



## Past President's Report

By Tom Nance

Between Pumpkin Train the first weekend in October closely followed by our Fall Meet, October is always a very busy time of year at the railroad. I would like to thank Chris Donhost, Don Yungling, and Brandon McCracken for their support in pulling the public at our Pumpkin Train event as well as our dedicated volunteers who were out mid-week, late evenings, and early mornings performing the necessary jobs to prepare for these events, Thank You! And thank you to Mike and Laura Northcutt, Emily Nance and everyone who volunteered in the caboose and assisted with meal prep and cleanup during our events for making sure our members were well taken care of. Our Fall Meet had an excellent attendance, and the weather was perfect to bring in this exciting time of year.

With Fall Meet behind us, we are now coming up on the Rancho Cordova Christmas Tree Lighting, scheduled for Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> with trains running from 4-7:30 and Santa Train scheduled for December 7-8 & 14-15 with trains running all four days from 11-3pm.

Ticket sales for our Santa Train go live on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 5pm via Fareharbor. A link to our ticket sales will be posted on our Facebook page as well as our club's website. Please note that tickets are presale only with a reserved time slot. As we did last year, we will run 3 trains per day with a 5-car train scheduled to depart Cordova Station every 15 minutes. Volunteers will be needed for decorating the railroad the week prior to the first weekend of operation as well as during all four days of the event.

During our October Board Meeting, Bob Ress was voted on and approved to the board as the club's Secretary and Mark Madewell was voted on and approved to the board as the club's Director at Large and Safety Committee. Thank you Bob and Mark for taking on these important roles!

jNote: Tom resigned as club president on Oct. 26, 2024



## President & Track Department by Steve Milward

Hello! We're finally closing out October with long awaited cooler weather and two big events behind us. Our Pumpkin Train weekend was somewhat hindered by much higher than average temperatures. The families that came out to visit enjoyed the large selection of pumpkins, a slide/bounce house and of course, train rides!

Next up was the Fall meet. I don't know that we could've asked for better weather! There were plenty of trains, friends, and good times. Happily, some of our newer members stepped up and helped with the many tasks it takes to make a meet like this a success. Special thanks to Laura Northcutt and her caboose crew for making sure all were well fed. This was Laura's first big event at our club, and she stepped right up!

Coming up at the end of November will be the Christmas Tree lighting at the Village Green Park in Rancho Cordova on Dec. 1. This is our opportunity to give back to the City of Rancho Cordova. Following that is our big event of the year - The Santa Trains!

We will need help setting up the track for the Rancho Cordova Christmas Tree Lighting. This will take place on Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at Village Green Park while takedown will occur Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please contact me directly, either at (530) 559-2472 or [president@svlsrcm.org](mailto:president@svlsrcm.org) if you are available to help at any time with this event.

These events are an opportunity to let the SVLS shine. In short, we will need your help!



### SVLSRM Calendar

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

Nov 4 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via. Zoom

Nov 16 Work day & Annual General  
Membership meeting and Elections.

Nov 30 Rancho Cordova Christmas tree  
track setup - help needed.

Dec. 1 Rancho Cordova Christmas tree  
Lighting & train rides by SVLS

Dec. 2 Take track back to SVLS home.

Dec. 7 & 8 Santa Train event

Dec. 9 Board Meeting at 6:30 PM Via. Zoom

Dec. 14 & 15 Santa Train event

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



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

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

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

### MEMBERSHIP

by Stacy Reese

### WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Philip Lawrence  
Samuel Stroud & Family  
Robert Stanley  
Dylan Post & Family  
Andrea Valdez & Family  
Zachary Johnson

**RENEW membership on-line:**

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

### Board of Directors

(##) Ending year of term.

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

E-mail: [president@svlsrcm.org](mailto:president@svlsrcm.org)

Vice President: - open - (24)

E-mail:

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

E-mail: [secretary@svlsrcm.org](mailto:secretary@svlsrcm.org)

Treasurer: Stacy Reese (916) 960-6850 (24)

E-mail: [treasurer@svlsrcm.org](mailto:treasurer@svlsrcm.org)

Track Superintendent: - open - (24)

E-mail:

Yardmaster: Richard Lutrel (916) 876-0375 (24)

E-mail: [yardmaster@svlsrcm.org](mailto:yardmaster@svlsrcm.org)

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

E-mail: [trainmaster@svlsrcm.org](mailto:trainmaster@svlsrcm.org)

Director1: Mark Madewell (209) 603-1960 (24)

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

E-mail: [director\\_dennis@svlsrcm.org](mailto:director_dennis@svlsrcm.org)

### Committee Chairpersons

Membership: Stacy Reese (916) 960-6850

E-mail: [membership@svlsrcm.org](mailto:membership@svlsrcm.org)

Librarian: Alison Berry (916) 956-4597

E-mail: [librarian@svlsrcm.org](mailto: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](mailto:Events@svlsrcm.org)

Newsletter & Web Editor: Bill Yoder

E-mail: [editor@svlsrcm.org](mailto:editor@svlsrcm.org)

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

The "Senior Railcare" volunteers making ornaments to hand out to the families that come out for the Santa Train. Mike Skums and Richard Corbell



**Secretary Board Report**

By Stephanie Huntingdale

The Board meets by ZOOM. Members are always encouraged to attend. Our next meeting is November 4, 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.

Dennis Gramith has been working with the Parks Department to correct their cement contractor's damage to our track crossings. It should be repaired before Fall Meet.

Lil Blue recommended that it be sold at Fall Meet. There has been some interest. Chris Donhost said that he contacted RC Country Hobby to put into as display. Asked that we hold off sale. Lil Blue needs attention and it would require a display case. Chris volunteered to do both, get back to the Board with cost for approval. If this doesn't work, it will be sold at the Spring Meet.

Gator broke, recommend not putting any more money in it, need new one.

Nominations – Chris Donhost reported:  
Vice President: Steve Milward,  
Treasurer: Henry Nanjo,  
Track Superintendent: Jeff Burke,  
Director at Large: Robert Sharratt

Tim Gubbins – TRACC Program Instructor and member presented a training program that would use SVLSRM track and equipment to train Class 1 students enrolled in Sacramento State and San Joaquin Rail Association program to use signal commands. He will discuss further with the Dean at Sac State and report back to the club.

Mark Madewell will finish term of Director At Large this year and continue as Safety Chairperson.

Kevin Sach will install fans in Oasis. He will also work on a sign for Tin Man Bridge in honor of Dave Mattox.

**2025 Calendar Schedule:**

Spring Meet, May 16-18, Fall Meet, October 17-19, Pumpkin, October 4-5, Santa Train, December 6-7, 13-14, General Meetings, May 16, October 17 and November 15

Lil Blue, Chris Donhost to research community interest in using as a display. If no interest will entertain selling Lil Blue at May, General Meeting of the membership.

**General Membership Meeting – October 18, 2024**

Financial Report: \$119.710

Accepted Nominated Slate of Officers to be voted on at the November 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting at the club at 1:30 PM.

Motion made to purchase Titan SD45 for not more than \$25,000. Motion passed.

Membership Report – 155 Regulars, 69 Associates and 5 Life

Research to be done for the purchase a new Gator, to be brought back to the Annual Meeting in November for discussion and approval.



Karl Kitzmiller sister Susan recently passed away. She enjoyed attending our meets with karl.



- Steve Milward
- Mark & Margaret Madewell
- Richard & Amy Lutrel
- Craig Griffin
- Brian Schaubmyer
- Jeff Burke
- Dennis & Judy Gramith
- Bob Ress
- Stephanie and Phil Huntingdale
- Leonard Cassieri
- Tom & Stacy Reese
- Henry & Michelle Nanjo
- Nancy Voss
- Glen Wilson
- Butch Floyd
- Skip Nance
- Harry Voss
- Dennis Bowie
- Andy Berchielli
- Chris Smith
- Kaden Prudhomme
- Kat Prudhomme
- Austin Unruh
- Cindy, Les, Casey Wilmunder
- Kevin & Andrew Sach
- Vic Owens
- Matt, Abby & Wyatt Thomas
- Emily & Tom Nance
- Laura Northcutt
- Wendy & Robert Foren



Lincoln Hills Photographer Rick Maness took photos of our Fall meet and he has shared a Flickr link to view them.

Photos [link](#)



**10 Years ago:** The last run day of this year we decided to change things up a bit and run in the opposite direction. A few logistics had to be figured on staging the trains to allow the passengers to get off the train. Needless to say the opposite direction was a nice change, it allowed us to enjoy a new experience. I must say THANK YOU to Darrell for all the work he and his crew has done to the track so that we were able to run in the opposite direction.

**20 Years ago:** Gordon Moser's steam engine getting a test run by Stathi Pappas with Casey Wilmunder looking on and wanting to know why so much smoke.



**30 Years ago:** On the weekend of Oct. 8th, the Knight Foundry held a "Hands on" workshop in Sutter Creek. One of the participants was Clover McKinley, the assistant editor for Live Steam Magazine. Clover enthusiastically accepted an invitation to visit the SVLS track, and, on a Sunday evening, she drove to Hagan Park. Fortunately there was a practice session of "operation by track warrant" in progress, and they brought in an "extra" fast mail (or in this case fast female) train and graciously toured Clover over the right of way. The "track warrant" method prevailed, and in true SP tradition the fast train pulled into every siding to make way for the freight service. (Could this have been the doing of a blond dispatcher name Lisa?) Never-the-less, Clover was treated to the full tour, a beautiful sunset, and a very hospitable crew. Her comment: "I never thought I would have a chance to see live steam clubs on the West coast. I can't believe I'm here. What a beautiful setting."



## SAFETY RULES FOR THE MONTH

### 1.11 Proximity to Tracks

No one shall stand or walk within 5 feet of any track, unless their 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.

### 2.04 Periods of Low Visibility

All trains running during periods of low visibility or after sunset shall be equipped with a marker light, or with lights on the rear of the last car, displaying a red light to the rear and visible for at least 150 Ft.

### 3.01 Responsibilities of the Engineer

The Engineer is responsible for the safe handling of the train and the cars at all times. They must be in close cooperation with all other operating personnel, observing all rules and signals (whistles, hand, flag or light) given by the conductor and stationmaster. They must run their engine in conformance with SVLSRM safety rules at all times. They must see that any SVLSRM equipment used by them is returned to its proper storage space at the end of their run, unless another engineer takes over the responsibility of such equipment and agrees to see that such equipment is properly stored after its use.

### 4.06 Riding Cars

All riding cars shall have fixed seat(s) or bench to haul the public. Safety chains will be installed on all cars and locomotives carrying the general public. When the club-owned bench cars are loaded, it is recommended max 5 people based on weight and size at the discretion of the StationMaster. All passengers are required to wear shoes or sandals. No skate shoes are permitted.



## TRACK UPDATE

By Phil Huntingdale

The Fall Meet provided three days of small steam, electric, and battery locomotives in action. The weather in the days and evenings was great; those attending indeed had a great time. With the larger locomotives and passengers passing by, this was a wonderful event shared by all.

A few new members and out of towners joined in with the fun and there was much interest with our trains. Bing with Accrucraft was selling several of their new G gauge offerings. They have many small locomotives that appeal to the hobbyist, especially the older guys. Thank you to the club members that made this event possible.

Those that have been attending the Tuesday runs, with the loss and anchors of Gordon and Barbra Moser, the Railcare volunteers have decided Wednesdays are more convenient for their task. With the weather continuing to be cooperative I will try to be down on Wednesdays. If this works with your schedules, join in.

That said, volunteers will be needed the first two weekends of December for our Santa Train. Prior to the first weekend we will be out helping with decorating of the park and raking leaves and branches. Do you have any Christmas decorations you can loan the club for the first two weekends? Many volunteers are needed for this task. . If you have a Christmas train, please bring it out on the weekends between 11:00 and 3:00 as the public runs will be passing by, and I know they enjoy our trains.

This is the club's main fundraiser. Support the club with your time. - See you about!



Dale Dennis



Dave Frediani with his new build.



Colton Snell.



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.

**\$6500.00 or Best Offer.**

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

