

# The GOLDEN SPIKE

SACRAMENTO VALLEY  
LIVE STEAMERS  
RAILROAD MUSEUM

www.svlsrcm.org

July 2008

Volume 35, Issue 7



July 4th and 5th are run days and we will have public rides Noon to 6 PM on the 4th, and Noon to 4 PM on the 5th.

Come out, bring your engine - enjoy the day, and the fireworks from the Park both nights at 9:45.

The Park has many activities going on so get here early.

Join us for dinner at 6:30 on the 4th. We will furnish BBQ Chicken YOU bring a side dish to share. Call Lois (722-8514) to say you will be there and what you are bringing.



Please note that Coloma Rd and Chase drive are closed for the Parade from 9 to noon on the 4th. Parade at 10am.

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



Karle Mahler had made a new burner for our SVLSRM steamer and it will be handy for our July 4th BBQ. See page 3 for burner details.



2nd switch is in and after this picture was taken four more panels of track have been put in place for the new Midway yard. Special thanks needs to be given to those special members who come out and worked about every week this month (June) such as Paul Skidmore, Jack Freedman, Terry Willes, and fearless leader Darrell Gomes on this project. (While others have helped also, the editor does not have the list of names.) - But Thanks to those that did!!

## Thanks

There has also been several others out doing yard work, mowing, weeding, general clean up, and other chores: Barbara Moser, Bill Yoder, Lee Frechette, Vern and Clio Gyer, Pete Arney, Gail Gomes, Lois Clifton - That I know about... Editor.

There are plenty of projects to work on at the railroad so you need to come out and give time to your organization.

Come and help. Your help is needed. Don't know what to do then call a board member and ask, then volunteer.



## Calendar

July 4 4th of July Public run day Noon to 4 PM  
 July 5 Public run day Noon to 4 PM  
 July 8 Board Meeting 6:30 (RC city hall)  
 July 18 NO Membership meeting in July  
 July 19 Work Day - come out and help with the railroad  
 July 20 Public run day Noon to 4 PM

Aug 2 Public run day Noon to 4 PM.  
 Aug 12 Board Meeting 6:30 (RC city hall)  
 Aug 15 Membership Meeting

### Hot August **Night Run**

Aug 16 Work Day - come out and help with the railroad  
 Aug 17 Public run day Noon to 4 PM

Public run day calendar available on-line.

**Don't forget about work days**, Every Tuesday also Saturday after members' meeting. Contact a committee member for information on needs. Check the Project page at the SVLSRM web site (<http://www.svlsrcm.org>).

*How will you support SVLSRM this month?*

## Membership

*By Amy Lutrel*

Rod Danley SVLSRM member from Willows has passed away. Our condolence to his wife Jean.



Chris Donhost and his wife Evelyn are now the proud parents of Elijah and Paul. They were born Tuesday, June 24th

  
 Postage rates are higher now.

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

SVLSRM has new emblem pins and they look great. They cost \$5. See Clio to buy a pin.

(916) 645-9154



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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**Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM**

SVLSRM Steamer repair of the burner.



This was the burner being used by our Steamer. As you can see it has warped a new shape.



The new burner which should provide much better performance, thanks to Karle Mahler. - Details to follow.



### Special Runs/Events

*By Clio Geyer*

Specials for July (as of press time).

- July 13 – 11-1 Birthday Party – Diesel
- July 26 – 12-2 Birthday Party – Steam
- July 27 - 11-1 Birthday party – Diesel

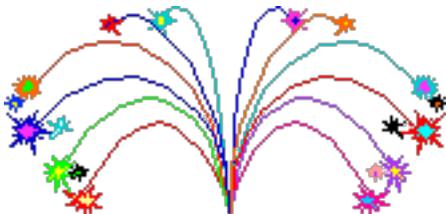


I want to thank Butch Floyd for being so much help to us so far this year. He has been able to help with almost all of our parties.

Special thanks goes to the following people who came out to help for the Heritage Credit Union picnic on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June: Lois Clifton and Carl Kitzmiller as engineers with Pete and Betty Arney, Ed Zies, Paul Skidmore and Butch Floyd as conductors as needed.



Tyler B. celebrating his birthday on June 21 - he turns 5 in June. Tyler has a real love of trains. (see June 2008 Spike article).



Got Something for Sale?  
Send to editor@svlsrm.org



Please check the SVLS web site [www.svls.org](http://www.svls.org) for current information on SVLS activities.



**10 Years ago:  
THE FREEDOM  
OF CHOICE**

This is the time of year when we look back at the beginning of our country and its founding fathers. We take the time to remember



why our country was formed and be thankful for the insightful visions and unselfish sacrifices that has made the United States the greatest country in the world today. The establishment of our nation afforded our ancestors and ourselves the freedom of choice - speech, religion, happiness, etc.

Thus, we can choose to be a member of Sacramento Valley Live Steamers - to build and/or purchase locomotives and rolling stock - to operate SVLS-owned equipment - to volunteer time and talent to help maintain and operate this club and its facility - to serve on the Board of Directors - to operate your equipment at our facility or another club's.

At the same time, we have the freedom to choose not to participate in our club in any way - but then, we are not supporting the purpose of SVLS which is to promote and stimulate interest in live steam engines and related equipment as stated in our By-Laws Article II.

The freedom of choice is yours  
**TONY ROHRS - PRESIDENT**

**20 Years ago:** We had a very successful Run on July 4th. We had a rather small turnout of our members and all who were there worked very, very hard. In spite of that, everyone seem to have a good time. We gave rides until almost 5:00 P.M. We then started the coals a'glow'n and set up the most delicious Pot Luck Table full of good food, thanks to EVERYONE! Everybody re-filled and kicked back and rested for a spell, then we started the home-made ice cream, to enjoy while we watched the beautiful display of Fireworks.

**30 Years ago:** If you were out to the park a few weeks before the 4th of July, you were up to your sweet bippy in weeds in the steaming bay area. If you returned a week or so later the weeds were gone and the area was taking on a green grassy look. With out any invitation or fanfare Dennis, Judy, Colleen and Christine Gramith cut, chopped and pulled weeds for days. Since the weeds are gone they have been out there watering on a regular schedule. If the SVLS gave tributes every year to the people who contributed the most hours of labor, these four people would be first in line for all the back breaking, hand blistering hours they've spent this year. They don't toot their own horn, so let's give them four big whistle blasts along with our thanks.



Bring your Train and your appetite and food to share. Join us for a Pot luck dinner and a fun evening around the old railroad tracks.



**Safety Rules for the Month**



115.No one under the influence of alcohol, narcotics or illegal drugs of any kind shall be allowed to ride on any train.

214.Trains hauling passengers must be operated by qualified engineers and conductor who are members of SVLSRM.

302. All members share equal privileges and use of the facilities. All members also have equal responsibility for the safety and maintenance of the facility, equipment, and the observance and enforcement of these rules. Every member is responsible to, and for, every other member. There are no so-called "privileged" members.

410. Before leaving the steaming area operating steam locomotives shall have steam pressure brought up to operating pressure, have safety valves and pressure gauges checked and operating correctly, have water gauges and try cocks blown down, have feed-water devices checked and in working order, have whistle tested and operating properly, and have brakes checked and operating.

Bill Yoder (your editor) made a trip to Indiana and while there went to visit the Indiana Live Steamers (<http://www.indianalivesteamers.org/>). They have about 34 acres being still developed. Currently they have about 14,000 feet of track and well spread out. It has some open areas, and lots of forest. I guess habits are hard to break since I spent some time helping them relay some track where it had been washed out a week prior due to all the rain and floods Indiana was having.

Below are two pictures of the water damage one where the track was floated away, the other where the two coverts were not enough to handle the runoff. The construction pictures is where they removed the coverts and are building a trestle.



Notice remote switches, and crossover.



Yard switch indicator, also they have just numbered their switches (small tag in photo)



It is very green on this railroad.



They had a good turnout for work day, with several crews working on different sections of the railroad.  
- They were a good hard working group of people.

# for sale

## 1.5" scale Pyle National extended case or flush mount dual GYRALITE.

They operate "True to scale" from the prototype and is constructed primarily of brass. The light operates on 2.5vdc. Price \$395.00 allow five weeks receipt of order.

12vdc to 2.5vdc voltage regulator/reducer for GYRALITES. \$30.00

Keith Jackman  
636 Linden Ave.  
Grass Valley, CA 95945  
Ph: (530)272-8531  
kpjackman@sbcglobal.net



**Wanted** a Atlantic or Pacific or 10 wheeler or? Engine must be ready to run, 1 1/2, 71/2 gage.

Will trade a fully restored 1957 Ford Fairlane Club Victoria 2dr hardtop for a steam locomotive. The Ford has a 292 V8 and automatic. Was driven to Texas and back and ran good. Only 2400 of this type was made in 1957. I have \$23,000 in car. I have more photos if you need them.

Paul Thomson ph: 925 672 5477



## 7 1/2" Gauge 4+4

**Beam Engine** and tender with two 7 1/2 foot bench type riding cars equipped with Tom Bee trucks and couplers. Pneumatic brakes on all cars. Current SVLSRM boiler certificate on a

12" diameter vertical steel boiler, propane fired with 306 3/8" diameter copper fire tubes. Twin cylinder double acting engine with Stephenson valve gear and a bore and stroke of 2"x2.75" driving 4.375" diameter wheels through a 20% overdrive. Drive chains are tight at all times. There is a constant speed universal joint in the center of each truck to allow movement while keeping the drive chains tight. Engine weighs about 400 pounds with eight driving wheels arranged in two four wheel trucks. I haven't found a track or turn I couldn't handle at normal track speed. The suspension is very flexible, rock solid on the rails and the engine has a working headlight. This engine is a runner, fast, with exceptional pulling power and is very easy to run, very forgiving. You can check and adjust either firing or water level in about two seconds. Because of having a vertical boiler the engine does not require any additional inputs to fire up, just open the valve on the propane tank and light the burner after you fill the boiler and the water tank with water.



The train is set-up on a new two wheel trailer for towing with a car or small pick-up truck. I estimate the weight of the complete train and trailer at about 1000 pounds. The train and trailer are located in Reno, Nevada.



**Asking \$10,000**

Contact Bill Cody at (775) 674-6512 or steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net for additional information/pictures.

**5 ton hydraulic car lift**, great for use as train lift/turntable.  
Gil Beard 530-823-8142

**SALES: Switch stands**, point throw mechanism and point plate for attaching the points is included with the switch stand. A complete set-up for \$85.00 plus shipping. <http://www.timbercreekrr.zoomshare.com/> Contact me by phone or e-mail for questions and quantity discounts.



## FIGURE "8" MARS LIGHTS FOR SALE.



Each light has an L.E.D. that puts out over 50 lumens of light and is good for 100,000 hours, as stated by the manufacturer of the light. Just wire it into your 12VDC system, mount it to your locomotive and go!!! \$300.00 each with free shipping in the

Continental USA only.

Gordon Briggs timbercreekrr@yahoo.com (530)273-9145

Photo from 1972 and it is of me and my father Bill (William C Knight 1914-2002)

who is the builder of the model steam engines. In about 1977 my father sold the traction engine. I was hoping within the world of live steamers might know the location of the traction engine? Any help you could render would certainly be appreciated Thanks in advance. Brad Knight bknight@rl.tv

