President’s Report

By Pete Arney

July 4th. Hagan Park in Rancho Cordova was a great place to be on the 4th and 5th of July. The theme of this year’s 24th annual July 4th event was “Heart of America: Rancho Cordova, USA”. Fireworks, carnivals, shows, beer gardens, kids activities, and ... live steamers. The July 4th committee had this to say about us in their “things to do” at the July 4th celebration:

All aboard Rancho Cordova’s award-winning Sacramento Valley Live Steamers (SVLS) Railroad for a Fourth of July journey back to a time when railroads were opening up the west.

The SVLS is a hobby club whose passion is railroads and whose mission is to keep alive the romance of the rails. They have been offering train rides at their location in Hagan Park for two generations of Rancho Cordova children. Some of the built-to-scale trains are powered by diesel and others by steam, but whatever the case, the ride is special. Take a close look at the intricate details and don’t hesitate to ask the engineer questions. These guys love to share what they know about trains. You may even decide you are interested in joining this unique, service minded club. In exchange for a donation, the railroaders will take you to a hidden part of the park, where riders zip past built-to-scale buildings.

About 30 SVLSRM members volunteered to run trains, provide meals, and sell soda and water, for members and visitors to the event in Hagan Park. Over a period of six hours on Friday and four hours on Saturday, 1200 enthusiastic park visitors rode our trains. Thanks to all who responded to calls for volunteers. Many worked both days but all were appreciated and helped our organization to make a great attraction to kids and adults alike.

Make-A-Wish. Tyler Berchielli has just turned 5 years old. As you may remember, Tyler is an avid train enthusiast and his wish is that he could have his own train to take to our track to run. Roll Models Inc., in conjunction with MAW, will be providing a scale 25 ton locomotive and a riding car that should arrive in the next few months. MAW recently purchased an enclosed trailer for the Berchielli’s to transport the equipment in. Recently, SVLSRM members and Tyler’s dad, Andy, installed tracks inside and soon, tie downs, to hold the equipment in place. The Berchielli’s have an SVLSRM Family Membership so Tyler will be able to enjoy his own train whenever he wants. Tyler and Andy were at our Sunday run day in July. After the public

Continued on page 3.
August 2008

Calendar

Aug 2  Public run day Noon to 4 PM.
Aug 12 Board Meeting 6:30 (RC city hall)
Aug 15 Membership Meeting
Aug 16 Work Day - come out and help with the railroad
Aug 17 Public run day Noon to 4 PM

Sept 6 Public run day Noon to 4 PM
Sept 9 Board Meeting 6:30 (RC city hall)
Sept 19 Membership meeting moved to the 26th.
Sept 20 Work Day - come out and help with the railroad
Sept 21 Public run day Noon to 4 PM
Sept 26 Membership meeting
Sept 27-28 Fall Meet

Public run day calendar available on-line.

Don’t forget about work days, Every Tuesday also Saturday after members’ meeting. Contact a committee member for information on needs. Check the Project page at the SVLSRM web site (http://www.svlsrm.org).

How will you support SVLSRM this month?

SVLSRM has new emblem pins and they look great.
They cost $5.
See Clio to buy a pin.
(916) 645-9154

Save us 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.

Board of Directors
President: Pete Arney (916) 988-2000
E-mail: parney@pacbell.net
Vice President: Lee Frechette (916) 205-6791
E-mail: leefrechette@yahoo.com
Secretary: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113
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Treasurer: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514
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Track Superintendent: Darrell Gomes (209) 786-0623
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Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (916) 344-8989
E-mail: rjl1974@sbcglobal.net
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Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM

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 SVLS track is located in Hagan Community Park, Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA. Articles may be submitted to: editor@svlsrm.org.
run, much to Tyler’s delight, he and his dad, Andy, and were co-engineers while making several trips around our track with the RS3.

Donations. Generous donations from Rancho Cordova City Council members David Sanders and Dan Skoglund in the amounts of $2000 and $1000, respectively, to SVLSRM are greatly appreciated. Both Messrs. Sanders and Skoglund, as well as other members of the City Council, have provided support in the past and continue to be valued champions of our achievements and contributions to the Rancho Cordova community.

Halloween: Yes, it’s just around the corner. Starting this month and continuing through October, SVLSRM will be planning and building scary things to frighten all who dare to come to Haunted Hagan this fall. Jerry Jewell Performing Arts Scary U will be providing their award winning haunted house again this year as in the past. SVLSRM will be responsible for the trackside scares we started doing last year. Along with the “creature box”, covered truss bridge with floating eyes, and creature strobes, we want ideas for many more scary events. Please contact Lee Frechette or Pete Arney with your wild and scariest ideas and your volunteering commitment to make and install the events and to run trains on Halloween. Actual run days and times are yet to be determined.

Major Halloween related projects for us will be the installation of new electrical service to Jerry’s Pirate Town and performing stage area. This service will also be used to upgrade and expand our RV electrical hookups. The other is the completion of at least six new riding cars to carry the multitudes to the haunted house on Halloween.

President. “I will be stepping down as president in mid-June.” Or so I said last June in the Spike. Actually, I’ll be around for a while longer as President. Lee and I have agreed to share duties much the same as was done in the last administration pending resolution of both of our schedules and time commitments.

See you at the track. Keep on steaming!

Steam engine update from Karle

The engine was pulled out of service because of the inability to maintain pressure. The fire pan, burner, and arch where removed to gain access to the firebox. An inspection of the rear tube sheet found 9 leaking tubes. The leaking tubes have been re-rolled, the net result is that most of them are secure. The plan for tubes that are still weeping is to apply a low viscosity wicking sealant to further reduce and hopefully stop the last of the leaks. While the boiler is down I plan to rebuild the throttle valve.

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10 Years ago:

FROM THE PRESIDENT

WHY DO THEY DO THIS?

Recently, on one of our run days, a child was overheard asking his parent, “Why do they do this?” The parent asked, “What do you mean?” The child replied, “Why do these men ride around on the trains and work on the track? Why do they give rides to people?” It made me think why do we do what we do out there in the park?

What brings our members to our facility not only to have fun, but to do tasks that are seemingly unpleasant and hard work but need to be done? What makes members put aside other things to do the work that is needed, no matter of weather? On top of that, doing it unselfishly, without complaint, and with a smile and good humor.

The only answer can be that it is a labor of love. They are laboring to keep and interest alive -- an interest that was given to them by others and an interest that they wish to share with the generation which follows. For you see if we do not labor now, then the love of live steam will not be passed on -- it will pass on with us. I say thank God for those who labor.

Tony Rohrs - President

20 Years ago: (7/88) “From the Cab”

Summer is certainly here, and while our weather varies greatly from day to day, we have had our fair share of very hot work and run days. Realizing that hot days are not the most popular time to work in the park, I understand why some of you have not been around much. I also realize that summer is vacation time. I have been told that “Everyone is so busy this time of the year”. Now I am sure you are wondering where all of this is leading. Well it is the same old song. In most organizations, 10 to 15 percent of the members do most of the work. With our membership at well over 100 people, we should see 10 to 15 people helping with the work of running our railroad. Wow! That would be double what we usually get. As busy, hot and vacation laden as summer time is, it is also the time that we do most of the operating and when the most maintenance is required. How do we get the work done? How long should a small handful of dedicated members have to carry those of you who are unwilling to do your share? Why should they carry you at all?? Hey, does this sound familiar? Well if you are tired of hearing it, I am tired of saying it. Then you ask why do I keep doing it? The answer is, once in a while I get lucky and hit a nerve. Sometimes a new face will show up and pitch in on a work day and while this sermon business may seem to be a poor way to get help, what little help it brings is vital to the task at hand and to the morale of the tiny team who are struggling to keep your club functioning. It’s never too late! You can still come out and contribute your share.

Let’s play trains. -- Dennis Gramith

30 Years ago:

No August news letter - Editor on vacation.
The Safety committee has painted the ends of the steaming bay racks, and other objects to be more visible with attentions to being safe.

The track crew and continued to work on the new yard. The middle track was completed after this picture was taken.

Got some time then come out and help.
1.5" scale Pyle National extended case or flush mount dual GYRALITE.
They operate “True to scale” from the prototype and is constructed primarily of brass. The light operates on 2.5vdc.
Price $395.00 allow five weeks receipt of order.
12vdc to 2.5vdc voltage regulator/reducer for GYRALITES. $30.00

Keith Jackman
636 Linden Ave.
Grass Valley, CA 95945
Ph: (530)272-8531
kpjackman@sbcglobal.net

7 1/2” Gauge 4+4 Beam Engine and tender with two 7 1/2 foot bench type riding cars equipped with Tom Bee trucks and couplers. Pneumatic brakes on all cars. Current SVLSRM boiler certificate on a 12” diameter vertical steel boiler, propane fired with 306 3/8” diameter copper fire tubes. Twin cylinder double acting engine with Stephenson valve gear and a bore and stroke of 2”x2.75” driving 4.375” diameter wheels through a 20% overdrive. Drive chains are tight at all times. There is a constant speed universal joint in the center of each truck to allow movement while keeping the drive chains tight. Engine weighs about 400 pounds with eight driving wheels arranged in two four wheel trucks. I haven’t found a track or turn I couldn’t handle at normal track speed. The suspension is very flexible, rock solid on the rails and the engine has a working headlight. This engine is a runner, fast, with exceptional pulling power and is very easy to run, very forgiving. You can check and adjust either firing or water level in about two seconds. Because of having a vertical boiler the engine does not require any additional inputs to fire up, just open the valve on the propane tank and light the burner after you fill the boiler and the water tank with water.

The train is set-up on a new two wheel trailer for towing with a car or small pick-up truck. I estimate the weight of the complete train and trailer at about 1000 pounds. The train and trailer are located in Reno, Nevada.

Asking $10,000

Contact Bill Cody at (775) 674-6512 or steamboatbill@sbcglobal.net for additional information/pictures.

Mechanical cylinder cocks for 1 to 4 inch cylinder. 1/8 NPT $80 per pair.

Ross Crawford 916-718-4162

Wanted a Atlantic or Pacific or 10 wheeler or? Engine must be ready to run, 1 1/2, 71/2 gage.
Will trade a fully restored 1957 Ford Fairlane Club Victoria 2dr hardtop for a steam locomotive. The Ford has a 292 V8 and automatic. Was driven to Texas and back and ran good. Only 2400 of this type was made in 1957. I have $23,000 in car. I have more photos if you need them.
Paul Thomson ph: 925 672 5477

5 ton hydraulic car lift, great for use as train lift/turntable.
Gil Beaird 530-823-8142

SALES: Switch stands, point throw mechanism and point plate for attaching the points is included with the switch stand. A complete set-up for $85.00 plus shipping.
http://www.timbercreekrr.zoomshare.com/
Contact me by phone or e-mail for questions and quantity discounts.

FIGURE “8” MARS LIGHTS FOR SALE.
Each light has an L.E.D. that puts out over 50 lumens of light and is good for 100,000 hours, as stated by the manufacturer of the light. Just wire it into your 12VDC system, mount it to your locomotive and go!!! $300.00 each with free shipping in the Continental USA only.
Gordon Briggs timbercreekrr@yahoo.com (530)273-9145

Got Something for Sale?
Send to editor@svlsrm.org