



## **November 2010 – Newsletter**

Visit our club website – [www.SVGRS.com](http://www.SVGRS.com)

### **SVGRS Calendar of Events 2010**

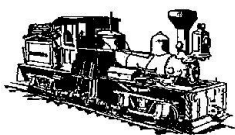
**November 26 thru December 31 – Rocky Ridge Christmas Magic.** (closed December 24 & 25)

**December 4, 2010 – Christmas Party at Cross Keys.**

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**Club dues are to be paid by December 31, Dues are \$20.00 Payable to Jeff Shubert, 258 Chestnut Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257-9493. Make check payable to SVGRS Club.**

**The new Club directory is finished;** Copies will be available at the Christmas Party for \$5.00. If you do not plan to attend the party copies of the directory can be ordered from Turk Russell cost is \$5.00 + \$2.00 for shipping and handling = \$7.00. Order should be sent to Turk Russell, 11548 Airport Road, Waynesboro, PA 17268-8710. Make check payable to SVGRS Club.



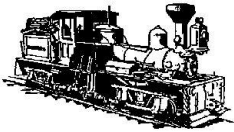
**Christmas Party 2010 will be held at Cross keys** Our Christmas Party is scheduled for 5:30 PM December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Brethren Home at Cross Keys Located at the junction of Route 30 and Route 94.

Enter The Brethren Home at the third driveway along route 94 (Village Drive) and turn left on the fifth road after you cross the bridge (Harmony Drive) to the Campus Inn and Community Center on the left.

Cost is \$13.00 for adults and \$7.00 for children under 12. Call Walter Plank (717-486-3489) if you plan to attend so we can get a good count for the meal.

We will hold an optional gift exchange similar to last year. The present should have approximately a \$10.00 value and be market Ladies or Men's. Those who bring a present will receive a ticket allowing them to receive a present. It is up to you if you want to participate in the exchange.

Janet Smith is make arrangements for the program. Al and Janice Bernard will give a presentation on their postcard collection. Many pictures of Christmas and Trains will make this an interesting activity following the festive meal.



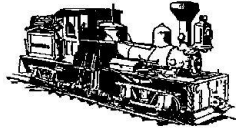
### **Dale and Vicki Bricker Open House Events**

Victoria's Timeless Treasures & Dales Train Depot, 511 West Penn Avenue Robeson, PA. Phone 610-693-4353

**Christmas in the Village Friday, December 3, 10 AM till 6 PM and Saturday, December 4, 10 AM until 4 PM**

Trains will be running for all events, Dale will also be running live steam





## Garden Railroaders Doubleheader Layout Building and Auction day

This past Saturday club members turned out for the 16<sup>th</sup> time to build the Rocky Ridge Christmas magic Christmas train layout. The weather was great, (for once!) We had 21 folks sign up and 30 showed up. After last year's layout turned out to be one of the best ever for the County Park service. We decided to make only a few changes due to time constraints.

Plus, Barry and I had an auction to run by 3:00. So we pushed forward to get done by 1:30 so members could eat lunch and get ready to spend some bucks at Mary's house.

From the year I started participating in the building of the Rocky Ridge; Gene Boll told us to keep it simple. It has to run for 30 days or we don't get paid! The conditions of weather (Hot to cold) during the month of Dec. usually get worse as the weeks progress.

Like last year; we have gotten more of the ladies involved and boy it really shows! From hand built trees and brush to tiny figure scenes, the girls know how to give it the extra touch. I as well as many members appreciate that.

Inside the building, the layout will feature 3 trains running on individual loops; one on a reversing Trolley. The 5<sup>th</sup> train will travel in and out of the building to entertain folks while they may have to wait in line to get inside.

Thanks to all who helped.

Please contact Walter Plank for signing up to monitor the display. We need volunteers! You can also bring your own trains if you like. 717-486-3489

Our success depends on your participation and all volunteers and their family get in for free.

For more information contact Turk 717-762-8873



## Auction Day

The second half of our day was the liquidation of our Founder's (Gene & Mary Boll) trains, track and buildings. Gene started the club in 1994 with 5 friends. Today the club averages 80 members. We had over 35 people show up for the sale. At 3:00 Barry McNew our auctioneer started off the bidding

By 5:00, we had sold everything for Mary and were finishing up the paper work and counting the funds. We hope Mary was pleased with the results. Club members raised just over \$1200.00 for her.

Special thanks to the following Volunteers:

Barry McNew      Auctioneer

Linda McNew      Recorder/cashier

Turk Russell      Event planner/ inventory,listings



## President's Message

We are approaching the end of another year. Our club continues to function well even though our sources of income have diminished significantly. We will continue to display our talents through public displays and our involvement with Rocky Ridge Park. These are difficult economic times but nothing will interfere with our club spirit. The future is indeed bright with improving interest in our scratch built G-scale layout displays.

As we reflect upon the past year, we have enjoyed many member open house displays giving all an opportunity to view many different themes and utilization of landscaping.

We have had learning opportunities sponsored by the club giving members first hand experiences in varied aspects of G-scale operation.

Interaction between all club members is enhanced by our Annual Club Picnic and Christmas Dinner. Scheduled events provide an opportunity for socialization and exchange of constructive ideas for improved club activity.

The Executive committee welcomes comments and suggestions for improvement in guiding our club activities. Feel free to indicate activities you feel will advance the performance and meet the needs of individual members.

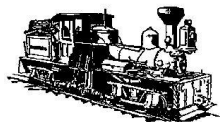
Remember, the success of our club is dependent upon individual member involvement, so when a member of the nominating committee contacts you, step forward and participate by indicating willingness to serve. If you know of anyone who has expressed interest in serving as a member of the executive committee, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee. The list of candidates will be published at the Christmas Party with the opportunity to add nominations from the floor. The future of SVGRS is in your hands do your duty and vote.

The setup at Rocky Ridge takes on increased importance since this is the major source of income for the club. While it is important to have sufficient help at setup on November 13<sup>th</sup>, it is even more important to volunteer for monitoring the layout for the month of December. Multiple members serving in this capacity assures coverage and permits greater attention to track cleaning. Please call for dates you can participate. Do not feel you are not qualified or lack experience. Efforts will be made to match experienced members with newcomers. The work involved is mostly one of observation and inte-

raction with the public. Visitors to the park can appreciate our club activity and serve as a source of new members. The club is represented to the public at large; your personality goes a long way in attracting new members.

Our Christmas Party is scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Brethren Home Janet Smith will make arrangements for the program. Al and Janice Bernard will give a presentation on their postcard collection. Many pictures of Christmas and Trains will make this an interesting activity following the festive meal.

SVGRS will continue to meet the needs of all members. The future is in our hands; keep up the good productive work. Lend a helpful hand to other members, share experiences with others, and look to the future with anticipation.



## **Hi End Railroading 120.3 Fn 3**

Most of us Garden railroaders that play with trains are affectionately known as G-scalers. This coined term is used vaguely to cover all sizes in large scale. Some would disagree. Recently, the largest growth in large scale trains has occurred in the 1:20.3 scale product offering. More manufacturers are jumping into this scale that uses the same 64mm G-scale track. The trains are bigger but the attention to detail is tremendous. Most of us don't care how many rivets are on a car or engine; just as long as it looks good. However, some do and expect the models to be the correct length, width and height as well as the track to be perfect to scale as well. Accucraft has been producing Fn3 scale models for years along with a hand full of other such as Berlyn and RY models( Rich Yoder). Bachmann even made a commitment 2 years ago and is continuing to offer scale cars as well as the highly successful D&RGW K-27 loco. These products cost a lot more but for the true enthusiasts, this is their only option short of 'scratch-built.' It's all in the details with the goal being to create a miniature version of what we have in real life.

Recently I was fortunate enough to be invited to the RGS East fall open house over in White Hall MD. This was the first time I could make it in 2 years. Roger Cutter is well known in the train industry for superb models, designs and engineering. He and his friends were great hosts and we enjoyed discussing our passions for trains.

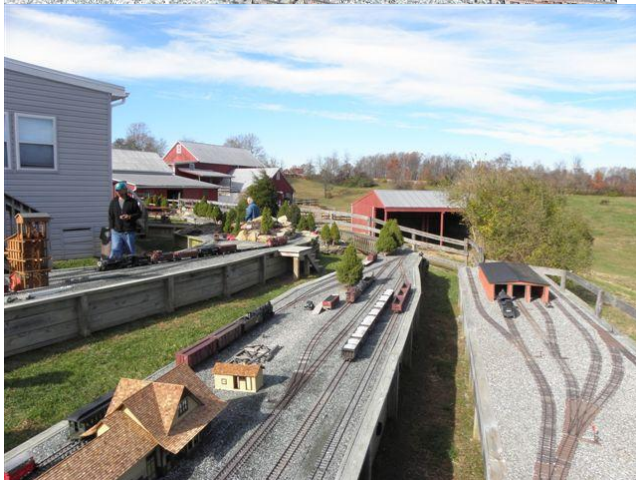
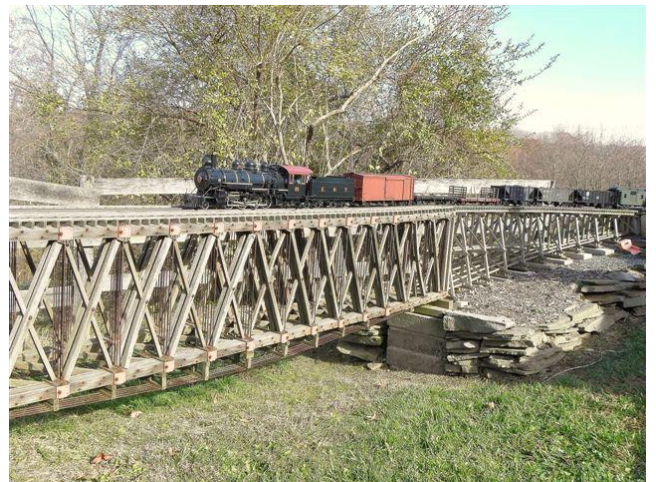


Most of the trains are scale 1:20.3 and battery powered as there is no track power on this layout. I saw some of the best hand built rolling stock I have ever seen. Track is primarily aluminum code-250 with 2 main lines. There are over 16 sidings for setting out cars and allowing overtaking trains to pass. They run anywhere from 3- 5 trains at a time.

These scaler's normally run narrow gauge featuring the Denver & RioGrande and we did see plenty of those trains. As it turned out, the focus of the day was EBT equipment and I saw more of that in one place than ever before. It was really entertaining to see exact replicas of trains and there consists as the existed back "in the day." The only negative to this is the costs involved to move up to this level of model railroading. It's triple or more the costs up front. The funny thing is in a down economy, this section of the hobby is still flourishing. Go Figure!

Enjoy the Photos

Submitted by: Turk





Kambach is trying a new magazine called Trains4Kids

This message contains graphics. If you do not see the graphics, [click here to view](#).

**Bring a new generation on board!**

**Launch their love of trains with**  
**Trains4Kids**

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**Trains4Kids**  
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Kids love trains! The sounds, the size, the motion—all of it fascinates children from an early age. This holiday season, share the excitement with the children you love by giving them *Trains4Kids*. This special magazine geared just for them is packed with what they want to know about trains and offers fun games and crafts, all with a railroad theme.

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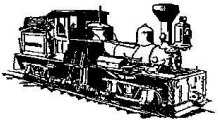
**Only \$4.95**

"This is the magazine we all wish we'd had as a child: It's filled with fun photos, stories, and activities that are a great way to teach children about the fascinating world of railroading." —Jim Wrinn, Editor

**Order now >>**

P12287 Offer expires on November 15, 2010 at 11:59 CST. *Trains4Kids* arrives in late November 2010.





### **Photos from Tom Browns open House**



### **SVGRS Club Officers**

President – Walter Plank (717)486-3489 [walterplank@comcast.net](mailto:walterplank@comcast.net)

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

SVGRS Secretary - Bob Segessenman 717-359-8515, [rob@robotronics.com](mailto:rob@robotronics.com)

Coordinator of Layout Tours. Joe Mower [jhmower@aol.com](mailto:jhmower@aol.com)

Treasurer – Jeff Shubert (717) 530-0561 [shube@comcast.net](mailto:shube@comcast.net)

Newsletter Editor – Joe Mower (717)241-6483

### **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](http://www.smallplants4bigtrains.com)

### **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](mailto: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.

**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