

Santa Clarita Valley Garden Railroad Club



NEWSLETTER

Santa Clarita, California

February 2016

February Meeting

Monday, February 29, 2016

6:30 pm Dinner—Meeting follows dinner after 7:00 pm

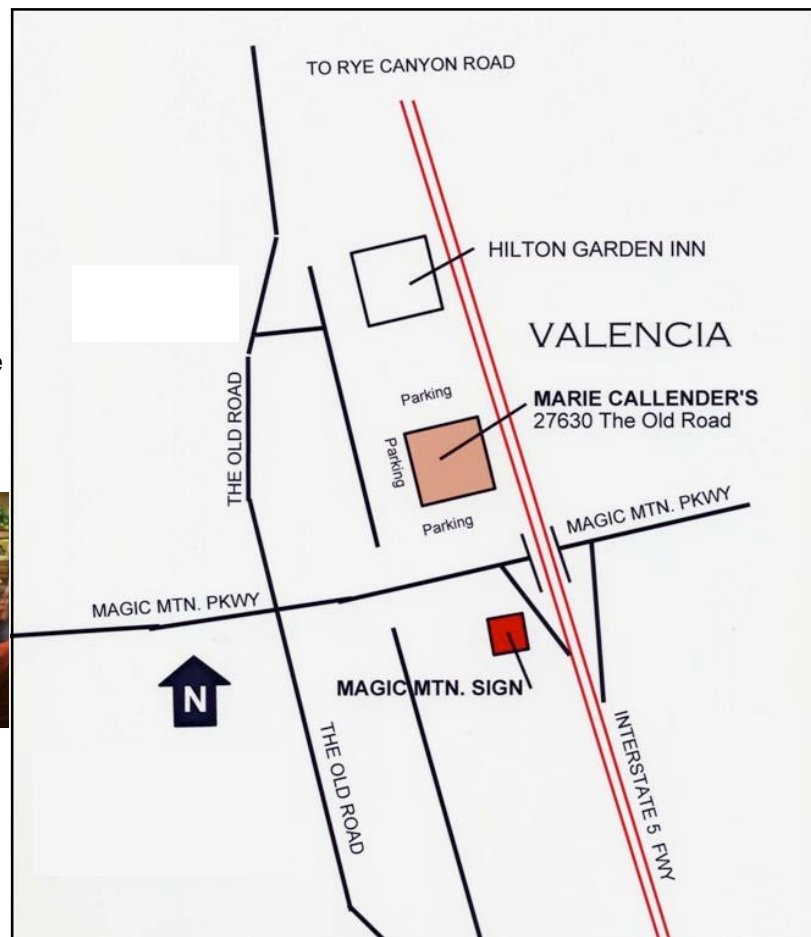
Marie Callender's Restaurant
27630 The Old Road, Valencia, CA 91355
661/259-4675

DIRECTIONS

From the south, take Interstate 5 north and exit at **Magic Mountain Parkway**. At the bottom, turn left and continue to **The Old Road**. Turn right and look for the access road on the right. From there you will see the parking areas at Marie Callender's Restaurant.



SCVGRC January Meeting





The Presidents Corner

By Grant Sweer

Hello All,

We had a great train play day with members bringing their trains to run in our beautiful weather in the middle of February. Mark Spector brought and ran his SD70 Western Pacific locomotive and Aristo-Craft passenger consist. Gene Rizzardi brought and ran his battery powered Santa Fe GP38 and billboard reefer set. Pat Miller ran his Union Pacific consist and Gary Woolard and Carla Breitner ran a Spectrum American 4-4-0 with box cars and caboose. All trains ran well without any post winter track tuning however, the warped track did uncouple the Spectrum train cars. After most of my trains complained, I will have some tuning in my days ahead.

All around it was a perfect day to run Pat Miller's trains one last time in California before he has to take his trains to Texas. He will then have to fit his locomotive with the appropriate ten gallon hat. We will miss you Pat, and look forward to your pilgrimage back to California for your family visits and maybe a train event or two.

At the Orange County Fairgrounds I had an opportunity to come across Vic, owner of the Too Much Fun Railroad. We discussed plans for our club to head down to his railroad for a potluck to enjoy his layout in the late afternoon and evening. We will have more details later.

Also for the up and coming events, we are pulling together our list of club member hosted meetings. We would really like to see your layouts and train collections, so please let us know what month would work best for you. It is your participation that make the meetings great! I plan to hold the meets at my house when we do not have any other members available.

I look forward to seeing you all at Marie Callender's for the meeting on Monday, February 29th. I'm looking forward to hearing your latest railroad experiences.

Grant Sweer

SANTA CLARITA VALLEY GARDEN RAILROAD CLUB
Serving the Santa Clarita and San Fernando Valley's in California

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2016 Santa Clarita Valley Garden Railroad Club Meetings & Events

SCVGRC Meeting	29-Feb-16		06:30 PM	Marie Callender's	
SCVGRC Field Trip	13-Mar-16		10:30 AM	Union Station & Metro Art Tour, Downtown LA	Meet at Original Information Booth
SCVGRC Meeting or Field Trip to Fillmore & Western Railfest	25-Apr-16 1-May-16		07:00 PM 10 AM - 4 PM	Member Layout TBD Steam Train Ride 2PM	To be discussed
SCVGRC Meeting at the Big Train Show	21-May-16		12:30 PM	Lunch during Big Train Show - Ontario	Spire's or Marie Callender's
SCVGRC Meeting	27-Jun-16		07:00 PM	Alan & Donna Wright	
SCVGRC Meeting	25-Jul-16		07:00 PM	Member Layout TBD	
SCVGRC Meeting	29-Aug-16		07:00 PM	Member Layout TBD	
SCVGRC Meeting	26-Sep-16		07:00 PM	Member Layout TBD	
SCVGRC @ DEAFestival LA	1-Oct-16		11 AM - 4 PM	Downtown LA	
SCVGRC Meeting	24-Oct-16		07:00 PM	Jim & Sandi Owens	
SCVGRC Meeting	28-Nov-16		07:00 PM	Marie Callender's	

New Field Trips on the Schedule; Meeting Dates Still Available

by Carla Brand Breitrer

For March, I've listed an Art & Architecture Tour of Los Angeles' Union Station, the Metro Gold Line Portal, Union Station East and the Metro Gateway Headquarters Building. The tour meets at the Information Booth at the Alameda end of Union Station, runs from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm (with a lot of walking), and is free. The next newsletter will include info on Metro schedules to and from Santa Clarita and plans for lunch. (Phillipe's French Dip is always fun.)

Fillmore & Western Railway is still running and is having their Railfest themed "Travel through Time" on April 30 and May 1. I've scheduled the May 1, Sunday, date for club members to visit Railfest and ride the steam train. I'll look into lunch or dinner options as well.

Please step forward to host the club at your layout... or just to show off your collection. Dates in April, July, August and September are open. If you would like to host the club during those months, let me know at 818-992-6377 or by email at carlabb@earthlink.net. Meetings can be as shown above on the last Monday of the month... or choose a weekend day and host the club for an afternoon of running trains.

Our club has been invited back to DEAFestival LA on October 1, so mark your calendar to help out and introduce our hobby to new folks. They've even promised to give us two more tables to play on!

I'll be looking for railroad-related events to add to our schedule as field trips and excursions throughout the year. Please let me know if there are rail-related places in the greater LA area you would like to see and I'll try to arrange a tour for the club. Let's spend 2016 enjoying our railroad hobby!

2016 Railroad Related Events of interest to SCVGRC Members

Fairplex Garden RR Public Run	14-Mar-16		11 AM - 4 PM	Fairplex Gate #1, Pomona	fgrr.org	
Orange Empire Rail Steam Weekend	19-Mar-16	20-Mar-16	10 AM - 5 PM	Perris	oerm.org	
Fairplex Garden RR Public Run	11-Apr-16		11 AM - 4 PM	Fairplex Gate #1, Pomona	fgrr.org	
Orange Empire Rail Steam Weekend	16-Apr-16	17-Apr-16	10 AM - 5 PM	Perris	oerm.org	
Staver Spring Steam Up	21-Apr-16	24-Apr-16		Portland	staverlocomotive.com	
Fillmore & Western Railfest	30-Apr-16	1-May-16		Fillmore City Hall, Fillmore	fwry.com	
Fullerton Railroad Days	30-Apr-16	1-May-16		Fullerton Metrolink Station	scrpa.net	
Fairplex Garden RR Public Run	9-May-16		11 AM - 4 PM	Fairplex Gate #1, Pomona	fgrr.org	
Bus Tours Big Train Show	19-May-16	20-May-16		Ontario Convention Center	bigtrainshow.com	
Big Train Show	21-May-16	22-May-16		Ontario Convention Center	bigtrainshow.com	
Fairplex Garden RR Public Run	13-Jun-16		11 AM - 4 PM	Fairplex Gate #1, Pomona	fgrr.org	
32nd NGRC - Bay Area	4-Jul-16	11-Jul-16		Santa Clara	ngrc2016.com	
Fairplex Garden RR Public Run	11-Jul-16		11 AM - 4 PM	Fairplex Gate #1, Pomona	fgrr.org	
National Summer Steamup	13-Jul-16	17-Jul-16		Sacramento	summersteamup.com	
Staver Fall Steam Up	15-Sep-16	18-Sep-16		Portland	staverlocomotive.com	
NMRA Convention	22-Sep-16 24-Sep-26			Culver City	psrconvention.org/lajunction	
So Cal Model RR List	25-Sep-16			Open Houses		
Fairplex Garden RR Public Run	10-Oct-16		11 AM - 4 PM	Fairplex Gate #1, Pomona	fgrr.org	
Ghost Train LA Live Steamers	13-Oct-16	29-Oct-16	Weekends	Griffith Park	lals.org	
Fairplex Garden RR Public Run	14-Nov-16		11 AM - 4 PM	Fairplex Gate #1, Pomona	fgrr.org	
Fairplex Garden RR Public Run	12-Dec-16		11 AM - 4 PM	Fairplex Gate #1, Pomona	fgrr.org	

**32nd NATIONAL
GARDEN
RAILWAY
CONVENTION**



JULY 4th - 10th, 2016
SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA
SANTA CLARA CONVENTION CENTER

www.ngrc2016.org

TRAIN PLAY DAY hosted by Grant & Jenny Sweer

Two Tracks, Long Sidings, Five SCVGRC Engineers and Multiple Consists Make an Entertaining Afternoon

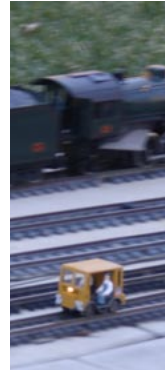
by Gary Woolard

Photos by Carla Brand Breitner

Last Saturday was the first “Train Play Day” of the year at President Grant Sweer’s house. While many trains were run and we all had a good time, there was a bittersweet edge to the day -- we were saying goodbye to club member Pat Miller. By the time you read this, Pat and his wife Donna will be on their way to Decatur, Texas, and a life of retirement.

Pat is enthusiastic about starting this new chapter in his life -- for one thing, it includes a very large yard, and he plans to fill it with trains. He will be back out to visit from time to time, and he says to remind us all that the 2017 National Garden Railway Convention will be held in Tulsa in July of that year!

In the meantime, Pat ran a Union Pacific GP9 at Grant’s with a healthy consist, Mark Spector ran a consist of shiny silver Santa-Fe streamliners, and Gary Woolard followed the narrow-gauge path, as usual. Gene Rizzardi brought a battery & R/C Geep which pulled a consist of colorful billboard box cars without a complaint, which led to a discussion of battery vs. track power. Gene, Pat & Gary all agreed that battery R/C was the direction to go to, while Grant averred that he ‘had his reasons’ for sticking to track power. He pulled a long train behind his MTH Triplex most of the afternoon to prove his point! For variety, Grant also ran a Pennsy GG1 with passenger consist and his LGB Fortuna Flyer.



Pat Miller with his UP engine, speeder and prairie dog Bucky, the A.W.N.U.T.S. mascot, a present from Gene Rizzardi to remind Pat of SCVGRC.



TRAIN PLAY DAY hosted by Grant & Jenny Sweer continued



George McLeary and new member, Bob Frein, also attended as did Grant and Jenny's friends, Bruce and Ina Smith. They sensibly stayed in the shade until Carla called everybody out for a group picture. (Bob missed the picture as he had to leave early.) Once again we owe a debt of gratitude to Grant & Jenny for their hospitality.