



January 2022

NEWSLETTER

*Celebrating 30 Years of Garden
Railroading!*

PHOTO ABOVE: JUAN DECARDENAS' "LILLY BELLE" CHUGS ON THROUGH A PATCH OF "WEEDS" (SUCCULENT GROUND COVER) ON DOUG BRAINARD'S "CENTRALIA" GARDEN RAILWAY

INSIDE:

PREVIEWS OF UPCOMING MEETS AND EVENTS; 30 YEAR CELEBRATION UPDATE; REFLECTIONS FROM LAST MONTH'S FUN RUNS; AND MORE! LEMONADE STAND, EDITORS DESK, AND LAYOUT CONSTRUCTION ARTICLES WILL RETURN NEXT MONTH.

GO TO WWW.FGRS.ORG, "EVENTS" PAGE TO SEE PHOTOS FOR OUR UPCOMING OPERATING SESSIONS. GO TO THE "MEMBERS SIGN-IN" TO SEE THE CURRENT MEMBER ROSTER, NEWSLETTER BACK ISSUES, AND MORE!



PRESIDENT'S NOTES FROM FRED WEBER

January 2022!

To All: Happy New Year!

Last year after COVID finally slowed down, we did get the club rolling down the rails again. These activities included the re-scheduling of the FGRS 30-year Anniversary Celebration, one or more activities in a month, and a partnership with Bushnell Station Train Museum, including our participation in building a new outdoor G scale railroad. .

Beginning this year, we will be at the Deland Show with Friday Jan 7th as the date that we will be setting up both the kid's and the large modular layouts. Jan 8th and 9th we will be running trains and the 9th will be break down day as well. If you can help on any or all of these days, please contact either Phil Barcelona or myself. Friday, we plan to start set up around 11:30. This will give all members the opportunity to run trains and support the club. It's a great time to get some of your trains out of their boxes.

Jan 15th will see us at the Sundance Model Railroad in Odessa, Florida. This is a highly detailed Fn3 model railroad display, plus three other smaller scale layouts, and 1/6 scale military models (See pictures in the "Events" section of this newsletter). Be sure to plan on joining us for this tour, you don't want to miss it.

REMINDER: ALL CHECKS MUST BE TURNED IN BY JANUARY 11, 2022 TO RECEIVE THE DISCOUNT FOR THE FGRS 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!!!!

The next opportunity to run your trains after the Deland train show will be at the Jacksonville Scottish Festival on Feb 26th at the Clay County Fairgrounds. Set up will be on the Feb 25th. Not only do you get to run trains, but you also get to enjoy the Scottish Festival.

We are looking for volunteers to help run the club. We need help with scheduling, working club events, articles in the newsletter, and new blood with fresh ideas. Your board is getting old, and I've not found a way to stop that from happening. I'm sure many of our members have a little time to lend a hand. Reach out to your board to find out how you can help.

And Happy Railroading in the coming year!

- *Fred Weber*, FGRS President 2021

The New Shirts are Ready!

Both 30 Year Anniversary *and* Traditional “FGRS”

All shirts are \$35 which includes embroidering your name, taxes, and shipping to your home. The shirts are made by Core365 and are 100% Polyester - Moisture Wicking, Antimicrobial, UV protection, and easy care.



Traditional Shirts
Available in True Royal (Blue) or White



30 Year Anniversary Shirts
Available Only in “Platinum”

Men’s shirts are available either with or without a pocket. Men’s “Tall” sizes are only available without a pocket. 30 Year Shirts are not available in “Tall” or with a pocket.

Color choices are True Royal (Blue) or White. 30 Year Shirts come only in “Platinum”

Sizes start at S,M,L,XL,2XL,3XL,4LX, and 5XL

Ladies sizes start at XS,S,M,L,XL,2XL, and 3XL

Youth sizes start at S,M,L,XL

Ladies sizes are true to size. Women who wear a men’s large would need to order a ladies “extra large”. These shirts are very comfortable and easy to care for. You will love them! All arrangements have been made. Order yours direct from the dealer using the form sent out in a separate document. The form with 30 Year Anniversary Shirts added is being sent out again as you receive this Newsletter. Be sure to include your email address on the order form so they can contact you if there are questions about what you want. Watch for the order form which is being sent out in a separate email today.

FGRS 2022 BOARD MEMBERS



FGRS President
Fred Weber
410-310-6001
Fgrs.president@gmail.com



FGRS Vice President – Eastern Region
Phil Barcelona
386-562-4859
fgrs.vicepresident@gmail.com

**YOUR PICTURE
COULD BE HERE!**

FGRS Vice President – Western Region
Position Open – This can be you!



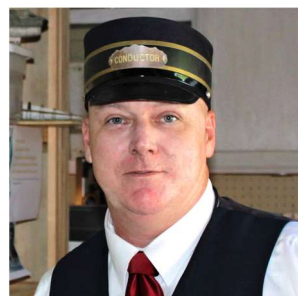
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**Fgrs.secretary@
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2022 TRAIN SHOWS AND EVENTS

January 9 - 10, 2022 –75th Railfair, Deland, Florida

This is the BIG ONE! The only large two-day Train Show in Florida.

FGRS will be setting up both layouts.

9am – 4pm

Volusia County Fairgrounds

Go to <https://10times.com/rail-fair-florida> for more information

January 15 – 16, 2022 - Martin County Model Railroaders

Model Train Show and Sale

Saturday and Sunday January 15 -16

9-3 both days

Martin County Fairgrounds

2616 SE Dixie Highway

Stuart, Florida

January 22, 2022 – Brooksville Train Show

9am – 2pm

Hernando Fairgrounds

6436 Broad Street

Brooksville, FL 34601

Admission is \$5.00 adults, kids 12 & under are free

More Information and prepay at www.regalrailways.com

February 18 - 20, 2022 – FGRS 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!

YOU HAVE UNTIL JANUARY 11TH BEFORE THE DISCOUNTS ON BOTH PACKAGES ARE OVER. (See details on the page preceding the Registration Form on the following pages)

IF YOU ARE STAYING AT THE CONVENTION HOTEL, MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NOW – OUR BLOCK OF DISCOUNTED ROOMS IS LIMITED! RESERVATION IS CANCELABLE FOR FULL REFUND UNTIL FEBRUARY 17TH.

Layout Tours in Port Charlotte area start early on Friday, February 18th with Murder Mystery Dinner Train ride at 5:30PM.

Layout Tours in Ft Myers area start at 9AM on Saturday, February 19th, including a
(Continued Next Page)

(2022 TRAIN SHOWS AND EVENTS Continued)

tour of “Scale Rails” extensive HO layout in operation, tour of Shellpoint Model Railroad Club, and the Railroad Museum of South Florida, including scenic train rides at Lakes Regional Park, followed by the banquet dinner in a beautiful screened-in pavilion.

February 18 - 20, 2022 – Palmetto Train Show

10 AM – 4 PM

This was an unavoidable conflict with our 30 Year Celebration Weekend, and FGRS will not be setting up this show.

Bradenton Area Convention Center

1 Haben Blvd, Palmetto, Florida

February 26th, 2022 - Northeast Florida Scottish Games and Festival

We will be setting up the club layout and joining in the festivities

Clay County Fairgrounds

2497 State Road 16 West, Green Cove Springs, FL.

The festival will begin at 9 AM and run until 10PM

(See Details on the following pages)

March 5, 2022 - Melbourne Train & Toy Show

9am - 2pm

Azan Shrine Center, Melbourne, Florida

Go to <http://schultzspacecoasttrains.com/> for information

June 19th - 25th, 2022

NATIONAL GARDEN RAILWAY CONVENTION 2022

Denver, Colorado

For more information go to

<https://www.ngrc2022.org/>

For a Complete list of Train Shows go to

http://www.railserve.com/events/train_shows.html

WORK ON OUR NEW RAILROAD HAS BEGUN!

As you can see, progress is being made on the layout we will be building at the Bushnell Station. The lumber to raise the layout has arrived and ground has been broken. Construction will begin in earnest this Wednesday, January 5, with post holes and other grading work being done. You are invited to come out and help starting at 10AM. Address of the Gulf Coast and Central Florida Railroad Museum in Bushnell is:

**6470 County Road Rd 476 W
Bushnell, FL 33513**



CALENDAR PLANNING FOR FUTURE FUN RUNS

We're looking for members to host Train Operating Sessions and Fun Runs for the coming months.

If you are interested in hosting, please contact Paul Wagner, the FGRS Newsletter Chairman at FGRS.Newsletter@gmail.com

February 26, 2022



Northeast Florida Scottish Games and Festival are bringing a *"Wee Bit o' Scotland"* to the Northeast Florida area. Each year residents of Northeast Florida and the surrounding areas gather and enjoy the athletics, music, food and fun of the games.

The Games continue to grow and reflect the deep connections and effects the Scots and their descendants have had on the United States as well as Northeast Florida in particular. As always our event will be held the last Saturday of February, the games will be held at:

Clay County Fairgrounds
2497 State Road 16 West, Green Cove Springs, FL.
Saturday February 26th, 2022
The festival will begin at 9 AM and run until 10PM.

Dear Members,

Come and enjoy the spirit of Scottish History! The club will be setting up our train display and running trains for visitors of the Festival. If you would like to enjoy the fun of the festival, bring your trains to run, run the club trains, and explain the hobby to the visitors, COME JOIN US!

The Festival is on February 26, 2022 at the Clay County Fairground outside Jacksonville. We will be setting up on Friday the 25 and will need to dismantle the layout after the Festival.

Both these events are an excellent way to show off the club and run trains.

If you have any concerns, questions or ideas to make this a better event please call.

Please call me at 410-310-6001

Fred Weber, FGRS President

UPCOMING FGRS FUN RUNS/OPERATING SESSIONS **AND FGRS MEETS AT SPECIAL TRAIN ATTRACTIONS**

Saturday, January 15, 2022 –

Luncheon and visit to the “Sundance Central Railroad”

AKA the SUNCOAST CENTER FOR FINESCALE MODELING.

We will meet at Johnny Brusco’s New York Style Pizzeria for Lunch at 11:30am and from there go and see Layout.

The address of the restaurant is:

10730 State Rd 54

Trinity , FL 34655 You can visit their menu at [https://](https://www.johnnybruscos.com/menu/)

www.johnnybruscos.com/menu/ This restaurant is located just blocks west of layout.

Layout located at:

2645 Success Dr

ODESSA , FL 33556

This is a Large Scale , Indoor, fine scale Fn3 layout, depicting narrow gauge operation in Colorado. There are also 3 other fine scale layouts of various scales , and an impressive collection of military large scale models.

Cost have gone up and this year’s admission will be \$ 9.00 per member money is to cover daily operations. You can learn more please visit:

www.finescalemodeling.org/about-the-center

They will be expecting our group at or around 1pm we will get a special tour they close at 3pm. Mention that you are with FGRS if you do not come in with the group.



(Upcoming Fun Runs, Continued)

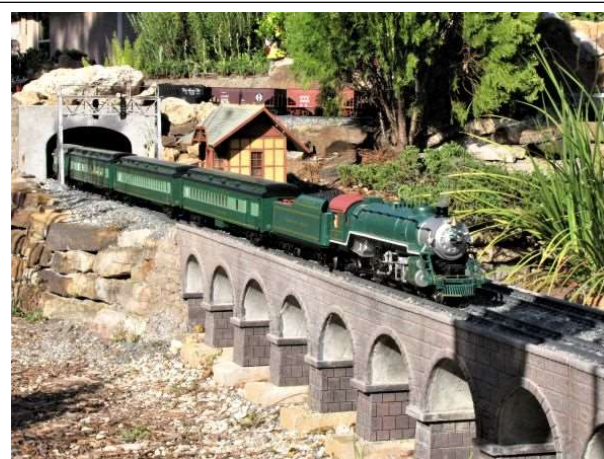
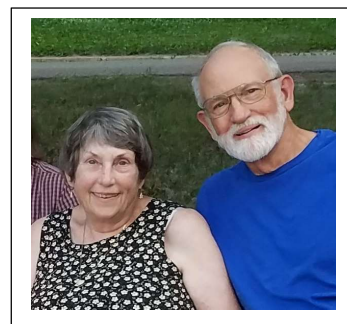
Saturday, March 19, 2022 –

Fun Run at the home of Paul and Patty Wagner

Address:

1781 S Cranberry Blvd, North Port, FL 34286

Phone 941-445-0409



**Sunday, April 24, 2022 - Fun Run at
The home of Charlie Beall**

Address:

7839 Sloewood Dr

Mount Dora, FL

Phone 352-383-3976

Details to follow



**Reflections From FGRS Visit
to Nature Coast Botanical Gardens
and
Open House Fun Run at the Centralia Garden Railroad
At the home of Doug and Lynn Brainard
December 18, 2021 - By Doug Brainard and Paul Wagner**



Thank you for coming to both of my railroads. You are always welcome back. My wife's name is Lynn and she plays with the duo, Dixie Blue, on fiddle and guitar with fellow musician, Jeff. By the way, two days after the meet, Lynn and I celebrated our 52 wedding anniversary. We are so glad you could join us at this happy time.
- Doug and Lynn Brainard



We were greeted by friendly “Elves” as we arrived, and Tim Smith was running the rebuilt #8 from the Lakes Park and Gulf Railroad Museum.



This Layout at the Nature Coast Botanical Gardens was built largely through the efforts of Doug Brainard and friends, showing what can be done when an enthusiastic garden railroader approaches the administration of public venues.



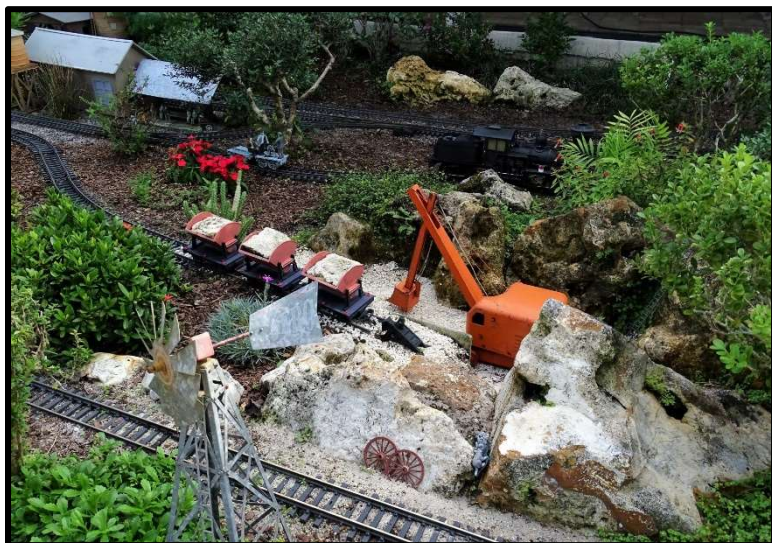
The Railroad is enjoyed by kids and grownups alike



And then we moved on to Doug and Lynn's for lunch and to view the Railroad at their home!



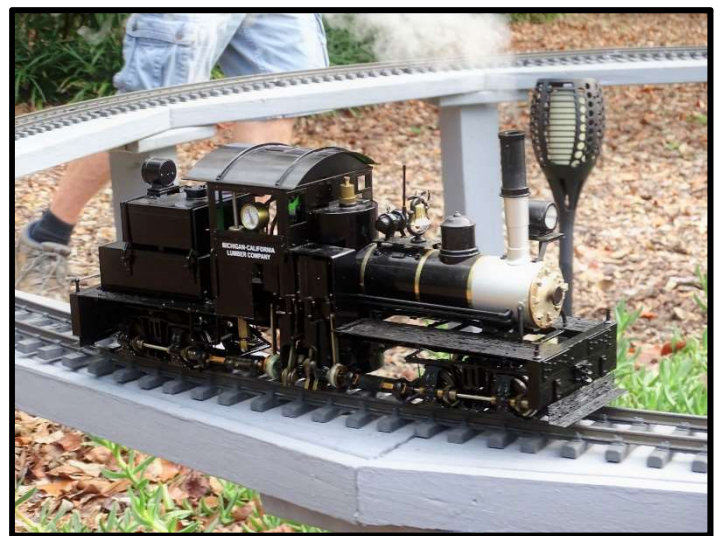
This Railroad has it all! A great mainstreet, a sawmill, quarry, and dwarf trees and shrubs.



(Brainard Railroad, Continued)



And there's also a live steam track!



...And Lynn and her fellow musician, Jeff – The “Dixie Blue” - played great music for us!





**THE 30 YEAR FGRS
ANNIVERSARY!!!!!!!!!!!!**
FEBRUARY 18 TO 20, 2022

THREE DAYS OF RAILWAY FUN IN BEAUTIFUL FORT MYERS!

Dear Members:

30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY UPDATE!!!!!!!!

THE DISCOUNTED RATE ENDS ON JANUARY 11TH!

YOU HAVE JUST A FEW MORE DAYS UNTIL THE DISCOUNTS ON BOTH PACKAGES ARE OVER. (See details on the page preceding the Registration Form on the following pages)

During the first week in February, you will receive a special email for location and times of the layouts open on Friday the 18th. We will be at the Quality Inn with your Convention Program and important information you will need to know. Look for us between 1PM to 4PM in the lobby. You must be at the Murder Mystery train station by 5:30 PM – the train leaves the station at 6:00 PM!

The swap meet will be on Sunday morning in the parking lot of the Quality Inn. This will be an “out of the trunk” sale. It will start at 8 AM and run until 9:30 AM. Sell items right out of your car or bring your own table. We don’t have a room to set up the club layout and use for the swap meet.

See the details for hotel pricing and making reservations on the page following the Event Registration page. We are working out an arrangement to give you a credit of up to \$20 per night on your room which will be applied to your bill at check out, reducing your hotel bill substantially at that time. The reservation is cancelable until 24 hours before our event.

Our Saturday night dinner and banquet will be at 5:30 PM in the Lee County Park in a screened pavilion next to the Railroad Museum and 7-1/2” gauge train ride. We are having an Italian dinner which I know will go well with beer and wine, but please be very discreet if you bring any alcohol. There will be some special presentations and prizes for a scavenger hunt of Tour Layout Details during the banquet.

Any questions please reach out to me. My cell phone is 410-310-6001.

- *Fred Weber*

FGRS President

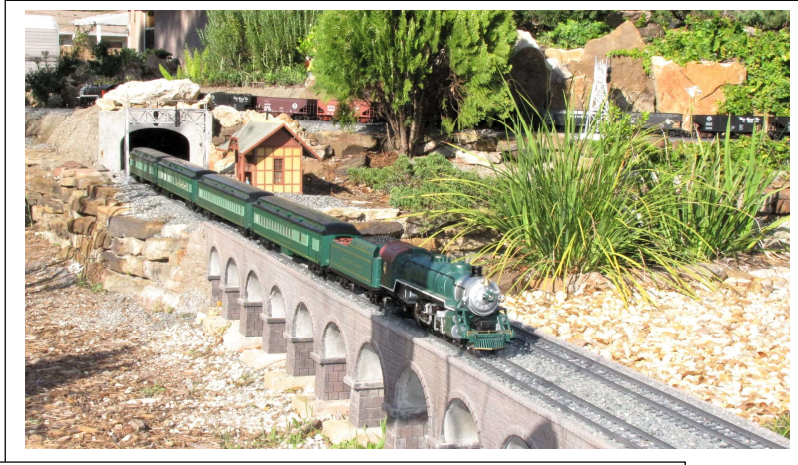
(30 Year Celebrations Plans Continued Next Page)

(Continued from Previous Page)

You will receive a detailed schedule, maps, and program prior to the event. Here is a quick rundown of the activities:

Friday, Feb 18, 2022:

- **Five FGRS layout tours north of Ft Myers in North Port Port, Port Charlotte, and Englewood. If you're arriving from the north, you can catch these on your way. If you're coming from the south, add about 1 hour each way from Ft Myers to visit these.**



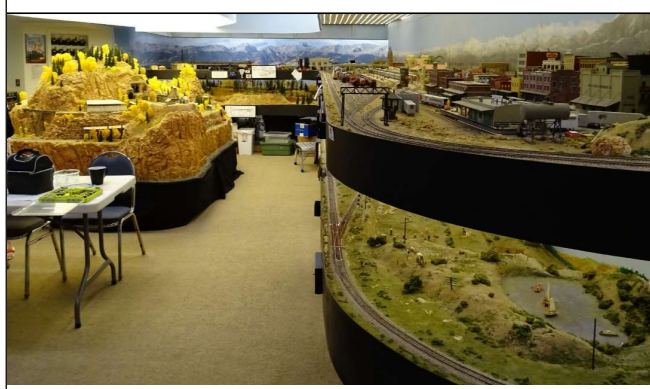
Friday, Feb 18, 2022 (Continued from Previous Page)

- At 5:30PM, we board the Murder Mystery Dinner Train which includes a fine dining experience while the murder drama unfolds. We will have a special dinner and enjoy “Murder Without a Clue”. See if you can figure out “who done it.”



Saturday, Feb 19, 2022:

- Three FGRS layout tours in Ft Myers area in the morning plus a visit to the “Scale Rails” model railroad club’s fine scale HO and HOn3 layout in full operation.



Saturday, Feb 19, 2022, (Continued from Previous Page)

- **Visit Shellpoint Railroad which has a fine HO layout modeled after the state of Florida**



- **Visit Railroad Museum of South Florida, including a 7 ½ inch gauge train ride around a beautiful park, through scenes of old Florida and across bridges and through a tunnel, roaming around a natural Florida wonderland. In the museum, we will be viewing a fine scale S gauge layout, as well as a G scale railroad running around the ceiling, and other interesting railroad displays.**



- **Saturday night dinner will begin at 5:30PM**

Sunday, Feb 20, 2022: Swap Meet and Tour Edison Winter Estates/Museum



FGRS 30 YEAR EVENT REGISTRATION

This fun-filled weekend would cost you close to two hundred dollars for all events, on your own. Just the Murder Mystery Dinner train would cost \$110 per person. And the value of fellowship with club members is priceless!

FGRS is making a very special price for all club member who have paid their dues before January 11, and have registered for the event before that date.

Your cost for the weekend, for paid-up members, will be just \$115 per person if paid by January 11, 2022. The Saturday-only package cost will be \$45 per person if paid by January 11, including dinner. Both packages include access to the FGRS layout tours on Friday and Saturday.

Here are the details of the two packages:

“THE ATLANTIC COAST LINE PACKAGE”: This package will include all Club layout tours, a Swap Meet at the hotel, and the Murder Mystery Dinner train on Friday. It includes all activities on Saturday - more Club layout tours, all model railroad club and museum tours, the Railroad Museum of South Florida, with a 7-1/2” gauge train ride, and dinner. On Sunday, it includes the Edison and Ford Winter estates and Museum tour, and the more of the FGRS swap meet at the hotel.

- \$115 per person if paid by January 11; \$130 per person after that.

“THE ORANGE BLOSSOM SPECIAL”: This for all events on Saturday only. It includes all FGRS layout tours (Friday and Saturday), all model railroad tours, the Railroad Museum of South Florida, 7-1/2” gauge train ride, and dinner Saturday evening.

- The Saturday-only package cost will be \$45 per person if paid by January 11; \$50 per person after that.

So there are three things to do:

Pay your 2022 dues.

Make your Hotel Reservation (if you are staying overnight at the hotel).

Complete and mail in your FGRS 30TH ANNIVERSARY Reservation Form, on next page.

More information to come, so keep reading the newsletters or special emails. Any questions please call me 410-310-6001

Thank you!

- *Fred Weber*

FGRS President

FGRS REGISTRATION FORM FOR 30TH ANNIVERSARY

FEBRUARY 18,19, & 20 2022

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION

NAME: _____

SPOUSE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____

ATLANTIC COAST LINE PACKAGE

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL BEFORE January 11,2022

Single package \$115 Check Here _____ Couple package \$230 Check Here _____

Starting January 12, 2022

Single package \$130 Check Here _____ Couple package \$260 Check Here _____

ORANGE BLOSSOM SPECIAL

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL BEFORE JANUARY 11,2022

Single package \$45 Check Here _____ Couple package \$90 Check Here _____

STARTING JANUARY 12,2022

Single package \$50 Check Here _____ Couple package \$100 Check Here _____

Send Check made out to Florida Garden Railway Society with Form To:

Fred Weber

7686 E Oak Forest St, Floral City, FL 34436

VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE

UPDATE ABOUT THE HOTEL IN FT MYERS FOR FGRS 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Due to the condition of the Holiday Inn in Ft Myers and reviews of people staying at the hotel, we have decided to change hotels. Three of our members visited the Holiday Inn to inspect the hotel and have found it to be less than desirable.

If you have made a reservation at the Holiday Inn, you **will need to call and cancel by calling 239-332-3232.**

Our new location will be The Quality Inn Suites, Fort Myers I 75, located at 13651 Indian Paint Lane, Ft Myers, FL 33912. The phone number to make reservations is **239-768-0005**. The up-front cost of the room will be \$179 per night for a Double Queen Room and \$189 per night for a Single King Room with Sleeper Sofa. We are working out an arrangement to give you a credit of up to \$20 per night on your room which will be applied to your bill at check out, reducing your hotel bill substantially at that time. When making your reservation, please remember to mention that you are with the Florida Garden Railway Society (FGRS) in order to secure one of the rooms that are being held for the club, and to claim your credit at checkout. Please keep in mind that it will be Baseball Spring Training and rooms will be booking quickly, so please make your reservations as soon as possible. The reservations are cancelable up until 24 hours before our event.

We are looking forward to an exciting weekend and wouldn't want you to miss out on any of the scheduled events.

- *Fred Weber*

FGRS President



Member Train Items For Sale

Looking to buy or swap something? Send in your request- FGRS.Newsletter@gmail.com

This page has been created solely as a convenience to our members who want to buy and sell from other club members. FGRS takes no responsibility for the condition of the items or sale of items. Any transaction is completely between the buyer and seller.

Please submit items you would like to buy or sell to Paul Wagner, FGRS.Newsletter@gmail.com

Ads will be run for 2 months if they are not renewed. Please notify me when an item is sold, so it can be removed from the following newsletter. – Paul Wagner

**Tom Hite has for sale: Aristocraft “FA” A-B Set, like new.
Make Offer - Email tomtrain1952@gmail.com**



FGRS Membership Application for 2022

The Florida Garden Railway Society (FGRS) invites you to join a group of people who share a common Interest in large scale trains, both indoors and outdoors, or modules. We are a group of individuals, couples, and families who enjoy socializing with others and participating in train related activities.

Dues for 2022: \$25/YR for single or family memberships.

Annual dues includes a subscription to FGRS Newsletter, via web and email. If you cannot receive the newsletter via internet, a printed copy will be mailed to you. All renewals are due in January. If you are interested in joining FGRS, or to renew your membership, please complete this application and send a check payable to

Florida Garden Railway Society (FGRS)

Attn: Jay Archer, Florida Garden Railway Society,

P.O. BOX 2695

Dunedin, FL 34697-2695

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone#: _____

E-Mail: _____

Would you like your information shared with the club members (only)? Yes___ No___

Name badges are \$12 each. If mailed add \$1.00. The badge has two lines: One for your name, and the other line can have the town where you live, or the name of your railroad.

First Badge:	Second Badge:
Name: _____	Name: _____
Town or RR Name: _____	Town or RR Name: _____