



www.svlsrm.org April 2009 Volume 36, Issue 4

### March Out Like A Lion - By Clio Geyer

The last weekend in March was really busy. We had a group of nine Americorp people out working on the landscape for us. Andy Bercheilli and Pete Arney were out to help coordinate where they worked. They got a lot of needles from the Pine trees raked off the tracks around the boxcar as well as a lot of branches and leaves from other areas around the track pick up and hauled away. Pete did a lot of clearing with the weed eaters, he only wore out two of them when we left that afternoon. We expect to have this crew back out next Saturday, April 4. There is still a lot of things that need to be done that they are very capable of doing.

Barbara and Gordon Moser were out to help with the Birthday Party later in the day. Barbara started doing gardening and raked and dug in the area of the Caboose where the Roundup had been sprayed for weeds. She also watered the area that she had cleaned up as well as giving a drink to the plants in front of the restrooms.

Friday Paul Skidmore was out and used the John Deere mower and did a lot of mowing. Ross Crawford brought out the lawn mower he had put in the shop. Now we have 2 push mowers available. The place is sure starting to shape up very nicely.

In addition to all this work going on, we had a large (35 people) party. Ross, Marilyn, Ed Zeis, Barbara, Gordon, Vern and I were all available to help with the Birthday party. - That takes care of Saturday.

#### Sunday.

The wind decided to see how much it could blow around. This was especially true in the afternoon.

We had another Birthday party scheduled for Sunday afternoon. Again Barbara and Gordon were out early so that Barbara could do more gardening. I took out some Amaryllis bulbs from my

Continued on page 5

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SVLSRM has emblem pins for sale and they look great. They cost \$5.

See Clio to buy a pin.

(916) 645-9154



### **Non-President's Report**

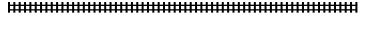
By Pete Arney

Thank you all for giving me the opportunity to serve you on the Board of Directors for the past eight years, most recently as president. I'm winding up my retirement process that I began last June. The reason for leaving before the end of my term is entirely due to the demands and pleasures of my personal life... and a belief when a job needs full attention to be accomplished well, then that is what must be done without exception.

Lee Frechette has been appointed by the board to carry out the duties of president until the end of the present term. Our SVLSRM organization is moving towards an increased participation in our local community. This direction is not only defined by our incorporation as a charitable non-profit and our 501(c) (3) status, but also by our desire to share our passion of railroading and railroad history with others, especially children. To our great fortune, Lee's expertise, among his other talents, is in community outreach and community involvement. Lee has the same love of railroading that the rest of us do and we will be well served by his presidency.

I hope to see you at the track often. Again, thanks for your help over the years. Keep on steaming!

Pete Arney





I wanted to Thank you for a wonderful day on the 14th. My son Cooper and everyone that attend his birthday had a great time!! They thought the train and area was just great. You did an excellent job and we will definitely be back to ride the train. Thanks again and hopefully we will see you soon!! Danell Harrison

### SVLSRM Calendar

- Apr. 4 Public run day Noon to 4 P.M.
- Apr. 14 Board Meeting 6:30 P.M. (R.C. City hall)
- Apr. 17 Membership Meeting 7:30 P.M.
- Apr. 18 Saturday Work Day
- Apr. 19 Public run day Noon to 4 P.M.
- May 2 Public run day Noon to 4 P.M.
- May 12 Board Meeting 6:30 P.M. (R.C. City hall)
- May 15 Membership Meeting 7:30 P.M
- May 16-17 Spring Meet
- May 17 Public rides Noon to 4 P.M.

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?



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 may be submitted to: editor@svlsrm.org.



### SPRING MEET DINNER PLANS

Well here it is the first of April and The Spring meet is only a few weeks away.

The dinner plans are as follows:

Price: \$10 each or \$25 for families with 1 or 2 children under 12. (If more children ask about additional price.)

Menu: Your choice of 1 (ONE) of the

following:

Bar-B-Q Chicken or Bar-B-Q Beef (If this is your choice, please indicate how

well done you want.), or Bar-B-Q Pork Loin

With Tossed Salad and Baked Beans Sides of Dinner Rolls and Lemonade, Water and Coffee. Sodas are extra. Dessert will be sheet cake and pies etc provided by donations.

Please submit your request to Lois Clifton as early as possible so that the meat can be purchased accordingly.



Please check the SVLS web site www. svlsrm.org for current information on SVLS activities.

### **Board of Directors**

President: Lee Frechette (916) 205-6791 E-mail: leefrechette@yahoo.com

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E-mail:

Secretary: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113

E-mail: byoder@vfr.net

Treasurer: Lois Clifton (916) 722-8514

E-mail: loisjune1@comcast.net

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Trainmaster: Karle Mahler (916) 334-8283

E-mail: karlemahler@sbcglobal.net

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Safety Committee: JJ Carbino (510) 782-2349

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Newsletter Editor: Bill Yoder (916) 652-7113

E-mail: editor@svlsrm.org

Membership & T.A.P.: Amy Lutrel (916) 344-8989

E-mail: amyl1979@sbcglobal.net Reminder - no phone calls after 9 PM

### Yo Mower Drivers,

Ross has repaired two push mowers and will keep them fueled and oiled in the small shed (mower annex) behind the big mower shed.



Now you can mow as much as you want. Here are some

suggestions for care and feeding of the mowers.

- 1. Mow mainly in confined areas where the John Deere riding mower can not go.
- 2. If you see a rock pick it up so not to hit with the mower.
- 3. The mowers have new blades so try to protect them.
- 4. Do not blow grass onto the right of way because it promotes weeds and makes the track slippery.
- 5. If you run out of gas (in the mower) then call Ross 916-715-4162 or check the fuel cabinet for mower fuel.

### H------

### 2009 public run schedule

March	7 & 15		
April	4 & 19		
May	2 & 17		
June	6 & 21		
July	3,4 & 19		
August	1 & 16		
September	5 & 20		
October	3 & 18		
Haunted House	23,24 &		
	30,31		
December Santa Train	5 & 6		

# 

SPECIAL RUNS FOR APRIL 2008 by Clio Geyer

April 2 - 10:30-12:30 - Citrus Heights Moms

April 13 - 12:30 - 2:30 - Birthday Party

April 24 - 10:30 - Noon - Bayside Church Moms

April 29 - 10-2 - Kids Day in The Park - This is another special request of the park. We will have our trains available for those who wish to take rides during this time.

Again If there are any of you who are tired of staying home and sitting around on weekends, please let me know if you would be interested in coming out and playing with the children. They are really quite entertaining.

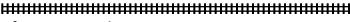
### Track Superintendent By Darrell Gomes



The 2009 running season is off to a great start ! Now that the Hagan Park 7 1/2" gauge track is up and running, the track crew has now started to work on repairs and upgrades in

the expansion area. The main line at Oasis has been leveled and received new ballast . West side main at Hillview has received rail joint upgrades, bad wooden ties replaced with plastic, and rail replacement for the switch at the Fuel Depot. Remote switch throw for Cordova Junction is under construction, and Sugar Pine is closed. I want to THANK Milon Thorley, Paul Skidmore, Jack Freidman, Bill Yoder, Terry Willes, Bob Silva, Bill & Debbie Ulray, Lee Frechett, Pete Arney, Jeff White, Hunter Lohse, Keith Berry, Vern & Clio Geyer, Gail Gomes, and the names I forgot for all their help. These volunteers got 2009 off to GREAT start.







It is a new season for Public runs so crew help is needed for running trains, station help, and setting up and then putting away the equipment, awnings, etc...



Darrell and his track crew has been very busy the last few weeks. Here they have replaced 88 feet of Aluminum rail with steel rail along North Curve. Replacing some ties and adding ballast.



North Curve.



Andy Bercheilli has been busy also planting plants on "Thorley Berm", also a new water spigot was added just west of the berm.



The switch at Hill View West has a new smother ride and sound. The multi-spliced rail has been replaced. Now instead of many joints inches apart there are two joints 12 feet apart.



Ongoing tie replacement on main line continues with replacing every 5th tie with a plastic tie and new long splice bars with extra tie support under each joint.

Continued from Page 1 - March weekend report:

yard and she planted them along the fence by the Caboose. She also got to start working on the area just after the bridge along the dry river bed. Gordon helped her cut out some dead branches on some of the trees near that area.

The party was very nice. The group brought out their B-B-Q and fixed turkey hot dogs and hamburgers. Ed Zeis came out again to help with the party, which meant that Barbara could continue her yard work as Gordon and Vern were both available to help. The B-B-Q has been donated to SVLSRM by the hosts of the party Mike & Noni Thompson. They said they don't like the propane so never use it and are willing to donate theirs to us. I told them we would be happy to have it. It has been delivered and is in good shape.

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### **Books reviews:** by Pete Arney

In an earlier newsletter, books published by Arcadia Publishing (http://www.arcadiapublishing.com) covering the Sacramento area were listed. One book in particular, part of the "Images of Rail" series, just been published (March, 2009), is very good. Sacramento Southern



Railroad, written by Kevin W. Hecteman, covers the history of the Sacramento Southern Railroad, otherwise known as Southern Pacific's Walnut Grove branch.

The history starts with early railroads in Sacramento in the 1860's: Central Pacific, Sacramento Valley RR, and Santa Fe (by river boat). The Sacramento Southern was incorporated in 1903 by the Southern Pacific as their answer to the intrusion of competitor ATSF and the Santa Fe river boats into the rich delta farming communities. In 1907 the SP had envisioned using the Walnut Grove route as an all-rail route to San Francisco via Antioch, Walnut Creek, Niles Canyon, Dumbarton Bridge, and up the Peninsula to San Francisco. This route was never completed, however.

Early towns that the SSRR passed through had naming connections to several railroads. William Hood was a civil engineer who helped the CPRR push through the Sierra Nevada and later became the SP's chief engineer. Freeport was founded by the SVRR to circumvent taxation by the City of Sacramento. F. A. Miller fought the Sacramento Southern's efforts to build their right-of-way through his land but later gave in. Miller's land eventually was donated to the city and became Miller Park.

Decline of the Sacramento Southern began in the 30's when all passenger service was discontinued, and during the 40's and 50's as trucks took over most of the produce transportation. Floods in 1972 ended service to Isleton. In 1975 the SP filed to abandon the branch from Hood Junction to Isleton and in 1976 filed to abandon the Miller Park - Hood Junction line. The ICC approved

the applications in 1977 and the last train operated on the Walnut Grove branch on October 10, 1978.

The last chapter deals with the current status and operation as the California State Railroad Museum's railroad. Several pictures of Al Shelley and Red Hadler, SVLSRM past and present members, are included as well. The author, who volunteers on the new Sacramento Southern, is donating all of his royalties to the CSRM Foundation.

This is a soft bound book, priced at around \$22 and is available direct from the publisher and from Amazon at a discount. It is stocked by Barnes & Noble and other book stores as well. The book is mainly a pictorial with much of the history presented in extended picture captions and has several maps. Later railroads, such as Sacramento Northern and Central California Traction passenger and freight operations, are briefly included. This book is well worth the investment and is especially rich in early Sacramento photographs.

*Victor Shattock* founded the Golden Gate Live Steamers in 1936 with a 400 ft. 1/2" scale live steam layout in the basement of his Oakland home. Later, in 1950, GGLS moved to Redwood Park, then later to Tilden Park in the East Bay Regional Park District.

His grandson, Ken Shattock, has established a Yahoo Group, <a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/vicshattocktrains">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/vicshattocktrains</a> to document and present pictures, history, and memorabilia of Vic Shattock and GGLS for viewing and purchase. Ken is also Secretary, North American Region IBLS, and has a video on IBLS history as well.

"Victor Shattock Steam Trains" (1930--1968), runs for two hours and includes Victor's basement railroad and other rarities...the entire history of GGLS and how he founded it almost 75-years ago... Price= \$ 25.00

"IBLS History: The Films of Carl Purinton (1947--1963), runs little over two hours... Covers the layouts, meets, Carl Purinton (IBLS Founder), his son Charlie, and all the Eastern pioneers... Price= \$ 30.00. BOTH for \$ 50.00 (postage included).

Shattock was one of our hobby pioneers and his history is our history at SVLSRM. Well worth a visit to the Yahoo Group site.

### 





Your editor is looking for pictures or movies of SVLS activities so we can make a copy and add to our Historical collection. If you have some please notify the editor. Thanks - Bill



### Membership

By Amy Lutrel

The Trainmen Auxiliary Program (T A P) will provide the opportunity for kids age 12-18 to learn and understand how trains and railroads work.

The program is held once a month and is set up so that the youth can work towards Merits in specified areas and earn opportunities to enjoy the railroad.

For 2009 we are in need of volunteers to help with this program by teaching a subject about railroading. We only need one volunteer per month to help so please look at the possible dates (only one per month is needed) and volunteer.

MONTH	1 <sup>ST</sup> WEEKEND	2 <sup>ND</sup> WEEKEND	3 <sup>RD</sup> WEEKEND	4 <sup>TH</sup> WEEKEND	5 <sup>TH</sup> WEEKEND	WHO & SUBJECT
MARCH	(7)P.R.12-4 (8)	(14) (15)P.R. 12-4	(21)Work Day (22)	(28) (29)		
APRIL	(4)P.R. 12-4 (5)	(11) (12)	(18)Work Day (19)P.R. 12-4	(25) (26)		
MAY	DARRELL	GOMES	MAY 9,2009	11:00 AM	TRACK	WORK
JUNE	(6)P.R. 12-4 (7)	(13) (14)	(20)Work Day (21)P.R. 12-4	(27) (28)		
JULY	NOT AVAILABLE	(11) (12)	(18)Work Day (19)P.R. 12-4	(25) (26)		
AUGUST	(1)P.R. 12-4 (2)	(8) (9)	(15) (16)P.R. 12-4	(22)Work Day (23)	(29) (30)	
SEPTEMBER	(5)P.R. 12-4 (6)	(12) (13)	(19)Work Day (20)P.R. 12-4	NOT AVAILABLE		
OCTOBER	(3)P.R. 12-4 (4)	(10) (11)	(17)Work Day (18)P.R. 12-4	NOT AVAILABLE	NOT AVAILABLE	

Key: (#) = Day of The Month, P.R. = Public Run Day

- \* Please Pick a time between 9am and 4pm (and no more than 2 hours)
- \* If the Month you would like is already taken please consider another Month. We only need one per month.
- \* P.R. (Public Run Days) And Work Days are ok as long as Public Trains are not affected. ----

---- Please contact Amy Lutrel (916) 344-8989



### Safety Committee By J.J.Carbino

I again miss read the run schedule. I did visit the park on Saturday the 14 Th. And I was able to get the chair car no's so now I can start the maintenance log book. I will also do maintenance sheets on the maintenance of way cars as well as the locomotives. The plan is to do a thorough safety inspection on all of our equipment at least twice a year.

I have walked the new rails the track folks have installed in the park. The track committee have done a super job and should be thanked for a job well done and yes done safely.

Our run days are here so let's all get up to speed on the safety rules and check out equipment prior to giving rides to the public. Let's all remember that good maintenance helps us protect our public and it also keeps our equipment on the rail and out of the shop.

Let's do all our work on Society equipment with safety in mind. Let's be sure driving the public on our rails is done with safety and before long it will get to be a habit.

I have asked that the Gator be repaired before we get too far into this season.

Remember, work safe so that we bring no harm to anyone.

### narm to anyone.

### Tree planting

Glowian Martinelie from the Sacramento Tree Foundation spent about three hours at the track with us advising on watering issues, diseases some of our trees have and planning for the tree planting we will be doing on Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>. That Saturday, with the help of the Rancho Cordova Rotary Club, we plan to plant approximately 70 new trees around the railroad.

### Americorps

Thanks to Andy Berchielli we will have an Americorps crew at the track on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. There are several tasks they would be great for, two of which are finishing the new grade crossing and ballasting and laying the Sugar Pine track. The Americorps crew will on site from 8:00 AM till 2:00 PM each day.

### First Covenant\_Church\_Work Day

The Community Council has informed us that First Covenant Church in Rancho Cordova is looking for a community service project for their young adults group. Shelly Blanchard, the executive director of the Community Council, is recommending to First Covenant that they adopt us as their spring service project. Their work day is Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup>, the day after the Americorps volunteers are scheduled to be at the track. This would give us a three-day window to get a lot of work done and get ready for spring meet. First Covenant would bring approximately 60 people who can to everything from carpentry, painting to yard work and general clean-up. If you have ideas for work they can do please contact Lee Frechette (916) 205-6791

<sup>\*</sup> Please Pick the Month, Day, and Time you would like to Help with the T.A.P. Kids and Call/E-mail Amy to be put on the Calendar.



#### 10 Years ago:

#### HELP! HELP! HELP!

We need your help. Much has been accomplished this Winter on our railroad, but much more needs to be done for us to remain a "first class" facility. However, one or two people can not do it all. Following is a list of projects needing to be done. If one person will step forward and take charge of each one of them, maybe they'll

be done this year. If there are two of you who can work together to do one of these projects, it will make it go faster.

- 1. Concrete floor in mower shed
- 2. Modify water outlet at passenger station
- 3. Pave passenger loading area in passenger station
- 4. Get sprinkler system working again this year i.e. clean heads and screens, etc.
- 5. Remove stump and tree root in steaming bays
- 6. Help with grass cutting
- 7. Paint truss bridge
- 8. Finish laying track in meadow
- 9. Fix fence cut by vandals last Fall
- 10. Finish hauling tree trimmings to dumpster
- 11. Extend waterline to truss bridge/Hillview
- 12. and more.....

Do I hear any volunteers take charge and run with any of theses projects? If so, contact President Tony.

Milon Thorley - Vice-president

20 Years ago: As has been par for the course this year, the faithful crew worked in the rain once again. During the course of this weekend John Bailie spearheaded the installation of several new Steaming Bays. Robby Sharratt applied the chain saw to the tree blocking the new hoist, Amandus Drewes lead the assault on the old concrete road crossing ending it's ability to derail trains, the 4x4 edging was placed and secured around the perimeter of the Steaming Bay area, following which 50 tons of crushed rock was spread under and around the bays, cement was poured and the track installed for the new 20' rolling gate and concrete slab was poured in front of the Maintenance Building, miscellaneous fence posts with concrete were removed from the compound and placed in the storage area, the numerous piles of dirt (which accumulated from the track work in the meadow) were removed, lawns were mowed and a lot of general trimming and cleaning up was done.

Inside the Caboose Marilyn eagerly attacked the project of framing the donated pictures and hanging them on the walls.

**30 Years ago:** SVLS IS STEAMING UP for Spring Meet (1979) - work days showed that Spring had indeed sprang. March, 17,24,31st and Apr. 7th saw many members out doing a variety of jobs. Special mention goes to Dennis & Judy who planted ten new trees, mowed the grass and did a variety of other work, the DeFreitas brothers, who drive several hundred miles to attend these work parties, sprayed the weeds and worked on track. Keith Kirsten donated 50 gallons of oil and dinotrol. Ed

Yungling obtained the steel for the new inbound lead from the mainline to the steaming bays, and he and Steve Banks did the welding.

Gerry Carney, our hardworking Secretary who provided all this news, actually crawled on hands and knees all the way around the track twice with a tape, measuring the actual length and establishing scale mile-posts. He says we have 1888 feet of mainline + or - a foot, equal to 3 scale miles. If you don't agree - you try crawling around it twice!

Here is some of the other work accomplished:

Quite a section of track on the back stretch was relaid with new ties and ballast. (Ed Spall seemed to have the right boots for kicking it into line). Piers were set for the new inbound lead, steel was erected and welded up, ties and rail installed, all on several work days. Cost of the steel was \$264. A 10-wheeler load of ballast and fill material 1/4 to fine, was delivered through efforts of Earl McKenzie. Brush cutting, cleaning up, and other track work was done.

Ken Spicer, Chuck Gorothers, Ed Spall, Dave Yunging, Ed Yungling, Steve Banks, Tom Anderson, Dick Quiring, Gerry Carney, Joe & Al DeFreitas, Cliff Gnevo, and other whom we may have missed put in their time and work to improve our facility.

### **!**

### **Safety Rules for the Month**

113. No one shall stand nor walk within five (5) feet of any track, unless his duties require him to do so. It shall be the duty of any and all SVLSRM members to help keep the public at a safe distance from the tracks. Responsible photographers and persons with

recording equipment may obtain permission to get closer to the moving trains under certain conditions.

- 202. All engines must be run at a safe speed and under complete control at all times.
- 228. No locomotive shall be operated at an excessive speed, and shall not be operated at a speed greater that any speed from which the locomotive and its train can be slowed and stopped within a reasonable distance, depending on the traffic, track conditions, visibility and weight of the train. Absolute maximum speed of any train shall be 7 mph actual (10 seconds between milepost markers).
- 301. The chief concern of all operating personnel shall be the safety of visitors, guests, and members of the organization.
- 420. Car and truck bolsters shall be constructed to provide three or four point suspension for the car body. Side bearing clearance shall allow trucks to swivel freely, and provide stability for the car body with maximum load shifting. Kingpins for unequalized trucks shall be loose enough to allow equalizing with respect to the car body.

## for sale

**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. 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.



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** 

Scratch built 0-4-0 Falk logging locomotive, propane fired. Runs on air. Whistle, axle driven feed pump, working donkey engine Cute little thing - Only \$3,200/Of-

fer. Too small for me, I like the larger stuff. Avlable SVLSRM spring meet

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



### 1.5" scale Pyle National extended case or flush mount dual GYRALITE.

They operates "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



### Wanted Broken Couplers.

Price based on condition. Contact Ross Crawford 916-718-4162



An Andy Clarici original one of a kind. Hall Scott car with trailer car 7.5" gauge, roughly 2" scale. Last ran in September.

Includes 5' x 10' trailer with custom cover. Also includes spare engine. Asking \$10,000 for all. Located in Sacramento area. Contact Paul or Lois Clifton 916-722-8514

**Switch stands**, point throw mechanism and point plate for attaching the points is included with the switch stand. A complete set-up for \$90.00 Free shipping in USA.

http://www.timbercreekrr.zoomshare.com/ Contact me by phone or e-mail for questions and quantity discounts.



Gordon Briggs timbercreekrr@yahoo.com (530)273-9145

- #1. Mechanical cylinder cocks for 1 to 4 inch cylinder. 1/8 NPT. Four per set, \$80 per set.
- #2. Steam oil \$10. per quart.
- #3. Aluminum Brake shoes for 4 inch wheel: \$1 per shoe.
- #4. 6 wheel common wealth passenger trucks for 7 1/4 or 7 1/2 gauge. \$1200. Per pair.

Ross Crawford 916-718-4162

