

Official Newsletter of the Georgia Garden Railway Society

September, 2023

GGRS Abandons Trackage! Pulls Rails for Transfer to Other Locations !

The GGRS board and members agreed to abandon tracks leading to a heavy, but rarely used subdivision, in favor of pulling the track and moving it to more conducive rail lines still in operation. The Gandy Dancer Division met at Bando Junction in July at the connecting point to the Grand Western Mining Company RR. In spite of the heat, the crew got down to business ripping up the track and usable ties, and discarding the scrap lumber.



Repairs were also made to the MOW (Maintenance of Way) equipment, such that storage of railcars and equipment could be more readily available when needed by the railway.

The Chow line was well stocked with feasts from south of the border, and by the end of the day, all work was accomplished, rail pulled, equipment organized, and there was still time to visit the Grand Western's two locations and railfan some passing freight.

A big thanks to the owners of the Grand Western Mining Company RR for hosting the event.



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While at the “Bake Off” (baking while working on the trailer), we had the opportunity to view the Layouts, both inside and out. James has done a great job of turning an oval pool surround into much more than an oval train track, with sections to bend and curve giving lots of running space.





Inside, James has created drop sections, (or lift?) I guess it depends on which way its moving,.... To allow access without having to “Duck - Under” the rail-line. Very nice, and it avoids a lot of the complications with such access areas. Of course its not just James. You can see the hand of Sally at work in all of the buildings and other settings.







Alan Lueb's Memorial Get Together

Later that same day, a group of GGRS members assembled with Juliet, family members, and many friends of Alan at his and Juliet's favorite hangout, the Espresso Coffee shop in Alpharetta. Alan's many interests were reflected by the number and variety of friends and colleagues who turned out to honor his memory and life.

Highballing down the Track

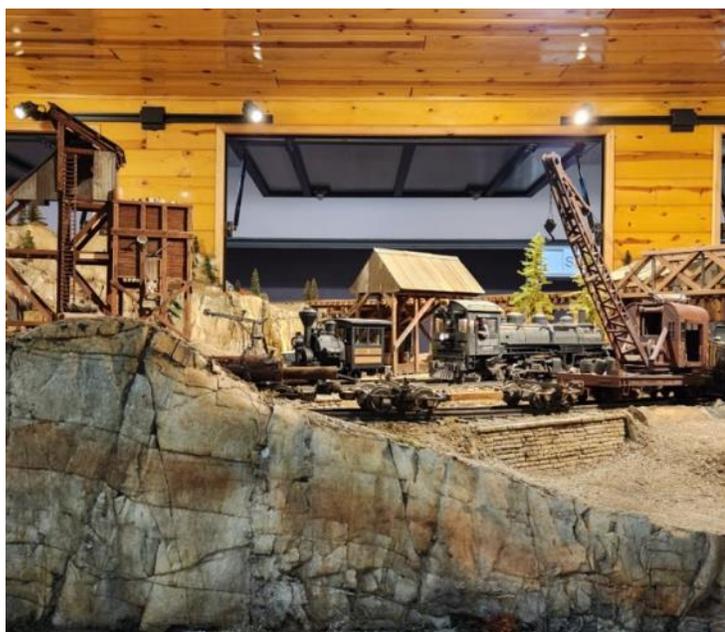
The Sacramento Garden Railway Society's hosting the 2025 Convention. If California hasn't slid off into the Pacific by then, maybe you will join them. It will be the 40th Anniversary, (with a few years missing).

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. Simply go to:

<https://ngrc2025.org/>

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



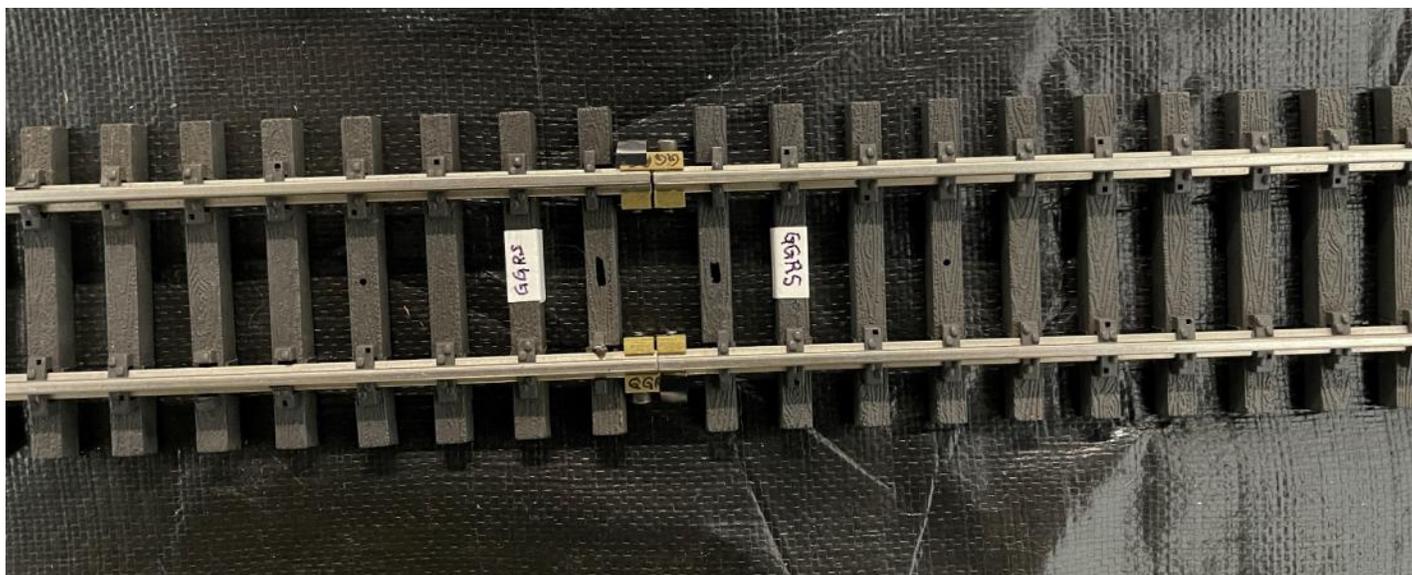


The Sacramento Garden Railway Society's Wandering Railroad.



At the Depot

At the Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History, the club set up a layout. This museum holds the General, famous for the Great Locomotive Chase! Rarely do they allow people to board the General, but this was one of those days! Lots of folks came by to see us as they made their way to the back of the museum.





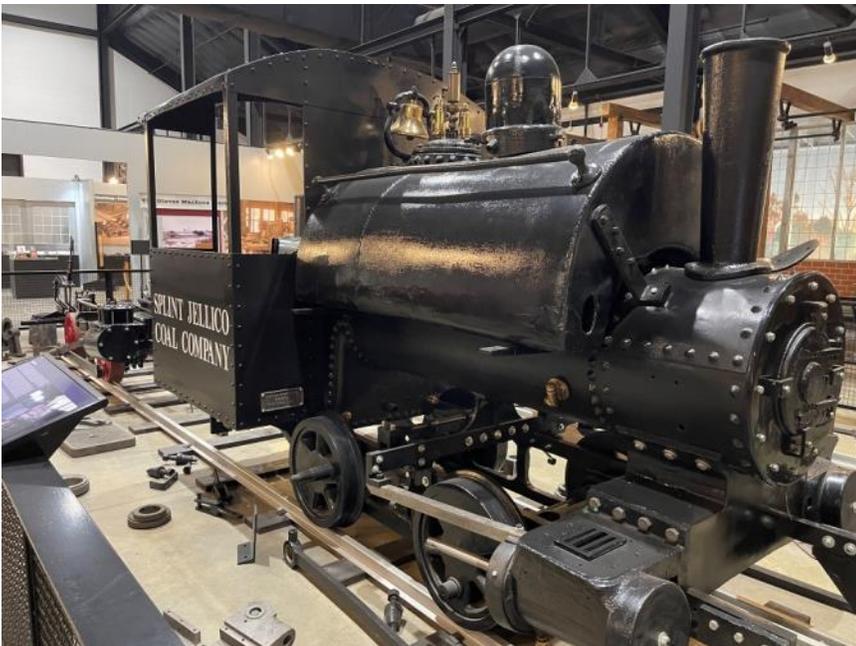
People wait in line for an opportunity to stand in the cab of the General.



Signpost tells the engineer his location. This post was on the rail line 34 miles from Atlanta, and 104 miles from Chattanooga.

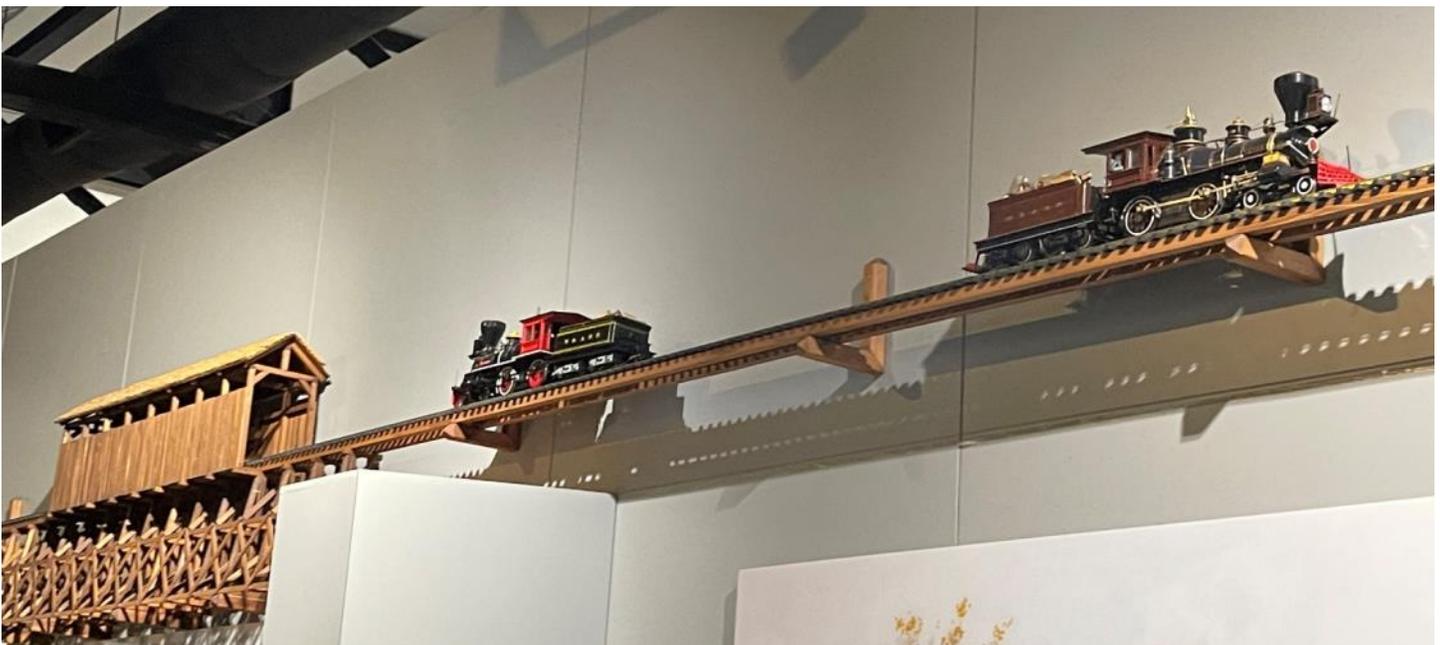
When the building was taken over by the museum, many of the patterns, molds, and train construction parts remained in the facility.





Across the street from the museum is the hotel, where the crew always stopped for breakfast on their trip from Atlanta to Chattanooga. After the train was stolen from them, the crew never ate breakfast there again while running the train.

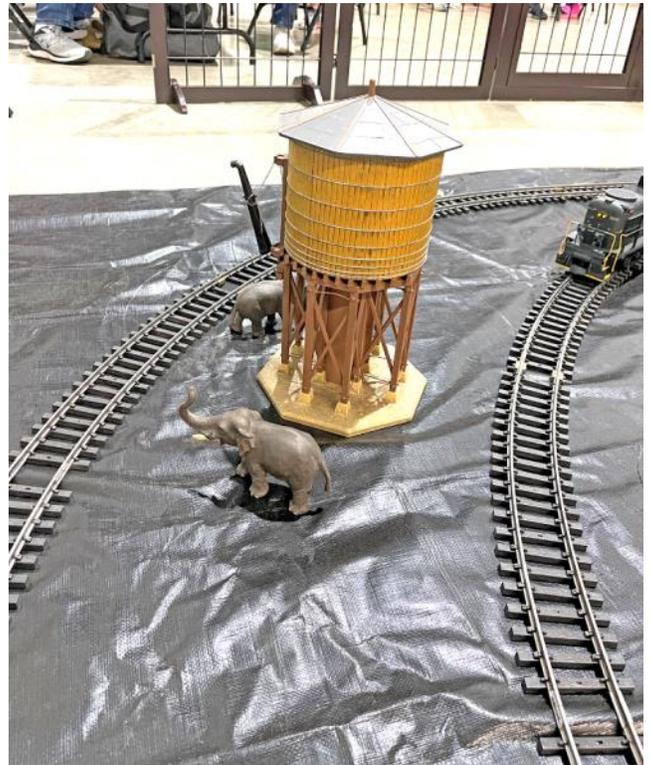
Below, hanging above the entrance to the General's section of the museum, a G scale back and forth run depicts the General and the Texas in chase over the Oostanaula bridge. Yes, the Texas was not turned around and chased the General backwards!



Ted got some expert help and guidance in setting up the track at the museum.



I could not help but notice that two of these things are similar in shape as well as function. Think about it.



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
The Vines Garden Railroad	3500 Oak Grove Rd. Loganville GA	April - September	1st and 3rd Saturday of the month
Golden Spike Show	Gas South Convention Center, Duluth, GA	Aug 25-26, 2023	5200 Sugarloaf Parkway
1:1 Train Ride	Tweetsie Railroad: Blowing Rock, North Carolina	Aug 26-27, 2023	See Below for hotel info
GGRS Club Mtg	Deborah & Ted Yarborough	Sep 9, 2023	Great time to return to Chatsworth area
Cartersville Express	Clarence Brown Conference Center, Cartersville, Georgia	September 14-17, 2023	Hosted by the Piedmont Division
GGRS Club Mtg	North GA Steamer – Conyers, GA	Oct 7, 2023	Come out & Ride on Trains
Piedmont Pilgrimage	Bundy and Bando are participating	October 22, 2023 1 - 5 P.M.	Volunteer help needed. Contact Russ or Sally

1: Not1 Dunlap, TN

Our August GGRS host family were Patty and Cullen Reid.

These ride on trains are scaled to one-eighth the size of a full-size railroad. This means track is gauged at 7-1/2" between the two rails. We met at Eagle Point Railroad at 11:00 Eastern (10:00 Central). That is important. Central time. Yes, a time change without a spring forward or a fall back!

At 12:00 noon the Reid's served chicken strips for lunch. The Eagle Point Railroad does not charge to ride their rails and their club is too large to feed, we will be collected money to make a donation to their club.











*****NEWS FLASH*******1:1 Scale Train Ride for 2023 Schedule Released** by Ted Yarbrough

The Tweetsie Railroad in Blowing Rock, North Carolina has released the **'OFFICIAL'** schedule for their Annual Railroad Heritage Weekend. Lots of steam railroading for our group to enjoy! All Railroad Heritage Weekend activities are included in Tweetsie Railroad's regular daily admission price with one exception: A \$5 per passenger donation is required to ride the special 1870s vintage No. 5 Coach Car, pulled by one of our historic locomotives. All donations will go towards supporting East Tennessee & Western North Carolina Railroad preservation projects.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26TH the park will open at 10:00am and participants can view and photograph the morning locomotive preparations after the park opens. The Locomotive Shop will be closed to visitors except at specified tour times. A Memorabilia Room will be open in the Tweetsie Junction during park hours where you can see historic and rare artifacts from Tweetsie Railroad's past, and view documentaries about the ET&WNC and Tweetsie Railroad. Starting at 10:15 a.m. and running until 4:45 p.m. Locomotive No. 12 (formerly ET&WNC "Tweetsie") and Coach No. 5 guests can climb aboard Tweetsie Railroad's 1870s vintage Coach No. 5 and ride behind locomotive No.12 (built 1917). Guests will enjoy a 3 -mile journey into the past. [Due to its design, Coach No. 5, is not wheelchair accessible, this is a non-stop train ride and does not include any interactive entertainment.] From 10:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Locomotive No. 190 (former White Pass & Yukon "Yukon Queen" built in 1943) will operate the Wild West Train transporting Guests and Railfans alike on a 3-mile journey back into the Old West. Not to be missed is the 2:30 p.m. Locomotive Shop Tour where our group can see the equipment, tools, and machines that help keep our locomotives operating. Meet in front of the Shop five minutes prior to the scheduled tour. (Age 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.) The Shop tour will be followed by a brief presentation regarding current ETW&NC preservation projects. The highlight of the weekend will be the 6:30 p.m. Evening Photo Special, an exclusive opportunity for ticketed Guests to photograph Locomotive No. 190 with the excursion cars. Locations for the photo run-bys will be at the Trestle and the Frontier Outpost, with two run-bys at each stop. (Guests must be 16 years or older to be permitted to get off the train at the designated photo run-by locations.)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27TH the park opens at 10:00am with another opportunity to view and photograph the morning locomotive preparations after the park opens. The rail shop will not be open to visitors except a specific tour time. Just like yesterday, the Memorabilia Room is open in the Tweetsie Junction where you can see historic and rare artifacts from Tweetsie Railroad's past, and view documentaries about the ET&WNC and Tweetsie Railroad. Today's highlight will be a Double-Header operating from 10:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. with Locomotives No. 12 and No. 190 pulling one train. Enjoy a rare opportunity to witness two steam locomotives working in tandem. Led by Locomotive No. 12, Guests will be transported on our Wild West train ride with the assistance of Locomotive No. 190. After lunch and operating until 5:00pm. Locomotive No. 190 will operate the Wild West Train transporting Guests and Railfans alike on a 3-mile journey back into the Old West. Continued from yesterday, Locomotive No. 12 and Coach No. 5 will run from 1:00 p.m. until 4:45 p.m.

This will be our last chance to climb aboard Tweetsie Railroad's 1870s vintage Coach No. 5 and ride behind locomotive No. 12 for a 3-mile journey into the past. Like yesterday, a \$5 donation per rider is required for this special train; all donations go to ET&WNC railroad preservation projects. [Due to its design, Coach No. 5, is not wheelchair accessible. This is a non-stop train ride and does not include interactive entertainment.] At 2:30 p.m. the Locomotive Shop Tour will be repeated from yesterday. See the equipment, tools, and machines that help keep our locomotives operating. Meet in front of the Shop five minutes prior to the scheduled tour. (Age 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.) The Shop tour will be followed by a brief presentation on ETW&NC preservation projects.

No photography will be allowed at the Trestle or the Frontier Outpost during the day Sunday. However, photos may be taken from the Hacienda.

The theme park is based around the railroad and has family-oriented rides and shows in addition to the train ride, so bring the kids and grandkids along. Tickets are \$60.00 per day for adults, \$40.00 per day for 3 to 12 year-olds, and 2 and under are free. If you enter AFTER 3 pm on Saturday, you can return all day Sunday for the one Saturday ticket. The official hotel will be the Hampton Inn and Suites, 262 Hotel Street, Lenoir, North Carolina which is about 30 minutes away from the railroad. Make your own hotel reservations now, and email yarbrough@charter.net that you have reservations and are planning to participate in the 2023 GGRS 1:1 Scale Train Ride.



TWEETSIE
RAILROAD



TRAIN SHOW and SALE

Sponsored by the **Crossville Model Railroad Club**

October 6th and 7th, 2023 9am-4pm
Friday Saturday

Oaklawn Baptist Church

3977 US 70, Crossville, TN 38555

Featuring **The Miami Valley Modular Railway**
and their **50' x 85' Layout with Multiple Main Lines**

Sale Tables \$20 Limited space available.
To reserve your tables contact show coordinator at
crossvilletrains@gmail.com

www.2023TexasExpress.com

SUPERCHARGED - HIGH SPEED



TEXAS



EXPRESS

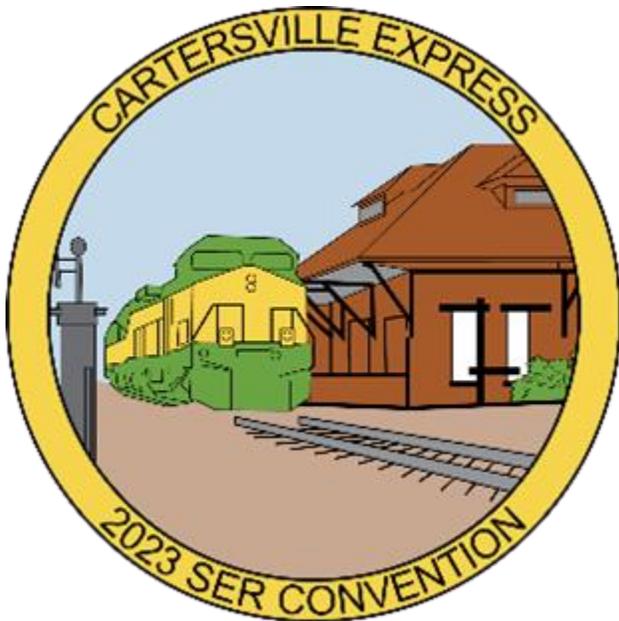
AUGUST 20-26

Dallas
Fort Worth **TEXAS**

2023 Piedmont Pilgrimage

Sunday, October 22nd

There will be 2 layouts (Bundy and Bando) open from 1-5. Each of us are looking for volunteers to meet visitors and answer questions. We usually have between 100-150 visitors for this event. Interested parties may contact either Sally or Russ for more info.



Greetings From The Cartersville Express Team

September 14-17, 2023

Please see the web site for all the details and the registration form.

www.2023SERConvention.org

Come to beautiful Cartersville, GA for a fun-filled model railroading weekend. We have over 30 fantastic clinics planned. We have 136 Op Session slots available for guests to operate on some of the best model railroads around. We currently have 14 home self-guided layouts you can visit during the convention. There will be a clinic

on Thursday afternoon by Craig Brotman on AK Paints. We will also have NMRA Model and Photo Contests. Also, we will have a white Elephant sale area for some great deals to take home with you. This one you don't want to miss. We are finalizing ours prototype tours and will soon list them on the website. Lots of great museums in Cartersville to visit or take a quick drive down to Lake Allatoona for scenery time. Don't miss a chance to save on early registration. We are looking forward to seeing you at The Cartersville Express 2023 SER Convention.

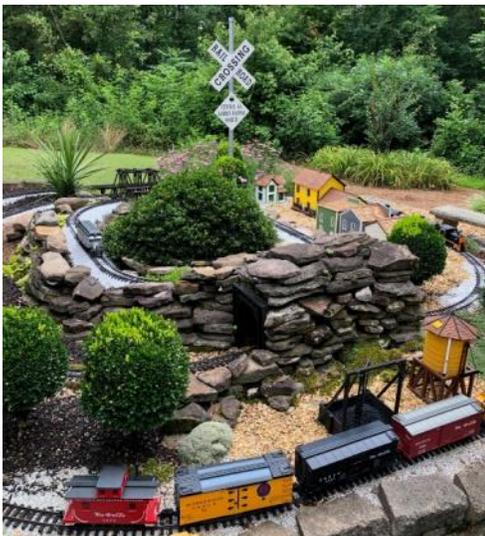
2023 Convention Team,
Walt Liles, Chair

Wliles.crrman@gmail.com

A Challenge Coin will be given to each registered participant upon picking up your packets at the registration table. Front and back of the coin is pictured below.



September GGRS Meeting and Second 1:1 Scale Ride Opportunity



The members of the Georgia Garden Railway Society are invited to make the journey to the Chatsworth Division of the Denver & Rio Grande Narrow Gauge Railroad operated by the September hosts, Ted & Deborah Yarbrough. The railroad will start operations at or shortly after 10:00 am on Saturday, September 9, at 212 Love Drive, Chatsworth, Georgia. The railroad is approximately 250 feet in total main line trackage and running five independent loops of track power.



Bachmann, LGB, PIKO, and Hartland steam locomotives may be found operating on the railroad. Rolling stock is made up of a mix of Accucraft, LGB, USA Trains, Bachmann, Aristocraft, and MDC/PIKO. This railroad was featured in the June 2018 Garden Railway's magazine and as a pre-tour on the 2018 National Garden Railway Convention. Buildings are mostly wood and are either scratch or kit built. Many plantings are appropriate scale sized for the garden railroad. Members are welcome to bring a locomotive or entire train to run on the layout if desired (rolling stock on the railroad all have LGB or Kadee knuckle couplers).

Lunch will be served at noon and the menu shall include pork tenderloin sliders, chips, soft drinks, and tea provided by the host. Members are asked to bring sides or desserts. A table or two will be provided for members to bring items to sell or trade.

A member meeting will start immediately after lunch with a short presentation on model buildings by Ted Yarbrough. He will show a few examples of wood kits and plastic kits. Scratch built, Michael Custom Wood Working, Banta, Garden Texture, Ted Brewer's Railroad Plans, Lionel, and other manufacturers products will be shown, explained, and compared.

The operations of the day will shut down at 2:00 pm in order to allow time for participants to take advantage of the Tennessee Valley Railroad's Founder's Day activities.



The Tennessee Valley Railroad, in Chattanooga, is about a 50-minute drive from the host's garden railroad. September 9 is their Founder's Day Celebration. They will have several very special activities that many GGRS members may want to take part in.

First, they plan to operate a **special double headed (train pulled by two locomotives) steam train** at 5:00pm from the Grand Junction Depot on Cromwell Road. Double headed steam trains are rare. For this event, Southern Railway Locomotives #630, a 2-8-0 Consolidation, and #4501, a 2-8-2 MIKADO, will pull the train three miles crossing two high bridges and traveling through the 960 foot long pre-Civil War Missionary Ridge Tunnel to East Chattanooga and back.

The second activity of the day will be Dinner on the Diner train leaving Grand Junction at 6:30. This ride will take you into downtown Chattanooga on either a dining car or Pullman car

while you eat on the train. Real china on a white table cloth will be the setting for an elegant meal.

The third event will be a twilight train, The Evening Ridge Runner, leaving Grand Junction at 7:00 pm. The Evening Ridge Runner lets you experience the train ride at twilight with the engine headlights and coach lights turned on. The final event will be a night time photo shoot with TVRM locomotives staged at East Chattanooga (will require driving over to East Chattanooga for the photo shoot). The photo shoot will begin at 8:30 and end at 9:45. The East Chattanooga Depot will be open for participants to get photo equipment ready and as a waiting area between photo shoots. Book online at <https://bit.ly/47lkKZZ>

All events are priced individually and range from \$30.00 to \$130.00 per person. Tickets will sell out (SOON), so purchase tickets in advance if you desire to participate. Tvrail.com is the web site for more info and to purchase tickets.

Please RSVP to the EVITE so the host can prepare sufficient sliders and prepare proper seating. We look forward to seeing everyone at the September meeting of the GGRS!

California Here We Come ! By Pam Williamson

Originally Roy and I were not going to the National Garden Railroad Convention in Santa Clara, but an opportunity came our way. Dave Bennett needed 3 layouts delivered to Oxnard,

San Francisco and Lafayette, CA. By coincidence Lafayette is only 50 miles from Santa Clara and installations were timed to coincide with the National Garden Railroad Convention. So, on June 29th we left for California with the three layouts in a 26-foot box truck.

Our first day, we drove from Georgia through Alabama to the edge of Mississippi, along the Mississippi River.



The second day we bounced our way through the rest of Mississippi, Louisiana (worst roads of the entire trip) Texas and parked "The Viking" in Yukon Oklahoma.



Day three we continued through Oklahoma and back into Texas (the Panhandle) and ended our day in Albuquerque, New Mexico.



The Texas rest area where we had a picnic lunch under the lean-to with a nice breeze.

Day 4 after leaving New Mexico, we stopped for fuel in Seligman, Arizona where we first encountered a slice of Route 66. We ended our day in Kingman, Arizona. After dinner we found a closed train museum on Route 66.



Stopped for fuel in Seligman, AZ

Standing on Route 66 in Kingman



Day 5 the Mojave was expected to reach 110 degrees, so we were up and out early. We were stopped entering California. They wanted to inspect what was in the box truck. When the inspector saw the 3 train layouts, she was a bit surprised and stated her nephew would love to play with his trains on the layout. We had our Agricultural Certificate in-hand and we were on our way again. We arrived in Oxnard, California in the afternoon where it was only 50 degrees.

California



"The Viking", our ride for almost 3,000 miles

Vendor Hall had 4 GGRS members set up to sell.



Roy brought some used trains in the U-Haul, it was a sellout, which is good because we were flying home.



Scott Griggs – Trainz



Dave Bennett
Train Installations

Dave Bergman – SplitJaw
Dave finally got his
GGRS t-shirt

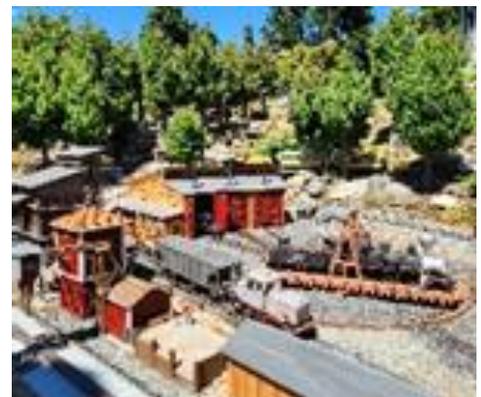
(only 2 years late)



Vendor Hall was not opened in the morning, so Dave, Roy and I headed out early to view some of the layouts.



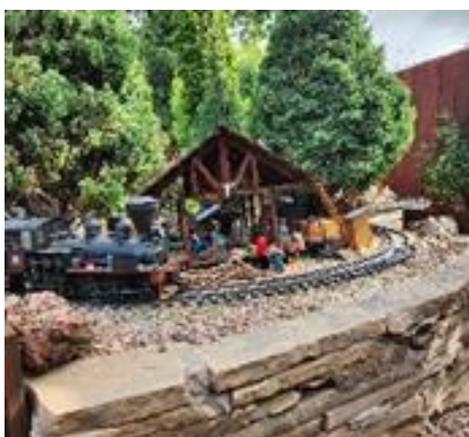
The Monida & Yellowstone Railroad, Portola Valley – beautiful scratch built buildings built on a hill side.



Orient Express, Morgan Hill - 2 tunnels, a rock bridge and multiple water features plus a yard-size chesse set



Bob & Linda Elia Family Railroad, Gilroy, - featured scratch built wooden bridges, trestles and building. The 20 year old shrubs throughout the layout were beautifully pruned to scale.



Quick Silver & Almaden Railroad, San Jose – Amazing command center and built to run really long trains.



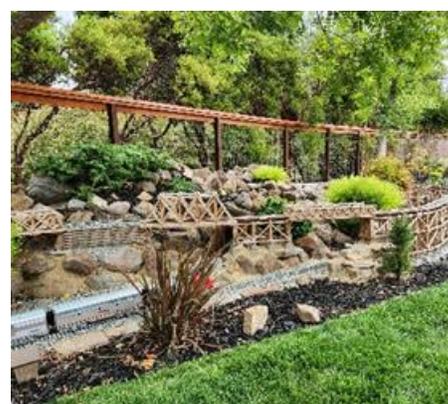
Mystic mountain Railroad San Jose – Silicon Valley serves as a breath-taking natural backdrop. Here is an inside view of the helix inside a mountain.



M&H Foothill Railroad, Pleasanton – trestles, tunnels, waterfalls and bridges.



P-



Town & West Side RR, Pleasanton – a great example of how to incorporate your railroad into your garden and patio to make it part of your outdoor living experience.



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.)

Drooling Over a New Engine? Get a BIB !

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

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.

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

Have Layout Problems?

We have Solutions!



Beat Corrosion/
Cleaning
hassles with
our Stainless
Code 332
Track!

PROBLEM / SOLUTIONS

EXAMPLES

LOOSE TRACK?

Split Jaw Rail Clamps
The choice of professionals...
Code 332, Code 250/215, Brass & Stainless



NEED POWER or INSULATION?

- o Lug-Zilla™ heavy duty connector
- o Light Duty Power Connector
- o 1/2 Length Power Connector
- o Insulating Rail Clamps (shown)



RAIL ALIGNMENT ISSUES?

- o Double Length Rail Clamp
- o Code 250 to Code 332 Transition clamp
- o Expansion Sets Code 332 Brass (shown)
Code 332 Stainless, Code 250 NS



LAYOUT ACCESS CHALLENGES?

- o Drop-In Lift-Out Rail Clamps
- o Draw Bridges: up to 40" opening
- o Fixed Bridges: many styles offered



For Order/Information: WWW.RAILCLAMP.COM



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.

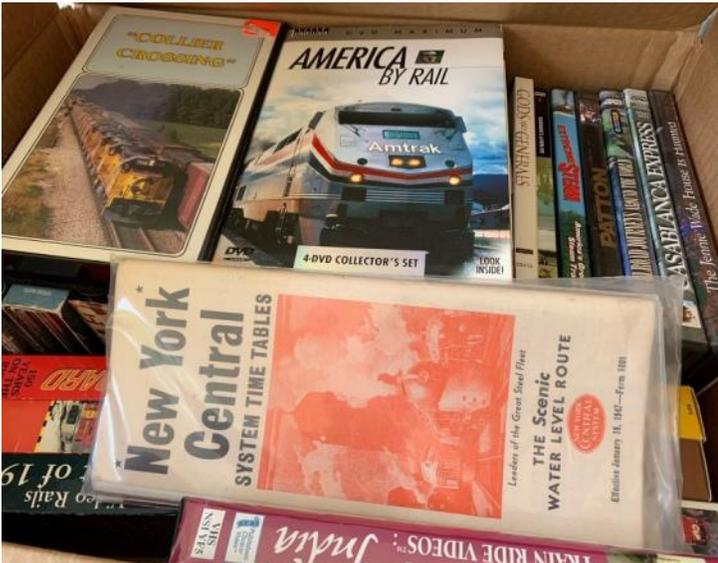
Thanks - Dave 770-597-0038



Every era, every scale!
Trainz.com

Leaving the hobby? Sellmytrains.com

I have been asked to get these (probably about 100) into the hands of someone who would enjoy them and not just put them in the trash. They are available for you to pick up at my house. **Ted Yarborough**



Custom stone carving for your Railway

sticksNstones@wegrr.com

Emil Decker's
STICKS
+
STONES





Georgia Garden Railroad Society Friends!
 Thank you very much for the donation to the Georgia native plant society. I am truly touched by every one's thoughtfulness and generosity! Thanks and I look forward to catching up with GGRS! yours truly Juliet

Wanted: Persons Interested in Obtaining Fame, Fortune, Glory, & All Our Respect....

Well, at least the last part... Unfortunately, the club has arrived at a derailment of our own, so to speak. We have lost members, and through the tragic upheaval of it, lost our current President. While Juliet will probably return to us some day, she has stepped aside for now as our president. We need someone to fill her shoes for the rest of this year, and then looking forward towards next year. I WILL NOT say that her shoes are large.... But filling the responsibility of president may seem daunting to you. I assure you, that being the face of the GGRS is not all easy, or a cushy job, but it does not have to be a hard one either. With a dedicated group of

board members who work hard together, we can make it easy....er than being the sole arbiter of what the club does. We have a great team, and simply need someone to be the leader, keep us moving together, and make a speech to the group monthly. I know you have it in you. Bring it forth, and consider helping support YOUR club as the President of the GGRS.



Yard Hostler

So many 1:1 options. Such hot weather. And fall is just around the corner..... Hang on! The Piedmont Pilgrimage is coming. Lots of great layouts, some in G scale. You should see them all. Even the inside smaller scales have great scenes that might give you some ideas for your own layout.

Consider becoming a member of our leadership team. We need a member to take on the Presidency. You have a great team to work with, and we just need a spearpoint on the end of our stick!

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

eldecker@windstream.net

