



# November 2008 Newsletter

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**Separate Attachment, Membership list. Please check the list and notify me if your information is not correct.**



## **Membership Meeting**

Tom McCloud has scheduled a SVGRS club membership meeting November 6 at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the New Oxford Train Station. The Station is located along Route 30 West of the traffic circle. The station is located where the train track crosses route 30. Please plan to attend.

Optional, several members are meeting at Rosie's Restaurant, 370 Lincoln Way E. New Oxford, PA, at 5:00 PM, for dinner prior to the meeting, please join us.



## **ROCKY RIDGE CHRISTMAS MAGIC SETUP 2008**

Setup will be November 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM at the park. We need to have at least 15-20 volunteers for this setup. Please call or email to confirm that you will be participating in this year's setup. This has been a yearly club fundraiser for over 12 years. Setup is

usually only for about 4-5 hours and the layout is not complex or fancy and is easy to maintain For the first time, I have negotiated a raise for the club, so we will be getting \$400.00-\$500.00 additional compensation..

In the past we have had poor participation, this year we want to change that! So come out and volunteer! Bring your spouse or girlfriend. There will be Christmas trees to decorate as well. The building has very little heat so dress warmly. Walter Plank has already started a sign up schedule for the month when the trains will be running.

This layout has to run every night from the day after Thanksgiving until New Years Day. Hours of operation are 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM.

If possible, we would like volunteers to select a date and come that day each week if this is not an option, come and help the club at least one evening. The park's lights and scenery are really spectacular and Club volunteers do not have to pay admission. Better yet; take the whole family and make an evening of it. Again, I stress that this is an easy layout to run and track cleaning is your main concern.

**Questions or workers call Turk 717-762-8873 or cell 717-977-1000**

**Sign up schedule call Walter Plank 717-486-3489**

Hope to see you there!



## **Christmas Party:**

Mark your calendar for December 6 for the annual SVGRS Christmas Party. The event will be held at The Brethren Home (Cross Keys Village) 2990 Carlisle Pike, New Oxford, PA near the intersection of Route 30 and Route 94. This is the same location as last year.

The event will start at 4:30 PM. And run until approximately 9:30 PM. Dinner will be served at 5:00 PM. The event includes a Buffett Dinner, Door Prizes and Slide Show or Video. The club is picking up part of the cost; your cost is \$11.00 per person.



## Nominating Committee

Walter Plank, Mel Pankuch and Wayne Warren will be serving as the SVGRS nominating Committee members.

The nominating Committee will be accepting nominations for 2009 Club Officers and voting for Club Officers for 2009, at the Christmas party.

If you wish to volunteer for a position in the club or nominate someone this will be your opportunity. We need people to take some of the responsibilities handled by Turk and Walter to help reduce their load.



## Club Dues for 2009

**2009 Club Dues should be paid by January 1, 2009. Dues are \$20.00 per family. You can pay Jeff Shubert at the Christmas Party, or send payment to Jeff Shubert, 258 Chestnut Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257-9493.**



## York Fairground Layout Review

The display was a very successful event for both the club and the fair. The fair management was very pleased with the display and they have talked about having the display as one of their main attractions in the educational hall next year. For those of you that didn't have a chance to see the display let me give you a little insight of what you missed. The display covered an area 40' x 50' consisting of two levels with a pond and an elevated figure-eight layout located on the upper level. The layout had four trains running continuously and a couple of track sidings that had a circus and logging train assembled for viewing pleasure. The first level featured the hand build train station that was crafted by Bob McCrea, a farm scene crafted by Bob Segessenman that included his Mail-Pouch barn and a house depicting the home where he was raised. Right beside the farm scene

was the logging buildings, logging pond and lumberyard, which was set-up and maintained by Jake Middour. Within this scene were Jake's realistic sawmill operation and buildings built by Mike Oberdick. Many comments were received about the workmanship that went into these buildings and how well the area was displayed. Mike Oberdick built the buildings a few years back and they are now owned by Turk Russell who loaned us the buildings for the display. The Thomas' train area was designed to incorporate the wishing well and to promote the theme of this year's fair: "GO HOG WILD". Here we had a few freight buildings and lots of little swine's hanging around waiting for the local to take them to market. Also located here was a large figure of a pig that many people wanted to take home for their next cook-out (Al Bernard provided the pig). Another display was a coal yard siding, which featured a back/forth Reading RR engine and cars that would use a mechanized rotary coal car-dumping platform, and a coal-loading ramp. The last display featured a circus and this was a combine effort of Mike Oberdick and Walter Plank. If you didn't know that you were looking at a model circus you would have thought you were right in the middle of the real thing. Here you could hear the musical tunes of a circus and see model circus rides. With the simple push of a button the rides sprung into motion. Kids and adults alike could let their minds wonder a wee bit back in time to when they were at real circus.

The landscaping design and plant selections were the fine work of Jeff Johnsbaugh, Whose skills always create a masterpiece. I might add that Stouffers of Kisser Hill provided the large plants, Quincy Hardware store provided the Mums, Walter Plank provided the Hosta and Appalachian Nurseries provided small plants.

To see, so many children of all ages enjoying our display made it a pleasure and delight for me to have chaired this display. Everyone of us volunteering at this display were told over and over how it was the best layout they had ever seen, and how much they enjoyed and appreciated us doing a display of such magnitude.

The committee reports that we cleared \$1535.84. (see separate document in the newsletter)

The committee and I appreciated you volunteering your time with the display. The committee and myself look forward to working with you again on future displays. Again, THANK YOU for being so generous with your time and effort.

The following members volunteered for this successful display: Al Bernard, Dick Bleiler, Bill Bowers, David Bretz, Tom Brown, Bob Buck, Bill Catching, Bob Charles, George Collier, Brandon Cornett, Clair Dise, Marlyn Geesey, Doug Harbaugh, Harry Howe, James Ingram, Jeff Johnstonbaugh, Tim Keinard, Tom McCloud, Bob McCrea, Jake Middour, Joe Mower, Ken Murry, Tom Naples, Mike Oberdick, Mel Pankuch, Wal-

ter Plank, Scott Pittman, Rick Reese, Turk Russell, Bob Segessenman, Rob Segessenman, Kirk Slenker, Lou Stahl, Don Sweet, Dave Watts, Fred Wendling and Fred Whitley

A Special Thanks goes to Jeanie Plank, Doris Geesey, and Janice Barnard for providing lunches for the set-up crew. We were very fortunate to have Mike Oberdick open the display each morning and Marlyn Geesey to close at the end of each day.

Article submitted by  
Dave Watts



York Fair Photo



Bob McCrea's Carlisle Railroad Station at the York Fair





Sawmill Operation at the York Fair



Overhead view of the Train Display at the York Fair

## York Fair Financial Report, 12 Oct 08

### INCOME

Payment from Fair	\$1500.00
Sold small plants	240.00
Donation box/Wishing well	\$431.00

Total Income \$2171.00

## EXPENSE

Marlyn Geesey, purchased wishing sign & tripod stand (receipt enclosed). \$73.12 (pd)

Walter Plank, purchased green carpet (\$18.54), purchases for food (lunches) (\$106.60 & 2<sup>nd</sup> billing for \$15.45 that has not been paid to them from the Large scale show 28 – 29 March. Receipt or invoice enclosed. \$140.59 (pd)

Bob Segessenman Paid for hauling club trailer to and from the show.

\$50.00 (pd)

Tom McCloud plants paid \$240.00 (pd by SVGRS check)

Dave Watts purchased small planter pond (\$13.75), cat litter (\$5.90), Burlap (\$50.20), mulch, keys, batteries & glue (\$21.60). Receipts enclosed. \$91.45 (pd)

Stauffers of Kissel Hill York (Dover): donation \$50 (still owe, check to be cut from SVGRS account)

Total expenses: \$645.16

Income: \$2171.00

Expenses: \$645.16

Profit: \$1535.84



## GARDEN RAILROADERS VISIT EBT October 11, 2008

12 members attended the first club-sponsored fall get-to-gather at East Broad Top; (EBT) R.R., which is located in Orbisonia Pa. for the 2008 EBT Fall Spectacular.

The weather was beautiful, with the mountains in the background starting to show their glorious fall look, made for a great day at EBT. The group meet at the station around 10:30 for some socializing and picture taking before purchasing tickets for the 11:15 departure on old #15. Most of the group chose to ride in the open passenger car right behind the coal tender to enjoy that wonderful smell of smoke and feel the consistent reminder of why one doesn't wear a white shirt on a coal train. Although not what it once was, with 3-4 steam engines pulling a train, now only a single engine; #15 took us on the usual route to Collegate Grove picnic grounds. Here we backed into the wye switch, but

before we could head back, we waited for the M-7 diesel train to pass. Once the diesel passed we started to head back to the station. As we headed back everyone marveled at the beautiful scenery and talked about their past experiences of coming to EBT over the years. Upon arrival back to the station area, a group photo was taken and then everyone's mind started to focus on food. Some of the group headed to EBT dining hall and others went to the Boy Scout's tent for some of the best bean soup around. After lunch, we took a nice leisurely walk thru the property; seeing the turntable, shops, and rolling stock etc. All of the old coal hoppers that once lay dormant in the woods near the coaling station have been coupled together and dragged down onto a dead line. Someone counted the coal hoppers coming up with more than 25. All agreed that many have seen better days and appeared to be rusted beyond repairs. Discussion then lead into what has changed over the year and what has not. The coal dump area is no longer in working condition or operational, and some track is really in questionable condition. The trolley museum and its fleet of units were out in full force running up and down the line. Although, we did not take a ride; their restoration program was in full force as evidenced by the great condition of their fleet.

The MC Hugh Company displayed their truck with a lowboy trailer carrying some sort of Mack truck based 2 truck diesel unit. None of us were sure what it was really used for. The company specializes in crane carriers for diesel locomotive repairs.

The M1 took its yearly special run in the afternoon. I nicknamed this loco many years ago "The Farter" because that's what it sounds like when running.

There were many craft vendors on hand for the ladies to browse and shop. After lots of good fun, picture taking, and sharing some good rail fanning time with fellow members; we all said our good buys and departed for home.

We will be looking forward to next year, to enjoy more time together enjoying our interest and being able to share those with each other at events like this year trip. The group hope more member may be able to join in the fun next year as everyone agreed that this first fall trip event should lead to more events in the years to come. If anyone has ideas or suggestions please let me know.

I will be organizing the usual Logging Railfan trip to Cass and Elkins or Durbin in May of 2009. The schedule will be posted in Late January





Article by: Turk Russell & Dave Watts

## Pleasant Valley Scenic Railroad

This is just a small note on the Pleasant Valley Scenic Railroad. The tour was a GREAT SUCCESS! We had over 150 people on Saturday Oct. 11 and over 400 people on Sunday, Oct. 12. The weather could not have been more beautiful. I'm including a link for those who couldn't be with us. We hope to see you next year.

<http://www.vimeo.com/2047098>

Thank you,

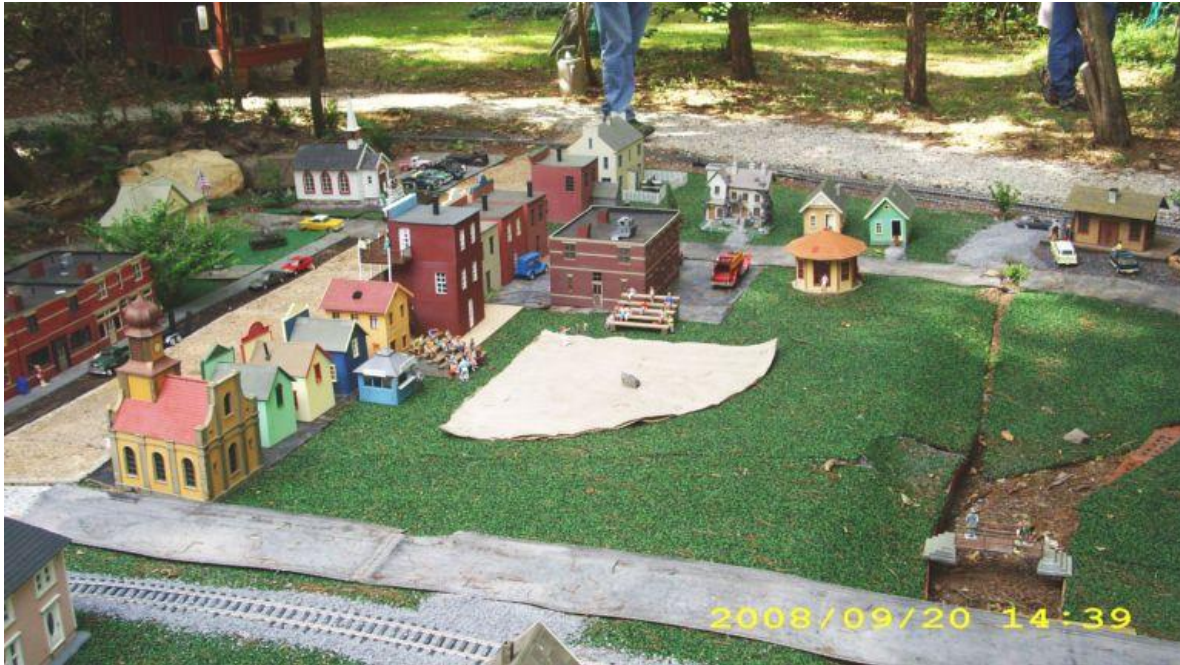
Joe Cavasos

SVGRS Club Picnic Pictures:









## **LATEST NEWS IN THE INDUSTRY    by: Turk Russell**

For the second year in a row Bachmann trains will be releasing 2 brand new locomotives. As well as rolling stock in 120.3 scale

The first is a Davenport 0-4-0 Outside Rod Mechanical locomotive. There will be 5 different versions of these Locomotives available. List price is \$275.00 Street price will be around \$150.00. With LGB being the last manufacturer to produce this style loco at a much higher price; they should be a definite hit in the market. Availability is within 2 weeks





Following their devotion to narrow gauge, a Baldwin 2-6-6-2 Articulated Saddle tank Locomotive will be released in late November. There will be 6 different road names available. Like the extremely successful K27 loco; this engine will be even more features such as DCC, command control, battery operation and will be partially prepped for sound.

List price is \$1250.00 Estimated street price will be \$699.00 or less we hope.



The next project is the long awaited 1/20.3 scale Rio Grande Long Caboose. There will be five versions available; 3 in various Rio Grande colors and schemes and 2 undecorated. Bachmann has only shown the prototype at this point; but we know it will include such features as full interiors with removable wall; all metal trucks and wheels plus marker lanterns. It will also have your choice of Battery or track power for the lighting circuits. Supposable the most detail interior by Bachmann thus far. Other features are tables & chairs and old time table lamps as well.

This will be the perfect match for any of K loco's (whether it be Accucraft or Bachmann) and was designed as a finishing touch for the highly successful K 27. List price is \$275.00. Available in early 2009

The article below is borrowed from Durango Dan

Thanks to reader *John*, we're able to share with you a "spy shot" taken some months back of the pre-production sample, which as you can see was painted *and* lettered. While not the best photo, it does give an indication to the quality we can expect from this upcoming car. (As we stated back in May of this year, this car could just well give *AMS* a run for their money.)





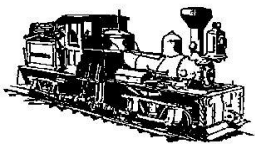
For those who've missed it, *Bachmann* officials have indicated over the last two months that when released, this car will feature die-cast trucks, a lighted interior with "flicker" circuit, operating doors, full detailed interior with removable roof, and prototype specific window details.

Also rumored, but as of yet unconfirmed is the inclusion of a DCC socket and on-board battery compartment for use with the lighting system, as well as a *Railroad Avenue* figure designed for placement within the cupola.

Offered in five paint schemes including two Rio Grande and one Rio Grande Southern, this model is certainly high on the "*anticipation*" list for many. Should we receive further photos of the caboose resplendent in its paint and lettering, we'll be sure to share them with you here.

I will be accepting orders for the 2 new locomotives and early discounts  
Will apply

Turk



### **Members Craft Section,**

**We would like to add a member's craft section to share ideas and show member projects. If you have a train related project you would like to share please send it to me and I will include it in the newsletter.**

## **Wayne Warren is just about finished with his new Caboose shed.**

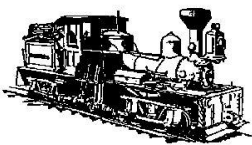
Wayne built the unit completely from scratch. Plans call for a siding (on raised trestles) so that trains can enter and exit the caboose for storage



## **After Hours of Tedious Work Turk Finished his Custom Fire Truck.**

It was made from a Bachmann Climax and Bachmann tank car.

Turk



## **Items for Sale:**

I have 5 heavy weight PRR passenger cars for sale. New not out of the box's. \$400.00.  
Contact Pete Null, 137 Strickler Run Dr. Columbia, PA 17512 Phone 717-285-7629



Just in, like new condition. LGB #50 Diesel. Includes RCS battery system, Dallee sound and charger, \$594.00. Original cost \$1025.00. Call Don Sweet



### **Wanted**

You or anybody in your club have a [USA F3](#) "B" unit powered or not powered for Sale  
Contact Don Sweet

### **SVGRS Club Officers**

President – Tom McCloud (717) 762- 9508 [fernetta64@embarqmail.com](mailto:fernetta64@embarqmail.com)

Vice President – Turk Russell (717) 762-8873 [1turk@embarqmail.com](mailto:1turk@embarqmail.com)

SVGRS Secretary - Dave Watts (717)-264-8187 [suern@innernet.net](mailto:suern@innernet.net)

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

Treasurer – Jeff Shubert (717) 530-0561 [shube@comcast.net](mailto:shube@comcast.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](mailto:jhmower@aol.com). Please indicate SVGRS in the subject so it does not get deleted with spam.

**The next issue of the newsletter will be out approximately January 5, 2009. Please have any information for the newsletter to me by January 1.**

**We are always looking for articles to publish. If you have an article 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](http://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](mailto:martinsghse@juno.com)

