



# GGRS Gazette

## April, 2021

Official Newsletter of the Georgia Garden Railway Society

### President's Message

*Terry Manning Proclaimed  
President for Life !*



After a brief pause, Terry Manning has agreed to return to the office of president. "I don't know what made me leave. I have been so, ....empty - feeling, when not in total control," said Terry. "Its good to be back! I'll never leave again. EVER !!!!"

*Don't be an April Fool.* Become this year's president. I can assure you we are not fooling around this time"  
[Editor]

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## Great Train Robberies #2

#2 in a series about Great train robberies appearing in the next couple of issues. Which will be your favorite? Will you stage a scene on your railroad this year?

### The Wilcox Train Robbery



In the late 19th century, Robert LeRoy Parker - better known as "Butch Cassidy" - led a gang of train robbers who went by the colorful nickname "*The Wild Bunch.*" This band of robbers were responsible for several railway heists, but perhaps none was as famous as 1899's Wilcox Train Robbery in Wyoming.

The raid began in the early morning of June 2, when several Wild Bunch members flagged down the first part of a two-section train operated by the Union Pacific Railroad. After the locomotive came to a halt, two masked men boarded it and ordered the engineer to cross a nearby bridge. As soon as the last car cleared the gap, the bandits dynamited the bridge, stranding the approaching second train on the other side.

Having isolated the train's first section, the thieves ordered the clerks in the express and mail cars to open their doors. When the men refused, the robbers simply blew the doors off with sticks of dynamite, pushed aside the dazed inhabitants, and then used even more explosives to crack open a safe. In total, the gang made off with around \$30,000 in unsigned banknotes before disappearing into the mountains.

## The Wilcox Train Robbery - Cont.



Pressures of being pursued by law enforcement, notably the Pinkerton Detective Agency, forced him to flee the country. He fled with his accomplice Harry Alonzo Longabaugh, known as the "Sundance Kid", and Longabaugh's Girl friend Etta Place. The trio traveled first to Argentina and then to Bolivia, where Parker and Longabaugh are believed to have been killed in a shootout with the Bolivian Army in November 1908; the exact circumstances of their fate continue to be disputed.

Their exploits as railway bandits would later help inspire the action packed 1903 silent film "The Great Train Robbery."

The American Silent Western film was made by Edwin S. Porter for the Edison Manufacturing Company. It follows a gang of outlaws who hold up and rob a steam locomotive at a station in the American West, flee across mountainous terrain, and are finally defeated by a posse of locals. Some scenes were photographed at the Edison studio in New York, and others were done in New Jersey along the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad.



The 1969 American film starred Paul Newman as Butch Cassidy, and Robert Redford as the "Sundance Kid". They are on the run from a crack US posse after a string of train robberies. The second is memorable as they use too much dynamite and everything is blown to heck. The pair and Sundance's lover, Etta Place (Katharine Ross), flee to Bolivia in search of a more successful criminal career.

In 2003, the film was selected for the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant." The American Film Institute ranked Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid as the 73rd - greatest American film on its "AFI's 100 Years...100 Movies (10th Anniversary Edition)" list. Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid were ranked 20th-greatest heroes on "AFI's 100 Years...100 Heroes & Villains", and Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid was selected by the American Film Institute as the 7th - greatest Western of all time in the AFI's 10 Top 10 list in 2008.



*"Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head"* is a song written by Burt Bacharach and Hal David for the 1969 film. The single by B. J. Thomas reached No. 1 on charts in the United States and Canada.



### Track Warrants

Anyone Interested in revealing what you've been doing on your RR during the pandemic? The Yarbrough's are. Ted and Deborah have graciously volunteered to Host the May GGRS Club Meeting on Saturday May 29th. This Meeting will coincide with their being a Pre-Tour Host for the National Garden Railway Convention on the same day.

You may be contemplating which month you want to host a GGRS Club Meeting. Well, are you planning to be a Post-Tour Host for the National Garden Railway Convention? Then you will have already done the hard work getting your railroad in tip top show condition, making June 12th, 19th or 26th a great time to host a GGRS Club Meeting.

If you want to be a 2021 Club Meeting host and share your outdoor or indoor layout or need club assistance with planning a new railroad, just pick the month you want to reserve and let me know.

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770-851-9462

Event	Location	Date	Status
GGRS May Meeting	Ted Yarbrough 212 Love Dr Chatsworth, GA	May 29, 2021	In Planning Stage
Pre-convention Layout / Yard Sale	Dave Bennett 506 Creekridge Ct. Woodstock, GA	May 29, 2021 10-4	In Planning Stage
36th National Garden Railway Convention	Gaylord Opryland Resort, Nashville, TN	May 30 - Jun. 5, 2021	Ngrc2020 .com
GGRS June Meeting	Peter & Lori Thomas 422 Cothran Rd Dawsonville, GA	Jun. 19 2021	In Planning Stage
GGRS July Meeting	Terry & Ginny Manning	July ? 2021	In Planning Stage
The Model Train Expo	Chatsworth Depot	Sep. 11, 2021	Outdoor Display
Model Train Show 2021	Clarence Brown Convention Center, Cartersville, GA	Oct 2 - 3, 2021	On a siding but still on schedule
GGRS Member Hosted Meeting ??	Your Layout ??	2021	Plan Now!

# GGRS 1:1 Train Ride ?



## 2021 Train Ride NEWS FLASH!

In early March, 2021, The Azalea Sprinter, a brand-new tourist train was announced in South Georgia. The train is operated by CaterParrott Railnet, a Georgia based company created in 2005 by Jamie Cater and Christopher Parrott. CaterParrott Railnet is a regional rail carrier serving four rail lines and eleven counties in Georgia.

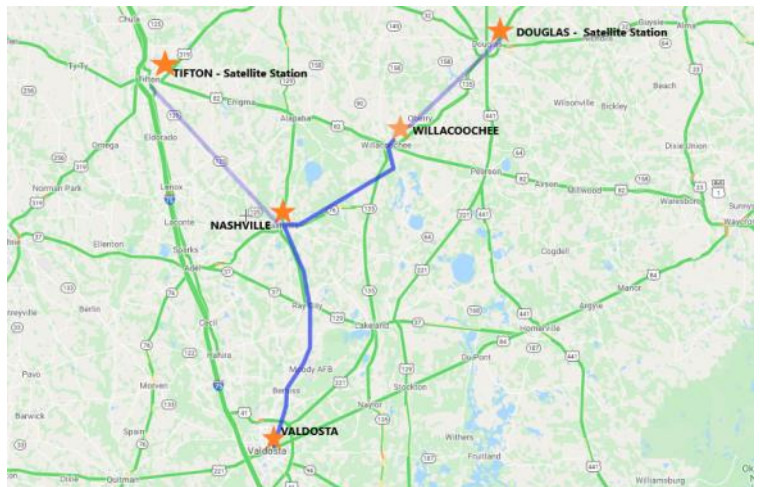
According to their web page: <https://azaleasprinter.com/> The Azalea Sprinter is South Georgia's premier excursion train – traveling along the historic Georgia & Florida Railroad. All trains depart from Nashville and travel either to Willacoochee, Moody or Valdosta. Join us for a memorable rail journey through beautiful rural Georgia, through a series of short roundtrip excursions, with three different rail car seating options available. Standard coach seating in a stainless-steel passenger car. A second stainless-steel car is set up for tables where passengers enjoy complimentary water and light snacks; additionally, you will have access to other concessions and the souvenir stand inside your car. Also available, a round trip ride in a caboose, where riders enjoy complementary soda, water, coffee and light snacks. This option offers a private railcar experience with WiFi and TV... all with great views of scenic South Georgia.

Updated info from Trains.com Newswire - A new Georgia excursion train will debut this weekend with sold-out trips. WALB-TV reports the Azalea Sprinter, operating by CaterParrott Railnet on the Georgia & Florida Railroad, sold out its first three trips in less than two days. The train will depart from Nashville, Ga., and offer three trips on three routes: A 34-mile, 2.5-hour round trip to Willacoochee, Ga.; a 50-mile, 3.5-hour round trip to Valdosta, Ga.; and a short "Pizza Express" lunch train to Moody Air Force Base. Trains offer coach, table car, and caboose seating.

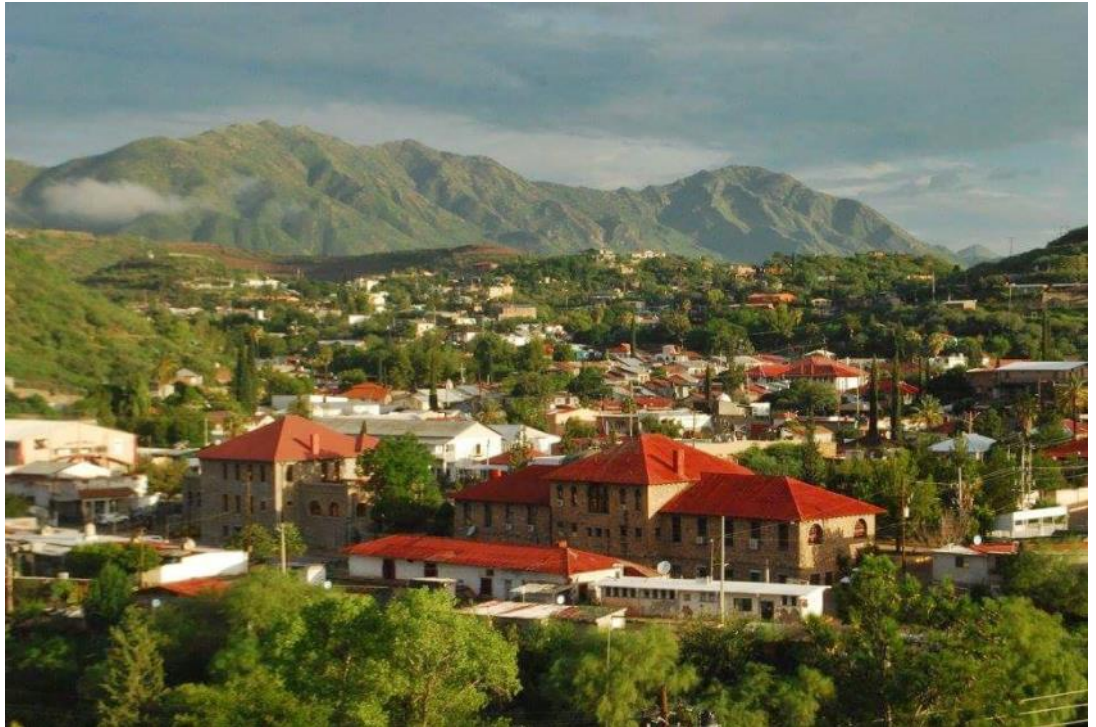
Your 1:1 scale ride coordinator just happened to be in Nashville for the March 13 inaugural trip and spoke with Mr. Cater and Mr. Parrott. Negotiations are underway to make arrangements for the GGRS members to ride an excursion at some time (likely July 2021). The good news for the Azalea Sprinter is that many of the trips for this spring are already sold out or near sold out. There will be two rides possible, as the Georgia Agrarama, about 30 minutes north of Nashville, Georgia has an 0-4-0 oil fired Vulcan locomotive that runs on Saturdays 9-4. [ See pictures below] We can do both!

Stay tuned to the newsletter and email for ticket info. Once the date and cost is finalized with the railroad, we will need to act quickly. I feel good about supporting this new tourist train in South Georgia!

### Ted Yarbrough



**Nacozari is a small mining town surrounded by the Nacozari Municipality in the northeast of the Mexican state of Sonora. Nacozari began with the discovery**



**of mines in 1660. The first settlement was called Nuestra Señora del Rosario de Nacozari and was founded as part of the network of Royal Mines by Jesuit Missionary Gilles de Fiodermon.**

**Mouthful huh?**

**The municipal seat was first called Placeritos de Nacozari but changed its name to Nacozari de García in 1907? Why?**

**Answer on page 15.**

## **Mississippi Coast Model Railroad Museum**

*by John Lees*

The Mississippi Coast Model Railroad Museum is located in Gulfport, MS. The Williamson's, Marge and I visited this museum recently. They are a complete model railroad display from indoor to riding trains outside. They have about two dozen complete railroad layouts of extremely high quality. This place is a "must see" for anyone who appreciates fine displays. They also say that their Lego display is the biggest outside Lego Land. Here are some photos we took.









## *NMRA SER News*

The SER and Palmetto Division are moving forward with plans for Swamp Rabbit Express, the 2021 Convention to be held in Greenville, SC June 10-13, 2021. Check out the Convention website - [www.swamprabbitexpress.org](http://www.swamprabbitexpress.org) Dave Winans, Convention co-chair



### **Santa Clara 2021 NMRA National**

### **Convention and National Train Show cancelled ! Stay tuned for online options and opportunities**

The NMRA has cancelled the NMRA 2021 Santa Clara "Rails By the Bay" Convention, scheduled for the Santa Clara Marriott Hotel & Conference Center on July 4-11, 2021.

We did not reach this decision lightly but felt it was the best for anyone who would want to attend given the current status of the pandemic, disbursement of vaccine, and the fact that people were waiting to see what would happen before they registered. Moreover, local prototype facilities were not open and, understandably, home owners were reluctant to allow people in their homes.

However, St. Louis will host the 2022 convention and it is expected that all contracts for that convention will be signed shortly, if not by the time you read this. See you all in St. Louis **August 7 - 14, 2022.**



## Highballing down the Track



Hindsight is...

# 2021!

## 2021 National Garden Railroad Convention Update May 30 to June 5, 2021 Nashville, TN

Nashville Clinic Schedule (So far, it appears the schedule is the same each day.)

The National Garden Railway Convention will be held in Nashville, TN May 30 through June 5, 2021 hosted by the Nashville Garden Railway Society (NGRS). As we all know, running a convention takes a multitude of hands.

NGRS has contacted Ted Yarborough to see if any GGRS members are interested in opening their layouts for either Pre or Post tours for those traveling through Georgia on their way to and from Nashville. If you're interested in sharing your layout with other model railroading enthusiasts as a Pre or Post Tour Host, please contact Steven Jungst by February 28<sup>th</sup>.

*"Nashville was very supportive with Pre and Post Hosting for our 2018 convention. Please consider Hosting a Pre or Post Tour of your Garden Railroad so we can return the favor." - Ted Yarborough*

**Ted will have his layout open on Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup> for our member meeting and for Pre-convention travelers. Come and visit.**

**Dave Bennett will also be having a pre-convention open house and train "yard sale" from 10-4 on Saturday May 29<sup>th</sup> (same day as Ted's meeting). Drop by both on your way to TN, or even if you are not attending the Nashville Convention.**

**Steven Jungst [smjungst@comcast.net](mailto:smjungst@comcast.net) 615-674-8281**

**OFFICIAL OPRYLAND RESORT LINK for room reservations.**

**<https://book.passkey.com/gt/217980430?gtid=9033269c7385dfceb1039d25aa68e7f5>**

NOTE: There is a highly limited number of rooms available before and after the convention dates due to large events in Nashville. The following dates are on a first come- first served basis... May 30<sup>th</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup>, and June 7<sup>th</sup>. Once they are gone, they're gone.

In order to stay at the resort before or after the convention you may need to call Opryland and the **convention rate is likely not available**. This is beyond our control and normal rates would be up to the Opryland Resort.



# Gandy Dancers

Highlighting Members and their work



Our railway community is called Mount Jefferson -- a combination of my home town of West Jefferson and Ginny's home town of Mount Gilead - Terry Manning



As the spring slowly moves in on us, not everything green in the garden is local flora. Russ Bundy caught these two railfans observing his layout.



John Lees caught this sign on his trip to the museum in Mississippi.





## RPO

### Railroad Post Office

## New Garden Railroad Digital Newsletter

As most of you know, Garden Railway's Magazine published its last issue in the fall of 2020. The garden railroad world was left without a centralized publication. Social media groups on Facebook and a few other web sites attracted and serve many garden railroaders but there was still a need for info at one central location.

GR News was established several months ago to fill the void created by the demise of Garden Railways. Articles for GR News are obtained from different club newsletters, compiled, and shared with others. *[Several have been taken from our GGRS Gazette]* A very important factor is that the GR news is managed by garden railroaders. Our hobby's suppliers currently finance GR News by paying for advertising, making it free to garden railroaders through our clubs. The garden Railroading community has welcomed GR news: as over 100 clubs have joined our community. The website has had more than 8,000 unique visitors. 6,500 of those are from North America. To date, 40 suppliers have advertised in GR News. We will be producing 6 editions a year coming out in February, April, June, August, October & December.

The GGRS editor has been sending in newsletters and at the same time sending links out to our members for the new GR News publication. By checking out the link, you will find a few articles from our club published for all the garden railroad world to see!

Ted Yarbrough is the Southeast Representative for GR News. If you have suggestions, ideas, or questions regarding GR News, please contact him. A sample issue and two other issues have been published to date, with the next issue coming mid-April.

## 2021 Presents Both Challenges and Opportunities

As 2020 fades into the past, the new year opens with a renewed spirit filled with chances for return to the "normal" routine. This includes Train shows! Currently GGRS has been invited to participate as exhibitors for two events. The Model Train Expo is scheduled for September 11th at the Chatsworth Depot and the NMRA Model Train Show in Cartersville October 2nd and 3rd. Although this might seem far off as we're just moving into Spring, both events are asking for confirmation GGRS is interested in attending and we've been asked to supply the name of a Point of Contact for the club. At this time the position of Layout/Event Coordinator is an open position.

If we want to properly support these shows, there is a lot to do in order to get ready. Our last display was at Trains, Trains, Trains in January 2019. All of the club assets have been stored in the trailer since. Since that time arrangements have been made to inspect and service the trailer to ensure it is roadworthy when need. Scheduling is now being done electronically. Lots of other little things are also being taken care of, but we lack on key component for success. We need someone to coordinate all the activities so we're sure nothing gets missed. We need a Layout/Event Coordinator. One central point of contact that can, well, coordinate the many activities necessary to successfully support these shows.

If you can help, please contact any of the Board Members as soon as possible. At this time we need someone available to coordinate with the host event coordinators and reassure them that we are indeed interested in attending their event as exhibitors. They're already asking and we don't want to miss an opportunity. Welcome 2021. Lest have some fun.

*James J. (Russ) Hill*



# 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.)



1359 4th Avenue  
Auburn, GA 30011

Hours of Operation

Thursday through Saturday - 11am-6pm  
Sunday through Wednesday - Closed



## No fooling around...get a new shirt

Embroidery Design and Gifts  
Georgia Garden Railway Society  
Club Shirts

Each Shirt will have the club logo on included in the price.



**Engineer's Wish List**

Sally Bando | 404.550.4816 | sbandogeorgia@comcast.net

Machine embroidery designs & themes on shirts and gifts. Prices upon request. Company and group projects welcome.

Contact Sally for other designs

Men's	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	Price
Grey Pocket t-shirt							\$10.00
Carbon or Burgundy Polo							\$18.00
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



Check out our online store and updated website at [www.traininstallations.com](http://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.



**Train Installations, LLC**

Woodstock, GA 30188

770-597-0038

[dave@traininstallations.com](mailto:dave@traininstallations.com)

**Thanks - Dave 770-597-0038**

## April showers don't hurt Rocks



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## Own a piece of Authentic Railroad History

When you think of games and railroads, the first to come to mind is probably Parker Bros.' Monopoly. Created during the Depression, the game's 4 railroads are centered, 1 on each side of the board.

B & O, Pennsylvania, Reading, and Short Line. Now you can own a framed set of the real railroad stocks depicted in the game, along with a history of each railroad and the story behind the game itself.

Enclosed in the frame are Authentic stock certificates, corresponding Monopoly Deeds, and a brief history of each. The 31" x 25" framed set is perfect for your game or train room. And you can have all of this for only \$100.

Contact Emil Decker, [eldecker@windstream.net](mailto:eldecker@windstream.net)



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## Nacozari de García



Placeritos de Nacozari changed its name to Nacozari de García to honor the railroader Jesús García Corona.

On 7 November 1907, a train was stopped in town. As he was resting, he saw that hay on the roof of a car containing dynamite had blazed up. The cause of the fire was from the locomotive's smokebox, which was failing and sparks were flying out the smokestack. The wind blew them to the dynamite cars. García drove the train in reverse downhill at full-steam out of the town for six kilometers before the dynamite exploded, killing him and sparing the population of the mining town.



Besides Nacozari, there are monuments to Jesús García in many other Mexican cities and towns. November 7 is the "Day of the Railroader" in Mexico. All except essential employees of the

National Railways of Mexico get the day off. Many streets in Mexico are named Jesús García or the Héroe de Nacozari. Poems and songs have been written about him, and the accident. Sort of the Mexican counterpart to the U.S.'s Casey Jones I think.

*I miss the old days of railway when the engineer had plenty of esteem.*



## Yard Hostler

OK. I know when to accept defeat. I don't have to storm the capital or cancel anyone. You will all remain on the mailing list.

Let's see if we can find a subject folks will respond to for our Gandy Dancer section. For next month, send in a photo of your favorite person, figure, character, whatever you want to call the scale inhabitant of your railroad empire. Maybe its an engineer, the hobo, the town floozie, or a well known cinema hero or heroine. Maybe you have some aliens of your own like Russ does.....

STILL NOBODY Gussed what Dennis Bass' project was, so no prize awarded. Gee, I never had it so hard to give away something.

Have you voted for your preferred 1:1 for this year? Did you check out the new line in this issue? There will be more forthcoming from Ted in the next issue.

For the next Great Train Robbery we will cross the ocean. Not on a train nor on the Titanic. These robbers made away with a European Gold shipment.

As always, looking for a good article from our readers.

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