

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlstrm.org

January 2013

Volume 40, Issue 1



Shown receiving Life Memberships at the December meeting are **Barbara Moser** and **Marilyn Drewes**. **Gordon Moser** was also awarded Life Membership. The Board of Directors honors those who have given years of support, and continue to support our club.

The editor received the following thanks to the board:

*"On behalf of Barbara and myself; we want to thank the Board for giving us Life Membership in the S.V.L.S.R.M. We have been involved with the club for about 25 years now. We hope to spend many more years helping S.V.L.S.R.M. keep making the goals set by present and past members."*

Thank you, "

Gordon & Barbara Moser

*"I feel really honoured by this presentation of Life Membership by the Board. I have been a member since 1981 and this award is really appreciated by me. Thanks to all."*

Marilyn Drewes.



The annual gift exchange after our Dinner had a variety of gifts.



**Butch Floyd** had the number one ticket and grabbed the biggest bag.



After several rounds of gift stealing it all came down to **Ross Crawford** to pick the last gift, and he went for the big black box on the table. Much to his surprise it was the famous Christmas-music-playing door chime. This gift is now on its 4th Re-gifting.



## DUES WERE DUE JAN. 1, 2013

If you have not paid then please do. You should have receive a renewal form to verify and return with your dues.

Check the mailing label for year you are paid through. Your support is needed to continue track and facility improvements, making your club a great place to run your trains and enjoy this hobby.

## SVLSRM Calendar

Jan. 8 Board Meeting at 6:30 Community Board Room  
Rancho Cordova City Hall.

Jan. 18 Membership Meeting Hagan Park room #1 7:30

Feb. 12 Board Meeting at 6:30 Community Board Room  
Rancho Cordova City Hall.

Feb. 15 Membership Meeting Hagan Park room #1 7:30

Mar. 2 Public run day Noon to 4 PM, members needed

Mar. 3 Public run day Noon to 4 PM, members needed

Dates to mark on your calendar:

**Spring Meet: May 17, 18, 19 2013 - 40th Anniversary**

**Fall Meet: Oct. 18, 19, 20 2013**

**Don't forget about work days,** Contact a board member for information on needs.

*How will you support SVLSRM this month?*

In January and February we will be having special work days on the weekend to replace the trestle and some mainline track.

Call Darrell G. or Bill Y. to tell us what times you will work.



Please check the SVLS web site:  
[www.svlslrm.org](http://www.svlslrm.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@svlslrm.org](mailto:editor@svlslrm.org). The news letter deadline is 24th of each month.

## MEMBERSHIP

by Clio Geyer

### *Welcome New Members*

**Fredrick and Ethel Smith from Rosamond, CA**

#### *It's Membership Renewal Time!*

The forms for renewing your membership have gone out in the mail or given to you at Fall Meet, so please check the information for accuracy or needed changes and return, along with your dues payment, as soon as possible. Only those members who have renewed by the end of February will be included in next year's directory, so please be prompt!

If you need the form it is available on-line in "Documents".

Send to: SVLSRM P.O. Box 273  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741

Save SVLSRM some money and read the newsletters on-line.

Tell us that you don't need the mailed copy, we will notify you by E-mail so you can read it on-line.



### Board of Directors - 2013

President: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113

E-mail: [president@svlslrm.org](mailto:president@svlslrm.org)

Vice President: - Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884

E-mail: [vicepresident@svlslrm.org](mailto:vicepresident@svlslrm.org)

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: Ben Kleinwachter (916) 812-1197

E-mail: [Bigbenrk@aol.com](mailto:Bigbenrk@aol.com)

Trainmaster: Kevin Sach (916) 541-5718

E-mail: [chicopacific9@yahoo.com](mailto:chicopacific9@yahoo.com)

Director: Dale Fowlar (916) 962-0718

E-mail: [sopacengr@att.net](mailto:sopacengr@att.net)

Director: Richard Lutrel (925) 876-0375

E-mail: [rjl1974@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rjl1974@sbcglobal.net)

\_\_\_\_\_ Committee Chairpersons \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Chairperson: Clio Geyer (916) 645-9154

E-mail: [membership@svlslrm.org](mailto:membership@svlslrm.org)

Safety Chairperson: Paul Skidmore (916) 444-6369

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

## Presidents Report

By Bill Yoder

The 10th annual Santa Run had a big turnout with over 1000 riders and a steady stream of those wanting their photo with Santa. Thanks to **Wayne Harmer** for being Santa and his special Elves (wife and sister) and **Kevin Sach** for taking the photos of kids with Santa both days. We had good work crews on both days. Thanks to those that made the effort to support this fund raiser. Saturday and Sunday crews photos below.



The SVLSRM annual Christmas meeting/potluck had 30 members on the cold and wet Friday evening. We had a great spread of food and an active white elephant gift exchange, with a few gifts being re-gifted again - which made it fun for all.

To show my appreciation for the hard working Board of Directors members who served for 2012, I gave each a plaque.



Not shown in photo is **Lois Clifton** who also is a Board member. Appreciation plaques were also given to two of our members for

their outstanding support during 2012. **Betty Arney** was honored for her support and generous donations to SVLSRM. She donated over \$7000 worth of Halloween props and electronics giving our Halloween Ghost train riders more excitement.

**Paul Skidmore** was honored for being an outstanding volunteer at SVLSRM with his dedication to our track projects. Paul has kept building track panels and switches on workdays and building fogs, points, and other items at home when not at the track. My THANKS to our Board members, and to Betty and Paul for your support to SVLSRM in 2012.



When **Keith Berry** was President of SVLS, he wrote a great article on the subject of New Year Resolutions. Here is a very brief summary of what caught my eye.

“*Play more with your trains in the coming year,*” he said. “Everyone as a kid knew playing with trains meant laying some track and seeing how fast each engine would run. Everybody wanted more track, more accessories, and more trains. Before it was over, the furniture, bookshelves, and even indoor plants became part of the layout. Everyone went home happy, playing with trains was a very acceptable way to have fun.”

“Playing with trains is a good step toward a Happier New Year. You’ll like it, you’ll be a nicer person for doing it, and most of all you’ll have fun. So pack up your trains, come out to the track and play awhile.”

Well, we had a good start this year on our New Years Day run, a good turnout with many trains running. I encourage members to come out each month (March - September) on the 3rd Saturday and run your train as this is our members run day. You can use the track anytime but it is much more fun to have other members to “play trains” with.

We have several projects to get done this year, not only normal maintenance but some major repair and a list of items to get ready for a big 40th spring meet. First is to rebuild the Trestle by Thorley’s berm and replace mainline track east to the Reverso switch. This will require some tractor work, and a lot of hand work, so we need a team of workers over several weekends to do this. Now it’s your turn to put some of your time into the track that you so much like to ride on.

Other projects are: Propane fill station, Caboose deck rebuild, building painting, new Oasis siding and some air line repairs in the steaming bay. It is time to either volunteer or be volunteered.

*Continued on page 4.*

Presidents column continued from page 3.



**10 Years ago:** The annual SVLS Christmas dinner meeting was an enjoyable time with 30 members and guests in attendance. Marilyn Drewes, Lois Clifton, and Barbara Moser planned out and prepared the main course consisting of turkey and ham. Milon Thorley brought his special Chinese chicken salad and special dessert of Baklava provided by Marilyn Drewes and colorful cookies by Terry Willis. Many others brought delicious dishes as well.

2013 will also be a fun year as we celebrate our **40th** anniversary of our golden spike, done in May of 1973 as shown in this photo. We really have a lot to be thankful for as having a great railroad in a great location. The board is looking for ideas on how to celebrate our 40th so please suggest and step forward to help with the events.

For show and tell, Milon Thorley exhibited the first SVLS "Donation Caboose," which was made of wood and about the size of a G scale car. Don Jergenson showed photos of a shop and engine that were being offered for sale, and Curtis Bonville showed his jib for track joint bar drilling.

I welcome our new board members **Ben Kleinwachter, Dale Fowler, and Richard Lutrel.**

I look forward to another productive year of making this a fun place to "Play Trains"



*Keep it steaming!*

A live fiddle duet medley of Christmas tunes by Doug Fulton and Stathy Pappas rounded out the evening. There was lots of time to visit and it all made for just a real good time!

**20 Years ago:** The new engine has arrived, thanks to Milon Thorley. It was a three day ordeal to bring the engine down from Oregon due to snow. Milon had to return via Eureka (spending New Year's Eve there) as Highway 5 was closed. The engine is now at Chris Morgan's for painting and some modifications. It runs great and hopefully should be in the Park in February.

=====  
**Train Masters Report**

*By Kevin Sach*



Well the New Year is here. I hope everyone has enjoyed the holidays. I want to thank **Gil Beard** for bring down his Nickel Plate Berkshire to help with on the Saturday of the Santa Run. Also, thanks to **Ed Zeis** for fixing a plumbing leak on the club steamer while I was busy taking pictures.

It was agreed that training will be required to run the new Club engine. Milon Thorley and Chris Morgan will be providing the training - times to be arranged.

**NOTE: The editor is missing 1993 news letters for the months of March, April, May, and June. If you have any of these please let me make a copy. Thanks.**

I am still looking for people to help with welding of new riding cars, please contact me if you are interested. After the New Year, I will start working on getting the propane tank installed. I will also be working on the steamer with some yearly maintenance and other improvements.

**30 Years ago:** As we venture into the new year, we should look ahead and establish some direction for our club. At the January Board Meeting, we established several goals for 1983. Our main goals will be the completion of the Bathroom Project in time for the Spring Meet and the Land acquisition. I am happy to report that the Park Board and Paul Hagan have joined forces with us to persuade the various Sacramento County Agencies involved, that our proposed expansion would be in the best interest of the area residents and a definite asset to both the Rancho Cordova and Sacramento County Park systems.

See you on the rails.

=====  
**Track Superintendent Report**

*By Darrell Gomes*



Its a New Year and we will be starting a new project. The track will be **CLOSED** starting January 2 thru March 1. Trestle repair will start on January 12th and continue each Saturday till project is completed **WEATHER PERMITTING. I need HELP!** Track

replacement will require members are willing to commit a few weekends to make it happen. Contact Me so I can put together crews for these projects.

Shirley Durham asked the board just how long it should take to complete the Bathroom Project, once it is started. It seems that she wants to know when to expect her husband home again. For those of you who may not know, Jimmy definitely takes the Superintendent's job very seriously. He arrived at the track on New Year's Day at 7:00 a.m. to make sure that everything was O.K.!



Our New Years Day Members run had a great show of members and trains. There were over 60 people and at least 15 trains running the rails on the clear crisp day. There was a great spread of food for lunch thanks to all that brought food to share at the pot luck.

The next members run day will be the 16th of March (weather permitting) so join us again.



**George & Sandy Garrigan** were out enjoying New Years Day run, and if you have not seen their engine, it is just spectacular. With great detail like the engine console in the cab and working windows. Sorry my photos (see below) do not do it justice.



**FOR SALE**



4-8-0 Lehigh Valley Champion which ran many hours there at the park. Selling the whole train, the support cart it sits on, a passenger car and caboose along with some track. Train is coal fired but has sat covered for many years. Plus some various train items. Asking \$25,000 for everything.

Austin Knoff - 916-485-4070.



Freelance 7.5" Gauge 0-4-0, 7.5" Gauge, 1.5" Scale, Oil Fired, 2" Winton Cylinders

This locomotive was built by Mr. Terry Taylor in 1972. It features an axel pump and a hand pump. There is also the necessary plumbing for an injector. The locomotive is fired up on a regular basis at the Golden Gate Live Steamers. It holds 3 gallons of fuel oil and about 10 gallons of water if I recall correctly. It was weighed in at just about 350 lbs. It has hauled the club public train with a total of 22 passengers on board.

The locomotive is very complete with detail. I have had this locomotive for 2 1/2 years and it has been an interesting journey through the ups and downs of locomotive ownership. It's all part of the fun. I am selling my locomotive because I'm ready for a bit of change and I would like someone else to enjoy my locomotive as much as I did!

\$12,000 OBO  
David Waterman steamfreak22@gmail.com



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

**Safety Rules Review**



111. Passengers shall not take food, drinks, or other refreshments other than water aboard any train, nor may any person, passenger, or crew member, smoke while on board.

226. Any train consist with more than seven (7) cars available for passengers shall have at least one half of the cars equipped with operable brakes, such brakes to be operated by the engineer from the locomotive.

310. The Board of Directors may restrict or suspend from duty any operating personnel who consistently violates safety rules.

417. All equipment shall be built to clear all trackside clearances as shown in these rules and standards. Any equipment on which the engineer, conductor, or passengers ride with their feet outside the equipment shall have foot boards or bars to hold the feet of all riders in a position to clear all track side objects such as: switch stands, signals, mileposts, etc.



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

