

FLORIDA



Garden Railway Society

March 2023

NEWSLETTER



Sharing the Joy of Garden Railroading Since 1990 !



PRESIDENT'S NOTES FROM FRED WEBER

March 2023

Congratulations to Arthur & Vicki Ross; and John & Jane Sloane for being the winners of the “paid your dues on time” drawing. Both couples have won a \$50 gift certificate for use at the Bushnell Station. It can be used for anything the gift shop sells which includes LGB trains and Pola buildings.

It's been a very busy time of the year for the club with two Scottish Festivals and one train show, a special layout tour, a Spring Festival/Master Gardener Show in Ocala, and a special event at Bushnell Station. I want to thank all the club members who made these events run smoothly.

I especially want to thank everyone who made the Marklin/LGB event at Bushnell Station a great success. We had 38 members attend and I hope I was able to talk with all of you. They were joined by 150 other train enthusiasts that share our hobby. Fourteen members of the Columbus Ohio G Scale Club visited for that event, and we also put on a special layout tour for their benefit. A special thank you to Don & Lenojo Carter; Dave & Ruth Taisch; Charlie Beall; Mike & Tracy Walls; and Bruce and Patty Krumeich, who all opened up their homes and garden railways to our visitors from Ohio.

The Columbus Ohio Garden Railway Society has invited us to participate in their open house layout tour on September 8 thru 10, 2023, which is the weekend after Labor Day. Please read the special *All Aboard* you will be receiving soon for a sampling of events you would be enjoying if you can make that trip. Besides visiting 15 of their layouts, you will have the opportunity to see EnterTRAINment Junction, which will be a 3-to-4-hour tour (and you will not see it all). You won't want to miss the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland and/or other attractions in the central Ohio area. These are just a couple of ideas for additional sightseeing during this event.

**** PLEASE TAKE THE ONE QUESTION SURVEY **** at the bottom of the special *All Aboard* when you receive it! We need to know how many people would be interested if we plan this trip for this year.

Over the past couple events I have talked with people just starting with garden railroading. As I explain the benefits of club membership and how our members would be more than happy to help them, we will be reaching out to you to help these new members. This will help the newbies get started on the right foot.

- *Fred Weber*, **FGRS President 2022**

Cover Photo: Tom Hite gives instructions to a budding young engineer as the trains run through Tom's fully signaled modules at the Palmetto Train Show on February 18, 2023.

Photo by Paul Wagner

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.



FGRS 2022 BOARD MEMBERS



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



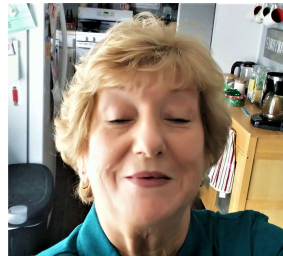
FGRS Vice President – Eastern Region
Phil Barcelona
386-562-4859
fgrs.vicepresident@gmail.com



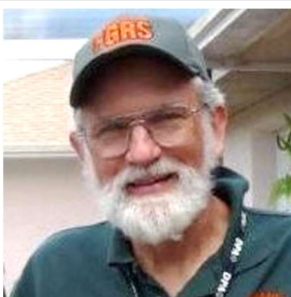
FGRS Event Coordinator
Chip Danneker
214-543-5133
chipdanneker@gmail.com



FGRS Secretary
Millie Weber
941-224-2996
Fgrs.secretary@
gmail.com



FGRS Treasurer
Inga Thaw
352-341-7799
Thawwillie42@
gmail.com



FGRS Newsletter
Paul Wagner
941-445-0409
Fgrs.newsletter
@gmail.com



FGRS Membership
Ray Lambert
954-551-3392
fgrs.membership
1992@gmail.com

2022 TRAIN SHOWS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

April 1 — Golden Spike Model Train & RR Artifacts Show — DeLand 1:00 - 8:00pm

Voulsia County Fairgrounds, 3150 East New York Ave, DeLand, FL

FGRS will have both layouts at this show. <http://www.gserr.com/>

April 1 — Suncoast Model Railroad Show and Open House 9AM – 3PM

Pinellas Performing Arts Center

4851 78th Ave N, Pinellas Park, FL

Club Open house at 12355 62nd Avenue N, Largo, FL

http://www.suncoastmrrc.com/pdfs/Train_Show_Flyer.pdf

April 14,15, 2023 - The East Coast Large Scale Train Show

1564 Whitehall Rd, Annapolis, MD 21409

One of the premier model railroading conventions in the eastern United States

May 06, 2023 – VENICE MUSEUMS DAY

Historic Venice Train Depot

303 E. Venice Ave., Venice FL 34285

FGRS will set up the event layout

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)

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**

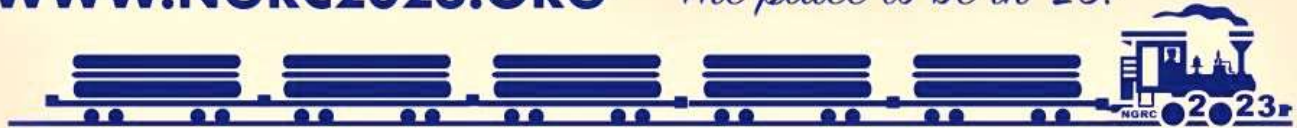
RECEPTION & FIREWORKS

BBQ & TRAIN RIDE AT ROARING CAMP RR

ICE CREAM SOCIAL & VENDOR HALL

ACCUCRAFT BANQUET

"The place to be in '23!"



Product News

January 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.

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/>

Sunset Valley Railroad track products company is still delivering product, but the owners are retiring and the company is for sale.

<https://www.sunsetvalleyrailroad.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/>

EggHaulers, a company producing an innovative line of freight cars based on the Aristocraft (Now Bachmann) Eggliner powered units are offering an updated Easter Carrot EggHauler with new carrots, and a new Honey Bee Gnome's Express (3 EggHaulers), now on sale. <https://store-egg haulers-com.3dcartstores.com/>

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

March 25, 2023 – At the Nature Coast Botanical Gardens, and Open House Fun Run at the Centralia Garden Railroad at the home of Doug and Lynn Brainard, Spring Hill, Florida

Doug and Lynn are hosting a two layout meet – starting out at **Nature Coast Botanical Gardens**

1489 Parker Ave, Spring Hill, FL.

9:30AM til 1PM.

They will provide water and soft drinks, and a sandwich platter. They welcome covered dishes of all kinds. We will eat at the gardens in a new covered pavilion there. After we eat, around 1 PM, people are welcome to go to Doug and Lynn’s house which is 3.6 miles away at 8119 Earlshire Lane, Spring Hill.

We plan to have the desserts at Doug and Lynn’s house.

DOUG NEEDS A HEAD COUNT TO KNOW WHAT TO BUY. PLEASE RSVP TO DOUG AND LYNN AT 352-667-3140.

The Nature Coast Garden Railroad is newly refurbished and is quite impressive. Doug’s layout has also been refinished with new buildings upgraded tracks, and more.



**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**

Palmetto Train Show – February 18 – 19

By Paul Wagner

The FGRS display was a huge success. We attracted lots of folks to a train show otherwise almost devoid of any garden railroading displays.

First, let me thank Tim Smith and Jennifer who modified modules from their patio layout to interface with the FGRS style modules built by Tom Hite. Tom's modules featured railroad block signals, operating crossing gates, and street-corner traffic signals. These were all controlled by a custom electronic console designed and built by Tom, utilizing



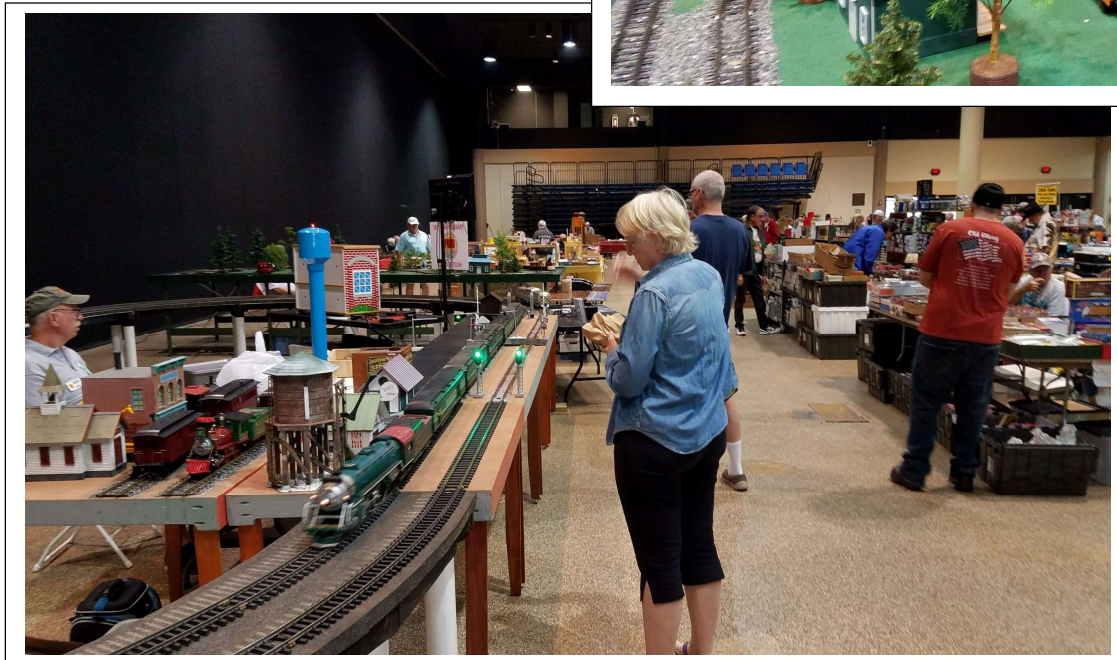
seven Arduino processor modules, with appropriate interface LED driver modules, all triggered by laser track sensors from Model Train Technology Co. who also manufactured the signals and crossing gates.

Tom ran his RDC car and a CSX Geep pulling a tanker train, both controlled with a Railpro wireless system with sound, and he gave passers by the chance to try their hand at controlling the trains with it. Paul ran his "Crescent Limited" Southern Railway Pacific with a heavyweight passenger train, controlled with a legacy Airwire system.



(Palmetto Train Show continued next page)

We also set up a new layout built by Don Carter which was equally as entertaining, running two trains which were especially interesting to the youngsters. Bill Wolle took responsibility for that layout, and gave kids a chance to run trains with the Bridgemasters powerpacks we had on hand. Bill ran his finely crafted wooden freight train which drew a great deal of attention.



Tim Smith gave clinics on the new battery/control system, “Blunami”, showing off the electronic modules and running an engine equipped with the system, which includes a robust sound system.

Also a big thank you to Richard Bliven and Patty Wagner who interfaced with the visitors to our display, and pitched in with the set-up and tear down of the display.

Report on March Events, So Far!

Special Layout Tour and Bushnell Station LGB Event - March 10th & 11th Photos and Text by Mike Walls

Fourteen members of the Columbus Ohio Garden Railway Society showed their enjoyment in visiting the layouts of Don & Lenojo Carter, Dave & Ruth Taisch, Charlie Beall, Mike & Tracy Walls, and Bruce and Patty Krumeich, who all opened up their homes and garden railways to our visitors from Ohio.

While on the tour, they all took a break and had lunch together at the Hurricane Dockside Grill in Tavares, and on Saturday, March 11th, they joined us in the special LGB event at Bushnell Station.



(Report on March Events, So Far – Continued Next Page)

Marion County Spring Festival/Master Gardener Show – Ocala March 11 & 12

Photos by Don Carter and Fred Weber

This two day festival took place in the Southeastern Livestock in Ocala. Don and Lenojo Carter built a new 5' x 16' table top layout to show gardeners visiting the event what a garden railroad could look like.





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

Bachmann Metal Wheels

I have been asked to reorder metal wheels. In order to receive the special pricing, we will need a minimum of 10 boxes, either 24 or 48 axles.

One box of 48 axles or 12-4 axle train cars is \$160 plus shipping.

One box of 24 axles or 6-4 axle train cars is \$85 plus shipping.

My best guess on shipping will be about \$10 a box.

Please email me or call me no later than March 20th to let me know if you're interested.

FGRS.president@gmail.com

410-310-6001

Fred

Vintage Train Catalogs and Magazine back issues

FREE!! The catalogs are interesting for reference and collectors, there are back issues of Garden Railways, Trains, Railfan, BTO, and others. I have had folks offer to give me an entire library of Garden Railways I can hook you up with.

THESE OLD MAGAZINES ARE NEW IF YOU HAVEN'T READ THEM YET!

Also have some VHS railroad tapes.

Let me know if you are interested and I will bring them to Doug Brainard's meet on next Saturday, March 25th.

Call Paul Wagner

941-445-0409

FGRS.Newsletter@gmail.com



From the Newsletter Desk

Paul Wagner

We Need Photos of Our Events From Your Phones!

Come on everybody! In this day and age, I know that most of you are texting - or facebooking - or emailing - pictures of your darling grand kids doing their first (whatever) while visiting you - to your friends and family, if not pictures of your fried eggs in the morning, or some other part of your life you think really lights up someone's day.....come on, don't deny it!

So it's baffling to me, as FGRS Newsletter Editor, that after an important FGRS event which is attended by 38 of our members and 150 others, that after frantically phoning everyone I knew who had made it there, I only got photographs from one individual!

To make this a first class newsletter that is fun to read, we really need a round of photos from all of our meets, shows, and events of all kinds. We all want to see pictures of the people, the trains, the craftsmanship, the technology, and all the things that make our times together so rewarding and so much fun.

So at our next activity, please have your cellphone handy, and just take a few seconds, every now and then, to point and shoot an interesting moment for the newsletter. Hit the paper clip in a text to me, or the "Share" symbol, and send it to either my cellphone or email it to me, and I will share it with everyone in our newsletter. And if you can, add a few words about what's going on, what you are enjoying the most, the names of folks who are in the picture, and *viola!* We'll have a brief article to share! You don't have to be a professional photographer. In case you haven't noticed, it's hard to take a bad picture with your phone - those little cellphone cameras are amazing! Give me a call if you're unsure of how to send them via text or email, and I'll fill you in. It's just a matter of noticing the little "paper clip" or "Share" symbol, and choosing the symbol that leads you to selecting the picture and inserting it in a text or email. I'm looking forward to hearing from you. Thanks!

Paul Wagner

FGRS Newsletter Editor

Cellphone- 941-445-0409

Email – FGRS.Newsletter@gmail.com

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.

<p>First Badge:</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Town or RR Name: _____</p>	<p>Second Badge:</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Town or RR Name: _____</p>
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