



January 2013 Newsletter

Schedule for 2013

Put this on your Planner

- January 25 Friday - Deadline to sign up to help at ECLSTS and get free passes
- February - ? Designing Layout – Change by Laws – Trailer Insurance
- March 6 Wednesday - General Club Meeting at the Brethren Home in Cross Key
- March 21 Thursday - 9:00am- Set up for the ECLSTS at York Fair Grounds
- March 22/23 9 to 6 pm Friday & 9 to 4 on Saturday - ECLSTS York Fair Grounds
- March 23 Saturday – TEAR DOWN 4pm at the York Fair Grounds
- March 31 Deadline to pay 2013 Club Dues Send Payment to
Jeffrey Shubert, 258 Chestnut Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257
- April 27 Saturday- Trailer/equipment cleans up.
- May ? Layout Tour – We need a tour coordinator for member's layout
- June 12, Wednesday, 7pm ' - General Club Meeting at New Oxford train station
- August 3 Saturday - Executive Board Meeting to appoint nominating Committee
- September 14 Saturday- SVGRS Club Picnic
- October 9 Wednesday - General Club Meeting at Cross Key, New Oxford.

November 9 Rocky Ridge Set up to build layout 9:00

November 29 to Dec. 31st - Run trains at Rocky Ridge

December 7- SVGRS Christmas Party (place to be determined)



Presidents Message

I would like to wish everybody a Happy New Year and lots of fun while working on your garden railroad. We have a very active schedule for March as with our club meeting and the East Coast Large Scale Train Show on 22nd and 23rd. This month and the next is a great time to go over your equipment list and see if you need to upgrade, repair, or enlarge your railroad. This is also a great time to oil and fix any parts that are loose or broken and try your hand at kit bashing a car or engine.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped out during the past year with the construction of layouts, running the engines, selling raffle tickets, helping out with the picnic and Christmas party. It's been a Terrific Year with everyone pitching in and giving of your time and effort.

To continue the same coverage of news, pictures, and updates on the club activities, we need a person to be a newsletter layout person. We try to publish a newsletter 3 or 4 times a year so we can keep everybody in the loop and informed as to trains news.

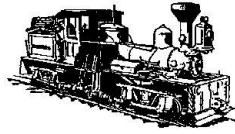
We also need a chairperson to coordinate layout tours. Don't forget that SVGRS is your club and Turk and I are looking for new ideas to implement in order to better serve you. So get your thoughts and suggestions together and email or bring those to the meeting.

One other item that needs to be mentioned, we need to expand our membership. Hopefully, whenever we are at a train show, train gathering, or Rocky Ridge in De-

cember, we can talk up the benefits of being a club member and the enjoyment we have working together while constructing a beautiful garden railroad layout.

Your Chief Engineer;

Barry McNew



Financial Report

Current SVGRS balances

Checking \$3,141.99

Savings \$5,800.04

2012 Year End Total \$ 8,904

2011 Year End Total \$ 7155

Christmas Dinner Expense Sheet

There were 43 total who attended the dinner.

Total paid income: \$324.00 Meals paid for

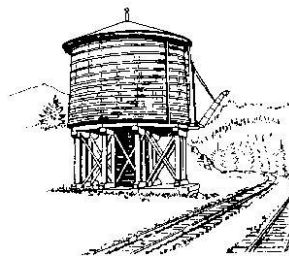
50/50 income: \$65.00

Member expense: \$145.40 Rob Jr. and Barry

Manchester Café': \$548.08

Total Cost to Club: \$304.48

Submitted by: Jeff Shubert



Rocky Ridge Final Roundup (2012)

submitted by: Turk Russell

This year's *Christmas Magic* was definitely different than in past years. The indoor layout was smaller due to platform logistics. The weather was much milder

this year, except for a few cold nights. Now that the walls were lined inside; this made for a much warmer and pleasant experience for all.

I have already been informed that for the year 2013, our building will now have permanent walls and siding. This will make the climate even better, with the addition of foam insulated walls and lighting for next year.

Special thanks to those dedicated SVGRS Members who unselfishly donated their time, for layout monitoring. (Many members donated multiple days).

Attendance for the Rocky Ridge Christmas Magic was a total of 38,309 visitors. Definitely less than last year's all time record of 43,800. With 7 days of cancellations and rainy weather; I know Jerri (head of the Parks), as well as the rest of us are still very pleased. However; on Saturday Dec 15; my family and the Segessenman's were there to witness a new 1 night attendance record. (3822) it did not seem much different than in past years, until around 8:15 pm. From then on the lines between the buildings grew longer and longer. At 9:15 our kids said that cars were still backed up as far as you could see. Rob and I ran the trains until 10:20 pm that night! That was the longest evening on record that I know of. After speaking with Jeri at closing; he informed me that over 2000 people tried to get in between 8 – 9 pm; that was the park's longest running evening to date.

There were more electronically controlled lights put up this year and the walkways were made wider for better access. As usual; we were the hit of Christmas Magic. I was told many nights there was no line to see Santa, but the trains always had a line. Many members brought their own engines to run this year, which gave our equipment a rest. Phillip Shoop ran his fully decorated LGB Christmas train, with fully illuminated lights, on many nights.

Running the donation gondolas really paid off again this year. We took in well over \$800.00. Finally everyone is listening to us . Bait them with a few coins ,dollar bills and visitors will give us all the change they have. This is awesome since it is our only show that makes us income for the year.

This was the first year that I can remember, in my past 10, that the trains ran with almost no issues and remained maintenance free. Walter and I feel really lucky for once!

We ran 4 loops and a Reversing Trolley .Also we included an outdoor train to keep- ing visitors well entertained. Many of the animated elements like the snow scenes, merry-go-round; burning house; automated skier slopes were included.

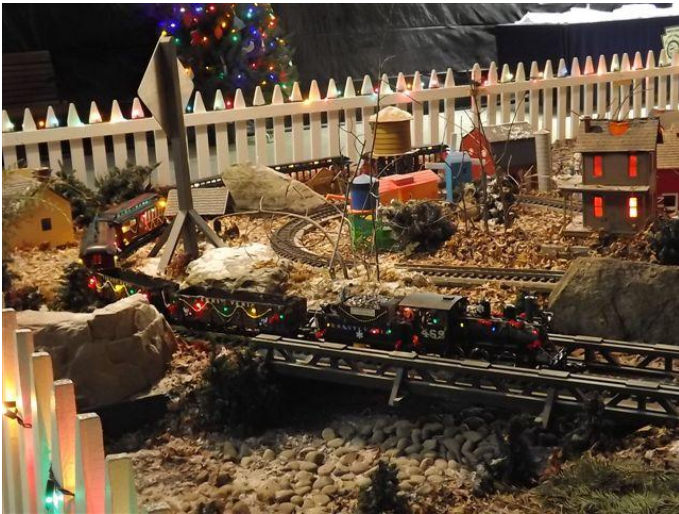
Weather conditions caused 7 days of closing of park activities. Club monitors provide a unique service on behalf of the club. They assure track is clean before and after their scheduled time. During their time there, club members interacted with the

crowd answering questions, on club matters and at that time they recruit new members.

Over **550 *Beginning Garden RR brochures*** were handed among other club lit . The raffle winner of the **Thomas the Tank** set was finally drawn after 4 days of **Rocky Ridge Park closure** . The club sold \$737.00 worth of raffle tickets. The winner was **Logan Swegon; of Stewartstown, Pa.** We're hopeful that with all of this outreach, we'll be successful in recruiting new members in the coming years . the final totals will be given at the next meeting

Submitted by show coordinators: Turk Russell & Walter Plank





Rocky Ridge grand prize winner

Logan Swegon and his mom receive the train set on New years eve





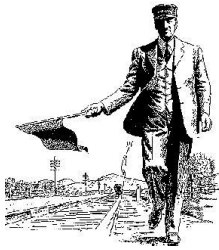
DONATION FROM A PAST CLUB MEMBER

I received a call from Dean Getz that he was clearing out the remains of his train items . Thanks to Dean and his wife for their generous donations of the large wooden train with track and the large Christmas train sign. We made use of these items on display this year at Rocky Ridge .

He also gave us some track and other misc items as well. Dean was one of the 4 founding members when Gene Boll started the SVGRS club back in 1994. We appreciate the Getz's generosity!

Submitted by: Turk Russell





2013 Cass Railfan Weekend 4 locos to run

Cass Scenic Railroad is celebrating 50 year anniversary. Dates for this event are May 16, 17, 18 & 19, Featuring 4 days of trains to ride and photograph. 3 nights of Night Photo sessions as well, Thursday May 16 will start at the Cheat Bridge outside of spruce with 2 Diesel Excursions. The afternoon event will be at Durbin featuring their #3 Climax loco. First time night photos sessions will also be included, the rest of the events will be at Cass

For more details visit WWW.MSRLHA.org website.



2012 Christmas Party

Once again, the Christmas party was a success and a positive experience for all who attended largely due to the efforts of our organizers and a great group of train club people. A big thanks goes to Penny Segessenman who was convinced she was more than capable of pulling this off. She didn't let us down and appears willing to step up again next year! Turk and Walter are greatly relieved. Special thanks go to Renee Russell, Jeanie Plank and Mary McGallicher who each helped and or contributed gifts or door prizes. Thanks also to the executive committee and Turk Russell specifically for bringing along one of his recent engine upgrade project as well as Rob Segessenman Jr. for preparing and delivering the slide show. Note, we may choose to get better music next year.

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Everyone got a gift bag with candy and a handmade snowman and we gave away over 30 door prizes and had a 50-50 raffle won by Fred Wendling. The Grand prize winner was Kevin Adams.

After taking some of the member suggestions to heart, the executive committee decided to hold this year's Christmas party in a new location on the Eastern end of our territory. We knew we wanted to hold the party much further to the East than in the past, and this year's venue came at the recommendation of several of our members who had eaten there previously.

The Manchester Dinner turned out to be a good choice and I think there was plenty of good food for everyone. We'll consider another new (or old) venue next year, so send in your suggestions! If you've eaten somewhere in the Central section of our territory that you think would be a good venue and has tasty food, please let the executive committee know.

Below are a few pictures of the event:

Submitted by: Rob Segessenman





Grand Prize Winner Kevin Adams received a LGB box car.



So, what did you get from Santa for your layout?

SVGRS Club Officers

President – Barry McNew (717)762-2962 bmcnew@centurylink.net

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

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

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

Newsletter Editor – Position Open

Layout Coordinator – Position Open

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

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.