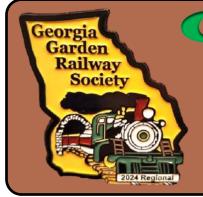
#### **Georgia Garden Railway Society**

**Apr 2025** 



# RS Gazett April, 2025

#### Official Newsletter of the Georgia Garden Railway

#### Ted's Tickets



I am writing this after just returning from the Piedmont Division NMRA Train Show at Cartersville. I was pleased with the amount of G scale at the show. James & Sally Bando set up a nice large display near the entrance. Lori Thomas had her Paw Patrol loop set up in the vendor hall. Lesley Bundy had a beautiful Easter loop running in the hallway. Melovetrains and Train Installations were there selling as were a few others. It was great to see a large crowd of model railroaders enjoying

Continued page 2

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### Which Conventions will You Attend This Year?

There are a slew of conventions where you can enjoy trains, Model Railroaders, Layouts, and, oh yes, some Vendor tables with all the latest, greatest, and probably some old relics you simply cannot do without.

Will we see you at any of them?

**National Garden Railway Conventions:** Jun 18 - Jun 22, 2025 - Sacramento 2026 - (?) May 31 to June 5, 2027 - Nashville

**BTO** Conventions: JULY 13-18, 2025 - Helen, Georgia 2026 - Springfield, Massachusetts 2027 - Frankenmuth, Michigan

**NMRA** Conventions: July 14 - 19, 2025 - Novi, Michigan July 27 - August 2, 2026 - Chattanooga, TN



Multiple train shows, Regional and local club events will be held all around the country, so no matter where you are, when you are, something "Modelisious" will be happening somewhere near you. SEE PAGE 4 FOR MORE DETAILS!

## fake news hits garden railroading!

Rumors circulating in S. CA that NGRC 2025 will soon be cancelled are FALSE. Registrations are on target for 4 months out. Hosts - Sacramento Valley GRS - are all in and making excellent progress.

On the opposite side of the coin, the talked about 2026 NGRC in MA is NOT happening. Nashville 2027 will be the 41st NGRC!

That's 2 years away, so let's get ourselves to Sacramento in June.



#### Page 1

#### **Georgia Garden Railway Society**

#### Ted's Ticket Cont.

enjoying the show and to see G scale promoted. Hopefully, GGRS will return with a table next year.

Next month our group will be in Chatsworth, Georgia for the Model Train Expo. This is a great day to socialize with other club members, talk trains with visitors, eat a BBQ sandwich, and enjoy the great outdoors on a spring day. The old railroad hotel, filled with period antiques and furnishings, will be open for visits as well. Be sure to set aside time to visit that building if you have not already done so.

I have been lining up layout tours, train rides, and helping in a few other ways with the Big Train Operators Club 2025 Convention that is coming to Helen, Georgia in July. I am excited about this national event right in our own back yard, so to speak. I know you must be a BTO member to attend, but I hope many of you will join up and join me in July in Helen. This will be a very fun time for all involved.

I will close this session by letting you know that I enjoy not only G scale trains, but real ones too! That said, I will be working as a car host in car #3 for Day Out with Thomas at the Tennessee Valley Railroad in Chattanooga the first weekend of his visit in April. This is amazing, especially, to see all the kids and their excitement. If you have never experienced him, come check Thomas out and be sure to find me and say 'Hello'.

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
Chatsworth Depot Model Train Expo	Chatsworth, GA	Apr 12, 2025	Always a good time.
GGRS Club Mtg	Grant & Jenny Sweer Huntsville, AL	May 17, 2025	Previous dates had conflicts
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

#### **April Georgia Garden Railway Society Meeting**

The Georgia Garden Railway Society Express will chug into the Chatsworth, Georgia Train Depot at 9:30am on Saturday, April 12. The depot is located at 219 North First Avenue in downtown Chatsworth. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the Model Train Expo where model train groups from North Georgia will share their model railroads including a couple of ride on experiences for the kids (and adults as well). The GGRS will set up two or three loops of track outdoors on the concrete pad beside the depot to run trains throughout the day for visitors to the depot. The depot, built in 1905 by the L&N Railroad, a 1960 M-5 SCL Caboose, and the 1909 Wright Hotel will all be open for tours.

GGRS members will set up displays starting about 9:30. Lunch will consist of pulled pork BBQ sandwiches, chips, dessert, and a variety of soft drinks. Lunch will be served at 11:00. The public is invited to come out starting at noon. The event will conclude at 4:00pm.

#### **Piedmont NMRA Show in Cartersville**









### Georgia Garden Railway Society

Apr 2025

#### 2025 G-scale Train Shows and Events

National Garden Railway Convention Dates: May 31 – June 5, 2027 Location: Nashville, TN
Frains)
Edition (G-Scale Only)
"Look at that train go! Isn't that more fun than being in a gang?"
"I thought we talked about this last week, Grandpa the
Decimators are a soccer team."

Married To The Sea.com

joyreactor.com

#### **Membership Report**

#### Membership News – April 2025

Although Georgia Garden Railway Society did not have a train display or a membership table at the Piedmont Division Model Train Show in Carterville, this March, Roy Williamson did attend and he talked to and welcomed the following new member. Thanks Roy!

#### Welcome to -

Eric Nix from Lawrenceville, GA

Thank you to Tom & Eileen Conrad, Ken Elliott & Ruth Pearl, Scott & Milinda Griggs (Trainz) for paying their 2025 dues and to J. B. Holiday who paid for his 2025, 2026, and 2027 dues since the last newsletter.

# 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 12! \*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!

\* **Kid Powered Railcars**-Kids power their own railcar up and down the track in front of depot.

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

**\*Raffle**-drawing for model train set and \$100 cash at 4pm.

\*Free admission to trains (donations appreciated)

#### April 12, 2025 12 Noon-4pm 219 North First Ave., Chatsworth, Georgia

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

#### **Georgia Garden Railway Society**

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#### **Open House at Bushnell Station**

February 22 was a fantastic day at Bushnell Station, a model railroad museum located in Bushnell, Florida, as they hosted their 2025 Open House. Gale Cousins, General Manager for LGB North America, gave a seminar in history of Marklin and their acquisition of LGB, and shared as well, that some new products were coming from LGB in the near future.



He highlighted the Shay's coming in September and let us know they were almost sold out (so if you want one, you best preorder soon!). Rick Sinclair, LGB Digital



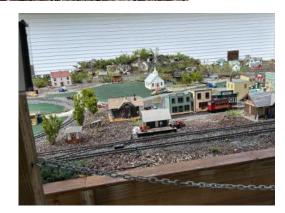
Specialist, demonstrated the DCC line of controllers available from LGB and also shared that more control and options were coming soon from LGB.





The museum had trains of all scales operating. A nice garden railroad was running outside (operating on LGB's DCC system) and an AMAZING G Scale railroad was running indoors. A newly acquired G Scale layout from an Atlanta Children's hospital, with push button operation for kids, was also open in a newly finished display building.





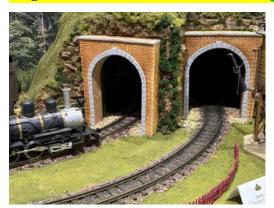
Rides on a 7 given on the setting surro event was w missed out, to most Saturda in Bushnell,

Rides on a 7/8 gauge train were given on the large outdoor park like setting surrounding the museum. The event was well attended. If you missed out, the museum is open most Saturdays and is just off I-75 in Bushnell, Florida.



## Georgia Garden Railway Society

Apr 2025



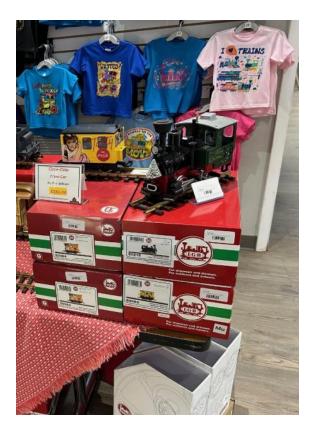












#### **GGRS 1:1 Scale Train Rides!**

There will be THREE GGRS 1:1 Scale Train Rides for 2025! Come ride a real train with other garden railroaders. The first ride is coming quickly on the Tennessee Valley Railroad's Copper Hill Special set for Saturday, May 31. This ride will be diesel powered and follow the Hiawassee River from Delano, Tennessee to Copper Hill, Tennessee. This train excursion will take you to the apex of

the renowned Hiwassee Loop. Witness this incredible railway marvel near Farner, Tennessee, where the tracks intriguingly cross over themselves as they spiral up the mountain. Notably, there are only six such loops in North America, with this one being the sole example east of the Mississippi River. Copper Hill is located on the Georgia state line (it actually runs right through the middle of town). We will be seated in the traditional coach seats. The train will have about a 90-minute layover so you can eat lunch and explore the town before the return trip. The train leaves at 9:30 and returns at 5:30. Tickets cost \$75.00 for adults and \$45.00 for children under 13 years old and must be ordered in advance (tickets are non-refundable, but can be transferred to another person if someone else wants to go in your place). Mail a check, made out to Ted Yarbrough, to Ted Yarbrough, 212 Love Drive, Chatsworth, GA 30705 by APRIL 27 to secure your seat on the Copper Hill Special.

The second & third rides will be with the BTO Convention in



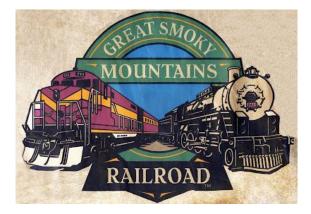
Helen, Georgia this July. To help support the BTO, we will be riding on their scheduled train trips. The first BTO trip will be Monday, July 14 on the Blue Ridge Scenic Railway. This trip will carry passengers from the city of Blue Ridge, Georgia to the border town of McCaysville, Georgia. This is on the old L&N Hook and Eye Line. You will have about 90 minutes for lunch at the



Bura-Bura Riverfront Restaurant (included in your ticket) and exploring the state line town of Copper Hill, Tennessee. The train will then return to Blue Ridge. Bus transportation is included and there will be DOOR PRIZES on the trip back to Helen. I will ride this trip because I will be taking my great nephews and it is more child appropriate in that it is a shorter bus ride and train ride.

The second BTO train ride will be on Thursday, July 17 on the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad Nantahala Trip. This ride will be in crown class and include a box lunch. This is a very scenic ride to the Nantahala Outdoor Center and return. Steam power is anticipated for this train ride. Bus transportation is included with DOOR PRIZES on the

return trip. This is one of my favorite train rides in the Eastern US. In order to ride with the BTO, you must be a member of their group and register for the convention (order tickets on the convention registration form at www.bigtrainoperator.com).





#### 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





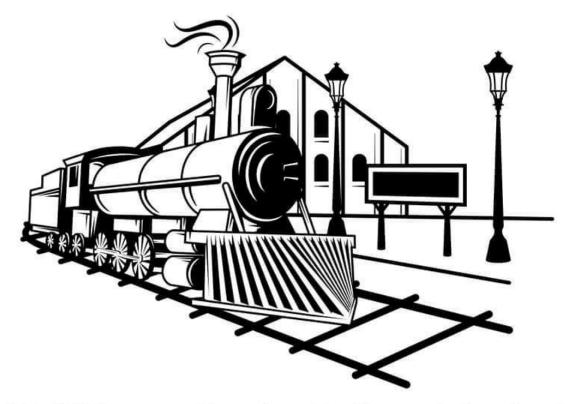


Georgia Garden Railway Society

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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
- 4
- 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.







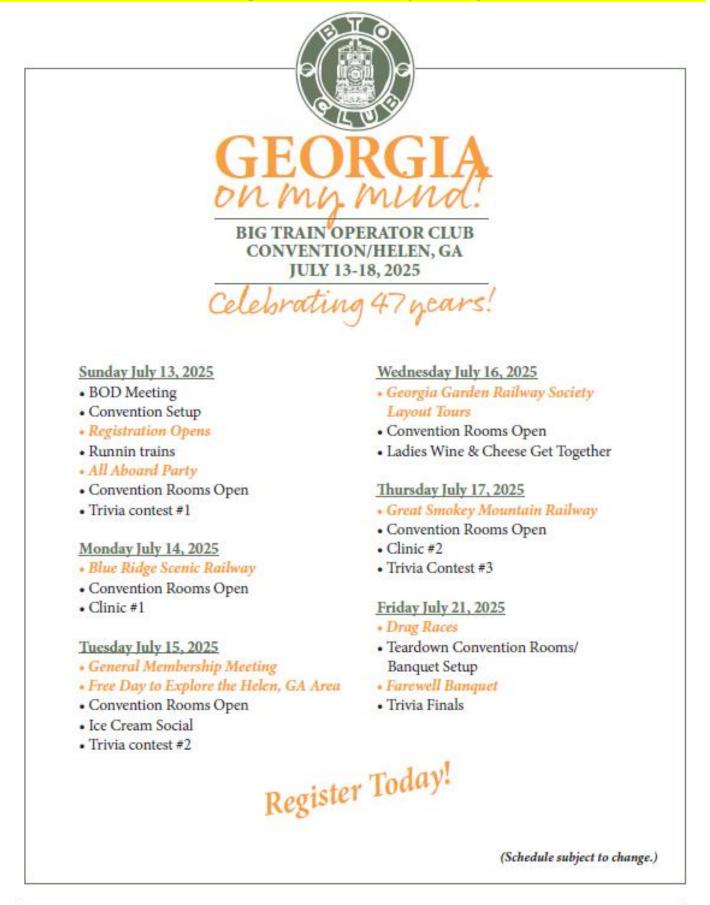




#### Apr 2025

#### **Georgia Garden Railway Society**

**Apr 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 - Turkey, Ham, Chicken Salad, Veggie 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



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** 

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# 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

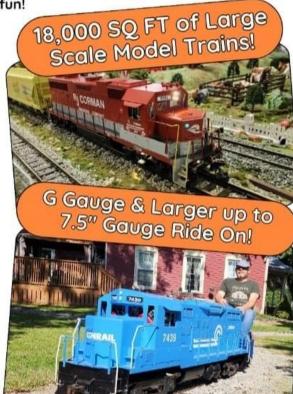
# Interested in being a Vendor or Exhibitor?

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



Contact Us

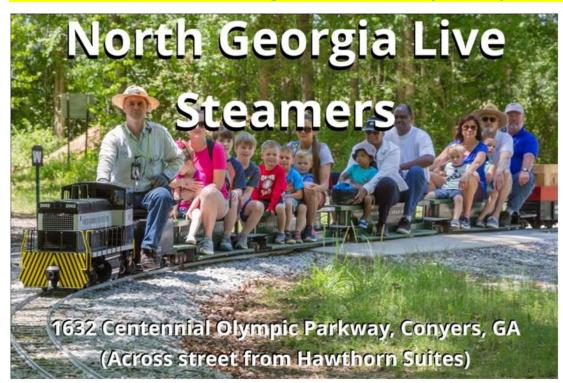
(330) 779-1982
 showinfo@greatlakestrainexpo.com





#### **Georgia Garden Railway Society**

Apr 2025



### Come ride trains on Saturday, April 5th from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.



https://www.northgeorgialivesteamers.org/ secretary?ct=t% 28Come+Ride+Trains+with+North+Georg ia+Live+Steamers%29

We are in need of engineers and conductors. No experience need just an interest in having fun. For more information contact <u>Robby Mossman</u> for additional details.



#### **Georgia Garden Railway Society**

#### Apr 2025

#### **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/





#### **Georgia Garden Railway Society**

Apr 2025

#### Win Gasperson

win@iFeis.net 843-697-8500 My name is Win Gasperson and I was given your information by Don Nute. I live in Athens and have a large collection of Garden Scale trains. I am currently starting to offload some of them as I had my own collection and recently inherited a collection of equal size.

I have a Circus train that does not include an engine, but has 14 cars which include three coaches and freight and flat cars carrying wagons and equipment. The set would also include a couple of extra circus wagons. All are in boxes and in new condition.

Circus Train rolling stock. No Engine. 14 cars total - 3 coaches, Freight, Flat Cars with wagons. Two extra wagons. All are in boxes and in new condition.

Can be viewed in person in Athens, GA

Selling as a set for \$1000



















#### **Georgia Garden Railway Society**

#### Apr 2025

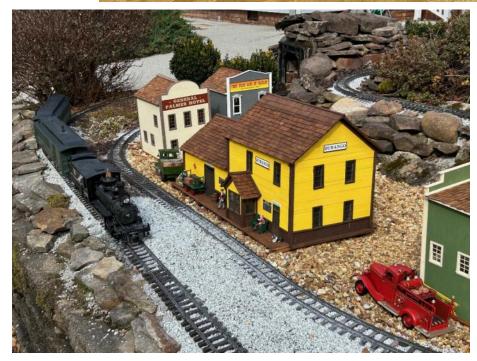


Anyone with one of these G scale locomotives they would like to donate to the Chatsworth Depot?

We would love to have a small G scale CSX or L&N diesel loco to run on the museum's layout.

Contact Ted Yarbrough.





Thinning my collection.

LGB 2-6-0 Mogul with box (locomotive does not fit back in box due to snow plow, spark arrestor, and tender modifications). Smoke, lights, sound, and locomotive work properly (but it is old). \$350.00.

Aristo-Craft 2-8-0 C-16. No box. Has QSI digital sound card. Smoke, lights, sound, and loco work properly. Little use. \$300.00. Can pick up at any future meeting or in Chatsworth.

Large train depot. Basswood construction with cedar shingles. Plastic doors and windows. Depot is not waterproofed (would need heavy coat of polyurethane for continued outdoor use). Details on depot walls and platform are not included. \$250.00 Ted Yarbrough

yarbrought@charter.net

#### **Georgia Garden Railway Society**

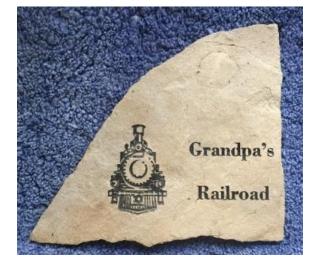
Apr 2025

#### 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

#### **Apr 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

So the March meeting will be displayed for all to enjoy in the May Edition. Yeah, I know. The March Issue comes out in February. The April at the end of March. The meeting is after the deadline for submissions, so it comes out in the next issue, which is......May! My how the time flies. We should be having a lot of fun imported into GA, so get out and enjoy.

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

eldecker@windstream.net

