



September 2009 – Newsletter

Visit our club website – www.SVGRS.com

SVGRS Calendar of Events 2009

Sept 9 - SVGRS Club Officers Meeting

Sept 12 – SVGRS Club Picnic. The Club Picnic is being co chaired by Loretta Wending and Scott Rosenbaum, The location is Robert and Harriet Segessenman. The date is Saturday September 12. A covered tent will be provided. Sunshine has been ordered. Details in newsletter.

Sept 24, 25 & 26 - East Coast Train Show at the York Fairground. Setup will be September 24 and trains will be running the 25th and 26th.

Saturday October 10, 2009 - Joe Cavazos - Open House Layout tour . From morning till whenever! Sunday October 11 is the Strasburg RR Museum Garden Tour. See info in newsletter.

October 17 - Open House Layout visit - Bill and Marilyn Bowers, 201 Longstreet Drive, Gettysburg, PA 17325-8921.

Nov 11 – SVGRS Club Officers Meeting

November 21 – Rocky Ridge Christmas Magic Set-up

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

December 5 – SVGRS Christmas Party (**Note date change**) Co-chaired by Myra Gamble and Colleen Midour, Myra stated the party will be held on 5th Dec at the Brethren Home in New Oxford (Cross Keys) starting at 4:30pm and lasting until 10pm. She also mentioned the menu as been selected and that more information will follow in the coming months.



Sept 12 – SVGRS Club Picnic.

The Club Picnic is being co chaired by Loretta Wending and Scott Rosenbaum, The location is Robert and Harriet Segessenman. The date is Saturday September 12. We plan to serve lunch at 12 noon. A covered tent will be provided. Sunshine has been ordered.

The club is providing Chicken, Hamburgs, Hot Dogs and Sweet Corn. Drinks, Plates and utensils will also be provided. Members are to bring a covered dish to share.

Planned events include Bingo with a lot of nice prizes, Members auction of train related items with 10% of selling price going to the club. (Note: Members can set a minimum bid price if they wish). A 50/50 drawing. Train pulling and running events are also planned, bring your best pulling engine.

Mel Pankuch is reducing the size of his layout and will have a separate table of items for sale.

Open House Events

Saturday October 10, 2009 - Joe Cavasos Open House Layout tour . From morning till whenever! Sunday October 11 is the Strasburg RR Museum Garden Tour.

Some information about the layout: Name: Pleasant Valley Scenic Railroad, 1100 ft. brass track. Track powered by Aristocraft Train Engineer, 4 loops with 4 trains running at the same time. Era is from 1960 to present, all diesel. 15 different bridges, all handmade. Over 100 ft. of trestle. Landscaping is in very beginning stage.

Location: 249 Pleasant Valley Road, East Earl, PA 17519-9775.

Another great opportunity to eat at the Shady Maple Smorgasbord



October 17 - Open House Layout visit, Bill and Marilyn Bowers, 201 Longstreet Drive, Gettysburg, PA 17325-8921.

President's Message

Summer is fading but interest in G-Scale Trains remains at a high level. Scheduled layout displays are scheduled well into the fall. We have had excellent participation in various Club Events which have included the ECLSTS Display, extensive outdoor display at Gilmore's Nursery near Shamokin Dam and preparation for our Annual Picnic. It is gratifying to see the support given to members who have scheduled public display of their Garden Railroad. History was re-enacted at the Gold Spike Ceremony when Marlyn Geesey and his neighbor joined their two large outdoor displays. Camaraderie between club members increases as we become more involved in group activities.

The initiation of **Members helping Members** has been successful in assisting new members as they undertake construction of their new Garden Railroad. Follow up of the (3) three initial member visitations reveal that each new member is now well underway with their Garden Railroad. It is evident club efforts in sharing expertise and experience, hastens the construction and ultimate completion of the member's layout. Hopefully the club's efforts will reduce the anxiety of new members and prevent problems normally experienced by beginning Garden Railroaders. Let us encourage new members to avail themselves of advice and assistance as they join our ranks.

Our editor has requested pictures for inclusion in the newsletter. Please share your pictures with the rest of the club members. Many new ideas and techniques can be secured from printed pictures of the various member layouts.

Several of our members have had a stay in the hospital. Perhaps we should ask one of our members to monitor hospitalizations, extraordinary events or demise of club members and communicate **SVGRS Concern** for the welfare of all its members. This club activity could provide information to other members, thus enabling members to send cards or schedule visitation.

The Executive Committee is available to all members with club concerns or suggestions. The committee tries to display member wishes in decisions made on behalf of the club. Communication with club membership is a two-way path. The Executive Committee can only respond if contacted.



Gilbert's Garden Center Layout

I am very sorry for my tardiness in saying thank you to everyone who helped make this layout a success. We had a wonderful team show up to set up. Since it was all new to everyone else, we started with a lot of brain storming. Once we got a scope of the layout location, we bounced various modifications around and finally came up with a great design that maximized to amount of track for a maximum number of trains.

We had dedicated track assemblers and track layers who laid a lot of track in a short period of time. They had to work around the obstacles that we were putting in their way. Every time they would turn around we had something more for them to work around. Positioning the waterfall and the main pond, and then creating a spillway under the bridge to the secondary pond. I would recommend not letting this crew alone in your backyard. Unsupervised they might remove a power pole, just because it's in the road! The great team work and ideas, made the best of an unwanted power pole and fence post, to create a really awesome display for the Thomas Dog Bone. In addition to Thomas's loop there were two very large loops both utilizing the lift bridge through the relative center of the layout. Then there was a loop inside of the larger of the two. This loop created a create location for the farm scene.

With the immediate availability of mulch by skid loads full, we had the mulch down in no time. These guys really worked hard and fast. The choosing of plants and placing them was a breeze since we had the entire nursery select from. We were pretty much done and running trains by 3:00 PM.

The trains ran beautifully for all three days. An occasional car off the track, but in all relatively all ran well. We had one day of on and off rain, the others were great. The Garden Center was extremely pleased with the layout. They were equally happy with the number of people who came through. Many of the visitors to the layout even told the employees and owners how great the layout was and thanked them for having us do the display. Many children wanted to stay all day, there was even one child who just cried and cried because he had to leave. We had many adults stop and ask questions. Some who have never seem a garden railroad, and others were fellow G gauge enthusiast. Two guys came all the way down from Scranton area, and two came up from the Mechanicsburg area. These guys took SVGR brochures. Thank you to everyone who helped man the display for the three days.

Thanks to all the folks who showed up for the tear down! As we were taking up track the staff of the garden center started to remove the plants and restock them in the nursery. We started around 3:00 PM and most were on their way home by 5:00 PM.

The club had our check in hand before we even had the layout put together. Gilbert's extends their thanks and appreciation for our job well done. Along with theirs I would like to tell everyone how grateful I am for the time and hard work all who showed up to help make the clubs presence known in the Susquehanna Valley. Jeff Johnstonbaugh





Membership Cards

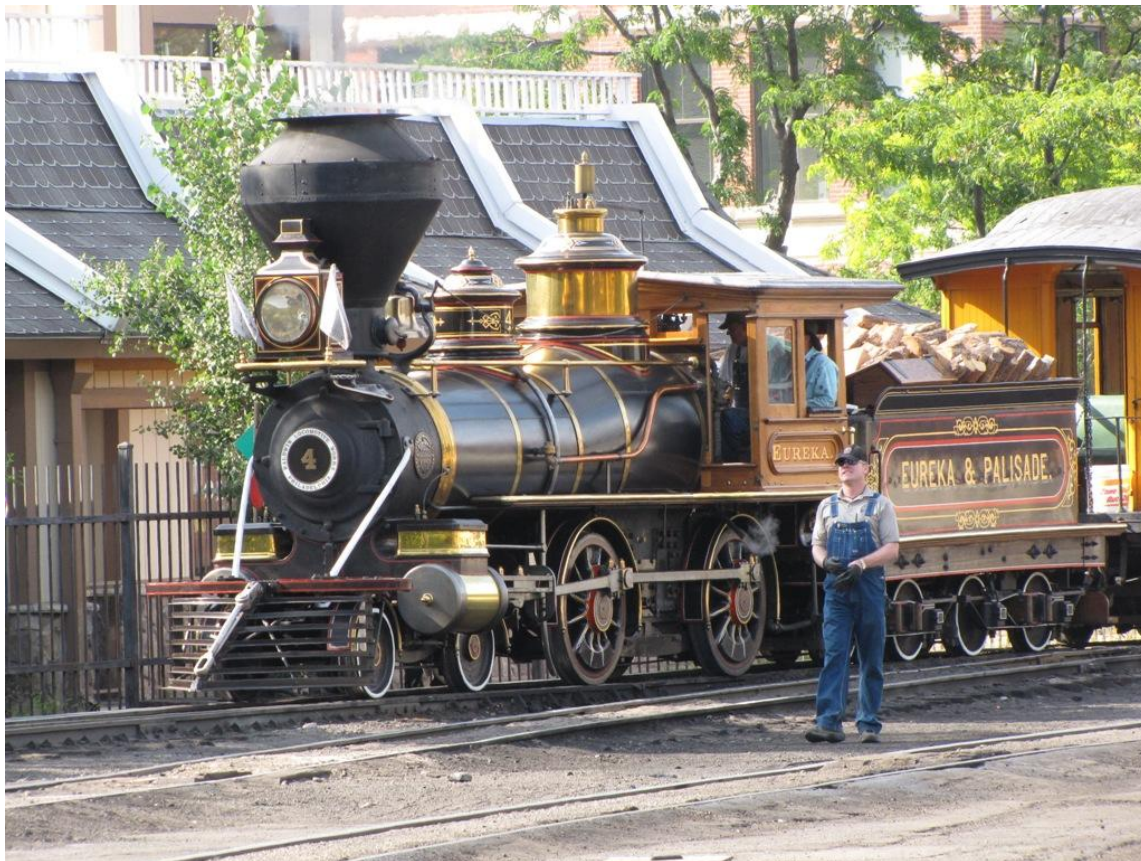
2009 membership cards for members and spouses will be mailed to those who were not at the past two club events. Anyone who has not received a card by the time the newsletter is sent should contact AL Bernard, membership chairman, at bigalber@aol.com, or 717-246-5146.

Thanks, AL



My friend Pete sent us this photo at the Durango Colorado Rail Festival. It is the oldest certified operating Steam locomotive in the country. Built in 1875, it is a wood burning 4-4-0. The owner, Dan Markoff trailers the locomotive around the country for special steam ups. Barry McNew and I had the privilege to ride and check it out in 2004.

Submitted by Turk Russell





Here are 2 photos. One is at Lou Stahls, and the other is at Hershey Gardens

Turk



News from Bachmann: submitted by Turk Russell

The long awaited RioGrande long caboose is finally here. This will give the K 27 a boost now that rolling stock is becoming available. Below are photos of the interior. This may be the most detailed interior yet from a mass-produced car.

Other news is that a 4-4-2 Forney will be shipping late in the fall. This will fill the void left by LGB. Thomas the tank and friends is now shipping and should be available soon. This will also fill a void left by Lionel. Now that the company has secured the rights; there is expected to be a whole lineup of Thomas items and accessories in the future.

To our surprise Logging fans will be happy to know that there will be a Flat car loaded with a Logging skidder and crates that will be shipping this fall. Although it will Not be a working skidder; it still will be a welcome asset to all of us loggers. With a street price of less than \$65.00 this will surely be a good seller

To view more new products; click on the following link

<http://www.bachmanntrains.com/home-USA/>



Rio Grande 0503 side view



Rio Grande 0503 Interior 1



Rio Grande 0503 Interior 2



Rio Grande 0503 Interior 3



Rio Grande 0503 Interior 4

PLANT YOUR LAYOUT

THIS FALL ~

10% OFF ORDERS OF 4 PLANTS

20% OFF ORDERS OF 8 PLANTS

Sorry we won't be at the Fall ECGRR Show in York, but you can call, fax, or email your order today; and we'll ship right away! Better yet, stop here at the nursery and pick out the plants you need.

Hours: M-F, 8:30AM – 4PM; Sat.,by appt. only; Closed Sun.

Please call ahead so we know you are coming.

Great selection ~ Pictures online

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Email: info@smallplants4bigtrains.com

APPALACHIAN NURSERIES AND GARDENS

1724 CLAY HILL RD

CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202

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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

