



April/May 2009 – Newsletter

Visit our club website – www.SVGRS.com

SVGRS Calendar of Events 2009

May 13 – Membership meeting at 7PM. All members are urged to attend. The meeting will be held at the Brethren Home Community at Cross Keys Village. Located at the intersection of Rout's 94 and 30. This is where we have had the Christmas party the last 2 years. Members wishing to have dinner at the Brethren Home will meet at 5:30 PM. All are welcome to attend.

May 30 – Layout open house Mel Pankuch, 58 Hiester Ave. New Holland, PA 17557. Mel has also invited the Southeast PA Garden RR group to attend. The SE group is a modular train group. This will be a good opportunity to interact with the SE group. Open House will be from Noon till 5 PM. Questions or directions call Mel at 717-354-3108.

June 10 SVGRS Club Officers Meeting

June 20 – Layout open house Marlyn Geesley Golden Spike Ceremony. (Details in the letter)

July 16 to 19 – Train display Northumberland

August 16 – Ma & PA Railroad. This is an opportunity to visit the Ma & Pa Railroad, rides will be available on the open rail bus.

Sept 9 - SVGRS Club Officers Meeting

Sept 12 – SVGRS Club Picnic. The picnic will be held at Bob Segessenman's where it was held last year. Dave Watts is chairperson for the picnic. More details will be in a later newsletter.

Sept 25, 26, 27 - East Coast Train Show York Fairground. Setup will be September 25 and trains will be running the 26 and 27'th.

Nov 11 – SVGRS Club Officers Meeting

November 14 – SVGRS Workshop. This is the first event of this type. We plan to have work stations set-up to discuss wiring, trestles building, engine maintenance, basic layout and landscaping. More details will be announced as we approach the schedule date.

November 21 – Rocky Ridge Christmas Magic Set-up

November 28 - till???? Running trains at Rocky Ridge

December 12 – SVGRS Christmas Party



Open House Events

May 30 Mel & Ruth Pankuch Hiester Avenue, New Holland Will be having open house. Mell has also invited toe Southeast Gargen RR club. The he Southeast club is a modular club. This will be a opperyunity to interact with the Southeast members. The open house will run from 12:00 noon untill 5:00 pm. For directions or questions you can call Mel at 717-354-3108.

June 20 Marlyn & Geesey and his neighbor Richard Rutledge will be joining their garden railroads in a golden spike ceremony.



Marlyn Geesey Layout



Richard Rutledge Layout

The open house will be from 12:00 noon untill you are tired of railroading. The Golden Spike ceremony will be at 1:00 PM. You are encouraged to bring your G gauge trains to run on the layout.

For comfort bring your lawnchair, light refreshments will be available.

Directions to 2932 Exeter Drive So, York Pa – Route 30 to rt 83 South to rt. 74, travel south on 74 passing Mack’s Ice Cream to Honey Valley Rd., turn right on Honey Valley Rd, to Spartan Rd. turn right on Spartan to Exeter Dr. So. Which will be the next left. The Geeey home is the 7th. Home on the right. Look for the railroad crossbucks.

Parking is limited, some folks will have to park on Woodshed Terr. Folks will be available to assist with parking.

We have plans in the works for July and August open houses . The dates and details have not been finalized at this time.



SPECIAL THANKS

I would like to thank the people who helped with the setup, maintenance, and teardown for the York Large Scale Train Show on March 26 to the 28, 2009. I received a lot of good feedback from people all over the country praising the Club about the displays we do each year. Many people said, “They always look forward to coming to the show each year to see the different configurations and displays that our club builds”.

Club member’s hard work and dedication make it possible for the club to get this recognition and praise.

A special thanks to our new club president, Walter Plank helping with the organization of this layout.

Special thanks to the many club members who gave their time, talents, parts, food, train engines, and train cars for this layout.

Thanks again for your support and I am looking forward to coming future displays.

Chairman: Jacob Middour



At 8:30 The Plastic is down and the Bridge modified by Mike Oberdick is in place.



By 10:30 The track is down and ready to start scenery



The Crew is busy with Scenery



By 2:30 it looks like a layout is near completion.



Jake Middours Sawmill is now in operation.



Bob Segessenmans Grist Mill is now in production.



Mike Oberdicks Cruise Line is taking passengers.



Road Rage has led to a delay in freight

The display for ECLSTS at the York fairgrounds on March 26-28 was a huge success! No project of this enormity could be completed without the untiring efforts of dedicated club members. The layout consisted of an 18' x 30' plot in the middle of the vestibule hence the display was visited by thousands of visitors to the show. Numerous individuals indicated interest in the club activity and inquired about joining SVGRS.

The chairman of the show (Jake Midour and his committee members), presented a showy display which drew many comments of commendation. Other clubs with layouts at the fair frequented our display with awe. They were impressed with the complexity, sound effects and animation. Many commented that they were impressed with the beauty of the mixture of trains, buildings, shrubs, and flowers. The theme of the display was life at the turn of the century, including a complete saw mill, grist mill, and of course "Thomas the Tank Engine".

Set up was March 25th with twenty five (25) volunteers present. Tear down took but two (2) hours. Volunteers for monitoring the layout provided continuous coverage. A box lunch was provided by the "Ladies of the Club" providing nourishment to the hard working men as they toiled on the railroad.

Five (5) trains operated simultaneously giving all a chance to view "Garden Railroading" at its finest. The two (2) track Lift Bridge could be raised permitting a ferry boat to pass underneath. The trains were programmed to halt near the edge of the bridge when the it was raised. The Grist Mill was powered by water that flowed on the sluice above the water wheel. The beauty of a water-powered wheel is a long lost item of antiquity. At the edge of the mill was a pond from which the water was re-circulated. The sawmill was a complete unit taking the log in the pond at the edge of the mill up the conveyor to the large circular saw, cutting the log into boards then conveying them to the "saw yard" for stacking.

Constant activity held the interest of the young and old alike.

No project is complete without a breakdown. At the start of the day the power supply malfunctioned. All were aghast that we had trains with no power! Bridgewater's stepped forward and loaned our club sufficient power sources to ensure continued functioning of all display units including engines and of course our bridge. Many thanks to Bridgewater's, for their generosity. It is to be noted the company is repairing our power supply at NO COST.

Special thanks to Mike Oberdick for his modification of the bridge provided by club member Joseph McGowen, Mike gave the bridge the professional glow. Thanks go to Joe Mower for the many new trestles he made especially for the club. Lest we forget any one, THANKS to ALL who helped make the show a success.

Let us all thank the following companies for their contributions:

1. Bridgewater----Loan/Repair of power supply
2. Split Jaws----Re-railer
3. Stauffers of Kissell Hill----Flowers/shrubs
4. Appalachian Nursery----Shrubs
5. Quincey Hardware---Flowers
6. Scott Rosenbaum----Mulch-Artificial Rocks



I want to thank the ladies that contributed goodies toward the lunch for the Large Scale Train Show Layout.

Doris Geesey-Brownies
Dianna Spooner-Sweet Treat
Donna Sweet-Cookies
Janice Bernard-Cookies
Hermina Stahl-Apple Cake

If anyone has suggestions for future layout lunches, please call or email Jean Plank
Phone 486-3489 or walterplank@comcast.net



SVGRS Meeting Minutes

12 Mar 2009

Vice President called the meeting to order at 7:25

Officers Present: Turk Russell, Jeff Shubert, Dave Watts

Membership present: 26

The vice president presided over the meeting in the absence of the president Tom McCloud

The secretary presented the minutes from the 6 November 08 meeting to the membership to read and make comments or corrections to the minutes. No comments or corrections were made. A motion was made by Jeffery Johnsbaugh to accept the minutes and was second by Barry McNew. Membership voted with 100% to accept. Dave reminded the members that the minutes will be published in the clubs newsletter and to help speed the meeting along copies will be made available to read prior to start of the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer presented a financial report along with a copy of the ledger to club membership. Balances as 28 February 09 was \$3494.75 in checking and \$3327.50 in savings for a total balance of \$6822. 25 A motion was made by Rich Reese and second by Rob Segessenman to accept the treasurer's report. Membership voted on the motion with a 100% to accept. He gave a detail overview of income and expenses for the last 3 months. He also stated that we currently have 19 members who have not paid their 2009 dues and he'll be mailing a final notice for payment to them and those who do not respond will be drop from clubs roster.

The club welcomed a new member Scott Rosenbaugh and his son Austin who were present for their first club meeting.

Old Business: Turk spoke on behalf of Walter and himself for the fine help and support that was provided for the Rocky Ridge display. The membership did a tremendous job to make this year's display a very successful event.

Harrisburg Garden Show: Turk reported that the 2010 show will be held.

The club THANKED Tom McCloud for serving the last two years as the president of the club and hopes to see him at many of the future club activities.

New Business:

The 2009- 2010 club officers were introduced to the membership.

President: Walter Plank

Vice President: Turk Russell

Treasurer: Jeff Shubert

Secretary: Dave Watts

After the introductions the meeting was turned over to Walter.

Walter spoke of his vision for what he would like to see. Some of his key goals would be: establish a club calendar (yearly), more executive committee meetings, more social events within the club, increase camaraderie, more shared club responsibilities/have more members taking an activate role in the club events.

Here is an example of one of the social activities that Walter has in mind. 14 members meet at the Brethren Home in New Oxford for dinner and social camaraderie before the club meeting.

Walter introduced Joe Mower as the clubs event coordinator.

Joe spoke of some of the upcoming events that are scheduled.

Mark your calendar for 20 June as that's the day Marlyn & Doris Geesey will host the club to the grand opening for the connection of their lay-out with their neighbor's lay-out. Better known as the "East Coast Golden Spike Celebration".

Joe does not have any events scheduled for May but has a few leads. If you would like to host a display in May or host an event some other time/month, give him a call.

In mid/late July the club has been invited by Loose Ties RR club's president Jeffery Johnsbaugh for an all day outing. The day will involve seeing two large scale RR's layouts. The one layout is on the scale of one inch to the foot and the second layout is one & half inch to the foot. He also mentions that we would have lunch at a restored train station. More details will follow on this very shortly.

The month of August there may be an activity at the Ma & Pa RR. Dave Watts as agreed to take the lead on this event.

October look for an outing along the lines of a train ride may be a trip to Steamtown in Scranton, Pa. Last year the club went to East Broad Top RR.

Hershey Park/Gardens Display/Activities Display:

Turk has been approached by Hershey if the club would be interested in participating with them on some train type activities this year. After discussion it was decided by a motion made by Marlyn Geesey and second by Eric Spooner to have Turk obtain more information. Membership voted on the motion with a 100% yea.

East Coast Large Scale Train Show:

Jake Middour and Marlyn Gessey are co-chairmen: they reported everything will be ready for the show. Mar 26 as set-up day and 27 and 28 as show day. Tear down will be on 28th following the closing of the show.

Club Picnic:

Some discussion, then tabled to executive board, more to follow at next meeting.

Hospital & Sickness Log:

Terry Smith is home recovering from surgery. The club sends along their best wishes for a speedy recovery and hopes to see him soon.

Executive Board statement:

Feel free to contact any member of the Executive Board regarding concerns and suggestions. A well informed board can then make decisions reflecting club members input.

THIS IS YOUR CLUB and we are there to serve you.

Next Meeting: No decision was made at this time.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:17

David Watts, SVGRS Secretary



President's Message

Our club faces many challenges. We are trying new approaches with the idea that nothing ventured is nothing gained. The executive committee is preparing to review and revise the club's by-laws. This will call for input from club membership to assure all views are considered before final changes are made. Feel free to contact any member of the executive committee with your input.

We have established a "Layout Design Committee" Marlyn Geesey will serve as chairman and coordinate projects and dates. The purpose of this committee will be to reach new or established club members in need of advice relative to initial layout construction or expansion of an existing one. If you are available to assist in this mutual sharing of experience and expertise please call Marlyn Geesey (717) 347-7637 and add your name to the list of fellow club members available. Perhaps in the future we can consider work parties where club members will be helping club members. Consider this an opportunity to increase social interaction and a way for us to get to know one another better.

We have undertaken a new club project assisting Jeffery Johnstonbaugh with a display at a nursery in Northumberland. Jeffrey has assisted us with many displays at York. Let us lend our aid at Northumberland.

We have three possibly 4 layout tours planned for the summer months. I encourage you to attend these open house events. Open House visits provide an opportunity to get new ideas and visit with other Garden Railroad Enthusiasts. The people hosting these events put in a lot of time and effort getting their layout in shape. We need to support them with our attendance.

We must reach out to fellow club members (especially new members) and make them feel an integral part of our dynamic train club---SVGRS.

Walter E. Plank
Home (717) 486-3489
Cell (717) 226-6689



Industry News. By Turk Russell

I have just been informed on Friday March 10 that LGB/ Marklin trains have indeed started to ship their first order of 2009 products. This is a surprise to most of us considering

That Marklin has filed a petition for protection from its creditors. In the US ; this is the same as bankruptcy. They have been denied a loan for assistance from the government.

As of now they are sending track and a few cars. Hopefully in this mess something good will come like a light at the end of the tunnel



Our own VP notches 2nd place in the modeling contest at the ECLSTS. Turk said he was happy with the standing considering a lot of the entries were done by some serious Modeling Craftsman. Good Job!





I have two displays scheduled this year. Landis Homes, Lititz PA Friday May 1 1 – 5
and Saturday May 2 8 – 1

<http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=en&q=1001+E+Oregon+Rd.,+Lititz,Pa,+17543&.html>

This will be my third time there. Since my first visit, the residents have set up an outdoor rail road of their own. I could check to see if this will be running as well. Esbenshades Garden Center, Lititz PA

http://www.esbenshades.com/retail_locations/directions.asp#lititz

Wednesday Nov 25, 27 & 28 Friday evening the store has a special holiday event, with food, music and of course trains. While they are not club specific events, members are invited to stop by either event. Any questions give me a call. 717.859.4422

Clair Dice



SVGRS Club Officers

President – Walter Plank (717)486-3489 walterplank@comcast.net

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

SVGRS Secretary - Dave Watts (717)-264-8187 davewtrainpappy@yahoo.com

Coordinator of Layout Tours. Joe Mower jhmower@aol.com

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

Newsletter Editor – Joe Mower (717)241-6483



Related Garden Railroad Businesses

Appalachian Gardens- Specializing in miniature plants and trees for Garden Railroads. They also offer a full range of nursery products. Appalachian Gardens provides plant materials for club exhibits and displays. 717-597-8456 Tom & Fern McCloud Website,

www.smallplants4bigtrains.com

Cool Train Hobbies – General train supplies and merchandise specializing in G scale trains. 717-898-7119 Ted & Kim Symonds.

Martins Greenhouse

It is a small greenhouse business specializing in perennials. This includes rock garden plants & miniature conifers, which fit in well with garden railways.

Noah & Marian Martin, 5489 Division Hwy., Narvon, Pa 17555, Ph. 717-354-7546
martinsghse@juno.com

Russell's Customizers – Repairs to garden railroad equipment. (Aristocraft, Bachmann & LGB. Moderate pricing for Garden Railroad equipment, technical advice, rail mechanics & maintenance problems. Call evenings 717-762-8873 Turk & Renee Russell.

RCS of New England – Specializing in battery control throttles for G scale trains. They also provide sound systems and special lighting effects. 717-259-9523 Don & Donna Sweet

Victoria's Timeless Treasures & Dale's Garden Railroad Depot – Provides a full range of Garden Railroad equipment, accessories and supplies. They invite members to view their extensive multi-track layout. 610-589-9000 Dale & Victoria Bricker

Railroadguy.com

Local company of Custom Steel Bridges

Visit www.railroadguy.com Ph. 717-629-5545

