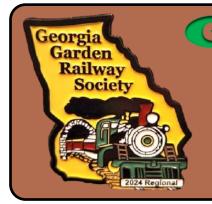
Mar 2025



FGRS Gazette March, 2025

Official Newsletter of the Georgia Garden Railway

Ted's Tickets



Wow! It is hard to comprehend that 2025 is already almost two months old. We have been blessed with a few very nice sunny days early this year. I have enjoyed cleaning up the garden railroad and even running a few trains in both January and February. A bit un usual for extreme north Georgia, but I have enjoyed the early start of garden railroading season. Let me encourage you to register for one, or both, of the national events taking place this year.

Continued page 3

In This Edition

President's Message	1
GGRS Annual Meeting	1
Bob Derg	2
Track Warrants	8
Membership Report4	ļ
Trains, trains, trains4	
EnterTRAINment8	2
Highballing Down the Track9)
Rip Track	5
Yard Hostler20	

Annual Meeting of the GA Garden Railway to FINALLY be Held

Annual Business Meeting & Christmas- St. Paddie's Day Luncheon March 22, 2025 12 Noon – 2:30 P.M. Location: Tir Na NÓg [access to the mythical world through] Provino's Italian Restaurant, 440 Ernest W. Barrett Parkway Northwest Kennesaw, GA 30144

Our Annual Business Meeting & Christmas, St. Paddie's Day Luncheon will be at Provino's, same location as last year, listed above.

Lastly, the cost per person remains \$28 which includes choice of five Italian entrees, house salad, garlic trolls, soft drink or tea, tax and tip. GGRS will collect your payment and then make one payment for the group to Provino's. GGRS will be accepting prepayments via Zelle. Alcoholic beverages will be available and will be the responsibility of the purchaser.

One constant for our luncheon is the "White Elephant/**Bodb Derg Gift** away." a good old -fashioned game of scheming and stealing! **Sneaky little** leprechauns.] Those of you interested in playing should bring a wrapped train



related gift (train car, building, yard art...) [value of the gift should range from \$30 - 50] for each individual joining the game. The fun rules are on the following page.

NOTE: Provino's does have a gluten free entrée option. We will have to include any special requests when we turn in our headcount, so please indicate in the comment section when replying or text or call **Carolyn Lank at 770-653-8109** for any special requests.

Official Newsletter of the Georgia Garden Railway Society - Find information about the Society at: <u>www.ggrs.info</u>

Page 1

Mar 2025

Irish Gift Exchange

As we prepare for our Annual Holiday Festivities, one activity that can be a lot of fun is the gift exchange. Old hands at this will know what I am talking about. Others may not and we want everyone interested in having fun, to join in. When I 1st volunteered to play "<u>*Cinder Claus*</u>", <u>"Bodb Derg"</u> [pronounced: boôß 'dierg] it seemed many in the conversation didn't really know how it worked, or even what to call it. It goes by several names, but <u>Dirty Santa</u> is what it was called during Christmas. BUT CHRISTMAS IS PAST, So we turn Irish for St. Patrick's Day. Why not?

Here are the rules we use:

- ⊗ Bring a gift. Since we belong to a Railroad Society, one would expect the gift to be RR related.....In our case, RR equipment, buildings, accessories, Garden items, tools, resources, there are millions of things. Pick something you have and decided you don't want or need. Or buy something if you want to keep everything you currently have stocked away in your basement.
- Solution Solution

⊗ Wrap it.

- Bring it. You will place your gift into the pile in exchange for a Pot -O- Gold ticket, which will be used to determine order of precedence for the game. See <u>Bodb Derg</u> for the gift pile.
- © Once the game begins, *Bodb Derg*, that's me, will randomly draw a ticket. The holder of the ticket will be the first to play.
- ⊗ You will look at all the nice lovely wrapped gifts from out of the Pot -O- Gold, and choose one. Then unwrap it for all to behold & ooh and ah over.
- ⊗ Now the fun begins. The next tickets drawn have two options. Pick a new, beautifully wrapped gift,...... Or steal a previously unwrapped gift, like the **Sidhe** stealing a child from it's crib!
- ⊗ If you unwrap a new gift, it's like accepting a changeling. We move to the next ticket. If you steal another baby, the person from whom you stole gets to unwrap a new one. Or steal if there is an available un-stolen child,....er,...gift out there. And the fun continues
- Stealing rule: Depending on who you play with, a gift may be stolen a set number or an unlimited number of times. This could make for a very long night. WE LIMIT STEALING OF A GIFT TO TWO TIMES. Once a gift is opened, stolen, then stolen again, it goes out of play. Bodb Derg will monitor.
- ⊗ A player may have their gift stolen, open a new one, then have it stolen, and on and on. Remember. A gift can be stolen only twice, but the holder of the gift may end up being stolen from time and again... Luck of the Irish. Ask John Lees.
- As the game progresses, a gift might be opened, NOT stolen for some turns, then get stolen later in the game, so even if you select early, your gift may get stolen later. Fear not. You then get to start all over again by stealing, or unwrapping anew.
- \otimes The last ticket pulled signals final stages of the game.
- ⊗ There should be one gift remaining in the pile. If the last ticket holder opens the last gift, ok. If they decide to steal from the available opened gifts, their victim can opt to steal or open the last gift.
- ⊗ Once the last gift is opened, one would think the stealing is done. But Noooooooo
- Now, the 1st ticket pulled, like a **Banshee wailing in the graveyard**, finally gets to get back into the game, and steal any still available un-stolen gift to finally end the game.

Simple rules; easy to play; and you go home with a new gift for,

Definitely After - Christmas. Join us, won't you?



Ted's Ticket Cont.

The National Garden Railroad Convention is in Sacramento in early June with daily layout tours, a few train rides in the area, and a vendor hall featuring well known manufacturers as well as nationally known hobby vendors. A banquet is planned at the California State Railroad Museum. That museum is, in my opinion, one of the finest displays in the country.

The Big Train Operators Convention will be held in Helen in mid-July. This event will feature two train rides (with door prizes), a Welcome Aboard Buffet (with door prizes), ice cream party (with door prizes), ladies wine and cheese party (with door prizes), layout tours of OUR LAYOUTS, and a banquet (with door prizes). Guess you get the idea, this group firmly believes in door prizes.

In order to encourage participation in the BTO Convention, the GGRS 1:1 Scale Train Ride this year will 'officially' be the two trips scheduled during the BTO Convention. Those will be enjoyable trips and give our members a chance to mix and mingle with garden railroaders from other parts of the country. So, sign up today for at least one convention, or maybe both!

Ted Yarborough. President

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	Mar 22, 2025 12:00 - 2:30	Italiano !
Chatsworth Depot Model Train Expo	Chatsworth, GA	Apr 12, 2025	Always a good time.
GGRS Club Mtg	Grant & Jenny Sweer Huntsville, AL	May 3, 2025	Previous date had a conflict
GGRS Club Mtg	YOU? WHO? Sign up now	Future Openings Available	Start Planning Now
"Tour of the new Trainz Facililty"	The new building is now in operation	Stay tuned for more details	Exciting!
National Garden Railway Convention	Sacramento, CA	Jun 18 - 22, 2025	Long distance flight or drive, but worth the trip
GGRS Club Mtg	Richard and Rebecca Chitwood & Doug and Mathew Fields of Cumming, GA	Jun 21, 2025 10:00-2:00	New members have stepped forward. How about you?
Big Train Operators Convention	Holiday Inn, Helen, GA	Jul 13 - 18, 2025	National Event, Local Destination
GGRS Club Mtg	Terry & Ginny Manning Lilburn, GA	Jul, 2025	In Planning Stage
GGRS Club Mtg	Sloan & Sara MacKarvich Buford, GA	Aug, 2025	In Planning Stage
GGRS Club Mtg	Elliot & Katherine Stotler Highland, NC	Sep, 2025	In Planning Stage
GGRS Club Mtg	Josh & Margaret Sagarin Atlanta, GA	Oct, 2025	In Planning Stage

Membership Report

Membership News – February 2025

January 24 & 25, 2025, the Georgia Garden Railway Society membership table was up and running at the Kennesaw Train Museum for their annual Trains, Trains, Trains show. During those two days we had two families join GGRS and one renewed after a year absence.

Welcome to -

Ed & Angela Peterson from Canton, GA Steve Smith from Marietta, GA John & Danalee Harrison from Kingston, GA (welcome back)

Correction Note - Scott and Chris Cavan (new members) are from Jacksonville, Alabama

Thank you to the Allen, Buchla, D. Foster, Lees, Mesarosh, Morris, Peter, Sault, Schrock, and Stotler for paying their dues this past month.

I did send out a personal reminder to those that had not renewed shortly after the last newsletter and several of the above families replied, but there still a about five that I haven't heard from. One family emailed that they would not be renewing and one family was moving out of state. We will miss you.

So please respond and make your \$30 check payable to GGRS and mail it to -

Ginny Manning, 1201 Timber Glen Court Lilburn, GA 30047

Thank you! Ginny Manning, Membership Coordinator

vlmanning@aol.com



GGRS at Trains, Trains, Trains

I want to express a big THANK YOU for your help with Trains, Trains, Trains. It was a great weekend with many groups promoting model railroading. The museum reported it was one of their most attended events. GGRS has been proud to be a part of this since its inception and with volunteers like you, we will continue that tradition. Thank you again and I look forward to this year as we spend time running our trains! Ted Yarbrough, GGRS President





Mar 2025



If you think you have seen this caboose, (X372), located at the museum, somewhere before, perhaps you are thinking of one that looks remarkably like it. One of our members, John Lees, bough a similar one, painted it with the (X376) designation, and refurbished it inside and out. If you have not been to see his, you really should.





Page 5

Georgia Garden Railway Society

Mar 2025













Mar 2025













Mar 2025

EnterTRAINment is Not Dead! And Will be Closer Than Ever!

EnterTRAINment Junction has been a Cincinnati family favorite for decades.

Now, it's coming to East Tennessee.

EnterTRAINment Junction, home to the world's largest indoor train display, will be <u>relocated from</u> <u>Cincinnati to Chattanooga</u> as part of an ambitious new transportation museum tentatively named "The Motion Museum," <u>according to Firecrown, the</u> <u>transportation publishing company that bought</u> <u>EnterTRAINment Junction.</u>

Firecrown purchased the massive train display from EnterTRAINment Junction founder Don Oeters, who was looking to sell the business so he could retire. <u>EnterTRAINment Junction permanently closed</u> their 80,000 - square-foot West Chester, Ohio, location on Jan. 5.



Thanks to Firecrown, the model train displays will have a new life in Tennessee. Chattanooga will be the "perfect fit" for the train display. "Chattanooga is a world-famous train town, and so we think this fits perfectly in the Chattanooga story but also preserves the legacy built in Cincinnati," said Firecrown CEO and founder Craig Fuller.

During the golden age of railway travel, Chattanooga was a key travel hub for the Southeast, according to Choo Choo Chattanooga. The city flourished greatly because of its connection to railroads, and has a unique history surrounding transportation. "The chance to be able to build something that is a legacy for the railroad hobby, for transportation, but also for my kids, I think is a really great honor," Fuller said on the "What the Truck" podcast.

The Motion Museum will be more than a model train display. The endeavor is set to showcase all forms of transportation, including aviation, trucking and maritime vessels, according to Fuller. "The Motion Museum will be a destination for the FreightWaves community, providing a fun way to learn about the inner workings of the global freight industry and movement of cargo," Fuller said in a press release. The attraction will use features and expand the existing EnterTRAINment Junction infrastructure. Plus Firecrown's other assets like the Thomas Museum, the Thomas Outdoor Train and more will be used to make a "more diverse exhibition." The museum will not be a recreation of EnterTRAINment Junction but it will honor its Cincinnati legacy. "We're going to reimagine this as if you were EPCOT and you were redesigning a whole new ride based on the existing infrastructure. But, (we're) creating a new experience."

Through a "What The Truck" interview and the Firecrown press release, Fuller has reiterated his desire to incorporate new aspects of the Southeast into the existing train display. First, Fuller plans to triple the size of the existing intermodal yard and feature a miniature version of the Port of Savannah. Another way to feature the southeast and honor the Chattanooga area would be to include local companies and the Tennessee River in the display.

When can you visit The Motion Museum? Fuller and the Firecrown team aim to have the new transportation museum and indoor theme park operational by the end of 2025 or early 2026, according to a recent press release.

Highballing down the Track

On your way to the 2025 Sacramento Valley National Garden Railway Convention, plan to make a month of large scale train plans.

The **2025 Northeast Large Scale Train Show** will be in Springfield, Massachusetts, on May 3 and 4, 2025.

The **Great Lakes Large Scale Train Expo** sponsored by the Riverside Railroad Crew will be in Girard, Ohio, May 9 and 10, 2025; information at: www.greatlakestrainexpo.com.

The **2025 Midwest Garden Railroad Gathering** will be June 4 to 7, 2025, around Tulsa, Oklahoma.

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/



40th Anniversary National Garden Railway Convention June 18 - 22, 2025

SAFE Credit Union Convention Center - Sacramento, CA





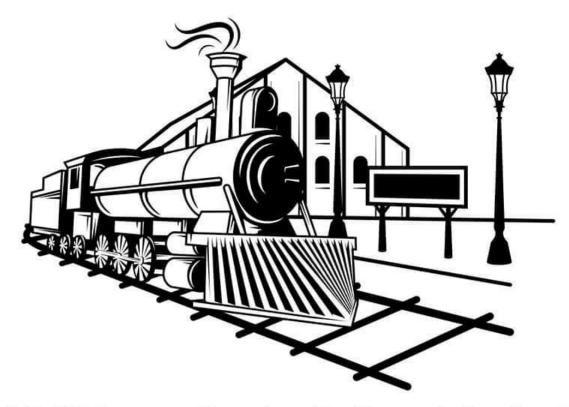


Georgia Garden Railway Society

Mar 2025







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

Sponsored by the Tulsa Garden Railroad Club

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
- Smoking Areas
 24 hour Concierge
- Pets Allowed (conditions apply)
- Handicap Accessible
- Conference Center

Meeting Facilities

Smoke free facility

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.



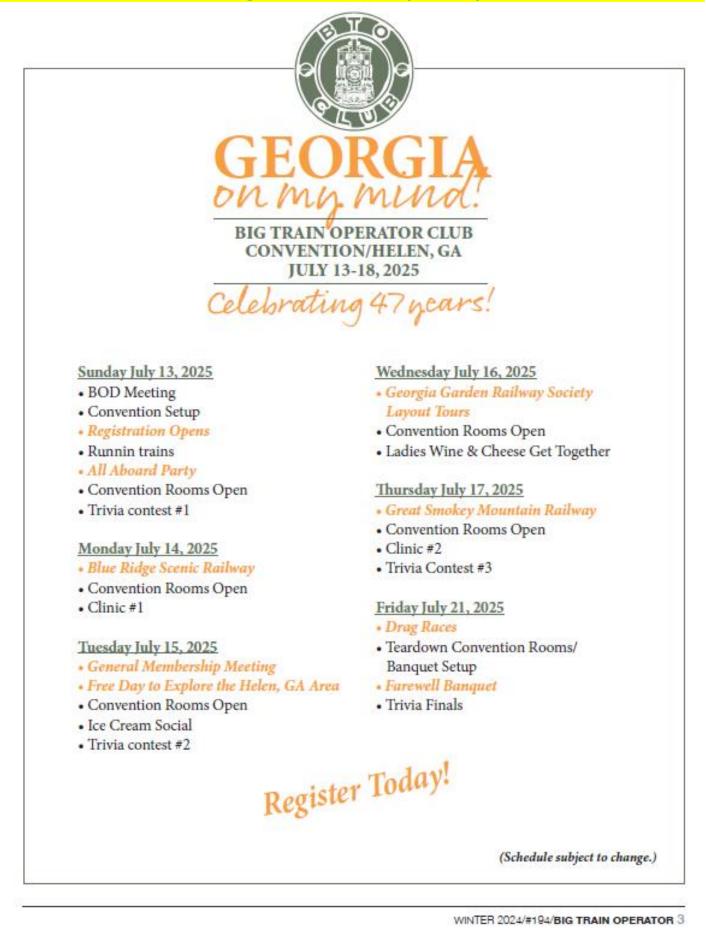








Mar 2025



Two important bits of news from the BTO Club The Convention Schedule and Registration forms are out.

The Menu Choices for the box lunch were not specified on the Reg Form due to time constraints. Here they are for the 7/17/25 Great Smoky Mountain Trip. Sandwiches - **T**urkey, **H**am, **C**hicken Salad, **V**eggie Wrap with cookie, chips and water. If you are choosing that trip, please send me your choice of sandwich for each person in your party.

We now have several Registrations (about 9 or 10) Any thoughts? Share them with me or Tim Thanks for your help in notifying members.

Using Credit Cards for Registration. I would like to have those wishing CCs to complete the paper form and write "Use PayPal", just under "**Registration Total**". I will create an e-mail Invoice from PayPal and have it sent to you. It will include a 5% adder for PayPal processing charge. When paid, the Registration will be confirmed through e-mail to the member. The BTO Club never sees or has access to your Credit Card Info.

John Groot, Registration 4 Saslow Ct. Quarryville, PA 17566

https://www.bigtrainoperator.com/2025/pdfs/2025%20conv%20registration% 20form%20wMenu.pdf



Georgia Garden Railway Society

Mar 2025



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





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



Georgia Garden Railway Society

Mar 2025

2027 National Convention in Nashville

The Nashville Garden Railroaders have set dates for the 2027 National Garden Railway Convention. Plans are being made for activities from Memorial Day, May 31 to June 5, 2027. More details to come under Upcoming Events at: **nashvillegardenrailroaders.com**

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.)





https://www.grnews.org/

Looking for a train-load of Golden "G" - Scale delights?

I know a LepROYcaun who might have what you want.



MOVING DAY IS UPON US! TRAINZS

Georgia Garden Railway Society

Mar 2025



It's our biggest warehouse sale yet!

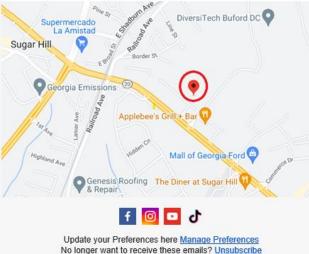
Lindy's Trains, the low-price outlet for Trainz.com, is having a two-day warehouse sale with more inventory than we've ever offered before.

> Friday, February 21st 9am to 1pm Saturday, February 22nd 8am to 12pm

We've got some amazing merchandise waiting for you, so make sure to visit and find your next great deal.

- · Coca-Cola merchandise
- Dept 56
- Books
- Pictures
- Athearn "blue box" trains
- · Toy trains in multiple scales (majority O and HO)
- Open-box kits
- Scenery items .
- Diecast cars
- Incomplete multi-packs .
- Plasticville buildings
- Miscellaneous toys

Cash or credit only. Bring your truck or trailer to 4729 Nelson Brogdon Blvd, Suite E, Sugar Hill, GA 30518. Next to Dana Safety Supply!



No longer want to receive these emails? Unsubscribe Trainz 2740 Faith Industrial Drive Buford, Georgia 30518



A Price Increase

May be Coming Soon

As I'm sure you have heard, tariffs on electronics may be coming soon.

We anticipate our RailBoss 4 Products may be impacted the most. So now may be a good time to make your purchase. We won't make any price increases until our current inventory of parts is depleted. And, if there are no tariffs at that time, we'll be happy to maintain our current pricing.



RailBoss 4 Battery/RC

https://www.gscalegraphics.net/



TrackSide R/C 7th Generation

As is often the case, we receive short notice on many sales or opportunities. We recommend you subscribe to many of our member's distribution lists to ensure you get the most lead time to take advantage of their opportunities.

Mar 2025



CONTACT US

Phone 352.901.0829

Website www.BushnellStation.com

- WHAT'S INCLUDED?
- All Seminars
- Museum Access
 TerminaLA & B Exhibits
 - 1/2 Mile Train Ride

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- LGB Museum 1000+ Cars & Engines on Display
- G Scale Garden Railroad (Florida Garden RR Society)
- G Scale Exhibit Hall
- O Scale Exhibit & Switching Layout On30 "Muskrat Ramble" N, S, HO Scale Layouts

BENEFITING

The Gulf Coast & Central Florida Railroad Museum Inc.

A 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation

MARKLIN OPEN HOUSE

February 22, 2025 | 10 AM - 4 PM Bushnell Station 6470 West CR 476, Bushnell, Florida 33513

SPECIAL OPEN HOUSE PRICING

□ \$6.00 for everyone

Children under 4 – Free

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- All Seminars
- Museum Access
- Terminal A & B Exhibits
- 1/2 Mile Train Ride

Phone: 352.901.0829 Cell/Text: 352.250.0905 Email: BushnellStation@gmail.com Website: www.BushnellStation.com

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

Georgia Garden Railway Society

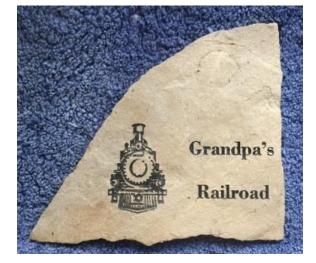
Mar 2025

New Rocks for the New Year ??



Custom carved stonework for your RR., Garden stones, Pet Memorials. Deep etching provides years of enjoyment. Let everyone who visits your railway know you are a proud Georgia Garden Railway Society Member.

sticksnstones@ weegrr.com











Georgia Garden Railway Society

Mar 2025





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

This is a photo of my outdoor G scale garden railroad which I need to sell. I've had it here for 25 years plus the time I had it in Pennsylvania. It's too much for me to manage, especially since spending two hours to trim it gives me knee problems. The sale includes one each of Bachmann's geared locomotives, one Bachmann 2-2-0 steamer, on LGB 2-6-0 steamer, one Hartland mu car plus all track, signal, people, buildings and power packs, including handheld transmitter and matching receiver. If you need more photos let me know. Also would appreciate it if you could spread the word. Thanks. Dennis Lynch

lynch.dm@icloud.com

Yard Hostler

Can't wait for the March meeting. Gonna be so good eatin' Italian, theming Irish, in an American location, where the food may be delivered by who knows what ethnic server.... The Great Melting Pot of American Delights. And there will be more delights headed our way this year. Our 1:1 trips are in conjunction with the BTO, so you want to join that group and get on board. With EnterTRAINment coming our way, Chattanooga will probably be on next year's travel agenda. Right now Linda and I have to start getting ready for our trip to Alaska and cruise. Cuisine, Cruise, seafood, trains, snacks, excursions, and did I mention the feeding opportunities? You know about those cruise lines don't you? Hope its not too cold in May/June.

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

