

# The GOLDEN SPIKE



www.svlsm.org

June 2024

Volume 51, Issue 6



## A great Spring Meet.



## President's Report

By Tom Nance



June is here, and our Spring Meet is in the books! The event was very well attended, and I don't think we could've asked for better weather. Thank you to our members who dedicated their time and effort to make this event the success that it was!

We have our next Public Run weekend coming up on June 1st and 2nd from 11-3, and volunteer help is always needed before and after each run day.

Mark your calendars, we will be running on July 3rd and 4th from 4-8pm as part of the park's 4th of July celebration. Parking passes will be available for pick-up in the caboose towards the end of June. If you plan on attending, please enter through the Ambassador gate, the park entrance on Chase Dr. will be closed to vehicle traffic.

Our July Public Run weekend will continue on 6th and 7th from 11-3.



**Spaghetti Servers**

Photos in this issue thanks to:  
*Barbara Moser*  
*Alan Shifley*  
*Alison Berry*



**SVLSRM Calendar**

*Please check on-line about Public activity.  
Train tickets days may be purchased on-line.*

- June 1 Public run day - **check on-line**
- June 2 Public run day - **check on-line**
- June 10 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via. Zoom
- June 22 Work day
- June 23 Member run day

July 3 **Celebrate the 4th ride our train..** 4 to 8 PM  
*then watch Rancho Cordova fire works.*  
July 4 **Celebrate the 4th ride our train..** 4 to 8 PM  
*then watch Rancho Cordova fire works.*  
Members welcome to come and play then watch  
Rancho Cordova fire works. - crews needed

- July 6 Public run day - **check on-line**
- July 7 Public run day - **check on-line**
- July 8 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via. Zoom
- July 20 Work day. & **Moser special party 3PM**
- July 21 Member run day.

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



See [www.svlslrm.org](http://www.svlslrm.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.

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Articles & Pictures may be submitted to: [editor@svlslrm.org](mailto:editor@svlslrm.org).

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



**Welcome to our new members who joined at the Spring Meet. We hope to see you at the Park often.**

- Douglas Fong
- Larry Hanlon
- Alex O'Donnell
- Matthew Petach
- Jim Hamilton
- Nick Zamora and family
- Jort Lyklema and Family

**Board of Directors**

- (##) Ending year of term.
- President: Tom Nance (714)795-4630 (25)  
E-mail: [president@svlslrm.org](mailto:president@svlslrm.org)
- Vice President: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (24)  
E-mail: [vicepresident@svlslrm.org](mailto:vicepresident@svlslrm.org)
- Secretary: Stephanie Huntingdale (916)580-7377 (25)  
E-mail: [secretary@svlslrm.org](mailto:secretary@svlslrm.org)
- Treasurer: Stacy Reese (916)960-6850 (24)  
E-mail: [treasurer@svlslrm.org](mailto:treasurer@svlslrm.org)
- Track Superintendent: - open - (24)  
E-mail:
- Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (916) 876-0375 (24)  
E-mail: [yardmaster@svlslrm.org](mailto:yardmaster@svlslrm.org)
- Trainmaster: Craig Griffin (916)365-1917 (25)  
E-mail: [trainmaster@svlslrm.org](mailto:trainmaster@svlslrm.org)
- Director1: open - (24)
- Director2: Dennis Gramith (916)988-7884 (25)  
E-mail: [director\\_dennis@svlslrm.org](mailto:director_dennis@svlslrm.org)

**Committee Chairpersons**

- Membership: Stacy Reese (916) 960-6850  
E-mail: [membership@svlslrm.org](mailto:membership@svlslrm.org)
- Librarian: Alison Berry (916) 956-4597  
E-mail: [librarian@svlslrm.org](mailto:librarian@svlslrm.org)
- Caboose: Barbara Moser (916) 871-8368  
E-mail: [caboose@svlslrm.org](mailto:caboose@svlslrm.org)
- Safety Chairperson: -open-
- Birthday & Company Events:  
Andy Berchielli Phone: (916) 572-7857  
E-mail: [Events@svlslrm.org](mailto:Events@svlslrm.org)

- Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder  
E-mail: [editor@svlslrm.org](mailto:editor@svlslrm.org)

**Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM**



**TRACK UPDATE**

*By Phil Huntingdale*

This meet was incredible! Those that attended the Spring Meet were treated to a fabulous weekend. The track

was filled with trains for three days and nights. Steam locomotives with their consists were in motion throughout the event, and the G table was filled at various times with all tracks occupied. We had many members in attendance bring their equipment down for day and evening runs under the lights. Rich Nelson was running three days, and always amazes the guests. The Sonora guys including Dave, and Bart were on hand Saturday. Colton Snell, Ralph Merrill, Jim Hearn, Blaise Hassler, Les Wilmunder, Michael Fitzgerald and others I did not pickup on also attended. There were consists of passenger cars, logging cars, hopper cars, quarry cars, and various locomotives. Dave had his latest custom built motor car to show off. What I saw this week end indicated the G scale part of the hobby is alive and doing well. Thanks to everyone who attended and brought trains to run on our table.

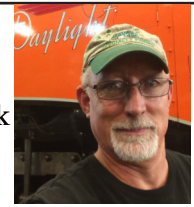
Bing with Accrucraft provided some display items and sold a few of their offerings. They have several new products that apparently appealed to several members. It is great to see vendors attend with such a large selection on all gauges! There was also some used cars and locomotives being purchased.

For accessing the G layout, the Yard master has requested that, no G layout vehicles shall drive into the area north of the layout. He's trying to get the grass to grow, so let's help out. The path to the G table has been replaced following the track work. The club has purchased a new wagon and provided a new staging table for those needing access to the layout.

As I have mentioned in the past, first weekends are the public run events, and Tuesday's several members are out having a train day. Put the 3rd and 4th of July on your calendars and come join the club members entertaining the park guests along with a great fireworks show both evenings. Great fun for all! With the great weather, bring out your significant other and folding chairs and relax under the shade of the canopy trees. – See you about!



**Vice President**  
*by Steve Milward*



Greetings from the Vice President/Track Dept.,

Whew, the 2024 Spring Meet is over and by all indications, was a success. A good number of visitors enjoyed riding trains, spending time with friends and almost perfect weather. There were minor hiccups here and there, but nothing we couldn't sort out.

None of this could have taken place without the help of a small, but very dedicated group of volunteers. I mention this because these events tend to fall on the shoulders of the same folks every time. These folks set aside their desire to be participants in the meet, and instead handle the myriad of tasks required to make the meet successful. As an organization, we're only as good as the sum of our parts. We have more events through the course of the year, and I hope that others will answer the call to pitch in.

Looking at track – turnouts seem to be an ongoing source of frustration. Our goal is to upgrade or replace troublesome turnouts and mechanisms. We also plan to rework the dual gauge upper yard above the turntable area. This will be done on a non-interference basis.

As always, if you're willing to help, please contact me at [stevo2472@yahoo.com](mailto:stevo2472@yahoo.com), or text me at 530 559-2472.

We hope you can join us at **Your** railroad.



**Blaise Hassler at the G scale table.**



**10 Years ago:** Just in time for Spring Meet. New car stops (to keep your cars from rolling off end of track) on the two lead tracks from the steaming bay.

Thanks to Milon Thorley for building and installing the car stops.

Current/Future Projects Around the Facility

- New riding cars – Still in progress!
- New Engineer/Conductor riding car prototype being developed.
- Ongoing maintenance to the tractor and lawn mowers · Several stumps and roots dealt with around the facility.
- Improving the signage around the facility.

**20 Years ago:** On June 11, the SVLS has been invited to display some of our equipment at the Regional Transit’s Light Rail station at Sunrise and Folsom Blvd’s. The ribbon cutting ceremony for the grand opening of the line extension will be at 11:00 AM and the place will be open to the public from 5:00 PM until 9:00 PM. Since we will be set up at 10:30 AM, we will need volunteers to watch over our display during the afternoon when we will get some traffic from invited Regional Transit and Hwy 50 Corridor Association guests and the media before the place opens to the public.

**40 Years:** Making Steam: With three Pacific and two Mikes assisted by numerous smaller (but powerful) locomotives we had ample power to handle the many passengers seeking rides on our railroad. The Saturday night run was well attended and most enjoyable after a hectic day of running for others. The balmy weather, the glowing headlights, singing flanges and rhythmic clickity clacks provided an exceptionally pleasant opportunity to enjoy one of the finer aspects of live steam railroading. Sunday provided even more eager passengers, and was easily as successful as Saturday..

Thanks to Bob Bonswor and “Mr. Anonymous” for their very generous donations to the Bathroom Building Fund. Remember, at Keith Kirstein’s suggestion, your reports and findings on the Bathroom, are due at the next General Meeting.



**SVLS** has acquired the original 16 mm film of our Golden Spike event and the meet in May 1973.

This film was taken by Barry Garland who was a channel 3 news photographer. He also was a member of SVLS and volunteered at the railroad museum.


The film has been converted to digital format and can be viewed through our web site in the Video section or the following link:

[1973 SVLS Golden Spike & train Meet](#)



**Q: Why is North American track gauge 4’ 8 1/2” wide?**

**A: Because it is the distance between the neck and ankles of a damsel in distress.**

Don’t fall in a hole and drop out of the club. Please renew now.

Send your dues to:  
SVLSRM  
PO Box 273  
Rancho Cordova, CA  
95741



Mark your Calendars Save the Date and plan to Attend. Going Away Party for Gordon and Barbara Moser Saturday, July 20th, 3 pm at the park.

Life members, 37 years, Gordon and Barbara Moser are moving to Michigan to join son Paul and wife Christy. Lisa and her husband Mitch are going too. Paul and Lisa grew up in the club. They have all been a part of SVLSRM family socializing, volunteering, and enjoying all the friendships over the years. They plan to leave sometime in August.

We are having a going away party on Saturday, July 20th. This will be a pot luck, since Barbara has been so good at these over the years! Also, start planning, this is your chance to roast them (well, Gordon for sure). Lots of stories to share!



Dedicated members are the best! Thanks Barbara & Gordon

Secretary Board Report

By Stephanie Huntingdale

The Board meets by ZOOM. Members are always encouraged to attend. Our next meeting is June 10, 2024, 6:30 p.m. To attend by ZOOM, contact Tom Nance, (714) 795-4630, for how to connect to ZOOM or Stephanie Huntingdale (916) 580-7377 for an Agenda.

Members, 207. Still have about 30 not renewed.

Memorial names engraved before Spring Meet.

The RS3 is for sale.

Mikado Steam Engine donated to the club by Dave McClain is going over safety checks and needs some attention. It will be put in service after Spring Meet. When its running the club will sell the 1973

Richard Lutrel is the new Yard Master

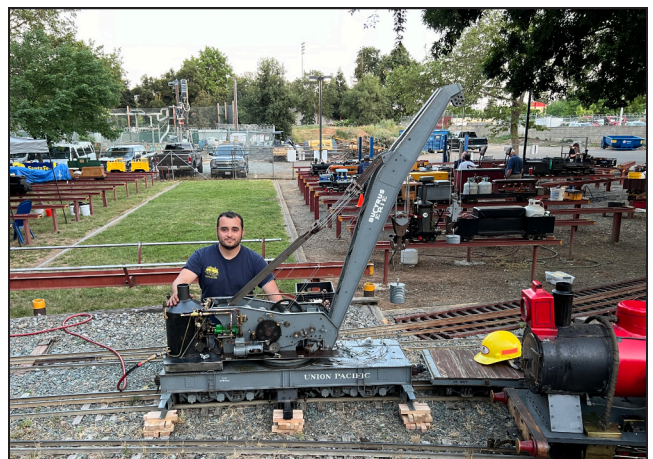
Guest Mike Esparza, our insurance agent went over our policy and coverage's with the Board. It was suggested that we require waivers to be signed for running on our club track. Board will start to require at the Spring Meet. Other discussion held about our Rule Books and Incident reports. Board needs to review before printing new Rule Books. It was suggested that a committee be put together for review, no action taken.

Keys and key policies will be reviewed at the June meeting.

New ride car built by Tom Reese was delivered to the club. It needs trucks and couplers.



Spring Meet snapshots.





The club will be parting ways with the RS3 from Rail Systems. We are selling it as is, just the locomotive. The engineer's riding car is not included in the sale. The locomotive is currently in running order and may be viewed by serious buyers. Some of the details including steps and handrails will need to be redone. The locomotive went through a complete rebuild a few years ago.

Crating and shipping are not available

Priced at \$8,500.

Contact Tom Nance at (714) 795-4630 to view and test run the locomotive.



The club will be parting ways with the Rock Island gondola. We are selling it as is. The gondola is currently in working order and may be viewed by serious buyers. Plastic couplers and trucks are included.

Crating and shipping are not available

Priced at \$750

Contact Tom Nance at (714) 795-4630 with question and to view.



### SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH

#### 1.08 Mode of seating

Passengers must remain seated, straddling seat, and facing forward, on the cars at all times until the train returns to the station. Arms and legs must be kept inside the cars at all times while the train is in motion.

#### 2.03 Night Time Operations

All locomotives operating after sunset shall be equipped in the following manner:

- Working headlight.
- Lighted cab on steam engines.
- Marker light or lantern on the rear of the last car.
- Conductor/Brakemen shall have a lighted lantern or flashlight suitable for making hand signals.

#### 3.13 Backing

Any train or engine about to back up must give the correct signal. All trains or engines backing up shall run at reduced speeds. Engineer must have a clear view 50 feet behind the rear car to back up without a Conductor/Brakeman. Otherwise, a Conductor/Brakeman is required to walk 50 feet behind the rear car with a red flag. Any train of 7 or more cars is required to have a Conductor/Brakeman to walk 50 feet behind the rear car with a red flag.

#### 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.





**locomotive is a complete set of castings including a brand new copper boiler.** This was all purchased from Railroad Supply when it was owned by Chet Peterson. All the running gear castings have been machined and assembled on the frame, the locomotive is running on air. Twin cross head pumps, original blued sheet metal lagging for boiler. Comes with a complete Railroad supply fiberglas tender tank including frame, trucks etc. All of the drawings are included. The boiler is a copper boiler, never installed to frame as supplied by Railroad Supply and has the original shipping crate. \$6950.00.

**Locomotives are in Gardnerville NV. Contact Ken Schroeder 775-265-3632 [aylocomotives@charter.net](mailto:aylocomotives@charter.net)**

