

SVGRS NEWSLETTER – August 2007



TRAINS IN THE GARDEN

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Calendar of Events

September 7, thru 16, 2007 York Fair.

Fair open 10 AM till 10 PM Friday, Saturday and Sunday. 12 till 10 PM Monday thru Thursday. Lisa said she has set up and running trains covered. She could use help with teardown, if you can help contact Lisa.

September 15, 2007 Club picnic will be at the Akron Pavilion. See Details. **Important! We need to have a accurate head count for the caterer. Please respond By September 5, if you plan to attend the picnic.** You may respond to President – Tom McCloud (717) 762-9508 liner-man@earthlink.net, or Treasurer – Jeff Shubert phone number of (717) 530-0561 or e-mail shube3103@comcast.net. Call or e-mail. If no answer leave a message. (717) 530-0561

or Fred Whittle (717) 859-2679
whitleys@ptd.net .

Open House Layouts

Saturday, August 18, 11:00 - 4:00

Bob Segassenman

1466 Russell Tavern Road

Gettysburg, PA

717-677-9770

Bob has a large garden layout with over 750 feet of track consisting of 2 loops with an interchange. His rolling stock covers the period from the late 1800's to just prior to Conrail with a 50/50 mix of steam and diesel. The layout is track powered and he typically runs long trains (20-25 cars).

Bob will conduct a clinic in his workshop demonstrating some tooling and techniques he has developed to cut scale lumber and wood stock. He also will demonstrate making molds and castings.

Directions to Bob's layout from Gettysburg square (intersection of routes 34 and 30)

North on 34 approximately 4.25 miles. Turn left onto Ziegler Mill Road. 1.2 miles to left turn onto Russell Tavern Road. 0.2 miles to his driveway on the right. The driveway is a long shared

driveway 0.2 miles in length. Take the left driveway branch immediately and then take the second left at the branch further up the driveway.

Directions to Bob's layout from Bigler-ville square (intersection of routes 34 and 234)

South on 34 approximately 1.2 miles. Turn right onto Ziegler Mill Road. 1.2 miles to left turn onto Russell Tavern Road. 0.2 miles to his driveway on the right. The driveway is a long shared driveway 0.2 miles in length. Take the left driveway branch immediately and then take the second left at the branch further up the driveway.



Due to the Club Picnic and York Fair Display, no open house scheduled for September.

October 20, 2007 open house will be at Kirk Slenker's indoor layout in Glen Rock, PA on Saturday, October 20. More details and directions will be in the next newsletter.

October 6, 2007 Strausburg Museum train set up 9 till 12 AM. Display open till January 1.

November 10, 2007 Rocky Ridge Christmas Magic set-up 9 AM till 1 PM. Show open November 23 thru January 1.

December 8 Christmas Party at Brethren Home, Cross Keys



Club Picnic

Here is the scoop on the Susquehanna Valley Garden Railroad Society picnic. The date is Saturday, September 15, 2007.

The location is in the Lloyd Roland Community Park, Akron, PA, 17501. Members are able to arrive and begin to set-up after 10:30 AM. Lunch will be served at 12:00. There will be a catered meal of warmed roast beef and chicken cooked and ready to make into sandwiches, etc. Potato and macaroni salad and loose vegetables, soda and water, will be provided. To save money, it was decided that all members are requested to bring desert and any other food they feel would add to the festivities. Bathrooms and kitchen facilities are all inside the hall, with other bathroom close-by. There is a scenic pond and bike/walking path, which is almost 1.5 miles around the park. I would suggest that folding canvas type chairs be thrown into their vehicle in case you decide to be outside. There is not much shade in the immediate area.

*This is a free event to SVGRS members and immediate family in appreciation for your efforts of setting up displays and running trains.

*There will be a business meeting following lunch.

*Fred could use help setting up tables; If you can get to the picnic early to help contact FRED WHITLEY (717)859-2679.

*Tables will be provided for members to sell Garden Railroad related items.

* We need a coordinator for the picnic to set up and supervise the Garden Railroad pulling contest and free wheeling contest. If you are willing to help with these events please contact Tom McCloud.

Directions: Akron is located between Lancaster and Ephrata. Most folk will be coming via Lancaster, PA, so my directions will be from there. Take Route 30 EAST until one sees the exit for Route 222 NORTH. (There are blinking lights there to warning truckers to slow down due to a sharp curve) Continue and get off at the second exit. At the end of the exit, turn RIGHT onto Route 722. Just after the turn, there is a light. Go to the very next light and bear RIGHT onto Route 272 NORTH, which eventually traverses through AKRON, PA. Go perhaps three miles until one comes to the next traffic light, which is Main Street in AKRON. Turn RIGHT at the light onto Main Street. Continue two long blocks until one comes to 12th Street. Turn LEFT onto 12 th Street, continue eventually down a hill. The park will be on your right. Go to the SECOND road into the park, and the hall is on that drive. There is some parking there, with other parking along the drive, etc. Parking on the grass should not be a problem.

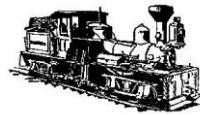
Any questions, contact FRED WHITLEY (wife is Marian), 1247 Main Street. Akron, PA 17501 (717)859-2679.



Christmas Party

Save the date of Saturday, Dec.8 for the club Christmas Party at the Cross Keys Village, the Brethren Home at 2990 Car-

lisle Pike, New Oxford, PA
Buffet menu of Roast Turkey and Roast Beef with all the fixings,
choice of five (5) desserts. Just what we dieters need!! Cost of diner will be determined by the executive committee.
Plan ahead.



Layout tours - If you would like to host an open house layout visit please contact Kirk Slenker (717) 244-3522 or e-mail slenke@aaicorp.com

News from Truk

I just received a notice today that the Marklin Company has purchased LGB trains. Now to what extent this goes we do not know at this time. We had heard that the Bank already had a sale of some of the company's molds and other inventory's were gone. But this has just been rumors. I will keep you posted as soon as I know more details

Turk

News from Bob McCrea

Bob said he recently called Trainworld to order track and they doubled the price of Aristocraft track.



Bob McCrea Building Trestles.

1, Prepare a scale drawing of the layout, or portion thereof, which includes the trackage to be elevated. Indicate beside the track the height to be set in inches with slopes of no

more than 4% and preferable 3% or less. For technical details refer to Model Railroad Handbook No. 33 "Bridges and Trestles"

2. Transfer the track plan to the field site using fine limestone to show the track location. Curve radius selection should consider engines to be used as well as topographic features and landscape planning.

3. Set track elements on limestone layout and connect together with clamps or other interconnects as desired. Using scale drawing, and appropriate temporary support (cement bricks are useful) elevate the track to match the heights on the scale drawing. Make the temporary support sufficiently strong that you can operate a light engine and or car on the layout. Check the operation and adjust the supports until the layout operates properly.

4. Determine which trackage will be at grade level and install the appropriate road bed. Those lengths or trackage to be elevated will be evident and will continue to be on temporary support.



5. It is now time to prepare the track support DECK (between track and the bents). My selection for both straight and curved deck is 3/4 by 3/4 red wood longerons, spaced 1-1/2 in apart with 3/4 by 3/4 blocks every 9 inches.



Curves are laminations of 1/8 by 3/4 pieces to the curve desired and again spaced 1-1/2 in apart with 3/4 by 3/4 blocks on 9 inch spacing. The decking is fabricated in suitable lengths as dictated by the layout and glued with Titebond II to a flat surface. While still flat the cross ties (6 inches long and 1/2 inch square) are glued to the longerons on 1 inch centers with equal overhang on each side. After the glue dry's (overnight) all joints are nailed with a Brad Nailer using appropriate length Brads. Each deck

section is then stained an appropriate color (Water based stain) and allowed to dry overnight.

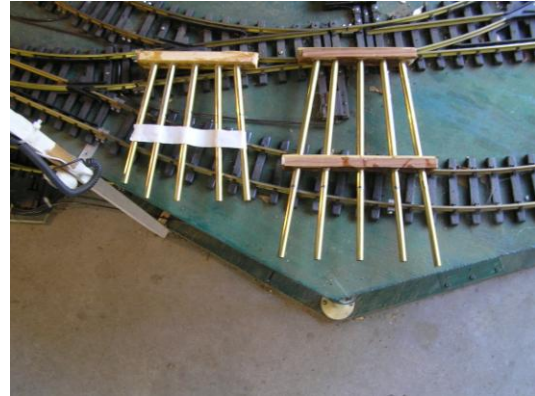
6. Deck sections are now installed in the layout adjusting the temporary supports to accommodate the 1-1/4 inch thickness of the deck. Final supports and abutments as well as deck attachments and bridge elements should be installed. The layout should be operations checked again and any height trimming should be made. Also final contouring and grading of the surfaces under the elevated trackwork should be completed at this time.



7. BENT fabrication is best done with a template --jig which standardizes the Bent shape. I have selected a Bent design with 5 vertical posts, horizontal members at top and intermediate locations (based on height), and diagonals. The jig has blocks and stops to locate all components and permit gluing.

8. Bents are located every 6 inches along the under side of the deck and their height is 1/4 inch less than the distance from the bottom of the 3/4 by 3/4 longs to the surface under the trackway. This surface may not be flat and the in-

dividual posts must be sized to accommodate such variations, I found it useful to fabricate an adjustable bent to take measurements on site to establish height.



9. Set up track decks with full track work to make the entire layout connected and supported with false piers (cement bricks) spaced to allow Bent installation between the false work. Make a final grade check *and* run a light switcher engine around the layout. Shim the track deck at each false pier if needed to finalize the grading and be happy with your work.



10 Mark all Bent locations (6 inches apart) with a numbering or lettering code of your selection and start a tabulation. Measure: the vertical height from the bottom of the deck

to the grade surface, Subtract 3/8 inch, and record on your tabulation sheet. You can now estimate the amount of Redwood strips required for the project. Add 20% for cutting and scrap.

11. Start fabricating individual bents using the jig. Cut 5 posts to length from your selected bent tabulation. (example—Bent A--14 1/2) Locate 5 post neatly on jig, glue top cross to posts and secure with weight. Glue mid cross to posts and secure with weight. Lastly glue bottom cross to posts and secure with weight, Allow Titebond II glue to cure over night, Next day remove posts and cross work from jig and turn over setting it back in the jig). Glue top, mid, and bottom cross pieces to the posts being careful to align these crosses with those previously installed, Allow glue to dry over night. Remove Bent from jig and using appropriate Brad nailer nail cross members to posts. Diagonal braces may now be glued to posts, allowed to dry, and then nailed to posts. Take assembled Bent to layout and check (example location A) for vertical fit with top clamped to bottom of deck, 1/4-1/2 clearance from grade level.

12. You may now pre cut a number of posts (mark B, C, D, etc) to proper height and precut a timber of top, mid, and bottom cross pieces as desired, Then proceed to assemble bents as described in step 11 above. When bored, stain the completed Bents as desired and stockpile. When building Bents select locations between the false piers in order to install Bents to hold up the layout and be able to

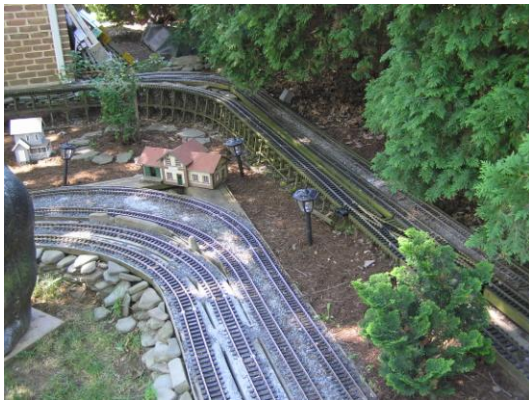
safely remove the false work and install final Bents.

13. There are a number of ways install the individual Bent at it's proper location and fill the gap at grade level. The three most common are (1) Timber cribbing, (2) Stone and mortar base, and (3) Cast concrete Base. My preference is (3) because the casting method best conforms to grade variations and fills gaps. To perform this task I use 1-1/2 high casting boxes tapered from 1-1/4" base to 3/4" top width. Sides are 1/4" by 1-1/2 treated strips as long as needed. End blocks are 3/4" thick and tapered as required. C clamps are used to secure the box closed and are easy to remove after the casting hardens. In soft ground 20d nails are driven in at angles with the nail head immersed in the casting. Allow the cast base to set overnight then remove the camps and the box. The base can then be trimmed as required and should be allowed to dry for 1-2 days.



14. Proceed to fabricate, stain,

install, and cast bases for all bents between the falsework under the deck. You may then remove the temporary supports and install bents to replace the falsework. This should complete the truss-work and you can proceed to install connecting timbers between the bents. Styles and type as well as geometry of the connecting timbers are at the selection of the builder but a number of horizontal connections between the bents is desirable for strength and appearance.



15. With the trestle fully installed it is now time **to lay the final trackwork** on the deck cross ties, Lots of methods of attachment are possible, I choose to screw the track ties to the deck ties with #40 by 3/4in pan head -black-Philip screws about 1 foot spacing along the deck. With the track layout fully installed-including at grade sections- hook up appropriate electric supplies and check out operations and correct any flaws, you are now ready to landscape.

Enjoy your TRESTLE--

Bob McCrea

Receipt for Hobo Stew

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound ground beef
- 2 (15 ounce) cans mixed vegetables
- 1 (15 ounce) can whole peeled tomatoes
- 3 cups uncooked elbow macaroni
- 1 cup water
- salt and pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

1. Heat a cast iron Dutch oven over a campfire, and brown the ground beef. Drain off the excess grease, then pour in the mixed vegetables, tomatoes, macaroni, and water. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Cover, and cook until the macaroni is tender, and the stew has reached desired thickness.



SVGRS Club Officers

President – Tom McCloud (717) 762-9508 liner-man@earthlink.net

Vice President – Turk Russell (717) 762-8873 1turk@earthlink.net

Dave Watts - SVGRS Secretary 717-264-8187 suern@innernet.net

Coordinator of Layout Tours.
Kirk Slenker - (717) 244-3522 or slenke@aaicorp.com

Treasurer – Jeff Shubert (717) 530-0561
suern@innernet.net

Secretary/Membership – Dave Watts
(717)264-8187

Newsletter Editor – Joe Mower
(717)241-6483

Items for the newsletter can be submitted to jhmower@aol.com. Please indicate SVGRS in the subject so it does not get deleted with spam.



The club now has official pamphlets. Designed by Turk Russell and Dave Watts they will be available to any club member as well as for events. The literature includes a little history on who we are and what are all the club benefits. It also has a mini membership application as well as information on contacting all officers

The next issue of the newsletter will be out approximately October 5. Please have any information for the newsletter to me by October 1.

If you have items for sale you would like posted in the newsletter please send me a list before October 1.

**We are always looking for articles to publish. If you have an article you think would be of interest to other club members please send it to me.
Joe Mower**

Related Garden Railroad Businesses

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

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

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

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
717-354-7546
martinsghse@juno.com