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# 64th Atlanta Train Show on January 20th 2024

GGRS was well represented. We counted 31 GGRS members at the train show as vendors, exhibitors, club promoters and bargain hunters.

One of our newest members, Sloan, was able to run his MTH Big Boy for the first time ever on the Fotschky's fabulous layout.



All in attendance seemed to have a great time selling, socializing and tracking down that something special for their layout.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Terry's Train Tidbits



It was good to see so many garden railroaders in January at the Model Train Show in Duluth and the "Trains, Trains, Trains" event in Kennesaw.

GGRS had excellent volunteer support (thanks to all of you!) at both activities and we recruited several new member families (welcome!).

February is active with planning the next event, our layout at the Piedmont Division Train Show, as well as the Southeast

Regional G-Scale Get-Together for August where we will be calling for many volunteers.

Final plans for the August convention will soon be released, so look for details in our next newsletter.

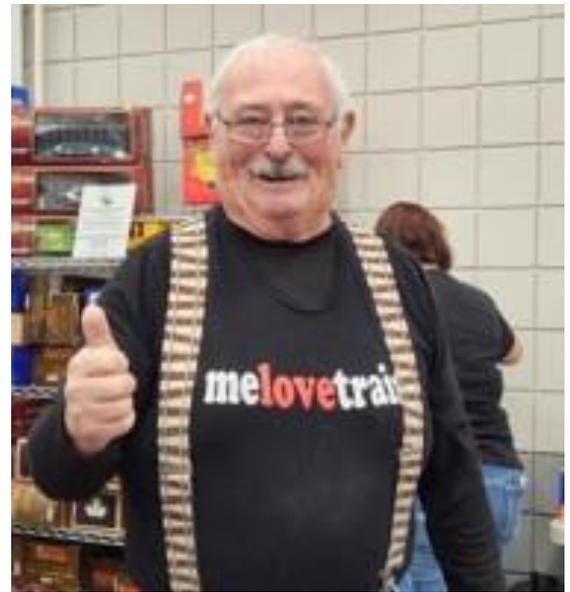
xx

*Terry Manning, President*



### In This Edition

- Terry's Train Tidbits.....1*
- 64th Atlanta Train Show .....1*
- Track Warrants.....5*
- At the Depots.....6*
- Train Expo Chatsworth.....10*
- Trains, Trains, Trains.....11*
- 2024 G-Scale Southern Regional Get Together.....13*
- Highballing Down the Track...18*
- Membership.....24*
- Rip Track.....25*
- Plea for Help.....Clinics.....28*
- GR News.....29*
- Yard Hostler.....29*



Mom, 3 daughters and 3 grandchildren took a break from shopping to watch the G-scale trains!



Doing what he loves.....Happy man - wheeling, dealing and socializing!



Motley Crew !





**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 Club Mtg	Lou Sommers, Adrian, GA Savannah Area	Mar 23-24, 2024	Several members in the area
Chatsworth Depot & Club Meeting	Chatsworth Depot, Chatsworth, GA	Apr 13, 2024	Club Layout
GGRS Club Mtg	Ron & Kristy Humphrey, Cumming, GA	May 11, 2024	
Midwest Garden Railroad Gathering		May 30 - Jun 2, 2024	
South East Regional NMRA Convention	Decatur, AL	Jun 20 - 23, 2024	
GGRS Club Mtg	Open for your application to host	June & July	
G-Scale Southern Regional Get Together	Gas South Convention Center, Duluth, GA + GGRS Territory	Aug 23 - 25, 2024	Planning in Progress
GGRS Club Mtg	Dan and Carol Steidle, Cumming, GA	Sep 14, 2024	Planning in Progress
GGRS Club Mtg	Elliot & Katherine Stotler, Highlands, NC	Oct 12, 2024	Planning in Progress



Home [2024 Midwest Gathering](#) About Us Future Events See Member Railroads ▾ Resources Contact Us

## 2024 Midwest Garden Railroad Gathering

### May 30, 31 & June 1, 2, 2024

Hosted by MO-KAN Garden Railroaders.

- Garden Railroad Layouts
- Social Gatherings
- Workshops and Round Tables
- Vendors and Swap Shop

<https://mokangardenrailroaders.org/2024-midwest-gathering>

We are certain you will be pleased with the accommodations at the Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center. It is nestled within the Falls of Crackerneck Creek at a convenient location with nearby restaurants and access to activities in the KC area. A block of rooms are set aside for this event with an affordable room rate.

- Popular g-scale vendors are planning to be at the Gathering including RLD Hobbies and Reindeer Pass.
- Several garden railroad layouts are being scheduled to tour; an exact number and previews will be given in further updates.
- Workshops will include topics to enhance your railroad. Two of the programs are Power and Control for Garden Railroading and EPL Integration. Others will be announced soon.
- Round table groups are being set up to give you the opportunity to discuss your specific needs and learn from others.
- The early registration with ice cream will be at a garden railroad layout location and promises to be a lot of fun.
- A comprehensive listing of things to do and see in the KC area is being compiled.
- We will be communicating more details on the scope of this Gathering.



## At the Depots

## 2024 GGRS March Club Meeting

Our first Club Meeting of 2024 has us traveling to Southeast Georgia for a self-guided tour of four GGRS layouts. Our Club Meeting, luncheon and layout tour will be hosted by the Hydes on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Our entrée of pulled pork will be provide by members Jim and Janet Morris of Savannah. Lunch will be served at 12 noon. As usual, attending Club Members will provide their delicious sides and desserts to round out our meal. The Dixon's, Schrock's and Sommer's will be open at various times Friday March 22 through Sunday March 24. See specific dates and time below.

We're working on setting up a group dinner reservation for Friday night March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 P.M. at Loves Seafood & Steaks where we will be ordering off the menu.

**LOVE'S SEAFOOD & STEAKS**  
**6817 Chief of Love Road**  
**Savannah, GA 31419**

### SOUTHEAST TOUR OF LAYOUTS

**HYDE** – The Hyde's have not one but two indoor G-scale layouts. The upstairs layout is in a space approximately 25' X 40' with 800 feet of track. There are 8 track powered locos running simultaneously among 100 scratch built and or kit bashed buildings. There are several themed areas including Mt Rushmore, boy scout camp, Halloween block party, Christmas, the river front, drive in theater, baseball park, museum, Thomas the tank and more. The animation will bring a smile to your face. The second layout is 12'x 24' located in Richard's ground level work shop.

**Richard & Beverly Hyde**  
**810 Robin Drive**  
**Pooler, GA 31322**  
**912-748-7553**



**Dixon:** We will have our layout, caboose and home Melovetrainz shop open. The Southern X567 bay window caboose is on the rail, but still under restoration. We will be open Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. If you're running late or early, give me a call and we'll be there to welcome you. We're really looking forward to everyone coming to visit.

**Kris & Charlotte Dixon**  
214 Old Eastman Road  
Cochran, GA 31014  
478-484-3845



**Schrock:** Mary and I want to welcome all of you the weekend of March 22. We will be open Friday the 22, 10am to 5pm. and Saturday the 23rd 10am until 5pm. I don't have to set up, so if you are coming through at some other time, just let us know.

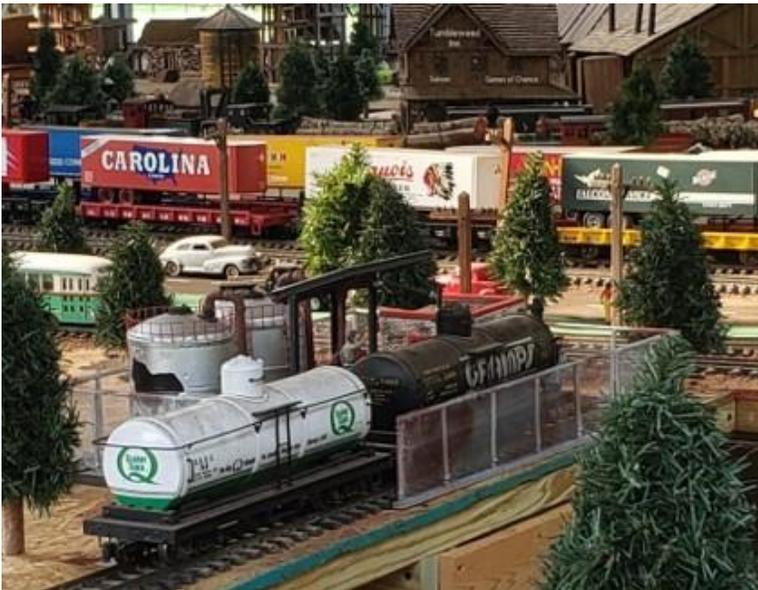
Our railroad (Bulldog Junction) is a covered 40'x50' pavilion. It has 900' of track, 200 trees, 500 figures, 150 buildings, and 250 diecast cars.

Our dioramas are of the 1950's and the 1890s. The 50's buildings are modeled after our home towns in Idaho. All buildings are scratch built. Some are from actual buildings elsewhere.

I have two trolley lines running in the 50's. There are a lot of other improvements since the Club's last visit. Please come and enjoy.

Sincerely,

**Joe & Mary Schrock**  
546 Cauley Road East  
Dublin, GA 31027  
775-772-3367

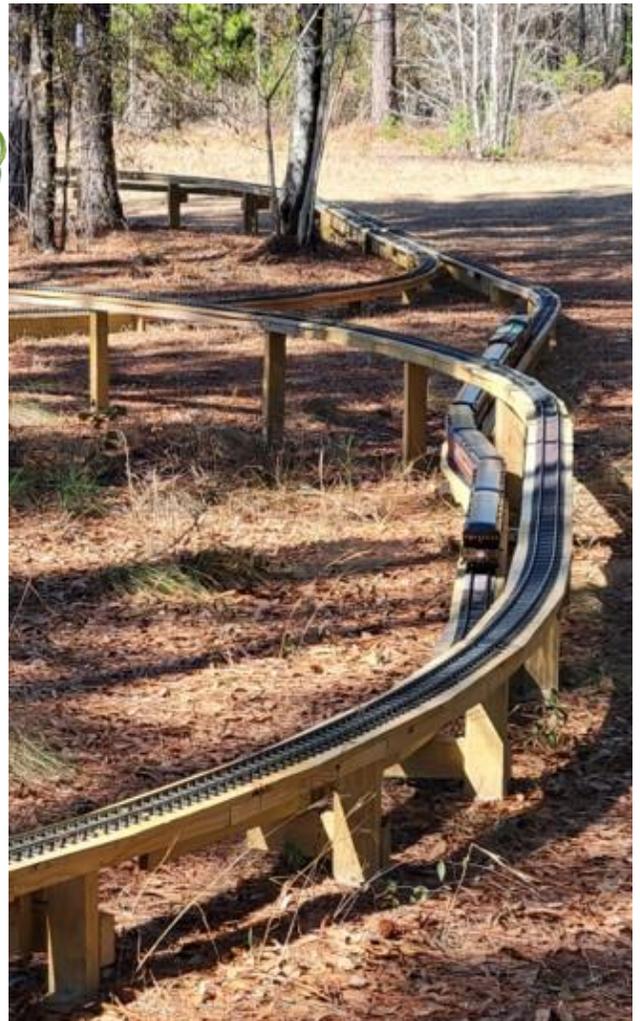


**Sommers:** Our layout has 513 feet on the main line and 126 ft under storage. The entire layout is elevated and is all dead rail.

Our layout will be open Friday from noon till 5pm; Saturday and Sunday 10:30 – 4:00.

You are welcome to bring anything you want to run.

**Lou & Cynthia Sommer**  
**19 Kersey Road**  
**Adria, GA 31002**  
**912-660-1675**



### **HOTELS:**

If you're going to overnight in the Savannah area, I suggest you book your lodging early, as Savannah is a popular weekend destination. While staying in Savannah puts you where the action is, it is also the most expensive choice. You can find less expensive options near the airport and in the nearby towns of Pooler and Richmond Hill.

### **OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST WHILE IN SAVANNAH:**

Georgia State Railroad Museum  
 Savannah Botanical Gardens  
 Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens  
 Savannah Belles Ferry  
 A Signup Genius will be out at the beginning of March.

# 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 13!*

**\*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!

**\* Vendors** include model trains of all scales.

**\*Tours** Caboose tours available 12-5 and Hotel tours 1-4.

**\*Raffle**-drawing for model train set at 4pm.

**\*Free admission** to trains (donations appreciated)



**April 13, 2024 12 Noon-5pm**  
**219 North First Ave., Chatsworth, Georgia**

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



### Trains, Trains, Trains



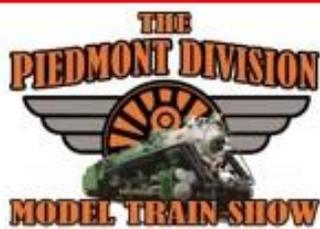


## Piedmont Division Model Train Show

The Georgia Garden Railway Society will host a layout on Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 to 5:00, and Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 to 4:00, at the **Piedmont Division Model Train Show**. The show will be held at the Clarence Brown Conference Center, 5450 Georgia Highway 20, Cartersville, Georgia. The show features 8 operating layouts of various model train scales, a White Elephant sale, raffle layout, vendors, and a train set give - away. Admission is \$10 (kids under 10 are free); however, for \$25 you can be admitted on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. for early bird opportunities.

The GGRS layout will feature a Wild West theme. Volunteers to help manage our layout are asked to identify a specific 2-hour period and day on which they can assist. Of course, volunteering for more than one period is welcome. Secretary Pam Williamson will send out a list of time slots for your consideration in signing up to allow us to plan our manpower (and womanpower) effectively. Volunteers simply enlighten visitors to our layout of the thrills of G - Scale Railroading and ensure trains stay on track.

Slots for hosting our membership table and registering participants for the 2024 G-Scale Southeast Regional Get-Together have been filled, but additional help is always welcome.



**Saturday March 9, 2024 10-5**  
**Sunday March 10, 2024 10-4**  
 The Clarence Brown Conference Center  
 5450 GA Hwy 20, Cartersville, GA

8 Operating Layouts, 170 Vendor Tables, "White Elephant", Raffle Layout, WBHF Radio and Train Set Give a way.

### Early Bird Tickets are available this year!!!

Early Bird tickets are \$25 to admit you at 9am on March 9<sup>th</sup> for the Model Train Enthusiasts to get first picks at the vendors!!!

Admission is just \$10 for regular show hours,  
 Kids 9 and under are FREE  
 \$25 for Early Bird Entry, 9-10 AM on Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Purchase tickets on line!!!

<http://ThePiedmontDivisionModelTrainShow.com>



[www.Piedmont-Div.org](http://www.Piedmont-Div.org)

## Early Registration Encouraged

Since the GGRS sponsored 2024 G-Scale Southeast Regional Get-Together is a 1-time event, we cannot easily estimate the number of garden railroaders planning to attend. Several hundred are certainly expected, but 1500 is possible. Regardless, the Friday night dinner on August 23<sup>rd</sup> is limited to the first 100 paid registrants presently. The low cost of \$25 may encourage higher participation than is usual for an eating event. Participation in the GGRS White Elephant Sale is also limited in number of spaces, as are the number of convention or get-together cars that will be sold.

Thus, we encourage GGRS families to register as early as possible. A registration form is in this issue of the newsletter and is posted on our website. Early registration will also help the planning committee fund their areas of responsibility more economically and perhaps allow expanded funding in such areas as door prizes or planning additional events such as clinics based on attendance figures.

## Invitation to the 2024 G-Scale Southeast Regional Get-Together Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> – Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>

During most years since 1985, there has been a G-Scale garden railroading national convention hosted annually by different large scale model train clubs across the country even though there is no actual national garden railroading organization. The host organization selected at the previous convention becomes the national organization in the year they are the host. Unfortunately, no national convention will be hosted for 2024 since no one volunteered to host it. However, smaller regional get-togethers have been encouraged to take place. As such, the Georgia Garden Railway Society (GGRS) elected to partner with the multi-scale 65<sup>th</sup> Atlanta Model Train Show to be held at the Gas South Convention Center, 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth, Georgia 30097, on Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, to host a G-Scale Southeast Regional Get-Together that will feature:

Up to 10 self-guided metro-Atlanta area garden railway tours daily on Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. Also some out-of-area garden railway tours off selected major Interstates on Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>;

Tours of the new warehouse facility for nationally known model train retailer TRAINZ on Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>;

An optional indoor Get - Together Dinner on Friday evening of August 23<sup>rd</sup> featuring door prizes; suggestions for area dining, entertainment, and train venues; and a preview of train show vendors;

An enhanced G-scale vendor presence at the 65<sup>th</sup> Atlanta Model Train Show in Duluth, Georgia, on Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, including a multi-table White Elephant Sale by GGRS members; and G - scale oriented "how-to" and railroad history clinics.

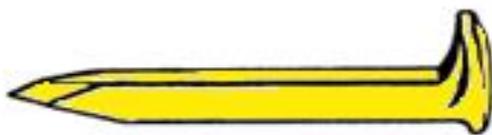
Since the model train show is a fixed venue, GGRS arranged with the closest motel, Embassy Suites, to block off a number of rooms for get-together attendees and to allow those attending our G-scale activities to pick up get-together packages at Embassy Suites. A link to special rates will be posted at our website: [www.ggrs.info](http://www.ggrs.info).

Registration Package will include driving instructions and a schedule of garden railroad yard tours hosted by members of the Georgia Garden Railway Society (9:00-4:00 Friday and Sunday), a \$1 discount coupon for each family member toward admission to the 65<sup>th</sup> Atlanta Model Train Show on August 24<sup>th</sup> (parking is a separate fee), 2 get-together pins for a family registration, driving instructions and any passes you may have purchased to the Friday evening get-together dinner, get-together car if ordered, a list of G-scale vendors at the train show and other information. The Registration Package will be available at the host hotel lobby of Embassy Suites, 2029 Satellite Blvd., Duluth, GA 30097, one block from the convention center on Thursday evening from 4:00-7:00 and Friday morning 7:00-9:00. Late arrivals can also obtain the package at the dinner Friday evening or at the GGRS Membership Table at the convention center on Saturday.

Dinner Get-Together on Friday night will be a picnic buffet at the nearby **Gwinnett County Bethesda Park Senior Center** at 225 Bethesda Church Road, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30046, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. and will feature door prizes, raffles, tips on additional area shopping and train venues, and more. There is no entrance or parking fee at the dinner site.

There will be no bus services provided for this or other Get - Together venues.

A get-together car is available. Details are forthcoming. Registrants will be updated on this and other get - together news on a monthly basis.



## 2024 G-Scale Southeast Regional Get - Together Registration Form August 23 – 25, 2024

(Please Print Legibly)

Badge Name #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Badge Name #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Child Badge #3: \_\_\_\_\_

Child Badge #4: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone Contact Numbers (Up to 2): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address To Receive Updated Information: \_\_\_\_\_

If arriving by automobile on Thursday, please note the major Interstate highway you will use in Georgia so that we may schedule additional yard layout tours along your route on Thursday. \_\_\_\_\_

An advance electronic version of the yard tour information will be available 2 weeks prior to the get-together for an additional fee of \$10. Please circle one: ( **Yes** / **No** )

Select from the following Registration Fees:

**Early Registration (Before June 1<sup>st</sup>): Individual \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ Family (2 Adults & 2 Children) \$35 \_\_\_\_\_**

**Late Registration (After May 31<sup>st</sup>): Individual \$40 \_\_\_\_\_ Family (2 Adults & 2 Children) \$50 \_\_\_\_\_**

Will you be lodging at the Embassy Suites? ( **Yes** / **No** )Dinner Reservation on Friday Evening: **\$25 Each Person** \_\_\_\_\_

A Get-together Car (*USA Trains L&N Event Car*) will be available to the first 100 ordering one or more at the cost of \$70 each. This purchase is being arranged through the Georgia Garden Railway Society on behalf of a private individual. Details and a photo rendering will be posted on the GGRS website in the near future.

Number of Get-together Cars Ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The Georgia Garden Railway Society hosts numerous activities during the year. To receive our monthly newsletter and invitations to 1:1 rail excursions, warm weather pot-luck luncheon yard tours, train show activity, swap meets, access to our member-only website section, and future conventions, you may wish to obtain a family membership for 2024 for only \$25: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make payment by check in full to “GGRS” mailed to:**

**Terry Manning  
1201 Timber Glen Ct SW  
Lilburn, GA 30047**



**For GGRS Use:**      Date Received \_\_\_\_\_      Check # \_\_\_\_\_      Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration: \$ \_\_\_\_\_      E-Tour Info: \$ \_\_\_\_\_      Dinner: \$ \_\_\_\_\_      Car: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Membership: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

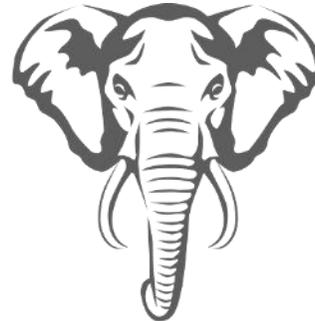
## Bargains in the Garden - White Elephant Sale

**GGRS members interested in selling any of their G-gauge accessories** can reserve 1 of 12 2-foot by 3-foot tabletop areas as part of a planned 3-table vendor display hosted by the Georgia Garden Railway Society on **Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>**, at the **65<sup>th</sup> Atlanta Model Train Show** as part of the **2024 G-Scale Southeast Regional Get-Together**. The member need not be in attendance to use one of the spaces or to set up their items, but they must be a GGRS member registered for the convention get-together. All items must be clearly marked with a sales tag that cites their last name, short item description, and selling price so any volunteer manning the tables can sell an item without reference to the owner. Items must be functional and undamaged or marked "As Is" with a description of any defect. Items without this information will be removed from the sales tables. Any item sold at a lower price will be marked as such since the sales tag and all sales proceeds will be combined together. Each member will be returned their items and sales proceeds after the show. Unsold items may be placed for sale at the next one or two scheduled GGRS meetings if desired. Unsold items not retrieved within 60 days become the property of GGRS.

Members are **limited to one such slot per family** and must reserve the slot prior to July 14 (the day after our July membership meeting) with a \$20 donation to "GGRS" given to White Elephant Coordinator Terry Manning ([temanning@aol.com](mailto:temanning@aol.com)). A space can be "built up" by stacking items such as boxed rolling stock or using a crate or something similar to create a raised shelf and may also use the floor space beneath their slot (thus doubling their available space). Unsold spaces will be used to enlarge paid spaces.

Participation is on a paid first-come basis to the first 12 participants. Items for sale need not be provided at time of payment reservation. Payment will not be included as a line item on the registration form but can be included in the same mailing as your registration form with the following information. Sale items can be left with the coordinator as agreed upon between them.

### I will participate in this proposal:



Name:

---

Payment: Enclosed Non-refundable \$20 \_\_\_\_\_ (Space guaranteed); or,

\$20 will be mailed or paid in person before July 14 \_\_\_\_\_ (Space limited to first 12 families)

I want unsold items at the end of the train show to be placed on sale at future GGRS meetings. Yes / No

I volunteer to help manage the 3 tables at the train show (3 persons per shift) for the following 2-hour shift(s) (mark all that apply):

8:00-10:00 \_\_\_\_\_ 10:00-12:00 \_\_\_\_\_ 12:00-2:00 \_\_\_\_\_ 2:00-4:00 \_\_\_\_\_ 4:00-6:00 \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly Describe Items To Be Displayed: \_\_\_\_\_

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**2024 G-Scale Southern Regional Get Together** by Ted Yarborough

The Georgia Garden Railway Society (GGRS) is proud to announce they will host the **2024 G-Scale Southern Regional Get Together** August 23-25, 2024. The event will be centered around the 65<sup>th</sup> Atlanta Model Train Show held at the Gas South Convention Center, formerly the Infinite Energy Center, Duluth, GA on Saturday, August 24. Layout tours of GGRS garden railroads will be held on Friday, August 23 and Sunday, August 25. A special gathering for a meal will be held Saturday night August 24th at the Southeastern Railway Museum, Duluth, GA.

The Embassy Suites, Duluth, GA will be headquarters for the event. Attendees will be able to pick up their registration packet at the hotel Thursday evening, August 22 or Friday morning, August 23. The lobby will be available for socializing Thursday and Friday evenings as well. **The special rate of \$189 for a King Studio or \$199 for a Queen Suite**, both are a short 10-minute walk to train show hall and include breakfast, just follow the link on the GGRS web page to get rooms at the **2024 G-Scale Regional Get Together rates**. Limited rooms available.

Garden railroad layout tours will be held on Friday and Sunday. GGRS members east and north of Atlanta will generally open on Friday and those south and west of Atlanta will open on Sunday. A few exceptions will be noted in the tour booklet. The tour booklet will be in your registration bag, along with a special commemorative pin. The booklet will have a brief description, physical GPS address, phone number, and photo of the garden railroads open. There are currently 12 GGRS layouts plus a Train Installations shop and TRAINZ new warehouse to tour ([we're still recruiting](#)). All tours will be self-guided.

The Saturday train show, Atlanta's Oldest and Largest Model Train and Railroadiana Show, is an all-scale train show which will serve as the Vendor Hall. There will be operating layouts as well as some well-known Atlanta vendors including TRAINZ, Split Jaw, Train Installations and MELOVESTRAINS plus many other G-scale vendors. If you would like to become a vendor or exhibitor, contact Charlie Miller at [RRSHOWS@AOL.COM](mailto:RRSHOWS@AOL.COM) or 703-536-2954. There is a \$9.00 additional admission to the show (with discount coupon provided in registration bag).

Optional activities in Atlanta for Saturday include Stone Mountain Park with a 5-mile diesel train ride around the mountain, The Southern Museum featuring the 4-4-0 Civil War locomotive 'General', and the Southeastern Railway Museum with lots of locomotives and rolling stock on display. Take time after enjoying the train show to enjoy these train themed activities.

If there is enough interest, there will also be a separate purchase collectible G Scale train car. It will be a unique L & N freight car from USA Trains. Advance orders will be taken at the registration page and cars can be picked up at registration or the show.

To have the registration bags with name tags, pins, and tour booklets ready for August, we are asking for advance registration for the event. **The registration will be \$25.00 per individual registration and \$35.00 per family (up to two adults and two children) registration prior to JUNE 1, 2024. Late registration, after JUNE 1, will increase to \$40.00 per individual and \$50.00 per family registration.** A registration form for online registration, payable with Zelle, can be found at [www.ggrs.info](http://www.ggrs.info) follow the link to 2024 Southern Regional G-Scale Get Together, or you may print the registration form and mail it along with your check to the address on the form. Registration includes name badge(s), tour booklet, self-guided layout tours, collector's pin, discount ticket for Saturday's show admission, and an opportunity to purchase special USA Trains event car and Gathering Meal tickets.

**Register now and save the dates of August 23-25, 2024!**

**See you in Atlanta! Early Registration Encouraged**

**Since the GGRS sponsored 2024 G-Scale Southeast Regional Get-Together is a 1-time event, we cannot easily estimate the number of garden railroaders planning to attend. Several hundred are certainly expected, but 1500 is possible. Regardless, the Friday night dinner on August 23rd is limited to the first 100 paid registrants presently. The low cost of \$25 may encourage higher participation than is usual for an eating event. Participation in the GGRS White Elephant Sale is also limited in its number of spaces, as are the number of convention or get-together cars that will be sold.**

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## Highballing down the Track

The Sacramento Garden Railway Society will be hosting the 2025 Convention.

If California hasn't slid off into the Pacific by then, maybe you will join them. It will be the 40th Anniversary, (with a few years missing).

While there is not much online at this time, you can put your email into the mix and receive updates as the time draws closer. Go to:

<https://ngrc2025.org/>

and provide your email address, then check back often as info gets added.



**It's Official! NMRA - National Model Railroad Association President Gordy Robinson and Shane Wilson President of ScaleTrains announced January 27 at the Amherst Railway Society Railroad Hobby Show that the Southeastern Region will host the 2026 NMRA National Convention and National Train Show in Chattanooga, Tennessee July 27 - August 2, 2026.**



# 2024 Midwest Region Large Scale Train Show



**SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH 10AM-4PM**

RAFFLES EVERY HOUR!

**LIVE STEAM MODULE SETUP**

CLINICS ON BATTERY POWER & WEATHERING BASICS

**EXTENDED SHOW HOURS**

MARCH  
30TH

**FREE  
ADMISSION**

ENTERTAINMENT  
JUNCTION  
7379 SQUIRE CT.  
WEST CHESTER, OH  
45069

VENDOR  
TABLES \$15  
CONTACT GCGRS@FUSE.NET  
OR DAVE TAYLOR 859-750-1617

## Hang on to your Uterus!

People were afraid that the speed of trains, a whopping 50 mph, could cause a Uterus to detach from a woman.

**True or false?**

**Answer on page 28.**



**The site for the August 23rd Get-Together Dinner** has been reserved at the Gwinnett County Bethesda Senior Center for \$261 for 4 hours (5-9:00). The room easily seats 100 people and will support displays, etc. and is supported by a large kitchen area. Parking is free. Ginny paid for the space until some money comes in with reservations. Pam and Ginny are working up some food estimates, Roy is working up as many as 60 G-scale vendor tables, and Ted is working up the layout tour schedule. I am working up a White Elephant Sale of 3+ tables for GGRS members.

We encourage GGRS members to register for the Get-Together as soon as they can so we will have some funds to work with.

# LGB / MARKLIN Open House

**WHEN**

**March 2, 2024  
10 am – 4 pm**



**Bushnell Station**

6470 West CR 476, Bushnell, Florida 33513

**FEATURING** - Marklin & LGB Seminars on  
DCC Operations and New Item Releases

<b>LGB</b>	<b>G scale trains</b>
<b>Marklin &amp; Trix</b>	<b>H0 scale trains</b>
<b>MiniTrix</b>	<b>N scale trains</b>
<b>Marklin</b>	<b>Z scale trains</b>

Presented by: Gale Cousins – General Manger of  
North America Operations for LGB / Marklin  
Stacy Cousins – Marketing and Club Membership  
& Rick Sinclair - Digital Specialist for Marklin / LGB

**PHONE:** 352.901.0829  
**Website:** [www.BushnellStation.com](http://www.BushnellStation.com)

## SPECIAL OPEN HOUSE PRICING

**\$6.00 for everyone  
Under age 4 - Free**

## INCLUDED

All Access Pass to:  
All Seminars  
Museum  
Terminal A - Exhibits  
Terminal B - Exhibits  
Train Ride – ½ mile

## HIGHLIGHTS

LGB Museum – 1000 cars  
and engines on display  
G Scale Garden Railroad  
(Florida Garden RR Society)  
G Scale Exhibit Hall  
O Scale Exhibit  
O Scale Switching Layout  
On30 “Muskrat Ramble”  
N Scale Layout  
S Scale Layout  
H0 Scale Layout

**\*\*Used items for sale by  
train clubs throughout  
the state**

## BENEFITING

The Gulf Coast and Central  
Florida Railroad Museum Inc.  
A 501 (c)(3) non-profit  
corporation



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

*Craig M. Hurst, President*

**Gulf Coast and Central Florida Railroad Museum Inc. at “Bushnell Station”  
Authorized LGB/Marklin/Pola Factory Direct Dealer**

6470 WC 476 (County Road 476 West) Bushnell, FL 33513

Phone: 352.901.0829 Cell/Text: 352.250.0905

Email: [BushnellStation@gmail.com](mailto:BushnellStation@gmail.com)

Website: [www.BushnellStation.com](http://www.BushnellStation.com)



### Join Us In Beautiful Decatur, Alabama for River Rails 2024

The Mid-South division invites you to join us in Decatur to enjoy clinics, model, prototype, and non-rail activities at the Southeastern Regional Convention, Thursday June 20<sup>th</sup> - Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024. The convention hotel is the DoubleTree by Hilton.

DoubleTree  
by Hilton Hotel  
Decatur Riverfront  
1101 6th Ave NE



### FIRE DAMAGES KITCHEN AND LOBBY OF POPULAR RESTAURANT & SMORGASBORD

Bird-in-Hand, PA, January 31, 2024 – Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant & Smorgasbord experienced a fire that damaged its kitchen and front lobby area.

Firefighters from Hand-in-Hand Fire Company and other neighboring companies were dispatched to the scene at 10:50 p.m. on Tuesday, January 30, and fought the blaze for about three hours.

“We are grateful for the rapid response from our local emergency services departments, and most grateful that no one was hurt,” said John E. Smucker, II, Bird-in-Hand’s president and chief executive officer. “Our fire protection system was a remarkable deterrent to contain greater damage.”

The restaurant is currently closed, and the cause of the fire and extent of the damage are being assessed.

The restaurant was closed for 10 days in December following a fire at the adjacent Bird-in-Hand Family Inn. Prior to the December 28 reopening, the restaurant’s structure, gas line and tanks, heating/ventilation/air conditioning, water and electrical systems passed extensive safety inspections. Our [Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant & Smorgasbord](#) is temporarily closed due to a fire that damaged the kitchen and front lobby area.

At this point, the cause of the fire is unknown.

#### Moving forward

We are committed to rebuilding and reopening, just as we have at the Family Inn. We hope to announce a Restaurant reopening date after we have assessed the extent of the damage. At this point, we are also evaluating when we can open our [2024 Stage season](#).

In the meantime, we are still serving guests at our [Bird-in-Hand Bakery & Cafe](#), which is operating on its normal schedule, as are the Family Inn and Artisan Village.

We are exploring ways to continue to serve our dining guests and to support the 95 restaurant employees who, through no fault of their own, were displaced by the fire. We have established a [GoFundMe](#) page where those who choose to can donate funds to help these employees replace lost wages and benefits during the time the restaurant is closed.

**We are grateful for your ongoing support, and for your thoughts, prayers and contributions at this difficult time.**

*The Smucker Family*



*Back On Track to*  
**Bird-in-Hand**  
 PENNSYLVANIA  
*Celebrating 46 Years!*  
**BIG TRAIN OPERATOR CLUB**  
**CONVENTION • JUNE 15-20, 2024**

- Thursday June 13, 2024 (or before)
- Committee Arrival
- Friday June 14, 2024
- Convention setup
- Cardinal, Robin and Eagle room setups
- Registration setup (Goody Bags)
- Track setup: Pond, Pavilion, Flower bed, Lobby Track
- BOD Meeting
- Saturday June 15, 2024
- Registration
- Runnin' Trains
- Ralph Wilcox All Aboard Party
- Sunday June 16, 2024

East Broad Top Excursion -  
<https://eastbroadtop.com/>

- Convention Rooms Open at night
- Clinic #1
- Runnin' Trains, Raffles, Trivia???
- Monday June 17, 2024
  - Hotel Day/Free Day
  - Runnin' Trains in the Daytime (need to set minimum run times for pond)
  - Convention Rooms Open at night
  - Runnin' Trains, Raffles, Trivia???
- Tuesday June 18, 2024  
 Colebrookdale Railroad Excursion -  
<https://www.colebrookdalerailroad.com/>
  - Olive Garden (or other Restaurant for lunch after train ride)
  - Convention Rooms Open at night
  - Clinic #2
  - Runnin' Trains, Raffles, Trivia???



- Wednesday June 19, 2024
  - General Membership meeting in the morning
  - Morning Runnin' Trains
  - Convention Rooms open
  - Show @ BIH Stage "The Confession" (Starts around 1pm)
  - Ladies Wine/Cheese
  - Convention Rooms Open at night
  - Clinic #3
  - Runnin' Trains, Raffles, Trivia???
- Thursday June 20,2024
  - Drag Races (sometime in the morning)
  - Take everything down, except for pond track, and vacate convention rooms
  - Trivia Finale during banquet
  - Farewell Banquet
- Friday June 21, 2024
  - Pond Runnin' Trains
  - Pond tear down



**The Confession... An Amish Love Story**



REGISTRATION FORM		BANK CARD SPECIAL	
<p>Back On Tracks Bird-in-Hand PENNSTATE AREA Celebrating 45 Years! BIG TRAIN OPERATORS CLUB 14800 SHELBY RD. #100 HARRISBURG, PA 17105-2634</p>		<p>Convention Registration: Includes FREE BTDC Golf Umbrella to the first 50 registered members only (and one attendee per registered member) Early Bird: Prior to April 15, 2024 Regular: After April 15, 2024</p>	
<p>Registration includes: BTDC Member &amp; all family members</p>		\$100	\$
		\$125	\$
Attendee Name: _____			
Events		Number of Attendees	Total
615 Ralph Wisco's All Aboard Party <small>Please refer to flyer for all registered attendees</small>	ADM \$ 35 CHSP \$ 25	_____	_____
616 East Broad Top Railroad <small>Includes lunch (bring a chair with your lunch) Please advise me separately for special attendee: <input type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/> Mom <input type="checkbox"/> Sister <input type="checkbox"/> Nephew</small>	ADM \$100 CHSP \$ 85	_____	_____
617 John Groat's Ice Cream Party (includes number advertising)		_____	FREE!
618 Conestoga Falls/Eggenstown Museum of Historic Vehicles/Lunch at Grand Restaurant <small>Includes lunch (bring chair and lunch) Lunchtime selection information will be available as part of your group bag</small>	ADM \$150 CHSP \$115	_____	_____
619 Bird-in-Hand Stage Musical "The Confession"  Ladies Wine & Cheese Get Together (includes number advertising)	ADM \$ 44 CHSP \$ 18	_____	_____
600 Farewell Banquet	ADM \$ 88 CHSP \$ 28	_____	_____
-Check 12 and under		Registration Total	\$ _____
<p><small>HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED... Make reservations directly with the Bird in Hand Family Inn. Call (800) 527-2575 and request BTDC rate. The room rate is \$143/night +tax for single or double occupancy. \$244.99/night +tax for triple occupancy and \$307.99/night +tax for quad occupancy. The choice of Standard (2 people) or Deluxe (3 King) are available. All night meals 2 breakfast complimentary tickets. Children of 4-17 years of age add \$12.50 for occupancy. Please make your reservation now... rooms are limited! See reverse for additional information. PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SIDES.</small></p>			

BTO - Big Train Operators registration form now available:

<https://bigtrainoperator.com/WhatsNew/pdfs/2024%20conv%20registration%20form.pdf>



### Membership Report

February 2024

I'm so happy to report that many of you have paid your 2024 dues and we look forward to seeing you many times this coming year. Thank you!

Since my last report in January, there have been two train events where we have recruited some of the following new members. PLEASE WELCOME these new members:

**Pete & Trish Hartes from Rome**

**Joe & Holly Ruff from Atlanta**

**Steve Debling from Athens**

**RJ Deberg (rejoining) from Cumming**

**Jason & Dana Suttan from Cumming**

**Peter & Margie Olsen from Marietta**

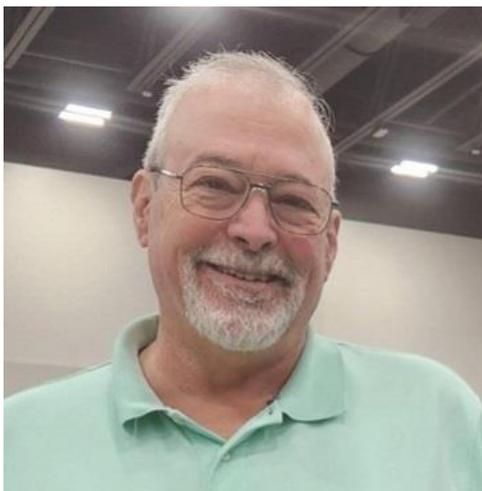
Those of you that have not paid your dues will be hearing from me one more time because I feel that you simply have forgotten to pay and you need a final reminder. This will give you your last chance to be included to in the updated 2024 Directory and to continue to receive your newsletter and emails of upcoming events. So please send your \$25 check made out to "GGRS" to:

**Ginny Manning  
1201 Timber Glen Court  
Lilburn, GA 30047**

**Thank you,  
Ginny, Membership  
Chair**

Steve Dibling of Athens, GA

Jason, Dana, & Aiden Sutton of Cumming, GA



Trish & Pete Hartes of Rome, GA



Holly, Ryan, & Joe Ruff of Atlanta, GA

# 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

Every era, every scale!  
**Trainz.com**

Leaving the hobby? **Sellmytrains.com**

Men's	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	Price
							\$10.00
							\$20.00
							\$20.00
							\$22.00
							\$22.00
Name on Men's Shirt (Specify Name)							\$5.00

Ladies	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	Price
							\$10.00
							\$20.00
							\$22.00
Name on Ladies shirt (Specify Name)							\$5.00



**Construction season is coming.  
Order your dream bridge soon!**

Our Aluminum Bridges are Strong, Light and incredibly Durable, and start at only \$169.

Use code **SPRINGBRIDGE24** for 10% off any bridge order



# Train Installations, LLC

Woodstock, GA 30188

770-597-0038

dave@traininstallations.com





## Now the bad news: To all concerned:

Unfortunately I have been informed by Children's Healthcare of Atlanta that they would like the train display (pictured below) removed within the next 2 weeks. Unless I find a way to reverse that decision I will need to find another home for it fast or it will be dismantled and disposed of. Any ideas you have for saving this G scale display that has been enjoyed by thousands of kids for almost 20 years are welcomed. See attached picture. Thanks in advance for your help!, Dave [770-597-0038](tel:770-597-0038)



## Two New Holiday Egg Haulers - Special Discount

Hello:

With more holidays just around the corner, we're thrilled to unveil our latest creations in our Special Edition Holiday G Scale EggHaulers!

These two new festive EggHaulers are designed to add an extra dash of joy to your holiday celebrations.

Whether you're hosting a cozy family gathering or a lively party with friends, our Holiday EggHaulers are sure to be the star of the show.

Each new special edition EggHauler features stunning holiday-themed designs that capture the spirit of the season.

These two new items are on sale, and there are limited quantities. Remember to check out all the different models.

Thank you for choosing EggHaulers to be a part of your holiday traditions. We can't wait to help you create unforgettable memories this season!

Warm regards,  
EggHaulers

**Visit Today** <https://egghaulers.com/>

**[March - St. Patrick's Day Gnome Gondola Monthly Special](#)**

**[April - Easter - Gondola White & Purple with Rabbit and Carrots \(1 unit\)](#)**



## Trains vs. Uterus ?

**True.** Many people were concerned about the dangers to the body when traveling at speeds of up to an eye-watering 50 miles per hour (80 kph).

As with almost any new technology, people come up with panicked theories about the effect it will have on society, morality, physical wellbeing, or any number of other things that Helen Lovejoy “won’t-somebody-please-think-of-the-children” types love to crusade against. So it was with the railway.

There were theories that the human body would simply melt away due to the sheer speed.

An even more alarming idea was that women’s uteruses would fly out of their bodies as they were accelerated to that speed. As I’m sure you know, this proved untrue, but in the hang-on-to-your-hats world of Victorian locomotion it was initially seen as a very real threat to health.

Another danger female travelers faced in the early years of rail travel was tunnels. Not the structures themselves, but the risk of dastardly men attempting to lean over and kiss them in the dark. Indeed, many guidebooks advised women to go so far as to put pins between their lips before entering a tunnel.

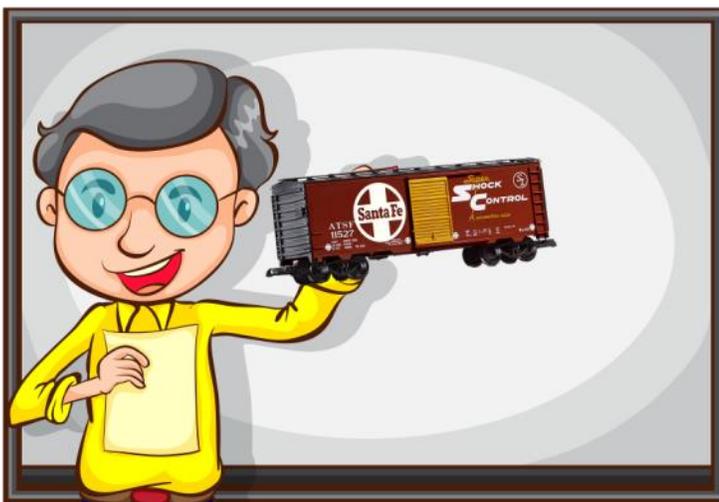


Image by brygfx</a> on Freepik.com

## Clinicians Needed!

We will rent a room at the Get - Together to use for hosting free clinics on G-Scale related subjects at the Train Show.

Attendance will be open to everyone. We can host recruitment types of clinics such as "**Starting a G-Scale Garden Railway**" or "**Questions and Answers about Building or Expanding a Garden Railway**" (looking at you David Bennett.....).

There are many other suitable subjects, like railroad history, gardening recommendations, infrastructure, buildings, ..... You name it, we can do it. Maybe from 5 - 7 clinics in the time frame we have..... **What do we not have?** A list of ready made clinics we can simply add water and stir.....

We Need Clinicians. Folks who will stand up for 45 minutes

and share their personal experiences, expertise, or blarney about railroading. Please consider taking on a spot in our Clinic Schedule. Contact: Emil Decker, [eldecker@windstream.net](mailto:eldecker@windstream.net), and let him know your availability. Don't be the one who misses out on the fun of sharing. Maybe we can fill up all the spots and turn some folks who think, "Oh, I can never have a garden railroad," into someone who says, "I am so excited! How can I join the Georgia Garden Railway Society and get started on my new railroad?"

Perhaps the BTO and/or Sacramento might want to pitch their next convention as one of the topics? **We need your input NOW !**

*I'm thinking of a history based clinic. "John Henry, Steel Driving Man. Fact or Fiction?" Should be a fun break from all the buying and selling during the Train Show. A chance to sit down and hear how I think John Henry was real; beat a steam-drill in Alabama, and NOT at the Big Bend Tunnel on the C & O !*



## GR News

Good Monday morning from a wet & wild California:

Thankfully the power stayed on in Marin County so, this morning, I was able to publish the NEW 1st 2024 issue of GR News, completed last night by Editor Carla Brand Breitner. Please let your members know that it is available.

The GR News website got a makeover. Short videos have been added. The image gallery includes 2023 top posts. Modified colors make navigation easier. Visit the refreshed website at:

<https://GRNews.org>

**There is lots of great content** - 2 featured railroads, a comprehensive listing of 2024 regional meets, building a Milwaukee Road Terminal Caboose, top 2023 videos and images, an Eggliner Pickup and much more.

## READER SURVEY

After 20 editions and thousands of volunteer hours producing and distributing them, we need 5 minutes of our readers' time.

We need readers to complete a simple on-line survey, which they can reach by clicking on the link below.

Even folk who don't normally 'do' surveys, please.

## GR News Reader Survey

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GRNews2024ReaderSurvey>

## Yard Hostler

Just in case you didn't notice, I sprinkled the March issue with Shamrocks. St. Paddy and Spring and time to prepare for some outdoor running. I hope you made good use of the winter and have some photos and tales of projects you completed during the cold times. Share them with us. I've been known to publish almost anything sent in, so .....SEND IT !!!

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

[eldecker@windstream.net](mailto:eldecker@windstream.net)

