November was a bright spot on the year 2020 for us. Instead of our traditional Pumpkin Train, we ran two weekends with a Fall decorated track and called it the Harvest Express. Attendance was down as it has been all year. However, the donation amount we received for the two weekends was comparable to the one weekend of the Pumpkin Train. So that’s good news. I would like to thank all who setup decorations the two days before the event and those who cleaned up after the Fall Meet.

Our Fall Meet this year was specifically designed to be a low key event with minimal setup and contact. Attendance was down as expected. With me being the host, I was able to speak with everyone and help them get to their designated spots. Our reservation system continues to reduce the stress of where to stick trains. Everyone including board members enjoyed running trains for three days. This kind of event was enjoyable for all and may be something we think about doing in the future.

This is our election month. Come out to the park November 21 at 1:30 PM to put in your vote. Next up Santa Train. We will run the first two weekends in December with a modified version of our traditional Santa Train. Come out to support the club.

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**President’s Report**

By Andy Berchielli

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SVLSRM Calendar

Table containing calendar events:

- Nov 9 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM
- Nov 21 Membership meeting 1:30 at club track, elections.
- Nov 21 Member run day.
- Dec 5 Public Santa train run day - check on-line
- Dec 6 Public Santa train run day - check on-line
- Dec 12 Public Santa train run day - check on-line
- Dec 13 Public Santa train run day - check on-line
- Dec 14 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM

Please check on-line about Public activity.

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.

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 newsletter deadline is 24th of each month. Member articles wanted.

**Board of Directors**

- President: Andy Berchelli (916) 752-6697 (21) E-mail: president@svlsrm.org
- Vice President: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884 (20) E-mail: vicepresident@svlsrm.org
- Secretary: Stephanie Huntingdale (916) 580-7377 (21) E-mail: secretary@svlsrm.org
- Treasurer: Alison Berry (916) 983-9712 (20) E-mail: treasurer@svlsrm.org
- Track Superintendent: Dennis Bowie (916) 337-9492 (20) E-mail: tracksuper@svlsrm.org
- Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (925) 876-0375 (20) E-mail: yardmaster@svlsrm.org
- Trainmaster: Peter Welch (916) 838 4998 (21) E-mail: trainmaster@svlsrm.org
- Director1: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113 (20) E-mail: director_bill@svlsrm.org
- Director2: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (21) E-mail: director_steve@svlsrm.org

**Committee Chairpersons**

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

Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM

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

See www.svlsrm.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.

**MEMBERSHIP**

by Barbara Rohrs

Welcome New Members

John Cooper, Penryn

Sabrina Carrera, Sacramento

George & Lisa Blount, Citrus Heights
Secretary Board Report
By Stephanie Huntingdale

October Board meeting.
The Board continues to meet by ZOOM. Members are always encouraged to attend. The next meeting is Nov. 9, 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. Long Range Planning - A committee was established to look into the cost of replacing the hydraulic lifts.

Replacement of the trestle at the lower yard was completed before the Fall Meet.

FCR 2020-03 – Steaming Bay Lights - Two lights were up for the Fall Meet.

Harvest Express – the two weekends were a success and the club made income offsetting some of 2020’s loss of income.

2021 Meet Dates are Set – Spring will be May 14-16, 2021, and Fall Meet will be October 15-17, 2021. Mark your Calendars!

Grant Application opportunities will be explored in 2021 by Chris Donhost.

Board Member Nominations and Elections - The voting Ballot is included in this Newsletter. It is one vote for Member household. Your ballot must be received before the Membership Meeting on November 21st. Better yet, come to the meeting at the club and cast your vote, 1:30 pm. No pot luck this year, bring your lunch. See you then!

Santa Train is our most productive income for the club. Ways to make it profitable and enjoyable for the public are still being discussed, should be finalized at the November Board Meeting. Volunteers will be needed to help with set up. Set up will begin Wednesday, December 2nd. Santa Run is December 5 & 6 and December 12 & 13. No cookies, hot chocolate, cider etc. will be served this year. Kids will not be able to sit on Santa’s lap. Got an idea? Turn it in to a Board Member.

Director - Steve Milward

Greetings! As always, I hope that all are healthy and safe. Our Harvest Express trains ran the first two weekends in October. Even without the opportunity for guests to wander around and pick a pumpkin, hundreds of folks enjoyed a train ride. Once aboard they experienced the many Autumn and Halloween decorations. Thanks to those who helped with the decorations and train operations. It’s good to keep the public engaged in our activities, and it helps our financial well-being too.

Well, the 2020 Fall Meet actually happened! As expected, the number of participants and guests was lower than past events. Those who joined us, however, enjoyed beautiful weather, lots of rooms to run and best of all, a chance to see friends again! Thank you to all of the attendees, and to the folks that made the meet happen.

It’s election time! The election for the 2021 Board of Directors/Officers will take place in November. No matter how you vote, your participation is important. How we grow and move forward is determined by those folks you vote for. If you don’t vote, you’ve lost an opportunity to make your voice heard. Please take a few minutes to be a part of the process.

Looking forward – Our annual Santa trains will look decidedly different this year. While kids won’t have the opportunity to talk directly to Santa, be assured that we are working towards an event that will give children and families a way to be photographed with Santa Claus and still maintain social distancing. Details to follow, but please know that as with our other public events, we’ll need lots of help from our members to make this happen.

One last item – For those folks who unlock the various padlocks protecting our gates and lockers, please, please, please zero those locks once you’ve opened them. On several occasions I’ve found a gate padlock open, with the combination still showing. Not much point in trying to keep the facility secure if we’re going to advertise the combination. If you unlock something, zero the lock and make sure you, or someone else assumes responsibility to lock it again at the end of the day.

Thank you, and we hope to see you on the rails soon.
Harvest Festival Train Crews
10-3, 10-4, 10-10, 10-11
Steve Millward, Dennis Bowie, Dennis Gramith,
Andy Berchielli, Chris Klawesalh, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Tom Nance,
Gordon & Barbara Moser, Harry Voss,
Glen Wilson, Dean Sheets,
Bill & Butch Floyd, Colton Snell, Gordon Durham
Richard, Amy, Sarah, Brianna Lutrel, Craig Griffin,
Christopher Roberts & Chloe, Harald Walker,
Don & Toy Yungling, Kevin & Andrew Sach

Tuesday 9-29-2020
Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Gordon & Barbara Moser,
Gordon Dunham, Steve Arigotti, Earl Martin,
Ralph Merrill, Ken Crawford, Andy Berchielli, Colton Snell,
Leonard Casseri, Bob Dean, Bill & Butch Floyd

Pleasestaysafeandfollow
Stateguidelinestodoyour
partinpreventingthespread
ofthisCovid-19virus.

SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH

1.12 Property of SVLSRM Material and Equipment
All SVLSRM owned material and equipment is for use of members and
guests at the SVLSRM facility ONLY, and shall not be removed from the facility without
permission from the Board of Directors. This includes treated or distilled water, fuel, cars, locomotive, tools, material, etc.

2.09 Sight Glasses
Steam boilers shall have a water level gauge located such
that water at the bottom of the glass is covering the crown
sheet by at least 5/8” for 1 1/2" scale (or larger) when the
locomotive is level. The top of the water glass fitting must
be connected to the top of the boiler, not the turret. The
sight glass must be capable of being “blown down” and
shall be checked during the steam up process.

3.19 Bad Order Cards
Equipment that is taken out of service shall be tagged for
cause. Tagged equipment must not be operated or coupled
to any engines or cars except for repairs or corrections. The
bad order card shall not be removed until repair is fixed.

4.10 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.

SAFETY FIRST

Please stay safe and follow
State guidelines to do your
part in preventing the spread
of this Covid-19 virus.

10 Years ago:
Southern Pacific Historical & Technical Society's 2010 Convention was held in
Sacramento and we were honored that
about 50 from their group came out to
SVLSRM to ride the rails.
Dave Stanley - Convention Chairman
stated, “Thank you so much for hosting
a memorable visit for our
group. The SP equipment operating was
a real joy, and I, for one, enjoyed
running Ed Youngling’s AC12. I know others enjoyed their
throttle time as well, especially those highly detailed GP9s.
And Chris, I hope I didn’t tax your Mogul too badly! That
was a fun lap around the park.

We certainly appreciated the barbecue (the food was
delicious) and the welcome buttons. Both a very nice touch, indeed.
Although I had hoped more of our conventioneers
would have visited, those that did attend had a ball, to say the least! Thanks again. Special thanks to our members Ed
Yungling, Don Yungling, Matt Mason, Casey Wilmunder
who brought their SP engines to show and ride. You can
visit their web site at: http://www.sphts.org/

20 Years ago:
Engines running out the... The popularity of
our club is no more evident than during the Spring and Fall
meets. People arrive early in the week and by Saturday
morning the Steamboiling bays are filled to capacity and
beyond. This fall meet was no exception. We were able to
fill every steamboiling bay with steam engines and fill the yards
with Diesel and Electric type locomotives. Since we had
the pleasure of Pete Arney, not one, but two, large mallet
locomotives during this meet, the inbound track and one of
the lower yard tracks were used to fire up these two
behemots. The larger proliferation of engines
is also accompanied with a plethora of cars. It was not an
uncommon sight to see sidings as well as yard tracks filled
with long strings of cars belonging to our members and
visitors.

40 Years ago: Thanks, Thanks, thanks for your response to
the plea for funds. Including income from the best,
certainly most profitable, Fall meet ever, we’re back up to
$1450. Contributors were many... plus Clyde Johnson who
gave a riding car.

Now an “eyewitness” account of the big day by Bill Fisher,
who says it was all started by Ed Spall, who wrote channel
10 TV station in Sacto about a feature on SVLS for their
PM Magazine. “All engineers got their batteries charged by
a personal interview on camera with tall, beautiful, friendly
Diana Damron. Then things began to move...ably directed
by Pres Shelley, trainmaster. All went smoothly...Highlight
of the day came (Late in the afternoon) when Diana
climbed astride the Jolly Green Giant inbounds to the
turntable. She was to open the throttle and proceed into the
turntable area - which she did at full speed with Ed Spall
desperately trying to hold the engine from running off
the end of the track. Everyone clapped! The whole camera
crew were friendly, co-operative and patient. It was a fun
day for the SVLS.
Voting Members if you can not come to the meeting on Nov. 21st, then please mail in your ballot.

Vote for each position - Yardmaster and Director vote for only one.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Y / N</th>
<th>Candidate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Dennis Gramith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yardmaster</td>
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<td>Richard Lutrel</td>
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<td>Christopher Roberts</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Y / N</td>
<td>Tom Nance</td>
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<td>Track Superintendent</td>
<td>Y / N</td>
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<td>Director at Large</td>
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<td>Graig Griffin</td>
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<td>Bill Yoder</td>
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Yardmaster:

Richard Lutrel
Hello I'm Richard Lutrel and I am running for yard master. I have been a member of SVLS for 18 years. I have been an active member and held numerous positions on the board over the years. I enjoy taking care of the grounds and hope to continue doing so. I take great pride in maintaining and up keeping the lawn mower. In closing I look forward to serving another two years as Yard Master.

Christopher Roberts
With over two years of experience of lawn care, I have learned how to edge avoid sprinkler heads and mow lawns with intricate patterns. Now that my weekends are free and I have a good paying job money through Friday I am now eager to put more time into Sacramento Valley live steamers. I therefore would like to apply for the position of yardmaster to come in on a weekly, or bi weekly basis to maintain all the lawns and grounds. I have a passion to serve the railroad to maintain a pleasant view for all members and visitors adding to the experience of riding trains. Additionally I have worked on track and switches and also helped build the G scale layout. I have several years ago cleaned up the entire steaming bay prior to the spring meet and I will often have come in with pressure washers to pressurize and wash the caboose and boxcar.

Candidate’s statements continued next page.
**Vice President**

Dennis Gramith

My name is Dennis Gramith, and I am once again running for the position of Vice President on the board of directors of the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Railroad Museum. I have been a member since around the time of the first Golden Spike ceremony (over forty years). During that time, I served as President for seven years, and Vice President for longer than that.

While retiring from the board sounds tempting, I feel the long duration of my involvement still has value for bringing a historical aspect to the current operations of the board. Additionally, over the years, I have developed good working relationships with the park district, the city and the community council, which are of great value to our organization. If you would like me to continue serving, I would be most grateful for your vote.

---

**Director At Large**

Craig Griffin

I don’t join clubs normally, but I love the atmosphere of Sacramento Valley Live Steamers. I’ve never left feeling like “Well that was a waste of a day or time!” I look forward to helping to improve all aspects of the club, whether I’m on the board or not.

I helped build Redwood Flats g scale layout and now I love to see people enjoying it.

I get to take care of Levi which is a true honor! And yes, I have been converted to the other side of 7.5” ride on.

I know I will have a positive influence if elected onto the board. Being on the board will just be a bonus for me and hopefully the club.

---

**Bill Yoder**

Sharing the joy of railroading, educating others about this fascinating hobby and celebrating history are important goals of SVLSRM. Together we grow our organization by having member run days, by further developing the track and facilities and encouraging others in the community to experience what we enjoy when we build and run our engines and trains. Why? Because it’s fun, and that’s why we are here!

I am currently on the SVLS board as Director at large (nothing to do with my size). I have been the Golden Spike editor for 17 plus years, maintain our web site, and continue to work on club projects and special events. What does it take to be on the board? The ability to be a leader, to communicate with the membership - to listen and inform, and promote this Live Steam organization. These things I do.

Thank you for your support in the past. If you share these goals, please vote for me.