

# SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY GARDEN RAILWAY



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## Club Elections

As part of our club reorganization and in compliance with club bylaws, the nominating committee will be soliciting members for their willingness to serve in club leadership. The committee of (3) members will present their findings at the annual Christmas Party for club review and at that time any additional nominations from the floor will be accepted. If you wish to serve or know of someone willing to serve, please contact one of the members on the nominating committee.

### Nominating Committee Members

1. Mel Pankuch
2. Marlyn Geesey
3. Barry Zeigler

The strength of any club is derived from the individual effort of the total membership. If you wish to serve and feel you can devote reasonable time and effort to club activities and planning, contact the committee expressing your availability.

After all candidates are indicated, the nominating committee will prepare the list of candidates for inclusion on ballots to be distributed to club membership. Each family has only one (1) vote for each office. Ballots will be returned to the committee for tabulation and results will be made public prior to the Large Scale Show in York. (March)

### Calendar of Events 2006

**July 29**

**Oilcreek & Titusville  
Mystery Dinner Run**

Titusville, Pa (814) 676-1733

**Aug 19**

**Rockhill Furnace**

**Homecoming**

Rockhill Furnace, Pa.

(814) 447-9576

**Sept 16**

**ANNUAL SVGRS**

**PICNIC**

New Holland Memorial Park

New Holland Pa.

(717) 354-3108

**Sept 24**

**Day out with Thomas**

Strasburg, Pa. (717) 687-7522

**Sept 30**

**Harvest Day**

Cass W.V. (304) 456-4300

**Oct 7-8**

**EBT Fall Spectacular**

Rockhill Furnace, Pa.

(814) 447-3011

**October 14,15,21,22**

**Kiski Foliage Rides**

Schenley, Pa. (724) 295-5577



## Frankenmuth, What's a Frankenmuth?

Oh, Frankenmuth is a town in Michigan. It is a Bavarian style town, very charming.

In Frankenmuth you will find the most wonderful and beautiful CHRISTmas Wonderland and store, owned by the Bronner Family. The store is filled with just whatever you could imagine and then some, in the way of Christmas decorations. It is the size of 3 football fields. A very interesting place to visit and enjoy!

The grounds surrounding the store are decorated as you would decorate your home, outside for Christmas, all year round, even the lights are lit. The benches and trash cans are even red and green. There is a special little chapel dedicated to the hymn Silent Night, you truly must visit it to appreciate the beauty of the chapel. They have Silent Night displayed on wood carved Christmas trees in more than 300 languages. Did you know there were that many languages?

After we visited Bronner's CHRISTmas Wonderland and store we found our way 5 miles down the road to Bridgeport, MI, where we discovered the Junction Valley Railroad. This is "The Quarter Size Line". It is the largest and most fully equipped 3" scale railroad in the world. Some facts about Junction Valley are: it is the hobby of William A. Stenger, Jr., who started laying track in May of 1979 and opened to the public in July of 1982.

Everything was engineered & designed by Wm. Stenger. His family and later on, employees also helped build the railroad. Everything is built to One Quarter-Size, which is 3 inch scale or 3 inches equals one foot. Over 586 tons of steel were used to build the entire railroad system, over 46 miles of electric wire were used to wire all the signals and electrical systems, over 5576 yards of concrete were used on the railroad tracks, buildings bridges, tunnel and roads. It takes 2500 hours to build a big engine and only 350 hours to build a gon car. It takes 355 hours to make one engine power truck and only 30 hours to make one freight car truck. All 9 engines muled together develops 1082 horsepower and uses 8.1 gallons of fuel per mile, when pulling a 200 ton load up a 5% grade. Mr. Stenger did build all of the engines and the cars used on his railroad.

The Planks and Geesey's had the pleasure of riding this unique RR. What a treat it was to ride this Quarter scale wonder!

Our next stop was a visit to the Wade and Gatton nursery. This was another wonder to behold. So many hostas, ferns, day lilies cats and kittens. Very enjoyable

We then traveled to "The G Scale Junction" hobby shop located in Newark, OH. It was a challenge to find this hobby shop. It is located out in the boonies on a dirt road, but what a stock this gentleman carries. He had it all and then some. The Planks made special purchases and Marlyn (bought his wife a brand new BNSF engine for her birthday, ha, ha).

Charles, owner of The G Scale Junction, has an add in the Garden Railways magazine and he does come to the G scale show in April in York, PA.

This was a most enjoyable memory building 4 day excursion.

Try it, you'll like it.

Submitted by Marlyn Geesey



## Comments from the Peanut Gallery

Our club is comprised of individuals therefore it is imperative that we need to create activities which bring members together. Club meetings are planned for the cooler months beginning in October. The meetings will be held on Friday nights at the Train Depot in New Oxford. The Executive Committee is requesting subjects for discussion/demonstrations of products or services to be held concurrently with scheduled club meetings. The club will prosper in direct proportion to the amount of club membership involvement. Let's take that first step toward club involvement and watch our club grow. Happiness is "An active club responding to the combined wishes of all members." Remember your responsibility as a club member requires that you actively participate in all club activities.

### Support businesses operated by members of our club

Appalachian Nursery (717) 762-9508

Russell Stereo & Train Repair (717) 762-8873

Dale's Garden Railway Depot (610) 589-9000

RSC of New England (717) 259-9523

I apologize if I missed any new member