

Santa Clarita Valley Garden Railroad Club



NEWSLETTER

Santa Clarita, California

September, 2016

September Meeting

Monday, September 26, 2016

7:00 pm

At the home of George McCleary
26412 Circle Knoll Court
Newhall, CA 91321
661-250-5335

Note: GPS directions may include gated roads.
Enter Friendly Valley on Friendly Valley Parkway
to avoid gates and to check-in with guard.



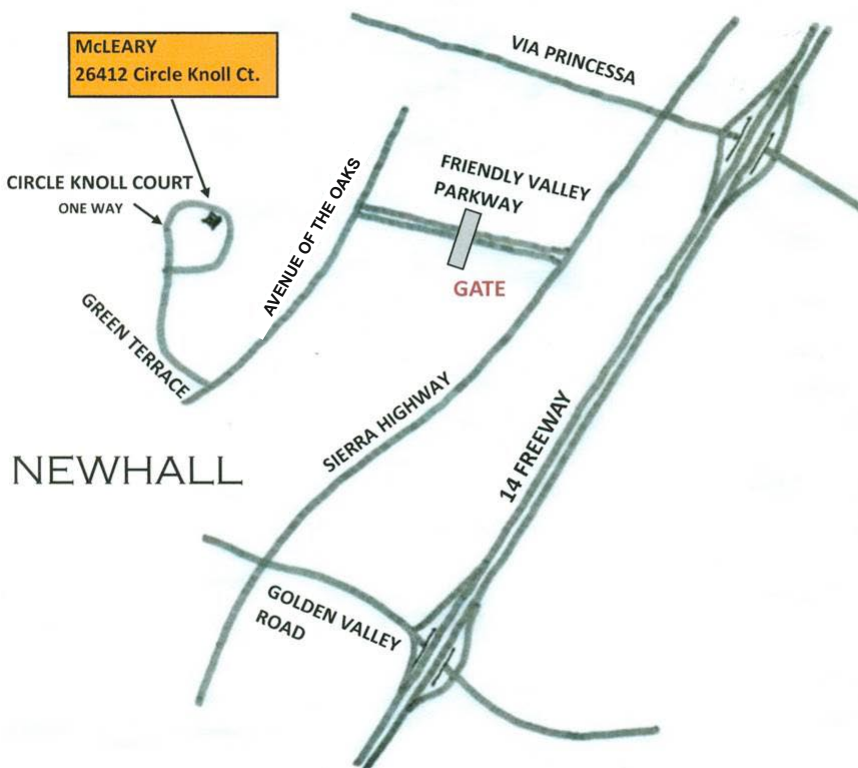
George reports that the tracks are running and all the building lights are ready to glow. Right now most of the buildings are sleeping under styrofoam box covers, but the inhabitants will be out to welcome us next Monday. We'll be serving chicken tortilla casserole, refried beans and salads, so come hungry.

DIRECTIONS

From the southbound Antelope Valley Fwy 14 turn off at Via Princessa & turn right. Turn left on Sierra Hwy to Friendly Valley Parkway. Turn right and stop at security booth. (See "From Security Booth" below.)

From the northbound Antelope Valley Fwy 14 turn off at Golden Valley Rd & turn left. Turn right on Sierra Hwy past Rainbow Glen to Friendly Valley Parkway. Turn left and stop at security booth.

From Security Booth: Tell guard you are going to "McCleary" and proceed to Avenue of the Oaks. Make a left at Clubhouse complex and proceed to Green Terrace Drive (past golf course on your right). Right on Green Terrace to Circle Knoll Court, a one-way street. Make a right. 26412 will be on your left about half way around the circle. Park either side of the street just before or after George's address. Enter through gate to left of house.



MAP



The Presidents Corner

By Grant Sweer

Hello all,

I would like to thank Joe and Delia Caracappa for the wonderful time we had at their club meeting. It was great to see Bob Jung's just-out-of-the-box Shay rounding the tracks while we all met, talked trains, and enjoyed the BBQ and homemade wine the Caracappas shared with us.

We also want to thank Dennis and Sheri Buckley for their Saturday evening open house to see their layout. It was an enjoyable evening with Dennis running his custom LGB Mogul, cruising on his layout of wonderfully lit buildings and rolling landscape. Most of us also brought a train to run on his track powered remote-control layout.

For the up and coming Deaf Festival on October 1st we have Jim, Gene (not coming due to conflict), Gary, and Carla and possibly Martin are volunteering to participate at the Festival and it would be great if we have more. With the volunteers we have, we may have to keep to the layout size the same as last year to keep the trains properly watched. If more people volunteer this week, we can expand the layout more. Please contact me at 661-220-9831 if you want to help; we all would greatly appreciate it. This coming Saturday we will do a test set of the layout to make sure all is well and make adjustments as needed. If more people volunteer, we will work on making changes to the layout.

Also this month the club meeting will be at George McCleary's layout on Monday, September 26th, with Carla's sister, Paula, providing dinner. It has been a while since George ran his layout for a meeting, so this would be a great one to go to.

Also mid-October I am planning to have a train play day at our house. We'll let you know details as soon as we figure them out.

See you all at George's and keep them trains rolling!

Grant Sweer

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CLUB NEWS

September Meeting at George McCleary's RR on Monday, September 26: George has one of the club's oldest layouts, but has not had an Open House for awhile. Come enjoy dinner on the patio as you watch George's trains run a rambling loop through town and country. There will be figures and scenery to admire as building lights come on.

Train Table Display at DEAFest LA 2016: *Note that the event is back on Saturday, October 1. Please mark your calendar and plan on spending at least a few hours explaining our hobby to those who stop by with questions.*

There will be sign language translators to help us "talk" about our hobby. We definitely can use your help watching the trains, so let us know that you can come. Free parking is available at 201 Los Angeles St with Deafest flyer.

We are assembling a hand-out talking about sources for info about our hobby. Please let me know what train stores and websites you have found helpful.

Also let me know if there are rail-related places in the greater LA area you would like to see, workshop topics you would like information about or if you would like to host the club or lead a workshop in the coming months. Phone 818-992-6377 or email at carlab@earthlink.net. Let's continue enjoying our railroad hobby! – Carla



Photo from 2015 DeafestivalLA.org

2016 Santa Clarita Valley Garden Railroad Club Meetings & Events

SCVGRC Meeting	26-Sep-16	7:00 PM	George McLeary	Newhall CA
SCVGRC @ DEAFestival LA	1-Oct-16 Original Date is Back!	11 AM - 4 PM	City Hall & Grand Park	Downtown LA
SCVGRC Meeting	24-Oct-16	7:00 PM	Jim & Sandi Owens	Canyon Country CA
SCVGRC Meeting	28-Nov-16	6:30 PM	Member Volunteer	TBD
<i>Happy Holidays!</i>				

2016 Railroad Related Events of interest to SCVGRC Members

NMRA Regional Convention	22-Sep-16	24-Sep-16		Culver City	psrconvention.org/lajunction
So Cal Model RR List	25-Sep-16			Open Houses	
Fairplex Garden RR Public Run	9-Oct-16		11 AM - 4 PM	Fairplex Gate #1, Pomona	fgrr.org
Ghost Train LA Live Steamers Cancelled for 2016 (see themeparkadventures.com/ghost-train-cancelled-la-live-steamers-board-directors/)					lals.org
Fairplex Garden RR Public Run	13-Nov-16		11 AM - 4 PM	Fairplex Gate #1, Pomona	fgrr.org
Fairplex Garden RR Public Run	11-Dec-16		11 AM - 4 PM	Fairplex Gate #1, Pomona	fgrr.org
World's Greatest Hobby on Tour	11-Feb-17	12-Feb-17	10 AM - 4 PM	Fairplex, Pomona	wghshow.com

A Raised Layout with Infrastructure Showing

by Carla Brand Breitner

Joe and Delia Caracappa welcomed our club with their usual enthusiasm. Joe worked on the railroad (with Grant Sweer's help) and had the full run ready when Bob Jung and his wife, Mary, brought Bob's new-in-the-box 3-truck Bachmann Shay for its maiden run. The engine hummed around the track throughout the meeting, its headlight cutting through the darkness as the sun went down.

Joe made sure the gardener had grass growing for club members to congregate under his citrus trees (grapefruits anyone?) while the barbecue grilled burgers and brats. Good thing he planned for a crowd. Members Grant and Jenny Sweer, George McCleary, Jim Owens, Alan and Faye Fuqua, Dale and Carolee Newman, Alan and Donna Wright, Gene Rizzardi, Gary Woolard and myself were joined by guests Martin Orozco of Del Oro, Dick Friedman of Sacramento Valley Garden Railway Society and Dick's brother-in-law, John, who (small world) works with Joe.

After a great dinner accompanied by Joe's "jug wine," a homemade, mellow Merlot, the club discussed the upcoming Deafestival LA and possible resources for our "Train FAQ" handout. Joe also gave a short presentation on getting his railroad and yard ready for the meeting. He thanked Grant, his gardener, and his sister-in-law for making the meeting possible. He also brought out the track cleaner Grant forgot to mention in his presentation last month, a wall sander loaded with a 220 grit drywall sanding screen. (Product placement for 3M?)

Thank you, Joe and Delia, for your hospitality.



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A Letter from Joe & Delia Caracappa

Hi Alan

We were just thrilled at the number of people who came to our layout/BBQ last night. It was a lot of work getting ready for this one. The backyard was in poor shape six weeks ago. Sprinklers had to be replaced, a new lawn planted, spiders evicted, repairs to the layout, the grill — and a clogged drain pipe! Then the shopping, the preparing, the set-up.

Then when new members Bob and Mary Jung showed up with a shay for its inaugural run and seeing all the hard work (which I credit to Grant) on the layout pay off, it really made my day!

Then when members come up to me and say, "We really like coming here." That's the icing!

I'm already thinking about next year's meeting!

Oh and I proudly proclaim the title of "Most Alcohol Ever Consumed" at one of our meetings! [Joe makes a great homemade wine! - Ed.]

Delia and I want to thank everyone for attending. They made all the effort worth while!

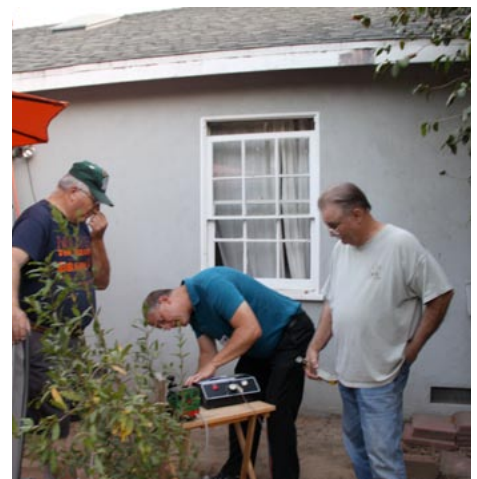


Photo by Joe Caracappa

Open House at Dennis & Sheri Buckley's

A Mountain Railroad Frames Dennis & Sheri Buckley's Yard

by Carla Brand Breitner

An evening open house on a balmy September Saturday showed off Dennis and Sheri Buckley's rambling railroad and its charms. Dennis has been working on his railroad for years, adding a building here and a siding there. The roadbed is set in decomposed granite and the mainline wraps around the wide backyard.

Club members entered through a side gate and found a small rail stop with box cars waiting for pickup, as a mogul circled over a trestle bridge and made the return trip to the relatively busy complex around a bend at the far end of the yard.

Dennis has set up the track on a level raised bed (good for running live steam!!) in front of gently sloped "hills" along his fence. Strategically placed small boulders hold

the slope in place while providing "mountains" for the mainline to travel past. A tunnel at each end of the layout maintains the "hilly" terrain while allowing the track to circle back in a continuous loop.

The town features an engine house, passenger and freight stations and a mine complex. Buildings are all appropriately lit and the layout sparkles at night. Grant brought his European passenger train and everyone enjoyed watching the train with its illuminated interiors travel the tracks.

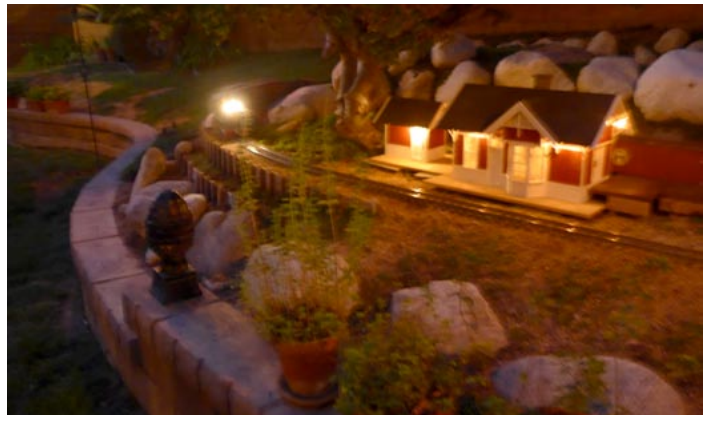
Club members Jim Owens, Gene Rizzardi, Gary Woolard and your author, and Grant and Jenny Sweer enjoyed an evening talking trains, layout construction, and landscaping with our hosts, Dennis and Sheri. We especially enjoyed hearing that the railroad entertained guests at the Buckleys' daughter's wedding. Our thanks for this opportunity to enjoy a beautiful railroad.



Left to Right: Jenny Sweer, Sheri Buckley, Gene Rizzardi, Jim Owens, Grant Sweer, Gary Woolard (seated), Dennis Buckley.

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Open House at Dennis & Sheri Buckley's continued



FREE EVENT!

**FUN
FOR
ALL AGES!**



18th ANNUAL **DEAFESTIVAL LOS ANGELES**



DANIEL N. DURANT
MASTER OF CEREMONY



TRESHELLE EDMOND
FASHION SHOW
MISTRESS OF CEREMONY

LOCATION: LA CITY HALL
200 N. SPRING STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2016
INFO BOOTHS | ART WORKSHOPS
CHILD SAFETY CAR SEAT CLASS
· RECIEVE A FREE CAR SEAT!

EVENT TIME: NOON - 4:00PM

FASHION SHOW: 5:00PM - 9:00PM

T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST PRIZE: \$300!

FREE PARKING: 201 LOS ANGELES STREET
BETWEEN 1ST & TEMPLE STREET

Mayor Eric Garcetti and Council President Herb J. Wesson



For more information, please visit us at: www.deafestivalla.org
Facebook Page: DEAFestival Los Angeles Contact: info@deafestivalla.org

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities.