



SVGRS Newsletter January 2017

Reminder: 2017 Club dues are to be paid by the end of March. Dues are paid to Jeff Shubert, 258 Chestnut Drive, Shippenburg, PA 17257-9493

2017 SVGRS Calendar of Event

- Jan-9** **9:00am - Rocky Ridge Tear Down**
- Jan-11** **6:30pm - Executive Board Meeting**
- Mar-8** **7:00pm - General Meeting #1**
(Train Station - New Oxford PA)
- Mar-23** **9:00am - Setup for Spring ECLSTS**
(York Fair Grounds, York PA)
- Mar-24** **9:00am - ECLSTS Train Show Day 1**
(York Fair Grounds, York PA)
- Mar-25** **9:00am - ECLSTS Train Show Day 2**
Tear Down @ 4:00pm

- Mar-31** **Deadline to pay 2017 Dues**
(Post or deliver to Jeff Shubert)
- Apr-22** **Deadline for 2nd quarter News Letter Articles**
(Email pics & articles to editor)
- April-23** **Trailer Clean up and Inventory of all SVGRS**
Club items 2:00 pm
(To be held at Bob Wengers home, 100 Arendtsville Rd., Biglerville, PA 17307)
- April-29** **Train ride opportunity Stroudsburg RR**
(see details in the letter)
- May-4** **General Meeting #2**
(Location TBD)
- Jul-10** **Deadline for 3rd quarter News Letter Articles**
(Email pics & articles to editor)
- Aug-23** **- Executive Board Meeting**
(Location - Gettysburg Outlets Food Court)
- Sep-16** **1:00am - General Meeting #3/Club Picnic**
(Jeff & Mel Shubert's House in Shippensburg PA)
- Oct-10** **Deadline for 4th quarter News Letter Articles**
(Email pics & articles to editor)

- Nov-3 9:00am - Rocky Ridge Setup up Track
(Rocky Ridge County Park, York PA)**
- Nov-11 9:00am - Rocky Ridge Complete Setup
(Rocky Ridge County Park, York PA)**
- Nov-24 6:00pm - Christmas Magic Opening Day**
- Dec-3 5:00pm - General Meeting #4/Christmas Party
(Railside Banquet Center – Hanover PA)**
- Dec-31 2017 Rocky Ridge Christmas Magic Ends**

Club News

The SVGRS welcomes new member

Derek Varner
 3205 broad street apt 4, PO box 182
 Emigsville Pa 17318
 firefighter_24@netzero.net
 717-767-6586
 He volunteered and helped out 5 times at Rocky Ridge.



The SVGRS welcomes back a past member

Kurt Slenker
 email : <kslenker@kasgroupllc.com>



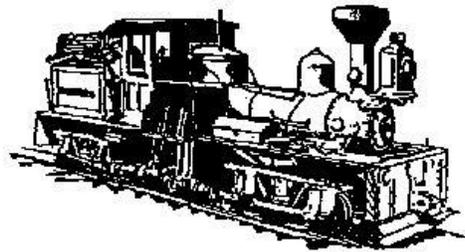
The SVGRS Executive board voted to induct Mike Oberdick as an Honorary Lifetime Member.

Mike was one of the original SVGRS members and continues to volunteer at Rocky Ridge and has donated several items to the club.

Mike Oberdick
890 Greenbrier road
York Pa
717-767-4913

NO EMAIL

Welcome Mike!



May/Aug Layout Tours – Volunteers Needed?

If you have a garden Railroad layout we would appreciate if you would consider having a open house in 2017. This is a good way for members to get ideas and also provides good comradery among our members. If you are interested contact Joe Mower to set up a date. Sunday afternoons seem to work best for most members.

The Great Train Robbery Club Event Opportunity



A Bonnie & Clyde adventure awaits in 2017! This interactive ride will rob you poor while offering excitement and adventure as you travel on a 45-minute ride through scenic Amish country.

If you would like to join us as a club event you will need to purchase your tickets directly from the Stroudsburg Railroad.

Please let one of the Club Officers know if you plan to make the trip. We will try to get them to reserve a section of the Parlor car for our club to set together. We will need a count by the 1st of April.

- April 29, 2017 (Boarding: 3:45 pm Departure: 4:00 pm)

Tickets:

- **All Ages: \$27.00**(First Class Parlor or Lounge)
- **Please ask for the Parlor car.**

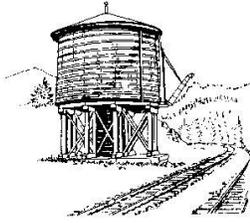
- **GPS Address:**

- 301 Gap Road
Ronks, PA 17572-9566

- **Mailing Address:**

- The Strasburg Rail Road
P. O. Box 96
Strasburg, PA 17579-0096

PHONE 1-866-725-9666 for tickets.



Message from the Club President

I hope that 2017 will start to be a rebound for our large scale train industry. There are a plenty of rumors of plans by manufacturers to produce more large scale trains again. This is good news but nothing is cemented yet. We will have to wait and see. At least this is better news than the usual; were cutting production and doing nothing.

I would encourage folks to consider having any type of get together at their house; regardless of your railroad or if you even have one .This affords the opportunity to meet and talk to members or guests you would not normally approach. It can even be an evening of discussions and train videos. I have always found the comradely of talking, eating and "gossiping it up" about all kinds of trains is always a good time.

A few years ago when the History channel started the series "Trains Unlimited"; my friend Jeff Donald (owned the Golden Corral) and I started a Monday night rail fan night. Sometimes it was just him and I; other times there were 8 of us here. This TV series provided a much demanded and needed education of how a lot of railroads got their start and into the heyday years. We all enjoyed getting the stories of how the railroads built America as well as the changes they had to endure. Think about it and if you consider it; feel free to call me for help.

I also been informed that there will be a record number of restored running steam trains for 2017. The club is looking into some plans for a trip if folks want to go. Most of you know I love them and there are plenty of diesel fans out there that would be hard pressed not to take a train ride. But we all know who draws the big crowds and the \$\$\$\$\$. SOOT, SMOKE & STEAM !!

The WM scenic railroad in Cumberland MD. Has finally come forward with new information that loco #1309 will be running starting July 1st 2017. I mention this because this will be the second largest operating steam locomotive in the world at present. UP,s challenger 4-6-6-4 currently is the largest and with the Big Boy restoration now going full force; big steam will be back soon! Witnessing a 2-6-6-2 chugging up Helstetter's curve will be a definite site that any and all rail fans will get a thrill out of seeing.

Hope to see all of you at our first meeting in March

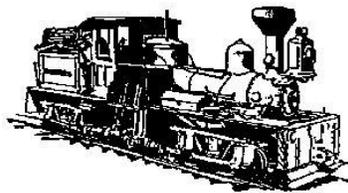
Turk Russell

Weekend Project

- . Last year's little USA trains Conrail engine that pulled Olaf the snowman at Rocky Ridge has been given a new look.
- . A much improved Western Maryland paint Scheme. While not completely prototypical, it still adds a nice dash of color to our upcoming layouts and a road name that most train Enthusiasts can relate to.

Turk Russell

(continued)



SVGRS Christmas Party – December 4, 2016

The 2016 Christmas party was once again held at the Railside Banquet Center in Hanover, Pennsylvania. We liked this place so much last year that we booked it right away. You can't beat good food, a fair price and a private space!

(continued)

We had a nice turnout of 42 members and families. We were welcomed at 5:00 by Penny Segessenman. She shared a humorous train story. Then Jeff Shubert shared his trip to Washington D.C It looked like they had a lot of fun. Barry McNew gave the blessing and we all enjoyed a buffet style meal.

After eating, we thanked the staff for all their hard work on our behalf. We had several door prize drawings. Rich Reese and Turk Russell ran a short business meeting which included a treasurer's report, the new slate of officers, and a Rocky Ridge update. There were more door prize drawings. We also has a selection of bad jokes between each segment.

Thanks to Mary McGallegher (Phillip's grandmother), Turk Russell, Randy Alleman, and Walter Plank for donating some of the door prizes. Renee Russell coordinated the 50/50 drawing, which was won by Randy Alleman.

Robert Segessenman Jr presented some video footage and a list of the area train locations to visit.

We finished our evening with the grand prize drawing. The winner was Walter Plank.

A big thank you to Penny & Rob Segessenman and Turk & Renee Russell for putting together this evening event.





2016 Rocky Ridge Christmas Round Up

This year's display was built in 3 stages to alleviate all of us running into each other on setup day and cut down on time. A few of our members went up Nov 3rd to setup the platforms and lay track. On Nov 7th we did a second setup with the trestles and specialty items.

We counted 24 volunteers who show up on Main setup day to help build our layout. Weather was not as cold as the last 2 years. Again, now that we have the building insulated, it's much more pleasant after we turn on some heat. Thanks to everyone who brought food!

Our sponsor again, was Steam into History offering us (\$1500.00) plus an additional \$300.00 paid by the Park service. With Thanksgiving being early; we had 37 days of running.

However, we also had 5 days of unplanned “weather closing” so knocked it down to 32 nights. Specifically, we lost our usual best attending weekend due to controversial late closing of the weekend before Christmas. That hurt us as bad as the Park. It’s still long time to run trains!

Seven trains were running again this year, but we had run out of ideas and space to create new scenes based on our limitations. As luck would have it, a new addition was provided this year by Kevin Adams & Family in the form of a Gingerbread village installed inside the Thomas loop area. It looked Awesome! We received nice reviews on it and the overall layout and other than 2 issues with track, we ran pretty much trouble free.

Kambach Publishing provided 4 cases of literature, but that was all. Due to cutbacks in our hobby, tickets, drawing boxes and free magazines are no longer offered.

Our Raffle ticket sales for Thomas Tank were way down this year, (622 tickets sold) compared to last year’s record of 928.

The winner of the train set was Robin Miller of York Pa. Her grandson was so tickled with his new set.

Thanks to Deb & Jason Scott and Stephanie Gonos for delivering the set before Christmas.

Total Attendance (32 nights): 39,922

Highest Donations: \$124.00 (Dec 23) Jason, Deb & Steff

Lowest Donations : \$3.00 (Dec 15) not our guys fault!

Most Raffle Tickets Sold: 39 tickets – (Nov 27 Barry McNew, Jim Hitz

Best Attendance Nights: 3,006 (Dec 23) Jason , Deb & Steff

Coldest Nights: Opening Night (Nov 25)

We (Rob and I) would like to thank “everyone” for the donation of their time and effort to setup and keep this display working and to help us raise money to keep the club alive!

Turk Russell Chairman/ Coordinator
Rob Segessenman Asst. Coordinator









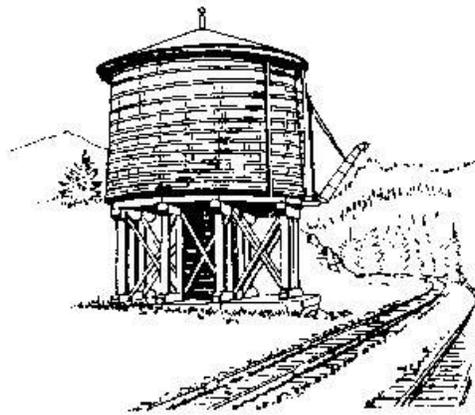
Milk & Honey line

Earlier this year Renee and I went to visit my daughter Holly who had moved to the Middletown area. After getting settled in and a bite to eat at a small diner; we went running around and low and behold; a forgotten treasure. Middletown & Hummelstown RR. I had not been there in years; it's actually 2 minutes from Holly's apartment. We stopped and took some photos and talked to the manager. He had informed us that their Alco S6 western md had just been refurbished after 2 years. It looks real sharp with new paint; lettering and stripes. Being a fan of the WM, it was nice to see a loco done up so nicely. They now have 3 diesels a running currently: a 1956 GE center cab; a 1956 Alco S6 and a 1969 Alco T6 loco. If you like little diesels; this is a great place to visit. They also have a 1910 Canadian national 2-6-0 mogul (not running at this time) They run an 11 mile trip Thursday; Saturday and Sundays.





Submitted by: Turk Russell



Kinzua Bridge New Visitor Center Mt. Jewett, PA

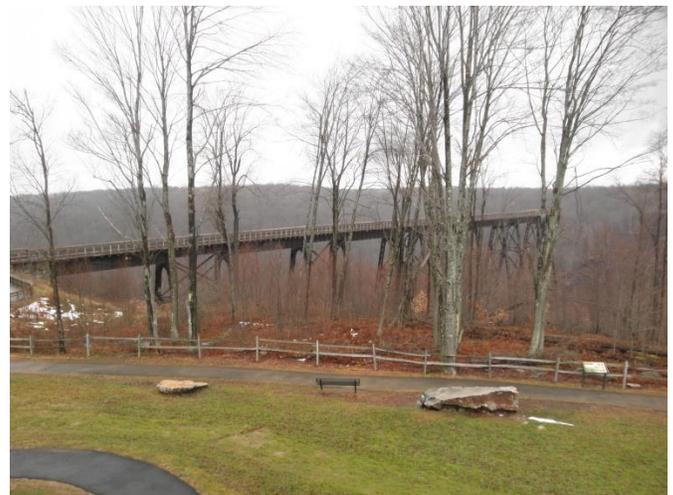
By Joe Mower

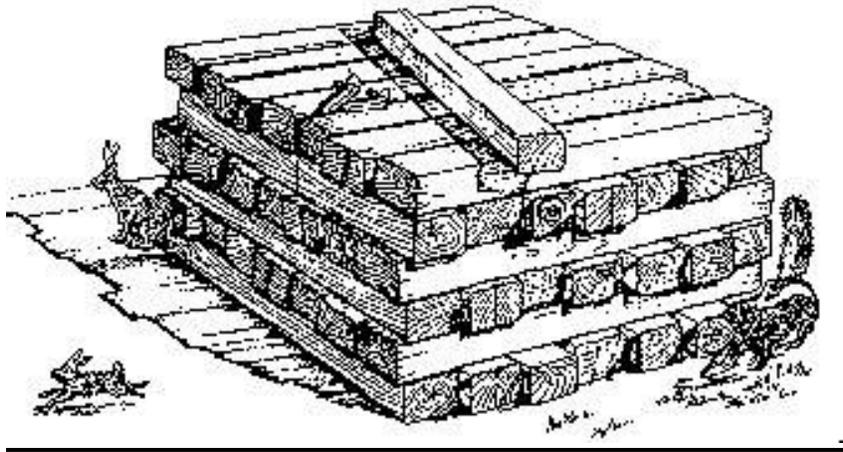
My Daughter lives in Smethport, Pa. When we were visiting over Thanksgiving we made a side trip to the new Kinzua Visitor center which is only 12 mile from Smethport. It is just off Route 6. The new visitor center opened in 2016 and has some really neat historical items. They also have an overhead G scale train layout.

You also have to see the Skywalk built on the Old Kinzua Bridge which was originally built in 1882 and was severely damaged in a Tornado July 21, 2003. The Bridge is 301 feet

high and was an Engineering Masterpiece, originally it was 2,053 feet long.

It was once billed as the Eighth Wonder of The World. You can set in a vintage passenger car and watch two movies of the Kinzua history. The end of the Skywalk has a platform with a glass bottom so you can look straight down.





Colorado Railroads: Caboose Hobbies Re-opens In Lakewood



Caboose Hobbies Re-opens In Lakewood

Posted: 18 Dec 2016 01:44 AM PST

Caboose Hobbies, in whatever form the store survives, is set to re-

open on Alameda Avenue in Lakewood just south of the Federal Center this month. **The Denverite has more.**

When the store closed at its original location on 500 S Broadway on September 11, 2016, it was the end of an era. The largest model train store in the world closed on the 20th anniversary of the Union Pacific - Southern Pacific merger on September 11, 1996.

While Denver Billionaire Philip Anschutz had purchased the Rio Grande in 1984, he had Rio Grande Industries purchase the Southern Pacific Transportation Company in 1988 and the two companies functioned as separate divisions of the same railroad. As a result, it was easy for me to imagine nothing had really changed. Unfortunately, the day everything changed was the merger of the Union Pacific. For me, that was the day the Rio Grande, Denver's home railroad finally died.

So it's a little more sad than before. On the other hand, it would feel even worse if Caboose Hobbies had closed forever. Now she has a fighting chance. Drop by 10800 W. Alameda Ave, Lakewood, Colorado if you are in town! They **should be** open. If you are out of the metro area, visit **www.cabooseshobbies.com**! I'm sure they can use the help!



Welcome to LGBTOURS!

For 20 years we have successfully offered tours for train fans. Our main point is to provide unforgettable tour experiences. We achieve

this by working with fine hotels and exciting railways. Many excursions are with special charter trains and exclusive cars along Overwhelming trails and breathtaking landscapes. Last but not least we offer a unique and very personal service by personally Accompanying you from your booking request to your farewell-dinner.

Enjoy your most precious weeks of the year to the fullest! Under the link "Review" you will find impressions from our past wonderful tours.

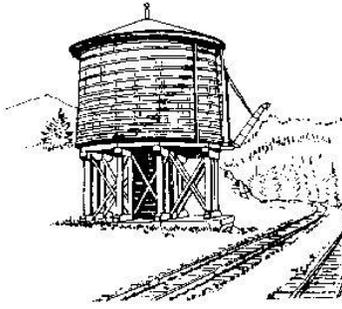
We hope we were able to spark your interest and would be delighted to welcome you on one of our future tours. All aboard!

About our online services you can order our current, free **travel brochure**, subscribe for an e-mail **newsletter** on the offered trips or make an online booking on the trip you have chosen.

Kind regards

Your LGBTOURS Team

<https://www.lgbtours.de/seite/106804/home.html> 12/21/2016



Cass Railroad Extension

By: Turk Russell

For the first time in 31 years , the C&O mainline saw a train run 3 miles down the line from Cass WV. Traveling on what was the old C & O mainline route, the train Switched off at the Cass water tower, Shay 4 pulling a Christmas train (the elf limited) with closed coaches (former western md railway passenger cars) for a first ever, did most of the runs. The train made many trips between late Nov and Dec.

The section of track used for the Elf Limited rides is part of a 15-mile stretch of railway that connected Cass and Durbin until 1985, when severe flooding damaged or destroyed much of it. A 3-mile section of the rail line was repaired and reopened earlier this year, following work that began in 2015, while a 2-mile stretch was rebuilt south of Durbin in the years immediately following the flood. The repairs are being made by personnel and equipment from the Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad, which the state appointed to assume management of rail operations at Cass in 2014. Rebuilding materials are being supplied the by the State Rail Authority. An 6 additional miles of this section of the tracks has been washed out since the big 1985 flood. The rail line needs to be repaired before trains can travel on the long awaited restoration of tracks from Cass to Durbin. -: It offers a great view and parallels the Greenbrier river. John

Smith and his employees have started what all rail fans would love to enjoy. They currently have BC&G steamer, a 2-8-0 in the works that could become the main runner on this line if it ever gets completed. With a little luck they will make it. More progress to follow

Industry News: By Turk Russell

MTH is back into large scale/ gauge one train's again. they are continuing their 1.32 line of locomotives and rolling stock .The 2017 catalog features a Daylight 4-8-4 and a Big Boy steam locos ;other locos are the popular Dash 8

check them out at

http://mthtrains.com/sites/default/files/catalog_files/2017_rk1_v1/index.html

Bachmann Trains

The long awaited defunct Eggliners are finally making a comeback under Bachmann . I verified that with the sales manager they are in production . As of now their will be 5 different offerings hopefully to be in by Late jan 2017

Congrats Doris - you are getting your wish damit!

Bachmann Speeders are coming !!!!

This little gem has a story behind it . its been in and out of production by several companys. K-line was the first to introduce them in 2006 in a much limited G scale offering . Then they wound up in O scale under the RMT Arist-O line. Same body with O scale wheels. 1 year before the Aristocraft trains closure ; USA trains offered them in the catalog 2014 (G

scale) and still shows them offered . Now Bachmann is taking over the molds . I personally saw 3 of the finished models and they look good . They are die cast and all have a beacon on the roof . Should be a nice addition to any layout .

SPEEDER

Suggested price: \$139.00 each
SHIPPING DECEMBER 2016



Flashing strobe light and operating headlight. Includes two detailed figures.



(Engineering sample shown)

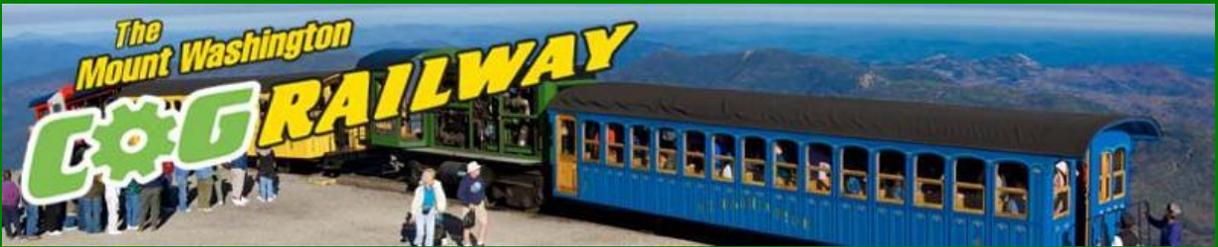


UNION PACIFIC®
(silver; illustration shown)
Item No. 96250



PRR MAINTENANCE OF WAY
(yellow; illustration shown)
Item No. 96251

REAL TRAINS NEWS : by Turk Russell



SUPPORT THE COG RAILWAY IN BUILDING A LODGE TO ACCOMMODATE MOUNT WASHINGTON VISITORS AND HIKERS



The Mount Washington Cog Railway is considering plans to build a lodge and restaurant about a mile below the summit of Mount Washington on privately owned land to enhance the safety, comfort and experience of those coming to Mt. Washington.

The Lodge would be built with the careful consideration of the environment, consistent with the Cog's recent efforts to improve the environmental impact of train operations by building new environmentally friendly bio-diesel locomotives carrying 95% of its passengers to the summit of Mount Washington.



The Summit House, 1873

Since 1869 the Cog Railway has been chugging up and down the side of Mt. Washington. The Railway reached its height of popularity in 1873 when it built, owned and operated a ninety-one room hotel, known as the Summit House on the summit of Mt. Washington. This hotel burned down in 1908 and was replaced by a smaller structure several years later. By 1876 rail lines had been extended to the base of the cog railway and tourists from New York could travel to the summit of Mt. Washington in one day and stay overnight in fairly luxurious accommodations.

The new railway facility, if it were to be built, would not be built at the summit, but at a location about a mile from the summit, known as Skyline. The building would be engineered to withstand the weather extremes of Mount Washington and would be designed to fit into the natural surroundings and reflect the architectural elements of the original summit hotels.

[We invite you to read more about this project and support this effort by signing this petition here....](#)

SVGRS Club Officers

President -- Turk Russell (717) 762-8873, 1turk@embarqmail.com

President Vice President Robert Wenger, weng308@yahoo.com

SVGRS Secretary - Rob Segessenman 717-359-8515, rob@robtronics.com

Treasurer -- Jeff Shubert (717) 530-0561 shube@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor -- Joe Mower (717)-241-6483, jhmower@aol.com

Layout Coordinator -- Position Open

