

The GOLDEN SPIKE



SACRAMENTO VALLEY
LIVE STEAMERS RAILROAD MUSEUM

www.svlrsm.org

March 2010

Volume 37, Issue 03



Track Superintendent

By Darrell Gomes

Last month with the help of members and the AmeriCorps work crew, were able to complete another 140' of track and roadbed upgrades. From Cordova Station to Cordova Junction is now steel rail on plastic ties. The AmeriCorps crew dug the trench, shoveled the ballast, and prepared the roadbed. Members Jack Friedman, Nathaniel Hawkins, Ben Kliewhatcher helped Paul Skidmore build 180 feet of track panels. Pete Arney came out with his Vibraplate and packed the roadbed. Gordon and Barbara Moser, Terry Wiles and Richard Lutrel also helped where they were needed.

The AmeriCorps Crew wire brushed rust then applied two coats of Rustoleum Aluminum paint to Tin Man bridge and treated ALL bridge decks. They helped with the removal and installation of the main line and the Oasis track so Park Personnel could have access to the damaged tree and cleaned up the debris. They painted the picnic area and all the picnic tables and cleaned the stump shavings from the steaming bay. Due to storm damage and safety, we removed the two Mulberry trees from the steaming bay. Members should consider Easy Ups for shade from the sun. Lois Clifton brought Pizza for the crew for Fridays lunch.

I want to THANK everyone for helping me complete all theses Projects.



SVLSRM Calendar

Mar. 6 Run Day - Public rides Noon to 4 P.M.
 Mar. 9 Board meeting 6:30
 Mar. 19 Membership meeting
 Mar. 20 Work Day and Run day for members.
 Mar. 21 Run Day - Public rides Noon to 4 P.M.

Apr. 3 Run Day - Public rides Noon to 4 P.M.
 Apr. 13 Board meeting 6:30
 Apr. 16 Membership meeting
 Apr. 17 Work Day and Run day for members.
 Apr. 18 Run Day - Public rides Noon to 4 P.M.

Mark your Calendar

Spring meet May 1st & 2nd
 July 4th weekend events July 3rd & 4th
 Club trip to Willow Creek Railroad July 9-11
 Hot August Night Run Saturday Aug. 28th
 Fall Meet Oct. 9th & 10th

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.svlsrm.org>.

How will you support SVLSRM this month?



Help us save money.

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.

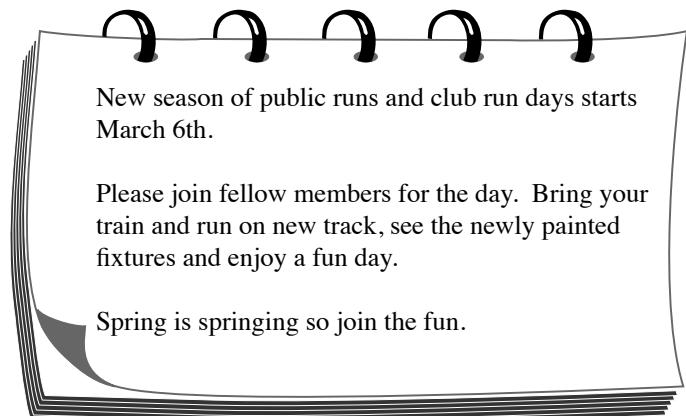
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Welcome New Members

Roderick Clifton and family from Citrus Heights
 Kent Clifton and family from Sacramento



If you did not send in the survey before, please do.
Your input is needed.

Board of Directors

President: Lee Frechette (916) 205-6791

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E-mail: byoder@vfr.net

Secretary: Clio Geyer (916) 645-9154

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Track Superintendent: Darrell Gomes (209) 786-0623

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Yardmaster: Andy Berchielli (916) 348-7252

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Trainmaster: Brad Jones (916) 687-4866

E-mail: actioniron@msn.com

----- Committee Chairpersons -----

Safety Committee: - open -

Special Events: Clio Geyer (916) 645-9154

E-mail: vern78@onemain.com

Caboose Ops: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514

E-mail: loisjune1@comcast.net

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E-mail: editor@svlsrm.org

Membership: Dale Dennis (530) 406-8600

E-mail: mailto:denclan2@wavecable.com

Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM



YARD MASTERS REPORT

By Andy Berchielli

Things have been busy this last month with the help from AmeriCorps. On the 4th + 5th we were able to take down the two mulberry trees in the steaming bays. The wind storms we had caused a lot of damage to them, plus the root system is too invasive. The leaves and tree branches have been cleaned up and the park district helped us take down the top of the sycamore tree in midway, also damaged from the wind, and ground up the stumps left behind.

The AmeriCorps team was also here on the 15-19. They painted the picnic area, Tin Man Bridge, and oiled the trestles. Things look very good down here now. Thank you to Darrell and Paul Skidmore for keeping them busy. The grounds look good for the first public run on March 6. Volunteers are always needed. Contact any board member to help out.

As you may know, Brad Jones has donated a Ferguson tractor to us. The tractor is to be used only for specific projects. Anyone wishing to use it must be cleared by me. That goes for any power equipment. If you don't know how to use it, please ask someone. We want equipment operated safely and properly to prevent equipment and property damage.

- Hope to see you at the track!



Americorp crew getting a ride after a hard week of working. They accomplished many projects for SVLSRM. We thank them very much.



Even our resident deer were admiring the new paint job on "Tin Man Bridge".

Invitation to visit Willow Creek Railroad.

My name is Mark Adelblue and I am the President of Willow Creek Railroad in Brooks Oregon. I would like to formally invite you to our first ever Invitational meet between SVLS and WCRR on July 9th, 10th and 11th, 2010.

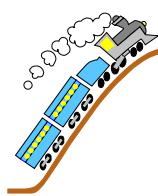
During those dates we will be making preparations for the Great Oregon Steam-Up and you will be able to see a sample of those events and other museums in the area. Train rides will be available to the general public on both Saturday and Sunday of that weekend and we were hoping that your members would be up for helping with some of that running.

For the facilities, we have 5000+' of mainline trackage that makes three loops around our area, which includes three cross over diamonds that are protected by automatic block signals. We also have signals at a few other vital locations along the track to help maintain distance between the trains as well as protect several key areas. We also have a 17' scissor lift that services six steaming bays of various lengths – the longest of which are 20' long. Air, water and electricity are available at the steaming bays.

There are several hotels within just a few minutes of the park (if you so desire) or we have available camping spots, some of which are dry camping or some with water and 20 amp services (no sewer hookups available).

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Bill Yoder



At the general meeting we had a sign up sheet for providing snacks at our meetings. There are still a few months open and if you would like to sign up please call me. Thanks.

It has been suggested by members to have a Saturday workday coordinator. With only 10 work Saturdays left in this year I am sure there are those of you that could help at least one of these Saturdays. Please call me.

SECURITY: I found the gate by the steaming bay unlocked this last Tuesday, so please check all gates before leaving. If you unlock it then re lock it when done. We had a break-in the week before and several items were stolen from the mower shed.

Quick Board report: (not covered in other reports)

- Ross has the GP-40 truck nearly completed (Ed. note: Ross reinstalled truck).
- The Coloma Church of Christ would like to donate their time and money into redoing the deck on the caboose before the Spring Meet.
- Adopt interim 2010 budget
- Snitzer Steel is still waiting on bridge design for new section of rail that will be going in the Park.
- The rest of the rail stock in the boxcar will be purchased from Pete using monthly payments. Total \$5973. \$350 / month. This also covers rail that has been used over the last two years. Three FCR still have a balance owed of \$5,246.

President's Report

By Lee Frechette

After a wet and wild January and a mild February, the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad is springing back to life. Everything is lush and green and jumping out of the ground. Our thoughts are turning to another great spring and summer of railroading and all that goes with it.

With the help of AmeriCorps volunteers, Darrell Gomes and his track crew have completed track replacement from the Station to Cordova Junction during the month of February. With the help of AmeriCorps and the Cordova Recreation and Park District, Yardmaster Andy and his team have managed to clean up the trees that were topped off by winter storms.

Everything is looking green and good.

AmeriCorps returns at the end of March to help us spruce up the railroad and get it in shape for a wonderful Spring Meet, which is in the making.

Speaking of the Spring Meet, mark your calendars for May 1 and 2 – a new date this year. A lot of foundation work is under way to bring along a few surprises and make the Spring Meet especially memorable. Many other area railroading groups have been invited to join us, including a large contingent from the Willow Creek Railroad which will be traveling from Oregon for the gathering.

For those of you who will be needing hotel accommodations for the meet, your SVLS has arranged special pricing and offers through the Rancho Cordova Chamber of Commerce. Contact me for details if you are looking for lodging. We are looking forward to some great food, fun raffles and excellent railroading.

Looking ahead, I hope you have blocked out July 9, 10 and 11 for our club trip to Willow Creek Railroad. We will be taking some of the club equipment along with us so there will be plenty of trains. Our friends at Willow Creek are pulling out all the stops for our visit, offering free camping on site, and special pricing on area lodging. It will be a trip to remember, I am sure.

Chris Donhost and his committee have been hard at work coming up with some design options and recommendations for the construction of a permanent memorial at the railroad honoring members who have passed away. I want to thank Chris and Company for a lot of great work and look forward to their report at the March board meeting.

Before we know it, we will be back to our regular run schedule, with a few special events as well. We will get an early start at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 3 for the Annual Rotary Easter Egg Hunt and CRPD Spring Extravaganza, so please plan to join us.

On April 24, we will be seeing many more children and their

families as we provide service to the “Kids Day in the Park” event. And please plan to spend your Fourth of July at the Rancho Cordova Fourth of July Festival on July 3-4 when we will be offering train rides before riding ourselves out to Meadow for a “members only” view of one of the best fireworks shows in the region.

One last programming note, and that is that the Hagan Park Haunted House will be back! Pete Arney is organizing a Halloween Committee, so please give him a call and tell him you'd like to help on the scariest ride in town.

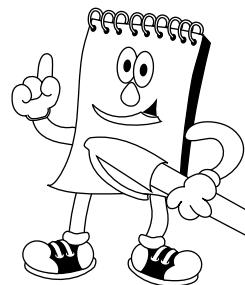
I am happy to report that we are working hard to improve everything we are doing at SVLS and we think you will enjoy what's going on. Come join us for our regular Tuesday work days or Saturday, March 20 for the first day of spring at the most beautiful railroad in northern California.

Hope to see you soon.



We do not want you to be left out of the Roster and to continue getting newsletter.

Please check your mailing label for the year DUES are paid through. If not 2010 or greater then they are due. **THANKS**



With the coming of *goood* weather the SVLS could use some help on our weekend work days.

On the Feb. 20 Ben Kleinwachter and Charlie Meinshagen from Redding were the only 2! Club members to come out and work . We pruned on trees in parking area and around the track. We then ran the train around and had a great time . It would be great if some one could become Saturday Coordinator for the year.

It only is done once a month. This is a GREAT SERVICE position for a club member to give back to our GREAT CLUB

Yours Trusted Servant BIG BEN



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

Your help is needed.
Call a board member and ask for a project, then volunteer.



10 Years ago: The Backshop Register or "Tales of the Trainmaster" - After suffering through several weeks of bad weather, the weather on the 19th of February was a pleasant change. The good weather on threat day was no doubt the reason for the small work crew on hand. Nonetheless those who were there made a good showing for themselves. Concentrating on cleaning up in the roundhouse I feel much progress was

made. Gordon Moser had recently donated a drawer storage unit for the roundhouse and it is now filled with track and switch machine parts. The workbench and surrounding areas were also given the old once over. I would like to thank Hans Feickert, Scott Trimble, and Dick Esselbach for their help in the roundhouse. Please note that Hans and Scott are probationary members, while Dick has been in the club for several years (decades) now. Also present was Carl Carlson trying out his newly painted engine. The next date you can expect to see me is Saturday work day on March 18th. - Donald Yungling

20 Years ago: *EDITOR request: I need newsletter copies for the months of: 3,9,10,11,12 of 1990. If you have these please call Bill.*

The Group Activity for the month of March was the trip to Craig Craddock's on Saturday, 3-31 & 4-1. The Weather cooperated very well for us and everyone seemed to have a wonderful time! Craig and Linda have a lovely home and a great place to run trains. Three other individuals who are good friends and hard workers (and also members of our club) have helped Craig a great deal to make his "Big Thunder Mountain Rail Road" such a challenging and beautiful place to run are: Jerry Jones, Glen Strawn and Karl Davison. Craig also has a beautiful 3" gauge American locomotive that ran almost all weekend. Visiting Engineers and their locomotives were: Bill Roscoe -- 1 1/2" Pacific, Richard Kendrick - 1 1/2" American, John Bailie - 2 1/2" Chloe, Richard Bristow - 1 1/2" Mikado and a little electric switcher, John Sommon - 1 1/2" Mikado, Keith Berry - 1 1/2" Gasoline Switcher and Ed Spall - the "Jolly Green Giant" 1-1/2 Pacific. Everyone seemed to have a wonderful time and thanks to Marilyn Drewes, none of us had to cook. --- And last but certainly not least, "thank you " to Craig and Linda Craddock for allowing all of us to play in "Craddockland"!

30 Years ago:

The chief engineer and Roadmasters completed the siding survey and set key stakes. Grade figures +0.25% eastbound out of the station, about a quarter of the present grade out of the yards. There will be two cuts, Hilmar, a foot deep west of the station and Spicer, 3 1/2 ft deep east of the station. Dirt from cuts will fill the low ground between, for use as station platform. Fill must be well compacted before laying track. Track and tie assemblies go down directly on grade and are secured by ballast...1/4 to fine, like we have been using. Two by four ties laid flat support rail ends, which cannot easily be staggered at pre assembly. Environmental impact: One Pyracantha near the west gate to the yards has got to go. Also, our sign must be moved.



I cannot forget to pay my dues. Life may be busy but supporting SVLS is needed.

Please send your 2010 dues now. \$60 for regular member and \$30 for associate member.

Check your mailing label for Date dues are paid through.

Safety Rules for the Month



116. Anyone consuming any alcoholic beverages, including beer, or use of any illegal drugs or narcotics of any kind shall be requested to cease. If they refuse, they will be asked to leave the facility.

217. Hand signals may be given with the hand, flag or light, as follows:

- A. "STOP" . . . Swing at arm's length down from the shoulders across the track.
- B. "PROCEED" . . . Raised and lowered vertically.
- C. "BACK UP" . . . Swung vertically in circles across the track.
- D. "REDUCE SPEED" . . . Arms held horizontally with slight motion of hand.

308. For insurance purposes: engineers and conductor on trains hauling the general public MUST be qualified members of SVLSRM, and pass a qualification test.

401. Wheel dimensions (gauge, back-to-back, tread width, flange depth and thickness) must conform to I.B.L.S. standards to operate on SVLSRM track. The Board of Directors or safety committee may demand a check of any equipment before the equipment is allowed on the SVLSRM track. This applies to member's equipment and non-member's equipment.



Please check the SVLS web site: www.svlsrm.org for current information on SVLSRM activities.



Help is needed with our public ride days and party events.
Please help support your club.

Call Clio for info.

for sale

1" scale Pacific. Plus flat cars, tender and the stand that the loco is on are all for sale. Also a box of odds and ends. Asking \$8000 or reasonable offer. Email for pictures or info.

Contact: Michael Savarino email: mssavarino@yahoo.com

TWO STEAM Trains for sale. Buy one or both.

1: 1.5" scale, 7.5" gauge Clishay locomotive and riding car. \$6,500. Engine is a two cylinder double acting 1 1/4x1 1/2". Boiler upgraded from the original 8" diameter water tube to a steel 10" diameter propane fired fire tube boiler with 73 1/2" copper fire tubes. Pneumatic FWD/REV shift and brakes on locomotive. Usual Accessories: working headlight, bell, new whistle, two new relief valves, engine driven feed pump and a hand pump. New body and trucks on riding car.
Engine and tender set-up on a single axle trailer for transport.

2: Recently refurbished CRAB locomotive and tender. Loco is about 14" wide and 22" long. Two cylinder double acting engine with a bore and stroke of 1.375 x 2.5". Slip eccentric valve gear, a mechanical lubricator and crosshead driven feed pump. Boiler is about 9" in diameter and 14" tall, propane fired with 8 individual burners in a ring. Burner control manifold is on the tender along with the pilot light control. Boiler feed is by a crosshead pump with a hand pump for back-up.

Tender has mechanical brakes and is about 16" wide by 5 feet long. Holds about 12 gallons of water and a 5 gallon propane tank. Tender is freshly painted.

Asking \$3,500, RTR. Reasonable offers considered.
Contact Bill Cody at (775) 674-6512 or steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net for additional information/pictures.

Two manuals (maintenance & operating) for a German ML4000 C' C' Diesel/Hydraulic (in English) \$15. each.

Contact: Charles Williamson (916) 363-2395

Editor note: SP bought several ML4000 models in the mid 1960s - The sole surviving unit (SP9010) is under restoration at Niles Cannon railroad. - from wikipedia.org

Check our web site FOR SALE page for pictures and more details. <http://www.svlsrm.org/sale.php>

RMI 45 ton centercab 2.5 scale 7.5 gauge

Complete except for siderod, wiring harness, controller that can be bought from RMI. The engine can be running for under 900.00.in light gray primer. It can be delivered to SVLS for a fee of 75.00 asking 3,500.00 O.B.O or possible trade for model T parts or Live Steam Garden railway engines or 4by4 trucks.

Contact Les wilmunder(530) 533-2163 or email cindy194@att.net

2in scale 7.5 gauge model of McKeen Motor car works switcher

Model of McKeen motor car works 0-4-2 switcher has 2Hp military motor. Siderods with counter weights. Fuel gas, includes woodside gon that will hold control stand. Control stand can be either attached to engine or gon. Built by Andy Clarici. This is a one of a kind engine that can pull several cars and is fun to run. It can be delivered to SVLS for 75.00 does not include stand. Asking 4,000.00 O.B.O or possible trade. contact Les wilmunder (530) 533-2163 or email cindy194@att.net.

Switch stands, point throw mechanism and point plate for attaching the points is included with the switch stand.

A complete set-up for \$75.00 (plus shipping)
<http://www.timbercreekrr.zoomshare.com/>

Contact me by phone or e-mail for questions and quantity discounts.

Gordon Briggs [\(530\)273-9145](mailto:timbercreekrr@yahoo.com)

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

They operates "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

Ph: (530)272-8531 OR kjackman@sbcglobal.net

#1. Mechanical cylinder cocks for 1 to 4 inch cylinder. 1/8 NPT. Four per set, \$80 per set.

#2. Steam oil \$10. per quart.

#3. 6 wheel common wealth passenger trucks for 7 1/4 or 7 1/2 gauge. \$1200. Per pair.

Ross Crawford 916-718-4162