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Terry's Train Tidbits

Given that we are in a season of thanksgiving, on behalf of the Executive Board, we certainly want to thank our membership families for all they have done in support of garden railroading in 2024. Our members actively attended garden railway venues as well as participated in planning, managing, and serving as volunteers in those events. We hosted a regional conference that exceeded all expectations regarding G - scale vendor participation by our members and businesses. Quality tours of outdoor as well as indoor layouts were hosted throughout the warm weather months and during the convention and as part of the Piedmont Pilgrimage. Members in the Loganville area operated the Vines Botanical Garden Railway throughout the summer. Members introduced other model train scale enthusiasts to the thrill of G-scale activity. Our 1:1 train excursions took us to new sites. Participation in regional train shows and museum events further spread the interest in garden railroading. Our website, newsletter, and Facebook presence remains active, entertaining, and educational. Your involvement is certainly reflected in our highest membership levels and the extension of our membership to further reaches of Georgia and even into neighboring states. Personally, I especially thank the Executive Board for all they did in these areas as well as in so many other little ways that they jointly directed the activities and the success of our society in 2024 and will continue to do into 2025.



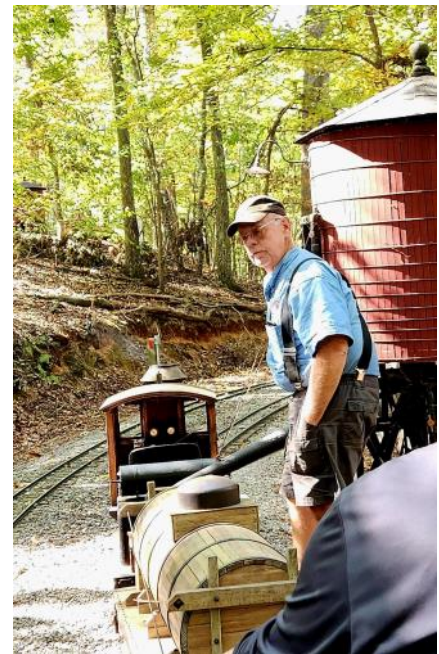
Terry Manning, President

Canton, St Paul & Pacific - (HotDogs) - Railway

GGRS's October Club Meeting was held at the Canton, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad in Canton, GA. This meeting was hosted by Pam & Roy Williamson. We grilled hot dogs and hamburgers for GGRS attendees as well as the C-St.P &P Railway members. Everyone had a great time.



The Canton, St. Paul, & Pacific Railway Adventure



Located on twelve acres of virgin forest that are protected by the Foothills Land Conservancy, our railroad was built and is maintained by a handful of hard working members using mostly hand tools, picks, shovels, and steam or diesel





<https://www.csppry.org/>



Background

About the Canton, St. Paul & Pacific Railway. Our Railway is unique in that the Railway owns the property. Many other clubs are in public parks or on the property of a private individual. The Railway is private and does not offer rides to the general public; however, we do enjoy engaging with fellow Railroad enthusiasts. All Railway guests must be invited and sponsored by a member. The Railway currently has 27 members. Nineteen of our members live in Georgia. Eight of our members live out-of-state. Our Railway is focused on steam locomotives. Although there are some diesel locomotives, steam locomotives out-number diesels.

Building the Railway

All track, switches, and trestles were built by the members. The rail is aluminum. The Railway owns a die and has a commercial extruder which extrudes the rail (usually a ton of aluminum). The rail is then anodized for appearance. Ties are rough cut pressure treated 2x2's. The rail is held to the ties with screws. There are 4 screws per tie, so the Railway used a lot of screws and ties. Track panels were fabricated at the base of the Railway and transported, via rail, to the end of the line.

Likewise, switches/turnouts were fabricated and transported via rail to the end of the line. As you travel around the Railway you will notice there is no road access to much of the right-of-way.

Riding our Railway

The Railway is a point-to-point configuration with loops at both ends. The Right-of-Way is single track with passing sidings. The Railway employs a "Capture and Release" signal system. The engineer manually actuates a switch when entering a passing siding, thus releasing the block. Likewise, the engineer captures the next block when exiting the passing siding. Engineers can proceed only on a green signal. A yellow signal indicates a train in the next block proceeding in the same direction of travel. A red signal indicates a train coming in the opposite direction.

Your trip, around our Railway will take 20 – 40 minutes depending on other traffic. Passenger cars are referred to as "T" cars. You straddle a bench with your feet on floor boards. Each passenger car is approximately 10' long. Three or four adults can sit on each passenger car. Your train will consist of 4 passenger cars. Motive power will be either a GP35 or a Dash 9 locomotive. These diesels have a two-cylinder gas engine powering a hydraulic system with hydraulic motors on each truck. All axels are powered.

You can view our track plan on the Railway's website:

<https://www.cspprv.org/track> While riding you need to stay centered in your seat and not lean or reach out. Feet need to stay on the foot boards. Please leave actuating the signals to the engineer. There are some YouTube videos of our Railway.

Here's a link to a video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47FKiuaoLgI>

Asking Questions

Members of our Railway will be located throughout our facility. Please ask many questions. Feel free to ask specifics about our hobby (e.g., how do you fire a miniature steam locomotive, Answer: the same you way you fire the prototype) and our club. Many of our Railway members started or continue to operate smaller scale model railroads.



CANTON, SAINT PAUL AND PACIFIC RAILWAY

Annual GGRS Meeting at Provino's

Carolyn Lank has confirmed our meeting at Provino's for **Jan 11**. Unbelievable but it looks like the price will be about the same as the last 2 years. The price for the top menu is \$ 21.95 plus tax and tip. We charged \$ 28.00 last year to keep it simple.

Members can send advanced reservation fees to Dennis Bass. **DON'T FORGET** to pay your dues as well. Those are going up! Save Money Now !!



Provino's Italian Restaurant

All dinner selections are served with our famous House Salad,
Fresh Baked Garlic Rolls, Soft Drink or Tea
Tax and Gratuity are not included

\$19.95

Spaghetti Classica

Meat sauce or Marinara w/ Meatballs or Sausage

Lasagna Napoletana

Layers of Pasta, Cheeses, Ground Beef,
Baked w/ Meat Sauce and Mozzarella

Eggplant Parmigiana

Layers of Eggplant, Ricotta Cheese
w/ Meat Sauce or Marinara Sauce

Penne Pasta Primavera

Zucchini, Mushroom, Tomato,
Broccoli Sauteed w/ Marinara Sauce

Fettuccini Provino

Creamy Parmesan Cheese Sauce or Daniello
(Carbonara w/ Pancetta)

\$20.95

Italian Combination

Lasagna, Manicotti and Cheese Ravioli
baked w/ Meat Sauce

Lasagna Napoletana

Layers of Pasta, Cheeses, Ground Beef,
Baked w/ Meat Sauce and Mozzarella

Chicken Parmigiana

Boneless Breast, Meat Sauce, Melted Mozzarella Cheese

Chicken Romano

Tender Boneless Breast, Ham, Cheese,
Mushrooms and Red Wine Sauce

Fettuccini Provino

Creamy Parmesan Sauce or Daniello
(Carbonara w/ Pancetta)

\$21.95

Lasagna Napoletana

Layers of Pasta, Cheeses, Ground Beef,
Baked w/ Meat Sauce and Mozzarella

Chicken Francese

Egg Dipped, Boneless Breast,
Sauteed Golden in Lemon Butter and Wine Sauce

Linguine w/ Baby Clams

Herbs, Garlic, served w/ White Clam Sauce

Veal Parmigiana

Tender Breaded Veal, Meat Sauce, Melted Mozzarella Cheese

Chicken Parmigiana

Boneless Breast, Meat Sauce,
Melted Mozzarella Cheese



Membership Report



Membership News – November 2024

Dues cover the 2025 calendar year of January 1st thru December 31st.

As of January 1, 2025, dues for Georgia Garden Railway Society will be \$30 for a year. If you pay before January 1, 2025, you can still pay \$25 for the calendar year. **SO DON'T BE LATE!**

Please send your \$25 check for renewal or new membership payable to "GGRS" to:

Ginny Manning
1201 Timber Glen Court
Lilburn, GA 30047

Thank you,
Ginny, Membership Chair

TWO "G Scale" CONVENTIONS IN 2025!

By Ted Yarbrough

The National Garden Railway Convention will return in 2025 having been absent in 2024 because no club bid to host. Next year's event will be in Sacramento, California. Yes, it is all the way across the country, but will be well worth the effort and expense to attend. California's weather is ideal for garden railroading and Northern California has plenty of great layouts to see. The vendor hall will be packed with manufacturers and retailers, so there will be many bargains to be had. The BBQ will be held at the California State Railroad Museum. It is possibly the finest railroad museum in the United States! There will be a convention locomotive AND car. Matthew Abreu, the convention chairman, was in attendance at the recent Southeast Regional event here in Atlanta promoting the convention. The event will be June 18-22 and more info will be available shortly. I hope some GGRS members will attend.

The second convention is the Big Train Operators Club (BTO). Teya Caple-Woods, BTO board member, was also at our regional event promoting their 2025 convention. This group held a convention earlier this year, in the same Pennsylvania location as their 2022 event. We received the fantastic news just before the Southeast Regional that the 2025 BTO Convention will be in Helen, Georgia. That is almost in our back yard (compared to Sacramento). In order to attend, one must also be a member of the BTO Club (\$50.00 annually and includes quarterly magazine and wall calendar).

Registration info can be found at <https://bigtrainoperator.com>. There is a contest to register new members, so when you join, check the box that you were referred by a current member and choose either Ted Yarbrough, Emil Decker, or Terry Manning (*select one*) (*Editor: Me, me,pick me!*) in the space provided, please. The BTO Convention dates are July 13-18, 2025. This organization is smaller than the traditional NGRC convention, but has lots of fun including train rides, vendor hall, layout tours, banquet, **AND LOTS of DOOR PRIZES!** I know you will want to attend at least one of these events, maybe even both!

Please ask me if you have any questions about either of these events.

NMRA - National Model Railroad Association

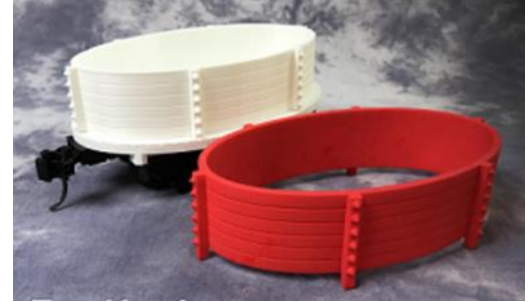
Southeastern Region will host the 2026 NMRA National Convention and National Train Show in Chattanooga, Tennessee July 27 - August 2, 2026.





Egg Haulers SALE!

[https://
egg haulers.com/](https://egg haulers.com/)



It's real simple. We are offering **25% Off** ALL EggHauler products for a limited time.

- When does the sale start? NOW.
- When will the sale end? Maybe in a few days, maybe in a few weeks.

No coupon is needed. The discount will be applied when you check out.

Please forward this email to ALL your Garden Train friends as well as the members of your Garden Railroad club. As there is no coupon it means that ANYONE can take advantage of this sale.

We expect a LARGE turn out, so order early. You do not want to have to wait for us to fulfill your EggHauler order.

Rarely seen Titanic artefacts kept in secret warehouse in . . . ATLANTA ???

Thousands of artifacts from the Titanic are stored in a secret warehouse in Atlanta. The exact location of the warehouse is a closely guarded secret. Some of the items include an alligator skin handbag, perfume vials, an upturned bathtub, a dented porthole, glassware, and buttons.

Inside, the shelves are packed with thousands of items: from an upturned bathtub and dented porthole, to intricately etched glassware and tiny buttons. The BBC was given a rare chance to look around the storage facility and discover the stories behind some of these objects.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c1vd9k33r00o>



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
GGRS Annual Mtg	Provino's in Kennesaw, GA	Jan 11, 2024 12:00 - 2:00 ?	Italiano !
Trains, Trains, Trains!	Southern Locomotive and Civil War Museum, Kennesaw, GA	Jan 25 - 26, 2025	Planning in Progress
GGRS Club Mtg	YOU? WHO? Sign up now	Openings Available	Start Planning Now
GGRS Club Mtg	Richard and Rebecca Chitwood of Cumming	Jun ?, 2025	New members step forward

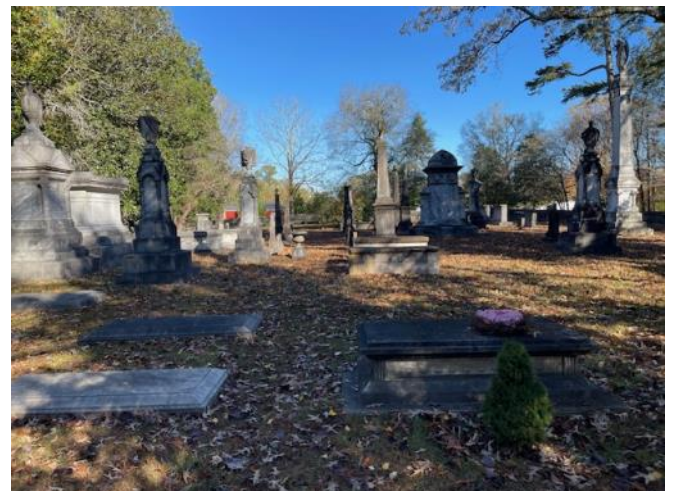
Tate Depot as a Possible Event Site ? ?

I was in Tate, GA to check out the old cemetery for the Sons of the American Revolution. A patriot is buried there. The depot was moved several years ago to the other side of the road, and they have a club that opens the depot and shows their N and HO scale layouts once a month, usually the 3rd Saturday. There is ample outdoor space for some portable G scale layouts, and while visiting, they expressed a desire to possibly install a permanent one, or have us come picnic, display, and help draw folks out to visit another train depot. They would advertise, and the draw would be good for all. . . . Since it is an old L&N depot, I can think of one person who would probably approve of the possibility. In addition, the Patriot Line has a locomotive shop next to the cemetery (the line still runs to Marietta.) Got a couple of railfan photos of their units while there.





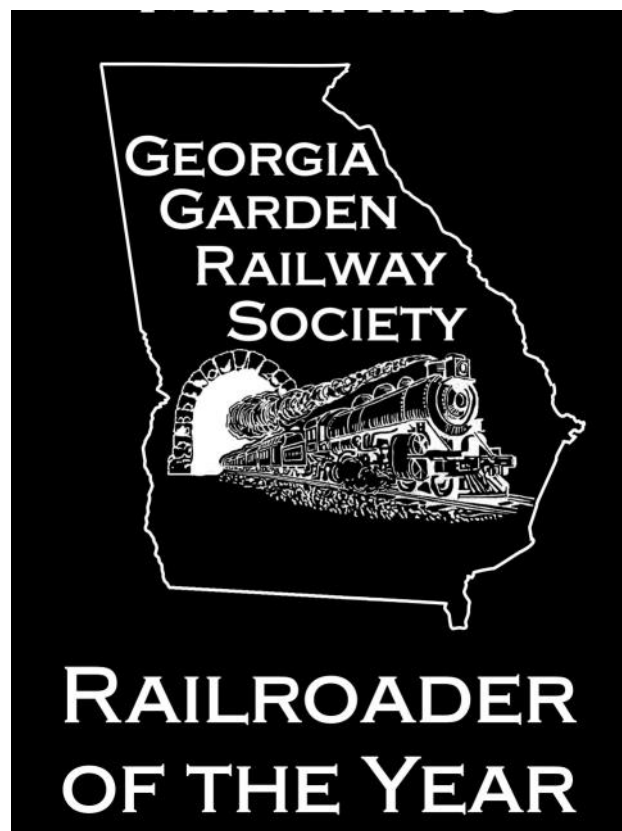
Plenty of room for layouts in front of the depot; large parking lot with a decent strip of land in the back, and across the street the historic cemetery and Patriot Rails train shop. Tate is just south of Jasper, GA, on HWY 53, and a short ride up from Dawsonville.



Garden Railroader of the Year

Looking to the future, please submit nominations for awarding the Garden Railroader of the Year to the Board as soon as possible (temanning@aol.com). The award is presented at the annual meeting in January but time is needed by the Board for review and selection. Emphasis is on activity during the previous year, so 2024 for the 2025 award, but activity in prior years is often a consideration. The award is generally only given once to a person since we have so many award-winning personalities that warrant recognition, but over time the recognition has been repeated in a few cases. Occasionally the award has dual winners. Section 2.4 of our Policies and Procedures Manual lists recent honorees:

- 2011 Ted Yarbrough
- 2012 Richard Garlinghouse
- 2013 Alan Mole & Dan Michel
- 2014 Chris Haon & Ra Barr
- 2015 James Robinson
- 2016 Dave Bennett
- 2017 Cullen Reid & Russ Bundy
- 2018 Dennis Bass
- 2019 Ted & Deborah Yarbrough
- 2020 Pam Williamson
- 2021 Terry Manning
- 2022 Emil Decker
- 2023 Roy Williamson
- 2024 James Bando
- 2025 ??????



Volunteers in January

For several years, GGRS has done a layout at the annual "Trains, Trains, Trains" show at the museum in Kennesaw. We believe that event will take place January 25-26 (with set-up on Friday, January 24). Please contact President Manning (temanning@aol.com) if you plan to participate.

Nomination Committee

John Lees has received no nomination updates for the Board of Directors. Nominations stand currently as:

President: Ted Yarborough
 Treasurer: Terry Manning
 Secretary: Pam Williamson
 Members at Large:
 Emil Decker,
 John Lank,
 Ginny Manning,
 Dan Steidle.



Highballing down the Track

The Sacramento Garden Railway Society will be hosting the 2025 Convention. If California hasn't disappeared into the Pacific by then, maybe you will join them. It will be the 40th Anniversary, (with a few years missing).

The Convention website is fully online with complete information about activities and tours. Ticket bundles are available for early birds at reduced prices. The site also lists hotels and camping info for RV's.

For all the latest info,
Go to: <https://ngrc2025.org/>



NGRC 2025 IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS
with a money-saving
EARLY-BIRD TICKET BUNDLE



40th Anniversary

National Garden Railway Convention

June 18 - 22, 2025

SAFE Credit Union Convention Center - Sacramento, CA





GREAT LAKES LARGE SCALE TRAIN EXPO

National Train Day 2025!

Sponsored by the Riverside Railroad Club & 4 Track RR!
 Formerly the North East Ohio Large Scale Train Show

Join us for two spectacular days of large scale train fun!

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Vendors, Vendors, VENDORS!

Find new & used G Gauge and Larger models trains, parts, accessories and MORE!

Operating Large Scale Layouts

Explore the multiple operating G gauge layouts setup by various clubs!

Clinics & Workshops

Learn from others in the hobby!

Kids' Activities

Fun activities for kids including hands on clinics!

Door Prizes

Multiple door prizes given away on the hour!

Food & Refreshments

Enjoy a variety of food options available on-site.

Admission Available At The Door!

\$8 One Day, \$14 Two Day
 Kids 12 & Under Free

For Early Bird Admission, Updates, Hotels & MORE visit our website!
www.greatlakestrainexpo.com

Interested in being a Vendor or Exhibitor?

Preferred method: Visit our website to fill out the request form.
 Alternate Method: Call or email us.



Contact Us

(330) 779-1982

showinfo@greatlakestrainexpo.com

18,000 SQ FT of Large Scale Model Trains!



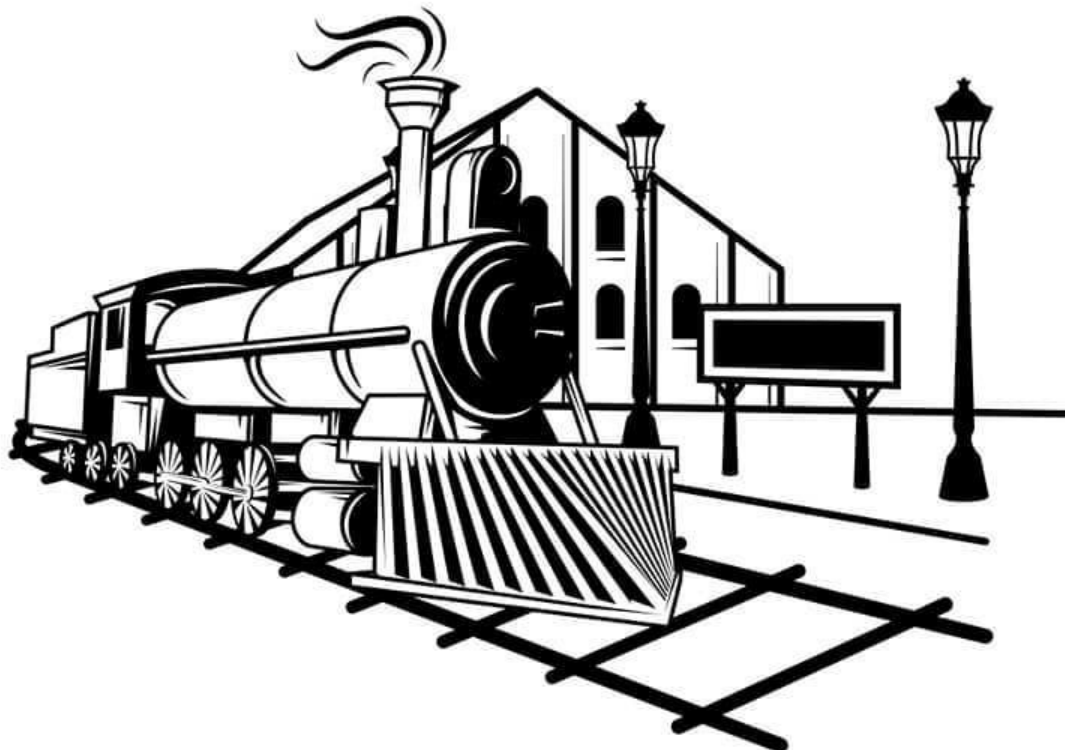
G Gauge & Larger up to 7.5" Gauge Ride On!



MAY 9-10 2025 **METROPLEX EXPO CENTER**
 10 AM - 4 PM 1620 MOTOR INN DR
 GIRARD, OH 44420



Free Parking & Onsite ATM!



2025 Midwest Garden Railroad Gathering June 4 thru June 7, 2025

Sponsored by the Tulsa Garden Railroad Club

Expo 24 Cross- ville Model Rail- road Club

The bad news is our group is still looking for a place to call home and rebuild our O, HO, N, G, and even Z layouts. Huge amounts of energy and time have been invested. There have been some interesting prospects, but the light at the end of the tunnel got turned off.

There is however good GREAT news. We will be hosting another edition of our Expo train show and swap meet.

The dates are Friday and Saturday October 25 & 26.

The place is the same as last year, Oaklawn Baptist Church social hall 3977 US 70 East, Crossville TN 38555.

The show hours are 9 to 4 both days. Thursday afternoon Oct 24 the hall will be open for setting up. We are welcoming a new traveling modular FreeMo HO layout from the Central Railway Museum crmha.org and the Chattanooga Modular Modelers Club [chattmodmod.org layout](http://chattmodmod.org).

There will be room for ~40 tables, 20 are spoken for already. Cost is \$15 per space if you bring your own furniture, \$30 per 8 foot table if you use one of ours.

For further details or to book table space contact crossvilletrains@gmail.com

Announcing the 2025 Convention Hotel:

Holiday Inn Express Helen, GA.

Enjoy recreational amenities including an indoor pool and a 24-hour fitness center. The hotel also features complimentary wireless Internet access and gift shops/newsstands.

Satisfy your appetite at the hotel's coffee shop/cafe. A complimentary continental breakfast is served daily from 6:00 AM to 10:00 AM.

Featured amenities include a 24-hour business center, complimentary newspapers in the lobby, and a 24-hour front desk. Free self parking is available on-site.

Make yourself at home in one of the 86 guestrooms featuring refrigerators and flat-screen televisions. Cable programming and DVD players are provided for your entertainment, while complimentary wireless Internet access keeps you connected. Conveniences include safes and desks, as well as phones with free local calls.

When you stay at Holiday Inn Express Helen, you'll be in a national park, within a 15-minute walk of Helen Tubing & Helen Water Park and Chattahoochee River. This hotel is 0.2 mi from Alpine Helen/White County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Amenities

- Internet Access
- Swimming Pool
- Fitness Center
- Restaurant
- Pets Allowed (conditions apply)
- Handicap Accessible
- Meeting Facilities
- Smoke free facility
- Smoking Areas
- 24 hour Concierge
- Conference Center

The cost per room will be \$169 plus tax. This includes breakfast and free parking. Rooms outside of the convention time are at a discount room rate of \$209 per night. Because there are limited rooms available in the area, we urge club members to reserve rooms as soon as possible.

RESERVATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED!

To reserve a room, call the hotel directly at
706-878-1084 extension 3.

Ask for the special BTOC rate for July next year.
Reservation deadline is June 13, 2025.



GEORGIA
on my mind!

BIG TRAIN OPERATOR CLUB
CONVENTION/HELEN, GA
JULY 13-18, 2025

Celebrating 47 years!



2025/Helen, GA Convention T-shirts (heather green with orange graphics)

Tee Shirt Order Form:

[https://www.bigtrainoperator.com/2025/pdfs/2025%20t-shirt%20order%20form%20\(2\).pdf](https://www.bigtrainoperator.com/2025/pdfs/2025%20t-shirt%20order%20form%20(2).pdf)



2025 AML Club Car - Covered Hopper

Manufactured by American Mainline (Accucraft) Mfg.
in 4 Road Numbers: 2025 01, 2025 02, 2025 03, 2025 04



Car specifications & Details

Scale / Gauge	1:29 / 45 mm
Construction	Plastic body, Brass castings
Mini. Radius	4 ft.
Length	24 in. (609 mm)
Width	4.3 in. (109 mm)
Height	6.3 in. (159 mm)

Car Features

Die-cast trucks w/ metal wheels
Longitudinal hatch covers
See-through roof walks
Full underbody detail
Body mounted couplers
Truck Mounted couplers
Loop truck mounted couplers

The Hook & Loop will mate with all other brands. The AML knuckle couplers will not reliably mate with the other brands. The cars do have a mounting pad to install Kadee body mount couplers (906 Style)

Ordering Details

You can order now with check or PP/CC but please e-mail me first for latest info. JohnGroot@aol.com
[Download Order form for printing](#)

For pickup at our 2025 Convention there will be no shipping charge by the Club.
There will only be 60 cars made. 15 of each road number.

Fare-dodging squirrels cause chaos aboard train in England



<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cly32plprg5o>

https://www.upi.com/Odd_News/2024/09/19/Great-Western-Railway-squirrels-train/9051726773203/

<https://www.the-independent.com/news/uk/home-news/squirrels-gatwick-airport-train-cancelled-b2614484.html>

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.)

Engineer's Wish List
Embroidery Design & Gifts
By On-Line Consign, Inc.
Sally Bando | 404.550.4816 | sbandogeorgia@comcast.net
Machine embroidery designs & themes on shirts and gifts. Prices upon request. Company and group projects welcome.

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



“The truth is not in the touch of a stone, but in what the stone tells you.”

Rene Denfeld

sticksNstones@weegrr.com

Men's	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	Price
Grey Pocket t-shirt							\$10.00
Carbon or Burgundy Polo							\$20.00
Carbon or Burgundy Pocket Polo							\$20.00
Long Sleeve Denim							\$22.00
Short Sleeve Denim							\$22.00
Name on Men's Shirt				(Specify Name)			\$5.00
Ladies	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	Price
Grey T-shirt							\$10.00
Carbon or Burgundy Polo							\$20.00
Long Sleeve Denim							\$22.00
Name on Ladies shirt				(Specify Name)			\$5.00

Elf on A Shelf Deals You Can't Pass Up!



LGB 41220 Red Gondola Two Steiff Bears, Collection item - \$200.00



G Scale LGB 25211 Steiff Friends For Life 0-4-0 Steam Locomotive - \$350.00 (Bear is still in the plastic)

LGB Starter set \$250.00 - will include track



LGB Starter set \$250.00 - will include track

LGB Grizzly Flats set plus 2 additional passenger gondolas - \$400.00



8 LGB EXCURSION CARS - SELLING AS A UNIT TRAIN - \$400.00
(as is) All have metal wheels, people included.



Christmas Sale! Contact: Roy Williamson 770-891-9462



Train Installations, LLC

Woodstock, GA 30188

770-597-0038

dave@traininstallations.com



The NEW Split Jaw Reversing unit

Automatically shuttles your trolley or train back & forth

- Gentle acceleration/deceleration at ends
- Easy setup with self-teaching software
- Adjustable station pause delay
- Optional intermediate station stop
- Optional weatherproof enclosure for outdoor use

Starting at \$199.00

For more info:

www.railclamp.com



Time for Some Christmas Shopping??

The Kennesaw museum advised Sally that they have Christmas rail cars for G-scale in their store. There are other scale items as well. While the items in front are Lionel, some of the boxes say "Large Scale", so you just need to drop by and see. They are \$45 each plus shipping but can be purchased here at the museum as well. If you are a museum member you can use your 20% off the price.



Yard Hostler

Season is winding down. Or is it just winding up for an upcoming spectacular year?? Got some workbench projects up your sleeve? Planning to purchase a new RR engine or car set for that someone special ? (*yourself*).... And then the Annual Meeting. Yep! Looks like another great year before us. Don't miss out on any of it.

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

eldecker@windstream.net