



President's Report

By Steve Milward

Happy Holidays to all,

We've done it, actually, YOU'VE done it!

We worked our way through an incredibly busy holiday season. Between the Rancho Cordova Christmas Tree Lighting and two weekends of Santa Trains, our volunteers stepped up and made it happen. There was no small amount of planning, logistics, set-up, and operations for these events. We worked through reservation issues and unpredictable weather, yet our volunteers were flexible and creative at getting folks on their trains and on their way to meet Santa. Whether our members were there in person, or tirelessly working behind the scenes, a great many people made it all work!

My profound thanks to – Reece & Tyler Albrecht, Andy Berchielli, Alison Berry, Gloria & Keith Berry, Dennis, Heidi & Ryan Bowie, Sade Brown, Jeff Burke, Leonard Cassieri, Dave Cladianos, Vickie Costanzo, Gary & Pat Cousin, Gil Dominguez, Chris Donhost, Bill & Butch Floyd, Dennis Gramith, Craig Griffin, Evan Guinta, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Philip Lawrence, Richard Lutrell, Mark & Margaret Madewell, Andrew Maret, Dave McClain, Henry & Michelle Nanjo, Victor Owens, Wesley Peterson, Kaden & Kat Prudhomme, Stacy & Tom Reece, Bob Ress, Andrew & Kevin Sach, Rob Sharratt, Alan & Tammy Shifley, Dave Silvernail, Chris Smith, Abby, Matt & Wyatt Thomas, Harry Voss, Troy Wilkinson, Peter Welch, Glenn Wilson, Bill Yoder, Donald Yungling.

Okay, the hard work is finally done. It's time to step back and enjoy time with family and friends during the holidays.

Coming up – Our New Years Run Day and potluck!

Let's just go out and have fun.

We've earned this! Hope to see you there!



NEW YEAR Greetings



TEAMWORK



NEW YEARS DAY 2025 Lets start the New Year with a lot of steam, or smelly diesel and bring out your locomotive, rolling stock and enjoy a members run day on January 1. Bring food to share (potluck) for lunch. Mark your calendar for Wednesday January 1, 2025 running starts at 10 AM. with lunch about 1 PM.

If you plan to attend the annual New Day Run be advised that the park will be closed. Please enter through the Ambassador gate closing gate behind you. The park cannot be open to the public. Thank you for your cooperation.

Secretary Report

By: Robert Ress

Summary of December 9, 2024 - Board Meeting

- Christmas Tree Lighting was a good event. We had a good group of helpers for setup, the run and the take down. We carried 600 plus folks in 3.5 hours with one short train.
- Santa Train - First weekend had no major problems. There were many no shows on Saturday, but walkups filled the seats. We will add a fifth car to the consist next weekend. With the forecast rain on Saturday, we will add additional tents to Cordova station and Oasis for additional shelter. If needed, we will run after 3:00 on Sunday to handle any folks from Saturday.
- Vendor has looked at the Memorial, and says the Foundation is ready to place the Memorial stone.

Track Department by Jeff Burke

Hello members,

Thank you all for making Santa Train such a great success with your volunteer hours. I know there were a bunch of very happy families riding the rails because of your contribution.



As for the track during Santa Train, there were minor derailments the first weekend around River Bend near the North Gate. No definitive fault was found except a broken weld joint on the continuously welded rail. A big thank you to Steve for going out during the week to install rail joiners around that broken section.

There are plenty of ties on River Bend which need to be replaced and the track is set to the old tighter gauge but that section of track might be too large of a project to take on before the March public ride season commences.

The second Saturday was a wet one. I spent all morning and used all of Steve's fuel in the leaf blower (thanks!) attempting to keep the track clean while the rain came down. There was minor track flooding near River Bend but I heard no news of derailments.

We still plan to replace the ties in Lower Yard and work days for that will be announced soon.

I hope to see plenty of people out on New

SVLSRM Calendar

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

Jan. 1 Members New Years Day Run

Jan 13 Board meeting

Jan. 18 Member work day

Jan. 19 Member Run day

Feb. 10 Board meeting

Feb. 15 Member work day

Feb. 16 Member Run day

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



See www.svlstrm.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 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@svlstrm.org.

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

MEMBERSHIP

by Stacy Reese

RENEW membership on-line:

<https://www.svlstrm.org/membership.php>



Board of Directors

(##) Ending year of term.

President: Steve Milward (530) 559-2472 (25)

E-mail: president@svlstrm.org

Vice President: Christ Smith (650) 676-0118 (24)

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Treasurer: Henry Nanjo (916) 207-1962 (24)

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Track Superintendent: Jeff Burke (847) 815-7638 (24)

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E-mail: director_dennis@svlstrm.org

Committee Chairpersons

Membership: Stacy Reese (916) 960-6850

E-mail: membership@svlstrm.org

Librarian: Alison Berry (916) 956-4597

E-mail: librarian@svlstrm.org

Caboose: Chairperson: -open-

Safety Chairperson: Mark Madewell (209) 603-1960

Birthday & Company Events:

Andy Berchielli Phone: (916) 572-7857

E-mail: Events@svlstrm.org

Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder

E-mail: editor@svlstrm.org

Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM

Santa train CREWS from the four days of Santa run trains.





10 Years ago: The annual SVLSRM Christmas party had 43 people present and we enjoyed the great food that people brought. Special thanks to Christine Gramith, Barbara Moser, Lorra Fowlar for supplying the main course and decorations, and cleanup. The white elephant exchange went well with some strange gifts,

some bribery being tried, but was fun.

We have added the ability to pay your dues on-line using PayPal (or credit card) to our ebsite, so check the web site.

We were honored with special entertainment from Toy Yungling, as she performed two traditional dances. Thanks Toy.



Marilyn Drewes was a Member since 1981, she was a great supporter of the club. She and her husband Amandus gave tirelessly to SVLS and Train Mountain for many years. She was well-traveled with Amandus in the US and Europe. Amandus passed away in Sept. 1999. Marilyn continued with the club and was awarded SLVSRM Life membership in 2012 for her continued support.



The board gave Bill an unexpected honor at the Christmas party with a plaque and he was really overwhelmed by it.

20 Years ago: Special guest speaker Ken Yeo will be at our January General meeting. He will have a slide show on the history of the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad and their Narrow gauge museum. This railroad built in the late 1800s provided a link from city of Nevada city and Grass Valley to the Central Pacific line at Colfax. Ken is a wealth of information on this railroad and you don't want to miss this presentation.

On Tuesday's work day (Dec. 21) Milon fished up our two new engineer cars. One is now coupled to the work SW1500 and the other will be coupled to the GP40. This will free up the first riding car from having the engineer ride on it and allow better passenger seating. The seats are on a swivels and Ross is planning to add a tool box behind each seat.

40 Years ago: "Roundhouse Rumors" Even without the sunshine on New Year's Day, our track would have been the brightest spot in the county thanks to the wide grin on John Bailie's face as he and his dad proudly unveiled the work done on his newly acquired 0-4-0. Jimmy and Scott Durham appeared to be making record breaking progress on the partially completed Clishay they recently acquired. It reportedly runs, whisper smooth on extremely low air pressure. President, Dennis Gramith, discovered a super form of engine brakes on New Year's Day when the crank pin dropped out of a rear driver and the side rod tucked neatly up under the running board. Sure stops quick!

50 Years ago: Once again on New Years day, members who braved the cold weather had a great time and saw some good steaming. Earl McKenzie showed off and tested his boiler, Roy Motz displayed his 4-6-2 chassis, Operating were Ken Spicer, Don Yungling, Joel Corgin, Ralph McChesney, Milon Thorley and Tom Harris. As you know, Locomotive 4449 is being reconditioned in Portland. As of January 6, 1975 here is the status of the operation: They expect to be running the last week in February and will run in the Portland area for approximately two weeks before the run to the East Coast for the Freedom Train. Engine repairs are ahead of schedule. The air pumps, generator, most valves are operating after being rebuilt. S.P. found a new headlight hidden away in one of their West Oakland shops. The booster engine runs good and no repair was required, even after all these years! Nine coats of paint were removed.. down to bare metal. All the tubes are out and new tubes are on their way from North Carolina. The super-heater will be ready soon.



TRACK UPDATE

By Phil Huntingdale

I trust all had a wonderful Holiday and Christmas with some new equipment. Looking back over the year and the

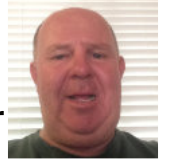
Live Steam hobby at what it has meant to so many members and how it has helped with this year's life challenges. The club has provided a location for fellowship and camaraderie. We have grown together to appreciate the railroads and mechanics of locomotion. The park has provided a gathering place, a refuge for solitude. The beautiful trees and grasses, the water features, the weather, and the structures are amazing. It provides a fulfilling experience to members; the club has provided the same to the public that comes out to share our hobby, I can tell you the families that share with us have big smiles and will continue to support this hobby.

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 weekdays, 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.

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 rework. Check out the Track Superintendents 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 SVLSM and submit it to the Treasurer. This year the club has made a down payment to purchase the new locomotive, purchased a new gator, and track supplies to keep the railroad club functioning. Funds are always needed!

Trainmaster Report by Craig Griffin



Merry Xmas and Happy New Year to Everyone.

Well another year is done and it has been a fun and interesting one. We've been busy down the park as usual with lots of track work, working on engines and club equipment, yard work, and adding some new toys to our equipment list.

We had a 1 1/2" scale Mikado, tender and boxcar/propane car donated to the club roster. We replaced the old gator with a much newer and more reliable one. We also replaced the air compressor in the roundhouse with a nice new one.

The public runs were well attended. The spring and fall meet were great successes. The Xmas tree lighting run was well attended and nice and warm to boot. And of course the Pumpkin run and Santa trains were well attended.

Many thanks go out to all our members who were there volunteering at all our events. Without you we could not run at all.

Hope everyone has a great and safe new year. See you all at the park. Best wishes from Down Under!! Craig.



SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH

11.14 Pets

No pets of any kind shall be allowed to run free within the facility. All pets shall be confined on a leash not over 6 feet in length, or inside a crate or pen. The owner of such pets shall be responsible for immediately cleaning up any manure or other disagreeable mess caused by such pet. Any violation of this rule may result in both pet and owner being asked to leave the facility. Animals may not ride on public passenger trains. Owners may be asked not to have their animals ride at the discretion of the station master. Animals must be kept away from any areas of food preparation or consumption.



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 fibreglas 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.

\$6500.00 or Best Offer.

Locomotives are in Gardnerville NV.
Contact Ken Schroeder 775-265-3632
aylocomotives@charter.net

