



President's Report

By Steve Milward

Greetings All,

It's officially Autumn! Cooler temperatures, falling leaves and lots of activities in the next few weeks at our Railroad. October promises to be busy.

Looking ahead, we have Pumpkin Trains and the Fall Meet. In addition to the actual events, there's a lot of preparation for these activities on the days before. We will need help.

Speaking of help, I'd like to say "Thank You" to all those folks who volunteer on a regular basis or as their time allows, for coming out to the Railroad and helping in so many ways. It's hard to adequately express my appreciation for your efforts! Your time and help does make a difference.

I'd also like to thank Andy Berchielli for his many contributions to this organization. Not the least of which is his many years as the party coordinator. Andy has chosen to step down from this role, allowing him time to pursue other activities. If this is a task that someone would be willing to take on, please contact me, or anybody on the Board. Looking forward to seeing you at the track! **Steve**

Decorate for Pumpkin Trains: Oct 1, 2, & 3
Pumpkin Trains event. October 4th & 5th

Fall Meet Set up Oct 15, 16
Fall Meet October 17th – 19th)

FALL MEET



Join us for 3 DAYS
of trains, Friends,
Food, and a Good
time

Fall Meet – October 17, 18, & 19
Details on our web site: SVLSRM.ORG

Or use the following link for info and make
your reservations:

<https://www.svlsrcm.org/meet-notice-FALL.php>



Wednesday workers



Keith and Gloria, Phil and
Stephanie cut down dead
branches hanging over main
line.



SVLSRM Calendar

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

Oct 1 setup for Pumpkin Patch Express
Oct 2 setup for Pumpkin Patch Express
Oct 3 setup for Pumpkin Patch Express



Oct 4 Pumpkin Patch Express 11AM to 3PM
Oct 5 Pumpkin Patch Express 11AM to 3PM



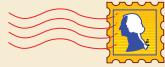
Oct 13 Board meeting

Oct 15-16 setup for FALL MEET

Oct 17 Membership meeting 7:30 -
Nominations for 2026 board

Oct 17-19 FALL MEET

How will you support SVLSRM this month?



Help the club save money by
receiving your newsletters on-line.
Average price per mailing over \$2.

**Save SVLSRM
some money and
read the news
letters on-line.
Tell Membership
that you don't
need the mailed
copy.**



See www.svlsrcm.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@svlsrcm.org.

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

WORK DAYS VOLUNTEERS

September Volunteers: Reece Albrecht, Tyler Albrecht,
Keith Berry, Dennis Bowie, Jeff Burke, Leonard Cassieri,
Richard Corbell, Dave Frediani, Craig Griffin,
Phil Huntingdale, Stephanie Huntingdale, Richard Lutrel,
Mark Madewell, teve Milward, Henry Nanjo, Michele Nanjo,
Bob Ress, Andrew Sach, Kevin Sach, Barbara Schoellkopf,
Rob Sharratt, Dave Silvernail, Chris Smith, Brad Strong,
Don Yungling, Toy Yungling.

Left off the Aug List: Reece Albrecht, Tyler Albrecht, Vince
Barto, Keith Berry, Leonard Cassieri, Dave Cladianos, Vickie
Constanzo, Craig Griffin, Phil Huntingdale, Stephanie
Huntingdale, Richard Lutrel, Mark
Madewell, Margaret Madewell, Steve
Milward, Henry Nanjo, Tom Reese, Stacy
Reese, Bob Ress, Andrew Sach, Kevin
Sach, Barbara Schoellkopf, Rob Sharratt,
Mike Skums, Chris Smith, Brad Strong,
Austin Unruh, Henry Voss, Glenn Wilson.

**Board of Directors**

(##) Ending year of term.

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

E-mail: president@svlsrcm.org

Vice President: Chris Smith (650) 676-0118 (26)

E-mail: vicepresident@svlsrcm.org

Secretary: Robert Ress (916) 320-2781 (25)

E-mail: secretary@svlsrcm.org

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E-mail: treasurer@svlsrcm.org

Track Superintendent: Jeff Burke (847) 815-7638 (26)

E-mail: tracksuper@svlsrcm.org

Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (925) 876-0375 (26)

E-mail: yardmaster@svlsrcm.org

Trainmaster: Craig Griffin (916) 365-1917 (25)

E-mail: trainmaster@svlsrcm.org

Director1: Rob Sjarratt (209) 603-1960 (26)

E-mail: director_Mark@svlsrcm.org

Director2: Dennis Gramith (916) 988-7884 (25)

E-mail: director_dennis@svlsrcm.org

Committee Chairpersons

Membership: Robert Ress (916) 320-2781

E-mail: membership@svlsrcm.org

Librarian: Alison Berry (916) 956-4597

E-mail: librarian@svlsrcm.org

Caboose: Chairperson: -open-

Safety Chairperson: Mark Madewell (209) 603-1960

Birthday & Company Events:

Andy Berchielli Phone: (916) 572-7857

E-mail: Events@svlsrcm.org

Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder

E-mail: editor@svlsrcm.org

Reminder - No phone calls after 8:59 PM



Steam, - the Basics

by Steve Arrigotti

What makes up a small scale live steamer?

Basically they burn some sort of fuel to boil water and move cylinders. They differ from electric trains in the same scale in that they typically have actual working parts such as valve gear, pressure gauges, relief valves, pumps, etc. Fuels are usually butane or methylated alcohol ("meths"). The little live steamers typically pull rolling stock which is also seen behind large-scale electrics: LGB, Bachmann, etc.

Are they very expensive compared to electric model locomotives?

Live steamers are, by necessity, made of metal-copper boilers, steel frames, brass detail castings, etc. and therefore cost more to manufacture. Inexpensive beginners' choices are available at about \$600 for starter engines. You get what you pay for. But, they are all basically variations on the same simple theme: burn something to boil water, use the compressed steam, to move wheels.

Here's the best news, you don't have to buy a new steam loco.

There is also a good market for used live steamers. As people move up, leave the hobby, or just have to make room, good locos can be found. The best place to find one is by hanging around at clubs or steam-ups and talking to people. Let them know you're looking for a used engine.

Conclusion: There is a bit more to running a live steam loco than simply turning a knob and watching it move. If you are interested in live steam, but don't know whether to take it up, I would encourage you to seek out someone with a live steamer and ask him or her to show you how to run the locomotive. It won't take long, and when it's done you can decide if it's something worth pursuing. I usually run live steam at the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers track at Hagan Community Park in Rancho Cordova on Wednesday mornings. I have engines you can light up and try out. No pressure, except in the locomotive.

Anyone interested can contact me at: iamaumnbm@gmail.com or 916-496-5678.

All the information in this article has been gleaned and greatly condensed from the following internet site. CREDIT TO: www.nmia.com/~vrbass/steam/stmintro.htm. This article previously ran in the Sacramento Garden Railway newsletter.

Track Department

by Jeff Burke

Hello members,
The first Friday in September I spent the day preparing the track for the public run. Expecting the worst from the unexpected super cell storm that hit the region September 2nd, I feared that we would have a lot to clean up. Fortunately I was wrong. The largest branch I found down was only about 2 inches in diameter but there were an unbelievable amount of leaves and pine needles on the track. I spent a few hours and two tanks of gas blowing the track clean of debris.



The Saturday after public run, Steve Milward, Chris Smith and I worked on the track grading that leads into the turnout after Twin Bridges, leveled the track through the snow shed and added ballast, leveled and re-aligned the inside loop track. All of that work should put our track in good shape for the Pumpkin Train.

Speaking of Pumpkin Train, there is a lot of set up work to be done and we also need plenty of volunteers to help run the event. Set up days will be the 1st through 3rd at railroad and you should contact Steve Milward for information about time.

Pumpkin Train is our last Public Run of the year so if you haven't come out yet please consider coming October 4th and 5th. If you have been a regular at the Public Runs, thank you so much for helping and we hope to see you again as a send off for the public season.

Other events to look forward to are the Fall Meet, which certainly still need volunteers, and the Santa Train. Please keep these events in mind as opportunities to volunteer and participate in your club.

We hope to see you out there!

Have a neighbor or friend who has an interest in Live Steam / Trains? Bring them out, show them our fun, give them a ride and invite them to join.



10 Years ago: With the fall meet approaching very fast, the Safety committee is always looking for areas in our club to improve. The recent completion of our stair hand railings is a prime example of safety issues we are addressing. We welcome ideas from other members to make our club safe and enjoyable for all.



Next we will be fabricating a new stair railing by the steaming bays to complete this project. A big thanks to Andrew Sach for welding the new railings. Also, thanks to Andy B. and Rob S. for all the help on the new retaining wall. Be safe and have fun!! See you at the fall meet!! Marty Carapiet Safety Committee

20 Years ago: we, being a railroad interest museum, were invited to attend a weekend long display of local museums and the grand opening of the Stanford Mansion. Historical groups from Sacramento, Folsom, Columbia, and ARCHIVE Rancho Cordova (us) were asked to put on a display to coincide with the Stanford Mansion opening. The event was very successful and our new brochure was passed out to many folks who came by our display. On Sunday, September 18, some of those same people came by our regular run day and saw our operation. We are getting more visibility and we hope to get more members through these events.

30 Years ago: "SUPER SCOOP"

Over the summer, the caboose siding has been the focus of attention. It now has a second through track and of this new track, there is a stub track for storage.

What we still need to do is extend the stub track, ballast, level the siding, and install switch throws. This will complete the project. I want to take a moment and thank all of those that helped cut ties, made the track panels, laid the track, and/or ballasted. I want to especially give an attaboy to both Bob Lovell and Milon Thorley for spear-heading this project. THANKS GUYS

Curtis Bonville, vSuperintendent.
and we are sure that his next attempt will be a brilliant glowing success.



40 Years ago: From the Board:

The Board discussed the acquisition of a Box Car, purchasing of additional hand tools and supplies, approved a donation to the "Fire-works Fund", and the Board also discussed the priorities of future projects.

ROUNDHOUSE RUMORS: Bob Lovell recently informed a reliable source that he is now an expert at design and construction of unusual lawn sprinklers.

The only draw back is the difficulty of moving his new boiler around the lawn for even watering. If at first you don't succeed, hydro-test, hydro-test, again. After seeing Danley's railroad, Earl McKenzie is attacking the 1 1/2" scale Mikado in his shop with new vigor. It seems that he likes those hills. John Bailie has been doing Turbo generator research. So far he still has to light a match to see if the blub is lit. His theories sound good and we are sure that his next attempt will be a brilliant glowing success.

50Years ago: "PUFFS OF SMOKE"

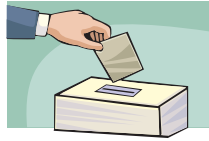
Ed Yungling, Doc Harriss, Ken Spicer and Larry Edwards were out at the track Labor Day. They did some maintenance work on the track and had three engines running.

Barry, Marge and Allen Garland and Mrs. Phillips (Marge's mother), Rosemary Pilcher, Ken Yeo, Larry Badger, Ed and Don Yungling, and Ken Spicer all went to Gerber for the big Steam Thrashing Fair. They had three big steam traction engines operating along with a lot of other equipment and demonstrations. Quite an interesting day with lots of steam power, a parade of equipment and friendly folks at the Humman Ranch. One of these nights we'll see it through the lens of Barry's movie camera. Incidentally, Railroad Magazine will be running a feature story about our own Mr. Garland. We'll let you know when as soon as we find out. Milon Thorley and Earl Mc Kenzie have been appointed to the nominating committee to select next year's club nominees.





ELECTION

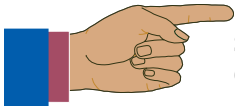


The Sacramento Live Steamers Railroad Museum has always thrived because of passionate volunteers who step forward to lead and keep our trains running for future generations. Now is your chance to help guide our mission and shape the future of this beloved community treasure.

We are currently seeking dedicated members to serve as President, Secretary, Train Master, and Director at Large. Each of these positions plays a vital role in ensuring the museum continues to inspire, educate, and delight visitors of all ages. If you have a heart for service, leadership, and railroading, we encourage you to step aboard and make a difference.

To learn more or to put your name forward, please contact Nominating Committee Chair Chris Donhost at 916-604-5545 or chris.donhost@dcids.org. Together, we can keep the whistles blowing, the wheels turning, and the joy of live steam alive!

Thanks, Chris



Jeff Burke has noticed that someone has been dropping off RAILFAN & RAILROAD magazines in the restrooms throughout the year. He is looking for the July 2023 edition. If you have that and are willing to part with it, please let him know. You can send him an email at tracksuper@svlsrm.org



Birthday Parties Report

By Andy Berchielli



Over the past 11 years I took on the role of party coordinator. I let the board know last month that this will be my last year managing that role. It had been a very rewarding opportunity and I've enjoyed seeing the parents; kids and guest who attend. They all say we have a great place and that's because of all the hard work each and every volunteer puts into it. Thank you for the opportunity to take on this valuable role.

Parties are a great source of income for the club and provides a very enjoyable experience for the guest who reserve our area. Parties are hosted from March to September and booked the 2nd, 3rd and 4th weekends of the month. As party coordinator you are responsible to answer party related emails; book a crew for the weekend and arrange payment via FareHarbor. A normal year we book around 20-25 parties. It doesn't take much time and helping run a party is pretty low key. A 3 person crew normally do 4-5 laps during the 2 hour period. The next person who takes on this role will hopefully find it as rewarding as I did with helping out the club. I'll be available to help with the transition. Honestly they is not much too it and a great way to be involved with the club even if you can't be onsite.

I also want to thank the people I call on a regular basis to help with parties. Without you it's not possible to provide this rewarding experience for our community.

The time you donate to help out has been extremely helpful with maintaining this valuable income revenue. So thank you to all those who have volunteered their time.

Your commitment does not go unnoticed and is very much appreciated.



Secretary Report

By: Robert Ress

September 8 SVLSRM Board Meeting Summary

September's Public Run Weekend had 600 riders with around \$800 in donations.

The Pumpkin Train sales are at 30% of capacity. Between running trains and operating the pumpkin area, the Club can use all the available volunteers. Please come out and support your club.

Membership - Regular 128, Associate 46, Life 5, Honorary 0, Total 179. The Club will purchase button supplies, This will take care of making buttons for several years.

Discussed Train Crew testing both written and performance testing. Tabled until January.

Completed the quarterly safety check of the fire extinguishers, first aid kits and supplies

There has been no progress on finding a refrigerator, no freezer please, for the caboose. If you have a lead contact Steve.

The price of a propane refill has increased to \$25.00. The Club's costs have increased and \$20.00 no longer covers the refill.

Chris Donhost will be the Election Committee for the 2026-2027 election. If you are interested in running for an office, please contact him at ?????? Positions up for election this year are President, Secretary, Trainmaster and a Director at Large.

Santa Train Preparation

Voted to purchase 500 sets of button parts. We could not find the Club's camera. If you have any leads, please let Steve Milward know. There was a long discussion on how to provide pictures to the riders.

Important Notice!!! Because of the Public Holiday on October 13th, the Board Meeting will be ZOOM ONLY!! Contact the secretary, secretary@svlsrm.org for an agenda and Zoom logon information.

Check our web
for updates

www.svlsrm.org

**SAFETY RULES****1.15 Children**

Parents or Guardians shall be responsible for the safety, supervision, and behavior of their Children at all times.

.2.11 Safety Valves

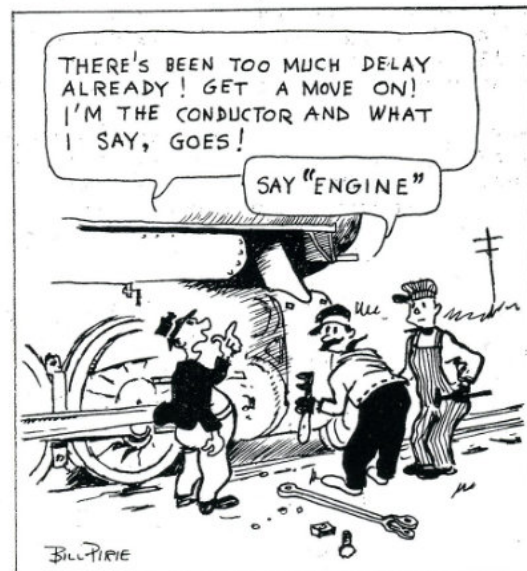
Steam boilers shall have at least 2 safety valves set to operate within 10 pounds (psi) of each other. Under no operating conditions shall the safety valves allow the operating pressure to exceed a pressure 5 percent greater than the maximum boiler operating pressure. Safety valves must release and reset without the aid of the engineer.

3.04 Unloading/loading

Locomotives and equipment shall be unloaded and loaded only at the facilities provided at the steaming bays. All vehicles shall be removed from the loading area as soon as possible after loading and unloading. Small equipment may be unloaded/loaded at any siding.

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.



**Trainmaster Report**

by Craig Griffin

Gday everyone,

Hope all are well and you've had a great summer.

We are coming into our fall season And the next couple of weeks are going to be busy with Pumkin train weekend closely followed by the Fall meet.

Any one that can spare some time to come down and help will be greatly appreciated.

Well Don Youngling helped with the club Mikado and now she is ready to run.

I made up a comfy swivel seat and base to fit on the tender for the engineer. It is Nice and comfy.

See attached pictures →

We will hopefully fire it up this weekend, September 27th and see how she runs.

Start thinking about what color scheme we should use on the clubs new diesel engine which we hope to have by the end of the year.

We will be discussing and hopefully voting on it at the Fall meet.

Hope to see you all out there club Soon.

Craig

