

The GOLDEN SPIKE

SACRAMENTO VALLEY
LIVE STEAMERS
RAILROAD MUSEUM

www.svlsm.org

March 2016

Volume 43, Issue 3



President's Report

By Heidi Bowie

February has truly been the month for Spring Cleaning and wonderful changes around the facility! There have been work crews out every single Saturday this month and the results are nothing short of

miraculous. Not only has the weather has been in our favor, but we have been the recipients of some very generous "gifts". To support our goal of doing a major facility cleanup, Republic Services donated the use of not one, but two 30 ft. dump containers, including disposal of everything in the containers. And there was a lot of junk in those containers! So much so, that the original container was almost full on the first Saturday. I had no idea that three



adults, two 7 year old boys and one teenager could do so much "damage"! Republic Services was absolutely awesome! They replaced the full container with another empty one right before the second Saturday's follow up cleaning day. Much to my son's delight, members Tom Reese and his wife, Stacy, brought their gigantic backhoe (Ryan named it "Rex") for the express purpose of hauling out more junk! That dump container was filled to the brim when it got taken away. A visit out to the DMZ area will prove that big changes can happen when members come



together. And there are lots of other places around the facility that have been improved or are now junk-free. I wish this would happen around my house! To all of the members who spent a Saturday(s) working clean up with me... THANK YOU!



March 5th & 6th are first public run days for 2016. Engineers, Conductors and Station attendants will be needed so please come out and help. Not qualified? then come out get qualified or help with other activities.



President's Report continued

Take a walk out to Mile Post 20 and you will see that the end is in sight for the major track replacement project. Although January made life very difficult with rainy weekends, February was the exact opposite for Dennis Bowie and his track crews.



The Sun was shining while members shoveled, swept, raked, massaged, poked, and screwed the new track (made by Paul Skidmore!) into place. Former Prez., Bill Yoder, (with an obvious spring in his step and smile on his face) spent many hours out there, using his high-tech tools and toys to help with layout planning, elevation and ballast work. It has certainly been a group effort and the result is an impressive achievement that everyone involved should be proud of!

March is bringing a return of our public runs the first full weekend of each month, through October, and the scheduling of birthday parties! Members are needed to fill the roles of conductor, engineer, and station master. Because these are trains serving the public, crews need to be certified. It's not difficult to get certified and it is a great way to support SVLS because these events generate funds for the club. Peter Welch and Steve Perry are the people to talk to...they would love to add some additional members onto our train crews!

Spring has sprung early! The facility is looking better than ever and we are gearing up for a great 2016!

SVLSRM Calendar

- Mar. 5 Public run day - 11 AM - 4 PM
- Mar. 6 Public run day - 11 AM - 4 PM
- Mar. 8 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room
Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
- Mar. 19 Member work day and run day. Please help in the AM
then run your train in the afternoon. Pot Luck Lunch.

- Apr. 2 Public run day - 11 AM - 4 PM
- Apr. 3 Public run day - 11 AM - 4 PM
- Apr. 12 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room
Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
- Apr. 16 Member work day and run day. Please help in the AM
then run your train in the afternoon. Pot Luck Lunch.

Dates to reserve on your calendar:
 Pacific Regional Meet May 20, 21, & 22
 Fall meet Oct. 14, 15, & 16
 Annual Christmas Dinner Dec. 17

Please volunteer to support the club events.
How will you support SVLSRM this month?

A **members only area** has been set up on our web server where we will keep a current version of the roster, and other useful documents for our members. To gain access, each *member (now including Associates)* must be a current paid member to register and create a user name and password.

Please use the link on the web page in the top menu section called "Members only." This is a two step process to register as the system will send an E-mail to verify that it is you. You will then use the link sent to complete the process. Please note this is to register so you can then use your user ID/password to view the protected area via the link shown on the registration page.

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

MEMBERSHIP

by Dean Sheets

Please welcome

Marshal Post from Pinole CA .

As always if you see a new face walking around, go over, introduce yourself and offer any help you can to help them become an active member in our great club.

I will be mailing out to all remaining PAST DUE members. Remember that club dues were due JANUARY 1st.

This year any renewals received after March 8th will not be included in the Roster and you will not receive the monthly Newsletter. Once dues are received and your record updated the newsletter will be sent out again. Unfortunately you will not be included in the Roster since it will already be sent to the printer.

SPIKE editor requests ideas for articles.

I am also looking for members who would like to spotlight their projects - in progress or finished.

Please call or E-mail the editor. - Thanks.

Board of Directors - 2016

(##) *Ending year of term*

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Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM



Track Superintendent Report

By Dennis Bowie

Another installment of looking down the track...

Well here it is the end of February and the track replacement is almost complete. We have had some very nice work days this last month and had a lot of help from our members. I would like to thank everyone that has put in the time and manpower needed. The track is in place, we have ballasted the track and tamped but we still need to finish the job. We have some low spots and will need to work on the level. But this should be done by the end of February. We are only a week away from the first public run of the New Year so I want this to be finished and ready to roll.

Once this is completed we will be replacing the two switches by the SP caboose with steel track switches. This is the first part of the new SP sidings. We will be making the changes one at a time so that we won't impact run days and parties.

I want to give a big thank you to Paul Skidmore for all the help with track panels and the construction of switches.



Finishing the assembly of track so let the ballasting begin.

Soon this steel rail will be shiny from all the wheels that will be rolling along.

Again, thank you to everyone who helped out.

The finished track



Members Work Crew 1/30/16

Dennis, Heidi, Maren, Ryan Bowie, Gordon, Barbara Moser Bill Yoder, Phil Huntingdale, Butch, Bill Floyd Kevin, Andrew Sach, Peter Welch, Steve Perry Marty Carapiet, Rich Lutrel.

Members Work Crew 2/6/2016

Bill Floyd, Alison Berry, Paul Skidmore, Tom Reese Heidi, Dennis, Maren Bowie, Dylan Post, Steve Perry Gordon, Barbara Moser, Marty Carapiet Kevin, Andrew Sach, Richard, Amy, Sarah, Breanna Lutrel Dennis Gramith, Peter Welch, Chris, Eli, Paul Donhost Mike and son Eli Wolohan.

Members Work Day February 13th, 2016

Dennis, Heidi, Maren, Ryan Bowie, Tom and Stacy Reese Grace Smith, Clio Geyer, Gordon and Barbara Moser Rob Sharratt, Steve Milward, Scott and Tobin Rowe Paul Skidmore, Steve Perry, Bill Yoder, Dennis Gramith Alison Berry, Ross Crawford, Dylan and Marshall Post Mark Cundiff, Marty Carapiet.

Members Work Day February 13th, 2016

Dennis, Heidi, Maren, Ryan Bowie, Deanna Kellom Steve Milward, Alison Berry, Dave McClain, Paul Huntingdale, Gordon, Barbara Moser, Steve Perry Bill & Butch Floyd, Dylan Post, Mark Cundiff, Ross Crawford, Dennis Gramith, Frank Presley Kevin, Andrew Sach, Keith Berry, Paul Skidmore.



Safety Rule for the month:

4.13 Stopping

Except in an emergency or controlled signal, no train shall stop on any bridge, crossing, switch, or mainline track, except in a station where such mainline track is part of the station. Any train that is stopped or fouling on the mainline must call out a flagman to protect to the rear with a red flag or light that may be clearly seen by a following engineer for a distance of at least one hundred fifty (150) feet.

5.01.07 Passenger Train equipment

Each public passenger train shall be equipped with proper documentation materials i.e.; clip board, Conductor report, incident/accident forms, operable writing pen, whistle, two way radio, red flag, and current rules book.



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For Sale San Francisco Bridge Units 1 1/2" Scale RTR
I am proud to offer these for sale, since the owner builder says it's time they go to a new home.

They measure around 14' but break down easily for transport. Included are 2 all steel stands for home storage. They operate on (4) 12-volt batteries which I just replaced. Plus (2) 6-volt batteries which are still good. Also included are 3 battery chargers. The 12-volt chargers do 2 batteries at once. There are (6) 24- volt motors that power these units. It also comes with a mercer flat car with mercer trucks plus 2 boat seats.
Price is \$12,500
Bob Morris, at 925-240-9034 or cell 209-743-1300



10 Years ago: Sprinkler Installation

The Board has been working with Park staff concerning a tie in with their new well installation so our area can be fully sprinkled. Pete Arney and I met with Park leadership several weeks ago and as a result, the Park will install a 4" valve that we can attach to for this purpose. The work is on the schedule now and as you read this, we

hope the work has started on our portion of the installation which will involve underground pipe inside the fence, running north/south. With trees planted by the Sacramento Tree Foundation, we hope to provide adequate water to them without Vern Geyer and others having to drag heavy hoses all over the place. We already have an automatic control mechanism to use in controlling the system so things are progressing very well. Richard, Amy, and Sarah Lutrel put in new trees.



20 Years ago: The long requested RV electrical service will soon become a reality. What has become the battle of extension cords will phase into a easily accessed, protected source of reliable power. For those attending the Spring and Fall Meets, the only dilemma will be that the established locations will be on a first to arrive basis. The project team is being led by the ever dedicated and faithful Mr. Amadus Drewes, under the consultancy of Mrs. Drewes. Amadus has received broad authority to proceed. Chuck Miller, Park Maintenance Director, has reviewed the concept and has approved the installation. Initial expense will be covered by the generous project donation from Art and Gen Crisp of Chiloquin, OR. Thank you Crisps!

30 Years ago: CELEBRITIES OF THE MONTH (That is in addition to the 4449). Once again our very own Don Yungling made the TV News on channel 10. Don was seen being interviewed in connection with the "Daylight" 4449 as she arrived in town late at night. As you may remember it was just a few months ago Don and nephew, Scott were seen unloading his engine at Tehachapi on one of our local TV stations. If you ask him nicely, I'm sure Don will gladly give you his autograph!

40 Years ago: "PUFFS OF SMOKE" At the March meeting, Mary Knopp volunteered to look into the purchase of fencing for the steaming bays. She not only got prices, but 163 feet of good used fence (about half of the total needed) for \$50.00 and a lot of hard work. It had to be removed immediately so she and husband, Austin pulled the fence and posts with their jeep, rolled it, took it home where off spring, Linda and Brian, pulled bushels of ivy out of the mesh. Estimated cost of n fence was many times that, so three cheers or TOOT-TOOT-TOOT for Austin, Mary, Linda and Brian Knopp for their hard work and shrewd buying on behalf of SVLS.