

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsm.org

February 2017

Volume 44, Issue 2



SVLS January 2017 Work Days were January 7, 14, 21, Rain or Shine - if you were out on any of our January Workdays at SVLS you probably ran into some of the following people helping us this month.

Heidi, Dennis, Maren, Ryan Bowie, Dave McClain, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Alison Berry, Bill & Butch Floyd, Andy Berchielli, Kevin & Andrew Sach, Dennis Gramith, Davis McFarland & grandson, Steve Milward, Paul Skidmore, Matt & Rick Hall, Perry Gebhart - Potential new member, Tom Reese w/his tractor, Paul Moser, Chris, Paul, Eli Donhost, Rob Sharratt, Alex Wilde & son, Keith Berry.



Maren helps with another load of trash to the dump.



Track building crew.

TEAMWORK makes things get done and as you can see by these pictures a lot of things are getting done. There is much more to be done on this and other projects. **Everyone** benefits from these projects so **Everyone** needs to come out and contribute.

Not sure how you can help? Then just come out. Check our projects list at our web site. www.svlsm.org



Bill & Keith collecting leaves



The next section of the snow shed under construction.



The "Rockettes" tamping gravel down to fill the muddy hole



Tom busy moving dirt!



Old road bed - now cleared away.

SVLSRM Calendar

Feb. 4 & 5 Track Work
 Feb. 11 & 12 Track Work
 Feb. 13 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room
 Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
 Feb. 18 & 19 Track Work
 Feb. 25 & 26 Track Work

Mar. 4 Public run day - 11 AM - 3 PM
 Mar. 5 Public run day - 11 AM - 3 PM
 Mar. 13 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room
 Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.
 Mar. 18 Member work day and run day. Please help in the AM
 then run your train in the afternoon.

Dates to reserve on your 2017 calendar:
 Pacific Regional Meet May 19,20, & 21
 Fall meet Oct. 20, 21, & 22
 Annual Christmas Dinner Dec. 16th.

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.

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

MEMBERSHIP

by Barbara Rohrs

The deadline for renewing your membership for 2017 is approaching. Please renew by January 31, 2017.

Use the membership form on last page of this newsletter.



DUES DUE

Please complete your membership form noting changes. You can download forms at svlsrm.org. Send check or pay on-line at: www.svlsrm.org/membership.php Send forms/check to: SVLSRM P.O. Box 273 Rancho Cordova, CA 95741

THANKS



Please check the SVLSRM web site www.svlsrm.org for current information. If you have not looked for awhile then you will have missed news or for sale items that are not in the newsletter.

Board of Directors

(##) Ending year of term

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E-mail: membership@svlsrm.org

Safety Chairperson: --- OPEN ---

E-mail:

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E-mail: caboose@svlsrm.org

Birthday & Company Event Chairperson: Andy Berchielli

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Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM

President's Report

By Heidi Bowie



From the desk of Madame President... Busy! Busy! Busy! Winter break was wonderful and we all hit the ground running in January. Track was pulled up, rock was delivered, snow sheds popped up...lots of projects being worked on, completed, and planned for! I'm hoping you have been receiving the new sign up invitations about work day projects. These emails are the brain-child of Alex Wilde (Director #1). We want members to know when and what kind of help is needed out at the club. If you haven't received one, email Alex or myself and we'll make sure you get on "the list".

The weather has been making things challenging! January has been pretty soggy but will hopefully end on a dry note. Hoping that the rain steer clear for most of February, so that work on the projects will continue. Please come out and see what's being worked on and what still needs to be done.

March is going to be coming right around the corner and that starts up our Public Run Days. We need a lot of volunteer train crews for these weekends March-October. Look for the same style of e-mail invitations prior to public runs. If you're not qualified for train crew yet (i.e. conductor, diesel engineer, steam engineer, station master), it's not too difficult...a couple of hours playing with trains and you're ready to volunteer! If train crew isn't your thing, there are other jobs that need attention on public run days. SVLS is built on volunteer help!

I could probably use help with trying to find my desk.



Library Update: Actually there is no update, yet. It has been too cold and wet to work on the boxes of books in Container #2. We will need to replace a number of the boxes currently holding the books and magazines as the boxes are falling apart. The plan is still to move out a few of the boxes at a time to log, repack, and place back in Container #2. The new door is installed -thank you, Dave McClain, for building the new door. We are looking at options for heating/cooling the caboose. Also on the to-do list is electrical and ensuring the caboose is weather tight. - Alison B.

Track Superintendent Report

By Dennis Bowie



Another installment of looking down the track...

Well here we are, almost the end of January and work on the new road bed is under way.

With the help of Andy, Steve Milward, Gordon, Dennis G. and others that I can't recall, the old track was removed. It's a big job and I thank all who put in the time. I would like to thank Tom Reese for volunteering his time and equipment. Tom was able to remove the old road bed in one day so that we could begin the process of putting in the new road bed. We were out last Saturday Jan. 21. But the ground was still too saturated from the rains that we received the week before. We did have 2 truck and transfer of 3/4" rock delivered; this will go down on top of the ground cloth to work as a road base. This will be about 4 to 6" deep, then the vibratory plate will be run over it to lock it in. Then we will put down the road bed that the track will ride on; this will be the 1/2" rock. Then the vibratory plate will be used to lock this in. We are hoping for a dry week and a dry weekend Jan 28-29. I want to get the rock in and have the road bed formed. There is 3/4" Conduit in place from MP 2.5 to the switch at Reverse-O; this is for a future signals.

So come out and be part of the fun, it's only 230 feet of track and you know you don't want to miss out.

Tom hard at work!



New Door



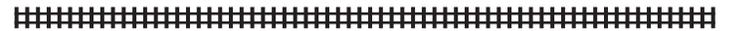
Dave installing



Members who came out for the New Years Day run were welcomed with a new feature on the railroad near Memorial grove. They were introduced to the first 5 feet of snow sheds. The snow sheds will one day be at least 60 feet long. The design of the snow sheds was designed after the old wooden snow sheds that were built on the SP lines going over Donner summit.

To begin the project a trench was dug next to the main line and pvc conduit was placed into it to allow for signals at a later date. After that four holes were dug and cement was poured into them along with post bases added to the cement to hold 4 x4 post. The post bases were attached to a fixture jig to make sure that the bases were kept square to each other as well as kept at the proper distance from the rails. After the cement has dried the main frame post were bolted into the bases and the cross beams were placed on top of the posts and secured. From there the side supports were added included cement bases for them. Also added were the support along top. From there the siding were placed across the top and sides.

Thank you to Matt Hall for milling the lumber for the sidings from a cedar tree on his property. The expansion of the snow shed will continue as funds become available or donated. We have had a couple of members who have stepped up to allow another 10 feet to be added to the current 5 feet and construction of those sections is already under way. ~ Kevin Sach



December Board Summary by Chris Donhost, Secretary

- Closed session held – no action taken
- Budget committee formed & will meet prior to January BOD meeting
- Mandatory Secretary Of State filings completed for California Corporations
- Panels ready for replacement project
- Lots of mud in driveway – discussed rocking it
- Dave McClain has the SP caboos door for repairs
- Survey people to meet with SVLS next week to review survey results
- Committee formed to review the operating rules document

January Board Summary by Chris Donhost, Secretary

- It was discussed that there might need to be some restrictions placed on wide cars- either a maximum width, or certain areas restricted from wide cars. Rules committee to discuss.
- Tom Reese will again bring his Bobcat to move away the old roadbed, and help with grading the right of way.
- The descending trestle was found to have some rotted wood that will be replaced this weekend
- Alex Wilde presented a software program to aid in volunteer sign-ups
- Dennis Bowie will meet with Bill Yoder to work on the security cameras
- The SP caboos door is expected back soon
- The survey and suggestions by the park representatives were not acceptable- SVLS feedback with required changes have been returned to the park.
- The hydraulic lift continues to be an issue. Members asked to consider other options & bring to next meeting- decision need by April meeting.
- 2017 Budget was approved by board with minor revisions



UP 649 Replacement Project - By Chris Donhost

A survey was conducted of the board, and at the General Membership meeting to help answer some questions about what direction this club is interested in going with the acquisition of a new club locomotive. The survey consisted of 7 questions, and the results are: 1) 28.5% gas-hydraulic drive, 52.3% electric drive, 19.2% no preference. 2) 28.5% axle-hung motors, 43% direct drive, 28.5% no preference. 3) 28.5% modern wide-cab, 43% any style cab, 28.5% no preference. 4) 61% 6-axle locomotive, 14% 4-axle locomotive, 25% no preference. 5) 66% steel body, 14% fiberglass body, 20% no preference. 6) Paint scheme: 61% local railroad (UP, BNSF, etc.), 23% foreign railroad (Norfolk Southern, CSX, etc.), 16% Sacramento Valley Railroad (SVLS). 7) Other “wishes” for new locomotive: Sound- 6 votes, Lights- 4 votes, Remote Control- 3 votes, Brakes- 3 votes, Cup holders- 1 vote. This information will help to create a budget proposal and plan for locomotive replacement.

FOR SALE



FOR SALE - 1 1/2 inch scale 7 1/2" gauge trolley and riding car, 24 volt electric motor with a 24 volt battery charger. Needs new batteries. Built by the late Charles Coffee. \$900.00. Contact Ken Schroeder, 775-265-3632 or shaylocomotives@charter.net.



Trolley for Sale.
 Price \$1500 OBO, plus engine stand for sale.
 Call: Clio Geyer
 (916) 645-9154

Two RRSC 6 wheel pullman commonwealth 1/8 scale trucks - reconditioned. The pair \$2000 or best offer.
 Call Ross Crawford (916) 718-4162



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



10 Years ago: Track Relocation Project

Phase 1 of our project to upgrade and relocate the station track is well underway. Excavation has been completed as well as the crushed rock for the subbase.



As of the first week of February, we have station track #1 almost completed using welded steel rail and plastic ties with tie plates. Just some switch work and ballasting is yet to be done. Once this track is installed, the main line will be restored using just one station track. Next, station track #2 will be installed, followed by the lower yard approach track. Finally the lower yard bypass track through the station will be completed. The lower yard and station bypass installation may not happen until March, depending on the weather.

20 Years ago: FROM THE FAR SIDE

To begin I'd like to plagiarize from a recent Golden Gate Live Steamers "CALL BOY" a caption on a photograph states "The track doesn't get maintained by magic".

It takes effort by members other than the Board members to maintain our facility. Many people seem to think that when a Board member is elected, he/she is automatically solely responsible to cut the grass, fix the track, repair the locos, or any of the other many things required to keep an organization as large and complex as ours going. Nothing could be father from the truth. It requires help from all of the members.

30 Years ago: At the last board meeting, we had an update report from Keith Kirsten on the property expansion plan. Things are progressing nicely and a lot of problems are being ironed out. It all takes time.

We also had an update report from Milon Thorley on the progress plan of getting the bathroom facility started. Come to the next general meeting and get more update information. Ed Spall was also there and gave a report on the transfer table project. Bob Lovell also reported on the progress of the box car and track an switch layout for it. These members and all the others who are helping them a big thanks to you. Remember if you really want to know what's happening, come out to the general meetings.

40 Years ago: The January meeting was really excellent. Al Shelley told us about "Red signal lights" and Bill Fisher added an explanation of the number plates and a bit more on signal light. Then Howard Bull quoted from his manual which didn't quite agree with what we had just heard, but all was cleared up when we discovered that Howard's book was a rule book from the S. P. dated Jan. 1, 1889 and there have been a few changes here and there.



**SACRAMENTO VALLEY LIVE STEAMERS RAILROAD MUSEUM
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND DUES INVOICE**

To be filled out upon application for membership and/or membership renewal

NEW RENEWAL DATE: _____

Type of membership desired: regular family associate

Your Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Spouse's Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Family living at home (names and birthdates):

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____ (Spouse) _____

List E-mail on web? ____ (Y/N)

List E-mail on web? ____ (Y/N)

Please select one of the following means of receiving your monthly issues of The Golden Spike news letter:

Receive E-Mail notice and get it on line at: www.svlsrcm.org or a printed edition sent US mail: _____ (on-line / Mail)

Occupation: _____

Operable live steam equipment or under construction:

Do you have track at home? Yes No Someday Gauge: _____

Special skills and ways you would like to help SVLSRM:

Affiliations with other railroads: _____

We have two classes of membership: Regular or Associate.

REGULAR class of membership (Individual or Family) is \$60.00 per year.

New regular membership includes a one-time track fee of \$40 and dues are prorated at \$5. per month from the month you join. For example: if you join in January, fee is \$100, in June \$75, or in October \$55.

New Membership includes one name badge with additional name badges available for \$10 each.

Regular membership is required for those living within a 60 mile radius of the club.

ASSOCIATE membership is optional for those outside the 60 mile radius who do not want the Regular membership.

Associate rate is \$30 per year with no track fee. Name badges are available for \$10 each.

Make check payable to: Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc.

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION then send with your dues to:

Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum, Inc.

Attn: Membership PO Box 273 Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-0273

Membership use: Amount Paid: _____ Check _____ Cash _____ Donation _____

Data Base updated _____