

# The GOLDEN SPIKE

*Celebrating our 40th Anniversary*



www.svlstrm.org

September 2013

Volume 40, Issue 9

*Thank you*

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP  
BY CLIO GEYER

I would like to thank the following for all their help with parties this last year. Our season is March thru September for parties, and it has been a busy year.

The following people have volunteered to help with parties and the occasional school run:

Dennis Gramith, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Wayne Harmer and sister Sheriee but most of all Ed Zeis for spending so much time giving rides on weekends when he could have been doing something else. I don't know what I would have done without these people and their help.

I would like to ask others that might be willing to spend a couple of hours on an occasional weekend to sign up to help with parties. The schedule is posted on the website for all to see. If you can give a day or two a month, or every two months to helping with parties, it would be greatly appreciated. I have had a new member step up to take over for me next season: Heidi Bowie. I am sure we will be seeing more of her in the months to come, so come on out and meet her and welcome her to the organization.

I have enjoyed the years spent organizing these parties, but due to some health problems just can no longer continue. I will still be around so don't think I am going away.



## Presidents Report

*By Bill Yoder*

As you see in above photo, the new station cover has been installed and was well received by our passengers for our August run days. We thank Bob Silva for his donation and ideas for this cover. We still need some finish work like moving the chain link fence and putting up our logo on the end of the roof. The cover really made it cooler for us and visitors waiting to ride the train.

We also thank the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (Division 144) for their donation in memory of Pete Haggerty and as a thank you for their use of our facility. They hosted a BBQ for members and family of several unions working at Amtrak in Northern CA.

We recently hosted some training for guide dogs from Gold Rush Guides who wanted to have an opportunity to see how the pups would react to the distractions of new and different sights, sounds and smells. With the help of Clio Geyer and Kevin Sach, our trains gave them those examples. They also gave us a donation for our efforts.

Our Hot August Run night was HOT; we had several people out with their trains during the day and several members running our trains. As the day cooled off in the evening the annual Pot Luck dinner took place. After that with the cooler evening more running took place. Those that attended the day/evening were: Robert Harold & train, Ken & Terry Willes with train, Matt Mason and sons and

*Continued on page 3*



## SVLSRM Calendar

- Sept. 7 Public run day Noon to 4 PM, Train crews needed
- Sept. 8 Public run day Noon to 4 PM, Train crews needed
- Sept. 10 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room  
Rancho Cordova City Hall.
- Sept. 21 Special Work day. Please come out and help.
- Oct. 4 Setup Portable track at Colfax for special event.
- Oct. 5 & 6 Special running at Colfax Railroad Days.  
Running 9 AM to 4 PM.  
Help for a few hours then enjoy Railroad days.
- Oct. 8 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room  
Rancho Cordova City Hall.
- Oct. 18 - 20 Fall Meet - 3 fun days of running trains.
- Oct. 25 - 30 Halloween special runs. Starts at dark.  
We will need setup of props prior to the 25th.  
Please volunteer to setup and support the event.

*How will you support SVLSRM this month?*



If you have not watched the video about SVLS then please go to our web site

[http://www.svlsrcm.org/SVLSRM\\_story.php](http://www.svlsrcm.org/SVLSRM_story.php)



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 then read on-line.

**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.**



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

## 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 did.

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@svlsrcm.org](mailto:editor@svlsrcm.org). The news letter deadline is Monday after the 3rd Saturday in each month.

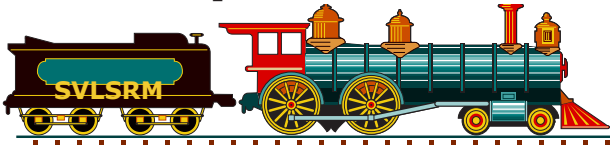
### Board of Directors - 2013

- President: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113  
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- Membership Chairperson: Clio Geyer (916) 645-9154  
E-mail: [membership@svlsrcm.org](mailto:membership@svlsrcm.org)
- Safety Chairperson: Paul Skidmore (916) 444-6369

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

*Special run schedule*



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

Date	Time	Event type	Num.	Engines
Sept. 22, 2013	10-Noon	Munz Party	25	Diesel
Sept. 28, 2013	2-4PM	Everett Party	25	Diesel
Sept. 29, 1013	11=1 PM	Babowal Party	25	Steam



**10 Years ago:** *By Pres: Dale F.* - I would like to thank everyone that attended the Hot August Nights night run and pot luck. Many members brought guests and several new members were on hand as well.



Milon Thorley presented the Club with a really nice yellow banner with the Club logo in red, which will fly along with "Old Glory" at official functions. You undoubtedly recall that prior to the 2003 Spring Meet, Milon donated and installed the flag pole which stands proudly adjacent to 'Ol Gus' grave. Once the presentation was completed, we all shared the rare experience of train rides in the Summer night air, the unmistakable sounds of steam, and the shimmer of the American river in the moonlight.



**Train Masters Report**

*By Kevin Sach*



Well, the RS-3 is back in service with minimal down time thanks to my son Andrew. Who within a couple of weeks was able tear down and put in a new piston with rings and assorted gaskets. The engine now has more power after the rebuild.

September marks the last moth of the year for our normal run days. I want to thank all those who have come out helped with them. We still have a few special runs for the year and help will be needed with them.

*Continued from page 1 - president.*

their triple header train, Ken & Doug Van Camp & Kens peddle car, Wayne Harmer and Sheriee Harmer & friend, Rob Sharratt and family, Kevin Sach with Andrew, & Tiphani with their steam engine, John Bailie and his custom built 0-4-0, Kenton Hastings, Ed Zeis, Dale & Lorra Fowlar, Mark Wentz & Carson, Dave Morgan, Dennis & Heidi Bowie (Dennis now qualified for Club steamer - pictured on pg. 1.), and if I did not get your name taken, I am sorry. All were having a good time.

**Remember Sept. 21 work day, fix and clean up for Fall meet.**

**Oct. Colfax RR days, Fall Meet, Halloween events. Help Needed.**

August run day pictures:  
John Bailie (right)  
Others on page 1:  
The Mason train,  
Terry Willes,  
Dennis Bowie.



**20 Years ago:** "From the CAB" The past month has been a busy month for S.V.L.S. Many members have extended themselves to either crew special event runs or open their own personal railroad to Club visitors.

A special thanks to ken Schroeder and family for hosting the Club at their home. Many positive comments and thank yous have been expressed by those members attending. Rumor has it that Ken is the hands down winner for the cleanest workshop area. Thanks again, Ken, for your hospitality.

**30 Years ago:** On Saturday, August 27 (1983) approximately 40 members of the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers accepted the gracious invitation of the Golden Gate Live Steamers to be their guests for a lunch, Pot Luck BBQ dinner and a day of Railroad fun and friendship! As word of the fun and friendship of these inter-club visits gets around, perhaps the attendance will increase. At any rate, all of us there, thoroughly enjoyed the day. Thank you, GGLS for a wonderful day!

**40 Years ago:** SVLS become a Railroad with 2000 feet of track. *Editor request: I am missing any news letters or notes from 1973; if you have info please share. Thanks Bill*



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

# FOR SALE



Railroad Supply American kit, with new copper boiler still in the crate. The model is mostly unfinished, only the chassis and front truck have been mostly completed. I believe that I have all of the drawings as well.  
Asking \$8000.

Doug Fulton email: [doug\\_fulton@sierrasbest.net](mailto:doug_fulton@sierrasbest.net)  
(530) 637-5653



6' gondola built from a Mountain Car kit with added details from Precision Steel Car painted for Great Northern and two seats \$1350 obo



6' custom built mech reefer with Mountain Car trucks hinged roof painted for Pacific Fruit Express \$2250 obo



6' all steel flatcar with oak wood deck and pipe load painted for SP \$1100 obo

1.6" scale, 7.5" ga Southern Pacific C-30 Caboose drawing package. Contents: 58 fabrication and assembly drawings (produced using autocad); 11 pages Assembly Procedures; 3 pages List of Materials, Suppliers, Detail items and Paint Specs.; 55 detail photos of prototype and 1.6" scale model caboose. The information contained in this package along with your skills will produce an excellent prototypically correct caboose. Price: \$105.00.



Keith Jackman Ph: (530)272-8531  
e-mail: [2jackmans@gmail.com](mailto:2jackmans@gmail.com)

1" scale, 4.75" gauge train consisting of : Maxitrack 0-4-0 side rod diesel (new transistor throttle, professionally rebuilt motor, battery) , 2- Scale RR Supply gondolas (50" long with SKF sprung, roller bearing trucks, 1 painted, 1 aluminum) , 1- Little Engines Box Car painted red w/ fixed doors, 1- Little Engines old style caboose (32" long w/ hand rails, SKF sprung, roller bearing trucks, red w/ brown roof), approximate 260' aluminum track w/ plastic ties. Asking \$2,750 at Sacramento.

Contact Gerald D. Thomas if you would like to see the equipment. [samoht-4@att.net](mailto:samoht-4@att.net). or phone: 916-849-9211



Email me at [roger@citadevelopment.com](mailto:roger@citadevelopment.com) or call 661-205-4296  
I can deliver within a 150 mile radius



An Andy Clarici original one of a kind. Hall Scott car with trailer car 7.5" gauge, roughly 2" scale. Includes 5' x 10' trailer with custom cover. Also includes spare engine. Asking \$10,000 (or best offer) for all. Contact: Lois Clifton 916-722-8514



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



## Truckee 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

by Dale Fowlar

Steam passenger service returned to Truckee on August 10<sup>th</sup> thanks to Sacramento Valley Live Steamers.

SVLS was represented by several of our members with our trains operating on the portable track at Truckee River Regional Park.

The journey began mid-week with loading of the trains on one trailer, track on another and equipment and supplies on a third.

The participants all met for breakfast on Friday morning at Denny's in Newcastle. The setting started out with a table for eight which soon grew to hold 12. Once we had eaten and finished answering questions in the parking lot about what we were doing with those little trains, we headed out in caravan for the summit.

Upon arrival at the Park we found Gil Beaird and Bob Bell laying out the placement lines for the track. You might remember that Gil "lines out" the track every year at Roseville Railfair as well. Gil helped us with placement of the track and once we were squared away, headed for home.

Bob Bell is a member of SVLS, resident of Truckee, and a member of the executive committee of the Truckee Donner Railroad Society. The Society has a very nice museum in an SP bay window caboose next to the Truckee Amtrak station. I highly recommend that you stop in there some time to see the exhibits. Our activities were to support the Truckee Society in their quest to construct a full-fledged railroad museum in the town.

Our run was the following day. All went off without a hitch. The Club steamer ran beautifully, the Club UP diesel did too. The lawn area was green but dry, thanks to Bob Bell arranging with the Park to shut the water off a couple of days in advance. We were located next to the main surface street from downtown Truckee to Tahoe. The sight of our train brought many into the park where they were also treated to a Truckee railroad history presentation by the Truckee Railroad Society. By the end of the day over 300 people had ridden our little trains.

All in all we had a very successful day with perfect weather in

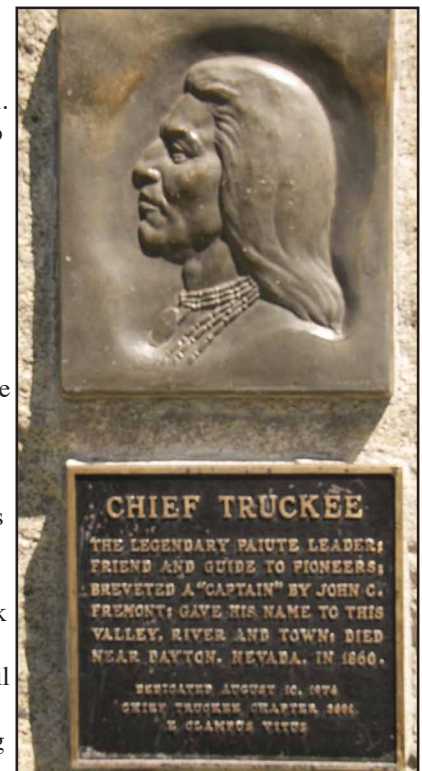


The Truckee Hill gave our engineers a good challenge.

a beautiful setting. Many of our group expressed an interest in doing this again. Maybe YOU would like to join in next time?

A special thank you goes out to Bill Yoder who loaded and hauled the trains to the site; Also Dennis and Chris Gramith for doing the same with the portable track. A couple of thank you's to Gordon and Barbara Moser who helped on the loading days in Rancho and came to Truckee even though they were leaving on an Amtrak vacation to Chicago the next day. Thank you to Gil Beaird for laying out the track, Ed Zeis for handling the steamer and TDRS VP Jerry Blackwell for providing lodging for three.

Finally, thank you to the troops that made the effort a success; Butch & Bill Floyd, Gary and Jan Wilson with Reed Hickman, Dale Fowlar and Lorra Fowlar, and Bob Bell.



### CHIEF TRUCKEE

THE LEGENDARY PAIUTE LEADER;  
FRIEND AND GUIDE TO PIONEERS;  
BREVETED A "CAPTAIN" BY JOHN C.  
FREMONT; GAVE HIS NAME TO THIS  
VALLEY, RIVER AND TOWN; DIED  
NEAR DAYTON, NEVADA, IN 1860.

DEDICATED AUGUST 10, 1974  
CHIEF TRUCKEE CHAPTER 1494  
S. CLARENCE WHITE



### We need your HELP!

**Colfax Railroad Days** – We will need help picking up the track and supplies and transporting to the Colfax on Oct. 4th and set up. 5th & 6th all day running then take down and returning equipment. Engineers, Conductors, Station Master and general help.

The Fall Meet and Halloween will be coming up in October. Below are some ways you can help for these events:

#### Fall Meet – Oct. 18-20

- 1) **We will need lots of baked goods for the bake sale. Help in the caboose, preparing food, working the register. Selling soda, water, soft goods.**
- 2) **Setting up, track work, and clean up.**

**Halloween – Oct.** We will need your help to set up, build scenes along the track, conductors, station master, engineers, other help in the station and out along the track. Help selling goodies at the station. Come and enjoy the fun, dress up in your favorite costume if you want.



## Colfax Railroad Days

9am - 4pm Sat/Sun October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013



### Some Featured Attractions:

- Union Pacific train equipment displays—plus, the newly rebuilt rotary snowplow if its finished in time!
- Modular Railroad Layout Displays
- Sacramento Valley Live Steamers' Rides
- Railroad memorabilia and hobby merchants
- Railroad Film Fest
- Railroad Art Show
- Antique Gas Engine and Tractor Show
- Railroad Memorabilia Raffle and Auction

The Placer Sierra Railroad Heritage Society (PSRHS) works diligently to bring appealing railroad themed attractions to Colfax Railroad Days as part of its Mission to promote the railroad history over the Donner Pass Route.

Colfax Railroad Days will offer a diverse set of railroad themed events and attractions that will appeal to young and old alike. Many of these attractions will be free or have a token attendance charge.

Bring your entire family to Colfax Railroad Days for a lot of fun that will leave fond memories for years to come.



For more information visit [www.psrhs.org](http://www.psrhs.org)



### Safety Rules Review

117. No pets of any kind shall be allowed to run free within the facility. All pets shall be confined on a leash not over six (6) feet in length, or inside the owners car, (as per park rules). The owner of such pets shall be responsible for immediately cleaning up any manure or other disagreeable mess caused by such pet. Any violation of this rule may result in both pet and owner being asked to leave the facility. Animals may not ride on public passenger trains.

202. All engines must be run at a safe speed and under complete control at all times. (Refer to Rule 229 for a definition of safe speed.)

305. Conductor:

A. Qualifications: any member of SVLSRM who demonstrates to the examining committee that he/she has the knowledge, judgment, and ability to supervise passengers and scale railroad equipment competently and safely, and who passes the qualification tests, will be qualified as a conductor. No one under the age of 18 will act as a conductor on any train pulling the general public.

B. Responsibilities: each conductor shall have a whistle (police type preferred) and a red flag or light in his possession at all times while acting as conductor. He shall assist in loading or unloading passengers on the train. He shall ascertain that all passengers on his train have been told and understand instructions for passengers before signaling to the engineer to proceed from the station. He shall enforce all passenger safety rules while the train is in motion. He shall align all switches (turnouts) for the mainline after use of such switches by his train. He shall enforce Rule #111 and shall prevent any passengers from throwing any trash, garbage or other refuse from the train along the right-of-way. He shall assist the engineer when necessary and shall call for help when necessary to enforce any rules.

411. Steam boilers burning solid fuel shall have an ash pan constructed and installed to prevent dropping burning ashes of fuel along the right-of way while the locomotive is in operation.



SVLS will be running the Halloween train in October and we will need lots of volunteers. We also would like to enhance the experience so bring some ideas.

Event starts the 25th of Oct.

