

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsrcm.org

February 2013

Volume 40, Issue 2

## Track Superintendent Report

By Darrell Gomes



This year's projects have been started with the removal of 180 feet of track starting at the south end switch at Reverso to West of the curved trestle. **Paul Skidmore** and **Jack Friedman** have pulled up the rails and started stripping the damaged wood from the trestle.

Paul has machined the frog and is assembling the switch. I am waiting for the trench to be dug so we can start on the roadbed. I will need help the rest of the month.



Saturdays are work days all this month.



Thanks to **Justin Schade** and his volunteer crew from Intel along with **Andy Berchielli**, they have removed the old Caboose deck and overhead. We are now in permit process with the city with the plans for the new deck and overhang which will provide better access to serve food to our members and provide better weather protection as the overhang will cover the deck also. Most of the costs have are being covered by a grant from Intel, thanks to Justin.



## TEAMWORK

This railroad requires teamwork to make it a great place to run trains. While we have a good team that works hard, we don't have enough people on the team. While everyone enjoys running their trains on the club rails, we need all members to work on the rails and other projects that need to be done. Please make time in your schedule to help. You will be glad you do.



View from Trestle to Reverso switch. As you see there is no main line so your help is needed to put in new steel rail panels



### DUES WERE DUE JAN. 1, 2013

If you have not paid then please do. You should have received 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

Feb. 2 Work day, please support your club 9:15 AM  
 Feb. 9 Work day, please support your club 9:15 AM  
 Feb. 12 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room  
 Rancho Cordova City Hall.  
 Feb. 15 Membership Meeting Hagan Park room #1 7:30 PM  
 Feb. 16 Work day, please support your club 9:15 AM  
 Feb. 23 Work day, please support your club 9:15 AM

Mar. 2 Public run day Noon to 4 PM, members needed  
 Mar. 3 Public run day Noon to 4 PM, members needed  
 Mar. 12 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room  
 Rancho Cordova City Hall.  
 Mar. 16 Members run day, bring your train and play.  
 Potluck Lunch at Noon.

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.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.

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## MEMBERSHIP

by Clio Geyer

### Welcome Back

Benjamin & Theresa Shell - from Citrus Heights



All membership renewal forms were mailed out during November and December. Did you get yours???

Sometimes you set mail aside to be taken care of at a later date and then it "sort of" gets lost. If not please give me a call at 916-645-9154 and I'll see that you get a new one. Or, you can go on line and fill one out and mail in.

If you have not renewed your membership by March, you won't be in the new roster and all newsletter mailings will stop. We would sure miss having you in the "Club" for the next year. We are looking forward to celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> year this May. It would be nice to have as many members there the help us celebrate. Hopefully YOU!!!

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  
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 E-mail: [vicepresident@svlstrm.org](mailto:vicepresident@svlstrm.org)  
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\_\_\_\_\_ Committee Chairpersons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership Chairperson: Clio Geyer (916) 645-9154  
 E-mail: [membership@svlstrm.org](mailto:membership@svlstrm.org)  
 Safety Chairperson: Paul Skidmore (916) 444-6369

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



**Train Masters Report**

*By Kevin Sach*

Well, I am currently working on the club steamer, busy washing out the boiler and replacing a few worn bushings and getting her ready for the upcoming running season. I am also giving the diesels some annual maintenance.

This year we will be putting the Engineer and Conductor test online (Document section), so if you have not taken them yet you may download them and take them at home and bring them with you on run days. Speaking of run days, it would be nice to see some new faces out there to help out with them. Those of you that live close enough, all I ask is a couple of days throughout the run season, remember the club is run by volunteers and we are all volunteers and help is needed in all areas.

The propane tank project is coming along; currently we are waiting for inspection before we can pour the pad, then shortly after we pour the pad we should be ready to have the tank placed on the pad.

See you on the rails.



**Presidents Report**

*By Bill Yoder*

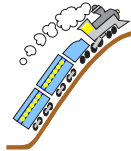
Well you only have a month left to get your engine ready for the first run of a new season and of course you need to help replace some track so you can run it. So make your time available.

Our 40th anniversary is this year and the board is looking for input on activity you want to do or not do at the meet in May. There are many small projects that need done at our facility to either fix broken stuff, air lines, locks, replace track ties, or add signals, or paint the caboose, or other buildings. Make your talents known. Each Saturday in February is a needed work day!

Thanks to **Paul Skimore, Jack Friedman, Barbara Moser, Andrew Sach,** and **Kevin Sach** for working at the track weekly.

Please attend our February 15th membership meeting as we will discuss current projects, the Meet plans and show a video of our early days of the club. Come visit with friends. If you have a show & tell item please bring it as we like seeing what other are doing.

*Keep it steaming!*



**10 Years ago:** Word from the shop - Ross Crawford and Karl Mahler continue to rebuild riding car trucks and are currently working on the GP40 trucks. Milon Thorley is installing a new transmission and engine in the GP40 (difference in the upgrade parts have turned this project into a re-engineering adventure) and is making good progress. The shell for the GP40 is in Chico with Kevin Sachs, our resident “Rembrandt,” who will provide fresh paint and lettering. John Bailie and your trainmaster (Don Juergenson) have nearly completed the other “prototype” riding car. This one is all metal based on Ken Schroeder design and John revised to simplify construction. It should be ready for “show and tell” at the March meeting.

**20 Years ago:** From the Cab: I have concluded that live steam hobbyists are a “half-bubble” off level. Certainly not in the pursuit of machinery requiring precision tolerance, precise alignment, and exact location. But more in the way we allow our passion for trains to alter our everyday lives. We are indicative of “Railroad Reality”, a unique sense of priority and value compared to the non-hobbyist.

The term “Half-bubble” is not unique to railroading, referring to a plumb/level in the construction field. I became acquainted with the term upon joining the students of track geometry, ably taught by the team of Doug Fulton and Amandus Drewes. Elevation track required a level bubble, quarter-bubble, half -bubble, or bubble something. A tiny bubble in a metal stick ruled my life. To the casual witness of such work, we all appeared to be more than a half -bubble off.

Within our hobby, I see a lot of people assuming the half-bubble position. We become accepting and uninvolved with values, assignments, and activities other would consider unique. What rational individual would pay dues to mow acres of lawn, rake millions of leaves, and trim a forest of trees? Who would contract to have a riverbed created out of level ground, then spend months building bridges over this great chasm? What type of people relocate a right-of-way with shovels and determination in the middle of winter? Where do you find people to spend a week creating a newsletter to expose our thoughts to the world? I accept my condition. I am at least a half-bubble into “Railroad Reality”. I have track panels in the front yard, a box car lives in my hallway. A new boiler resides under the porch, the trains are in the garage, and my vehicles out in the driveway. Nothing worn here, it all seems pretty level to me, I’m just half-off! I hope you are to! - Keith Berry, President

**30 Years ago:** The railroad tie retaining wall around Dick and Lori Esselbach’s home recently met its first challenge and won: Wall 1, Drunk Driver 0.



**FOR SALE**



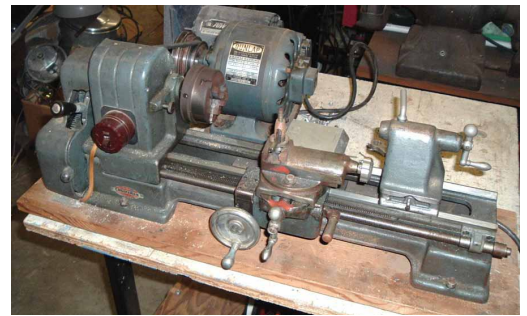
4-8-0 Lehigh Valley Champion which ran many hours there at the park. Selling the whole train, the support cart it sits on, a passenger car and caboose along with some track. Train is coal fired but has sat covered for many years. Plus some various train items. Asking \$25,000 for everything.

Austin Knoff - 916-485-4070.



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

6" x 10", overall length is 26". 3 jaw, 4 jaw and flat plate chucks. Threading drive gears and some other misc. tooling.



\$450 Contact: Mark Bruto (530) 621-1458



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

**WANTED.**

SVLS needs a bandsaw. If you have one that you would donate it would be very much appreciated.



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