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Piedmont Pleases Patrons Perfectly

GGRS was again well represented at the spring Piedmont train show in Cartersville. Members laid out a Western display as well as one focused on the younger generations.

Multiple members had items for sale or trade, and quite a few items found their way to new homes both within and outside of the club.



Continued on Page 2

Terry's Train Tidbits



A separate article outlines some observations at the train show in Cartersville.

I won't be in Savannah at the end of this month, but I look forward to visiting Chatsworth Depot on April 13 where GGRS will have an indoor display highlighting a gnome village.

There will be no scheduled meeting in April at the Depot, just the opportunity to visit the area and enjoy activities that GGRS Past President Ted Yarbrough brings to this annual railroading event.

*Terry Manning,
President*



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GGRS Visits Cartersville: By Terry Manning

It was a wild time in the Old West at the Piedmont Train Show with a Wild West layout hosted by GGRS at the front entrance of the Clarence Brown Convention Center in Cartersville March 9th and 10th. Activity started on Friday the 8th which was scheduled as a set-up period for exhibitors and vendors. James Bando served as Track Coordinator with much help from his wife Sally and Lori Thomas. Two large oval railways from the GGRS collection were laid out.

Lori herself set up a small "Paw Patrol" themed layout of her own adjacent to our Membership Table which thrilled the smallest of railroaders with their hands-on access to train cars and Paw Patrol critters during the weekend.

Theme Coordinator and President Terry Manning, Membership Coordinator Ginny Manning, and Members-at-Large hauled in box after box of western themed buildings, characters, and animals to create a large Wild West community. They also set up the Membership Table. In one of the vendor hallways, Russ and Leslie Bundy set up her whimsical spring flower tabletop layout to highlight how just a little space can be used to create a fun



G-scale layout.

Russ and Sally, along with Jim Foley were occupied most of the weekend in management and volunteer roles with the Piedmont Division, as was GGRS Webmaster Peter Thomas who coordinated traffic in and out of the convention and monitored set-up of the half dozen model train layouts. Other GGRS members spending the weekend in Cartersville included David Lester and David Bennett as vendors as well as Joe Schrock and Kris and Charlotte Dixon working the huge "melovetrainz" G-scale vendor tables.



Saturday kicked off with a long line of train enthusiasts at the convention doors. They could immediately visit the GGRS layout which was displayed as a western town, an Indian village, a buffalo herd, a stagecoach under Indian attack, a goldmining operation, a mule farm, a horse in quicksand distress, and a country farm with an ongoing rodeo. James Bando also served as Rolling Stock Coordinator by bringing two matching engines with a variety of trailing rolling stock from the GGRS collection.

GGRS volunteers on Saturday included those already mentioned as well as Member-at-Large Dan Steidle and Carol, Pete and Trish Hartes, Member-at-Large John Lank, Secretary Pam Williamson and Roy, Ted Yarbrough, and Dennis and Diane Allen. On Sunday, Pam Kinnaman, Gary Warren, and Luke Peters joined the list of volunteers with Terry, Ginny, John, Ted, Lori, James, and Sally also returning – with most staying to the end of the day to break down the layout. They did well since we were all loaded up to leave within 45 minutes of the show's closing at 4 o'clock. With 5 of the 7 Executive Board members in attendance on Saturday, we held an impromptu Board meeting to address a few administrative matters and upcoming events.

Of course, a train show wouldn't be any fun without spending a few dollars on our collections. We saw Lori test running an Amtrak train which she bought. Russ Bundy found a long list of bargains. The Mannings came home with a Naval Ammunitions boxcar and some track. Andy Porter was seen shopping for an engine and Sloan Mackarvich and Josh Sagarin had their cash at the ready when first spotted. We've probably missed a few members, but GGRS was certainly well represented in Cartersville!

Track Warrants

*** NOTE: The Calendar contains some Rail related events that are NOT GGRS events! Due to timing of events and newsletter deadlines,, some updates may not have been posted. Contact host for additional info.

Event	Location	Date	Status
Chatsworth Depot & Club Meeting	Chatsworth Depot, Chatsworth, GA	Apr 13, 2024	Club Layout
GGRS Club Mtg	Ron & Kristy Humphrey, Cumming, GA	May 11, 2024	
Vines Gardens Railway Opening	3500 Oak Grove Road, Loganville, GA	May 18, 2024	trains run v1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month from 10 AM until 2 PM, weather permitting.
Midwest Garden Railroad Gathering	Independence, MO	May 30 - Jun 2, 2024	
South East Regional NMRA Convention	Decatur, AL	Jun 20 - 23, 2024	
GGRS Club Mtg	Open for your application to host	June & July	Sign up for this meeting and show off your layout
G-Scale Southern Regional Get Together	Gas South Convention Center, Duluth, GA + GGRS Territory	Aug 23 - 25, 2024	Planning in Progress
GGRS Club Mtg	Open Slot	Sep 14, 2024	Sign up for this meeting and show off your layout
GGRS Club Mtg	Elliot & Katherine Stotler, Highlands, NC	Oct 12, 2024	Planning in Progress

Vines Garden RR

<https://www.gwinnettcountry.com/web/gwinnett/departments/communityservices/parksandrecreation/ourparksandfacilities/guidetovourparks/vinesgardens>

Vines is a beautiful garden themed park situated on 45 acres. The Park is open to the general public year round. For more than 35 years, the park has allowed us to use approximately a 1/4 acre to operate an outdoor large scale railroad.

This year opening day is scheduled for May 18th. Activities have begun to prepare for this event. Volunteers are needed to help get ready. Several workdays are being planned to get the railroad and scenery spruced up. If you would like to come spend some time enjoying the outdoors at this wonderful park your participation will be greatly welcome.

For more information please contact Dennis Bass. email4bassde@gmail.com



Home 2024 Midwest Gathering About Us Future Events See Member Railroads Resources Contact Us

2024 Midwest Garden Railroad Gathering

May 30, 31 & June 1, 2, 2024

Hosted by MO-KAN Garden Railroaders.

- Garden Railroad Layouts
- Social Gatherings
- Workshops and Round Tables
- Vendors and Swap Shop

<https://mokangardenrailroaders.org/2024-midwest-gathering>

We are certain you will be pleased with the accommodations at the Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center. It is nestled within the Falls of Crackerneck Creek at a convenient location with nearby restaurants and access to activities in the KC area. A block of rooms are set aside for this event with an affordable room rate.

- Popular g-scale vendors are planning to be at the Gathering including RLD Hobbies and Reindeer Pass.
- Several garden railroad layouts are being scheduled to tour; an exact number and previews will be given in further updates.
- Workshops will include topics to enhance your railroad. Two of the programs are Power and Control for Garden Railroading and EPL Integration. Others will be announced soon.
- Round table groups are being set up to give you the opportunity to discuss your specific needs and learn from others.
- The early registration with ice cream will be at a garden railroad layout location and promises to be a lot of fun.
- A comprehensive listing of things to do and see in the KC area is being compiled.
- We will be communicating more details on the scope of this Gathering.

Minutes - GGRS March 9, 2024 Board Meeting

At 11:00 a.m. GGRS President, Terry Manning, called an impromptu meeting to order at the Clarence Brown Conference Center, Cartersville, GA. Those in attendance were Terry Manning, Pam Williamson, John Lank, Ginny Manning, Dan Steidle and member James Bando.

Southeast G-scale Regional Get-Together (Regional):

Terry advised we were receiving inquiries for the Regional. Terry is creating a master list of interested parties as well as sub-lists of those interested in the Banquet, Regional L&N Car, White Elephant table ... This will enable him to provide additional information by category as it becomes available.

Savannah Tour of Depots

The first GGRS Club Meeting will be held at Richard and Beverly Hydes in Pooler. As the Hydes will be hosting and the Morris's will be cooking the entre, one stipend check of \$150.00 will be issued to the Hydes and the families will divide the check proportionately. Terry has asked Pam to facilitate the business meeting as the Mannings will not be attending.

Chatsworth Depot

GGRS will be setting up a small layout inside the Chatsworth Depot on April 13th. This will not be a Club Meeting, but all GGRS members are encouraged to attend. The theme for this show will be a Gnome Village.

Insurance

With the Regional being held in August, all in attendance agreed having Director and Officer liability insurance would be a good idea. A vote was taken to purchase the insurance as long as the cost was under \$1,000.00. Upon review of the policy, after the meeting, there is a sliding scale of cost depending on the amount of coverage. A decision/vote will need to be taken to determine the amount of coverage. *Non-Profit Directors & Officers Liability Limit Options (D&O)*

LIMIT OPTIONS PREMIUM

\$500,000 - \$558;	\$1,000,000 - \$698;	\$2,000,000 - \$1,198;	\$3,000,000 - \$1,698;
\$4,000,000 - \$2,198;	\$5,000,000 - \$2,698;	An e-mail has been sent to the Broker to see if premium remain the same.	

(Just before publication, it was found the premiums have not changed..... [Editor])

The meeting was adjourned around 11:30. Respectfully submitted, Pam Williamson, Secretary

MODEL TRAIN EXPO AT THE CHATSWORTH DEPOT



The Depot's very own Big Blue Train will be giving rides. The Depot is the place to be on April 13!

***Operating model trains.** Model trains groups from Chattanooga to Atlanta will display operating N, HO, Lionel, and G Scale trains. There will be several trains to ride as well. Many trains will be operating inside and outside the depot (weather permitting)! Kids from 1 to 100 will love the moving trains!

*** Vendors** include model trains of all scales.

***Tours** Caboose tours available 12-5 and Hotel tours 1-4.

***Raffle**-drawing for model train set at 4pm.

***Free admission** to trains (donations appreciated)

GGRS will be setting up a small layout inside the Chatsworth Depot on April 13th. This will not be a Club Meeting, but all GGRS members are encouraged to attend. The theme for this show will be a Gnome Village.

**April 13, 2024 12 Noon-5pm |
219 North First Ave., Chatsworth, Georgia**

Made possible by Peeples Funeral Home, Murray County Elected Officials, Captain D's, Bojangles, Krystal, Dr. John Robison, First National Community Bank, Modern Woodmen, and Bradley's Ace Hardware.



Invitation to the 2024 G-Scale Southeast Regional Get-Together Friday, August 23rd – Sunday, August 25th

Coming to the Southeast Regional Get-Together? You should. Not only can we use you as a volunteer, but those who register can expect the following items.

Regional Bags:

24" H x 18" W



A big thank you to GGRS member Scott Griggs, President of Trainz.com. Scott is generously going to donate the bags for our 2024 Southeast Regional G-Scale Get-Together.

Regional Pin:

Here is a sneak preview of the Regional Pin we will be ordering.



Regional Car:

The 2024 Southeast Region Get-Together Car is a USA Trains 40' steel box car. The lettering is a combination of a USA Trains 40'foot American Series box car, a USA Trains 50' Ultimate Series box car with a discrete 2024 Regional logo.

The Regional Car will be offered with 4 road numbers 103803, 103804, 103805, 103806. Twenty-five of each road number will be ordered, first come first serve. The cost is \$70.00 per car. Please specify if you want a particular road number.

STEEL BOX CAR

Road Number: 103803	Qty: 25
Road Number: 103804	Qty: 25
Road Number: 103805	Qty: 25
Road Number: 103806	Qty: 25

C485
 Road Name: Louisville & Nashville (L&N)
 Total Qty: 100
 Body Side Color: Blue
 Body End Color: Blue
 Roof Color: Blue
 Door Color: Blue
 Corner Steps: Blue
 Printing Ink: Yellow

Invitation to the 2024 G-Scale Southeast Regional Get-Together Friday, August 23rd – Sunday, August 25th

During most years since 1985, there has been a G-Scale garden railroading national convention hosted annually by different large scale model train clubs across the country even though there is no actual national garden railroading organization. The host organization selected at the previous convention becomes the national organization in the year they are the host. Unfortunately, no national convention will be hosted for 2024 since no club volunteered to host it. However, smaller regional get-togethers have been encouraged to take place. As such, the Georgia Garden Railway Society (GGRS) elected to partner with the multi-scale 65th Atlanta Model Train Show to be held at the Gas South Convention Center, 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth, Georgia 30097, on Saturday, August 24th, to host a G-Scale Southeast Regional Get-Together that will feature:

Up to 10 self-guided metro-Atlanta area garden railway tours daily on Friday, August 23rd, and Sunday, August 25th;
some out-of-area garden railway tours off selected major Interstates on Thursday, August 22nd, and Sunday, August 25th;

Tours of the new warehouse facility for nationally known model train retailer TRAINZ on Friday, August 23rd;

An optional indoor Get-Together Dinner on Friday evening of August 23rd featuring door prizes; suggestions for area dining, entertainment, and train venues; and a preview of train show vendors; an enhanced G-scale vendor presence at the 65th Atlanta Model Train Show in Duluth, Georgia, on Saturday, August 24th, including a multi-table White Elephant Sale by GGRS members; and, G-scale oriented “how-to” and railroad history clinics.

Since the model train show is a fixed venue, GGRS arranged with the closest motel, Embassy Suites, to block off a number of rooms for get-together attendees and to allow those attending our G-scale activities to pick up get-together packages at Embassy Suites. A link to special rates will be posted at our website: www.ggrs.info. **If room are sold out please contact Pam Williamson 770-851-9462 via text, and we will see if we can add more room.**

The Registration Package will include driving instructions and a schedule of garden railroad yard tours hosted by members of the Georgia Garden Railway Society (9:00-4:00 Friday and Sunday), a \$1 discount coupon for each family member toward admission to the 65th Atlanta Model Train Show on August 24th (parking is a separate fee), 2 get-together pins for a family registration, driving instructions and passes you may have purchased to the Friday evening get-together dinner, a get-together car if ordered, a list of G-scale vendors at the train show, and other useful information. The Registration Package will be available at the host hotel lobby of Embassy Suites, 2029 Satellite Blvd., Duluth, GA 30097, one block from the convention center on Thursday evening from 4:00-7:00 and Friday morning 7:00-9:00. Late arrivals can obtain the package at the dinner Friday evening or at the GGRS Membership Table at the convention center on Saturday.

A Dinner Get-Together on Friday night will be a picnic buffet at the nearby Gwinnett County Bethesda Park Senior Center at 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30046, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. and will feature door prizes, raffles, tips on additional area shopping and train venues, and more. There is no entrance or parking fee at the dinner site. There is NO bus services provided for this or other Get-Together venues.

The 2024 Southeast Region Get-Together Car is a USA Trains 40' steel box car. The lettering is a combination of a USA Trains 40' foot American Series box car, a USA Trains 50' Ultimate Series box car with a discrete 2024 Regional logo. The Regional Car will be offered with 4 road numbers 103803, 103804, 103805, 103806. Twenty-five of each road number will be ordered, first come first serve. The cost is \$70.00 per car. Please specify if you want a particular road number. A photo of the car will be displayed on our website.

Registrants will be updated on additional get-together news on a monthly basis.

2024 G-Scale Southeast Regional Get - Together Registration Form August 23 – 25, 2024

(Please Print Legibly)

Badge Name #1: _____

Badge Name #2: _____

Child Badge #3: _____

Child Badge #4: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Preferred Phone Contact Numbers (Up to 2): _____

Email Address To Receive Updated Information: _____

If arriving by automobile on Thursday, please note the major Interstate highway you will use in Georgia so that we may schedule additional yard layout tours along your route on Thursday. _____

An advance electronic version of the yard tour information will be available 2 weeks prior to the get-together for an additional fee of \$10. Please circle one: (**Yes** / **No**)

Select from the following Registration Fees:

Early Registration (Before June 1st): Individual \$25 _____ Family (2 Adults & 2 Children) \$35 _____

Late Registration (After May 31st): Individual \$40 _____ Family (2 Adults & 2 Children) \$50 _____

Will you be lodging at the Embassy Suites? (**Yes** / **No**)

Dinner Reservation on Friday Evening: **\$25 Each Person** _____

A Get-together Car (*USA Trains L&N Event Car*) will be available to the first 100 ordering one or more at the cost of \$70 each. This purchase is being arranged through the Georgia Garden Railway Society on behalf of a private individual. Details and a photo rendering will be posted on the GGRS website in the near future.

Number of Get-together Cars Ordered: _____ \$ _____

The Georgia Garden Railway Society hosts numerous activities during the year. To receive our monthly newsletter and invitations to 1:1 rail excursions, warm weather pot-luck luncheon yard tours, train show activity, swap meets, access to our member-only website section, and future conventions, you may wish to obtain a family membership for 2024 for only \$25: \$ _____

Please make payment by check in full to “GGRS” mailed to:

**Terry Manning
1201 Timber Glen Ct SW
Lilburn, GA 30047**

For GGRS Use: Date Received _____ Check # _____ Amount \$ _____

Registration: \$ _____ E-Tour Info: \$ _____ Dinner: \$ _____ Car: \$ _____

Membership: \$ _____

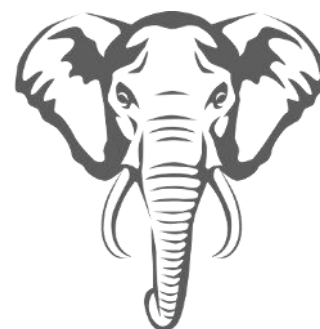
Bargains in the Garden - White Elephant Sale

GGRS members interested in selling any of their G-gauge accessories can reserve 1 of 12 2-foot by 3-foot tabletop areas as part of a planned 3-table vendor display hosted by the Georgia Garden Railway Society on Saturday, August 24th, at the 65th Atlanta Model Train Show as part of the 2024 G-Scale Southeast Regional Get-Together. The member need not be in attendance to use one of the spaces or to set up their items, but they must be a GGRS member registered for the convention get-together. All items must be clearly marked with a sales tag that cites their last name, short item description, and selling price so any volunteer manning the tables can sell an item without reference to the owner. Items must be functional and undamaged or marked "As Is" with a description of any defect. Items without this information will be removed from the sales tables. Any item sold at a lower price will be marked as such since the sales tag and all sales proceeds will be combined together. Each member will be returned their items and sales proceeds after the show. Unsold items may be placed for sale at the next one or two scheduled GGRS meetings if desired. Unsold items not retrieved within 60 days become the property of GGRS.

Members are **limited to one such slot per family** and must reserve the slot prior to July 14 (the day after our July membership meeting) with a \$20 donation to "GGRS" given to White Elephant Coordinator Terry Manning (temanning@aol.com). A space can be "built up" by stacking items such as boxed rolling stock or using a crate or something similar to create a raised shelf and may also use the floor space beneath their slot (thus doubling their available space). Unsold spaces will be used to enlarge paid spaces.

Participation is on a paid first-come basis to the first 12 participants. Items for sale need not be provided at time of payment reservation. Payment will not be included as a line item on the registration form but can be included in the same mailing as your registration form with the following information. Sale items can be left with the coordinator as agreed upon between them.

I will participate in this proposal:



Name: _____

Payment: Enclosed Non-refundable \$20 _____ (Space guaranteed); or,

\$20 will be mailed or paid in person before July 14 _____ (Space limited to first 12 families)

I want unsold items at the end of the train show to be placed on sale at future GGRS meetings. Yes / No

I volunteer to help manage the 3 tables at the train show (3 persons per shift) for the following 2-hour shift(s) (mark all that apply):

8:00-10:00 _____ 10:00-12:00 _____ 12:00-2:00 _____ 2:00-4:00 _____ 4:00-6:00 _____

Briefly Describe Items To Be Displayed: _____

Tour Booklet Update:

Would you like your garden railroad featured on the cover?



Submit your layout photo with your bid to:

yarbrought@charter.net

with layout photo in the message title. The layout with the highest bid (donation to the event) will be selected for the cover! You must agree to open your garden railroad for the event to be eligible to participate in this cover silent bid.

Good luck!

(Similar booklet shown for illustration)

**1:1 Scale Train
Ride Set for
June 22**



Ted has to order all the 1:1 Train tickets (i.e. pay for them) just after the April 20 issue so we will have this issue and one more to remind members to decide if they want steam train tickets. (More info about the 1:1 train trip on Page 14.)

1:1 Scale Train Ride Set for June 22

By Ted Yarbrough



The always popular and often sold out GGRS 1:1 Scale Train Ride will take place on Saturday, June 22 when the Tennessee Valley Railroad's Summerville Steam Special departs at 9:00am from Grand Junction Depot, 4119 Cromwell Road, Chattanooga, Tennessee. Boarding starts at 8:15. This 9-hour excursion is planned to be pulled by historic Southern Railway Locomotive #4501. The trip will pass through the pre-Civil War Missionary Ridge tunnel, cross a couple high bridges, pass by the National Cemetery while skirting around the edge of Chattanooga before passing into Georgia and going through Rossville, Chickamauga, Rock Springs, and Lafayette prior to arriving at Summerville. The locomotive will turn on the turntable in Summerville and pull the train back to Chattanooga. Riders will exit the train for about 1 hour in Summerville to watch the locomotive on the turntable and visit the historic depot. The steam train will arrive back in Chattanooga at approximately 6:00pm.



Our tickets will be in a standard 1940's to 50's era passenger coach with heat and air. Windows are sealed and non-operable. Our group will have lunch at 10:30 in the dining car that will be part of the consist. All coach cars are owned by the Tennessee Valley Railroad and are generally from various lines throughout the south. Snacks and soft drinks will be available for purchase in the commissary car.



Ticket cost is \$105.00 per ticket. Everyone riding the train must have a ticket. This train will sell out, so we must reserve early. To order, send a check made out to Ted Yarbrough to Ted Yarbrough, 212 Love Drive, Chatsworth, Georgia, 30705. **Deadline for your ticket order to be received is April 22** (we have 20 tickets reserved, but we can add more if they are still available so order early to make sure you are on the train). Please note that tickets are non-refundable, but can be sold or transferred to other GGRS members or friends if for some reason you are not able to attend.

North Carolina Transportation Museum



The NCTM is having their annual train show on May 18/19. As part of this celebration, the 100th anniversary of the on-site roundhouse will be celebrated.

Southern motorcars have been invited to take part in this celebration.

They'll be open May 18 from 9AM until 5PM and May 19 from 10AM until 5PM.

On the evening of May 18, they are also planning a dinner train, a presentation by Bill Shafer from SRHA about Southern passenger trains in the 1970's (before the Amtrak takeover of the Crescent in 1979), and a night photo shoot at the Roundhouse and elsewhere to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Roundhouse.

Any cool Southern-vintage speeders, or any speeder owner for that matter, are welcomed to come and we offer public rides during this event.

Want a ride on a motorcar? Enjoy a first class railroad museum? Spenser, NC is a great trip you might want to consider.



What Relationship is There with Railroads and Chickamauga?

While the railway runs through the battlefield, what was the relationship with trains during the Civil War?

Answer on page 22.



Highballing down the Track

The Sacramento Garden Railway Society will be hosting the 2025 Convention.

If California hasn't slid off into the Pacific by then, maybe you will join them. It will be the 40th Anniversary, (with a few years missing).

While there is not much online at this time, you can put your email into the mix and receive updates as the time draws closer. Go to:

<https://ngrc2025.org/>

and provide your email address, then check back often as info gets added.



It's Official! NMRA - National Model Railroad Association

President Gordy Robinson and Shane Wilson President of ScaleTrains announced January 27 at the Amherst Railway Society Railroad Hobby Show that the Southeastern Region will host the 2026 NMRA National Convention and National Train Show in Chattanooga, Tennessee July 27 - August 2, 2026.



LGB / MARKLIN Open House

WHEN

**March 2, 2024
10 am – 4 pm**



Bushnell Station

6470 West CR 476, Bushnell, Florida 33513

FEATURING - Marklin & LGB Seminars on
DCC Operations and New Item Releases

LGB	G scale trains
Marklin & Trix	H0 scale trains
MiniTrix	N scale trains
Marklin	Z scale trains

Presented by: Gale Cousins – General Manger of
North America Operations for LGB / Marklin
Stacy Cousins – Marketing and Club Membership
& Rick Sinclair - Digital Specialist for Marklin / LGB

PHONE: 352.901.0829
Website: www.BushnellStation.com

SPECIAL OPEN HOUSE PRICING

**\$6.00 for everyone
Under age 4 - Free**

INCLUDED

All Access Pass to:
All Seminars
Museum
Terminal A - Exhibits
Terminal B - Exhibits
Train Ride – ½ mile

HIGHLIGHTS

LGB Museum – 1000 cars
and engines on display
G Scale Garden Railroad
(Florida Garden RR Society)
G Scale Exhibit Hall
O Scale Exhibit
O Scale Switching Layout
On30 “Muskrat Ramble”
N Scale Layout
S Scale Layout
H0 Scale Layout

****Used items for sale by
train clubs throughout
the state**

BENEFITING

The Gulf Coast and Central
Florida Railroad Museum Inc.
A 501 (c)(3) non-profit
corporation

Gulf Coast &
Central Florida
Railroad Museum
Inc. is a 501 (c)(3)
non-profit
corporation

Craig M. Hurst, President

**Gulf Coast and Central Florida Railroad Museum Inc. at “Bushnell Station”
Authorized LGB/Marklin/Pola Factory Direct Dealer**

6470 WC 476 (County Road 476 West) Bushnell, FL 33513

Phone: 352.901.0829 Cell/Text: 352.250.0905

Email: BushnellStation@gmail.com

Website: www.BushnellStation.com



Back On Track to
Bird-in-Hand
 PENNSYLVANIA
Celebrating 46 Years!
BIG TRAIN OPERATOR CLUB
CONVENTION • JUNE 15-20, 2024

- Thursday June 13, 2024 (or before)
- Committee Arrival
- Friday June 14, 2024
- Convention setup
- Cardinal, Robin and Eagle room setups
- Registration setup (Goody Bags)
- Track setup: Pond, Pavilion, Flower bed, Lobby Track
- BOD Meeting
- Saturday June 15, 2024
- Registration
- Runnin' Trains
- Ralph Wilcox All Aboard Party
- Sunday June 16, 2024

East Broad Top Excursion -
<https://eastbroadtop.com/>

- Convention Rooms Open at night
- Clinic #1
- Runnin' Trains, Raffles, Trivia???
- Monday June 17, 2024
 - Hotel Day/Free Day
 - Runnin' Trains in the Daytime (need to set minimum run times for pond)
 - Convention Rooms Open at night
 - Runnin' Trains, Raffles, Trivia???
- Tuesday June 18, 2024
 Colebrookdale Railroad Excursion -
<https://www.colebrookdalerailroad.com/>
 - Olive Garden (or other Restaurant for lunch after train ride)
 - Convention Rooms Open at night
 - Clinic #2
 - Runnin' Trains, Raffles, Trivia???



- Wednesday June 19, 2024
 - General Membership meeting in the morning
 - Morning Runnin' Trains
 - Convention Rooms open
 - Show @ BIH Stage "The Confession" (Starts around 1pm)
 - Ladies Wine/Cheese
 - Convention Rooms Open at night
 - Clinic #3
 - Runnin' Trains, Raffles, Trivia???
- Thursday June 20,2024
 - Drag Races (sometime in the morning)
 - Take everything down, except for pond track, and vacate convention rooms
 - Trivia Finale during banquet
 - Farewell Banquet
- Friday June 21, 2024
 - Pond Runnin' Trains
 - Pond tear down



The Confession... An Amish Love Story

When our Bird-in-Hand Stage season opens in April, the shows will go on at our temporary location—3063 Lincoln Highway East.



Our Bird-in-Hand Family Inn is open, and check-in has been temporarily relocated to the Pool Building's D Lobby, near the second carport.

Our Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant & Smorgasbord is closed, but as of mid-March, we will be serving lunch and dinner at a temporary location nearby, at the former Revere Tavern, at 3063 Lincoln Highway East in Paradise, which is less than 10 minutes away.

**Back On Track to
Bird-in-Hand
PENNSYLVANIA**
Celebrating 46 Years!
BIG TRAIN OPERATOR CLUB
CONVENTION - FROM 12-26-2024

REGISTRATION FORM EARLY-BIRD SPECIAL!

Convention Registration:
Includes FREE BTOC Golf Umbrella to the first 50 registered members only! (omit one umbrella per registered member)
Early Bird: Prior to April 15, 2024 \$100 \$
Regular: After April 15, 2024 \$125 \$

Registration includes BTOC Member & all family members

Events	Number of Attendees	Total
6/15 Ralph Wilson's All Aboard Party <small>Free coffee/refresh for all registered attendees</small>	Adult* \$ 35 Child* \$ 25	\$ \$
6/16 East Broad Top Railroad <small>Includes coach transportation with beer lunch</small> <small>Please choose one selection for each paid attendee: <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> Italian <input type="checkbox"/> Veggie</small>	Adult* \$100 Child* \$ 85	\$ \$
6/17 John Groof's Ice Cream Party (includes number attending)		FREE!
6/18 Colebrookdale Railroad/Boyerstown Museum of Historic Vehicles/Lunch at Grifed Restaurant <small>Includes coach transportation and lunch</small> <small>Luncheon selection information will be available as part of your goody bag</small>	Adult* \$130 Child* \$115	\$ \$
6/19 Bird-in-Hand Stage Musical "The Confession"	Adult* \$ 44 Child* \$ 18	\$ \$
Ladies Wine & Cheese Get Together (includes number attending)		FREE!
6/20 Farewell Banquet	Adult* \$ 38 Child* \$ 29	\$ \$
-Child 12 and under		
Registration Total		\$

HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED...
Make reservations directly with the Bird-in-Hand Family Inn. Call (800) 537-2535 and request BTOC rate. The room rate is \$142/night +tax for single or double occupancy; \$164.50/night +tax for triple occupancy and \$187.00/night +tax for quad occupancy. The choice of Standard (2 queens) or Deluxe (1 King) are available. All nights receive 2 breakfast smorgasbord tickets. Children of 4-17 years of age add \$12.50 for smorgasbord.
Please make your reservation now... rooms are limited!
See reverse for additional information. PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SIDES.

BTO - Big Train Operators registration form now available:

<https://bigtrainoperator.com/WhatsNew/pdfs/2024%20conv%20registration%20form.pdf>



turn you down. Every little bit helps so we all can have fun. If you happen to have any track that you would be willing to lend for the event, let myself or Terry know about it so we know how much we have.

For 2025, we are also working hard to finalize the hotel arrangements so we can have a great convention then as well. We are looking to go to the state of Georgia. The exact location will be revealed at a later time but the area has Bavarian roots. We are also looking into locations for the 2026 convention. If you happen to have any suggestions of places that the club should go to please do not hesitate to contact me and let me know.

Our membership has been holding steady. Although that is good, we would like to see membership rise. Some of you may not know of the Recruit a Buddy program that the club offers. The program works by rewarding the recruiter with

Is this a Final Decision? Who Knows?

The Big Train Operators Club seems to be leaning towards giving us a shot at the 2025 Convention. It sounds like Helen as the location. I guess the devil is indeed in the details. Cincinnati thought they had the next convention until the day of the vote last year, when they were denied based on various concerns. If it can all be worked out, then we have a lot of work ahead of us. Let's make sure the Regional in August is a great success, so that we can look forward to the NEXT Convention!

Join Us In Beautiful Decatur, Alabama for River Rails 2024

The Mid-South division invites you to join us in Decatur to enjoy clinics, model, prototype, and non-rail activities at the Southeastern Regional Convention, Thursday June 20th - Saturday, June 23rd 2024. The convention hotel is the DoubleTree by Hilton.

DoubleTree
by Hilton Hotel
Decatur Riverfront
1101 6th Ave NE
Decatur, AL 35601
(256) 355-3150



The site for the August 23rd Get-Together Dinner has been reserved at the Gwinnett County Bethesda Senior Center for \$261 for 4 hours (5-9:00). The room easily seats 100 people and will support displays, etc. and is supported by a large kitchen area. Parking is free. Ginny paid for the space until some money comes in with reservations. Pam and Ginny are working up some food estimates, Roy is working up as many as 60 G-scale vendor tables, and Ted is working up the layout tour schedule. I am working up a White Elephant Sale of 3+ tables for GGRS members.

We encourage GGRS members to register for the Get-Together as soon as they can so we will have some funds to work with.

Membership Report

The GGRS membership table was operating at the Cartersville train show event earlier this month where I give out several name tags to new members along with a few that had not received one in the past.

A special "THANK YOU" to the following GGRS families that have paid their 2024 dues – Abernathy, Allen, Bando, Barnes, Barr, Bass, Bennett, Bergman, Buchla, Bundy, Carney, Clapp, Conrad, Deberg, Decker, Delmar, Dibling, Dixon, Eidenire, Elliott, Foley, Foster, Fotschky, Garlinghouse, Griggs, Hanks, Harris, Hartes, Humphrey, Hyde, Jones, Kinnaman, Lank, Lees, Lester, Levan, MacKarvich, Manning, McQueen, Mesarosh, Morris, Olsen, Peet, Peters, Porter, Redman, Reh, Reid, Robinson, Roy, Ruff, Sagarin, Sault, Schrock, Sommers, Steidle, Stuckey, Sutton, Thomas, Tidd, Warren, White, Williamson, Williamson, and Yarbrough.

There will be an updated photo directory on the GGRS website by the end of the month that you can copy for your personal use.

Thank you,
Ginny, Membership
Chair

Ginny Manning
1201 Timber Glen Court
Lilburn, GA 30047

THE DIXIE DIVISION EST. 1988 TN GA

TCA - DIXIE DIVISION TRAIN SHOW
Saturday, March 16, 2024

The Catoosa Colonnade
 264 Catoosa Circle • Ringgold, GA 30736

Operating Children's Train Layout
 New and Antique Toy & Model Trains

ADMISSION:
 TCA Members: \$8.00
 General Public: \$10.00 Each Adult
 Children 17 and under with accompanying Adult: FREE

Show Hours: 9:30AM-1:30PM
 OPEN TO GENERAL PUBLIC

For more information, visit:
www.dixiedivisiontca.com

The Catoosa Colonnade • 264 Catoosa Circle • Ringgold, GA 30736
 Directions From I-75: Take Exit for GA Hwy 2 Battlefield Pkwy. Exit 350
 Go West on Battlefield Pkwy for Approx 2 Miles
 Turn Right at light (CVS on corner) onto Old Mill Road
 Catoosa Colonnade will be on the right approx. 1/4 mile

Train Collectors Association
Dixie Division

DID YOU FORGET TO SEND IN THAT ARTICLE FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

IS THAT WHY THIS SPACE IS NOW BEING FILLED WITH MINDLESS DRIVEL?

DON'T YOU FEEL ASHAMED? THERE IS STILL TIME TO SUBMIT FOR THE NEXT ISSUE.....

GO AHEAD AND EASE YOUR CONSCIENCE AND START PUTTING THAT SUPER SPECIAL ARTICLE TOGETHER FOR THE NEXT EDITION OF THE GEORGIA GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY'S GAZZETTE

Clinicians Needed!

We will rent a room at the Get - Together to use for hosting free clinics on G-Scale related subjects at the Train Show.

Attendance will be open to everyone. We can host recruitment types of clinics such as "Starting a G-Scale Garden Railway" or "Questions and Answers about Building or Expanding a Garden Railway" (looking at you David Bennett.....).

There are many other suitable subjects, like railroad history, gardening recommendations, infrastructure, buildings, You name it, we can do it. Maybe from 5 - 7 clinics in the time frame we have..... **What do we not have?** A list of ready made clinics we can simply add water and stir.....

We Need Clinicians. Folks who will stand up for 45 minutes

and share their personal experiences, expertise, or blarney about railroading. Please consider taking on a spot in our Clinic Schedule. Contact: Emil Decker, eldecker@windstream.net, and let him know your availability. Don't be the one who misses out on the fun of sharing. Maybe we can fill up all the spots and turn some folks who think, "Oh, I can never have a garden railroad," into someone who says, "I am so excited! How can I join the Georgia Garden Railway Society and get started on my new railroad?"

Perhaps the BTO and/or Sacramento might want to pitch their next convention as one of the topics? **We need your input NOW!**

I'm thinking of a history based clinic. "John Henry, Steel Driving Man. Fact or Fiction?" Should be a fun break from all the buying and selling during the Train Show. A chance to sit down and hear how I think John Henry was real; beat a steam-drill in Alabama, and NOT at the Big Bend Tunnel on the C & O!



Image by brygfx on Freepik.com

Trains at Chickamauga

Trains aided in the victory of the Union over the Confederates during the Civil War. The battle of Chickamauga saw one of the most significant uses of trains during the Civil War. The train used at this time quickly transported more than 20,000 backup soldiers across Washington D.C to Georgia in just a few days. The quick arrival of these troops fortified the Union forces and was a crucial aspect of the military's success.

<https://transportation.army.mil/history/studies/railroad.html>

MG Joseph E. Johnston's use of the rail to reinforce quickly MG P. G. T. Beauregard during the Battle of First Bull Run in 1861, introduced the American military to the advantages of rail on military operations. BG Jackson's timely arrival on the battlefield helped his troops to beat back the Union Army that had been victorious up to that point.

Because the animals consumed part of their load, the radius of resupply for animal-drawn wagon averaged about 150 miles at the speed of a walking man, three mph. Rail increased speed of transportation to about 10-15 mph and distance to the length of available track. Railroads could transport larger numbers of troops and supplies faster so Congress authorized President Abraham Lincoln to take over the operations of all railroads on 31 January 1862. This resulted in the organization of the United States Military Railroad (USMRR). The railroad came into prominence as a means of military transportation so much so that the vast majority of battles and campaigns were fought along, or for control of, railroad lines.

Lincoln appointed D. C. McCallum, General Superintendent of the Erie Railroad, as the Military Director and Superintendent of Railroads with the rank of brigadier-general. This organization ensured the movement of military troops and supplies had the highest priority but the President left the operations of the railroads within the United States to the railroad companies themselves. Instead, the USMRR limited itself to the operation and repair of railroads seized in the Confederate states. This organization's significant contribution to the war was its centralized control of the railroad and priority for military operations.

To ensure successful rail operations, McCallum set up schedules for the movement of supplies forward. He urged the Secretary of War to issue on 11 November 1862, Special Order No. 337, which stated that military officers would give the expeditious unloading of rail cars their highest priority and the consequence of delaying rail operations would result in dismissal from the Army. The purpose of the railroad was to deliver men and supplies to the Army's rear. From there, wagons would deliver the cargo to the Corps.

On 22 April 1862, Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton appointed Hermann Haupt, Chief Engineer of the Pennsylvania Railroad, colonel as the Chief of Construction and Transportation of the Department of Rappahannock. He was given the authority to seize, maintain and operate all railroads and utilize all equipment needed to facilitate military transportation. The management of rail in the East fell entirely under his direction and no other military officer had the right to interfere. This arduous task required the reconstruction of all railroads and bridges destroyed by Confederate forces. Since both sides recognized early the importance of the railroad's contribution to the war, they made every effort to destroy all railroads in the hands of the enemy. Consequently, the Army assumed responsibility for the construction and repair of all railroads and bridges. For this reason, railroad operations would fall under the Engineer Department until the creation of the Transportation Corps during World War II.

Haupt organized the USMRR Construction Corps for rail and bridge construction, and was just as effective at destroying the enemy's rail. Haupt originated the idea of using prefabricated bridge trusses in order to expedite the repair of destroyed bridges. McCallum applied his techniques of reconstruction to other theaters of the war. By war's end, Haupt's Construction Corps had laid 650 miles of track and built over twenty-six miles of bridges. The 400 foot long bridge over the Potomac was one of its greatest achievements.

Haupt's two great accomplishments included the evacuation of a great number of wounded from the Union defeat at the Second Battle of Bull Run that prevented further disaster. For this he was promoted to brigadier-general. At the Battle of Gettysburg, Haupt organized the rail support that provided for the evacuation of two to four thousand wounded men along with the steady flow of 1,500 tons of supplies a day. On 14 September 1863, Secretary Stanton removed Haupt, who still worked his private business, after Haupt refused to sign an appointment to work for the military without official rank and pay.

In September 1863, LTG Longstreet moved his corps of 12,000 men 800 miles in 12 days to reinforce Braxton Bragg's Army of the Tennessee at the Battle of Chickamauga. Two weeks later, Union Army moved XI and XII Corps of 25,000 men 1,200 miles in 12 days. GEN Sherman estimated that his 473-mile rail line during the 1864 Atlanta Campaign did the work of 36,800 wagons and 220,800 mules.

By the end of the war, the USMRR maintained sixteen railroad lines in the Eastern Theater and nineteen in the West. It had an inventory of 419 locomotives and 6,330 rail cars. The Union's use of the railroad and telegraph in the movement and coordination of operations between theaters contributed greatly to winning the war. By Executive Order of 8 August 1865, the USMRR ceased its control of railroads. The Union success in its use of the railroad came from its centralized control while the South fighting for the right of each state to determine its own destiny left the management of the rail system to the commercial businesses.

The Rip Track

**Need Repairs? Supplies?
Buy Good Stuff from
our Members**

Members with Garden, Train, or other related items to sell (new or used) can submit their items for inclusion in "The Rip Track". Send information to the editor for the next issue. Items will run for a single issue, unless the editor is notified to repeat the item. (Quality photos appreciated) Members with related business advertising may also submit ads. These will run continuously until policies change or notice is given. Non-member publishing by arrangement. (Contact Editor for details.)



Embroidery Design and Gifts
Georgia Garden Railway Society
Club Shirts
Each Shirt will have the club logo
on included in the price.



Contact Sally for other designs



Men's	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	Price
							\$10.00
							\$20.00
							\$20.00
							\$22.00
							\$22.00
Name on Men's Shirt (Specify Name)							\$5.00

Ladies	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	Price
							\$10.00
							\$20.00
							\$22.00
Name on Ladies shirt (Specify Name)							\$5.00




Fixed Bridges – starting at \$169
Curved Bridges – starting at \$235
Drawbridges – starting at \$535
Single Track and Double Track options
Bridge drop-In Lift-Out Clamps – \$53.75/set

Train Installations, LLC

Woodstock, GA 30188

770-597-0038

dave@traininstallations.com



John Abreu of Seneca, South Carolina, has contacted us that he is selling a large collection of new and almost new G-scale trains, buildings, and accessories. He can be contacted at **(302) 740-0882** and hjabreu@msn.com for photos and other details.

Michael Niebaum (of Michael's Custom Woodworking of past train shows). Located in Kansas. Selling the items listed in photo on the right:

Info #: 913.837.5198

FOR SALE

Battery powered U.P. Set – Piko style
Information call 913-837-5189

Mogul 1209 Airwire controls #38236

Caboose Sherman Hill #38656

Combine 1922 Platte River #38655

Coach 1878 Turle Rock #38654

Coach 1873 Rock Springs #38653

MSRP \$2113.96

Ready to run includes battery charger

Test run on stationary. Cars have never been run.

COST \$1600.00 plus S&H



Some guy from a group called the GGRS moved in next door, and he and Bob said there wasn't any other area to build a layout.



If Bender, the Futurama Robot was a Train

Yard Hostler

April flowers are blooming in March... We're way behind planting and yard working schedules..... And yet its 32 degrees outside. IT WILL BE JULY in a week..... well, at least it feels like it. Hope your layout is being prepped. We have a couple of openings for you to host the group, so step up. On all the other meetings, step out..... and join us! See you soon.

Emil Decker, Editor, GGRS Gazette
480 Grizzle Rd., Dawsonville, GA 30534

eldecker@windstream.net

