



July 2017



PRESIDENT'S NOTES FROM ROSS MARVIN

Hello fellow G-scaler's;

This has been notoriously a slow time for our club as the Florida heat takes a toll on really enjoying your outside garden railway. Our Fall calendar has a few openings for future "fun run/club meeting". Tell Tom Hite, our newsletter publisher the details of when and where if you are interested in hosting.

If you are doing any inside modeling I found a few great informational sites I wanted to share with you this month. If you haven't heard of Luke Towan he has a great YOUTUBE feed on scenery. This one is on making a fence.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_guMOYocpw&index=15&list=PLuDRL4Sib4krE6LDncY892MQlr7GjDIAj)

[v=0_guMOYocpw&index=15&list=PLuDRL4Sib4krE6LDncY892MQlr7GjDIAj](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_guMOYocpw&index=15&list=PLuDRL4Sib4krE6LDncY892MQlr7GjDIAj)

He's got some great "how to" videos on everything from sidewalks and roads to mountains and rock formations.

I think this one was shared with me by Mike and it's a great video on making tunnel portals and walls at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RNNGJnAvH9A&list=PLuDRL4Sib4krE6LDncY892MQlr7GjDIAj&index=9)

[v=RNNGJnAvH9A&list=PLuDRL4Sib4krE6LDncY892MQlr7GjDIAj&index=9](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RNNGJnAvH9A&list=PLuDRL4Sib4krE6LDncY892MQlr7GjDIAj&index=9) .

Hope you are all having a great summer. Stay cool and enjoy this month's newsletter.

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FGRS UPCOMING EVENTS AT MEMBERS HOUSES

October 21st - Meeting at Dave & Ruth's house. Located at 11605 Lake Park RD in Tavares.

The Lane Park & Wherever RR will start running trains at 11:00, with plans for lunch at 12:00. The LP&W has a thousand feet of track divided into four loops, with another ninety feet of storage track in the shed. We run NCE DCC track power. Twenty two wooden bridges cross two rivers connecting three ponds and two dry river beds. I replaced the last temporary aluminum bridge with a covered bridge this year. Two mountains with fifty feet of trestle complete the layout.

November 11th - Fun Run at Chuck and Debbie Webster. Details coming soon.

UPCOMING TRAIN SHOWS

60 th Florida Rail Fair, Volusia County Fairgrounds, Deland , Fl.32734 Saturday, July 8th, 2017

Contact Charles Miller 703-536-2954. Website = www.gserr.com. EM = rrshows@aol.com

2017 The Orange Blossom Special NMRA National Convention, Orlando, July 30th - August 6th.

More Info @ www.NMRAStores.com

Orange County Convention Center August 4 - 6, 2017 9800 International Drive Orlando, FL 32819

**Friday, August 4, 2017 12:00 Noon – 6:00 PM
Saturday, August 5, 2017 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Sunday, August 6, 2017 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
NTS Website: www.nationaltrainshow.org**

The Villages Model Train Show & Sale, Saturday Aug 19th, 9-4 and Sunday Aug 20th 10-3.

More info @ www.thevillagesmodeltrainclub.com

Regal Railways Shows: for info, contact Joe Schramm or visit www.regalrailways.com; 727-244-1341. All shows 9 am - 2 pm; Early Bird 8 am - 9 am.

For a Complete list of Train Shows go to http://www.railserve.com/events/train_shows.html

Save the above web address as it has a complete updated list of Train Shows Nationwide , along with a lot of other good information about the Hobby. You will be very surprised at how many train shows there are just in Florida year round and will find them listed here.

April 28th - Fun Run at Tom & Gloria's House. Located at 23379 Superior Ave Port Charlotte. The Tropical RR hours will be 12:00 to 4:00. Bring your own lunch. Soda and water will be provided. The TRR has 400' of main line track with 20' diameter curves so bring on the Big Boys. The switching yard has 7 tracks for plenty of storage. All switches are #6.

if anyone else is interested in hosting a fun run at their house please send me an e-mail with all the details, date, time, address, length of main line, minimum diameter curves, what you will supply, and anything else you feel is pertinent to the event.

If you have requested to host an event with someone else you need to contact me to get onto the official schedule. Please do not contact any other board member. Things can get forgotten or lost in transition.

Past meets

There were no meets in June.

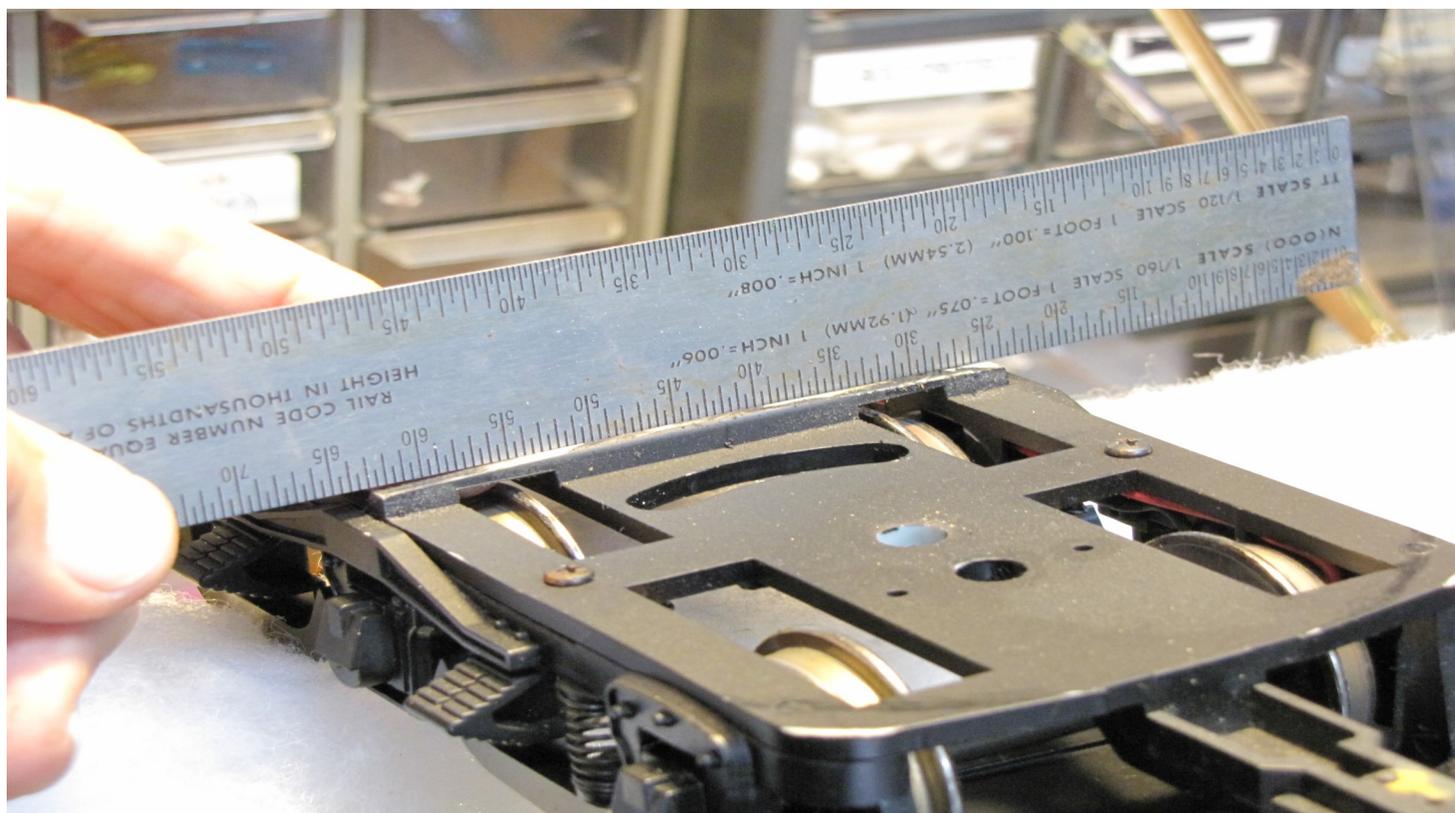
What's going on in the garden

Preventing Derailments of Aristocraft Heavyweight Passenger Cars

By Paul Wagner, with Bruce Benardo

The main problem with many of these passenger cars is that the trucks cannot rock from side to side or front-to-back to follow irregularities of the track. The cars with 6-wheel trucks were especially troublesome, but some runs of the 4-wheel truck cars had the same problem. Aristocraft made some runs with the problems corrected - if yours don't jump the track, you probably got some good ones. To find out, invert the car and try to rock the trucks in both axis.

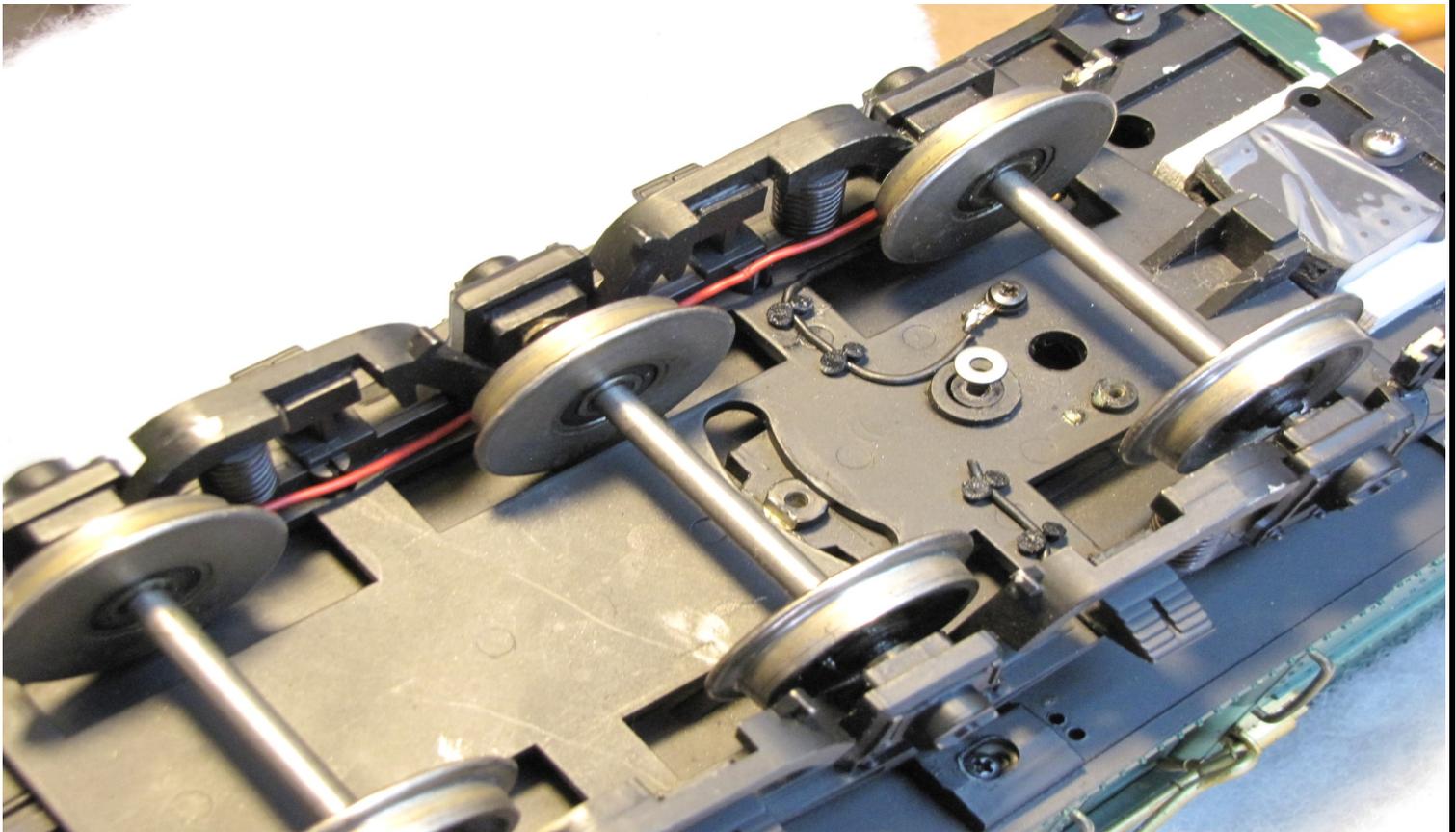
Notice the molded ridge on the truck in the picture below. In most versions of this car, it comes perfectly flat, and will not allow the truck to rock from side to side at all. Notice in the picture I have filed the flat ridge into an arc, taking care not to file off any material from the center. This allows the truck to rock from side to side. You want one truck to rock quite a bit, and the other one just a small amount which will stabilize the car.



Some cars do not have this ridge, in which case move on to checking for the ability of the truck to rock front to back.

The main thing that will keep the trucks from rocking front-to-back is that the screws with large washers which hold the trucks on are coming down too tightly. The best way to fix this is to insert a small #2 washer under the large washer to keep the screw from pulling down so far. You could also put a dab of glue on the tip of the screw (to keep it from loosening) and just run it in part way. In some cases you will have to substitute a longer screw. Replace the 1/4 inch long pivot screw on each truck with a 3/8 inch screw. This will allow the trucks to rock further front-to-back.

The picture shows a washer being placed on the truck mount. It must be small enough to avoid interfering with the truck motion. The screw and washer covering the curved slot (Already removed in the picture) can be discarded, as it is also usually too tight to allow free movement, and it is not necessary.



Check to see if there are any other ridges or guides that interfere with the truck movement, and file them down, if necessary.

Now, turn the car over and place it on a track on a table high enough for you to comfortably view the undercarriage. Move each of the front and rear axles up and down in their suspension and see if the spring compression is allowing the axle to move up and down independently of the others. You will notice the center axle has a fixed suspension, so movement of the other axles must accommodate its tracking. The springs should be 50% compressed, and the suspension should freely allow the axle to move up and down.

If the springs are not compressing at all, add weight to the car, or cut off $\frac{1}{2}$ turn from each truck spring that is not compressing. This should allow it to compress slightly, giving it equal compression to the other springs. Work first on the axles nearest the center of the car, as you may find that this shifts more weight to the other axles. The springs in the picture below are partially compressed. If the suspension is depressed all the way, "bottoming out", remove some weight from the car, or replace the springs.



Lube all sliding suspension parts of the trucks with a light silicone grease. This may attract grit and so will have to be cleaned with a spray solvent such as WD 40 or silicone spray from time to time. If grit is a problem, using only spray silicone lube or dry graphite lube would be better than grease for this.

Finally, check the gauging of the wheels. Standards are 1.575" back-to-back. The center axle needs to be a little closer than standard, possibly 1.560". There is an Aristocraft gauge that has tabs for checking this, although if the trucks run smoothly through your switches you can skip checking the wheel gauging. Push the trucks through a switch, trying to force it to jump the track at the frog and points.

LINKS TO TRAINS PAST & PRESENT

Submitted by Fred Weber.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j9mDWJMhYUI>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRIf_9iLwPM

TRAINS FOR SALE

This area will be used to list trains for sale. List them here before going to e-bay. If a club member wants it, you can save the hassle of listing and fees.

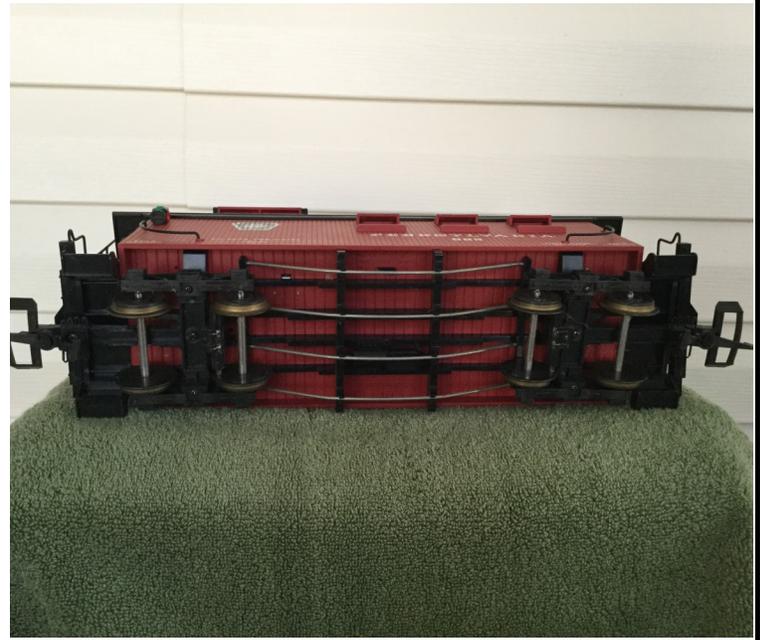
Rules are simple. Submit up to four pictures, a description of the item, contact information, and the price.

Send your info to the fgrs.newsletter@gmail.com e-mail by the cutoff date and that's it.

Items will appear for two issues.

The following items are from Bob Anttila. If interested in any item please contact him by Phone 941-468-8183 or e-mail banttila@comcast.net

All items do not include shipping.



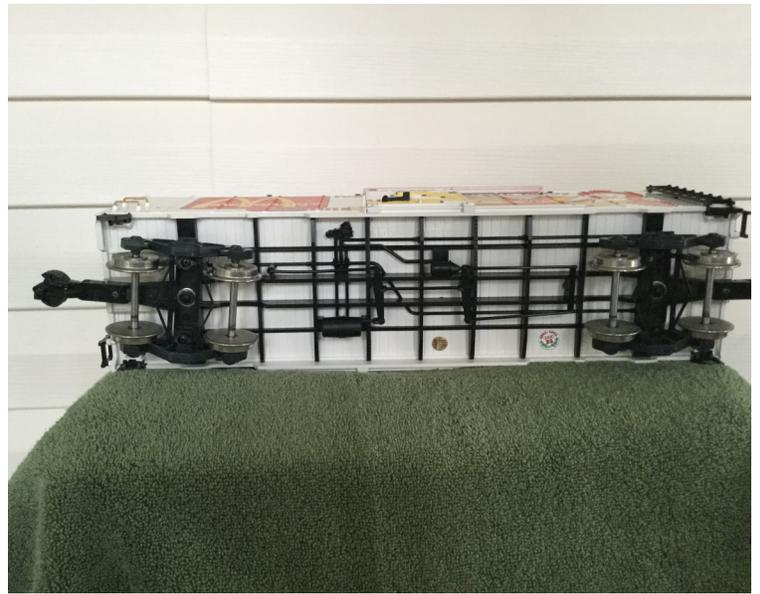
Caboose with steel wheels with hook and loop couplers. Asking \$40.00.



RAIL BOX car with plastic wheels and USA knuckle couplers.
Asking price is \$30.00



Bachmann car and trailer with steel wheels and Bachmann knuckle couplers.
Asking price is \$40.00



LGB McDonalds boxcar with steel wheels and Aristo knuckle couplers. Asking price is \$40.00.



Railroad Express Agency B&O boxcar with Plastic wheels plus hook & loop couplers. Asking price is \$30.00



Aristo flat car with 2 B&O trailer load. Car has steel wheels and Aristo couplers. Asking price is \$40.00



FGRS Membership Application

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, outdoors, or modules. We are a group of individuals, Couples, and families who enjoy socializing with others and participating in train related activities. Dues

\$30/YR for single or family memberships. Annual dues include subscriptions to FRS Newsletter. All renewals are due in January. If 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: Fred Weber, 7686 E. Oak Forest St. Floral City, FL 34436.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone#: _____

E-Mail: _____

Would you like your information shared with the club members only? Yes ___ No ___

Name badges are \$18 each. If mailed add \$3.00. They have 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: _____

Town or RR name: _____

The FGRS Newsletter will be Published by the 7th of each month. The deadline to submit information for the newsletter will always be the last day of the month.

