

Official Newsletter of the Georgia Garden Railway Society

May, 2023

Chatsworth Depot Model Train Show

Chatsworth Depot was a success, as we all knew it would be. No rain or high winds, the partly cloudy, but clear sunny day was an opportunity to visit with multiple kids and parents, all out for a fun filled day with trains! We received this from the Depot Chairman:

GGRS Members,

The Chatsworth Depot Committee would like to express appreciation to the Georgia Garden Railway Society for participation in the 2023 Model Train Expo. Your sharing of the operating outdoor model railroad was an outstanding and enjoyable feature for our guest. Your membership has supported the event in the past and your continued support has helped to insure success for the event. Thank you and we hope to see you again.

Ted Yarbrough

Chairman Chatsworth Depot



The raffles from the show, a cash prize and a Thomas Tank Engine set brought in approximately \$1,000 after expenses, and the Modern Woodmen matched it! Many GGRS members were there in support of the event, with several tracks for train running, hands on toys for the kids to play with, and the usual lots and lots of stuff to see and experience in the Depot and surrounding yard.

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President's Message



Wow we had a great start to the year and the rain stayed away ☐ I am glad so many folks enjoyed the adventures in Chatsworth! Thanks for bringing such wonderful scenery, buildings and more to share with everyone. We received a very nice note from our host:

“Thank you for spending your Saturday supporting the Chatsworth Depot’s Model Train Expo. Your display/groups display or booth helped make the afternoon enjoyable for our approximately 200 visitors. A wide variety of model trains and train themed items were made available and exposed our guest to the great aspect of the model railroading hobby. I want to personally thank each of you and am already looking forward to 2024! THANKS!

Ted Yarbrough
Depot Chairman”

As I tend to my train garden I am excited to place the new to me



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items in our ever changing Copper Creek Railway experience. Please feel free to share one of your treasures with our members in the next newsletter.

I hope to see you at our next gathering at the Lees 'little' red caboos.

Juliet Foster

Chatsworth Depot



A couple who know a little bit about restoring a caboos was around to help answer questions about the 1960 steel model on display at the Depot.

Look forward to visiting John Lees' caboos next month at the May GGRS meeting.

These ladies make sure all the trains are running on time !





Roy found a new scale appropriate way of advertising buildings for sale.



Layout on the concrete pad outdoors was just the right size for 3 loops, and some hands-on toys for the spectators.

The ride-on Thomas work-alike train rests before a busy day running fans up and down the asphalt tracks.

The Spring Floral Express highlights the garden nature of our layouts back home.



The ultimate little “Large Scale Layout” inside the Depot shows you don’t need a lot of stuff, scenery, track, or space to make an awesome layout. One loop, one auto, two buildings, some stones, mulch, and a few trees Oh, and the figure on the porch watching the train go by. What more could you ask for? Maybe the story behind this layout? If interested, ask Ted Yarbrough. It’s a sad but sweet tale of Southern railroading.





To paraphrase a popular movie, If you "Lay out, they will come !





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THANKS!

Ted Yarbrough
Depot Chairman

What is special about the Qinghai - Tibet Railway Passenger carriages?

The Qinghai-Tibet railway has to use specially built passenger carriages. Why?

Answer on page 9.



1:1 Train Ride

So Ted sent a few new photos for the 1:1. Can you guess it now?



Track Warrants

*** NOTE: The Calendar contains some Rail related events that are NOT GGRS events!

Event	Location	Date	Status
Train Installations Open House	103 Bell Parkway, Suite 200 Woodstock, GA	May 13, 2023	Support Dave at his new location
GGRS Club Mtg	John & Marge Lees Dahlonega, GA	May 20, 2023	Come see the 1:1 Caboose
North GA Steamers	1632 Centennial Olympic Parkway NE, Conyers, GA	May 20, 2023 1 - 4:30	Ride the 7" Gauge trains
GGRS Club Mtg	Tom & Eileen Conrad Southwest "Tour of Depots"	June, 2023	3 layouts
GGRS Club Mtg	WORK DAY at the Bando's	Jul 15, 2023	Work to revitalize the trailer and the track inside.
Southern Train Museum	Kennesaw, GA	Jul 22, 2023	Outdoor at the entrance
GGRS Club Mtg	?	Aug, 2023	Open - Invite us to visit
GGRS Club Mtg	Deborah & Ted Yarborough	Sep, 2023	Great time to return to Chatsworth area
GGRS Club Mtg	North GA Steamer – Conyers, GA	Oct 7, 2023	Cook out & Ride on Trains
1:1 Train Ride	???	???	Have you figured out the location yet?

Conductor's Caboose

The last time we had an open house and club meeting was over two years ago. It is hard to believe that much time has passed. We look forward to having everyone come up to see the trains run on the long straight sections of track. As before, if anyone would like to get some pictures of their favorite engine or groups of rail cars, we have the open areas to allow that to happen. The double loop layout downstairs is running right now with two Mallet steam engines (2-6-6-2) with some flat cars full of scrap materials. That track was installed 28 years ago. I can remember going to the local drug store/Radio Shack store and measuring the wires on the floor using the tiles at one foot each. I had number of people waiting until the wires were coiled and the druggist was back behind the counter before the medications were being sold. If you have not been to Dahlonega in a while you might want to plan extra time to look around before you return home.

Within five miles of our house we now have six wineries, two breweries, two meaderys and a distillery. Add to that the waterfalls, scenic vistas, and the historic town square and there is plenty to see. The caboose remains open and available to inspect or just have a seat and talk trains. I do have some new additions to the caboose display.

First, I have seen on just a few cabooses a sign that fits into slots on the end railings. It is without words but is painted red on one side and blue on the other. Ask me about it and I will explain its purpose. Second is a steam locomotive bell that came from an L&N rail yard south of Montgomery, AL. Weighing in at so heavy it takes two people to move it, I hope to have it out where we can ring it. Third is a thee stack light out next to the rails.

With the separation between the layouts I am looking for some assistance with the transformers.

**John
Lees**



Highballing down the Track



Info is available at www.bigtrainoperator.com.

EVERYONE that attends banquet gets a convention car!

No, not the loco.....and it is almost sold out. But you do get the USA Boxcar. That's worth the price of the meal itself !



Qinghai-Tibet Railway

Known as The Railway to Heaven, the engineers who built the railway had to overcome several major obstacles. Because 960 kilometers of the line sits at 4000 meters or higher, the designers and engineers had to tackle three main challenges during construction: the fragile ecosystem, the lack of oxygen and permafrost.

To provide support for the construction workers, the government built dozens of medical facilities and oxygen-making stations along the way to alleviate altitude sickness. The route was also carefully chosen to avoid destruction of vegetation and the natural habitations of wild animals. To ensure stability in permafrost regions, they installed gravel embankments.



The Qinghai-Tibet trains are truly unique in that all trains to Tibet must take into account the conditions: high elevation and lack of oxygen as well as low temperatures and harsh climate.

Passengers are protected from high-altitude sickness as the trains have an oxygen supply system that increases the oxygen in the cabin as the train climbs in altitude, and cabins have private oxygen - dispensing outlets. The temperature in the train is controlled, and the passenger cars are pressurized. Even the windows are glazed with a UV coating to protect against the powerful high-altitude sun rays.

38TH NATIONAL GARDEN RAILWAY CONVENTION
JULY 1 - 8, 2023
 HYATT REGENCY, SANTA CLARA, CA
 SANTA CLARA CONVENTION CENTER

RECEPTION & FIREWORKS
 BBQ & TRAIN RIDE AT ROARING CAMP RR
 ICE CREAM SOCIAL & VENDOR HALL
 ACCUCRAFT BANQUET

"The place to be in '23!"

WWW.NGRC2023.ORG

Check the Website for the latest update of the GGRS Member Photo Directory

Gandy Dancers

Highlighting Members and their work

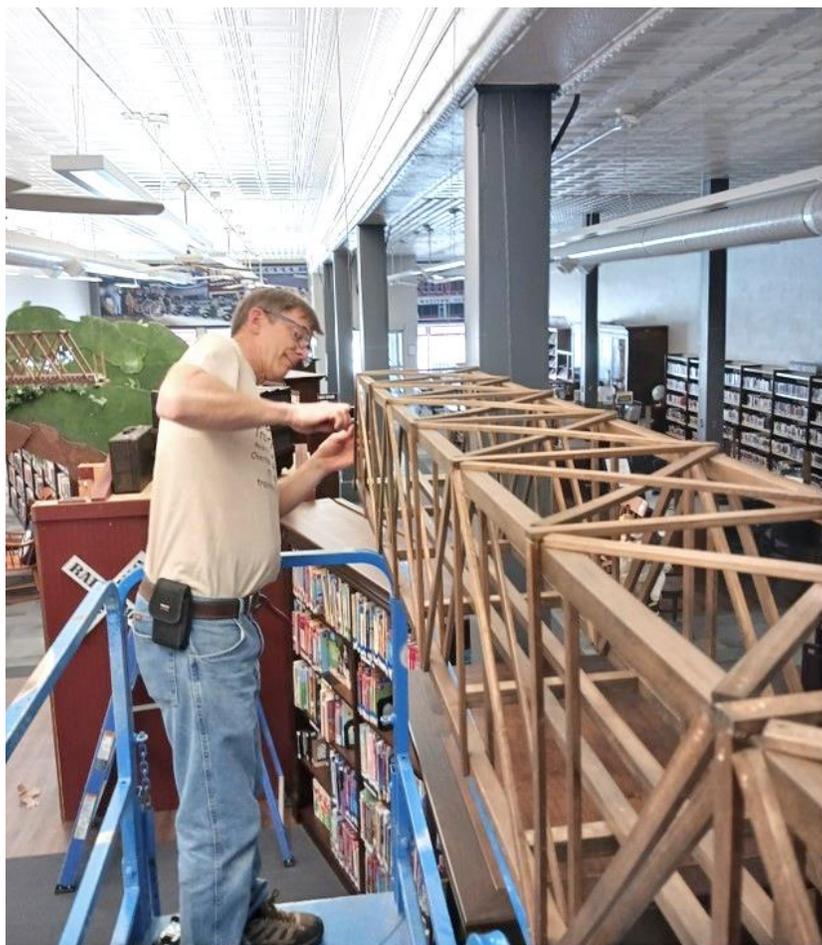


Ever wonder about those indoor trains some stores have running overhead? To start a project of putting an elevated railroad in the Marshall, IL children's section of their public library, Dave Bennett, of **Train Installations, LLC**, called on Roy Williamson to help him out.



Working at the Depot, a ladder to the roof is a sufficient start. Around the room, and attaching the support wires to the ceiling, not so much.





Tour of the Western & Atlantic Railroad

Want to do a tour that is both train related, fun, right in our back yard... so to speak? Russ Bundy recommends this one operated out of the Southern Museum of Locomotive History in Kennesaw and hosted by Todd DeFeo. It is an all day (8-4) bus tour departing from the museum and traveling the route of the W&ARR with stops in Etowah, Kingston, Adairsville, Calhoun, and Dalton. The tour is dedicated to the history of the W&ARR with special focus on the Andrews Raid of 1862.

This is an interesting, historical themed tour of North Georgia. If you'd like to know more about this railroad, its impact on the state, and just some general historical railroad information, you might want to consider this tour. It is an all day excursion and lunch is included with the ticket. This tour occurred on April 1, 2023. Keep an eye out, for they may offer it again.





Greetings From The Cartersville Express Team

September 14-17, 2023

Early Registration pricing ends April 30, 2023!

Please see the web site for all the details and the registration form.

www.2023SERConvention.org

Come to beautiful Cartersville, GA for a fun-filled model railroading weekend. We have over 30 fantastic clinics planned. We have 136 Op Session slots available for guests to operate on some of the best model railroads

around. We currently have 14 home self-guided layouts you can visit during the convention. There will be a clinic on Thursday afternoon by Craig Brotman on AK Paints. We will also be having NMRA Model and Photo Contests. Also, we will have a white Elephant sale area for some great deals to take home with you. This one you don't want to miss. We are finalizing our prototype tours and will list them on the website soon. Lots of great museums in Cartersville to visit or take a quick drive down to Lake Allatoona for scenery time. Don't miss a chance to save on early registration. We are looking forward to seeing you at The Cartersville Express 2023 SER Convention.

2023 Convention Team,
Walt Liles, Chair

Wiiles.crrman@gmail.com

A Challenge Coin will be given out each registered participant upon picking up your packets at the registration table. The front and back of the coin is pictured below.



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.)

Drooling Over a New Engine? Get a BIB !



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
							\$5.00

Ladies	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	Price
							\$10.00
							\$20.00
							\$22.00
							\$5.00



New Arrivals: AMAZING COLLECTOR-QUALITY
ASTER AND FINE ARTS MODELS STEAM

NEW BACHMANN DASH 9'S IN STOCK - LIMITED
TIME FREE SHIPPING

NEWS: Split Jaw purchases Stainless Steel
Track Product Line!

Starting with the Code 332 Stainless Flex track kits,



Train Installations, LLC

Woodstock, GA 30188

770-597-0038

dave@traininstallations.com

Check out our online store and updated website at www.traininstallations.com

Think about other ways or things we can help you with while we are stuck at home over the next few weeks including.

- Layout planning and CAD drawings
- Custom bridges
- Overhead RR systems
- Model kit assembly
- Train storage shelving

Now is a better time than ever to distract yourself with the hobby of model railroading! Let us know how we can help.

Thanks - Dave 770-597-0038

Dave's Open House date (May 13th)





Activist Badgers Halt Traffic on Dutch Railways

Badgers burrowing below railway tracks have wreaked havoc on train services in the Netherlands, causing cancellations and line closures.

Trains in the north and south of the country have been affected, with some services halted for at least a week.

The line between Den Bosch and Boxtel in the south was closed on Tuesday after the mammals dug under the tracks.

Officials said it was not clear how long the problem would continue as badgers were a protected species.

Train Carrying Coors Light and Blue Moon Beer Derails in Montana

Officials said about 25 cars derailed.

As of late Sunday, the department reported there was no threat to the public and no hazardous material was released.

The railcars that spilled into the river were empty or carrying Coors Light and Blue Moon beer, the agency said.

No injuries were reported, but people were being asked to avoid the area.



Yard Hostler

I know you are thinking, "is this more of the April Fools Edition?" as you read the two articles above. NOPE. These be real, in our wild and wacky world of wail wode-ing!

Lots of opportunities as the weather warms.

Thanks to all who are hosting, and looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Keep those submissions coming.

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