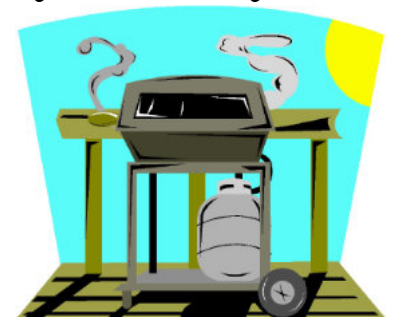
For the time being, we're past the busy times. The next few months will provide our members and guests a chance to come out to the park to run trains and assist on various projects. We hope you'll come out and be a part of the fun.

See you on the rails!



Train rides for the public will be running from 4:00-8:00PM on the 3rd and 4th of July. Hamburgers and Hotdogs will be served starting at 3:00PM on both the 3rd and 4th of July. for our members. You're welcome to bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share along with the hamburgers and hot dogs if you choose to do so. Or BBQ will be available later on for those who want to bring their own food & stay for the fireworks.

Barb Moser





10 Years ago: Those who attended our Meet in May saw our new shade cover made possible by the help of many. Special thanks goes to Intel as they provided a grant and manpower in support of this project. Justin Schade (of Intel) and his crew logged 151 hours on this project and other support work.



30 Years ago: From the Yardmaster: Short report for this month! We kept up on the mowing battle again on the 12th of June. Curtis Bonville and 5 of the sheriff’s crew helped me. The next two weeks I was on vacation, getting a much needed break. On July 2nd, Vern Geyer (new member) and I mowed as much as we could before the 4th of July weekend. There was a good turnout on the 3rd, which ended with the traditional fireworks. The 4th found fewer people in the park, so it was a slower day for revenue. -- Gordon Moser, Yardmaster.

40 Years ago: Our first annual “GGLS Day” at our track was a tremendous success. Many of our friends from Golden Gate Live Steamers showed up to help us celebrate a very pleasant day of railroading, visiting and dining on a delicious combined pot luck.

On July 2, our work party consisted of: Bob Weaver, Ben Jennings, Bob, Mark and Robbie Lovell, and Dennis and Judy Gramith. The Colonel, Ken Willes (confined to a reclined position because of a back injury) came out to cheer us on. Though few in number, the crew managed to mow the entire interior and hill, as well as trimming and general clean up.

July 4th found the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers represented by two diesel locomotives: Warren Wagner’s powerful S.P. Cow and Calf and the club engine. These two non-steamers pulled over 700 passengers. The crews shut down from 4 to 7 for a delicious B. B. Q. and a much enjoyed rest.

Secretary Board Report

By Stephanie Huntingdale

The Board meets by ZOOM. Members are always encouraged to attend. The next meeting is July 10, 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.

Santa Fe engine has been converted to battery and is back at the park.

Level 3 box car storage done.

The Board is looking at building a 5’x8’ building at the top of the metal stairs by the box car, to have a convenient place to store station equipment for public runs.

Metal hand rails will be painted by the Tuesday group to cut down on the heat from hot weather.

A water pump will be added to the Pacific.

G Scale will be replacing some switches and track.

4th of July. Trains will run on the 3rd and 4th from 4 pm to 8 pm. There will be hamburgers and hot dogs for members. Members asked to contribute to a pot luck to be held about 3 pm.

Volunteer hours since January 1, 2023 to date: 3,757



SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH

1.03 Passengers and Visitors

General public, when permitted within the steaming bays, shall be escorted by a SVLSRM member. General public

who need to get close to tracks for photography shall have an escort to keep a lookout for oncoming trains or equipment movement.

3.06 Direction of Movement

Shall be determined by the Trainmaster. From ‘Passenger station’ Eastbound towards the box car, or Westbound towards Hagan Park.

4.05 Operations Director

All passenger operations shall be under the authority and guidance of the assigned Operations Director for that day.



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. **\$6900.00.**

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



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

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



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



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.



#6: 1" Scale Coles 040 \$1500



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