



April 2015 Newsletter

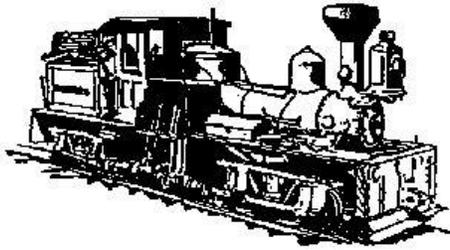
2015 SVGRS Calendar of Events

- Jun-7 4:00pm General Meeting #2 & Trailer Cleanup (Bob Segessenman's House Biglerville PA)
- Jul-15 Deadline for 3rd quarter News Letter Articles (Email pics & articles to editor)
- Aug-12 6:30pm - Executive Board Meeting (Location - Gettysburg Outlets Food Court)
- Sep-19 1:00am - General Meeting #3/Club Picnic (Location TBD)
- Oct 15 Deadline for 4th quarter News Letter Articles (Email pics & articles to editor)
- Nov-14 9:00am - Rocky Ridge Setup (Rocky Ridge County Park, York PA)
- Nov-27 5:00pm - Christmas Magic Opening Day Dec-1 Officer Voting Deadline (Ballots to Nominating Chairperson)
- Dec-6 5:00pm - Christmas Party/General Meeting #4 (Brethren Home – Cross Keys PA)
- Dec-31 Rocky Ridge Christmas Magic Ends
- May/Aug Layout Tours - Volunteers?
- Jun/Jul Rail Fan Excursions - Ideas?



SVGRS Gets a Facebook Page

Deb & Jason Scott have now setup a club Facebook page. Just search "Susquehanna Valley Garden Railway Society" to find the page. Contact Jason or Debbie to be added to the group which is for now by invitation only. Once you're onboard, please feel free to share you train info. If you have questions You can email them at: scottssigns@yahoo.com or call them Phone number is: 717-359-8272



2015 East Coast Large Scale Train Show Review

Our club was once again invited to present the centerpiece display at the East Coast Large Scale Train Show (ECLSTS) at the York Fair Grounds in York PA March 27th and 28th. About a dozen members participated in setup day on March 26th working from around 9:30 till close till 5:00pm to get what we've been told was one of our most intriguing track plans to come to life. No heaters were required!

It's been our standard at the ECLSTS to have three independent loops and the back and forth trolley line. This year added a little twist to what we call the inside loop by adding a pattern where the line was partially elevated and folded back on it's self twice. Thanks to Bob Segessenman for setting this up and working out some of the kinks ahead as well as pre-building the two main elevated platforms. Thanks to Phillip for bringing his mine and providing nearly all our electrical support. And to Turk for providing his long trestles and buildings.

As with Rocky Ridge, we gave away a fair amount of literature and I believe we may have gained a few members.

Unlike Rocky Ridge which has to endure a long and cold season, our warmer and very short display duration allows us to use live plants. This is critical part of our ECLSTS displays. We once again were benefited by the generous loan of large plants from Stauffers of Kissel Hill in Dover. Additionally, we also made great use of many flats of small plants from Tom and Fern McCloud. I'm sad to report this will be the last year Cloud's will be able to loan us plant material as they are retiring from the nursery business. So many years of stellar support - Hat's off to you! Thanks to all who helped with setup, operations and or teardown and clean up!

Rob Segessenman Jr./Bob Segessenman Chairman/ Coordinator

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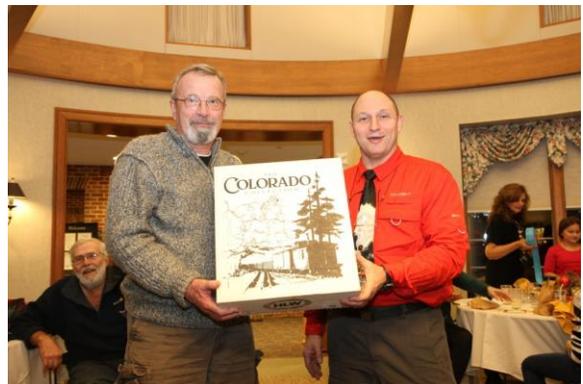
SVGRS Annual Christmas party

This year's Christmas party was held on Dec 6 at the Brethren Home located in Cross Keys. Penny Segessenman was our host. Her husband Rob along with Turk & Renee Russell assisted in the program.

51 members were in attendance. We had a buffet style meal including desserts. Penny told a short story that was humorous followed by a short meeting with updates on club business. Turk prepared us a power point presentation of photos /movies of past club displays. Our 50/50 drawing winner was Marlyn Geesy. He took home \$81.00 from our \$162.00 pot.

We also gave away over 35 prizes. Along with the top 3 receiving train cars the Grand prize winner was Bob Charles of a HLW 3 cars collector set

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Members visit train in Florida

For the past 3 years; I have been privileged to travel to Sarasota Florida for a winter break and stay with my friend Wayne Knepper. I always try to find some train adventure even though I may not be always be supported by Renee or Holly . This trip Renee she had a friend to hang out with so it was a good time for all. I am lucky to have made a connection with the past president of the Gulf Coast railroaders located in Tampa. I met Stan & Irene Kotas through former member and friend Don Sweet. Like a lot of G scale clubs; they have seen a monster down trend in the hobby. In 2014 they made a tough decision to disband their club and incorporate memberships with the new Florida gulf coast Railroad Museum. Membership and Age had caught up with them. So this idea has given them a new birth and a place to have the complete train experience. Located in Parrish Fl.; It's a short drive from Tampa. They have 2 locations and run a 13 mile round trip using a variety of diesel powered trains. They have quite a few streamliner passenger cars that are restored. Some are even former Ring Bros circus cars. They have a diverse collection of cars and even some old RS-3s. They also have 2 steamers; that are not in service, but on display. Being able to share the grounds, they store an abundance of G scale trains in a designated building including a portable layout trailer that they can pull out and fold open; add some buildings and start running trains. It's completely setup and ready to go in a short time. Since the weather is almost always awesome there; they run trains outside and for some events; they setup some huge portable canopies and run the trains for a few weeks at a time. Hot dog roasts by the campfire with big trains and small ones is a unique experience for everyone of all ages

They also rent and bring in a Thomas the tank loco for 2 weeks in the holiday season. This has proved to be a huge success. I had a great time leaning about their railroad and even got my hands dirty with a locomotive piston being educated by their lead mechanic. For more information <http://www.frm.org/>

Submitted by : Turk Russell

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News Editor:

Member Kevin Adams has stepped down as our news editor. Joe Mower has re-taken the reins of this task. Thanks to Kevin for his efforts in keeping our information going for the past 1 ½ years. After a battle with cancer; Joe is back in the game. We look forward to working with him. Call or email Joe with any information that you would like in our publication.

By: Turk Russell

2014 Rocky Ridge Christmas Round Up

This year's Rocky Ridge season definitely had its moments with weather and issues. The Park closed 10 days. We had plenty of sleet, snow, and rain that caused many issues. After channel 8 showed up they seemed to keep the park open regardless of weather. I know folks were complaining early on about the park closing due to mild weather.

22 people showed up to help build the layout. We had to run the heaters due to the 26 degree weather. That was awesome!

Our layout had 5 trains running with 4 amusement park rides. Thanks to Bob Segessenman for his ever-growing collection which has helped us greatly add more dimension to the display. We also added a new ice pond with figures near the water feature and a lot more lights and lighted items as well.

Kambach Publishing provided 4 cases of literature and lots of Garden Railway magazines. We gave all of it away and gained a few members.

With a declining membership; it's been tough on me to find coverage for 32-37 nights of train running; but we did make it through. The best nights for this year were as follows:

Highest Donations: Saturday Dec 13 - The Shubert's & Phillip Shoop/ Tiffany Vankirk

Most Raffle Tickets ever sold: (99) Sunday Dec 21- Deb & Jason Scott

Coldest night: 12 degrees Saturday Nov 29 Turk & Rob

Attendance: Were 36,068 visitors 4th highest

Our raffle ticket sales reached 448. This was off a bit from past years. The winner of the Thomas the tank set raffle was Scott Reisinger of York Pa. His family has visited Christmas Magic for 11 years and loved the trains so they were super thrilled to win. Thanks to Jim Hitz for delivering the prize. We now give the set away the week of Christmas; that way the kids and family can enjoy it over the holidays.

As of this writing; with years of negotiating, our building is now permanently fully insulated; including the ceiling, Yea!!

Thanks to all who helped make this year's display another success!

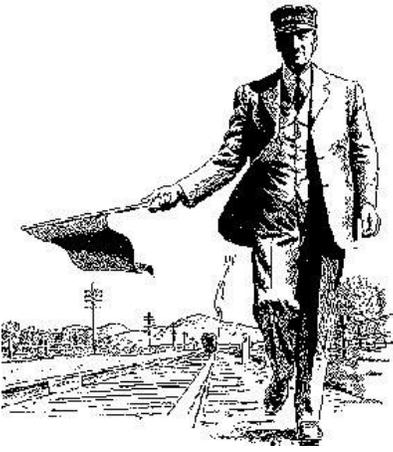
Turk Russell Chairman/ Coordinator

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Open House

Now is the time to schedule your open house for 2015. Open dates are May, June, July and August. Turk said the best time for open house has been Sunday Afternoons from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

To set your date contact Turk, Rob or Joe Mower and we will set up the schedule.

Turk has the following items for sale:

- | | | |
|---|--|-----------|
| 2 | Bachmann Shays /new motor blocks and updates completed. In boxes
1 is brand new old stock. 1 was a shelf piece. I rarely get them this nice. | \$275.00 |
| 1 | custom built 3 truck Shay. Detailed nicely; all 3 blocks are powered | \$325.00 |
| 1 | Bachmann 44 ton (Large size not the small one) outside rod diesel .
(these are hard to find) never run in the box | \$ 185.00 |
| 1 | Bachmann K 27 Green boiler with custom tender / dog house
Updated running gear and wheels | |
| 1 | Full size switch stand for railroad. Came from the Western MD. I paid 250.00 for it.
It's a spare that I no longer need
Time to clean up and get rid of some things. | \$160.00 |
| 1 | Bachmann Christmas loco | 60.00 |

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Related Garden Railroad Businesses

It's not a GARDEN Railway until it's planted with plants from



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VP Coordinator
 **William "Turk" Russell**

11548 Airport Road Cell 717-977-1000
Waynesboro, PA 17268 717-762-8873

www.svgrs.net 1turk@embarqmail.com www.turkrussell.com

SVGRS Club Officers

President – Richard Reese 717-932 7791 richrees@frontiernet.net

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 – Joe Mower 717-241-6483 jhmower@aol.com

Layout Coordinator – Position Open