

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsrcm.org

April 2012

Volume 39, Issue 04

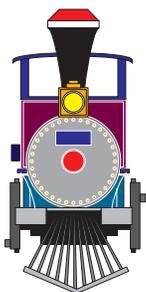


With a thumbs up, Master track layer Paul Skidmore takes some riders on the completed track, and a smooth ride it is!

April 7th & 8th: public runs Noon to 4PM. We need your help. Engineers, Conductors, and Stationmasters are needed.

The April members meeting will be on Saturday the 21st at the SVLSRM track. This will be a members run day So get your locomotives ready.

The trainmaster will be doing boiler testing which you need done each year.



The annual Pacific Regional Meet

May 18-20, also known as our Spring Meet, is fast approaching. Mark your Calendar!

Saturday Dinner (May 19th) we are having Tri tip and chicken breast for dinner. The price will be \$12.50 for adults and \$10 for children under 12, & 6 and under are free. Please RSVP by Wednesday May 16th, to Lois Clifton (916)722-8514 or loisjune1@gmail.com.



Pete Arney passed away on the 9th of March. Pete was a member more than 10 years and had given many hours of hard work to SVLSRM. There was no job he would not help with. He is missed by all of us.

There is a video of Pete enjoying trains on svlsrcm.org

SVLSRM Calendar

See Special run schedule in next column and please come help.

Apr. 7 - Public run day Noon to 4 PM
 Apr. 8 - Public run day Noon to 4 PM
 Apr. 10 - Board Meeting at 6:30, Community Board Room Rancho Cordova City Hall.
 Apr. 20 Members meeting moved to Saturday April 21.
 Apr. 21 - Members run day and waffle brunch potluck. - see details on page 3.
Apr. 28 Kids day in Hagan Park - trains run 11-3 pm

May 5 - Public run day Noon to 4 PM
 May 6 - Public run day Noon to 4 PM
 May 8 - Board Meeting at 6:30, Community Board Room Rancho Cordova City Hall.
 May 18, 19, 20 SVLSRM Pacific Regional MEET

Don't forget about work days, Contact a board 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?

Welcome New Members

Adam Kessler and son of Rancho Cordova

Glenn and Heather Miller of Sacramento

Welcome Back Past Member

Frank Presley of Elk Grove

Amy Lutrel Membership



Special run schedule



Please help by volunteering your time. Call Clio to help.

Date	Time	Event type	Num.	Engines
Apr. 14	10-Noon	Galimba Party	25	Diesel
Apr. 15	11-1PM	Nieveille Party	50	2 Trains
Apr. 28	Noon-2PM	Lucida Party	25	Diesel
Apr. 28	11 - 3	Kids Day at Hagan Park	?	all
May 12	2-4 PM	Roberts Party	25	Diesel



Please check the SVLS web site: 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 the 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. The deadline is 4 days after Membership meeting.

Board of Directors - 2012

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- _____ Committee Chairpersons _____
- Membership Chairperson: Amy Lutrel (916) 344-8989
E-mail: membership@svlstrm.org
- Safety Chairperson: Paul Skidmore (916) 444-6369

Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM

Train Masters Report

By Kevin Sach



Although we tried to have a boiler day last month, Mother Nature had other plans and tried catching up all the winter storms in one week. I understand why most were leery to bring their steam engines out in the rain, which is fine. We did have a couple of people who took the gamble that it would not rain and had successful hydros done on their boiler. I still would like try and have another boiler day to try and get hydros done, I am planning on holding it on April 21st. Pray for nice weather for this one.

Good news for steamers, water has returned to the Lower Yard to fill up your tenders. I have built a water column, although it still needs a few cosmetic tweaks as well as a couple of mechanical modifications, but it is operational.



Maintained tips for steamers, although often forgotten is the ports for the water glass going into the boiler. Hard water scale will build up in these areas slowly shutting off the water supply to the glass. A good idea is to take these off regularly and clean out and scale, this way you will know your glass is accurate. I would also like to thank all who have retaken their test and those that took it for the first time. If you have not yet taken them, please take the time and retake the test. Looking forward to seeing you on the rails.



Members run day. Boiler testing and riding the rails. Rain held off, and it was a day to play, too.

Presidents Report

By Bill Yoder

The man knew how to get close to his work. This was Pete working on the mainline in 2003. Pete was an integral part of SVLS. He worked on our yard, water systems, added steaming bay leads, and always help with track work. He served on the Board of Directors as VP & President. - *Thanks Pete.*



Our annual **Pacific Regional Meet** May 18-20, also known as our Spring Meet, is fast approaching. There are many tasks to get us ready for our guests. I am asking members to pick a task and join the fun. There will be many that can be done now and some that will need done early the week of the meet.

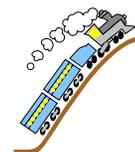
1. Clean up work areas around caboose, boxcar, & containers.
2. Grass mowing/weeding (this is an ongoing task).
3. Track inspection (broken tie replacement and ballasting)
4. Signals system - rail bonding, mounting of signal posts, wiring, and a couple of circuit boards wired.
5. Tables cleaned and moved under picnic / caboose area.
6. BBQ propane tanks check & filled as needed.
7. Watering - ongoing effort needed here but anyone can help.
8. Setup tables and shade canopies (week of meet).
9. Steamer propane tank filled.
10. Other tasks as needed.

I want to thank Kevin Sach for his hard work every weekend since the first of the year doing service on our gas engines, riding cars, the new lower yard water fill, and doing some welding to make our buildings more theft proof.

A big thanks needs to go those that have helped with the track replacement, hard work it was, and special thanks to those that traveled from afar, like from Merced, Modesto, Concord, & Volcano. Now those who live closer, your help is also needed.

About security, our tractor has not been found and odds are it will not be. We still have some work to do to provide more secure building. I need someone with welding skills to add some angle bars to the container doors and mount new lock brackets. There is also an alarm system to be installed along with cameras. If you can help on any of these tasks please call me. Thanks.

Lois reported that fun was had by all that showed up for the March membership run day, the potluck, and boiler check. The weather was nice. The members thought it was a good idea to continue our members run day in April also. So mark your calendar for Saturday April 21 for our members run day. The kitchen crew has offered to provide a waffle brunch potluck. They will do the waffles and the members will bring the sides dishes. Examples are bacon, sausage, and eggs and other items would be whip cream, fresh fruit, pastry, etc.



Safety Rules Review



114. All SVLSRM owned material and equipment is for use of members and guests at the SVLSRM facility ONLY, and shall not be removed from the facility without specific permission from the Board of Directors. This includes treated or distilled water, fuel, cars, locomotive, tools, material, etc.

213. Trains carrying the general public shall not exceed one hundred (100) feet in length over all, exclusive of locomotive and tender or other motive power.

303. All conductors and engineers must be able to demonstrate thorough knowledge of basic rules of safe operation to the satisfaction of the Trainmaster or his designated alternate and in addition all engineers shall be thoroughly briefed on the individual engines they are to operate.

408. Steam boilers shall have the water level gauge located with the bottom of the gauge high enough above the crown sheet level to show ample water covering the crown. The water glass shall be located so it is readily seen from the engineers operating position.

Old issues of *The Golden Spike* are needed. I am currently looking for the year 1992 months of January, September, October, November, and December. If you can share or donate it would be appreciated. Please notify the Editor. - Thanks.



I cannot forget to pay my dues. Supporting SVLSRM is needed. Please send your 2012 dues now. \$60 for regular member and \$30 for associate member. Send to:

SVLS
P.O. Box 273
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741



10 Years ago: We are back from Maricopa. M.L.S. had their Spring Meet on the same weekend as our last general meeting and it was well worth the trip. This is one track you should try and get to if you like running on a signal / dispatch system. Two of the three runs they have at this time are single line, bidirectional, point-to-point runs with automatic signals and passing lanes. Made for a very interesting time. The third line they have is a long (2 miles) run out into the desert and back. Great place to just let it roll and take in some sightseeing.

On a closer note, we have our Spring Meet coming up and still have some work to get done in preparation for that. I still would like to get the switch at Cordova Junction (off the main into the passenger station) re-tied and would like to get the rest of the cement ties in the ground continuing from where we left off - towards the girder bridge.
- Superintendent Dave Mattox

20 Years ago: A special thanks go to Henry and Rose Stefani for donating and mounting a mirror in one of the new restrooms.

Much progress has been made since my last report in February. We purchased rough cedar 2" x 12" x 8' fro bridge ties and Richard & Bobby Bristow ripped them into 2 x 2's in very short order. We bought enough to do two 40 foot bridges and they had them all cut in just a couple of hours. Milon and I went to Yuba City and picked up a load (1700 board feet) of rough redwood 2" x 10" remnants to be cut into 2" x 2" x 15" pieces for track ties and I am happy to report that several members have already cut most of this load into ties which have been bundled and stacked in the boxcar. The new bridge in the expansion area is nearing completion. Milon Thorley and Ed Spall deserve a great deal of credit for an excellent job on the steel work on the bridge. The bridge should be complete enough to run on by the end of the 2nd week of April.. The overhead truss work will be added later. Dick Esselback, Ken Willes and I spent most of the past weekend wire brushing and removing rust from the steel in preparation for painting. Al Shelly has recently completed two more switches which will be used to complete the first 800' loop in the expansion area. If you have panel track kits at home, we need them to be completed and returned as soon as possible as they will be used to complete the first loop in time for the Spring Meet. Both of our sidings are now operational bidirectionally for both 7 1/2 as well as 4 3/4 inch gauge equipment.

We have been victims of vandalism once again. Someone destroyed both of our outside security lights with rocks and it will cost us about \$50.00 to replace both of them.

Plans have been made to cut another door in the end of the boxcar which will allow us to get rid of the switch inside the car and will add two more storage tracks. Doug Youngberg has agreed to do the work.
- Doug Fulton, Superintendent

30 Years ago: The construction of the four club riding cars is moving along right on schedule. The bodies are complete and in the process of being painted and lettered and the trucks and couplers are now under construction. On March 20, massive doses of hard work were passed out and the following was adequately accomplished: Tables were stripped, earth was moved, the inner facility and the entire outer hill were mowed, weeds were whacked, the track was sprayed with weed killer, a rope barrier was constructed, and the switches were seeded. Many thanks for all the hard work and team effort displayed by: Keith Kirstein, Stan Hindsley, Joe and Al DeFreitas, Darrel McWhirk, Ken and Nadine Willes, Dick Esselbach, Don and Jeri Juergenson, Roger and Mathew Merkh, Warren Rose, Earl McKenzie, Amandus Drews, Jacob and Michael Rosen and the Gramith's. The new switch on the inbound side went into place on March 27, the second, very productive, work day for the month.

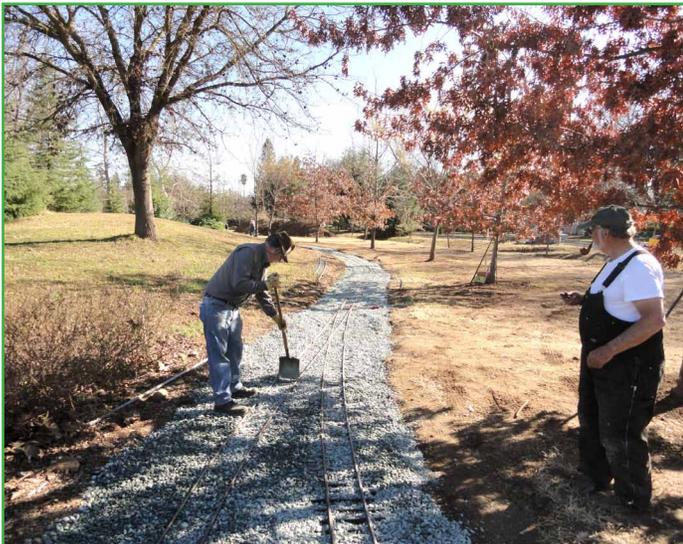
Track Superintendent Report

By Darrell Gomes



The 2012 track replacement project was completed last month. We replaced 440 feet of track and one switch on the south side of Hill View. Next part is to help Bill Yoder get the signals wired and operational for our spring meet. The track crew has started to build and store track panels for next years project We will be inspecting the track this summer to determine the next section that will be replaced in 2013.

The new Midway North yard is the next project we need to finish in time for the Spring Meet. We still have to finish spreading ballast, Leveling, and tamping. This new yard will be an excellent location for members and guests with electric locomotives to park and charge their equipment. Thanks again to all the members that came out to help.



Finishing the ballast is Les Gregory and Scott Foreman. Over 40 tons of gravel was used and it seemed like one rock at a time. Again a big thanks for the effort made members and friends.

YARD MASTERS REPORT

By Andy Berchielli



This last month we lost a great member and friend in Pete Arney. His involvement with Make-A-Wish for Tyler got me involved in the club.



I appreciate all the work he has done in the past to get us where we are today. One of the many projects he was involved in was our water main irrigation. Started over six years ago, the water main project would enable us to install water irrigation and help maintain the grounds with less man hours. I am proud to say that the first of many sprinkler stations have been installed last month with the help of Lee and a group from Intel. The area between Midway and Oasis will now be watered by automatic irrigation. I know Pete would be glad to see us move forward with this project. Thank you Lee, Wayne, and the Intel group for helping me get this part done!

Now that this area is done, the rest of the grounds still need to be watered by our hoses and sprinklers. I cannot do this by myself. In order to keep the grounds green, I ask the work groups and run day volunteers to turn on the water when they are working or running for the day. Grab the sprinkler assemblies by the metal pipes and not the Sprinkler head and put in a dry area. With everyone's help in this manner, the grounds will continue to look great! Toot! Toot!



SVLS the early years.



Got a project you would like to show off that is too big to bring to the meeting for show and tell? Then give the editor a call/ e-mail and we'll take pictures for a feature.

FOR SALE

FOR Sale, a complete set of Allen Models 2-8-0 castings, with out boiler, the asking price is \$2400.00, or best offer. Contact Robert Stroud at 541 526-5726.



Allen Consolidation Steam engine and Tender
Coal burner
\$15,000 includes about 500 pounds of coal (in 50lb. bags)
Call Wayne Thorley 530-295-5518



FOR SALE: 1 1/2-inch scale detailed gondola car with Winton's fully sprung Bettendorf trucks. Over 6-feet long and made from aluminum/steel castings and plate. Perfect for hauling a family around the track or at your home railroad. Car is perfect for mounting a propane tank for propane fired locomotives while seating 1-2 passengers. Gondola may be viewed at GGLS most Sundays-please call to schedule. Asking \$1100 - will consider reasonable offers. Michael B. Smith (415) 558-4536



FOR SALE - 7.5" gauge 4+4 Beam Engine built by Bill Conner in 2000. Propane fired 12" diameter vertical steel boiler with 306 3/8" diameter copper fire tubes. Engine is a 2x2.75" double acting twin driving eight 4.375" diameter wheels through a 20% overdrive. More than enough power to haul a train with 11 preschool children and 11 adults and enough speed to run away and hide. Four chime whistle, lights for night running, pneumatic brakes on engine and tender and a working sander. Carries 13 gallons of water and 12 gallons of propane. Reason for sale - Engine runs fine, I'm running out of steam.

Asking \$12,000/reasonable offers considered. Suggest pick-up from Reno, NV area or I can deliver, Western US only, for \$1.25/mile, one way, in advance, non refundable. Contact me at steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net or (775) 674-6512 for additional details.



Your editor is looking for pictures or movies of SVLS activities so we can make a copy and add to our Historical collection. If you have some please notify the editor.

Thanks - Bill



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



**DUES ARE DUE.
PLEASE STAY
ONBOARD.**