

The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsrcm.org

January 2021

Volume 48, Issue 1



Santa Train Helpers & families - December - 5,6,12,13

Andy Berchielli, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Gordon, Barbara, Lisa Moser, Alison Berry, Dennis Gramith, Steve Milward, Dennis, Heidi, Maren,

Ryan Bowie, Chris Klevesahl, Craig Griffin, Kevin & Andrew Sach, Chris, Paul, Eli Donhost, Glen Wilson, Dale Dennis, Christopher Smith - Family, Tom Nance, Keith & Gloria Berry, Scott & Tyler Jepsen, Peter & Jim Welch, Victoria Reed, Jeff, Beth Hickman, Colton Snell, Harry Voss, Christopher & Khloe Roberts, Rob Sharratt & Family, Bob & Mary Dean, Richard, Amy, Sarah, Brianna Lutrell, Sarah & Dennis Telleen, Mike Skums, Don & Toy Yungling, Glen Wilson, Leonard Hought, Gil Dominguez, Richard, Sabrina, Collin Carrera, Marshall Post

Christmas Decoration Crafters, Helpers, Workers
November 24, 28, December 1, 3, 4

Andy Berchielli, Alison Berry, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Bill & Butch Floyd, Keith Berry, Bill Yoder, Dennis Gramith, Harry Voss, Glen Wilson, Steve Milward, Gil Dominguez, Chris & Louis Donhost, Kevin & Andrew Sach, Richard Lutrel, Bob & Mary Dean, Marie Bailie Turner & Family John & Jackie Bailie, Earl Martin, Steve Arigotti, Colton Snell, Ralph Merrill, Tom Nance, Gary Cousin, Steve Milward, Chris Klevasahl, Dennis, Heidi, Maren, Ryan Bowie, Dave McClain, Craig Griffin

There may be more people that could have not been added to this list but who didn't sign the sign in sheet. Tried to get them all. - Barb Moser.



President's Report

By Andy Berchielli



Welcome 2021! I think we are all glad to put 2020 behind us. We start the year off with our annual New Years Day run. The park will be closed to the public. Members are allowed to enter thru the Ambassador Gate. We will leave gate unlocked but please close behind you. We will not have a potluck this year. Plan accordingly. Weather permitting we plan to have the club's Pacific fired up and ready to teach others.

We ended 2020 with our Santa Train Event. We got three days of running in before rain caught up with us on the last day. I would like to thank everyone who helped and adjusted to the covid restrictions. Everyone who attended was really appreciative of us hosting. We should all be proud of providing a touch of Christmas spirit to all. We had three members run their personal steam engines for the public enjoyment. Thanks to Chris Smith with his Mikado and Chris Donhost with his Pacific for bringing out their engines. I also brought mine out for the last day. Running three trains for three days we pulled almost 900 riders. Of course we could not do this event without our very own Santa and Mrs Claus giving kids of all ages joy for the holidays.

Without our normal source of income for 2020 we are not planning on any major mainline track replacement. However there is still plenty to do. For January and February we are planning a workday each Saturday. I'm available Sundays for those that can't make Saturday or just want more punishment *lol*. List of items include: adding to the snow shed; checking bearings/springs on riding cars and gondolas; reorganizing container 1 and 2 after everything got put away in a hurry; general cleanup including picking up leaves and cleaning track building area; and tie replacement in the upper boxcar yard area.

Everyone should be proud of keeping the facilities in tip top shape. How nice it looks is how much effort we all put into it.

Dues are due January 1, 2021.
Please complete your membership form noting changes. (Download from website.)
Send check or pay on-line at:
www.svlsrcm.org/membership.php
Send forms/check to: SVLSRM
P.O. Box 273
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741

SVLSRM Calendar

Club future activity will depend on VIRUS GUIDELINES. *Please check on-line about Public activity.*



- Jan. 1 Member run day.
 - Jan. 2 Work day.
 - Jan. 9 Work day.
 - Jan. 11 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via Zoom
 - Jan. 16 Work day.
 - Jan. 23 Work day.
 - Jan. 30 Work day.

 - Feb. 6 Work day.
 - Feb. 8 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via Zoom
 - Feb. 13 Work day.
 - Feb. 20 Work day.
 - Feb. 27 Work day.
- Please volunteer to support the club events.
How will you support SVLSRM this month?



Help us save money by not mailing your newsletters. Read it on-line.

Save SVLSRM some money and read the news letters on-line. Tell Membership that you don't need the mailed copy; we will notify you by E-mail so you can read it on-line.



See www.svlsrcm.org for current information. If you have not looked for a while, then you will have missed news or for sale items that are not in the newsletter.

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.

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

MEMBERSHIP

by Barbara Rohrs

Welcome New Members!

**Victoria Curry
William & Helen Skums
Ying Ren**

Dues are due January 1, 2021. Support your club, Send check or pay on-line. Please complete your membership form noting changes.

Board of Directors

(##) *Ending year of term*

- President: Andy Berchelli (916) 752-6697 (21)
E-mail: president@svlsrcm.org
- Vice President: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884 (22)
E-mail: vicepresident@svlsrcm.org
- Secretary: Stephanie Huntingdale (916) 580-7377 (21)
E-mail: secretary@svlsrcm.org
- Treasurer: Tom Nance, (714) 795-4630 (22)
E-mail: treasurer@svlsrcm.org
- Track Superintendent: Dennis Bowie (916) 337-9492 (22)
E-mail: tracksuper@svlsrcm.org
- Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (925) 876-0375 (22)
E-mail: yardmaster@svlsrcm.org
- Trainmaster: Peter Welch (916) 838 4998 (21)
E-mail: trainmaster@svlsrcm.org
- Director1: Craig Griffin (916) 365-1917 (22)
E-mail: director_craig@svlsrcm.org
- Director2: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (21)
E-mail: director_steve@svlsrcm.org

Committee Chairpersons

- Membership Chairperson: Barbara Rohrs (916) 730-1415
E-mail: membership@svlsrcm.org
- Safety Chairperson: --- OPEN ---
E-mail:
- Caboose Chairperson: Barbara Moser (916) 645-3425
E-mail: caboose@svlsrcm.org
- Birthday & Company Events Chairperson:
Phone: (916) 572-7857 E-mail: Events@svlsrcm.org
- Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113
E-mail: editor@svlsrcm.org

Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM

Secretary Board Report

By Stephanie Huntingdale

December Board. The Board continues to meet by ZOOM. Members are always encouraged to attend. The next meeting is January 11, 6:30 p.m. If you would like to attend, contact Andy Berchielli, (916) 752-6697, for how to connect to ZOOM or Stephanie Huntingdale (916) 580-7377 for an Agenda.

Recently there have been three break ins at the park. Board is working on suggestions.

Access to our area for the New Year’s Run will probably be the Ambassador entrance.

Long Range Planning – Hydraulic Lift replacement. No cost estimates are ready for discussion and two new designs were discussed. Dennis Spadaroa has volunteered to replace the seals in the lifts. A Motion was made and carried to allocate \$250 to replace the seals.

FCR 2019-27 Update – On site locomotive car storage. A plan and building permit process should be in place by February for grant purposes as funding is needed.

Winter Projects – Board looked at small projects that could be accomplished over winter with little funds needed.

- FCR 2016-1 – Activated - Snow Shed addition.
- Riding Cars maintenance. Springs replaced, bulk heads built, bearings replaced trucks and brakes.
- Wood ties to be replaced with plastic ties on hand.

Contact Dennis Bowie

- Library caboose leveled
- General Clean Up
- Containers 1,2,3 cleaned and organized.

Saturday workdays will begin in January. Many volunteers are needed to accomplish these tasks. If you can help, please come out.



Director - Steve Milward



Greetings. I’d like to take this opportunity to say “Thank you” to our membership, families and friends. Without their support, our organization might have a more difficult time getting through 2020.

This year, the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers has shown an amazing ability to adapt, rethink and react to changes in our operating policies in order to stay compliant with ever changing regulations. Be assured that the public saw this too. Almost to a person, visitors to our events in 2020 were quite happy, and so grateful that we were able to provide some measure of normalcy for them. The public understood that the changes we made were for their safety as well as ours.

Thank you to all of the folks that came out to - Decorate, operate, set up, take down, landscape, clean up, perform maintenance, feed us, direct operations, photograph, dress up, and otherwise take time out of their personal lives and help us this year. To say that we couldn’t have done it without you would be an understatement!

Speaking of feeding us, a special thank you to Barbara Moser. For as long as I can remember, Barbara has kept the WP caboose well stocked with food and drink, and has always made sure that operation and work crews were well fed. That sort of caring is very much appreciated by our membership.

We can look forward into 2021 with the idea that it may be some time before life gets back to normal. Social distancing, masks and lots of hand washing will continue to be a way of life. That said, we’ll jump into the new year with a number of smaller track replacement/repair projects. As always, your help is most appreciated.

For those Board members stepping down next month, many thanks for your time and support. To the new Board members, welcome and thank you for stepping up.

Again, thank you to all and we hope to see you at the park and on the rails soon!





10 Years ago: Another Caboose moves onto our place. (See page 5)

“There is a lot of work out there with acres of land and over a mile of track to maintain, not to mention 20 plus cars and four locomotives. The individuals elected to your board cannot -- And are not expected to do all the work for you guys to run trains. It is a team effort,

And without this team, it would not be possible to share the hobby with the public and share the magic of railroading and steam with the next generation. -- Matt Mason”

20 Years ago: The weather was gorgeous for our New Years 2001 run day! Several engines had arrived by mid morning, with the majority being of the steam variety. Riders found comfortable seating aboard our club passenger cars. Milon Thorley brought his diesel and a complete freight train. Don Yungling and Doug Fulton provided the bulk of the steam passenger runs. Barbara Moser staffed the caboose and graciously coordinated a wonderful potluck lunch, brought to the park by a number of individuals. Of particular note was Red Hadler and his “El Gobernador”, Stathi Pappas and his Clishay, Ross Crawford and his Pensy 0-6-0 and Les and Cindy Wilmunder and their 0-6-0. Dave and Pat Mattox inspected track from their UP covered wagon and Ken Prather of San Francisco displayed his European 4-4-2 Chassis and boiler.

Two reporters from the Sacramento Bee came out to gather information and photos for an upcoming article. We even had a new member join, Karle Mahlor of Sacramento. My thanks to Gordon Moser and Matt Mason for their help in setup and cleanup and Curtis and Rosy Bonville and Milon Thorley with put-away and lockup. There were several others that helped to make this event the pleasant and relaxing time that it was and I must apologize for non-fitting more in but it is time for me to get off my soap box. Thanks for a great time! - Dale Fowler - V.P.

30 Years ago: Happy New Year from trackside! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for supporting me in assuming the position of superintendent. I will endeavor to continue the fine work by Doug Fulton over the past two years many projects have been completed through Doug’s efforts and expertise. Also, special thanks to the “fallen leaf society”, who struggled long and hard to capture the fallen leaves covering the track and steaming bays before the New Year Run Day. Many trips were made to the parks mulch pile using Dick Esselbach’s pick-up. This crew also addressed several plumbing problems, caused by the sub-freezing temperatures. At this time permanent repairs are planned for the line valves delivering air/water to the steaming bays and the sector valve controlling the transfer bay watering line.

A top priority is re-tieing the south meadow crossing and switch. This section is rotted, misaligned, and is missing a switch throw. Phasing our work, we can resolve these problems. Lastly, the caboose needs some attention to relocate cabinets, install sinks, and upgrade electrical service. -- Keith Berry, Superintendent.

40 Years ago: All Aboard For Barn Raiser I! EE pinpoints Sat 17 Jan as erection day for the roof and the uppermost of the three cylindrical sections comprising the wall of our “roundhouse”. (No skyhook needed... come out and see for yourself.) Depending on the progress made on BR I, we’ll set the date for the finale, or BR II... hopefully the following weekend. Let’s get our there and get this thing up and, believe me, we’ll have the start of a completely new deal down at the yards. We have enough grommets to start and will have the sealant by meeting time. To get things moving, we are going to raise the barn first and add the fan later. If we don’t shop right to it, work on the building may well telescope into the many projects and events that are planned for the first half of 1981. On the other hand, having a usable building for the first half of 1981. On the other hand, having a usable building in the yards will be a great help to us in whatever we undertake.





TRACK UPDATE

By Phil Huntingdale

I trust all had a wonderful Holiday and Christmas with some new equipment. I'm aware of at least two new locomotives or patiently awaiting delivery. I received a new box car gift from another club member. Let's give thanks for the club and what it provides to us. The hobby is alive and well!

With a new year upon us, I'm looking forward to some great days at the park. Weather permitting; we'll see you at the park on Tuesdays, Public Run Days, and Club Member run days and this winter on Saturday work days. Steam locomotives always look great on cold days! Remember, to warm your butane fuel in your home and keep it relatively warm while out at the park. January will be a good month to tinker with the locomotives inside where it is warm. Lubricate all the moving parts and car wheels as well. Tighten loose bolts and screws. Adjust couplers if needed. An old friend, Jim Daly suggested Marvel Mystery Oil and Sta-

Lube Multi-Purpose – Super White Grease as good products for this small train hobby. Dave Hottmann suggested Luca Oil for use as steam oil. And good old 3-In-One works wonders.

Just a reminder, during the months of January and February the club closes down the public run days, however, each Saturday is a work day. All hand help with cleaning up and doing some adjustments to the railroad. I do know the 7.5" gauge rail will be worked on, and this requires some re-work of the outbound rails for the steaming bay and adding length to the snow shed. Check out the Secretary's column for more detail. Something is always going on elsewhere in the park. You can always be helpful!

And for those that are philanthropists, should you end the year with extra funds that you don't know what to do with, write a check donation out to the SVLSRM and submit it to the Treasurer. This year was very strenuous on the club funds. Thanks.

SP Caboose Move



On 1 December 2010, we moved the SP caboose to the SVLSRM facility from the old El Dorado and Southern railroad located at Milon Thorleys home.



**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 \$20 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 \$20 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 _____