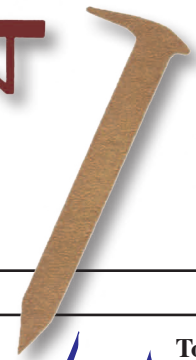


The GOLDEN SPIKE



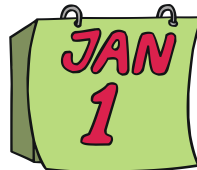
www.svlsm.org

January 2015

Volume 42, Issue 01

NEW YEARS DAY 2015

Let's 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, 2015.



Bring food to share (potluck) for lunch.



Last year we had over 60 people of all ages enjoying the great food, and with 15 trains. Let's see if we can beat that this year.

Join us on Thursday January 1.
Running starts at 10 AM and lunch about 1 PM.

We were very busy at the Santa Runs and thanks to the many volunteers that support the club in its fund raising events. After all the rail does not grow on trees.

Ed Zeis is ready to take another train load to the Santa station for pictures and treats.



Thanks to the Santa Run and Cordova Christmas Tree Lighting volunteers:

Dave & Maureen Bardwell, Andy Berchielli, Keith & Gloria Berry, Dennis, Heidi, Maren and Ryan Bowie, Marty Carapiet, Dale Dennis, Butch & Bill Floyd, Dale & Lorra Fowlar, Clio Geyer, Dennis Gramith, Phil & Stephanie Huntingdale, Steve Kendal, Richard & Amy Lutrel, Karle Mahler, Steve Milward, Gordon & Barbara Moser, Tom Nance, Steve Perry, Andrew, Ann & Kevin Sach, Rob & Tammy Sharratt, Dean Sheets, Jerry Thomas, Matt & Michelle Thomas, Gary & Jan Wilson and Reed Hickman, Cindy & Les Wilmunder, Julie & Austin Unruh, Bill Yoder, Don & Toy Yungling, Ed Zeis, Peter Welch.

Thank you

To the people that donated cookies for the Santa Train:

Stephanie Huntingdale
Maryanne Ward
Michelle Thomas
Dawn & Toby Rowe
Heidi & Maren Bowie

Toy Yungling
Lorra Fowlar
Clio Geyer
Jan Wilson
Anne Sach
Julie Unruh
Cindy Wilmunder
Steve Milward
Terry Willes
Bill Yoder
Andy Berchielli
Tatiana Edson
Christine Gramith
Barbara Moser.
If you sneaked them in then Barbara did not see you. So thanks to all for the cookies.



Toy Yungling keeping the serving table ready for the our Santa Train riders, while keeping the train crews from too many samples.



Anyone get a chance to see our two Christmas Elves during our Santa Train event? Jingle and Jangle (aka Deanna and Maren) got into the holiday spirit by putting together some festive costumes and coming

out to help entertain the crowds at the SVLS North Pole. Even though Junior Engineers can't be part of running our public trains, these two merry elves showed that are other ways to be involved. A third "Elf" not photographed was Wyatt Thomas (aka Jiggle) who was everywhere that first weekend...at the photo table, running errands or helping with train repairs. It's not too early to start planning for next year...thinking about helping monitor the cookie table, entertaining families at either of the stations, being an support conductor or being Santa Elves to make the event even more holiday festive! The point is to have fun and help support our wonderful club!

Santa & helpers (left to right): Rob, Maren, Dennis, Stephanie, and Deanna



SVLSRM Calendar

JAN-FEB We will be working most weekends on track and Trestle rebuild, Come out and help.

Call Track Superintendent Dennis Bowie to offer your help.

Jan. 1, 2015 New Year day members run & potluck lunch;
Please bring food to share and enjoy the day.

Jan. 13 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room
Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.

Feb. 2 Ground Hog day

Feb. 10 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Community Board Room
Rancho Cordova City Hall. Members welcome.

Mar. 7 Public run day - 11 AM - 4 PM

Mar. 8 Public run day - 11 AM - 4 PM

Please volunteer to support the club events.

How will you support SVLSRM this month?



Postage is **49¢** to mail our news letter. Save SVLSRM some money and read the newsletters on-line. Tell us that you don't need the mailed copy, we will notify you by E-mail, then you can read on-line. *Thanks*



Please check the SVLS web site: www.svlstrm.org for current information on SVLSRM activities.

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@svlstrm.org.

The news letter deadline is 24th of each month.

Member articles wanted.



PAY YOUR 2015 DUES

Please update your membership form - note any changes and sign the waiver.

You can also download forms at svlstrm.org.

Send a check or pay on-line with PAYPAL at svlstrm.org.

Send forms to SVLS P.O. Box 273,
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741



THANKS

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Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM

Marilyn Drewes 6/20/1934 - 12/4/2014



Marilyn 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.

Her locomotive, a Winton Mogul #8 was the star of our first Santa run event in 2002, and this event has continued using her beautiful locomotive as the main prop for kids to have their pictures taken along with Santa. She also loved making cookies for these events, and in her honor Ross Crawford's daughter Lizzy (Elizabeth) Crawford and her daughter made cookies as a Memorial to her and donated them to the Santa event. They brought them on Sunday.

In poor health, Marilyn passed away December 4th. Ross Crawford, her companion for several years who loved her dearly, said Marilyn did not want a service and was cremated as she wished. We will all miss her fun-loving personality.



SANTA RUN 2014



Trains were busy and full transporting families to see Santa.



Track Superintendent Report

By Dennis Bowie

Hello SLVS membership! I want to take the opportunity to introduce myself to everyone.... my name is Dennis Bowie and I am the new Track Superintendent.



I'm still in a daze about how the whole thing came about. I got sent out to Container one to look for some elusive box of "stuff" and came back to find out that I had been nominated and elected to the position in all of about 7 minutes!

There are lots of track projects to be done this year and I would be thrilled to have your help. Please e-mail me at: dpbowie@comcast.net if you have a burning desire in your boiler to be a part of the fun. Even if you don't, expect a call from Dale Fowler looking for track helpers because I can't do this alone. Hope to see you on New Year's Day for a fun day at the track!



Train Masters Report

By Kevin Sach



Well, another year has wrapped up and it was a good year of running trains. I want to thank all who came out and help crew the trains for public run days as well as for the parties.

With the winter break of public run days, now starts our maintenance of the engines and the riding cars. I also plan to start on getting the second steam engine together. I will try and be out there most weekends, so come on out and help where you can.

See you in the steaming bays.



Crews busy putting up decorations for Santa run. Well, at least 50% are working.

SVLS December Board Meeting Summary

Current/Future Projects Around the Facility

- SP Caboose – Interior plans still being researched.
- Eastern Trestle bridge (Andy B.) scheduled to be rebuilt in January.
- Twin Bridges scheduled to be repaired Jan/Feb.
- New sidings locations being discussed.
- SVLS hosted approximately 26 parties/gatherings in 2014! Thank you to Andy and your train crews!

Current Issues before the Board

- SVLS Card Reader – Used during Santa Run...great option for families!
- Rancho Cordova Tree Lighting Ceremony – Moved to Dec. 7th and SVLS was able to pull it off! City of Rancho Cordova gave SVLS a \$500 donation for having our portable track and train at the event.
- Santa Run – Dec. 6th & 7th, 13th & 14th event. Thank you to all the Train crews, helpers and for all the COOK-IES!!!
- Finalizing a schedule for safety inspections.
- Looking at adding a new event in October...a Pumpkin Train! Details to come.
- Dean Sheets appointed to Membership position.
- Clearly detailing member benefits (both Regular/Family and Associate).
- Looking at purchasing new radios for use during public runs and special events.
- Compiling a document in one location listing all new policies or changes that have occurred in 2014.
- Approval to sell old equipment and unneeded material by listing it in the SVLS newsletter.
- New brochures printed.



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



“High Ball” Santa - no reindeer needed here to make his rounds.



And speaking of the holiday spirit...SVLS had their very own ATM machine at Santa Train this year! Anytime a family needed to pay with a credit or debit card, calls would ring out for “ATM!!!!”. Honestly, we thought about calling him Scrooge, but this guy was just too nice and accommodating to be giving such a grumpy title. Thank you to Tom Nance for being so awesome!

President's Report

By Bill Yoder

Well looks like the editor left some space for the club President to write a few words, and again, he was last to turn in his article.

First I need to really thank the volunteers that have supported the club in 2014 and our special events, like the Santa Run, the Rancho Cordova Christmas tree lighting event. Doing these special events is one way to let the public know about our hobby.

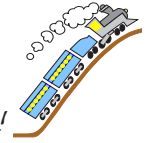
The board gave me an unexpected gift at the Christmas party and I am really overwhelmed by it - so thanks again!



Major track maintenance is now required: we have three trestles that need to be repair or replaced, and we still want to add more sidings and main line features. Without your participation, nothing will change. There will be several extra work days in January and February.

The board always appreciates feedback from our activities and planning, so take a few minutes and contact a board member and talk. Club members are always welcome at the board meetings.

We have added the ability to pay your dues on-line using PayPal (or credit card) to our website, so check the web site. We need all members to pay their 2015 dues as we have several projects in need of funding. Also sign up for the *members only* web area too.



Happy new year and keep it steaming!



10 Years ago:



Winning a ribbon in the Rancho Cordova 4th of July parade. Thanks to Les and Casey Wilmunder.

30 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!

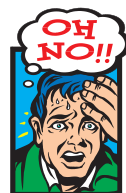


Two famous members given Life membership. Thanks for your years of support Ed Yungling and Al Shelley.

40 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.

20 Years ago: “From the Yardmaster:” First of all I would like to thank Clio and Vern Geyer for the new “lawn mower record book”. This will allow us to keep accurate records of everything done to our mowers. I will keep it in the file cabinet in the Roundhouse. Not much else to report now. Time to rake up the leaves, before we push on to something else. Our grass and weeds are already growing like mad!
- Gordon Moser, Yardmaster.



I cannot forget to pay my dues. Life may be busy but supporting SVLS is needed, both monetary and with labor, many projects to be done this year.

Please send your 2015 dues now. Fill membership form in and send.

SVLSRM Christmas Party activity.



Ross Crawford & Dennis Gramith



Ken Willes & Dale Fowler

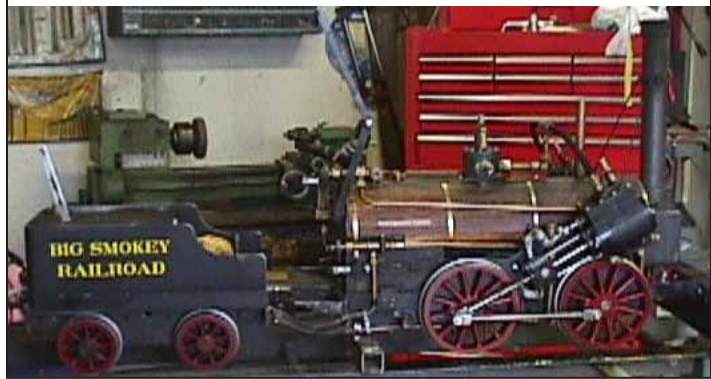


The gift exchange. Gee what do I want?



Performance by Toy Yungling

FOR SALE



FOR SALE 7.5" gauge, 1.5" scale 0-4-0 INVICTA locomotive, tender and two riding cars. Steel propane fired boiler feeding 1.375" x 2.22" cylinders sleeved down to 1". Direction control is by a slip eccentric set-up. Six inch diameter drivers. Boiler make-up water supplied by an axle pump backed up by a hand pump in the tender. Manual brakes on the first riding car. The tender only holds about one gallon of water so I built a three gallon water tank in the first riding car along with a pump and battery so I can refill the tender on the fly. Complete - Ready to Run. I transport this train on its tie down board in my Prius automobile. Board is included.

Asking \$7,000 - Reasonable cash offers considered. Contact Bill Cody - Home (775) 674-6512 or Cell 775-233-1429 for additional information/pictures.



Used riding car parts, or commercial flood lights 480V. Best offer - Call a Board member to make a deal.

 Check our web site FOR SALE page for additional listing with more pictures and more details. <http://www.svlsrcm.org/>

SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH



117. No pets of any kind shall be allowed to run free within the facility. All pets shall be confined on a leash not over six (6) feet in length, or inside the owners car, (as per park rules). 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.

231. Any member wishing to use any SVLSRM owned rail equipment at the facility must make this request to the Trainmaster (Article IV Section 11.) The member must report to the Trainmaster any damage or operational problems that occurred while in their care at the time of the equipment return. The member must return the equipment to the location from where it was issued.

308. For insurance purposes: engineers and conductor on trains hauling the general public MUST be qualified members of SVLSRM, and pass a qualification test.

406. Steam boilers shall have an annual hydrostatic test. Such test shall prove the ability of the boiler to withstand hydrostatic pressures of at least fifty percent (50%) above the normal working pressure of the boiler. Such tests shall further prove the ability of each safety valve to work satisfactorily at its own set pressure. Steam boiler test certification issued by other recognized Live Steam organization within the past twelve (12) months shall be honored by SVLSRM