

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsm.org

October 2011

Volume 38, Issue 10



## President's Letter

If things are feeling a little spooky around the train yard these days it is for good reason: work is under way for Haunted Hagan, our largest and most important fundraiser for the railroad.

In the next days and weeks you will begin to see ghouls and ghosts everywhere you look in preparation for the October dates of our Haunted Express and the rest of the attractions that make up Haunted Hagan.



Last year's event netted the Live Steamers more than \$14,000 – which sustained us through the year for our many improvement and operational projects. We are hoping that with new attractions, great weather and the word getting out that we will do even better this year.

For those of you who participated last year, I do not have to explain how fun it was to be part of the Halloween event. New friends were made, and old friendships were rekindled. We hope those great memories will encourage you to come out and help with set up and to run trains. It's a big job and we need your help.

*Continued on page 4.*



Well the Fall Meet is over and I would like to thank everyone that made it happen. In the caboose, Gail Gomes, Cindy Wilmunder, Toyoka Youngling, Mary Neville, Kevin Sach, Clio & Vern Geyer, Mary Mahler. My grandchildren, Tiphoni & Andrew Sach; Jordan & Monica Clifton; Terry Willis for his cookies, & of course my son, Rod Clifton for the fine cooking. Everyone who helped get our track & trains ready, Darrel Gomes, Bill Yoder, Paul Skidmore, Jack Friedman, Bob Silva, Bill Noyer, Tom Merceer, Richard & Amy Lutrel, Andy Berchielli, Karle Mahler, Ross Crawford, and Lee Frechette Although they weren't there Barbara & Gordon Moser. I am sorry if I missed anyone. But it weren't for all of you; there wouldn't have been a great meet. Thank you all !!!!!!!

I hope everyone had a good time at the Fall Meet.

Lois Clifton



## SVLSRM Calendar

Oct. 1-2 Special event at Colfax Railroad Days. See details on page 5.  
 Oct. 11 Board Meeting 6:30 - R. C. City hall  
 Oct. 21 General Membership meeting - Election nominations.  
 Oct. Halloween runs - 7-8, 14-16, 21-23, and 26-31. see article for more info on page 1.

Nov. 8 Board Meeting 6:30- R. C. City hall  
 Nov. 18 Annual Membership meeting - Elections at 7:30 in Hagan Park meeting room.

Dec. 3-4 Santa Run - see details next column.  
 Dec. 10-11 Santa Run  
 Dec. 13 Board Meeting 6:30 - R. C. City hall

Dec. Christmas Party (being planned)

Public run day calendar available on-line.

**Don't forget about Tuesday work days,** Contact a committee member for information on needs. Check the Project page at the SVLSRM web site <http://www.svlstrm.org>.

*How will you support SVLSRM this month?*



Santa Run is coming around again, how time flies. We will be needing help in many areas this year. Setting up, running the trains, helping in Santa's village, taking down and clean-up.

We will need donations of bake goods, and candy canes. I don't know if we have time for individuals to put together a Christmas gift shop. If anyone has any ideas for the Santa run, please, feel free to let me know. My number is (916) 722-8514 or [loisjune1@gmail.com](mailto:loisjune1@gmail.com).



Our annual General Membership meeting and elections is in November. Nominations will be accepted at the October members meeting. Election is for three positions: President, Secretary, and Trainmaster.



### ELECTION

#### Board of Directors

- President: Lee Frechette (916) 205-6791  
E-mail: [leefrechette@yahoo.com](mailto:leefrechette@yahoo.com)
- Vice President: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113  
E-mail: [byoder@vfr.net](mailto:byoder@vfr.net)
- Secretary: Clio Geyer (916) 645-9154  
E-mail: [vern78@onemain.com](mailto:vern78@onemain.com)
- Treasurer: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514  
E-mail: [loisjune1@comcast.net](mailto:loisjune1@comcast.net)
- Track Superintendent: Darrell Gomes (209) 786-0623  
E-mail: [dggomes@caltel.com](mailto:dggomes@caltel.com)
- Yardmaster: Andy Berchielli (916) 348-7252  
E-mail: [ajberchielli@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ajberchielli@sbcglobal.net)
- Trainmaster: Bradley Jones (916) 687-4866  
E-mail: [actioniron@msn.com](mailto:actioniron@msn.com)

#### Committee Chairpersons

- Safety Committee: Ed Zels (916) 861-0917  
E-mail: [drgw463@aol.com](mailto:drgw463@aol.com)
- Special Events: Clio Geyer (916) 645-9154  
E-mail: [vern78@onemain.com](mailto:vern78@onemain.com)
- Caboose Ops: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514  
E-mail: [loisjune1@comcast.net](mailto:loisjune1@comcast.net)
- Newsletter Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113  
E-mail: [editor@svlstrm.org](mailto:editor@svlstrm.org)
- Membership: Dale Dennis (530) 406-8600  
E-mail: [denclan2@wavecable.com](mailto:denclan2@wavecable.com)
- RFE - Steam: Karl Mahler (916) 334-8283  
E-mail: [karlemahler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:karlemahler@sbcglobal.net)
- RFE - Diesel: Ross Crawford (916) 718-4162

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



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



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@svlstrm.org](mailto:editor@svlstrm.org). The deadline is 4 days after Membership meeting.



**2011 Fall Meet.**

See more pictures on our web at: [www.svslrm.org](http://www.svslrm.org)

Pictures from: Donald Yungling, Craig Craddock, & Bill Yoder.

We had 72 people sign in and 33 registered with equipment. It seemed that there was a lot of equipment on the track most of the time.



Presidents report continued from Page 1.

Haunted Hagan opens with reduced train service on Oct. 7 and 8 as it is early in the season and turnout is generally light. But we will need plenty of help on the run dates that will follow: Oct. 14-16, Oct. 21-23 and Oct. 26-31. Please check your calendar and contact Andy Berchielli or me to sign up for shifts to set up our boo-tiful ride and to operate the Haunted Express. If you have ever dreamed of shooting at ghouls with paint ball guns, your wish is within your grasp. Haunted Hagan has all the makings of a lot of fun around the rail yard, so please plan to participate. Visit [www.hauntedhagan.com](http://www.hauntedhagan.com) to learn more about the scary plans our partners at Heartstoppers have in store.



November is election time around the railroad. It's a time to reflect on where we are and where we are headed. It's an opportunity to influence the direction our railroad will take as we head into the future. Please check around the newsletter for details from the Election Committee, and remember – your vote counts so cast it wisely!

November is also the final deadline for all non-profits to have filed federal and state tax returns. It is the annual reminder for all non-profits, including the Live Steamers, of our status as a 501C3 charitable public benefit corporation. With this important status come many benefits, as well as numerous obligations. Benefits include our ability to be located on public lands down in Hagan Park at no cost, as long as we fulfill our mission to educate the public about railroad operation and history. It is sobering to remember that our beautiful train yard, our club trains and equipment, do not actually belong to us, but rather is held in trust for the citizens of the great State of California.

We are fortunate, indeed, that the Cordova Recreation and Park District supports our organization and fosters our ability to pursue these charitable goals on behalf of our club and the public at-large. We also are supported in this by the City of Rancho Cordova.

We pay down that obligation every time we pull a train load of children at Kid's Day, a family at Halloween, or revelers at Christmas. We exist at the pleasure of the people of California, whom we are obligated to serve. It's food for thought, isn't it?

On a lighter note, thanks to one and all who turned out for the Fall Meet. Perfect Saturday night weather had us riding the rails into the wee hours of the morning. Can't wait until Spring Meet!

Lee Frechette  
President

### Reclaiming a Warnout Wheelset (1/8 scale)

by W. Ross Crawford



Measure between front and rear wheels to see if axles are parallel. Check wheels for same size. Difference will cause flange wear on wheel. If there are no centers in the axle, install them now concenture to bearings.

1. Correct the back to back dimension to  $7.130 \pm .01$  by moving one wheel on the axle or facing the back of the good wheel.
2. Hold good wheel in 3 jaw and bad wheel in live center.
3. Turn bad flange to .090 thick at outside diameter.
4. Turn tire to .340 smaller than flange. Maintain IBLS contour and .250 back to bottom of .095 radius. This operation may scrap wheel.
5. Round top of flange and chamfer outer edge of tire to  $30^\circ \times .062$  or  $.032$  radius to protect switch frogs.
6. Repeat steps 2-5 on good wheel except from .095 radius to  $7.430 \pm .01$  at top of radii of both wheels.

Wheel gauge drawing next month.



### Capitol City Air Show

With so much success at the Travis Air Show, we were invited to the Capitol City Air Show at Mather. It turned out to be a good fundraiser. Since it was a last minute decision to go, many thanks to those that help. We had Augie, Richard, Pete, Lee, Tom, Dale, Mark, Carson, Tim, Lois, Mary, Karle, Ed and myself. Thanks for coming together and making this work. We had a blast! - Andy Berchielli

**VICE PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS**

*By Bill Yoder*

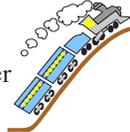
SVLSRM will be at the Colfax Railroad Days October 1st & 2nd with our portable track and the steamer. Setup will be on Friday September 30th. If we have not talked already and you would like to help any of those days please call me. (Bill at 916 652-7113) Thanks... Railroad Days should be a great event with the Western Pacific train, motor car rides, modular RR layouts, Railroad film Fest, and much more.



The Fall meet went well, and reports are that it was very enjoyable by all. Although Joe Y. still wants really cold weather.

I am behind on several club projects like signals & the planning committee so will get my steam up soon.

I am still looking for new articles for this news letter anyone got ideas? Thanks.. Keep it steaming!



**November elections:**

Would you like to serve SVLSRM and be a part of our decision making team? We’re looking for Board of Directors nominees for this November’s elections. Three of the seven Board positions are up for election this year: President, Secretary, and Trainmaster. Incumbents will make their decision to run again or not prior to the October meeting.



The Nominating Committee is looking for dedicated individuals who would like to contribute to our organization in a meaningful way. This is your opportunity to put into play your ideas and leadership skills for SVLSRM. Contact Pete Arney (916-956-2870) to offer your talents for our election.

Our next membership meeting is on Friday, October 21. The nominating committee will present the slate of candidates. Floor nominations will be taken at the October meeting as well. Floor nominees need not be present but the nominating person must be seconded and have the assurance in writing that the nominee will run. Nominations will be closed at the October meeting and no further nominations will be taken, including on November 18, the annual membership meeting and election.

Absentee ballots will be mailed shortly after the October meeting, to be received back by November 18 prior to the annual meeting and election.

**Track Superintendent Report**

*By Darrell Gomes*



Our Fall Meet and the weather made a Great weekend. The trains ran well; and the grounds looked good. Special THANKS to all that helped make the MEET a Success.

October will be busy running the trains for Halloween and major track maintenance will start in November. The Track Crew will start to build track panels to get ready for upgrades that is scheduled for February and March. Be sure to check our web site on the status of the track if you plan to operate trains during the winter months.

Elections for board positions are coming up in November, so please cast your vote. Any member that is interested to serve on the board, please contact a board member.

Tuesday is still our work day. See you at the Track!



**10 Years ago:** The new trees just west of the steaming bays are getting big. Two others near the passenger station have suffered from gophers. Gordon wrapped “antichewing” tape around the lower trunks as a remedy and it seems to be working. The trees look somewhat stressed but are attempting a comeback. We have some spare trees on hand in case these don’t make it. Tree limb trimming has continued so that people attending the Fall Meet won’t get hit in the face.

Don’t forget that there will be a Point to Point run on Friday the 19th at 4pm. As of right now there is space for 3 more trains to be involved. Also of note, the track will be open to anyone with a radio. This way you can be in contact with the dispatcher at all times and avoid any accidents.

**20 Years ago:** Rail to be delivered..... Oct 16th lots of help will be needed to handle the rail when it is delivered. be expecting a phone call from the board to see if you can help.

HOORAY .. to Pam Naylor (Hall - ed.) for moving mountains of iron and trash so the roundhouse is again workable and liveable. WOE be it to any that forget to keep it that way.

**30 Years ago:** Old-Time Railroad Movies at Big Top Pizza last month netted the club \$265. Not bad at all. Note: SVLS Fall Meet 17-18 Oct. has been cancelled by the board.

Roseville’s annual railfair. Exhibits will include a 20ft by 20ft space occupied by engines of SVLS members Ed Spall, Warren Wagner, Dick Quiring and Alan Shelley. The Cab Forward will be there too, but in another place.

## Wanted

Looking for the book THE CLIMAX LOCOMOTIVE, first edition second printing.

Kenneth Schroeder  
775-265-3632  
shaylocomotives@charter.net

## FOR SALE

Metal working lathe (Harbor freight brand) - \$300  
Call Ross Crawford (916) 718-4162



Wards (Logan) Power-Kraft Model 25TLC-2136  
Back Geared Screw Cutting Lathe with Quick-change Gear Box  
10" Swing - 1-1/2"-8 #3 MT Spindle Bore  
50" Bed Length - 31" Between Centers  
Spindle Bore 25/32  
Includes: 3-Jaw & 4-Jaw Chucks, Jacob's Chucks for Headstock & Tailstock, Collet Set, 6" Face Plate, 110 Volt Flat belt drive  
\$1000  
Contact: Mike Dreiling 916-729-2200 or 916-201-0888(cell)  
email [mdreiling@macnexus.org](mailto:mdreiling@macnexus.org)



1.5" scale, 7.5" gauge Clishay locomotive and riding car.  
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.

Asking \$6,500, RTR. Reasonable offers considered.  
Contact Bill Cody at (775) 674-6512 or [steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net) for additional information/pictures.  
<http://www.svlsrcm.org/sale.php>

## Safety Rules Review



108. The use of gondola cars will not be permitted for carrying the general public.

207. Except in an emergency, no train shall stop on any bridge, crossing, switch, or mainline track, except in a station where such mainline track is part of the station trackage.

304. ENGINEERS:

A. Qualifications: Any member of SVLSRM who demonstrates that they have the knowledge, judgment, and ability to operate a locomotive and passes the qualification test and possess a valid drivers license, will be qualified to act as engineer on the type of locomotive for which they have applied (steam, diesel, etc.) on trains carrying the general public. Members of SVLSRM who choose not to test and members of other live steam organizations may act as engineer on trains carrying SVLSRM members and guests only. No one under the age of 18 will act as engineer on any train pulling the general public. Persons between the ages of 13 and 17 may operate as engineer of the locomotive only with permission of the owner, or in the case of SVLSRM owned equipment, by permission of the Trainmaster. They will not carry passengers except a flagman. Children under the age of 12 may operate locomotives only while accompanied by an adult (the owner or another adult who is familiar with and qualified to operate said locomotive). The adult must sit directly behind the child and have full access to and can easily reach the controls in case of emergency. Children under 12 years of age may operate trains in the above-mentioned manner with passengers who are SVLSRM members or family members. Children under age 12 may operate non-steam locomotives such as small electric or gas powered engines with simple controls without an adult supervisor as long as they do not carry passengers except for a flagman. Engineers under 18, at the discretion of the Trainmaster or his designated alternate, may be restricted from operating during periods of heavy traffic such as during invitational meets, birthday party runs, and major holidays such as 4th of July.

B. Responsibilities: the engineer is responsible for the safe handling of the train and the cars at all times. He must be in close cooperation with all other operating personnel, observing all rules and signals (whistles, hand, flag or light) given by the conductor and stationmaster. He must run his engine in conformance with SVLSRM safety rules at all times. He must see that any SVLSRM equipment used by him is returned to its proper storage space at the end of his run, unless another engineer takes over the responsibility of such equipment and agrees to see that such equipment is properly stored after its use.

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.