

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsrcm.org

May 2014

Volume 41, Issue 5

The *SVLS Pacific Region Spring Meet* is upon us May 16-18 and lots of work that has been done at the track so everyone can have good time running trains and seeing friends.

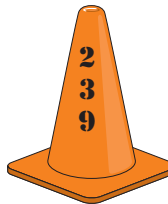
Bring your engine and enjoy three days of running. For additional fun we will have a raffle on Saturday afternoon. This time we are asking members to donate a raffle item and the club will furnish the grand raffle prize. (Yes, this is a needed fund raiser)

Food will be great, Lunch from the Caboose, drinks and snacks available. Friday night a great Spaghetti dinner & salad, bread and dessert, all for only \$6. per person or family of 4 at \$20.

Breakfast on Saturday: Waffles, Sausage, Eggs and assorted Fruits - \$6. Sunday: Continental style \$5.

Saturday big dinner of BBQ Beef or Chicken, with several side dishes is \$15. (1/2 price for children under 10). Reservations required by **May 9th**. Please RSVP to Clio (916) 645-9154 or E-mail: vern78@onemain.com

When parking your trains, please bring your **train cone** to reserve a siding during the meet. You will receive a handout of the track drawing, showing the lengths of the sidings. Please select a siding that will best fit your train's length.



Bringing your RV or Camping at the track? Then please call Clio (916) 645-9154 or E-mail: vern78@onemain.com.

This meet is a party for our guests, and the success of the party depends on everyone pitching in to help where you can. If you have any questions or suggestions (gratefully received) please E-mail: meet@svlsrcm.org

Tell your friends about the Meet: it is a great time to see many locomotives and the craftsmen that build them. Need an answer on how to build or run your engine? Then ask as the knowledge is here. Hope to see you at the Spring Meet.

There will be sign up sheets for volunteers to help with needs during the meet and we always need help at the end for cleanup and storing equipment. Help setting up is also needed, if you are here, please ask what you can do to help. - Thanks.



On Saturday, April 26th, the Sacramento Cordova Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints participated in their in Day of Community Service 2014. On this day, members of this faith throughout California and Hawaii, will join together with other faiths and civic agencies as they serve to

beautify communities.

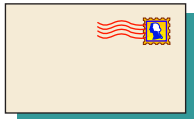
Well, they sure did that for SVLSRM! I want to express our gratitude for the multiple projects they did. Steaming bay painted, Caboose painted, new pathway at station, rock wall completed, a great mural on #3 container, general yard cleanup, added ballast, and new planter boxes with flowers. **WEW!!**



## SVLSRM Calendar

- May 3 Public Run Day. Rides Noon to 4 PM  
 May 4 Public Run Day. Rides Noon to 4 PM  
 May 9 meet RSVP deadline for Saturday dinner the 17th.  
 May 13 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room  
 Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
- May 16, 17 & 18 Spring meet - Please see details page 3.  
 Join us for three days of train running. Bring your friends.
- June 7 Public Run Day. Rides Noon to 4 PM  
 June 8 Public Run Day. Rides Noon to 4 PM  
 June 10 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room  
 Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
- June 21 Member work day / run day, Pot luck lunch  
 Please bring food to share
- Please volunteer to support the club events.

*How will you support SVLSRM this month?*



Postage is now 48 ¢ to mail our news letter. 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 you can read on-line. *Thanks*



Please check the SVLS web site:  
[www.svlsrcm.org](http://www.svlsrcm.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@svlsrcm.org](mailto:editor@svlsrcm.org).

*The news letter deadline is 24th of each month.  
 Member articles wanted.*

## MEMBERSHIP

by Dennis Bowie

Well this is disturbing, what has happened to the month of April. It was just yesterday that I was talking about Spring and here we are getting closer to summer. I was looking at the membership record and how many people that we have, and also looking at all the past members that have not signed back up. And though we sure could use these people and their knowledge to strengthen the club, I know that we are lucky to have a lot of great people in our club with a wealth of information and skills that we could all benefit from. I, for one, need all the help I can get... just ask my wife. With May at the door step, that means Spring Meet, which means trains! I look forward to everyone coming out and having fun.

The flagman is giving you the all clear and the conductor is calling High Ball! So if you know of someone that has not signed up or you're waiting for the right time, now is as good as any. Jump on board!

I would also like to welcome our new member Andrew Maret from Carmichael

Dennis Bowie  
 Membership

## Board of Directors - 2014

President: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113

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

Vice President: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884

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

Secretary: Heidi Bowie (916) 383-1461

E-mail: [hlbowie@comcast.net](mailto:hlbowie@comcast.net)

Treasurer\*: - open -

E-mail:

Track Superintendent: Darrell Gomes (209) 786-0623

E-mail: [dggomes@caltel.com](mailto:dggomes@caltel.com)

Yardmaster: Rob Sharratt (916) 631-8963

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

Trainmaster: Kevin Sach (916) 541-5718

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

Director: Dale Fowler (916) 962-0718

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

Director: Gordon Moser (916) 645-3425

E-mail: [npgp9308@netscape.net](mailto:npgp9308@netscape.net)

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Membership Chairperson: Dennis Bowie (916) 383-1461

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

Birthday & Company Event Chairperson: Andy Berchielli

Phone: (916) 572-7857 E-mail: [Events@svlsrcm.org](mailto:Events@svlsrcm.org)

Safety Chairperson: Marty Carapiet

Phone: (916) 792-8803

E-mail: [MCarapiet@wayne-dalton.com](mailto:MCarapiet@wayne-dalton.com)

Newsletter Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113

E-mail: [editor@svlsrcm.org](mailto:editor@svlsrcm.org)

**Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM**

## President's Report

By Bill Yoder

Last month things seemed gloomy trying to find insurance for us; well after 20 plus leads and over 300 E-mails, we now have our club insurance. There will be some changes in our operation both for safety reasons and risk reduction. We have insurance to run no more than three passenger trains: these can be pulled by club engine or we can substitute a member's engine. I thank the members that were helpful in researching insurance or providing leads to such.

What is changing is members member's engines are not covered by this insurance nor the hauling of passengers. Therefore we are requiring members and guest (like at our meets) to sign a release of liability for them and their guests. This will be done at registration at the meet. We have also changed our passenger train max speed to 5 mph. This is about 15 seconds between mileposts. This not only provides safer riding but a smoother ride and everyone can better enjoy the scenery. The older riding cars are being changed out to drop-center riding cars.

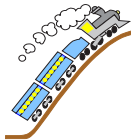
The down side of the new insurance is that it is costing us twice as much so we are in need of finding more sources of funding to keep the club operating. There are many feet of track that still need replacing and rail, ties, hardware, & gravel cost is (was) our main expense. So with your thinking (engineer) cap on, engineer us a safe way to acquire funds to support SVLSRM.

Each year in May we honor those members that have passed during this last year by adding their names to the club memorial. The names this year being added are: Don Juergenson, Robert "Red" Hadler, Bruce Eaton, Earl L. "Bud" Rogers, III, Michael Collins.

The knowledge loss each year from our members passing shows that we need to bring more younger members into the club and continue teaching about our rich heritage of steam engines and railroad that help build this country. We are a family organization dedicated to preserving the lore and history of American steam railroading with a scale fully functioning steam engine and a railroad for children and adults alike to ride on and enjoy. We are a hobby club for the whole family.

The club is here for all members to use so members should come out and run trains monthly not just at our Spring or Fall meets. So our member work and run days are the third Saturday each month through October. Please come out, give a couple of hours helping, bring something for pot luck lunch, then run your train **For Fun!** Come visit with friends. If you have a show & tell item please bring it: as we like seeing what others are doing.

I encourage all members to come to our Pacific Region Spring Meet. Come see the wonderful changes that have been made and run your trains.



*Keep it steaming!*



## Train Masters Report

By Kevin Sach

Well we will be back running starting this month. Just a reminder that if it has been two years since you took the test for Engineer or Conductor/ Stationmaster, you will need to retake the test. Also both Stationmaster and Conductor will have minor paperwork to fill out during the run day.

The new riding cars are coming along (see pictures below) I will have one out for the run day for more evaluation. I did have to put off working on them for a couple of weeks to prepare the Western Pacific caboose for a new paint job it has received prior to the Helping Hands event. We were hoping to apply the letter on the caboose the day of the event but the cold rainy weather the day before prevented us from apply the stencils and applying the paint. Also the Helping Hands group had about 30-40 people that came through and repainted all the steaming bays.

With the Spring Meet rapidly approaching just a reminder that steamers make sure that boilers have a current Hydro done on them. If you need one done, just send me and E-mail letting me know you need one done or find me during the meet.

See you on the rails.



*Day of community service results:*



Lettering is being done this week.

**Avoiding Bearing Failures - by Ross Crawford**

We all would like to have a way to easily identify a bearing that is going to fail without inverting every car once a month. Here's a solution: take a piece of steel 1 1/4 x 1/8 x 14". Push it across the rails, under the truck side frames, in front of the wheelset you want to check.

Rotate the steel bar with a crescent wrench until the wheelset is free to turn (make sure axle is level). Spin the wheelset and if it is noisy or does not make 4 revolutions, change out the truck or the axle and bearing.

You can check a whole string of cars in 15 minutes and done on a regular basis will eliminate all bearing failures on the road.



Prevent this from happening to your wheels.

Warn axle due to bad bearing.

**SLVSRM April Board Meeting Summary**

**Current/Future Projects Around the Facility**

- New riding cars - Still in progress!
- Tractor - Continuing to make small repairs and improvements!
- Service Project by LDS church (Apr 26<sup>th</sup>) - Lots of projects planned, including; painting of the steam bays, painting of the WP caboose, completion of the retaining wall, path from the Cordova Station to parking lot, painting of the tractor container, and beautification.

**Current Issues before the Board**

- Insurance - The club lost its insurance due to two accidents within a 2 year period. The board (especially Bill Yoder!) has been looking to find new coverage. Until then, no special events, public runs, or member run days. New safety, maintenance (track, engines and cars), and member procedures will be coming.
- Spring Meet (May 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>) - We need a lot of member help to put on this event. Please don't assume that the board has the time to do this also. Get involved and help out in any way you can!
- The following members will be added to the Memorial Wall; Don Juergenson, Michael Collins, Robert "Red" Hadler, Bruce Eaton. Earl L. "Bud" Rogers, III
- New Safety Chairperson - Marty Carapiet



**Track Superintendent Report**

*By Darrell Gomes*

The track crew has been busy spending time on tie replacement and track maintenance to be ready for our Spring Meet. Paul Skidmore and Les Gregory have been doing switch repair and Gordon Moser has been painting the switch throws. On Wednesday May 14, the track crew will be completing track maintenance. A Special Thanks to all for their time and Help.

Attendance Work Day Saturday 04/19/14

Dennis Bowie, Heidi Bowie, Maren Bowie, Ryan Bowie  
 Pat Watkins, Paul Skidmore, Clio Geyer  
 Robert Darby, Dave Bardwell, Darrell Gomes  
 Rob Sharratt, Tammy Sharratt, Cody Sharratt  
 Alexis Sharratt, Warren Sharratt  
 Dale Fowlar, Karle Mehler, Bill Yoder



**10 Years ago:**

Just in time for Spring Meet.

New car stops (to keep your cars



from rolling off end of track) on the two lead tracks from the steaming bay.

Thanks to Milon Thorley for building and installing the car stops.

**20 Years ago: SUPERSCOOP:** The expansion is now over the hill! The track should be in good shape for the Spring Meet. We have been replacing the worn out rail in the old track as well as working on the expansion area. I really appreciate all the help and support from the following in getting ready for the Spring Meet: Paul Moser, Amandus Drewes, Dale King, Jeff Calbreath, Wes Freestone, Cowboy Silva, Milon Thorley and Bob Lovell.

Last October, during the Fall Meet, a sprocket and chain fell off of our new RS-3 locomotive. Apparently it was found but never reinstalled. It is still missing and no one seems to know who picked it up or what was done with it. IF anyone can shed some light on where the missing sprocket and chain are located, please contact a Board member ASAP. Until it is found, the engine will be operating with power to 3 axles only.

**30 Years ago:** Your Editors will be especially happy to see one of our own Associate Members who will attend the Spring Meet en route from Texas to Germany via home for leave, Namely Sgt. Colleen Gramith!

Craig Craddock is making beautiful progress on the restoration of his Pacific. It now appears to be a multi-fueled locomotive. During the Golden Spike Run, he frequently switched from fuel oil in the tender to propane torch in the fire box door. How does the change over work, Craig?

The nine new riding cars purchased from Clyde Johnson, were delivered on Saturday morning and saw revenue service the same day.

**40 Years ago:** *Again the Editor is lacking info on what the club was doing in 1974.*



Meets of times past.



**SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH**

118. Visiting engineers, trainman, and their guests are to observe these rules and abide by them. Copies of these rules shall be made available to visiting engineers while they are operating on SVLSRM tracks. Visitors may purchase copies of these rules to keep.

204. All engines must be run at reduced speeds in congested areas and in areas with close clearance, such as yards, stations, etc.

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.

# FOR SALE



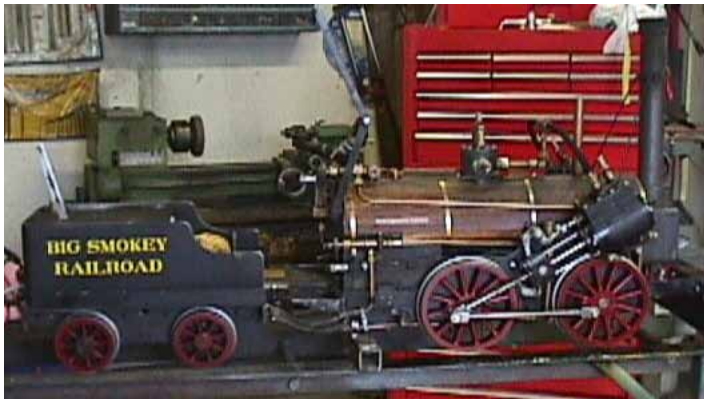
For Sale – 1/8<sup>th</sup> scale locomotive, Runs on 7 ½ or 7 ¼ gauge track, 4-4-0 American Kit, American Kit purchased from Railroad Supply Company, with Copper boiler still in the crate.

The model is mostly unfinished, only the chassis and front truck have been completed. All parts and drawings included. Below are the specifications of the completed locomotive.

~~\$8,000~~ **NOW! \$6800.** Does not include any shipping charges Save money and arrange to pickup in the Sacramento area.

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

Cow & Calf locomotives for sale \$5000. Hydraulic drive powered by an 8hp Kohler motor. Both units are powered and must be operated together. Built in the early 1980's by Warren Wagner, Al Shelley & Ed Youngling. Please contact Chris Donhost (707) 301-0739 or [donhost4449@hotmail.com](mailto:donhost4449@hotmail.com)



FOR SALE 7.5" gauge, 1.5" scale 0-4-0 INVICTA locomotive, tender and two riding cars. Steel propane fired boiler feeding 1.375" x 2.22" cylinders sleeved down to 1". Direction control is by a slip eccentric set-up. Six inch diameter drivers. Boiler make-up water supplied by an axle pump backed up by a hand pump in the tender. Manual brakes on the first riding car. The tender only holds about one gallon of water so I built a three gallon water tank in the first riding car along with a pump and battery so I can refill the tender on the fly. Complete - Ready to Run. I transport this train on its tie down board in my Prius automobile. Board is included.


Asking \$7,000 - Reasonable cash offers considered.  
Contact Bill Cody - Home (775) 674-6512 or Cell 775-233-1429 for additional information/pictures.



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 **\$7,500** (or best offer) for all.

Contact: Lois Clifton  
(916) 761-9171





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