



May 2023
NEWSLETTER



Sharing the Joy of Garden Railroading Since 1990 !



PRESIDENT'S NOTES FROM FRED WEBER

May 2023

A very Big *Thanks* to the club members that helped at the Tampa Union Station Train day! They include Phil Barcelona, Cindy Baron, Art and Gayle Beveridge, Ray Lambert, Peter and Kathy Sowry, Paul Wagner, Mike Walls, and Millie Weber. The extra hands made a big job much smaller. Having more members at all our events makes it especially pleasant for everyone.

For those who have not attended one of these events, you have to learn to answer the biggest questions asked: "What Scale is this? You can run trains in the garden? You plowed snow with your trains? They are in the backyard?" A lot of times it's the first time many visitors have seen G scale trains.

The other thing that came out of Train Day is connecting with other clubs. We now have several invites to visit and run a G scale layout. The list of possibilities is in an article in this issue. Look it over, one could be close to where you live and you may want to think about hosting a meeting or running your trains with other train clubs. Email me if you think you would like to use one of the locations listed in the article below.

Crews Lake G-scale layout can now be used for battery operated trains. We will be looking for volunteers to replace the aluminum track. Please email me if you are interested in helping.

Bushnell Station is now stocking LGB parts. As always you can run your trains on the outdoor layout on their work day, Wednesday or from 10am to 4pm on Saturdays.

Also, one of our members is looking for help to build his layout. He lives in Chiefland, north of Ocala. I think we can plan a one day event and go up and help him. Like so many of us, age and health are slowing us down.

Keep the trains running!

- *Fred Weber*, **FGRS President 2023**

Cover Photo: FGRS President Fred Weber tells visitors about FGRS at the National Train Day event in the Tampa Union Station on May 13th, 2023.

FGRS 2023 BOARD MEMBERS



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Fgrs.president@gmail.com



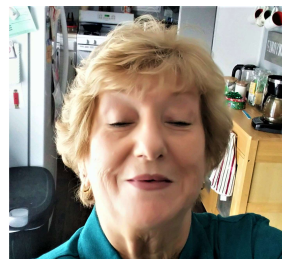
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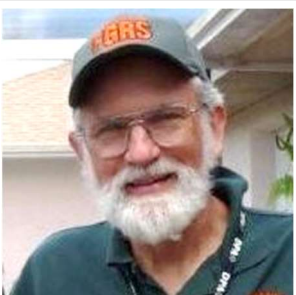
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Connecting With Other Clubs with G Scale Railroading

Club Activities Looking Ahead

By Fred Weber

Bushnell Station has been a success for several club members. This gives members a place to run their trains or the club trains on an excellent G scale layout. The layout was built by club members for the enjoyment of our club and the general public visiting the Museum. Here are some additional clubs throughout the state that we could work with:

The **Nature Coast Botanical Gardens** in Spring Hill has given us an open invite to join their Model Railroaders and run trains on their layout. The waterfall and plants make this an outstanding layout.

Wilderness Park in Pasco County is home to the Central Pasco & Gulf Railroad. They have a G Scale layout which is in need of some help. It is an elevated layout in the woods. They would like us to take it over for them. This would give our members another place to meet and run trains. They are open to the public one day a month but we would have access to the layout during daylight hours 7 days a week.

The **Florida Railroad Museum** which is in Parrish, Florida, outside of Ellenton, wants us to maintain their G-scale railroad and equipment. The layout is in a baggage car although I have not yet seen it. Details on this have not been worked out. This could be another meeting place for our membership.

The **Largo Central Railroad** located in Largo Central Park would like to have us visit or possibly build a layout. We talked about setting up our big layout for special events. No details have been worked out but I'm sure we will have a fun run at this location.

Ridge Live Steamers has a G scale layout. This is one place we have visited in the past and we will be having another fun run at their location. We may be able to get our members to run trains on their G scale layout.

Lakes Park in Ft Myers is planning a G-Scale layout in the future. They have some major repairs coming up this year because of hurricane Ian. They will be reaching out to us for help when they are ready. Our 30 year anniversary was at this location and enjoyed by many of us.

On the East Coast:

The **Central Florida Zoo and Botanical Gardens** in Sanford are interested in having a garden layout. Details are not final but the interest is there. This would be an East Coast Florida opportunity for our members.

Florida Agricultural Museum is home to the Northeast Florida Live Steamers and Railroaders. This group has a G Scale layout. We will be having a fun run at this location in the near future. We have talked with them about helping each of the clubs. Details will be coming soon.

Here are several ideas for club members to get involved with. Would you be able to help out in one or two of these places? How about a coffee and donuts meeting to run trains? The idea is to bring fellowship, run trains, and be an added value to our club membership.

We have been working hard to arrange several different activities throughout the state for all members to attend. Let the FGRS board members know what you think about all this and what your level of participation would be. We are doing this for you and need your help to keep these locations active and the hobby that we all love going!

- *Fred Weber*, **FGRS President 2023**



Don't Forget to Order Your New Shirt!

Traditional "FGRS" Shirts

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.

Men's shirts are available either with or without a pocket. Men's "Tall" sizes are only available without a pocket.

Color choices are True Royal (Blue) or White.

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. Be sure to include your email address on the order form so they can contact you if there are questions about what you want. The order form is being sent as an additional attachment with this Newsletter and also is available on the Members page of the FGRS.org website.



2023 TRAIN SHOWS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

June 03, 2023 - - Melbourne Train & Toy Show 9am - 2pm

Azan Shrine Center, 1591 W Eau Gallie Blvd, Melbourne, Florida

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

July 1, 2023 – July 8, 2023 – National Garden Railways Convention 2023

Santa Clara Convention Center 5001 Great America Pkwy.,

Santa Clara, CA

For more information go to <https://ngrc2023.org/> (See ad, next page)

July 8, 2023 – 81st Railfair, Deland, Florida

9am – 4pm

Volusia County Fairgrounds

FGRS will set up the Kid's Zone layout

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

Deland Train Show, Volusia County Fairgrounds

For a list of many other Train Shows go to

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



38TH NATIONAL GARDEN RAILWAY CONVENTION

JULY 1 - 8, 2023

**HYATT REGENCY, SANTA CLARA, CA
SANTA CLARA CONVENTION CENTER**

RECEPTION & FIREWORKS

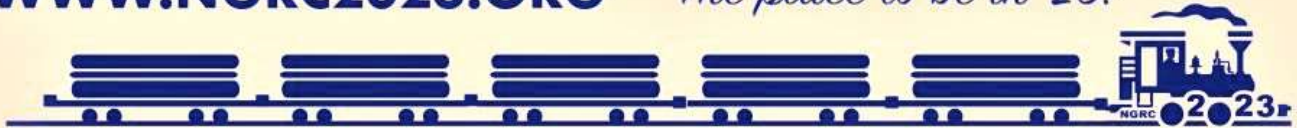
BBQ & TRAIN RIDE AT ROARING CAMP RR

ICE CREAM SOCIAL & VENDOR HALL

ACCUCRAFT BANQUET

WWW.NGRC2023.ORG

"The place to be in '23!"



Product News

April 2023

You can download an LGB catalog of LGB's **New Items** at

https://www.lgb-trains.com/lib/catalogs/issue20-29/pubs/LGB2023_383062_NewItems_EN.pdf

You can purchase a complete LGB catalog when you drop into the Bushnell Station hobby shop when you come out to run trains on our layout, ride the train, and visit the museum exhibits there.

Piko-America has a few models that have recently arrived and are currently available - Blue Goose 25T Diesel (38502), the C&S Mogul #3 (38235), and the UP Mogul #1209 (38236). There's also some models that will be arriving in May/June. These are the D&RGW Mini-Mogul #247 (38239), and a set of C&S passenger cars (38661 + 38662) + a caboose (38969)

<https://www.piko-america.com/pages/g-scale>

Split Jaw Products is introducing wider radius curved bridges for 2023; has purchased and is now producing the HR stainless track line, and is offering a line of three-color signals.

<https://www.railclamp.com/>

Model Train Technology, a manufacturer of signals and signal control systems is introducing a new under the track NANO Precision Detector (suitable for all scales) for detecting approaching trains and controlling signals.

<https://www.modeltraintechology.com/>

UPCOMING FGRS FUN RUNS/OPERATING SESSIONS

May 27 - 29 — Carter Open House & Fun Run — Ocala

Don and Lenojo Carter are hosting an FGRS open house and Fun Run Memorial Day weekend at their home located at

6130 NE 3 Place, Ocala, FL. 34470.



The Carter's will open their home on Saturday from 10:00 - 6:00; Sunday from 2:00 - 6:00; and Monday from 10:00 - 6:00. Don recommends that FGRS members visit on Saturday. The Carter's Silver River Railroad is a 1900' track powered layout that covers 1/2 acre. There is an impressive water feature with a 30' pond and plenty of structures. In addition there is a 30' by 45' elevated oval track designed for steam engines. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Come join the fun and bring a friend. Don's phone # 352-207-5434.



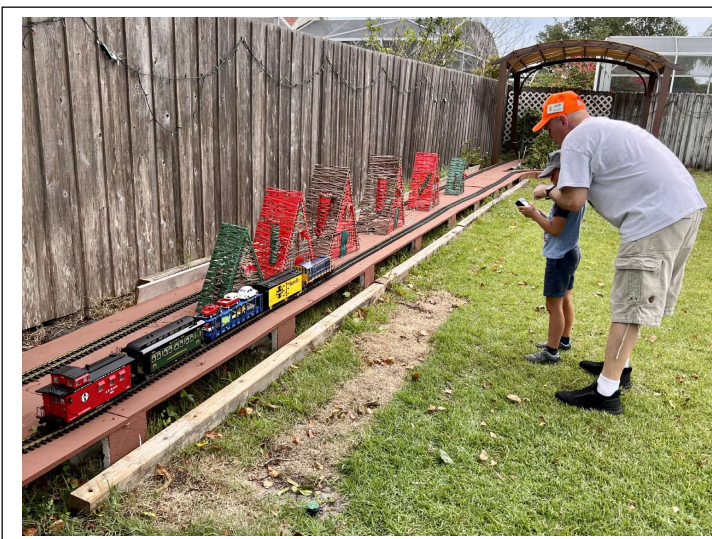
Many FGRS Meets and Fun Runs are in the works.

Contact me if you are interested in hosting a Fun Run.

Chip Danneker – FGRS Event Chairman chipdanneker@gmail.com 214-543-5133

The Month with FGRS !

The Moore family hosted a Fun Run at their home on Saturday April 29th that was enjoyed by approximately 15 club members and volunteers from Give Kids the World. Attendees enjoyed seeing the Moore's complete Aristocraft Circus train and running their own trains on the two layouts, a 14 X 18' loop around a koi pond and new 87' dog bone that stretches across two backyards. Founding club member John Crompton shared a photo album with pictures of Give Kids the World early design work and early days of the FGRS. Attendees were also able to play with a mirror photo booth that Charles has created for the Florida Aquarium, it added the FGRS logo and other stickers to photos that users texted to themselves.



The Moore's look forward to hosting another Fun Run in the spring of 2024!

Historic Venice Train Depot Circus Day May 6th

Paul and Patty Wagner arranged for FGRS to set up the Event Layout and do a Circus Themed railroad display for the Venice Area Historical Society, the first time we had set up at this depot. We had lots of help – Peter and Kathy Sowry, Richard Bliven, and Dean Crewsden showed up early and we all pitched in, but that didn't make it easy.... This freight room was up seven steps, which didn't seem



like much, but lugging those modules, trains, and equipment was exhausting for us (ahem...) mature folks. Thanks to Dean, we had an additional circus train to add to the one Fred sent down from the FGRS collection, besides a great set of circus cars that our thoughtful daughter had sent us for Christmas over the years. Patty set up a great circus scene using a circus tent and a

box full of circus themed figures and accessories that Fred and Millie sent down. Paul dug out an old sound effects unit that played cheerful calliope music from under the circus scene. Well it seemed cheerful until we had heard it about a hundred times. Finally, we were all relieved when Richard crawled under the module to turn the d___mned thing off! Ha! Ha!



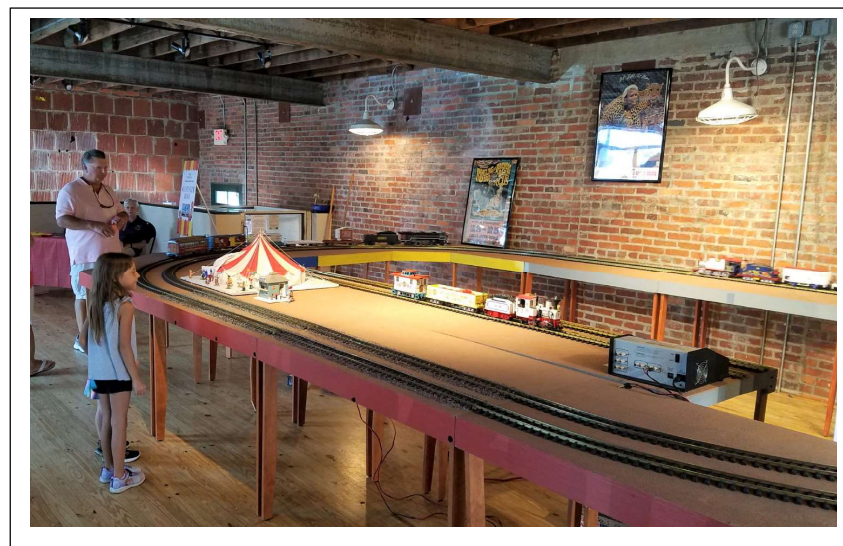
A historical circus Pullman car was outside, and the depot was filled with historic lore of when Venice was the headquarters for the circus. Some excellent scale models were on display in the depot and the passenger car.



Meanwhile, clowns, acrobats, and all sorts of circus and railroad folks were roaming around the station platform.....



...bringing back the days when the circus came to town!



Fun Run at Charlie Beall's May 7th

Story and Photos by Chip Danneker

On Sunday May 7 an enthusiastic group of FGRS members visited Charlie Beall's beautiful home on Lake Ola in Mount Dora for a day of fun, friends, food and a famous layout. Charlie had four trains running on his 70' x 90' layout. This impressive display with over 1,200 feet of track, four mainlines, a koi pond and waterfall has been featured in Garden Railways magazine. The guests enjoyed watching the G-scale trains, numerous structures, an impressive N-scale layout, and a relaxing lunch break overlooking the lake. Mark your calendars for next year's event the weekend after Mother's Day 2024.



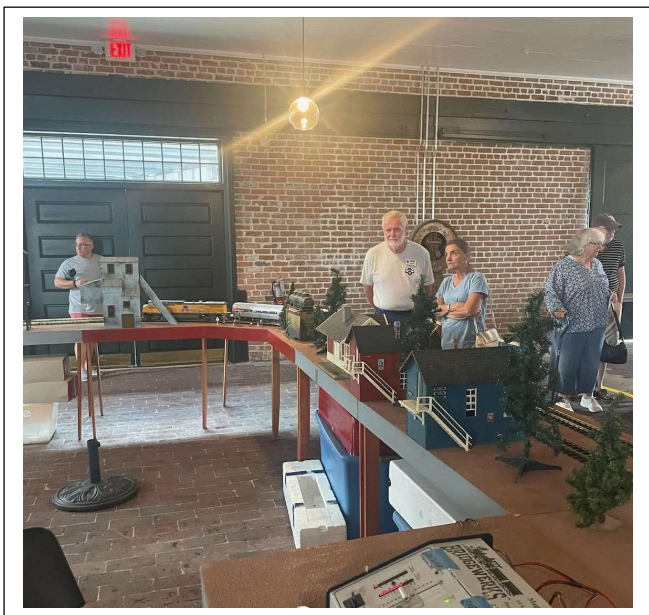


National Train Day at Tampa Union Station May 13th

Our president, Fred Weber, spearheaded the setup of the FGRS layout as we joined in with several other model and historical railroad clubs to bring the history of railroading to the people of the Tampa area.



Many thanks to Phil Barcelona, Cindy Baron, Art and Gayle Beveridge, Ray Lambert, Peter and Kathy Sowry, Paul Wagner, Mike Walls, and Millie Weber for their part in making this a success.



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

Don Carter – Ocala, Florida

352-207-5434

doncarter521@embarqmail.com

I am handling the sale of a collection of trains for Mary Day, the widow of Ron Day, both members of FGRS until the death of Ron several years ago. For information and scheduling appointments to see the equipment contact Don Carter 352-207-5434 9:00am-9:00pm week days.

I can have items of interest to serious buyers at my open house in May for inspection. I will send a complete list to potential buyers by email (pdf) on request.

All items are new (1995) and newer, never run and in their appropriate factory box.

Prices are firm with cash or check and pick up only. (No shipping)

Trains are located in Umattilla Fl.

I will schedule and meet anyone interested in purchasing at her residence in Umattilla. (At Mary's convenience) A lot of the USA Trains items are beer cars with plastic wheels priced at \$40.00 each. Many other freight cars are similar.

The collection Includes:

44 USA Trains Freight Cars

11 LGB Freight Cars, One LGB #2019 Engine and Tender, 3 Reversing Units

LGB Cross Ties for Code 332 Track - Brown, 1 ft. sections 2-1/2 Cases

14 Aristocraft Freight Cars, 2 Aristocraft Engines

Bachmann: 25 Freight Cars; 6 Passenger Cars; 3 Engines

AML: 4 Freight Cars; 1 engine

FGRS Membership Application for 2023

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 2023: \$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: Ray Lambert, Membership Chairman
410 S Center Street
Eustis, FL 32726

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