

# On Track with The Columbus Garden Railway Society



May 2025

# Engineer's note:

## Upcoming Destinations:

Come join us! Get these dates on your calendar. Details on following pages...

### **Next Club meetings 2-4pm**

May 25 Doug & Ginny Clark Delaware  
 June 29 Gary Buchanan Lancaster  
 July 27 Paul Jackson Reynoldsburg  
 Aug 31 Alvan Mann Columbus



### **News table meetings 7-8pm ish**

June 19 Mary Ricci Westerville  
 July 17 Cecil Easterday Dublin  
 Aug 21 Paul & Dana Ginot Delaware

...more events & details read on the website...  
 directions shared by D Kruest in emails closer to event

[TheCGRS.org](http://TheCGRS.org)

Hello Everyone,

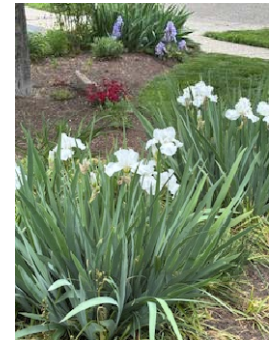
Happy May! So many things happening this month, belated Happy Mothers day to all the Moms and Grandmas in our club. We hope that you enjoyed your special day! Graduations, Memorial Day, and summer vacations start for most of us. The busy summer season begins!

The Club continues to be engaged in so many events and plans. Lisa and Tim have decided to keep "On Track" monthly, and Sheila will jump in as available. For those traveling this summer, please send in short descriptions and pics to share your train & garden experiences.

Dave Bush and family are featured this month.

*Enjoy your summer and your Garden Railways.*

Sheila Young, Tim and Lisa Dove



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# Thank you, Briane & Connie Spangler for hosting our April meeting!



Some highlights...



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# Briane & Connie Spangler meeting Clinic... brazing & soldering!



Thanks Craig!



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# Directions to our next Destination

## Next Club Meeting

Leaving the Station...

The home and garden railway of Doug & Ginny Clark

- When: Sunday May 25, 2025
- Where: 249 Penick Ave Delaware, Ohio
- Time : 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Bring a chair...
- Clinic Topic: Mary Ricci  
Day Trips to KY & IN



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# A Reminder...

## our *CGRS* Building adoptions

Over time, many of our layout buildings need a refresh and some love. Our club buildings are no different. At our club meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup> members “adopted” a structure from the club.

Refresh it up to your standards. Have fun but some considerations...

- 1 *It must remain self contained***
- 2 *You will return to the club for use at the June 29<sup>th</sup> club meeting (or make other arrangements if you cannot make that meeting)***
- 3 *Make sure it has a box to protect and be able to pack it with others (some already have boxes)***

\*\*\*Examples of *before and after* work from Bev Mann along with Painting & Glueing tips were in our April newsletter.



# The Club is on the move... What an event!



The *Great Lakes Large Scale Train Expo!* in Girard OH was a huge success! We had 30 CGRS members attend at some point over the two days! Thanks to Jed H, Tim D, Paul G, Craig B, Bev and Alvin M for set up and take down of our exhibit.

CGRS was well received and had a lot of interest in our Fall open house along with a few new members as a result.

It was great to support the efforts of one of the coordinators (and CGRS friend) Andrew Fitch.

Highlights on following pages...



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# The Great Lakes Large Scale Train Expo 2025



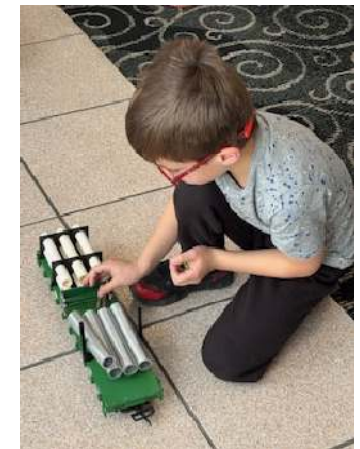
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# The Great Lakes Large Scale Train Expo 2025

A few things to consider purchasing... a G Scale candy store! (only some of availability at the show)



The Kids activities and door prizes were a hit!



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# The Great Lakes Large Scale Train Expo 2025

CGRS members 'patiently' waiting to win door prizes...  
and some of our winners!



Need another train shirt?



What does one  
do when spending  
the night?

Work on trains  
of course!

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# Welcome New Members...

Welcome to the club and getting *On Track* with The CGRS. We are glad that you have decided to join us for the ride and scenic hobby of a lifetime. Our club members can help you with any questions you may have. In addition, we would love to have you give us new ideas and expertise that you can offer about our hobby. We would love to know more about you and your interest in garden railways.

Welcome to Our Crew Members:

## Todd & Eric Bush

Mount Sterling

## Jason Reinke Jr.

New Middletown



Membership Form & Information  
<https://thecgrs.org/membership/>

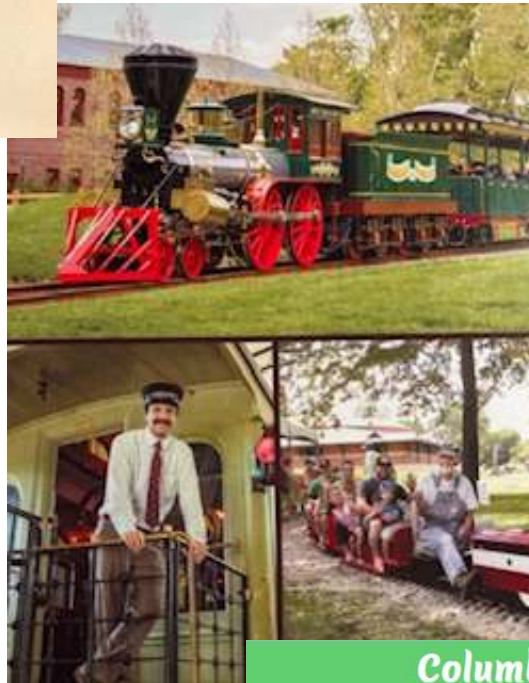
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# Something fun to consider

Train events “closer to us” to consider:



Great Day trip for the entire family!



**JUNE 21 & 22**  
Saturday 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM  
Sunday 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

1000 Carillon Blvd. • Dayton, OH 45409 • 937-293-2841  
[daytonhistory.org](http://daytonhistory.org) • [railfestival.com](http://railfestival.com)

**ADMISSION:**  
\$14/Adult (18-59) • \$12/Senior (60+)  
\$10/Child (3-17) • 2 and Under are FREE  
Dayton History Members are FREE!

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**COME ABOARD AND JOIN US!**

LIVE STEAM ENGINES • MODEL TRAIN DISPLAYS  
HISTORICAL EXHIBITS • RAILROAD VENDORS

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## The Gardens (in Garden Railroading)...

### Unwelcome Guests: *INVASIVE WEEDS – 3 MOST (NOT) WANTED!*

By now, your garden railroad is up and running, and you are beginning to enjoy the results of your hard work in April and early May.

If you have not already done so, now is the time to get your 1” of mulch down in your garden, to help cool the roots of your flowering plants and conserve water in the soil. The Farmer’s Almanac has predicted a relatively calm summer with average temperatures and rainfall. La Niña, has ended, and it appears that the Pacific Ocean surface temperatures appear to be returning to normal. This affects the jet stream and is good news for us in Ohio.

- While you are out in the garden, you may want to be on the look out for the listed invasive plants on the next few pages, which are harmful to humans and pets. Be sure to wear protective clothing and dispose of the plant properly. I have added electronic links to the OSU Agriculture data base, for you to visit to see pictures, and more information.



## The Gardens (in Garden Railroading)... continued

**POISON HEMLOCK:** <https://bygl.osu.edu/node/2111>

Poison Hemlock is a deadly plant to both humans and animals. All parts of the plant are toxic: leaves, stems seeds and roots. The plant is spread by seeds in late summer, and now is the best time to look for the young plants in your garden. I have found quite a few this year in my yard, as I am only a few streets away from the 71/161 exchange.

- I follow this rule: if it looks like a carrot leaf, and I didn't plant it – it's gone. Removal of the young florets is the only way to slow the spread of this intruder. Be vigilant and be careful. The toxins do not cause a skin irritation or blisters like Poison Ivy. Hint: It is in the same family as Queen Anne's Lace but has *purple blotches* on the stems.



## The Gardens (in Garden Railroading)... continued

### **BITTERSWEET NIGHTSHADE:**

<https://weedguide.cfaes.osu.edu/singlerecord.asp?id=82>

- This is very common in our area and are toxic to both humans and animals. However, birds love the berries, so it is easily spread, if not controlled. The sap in this plant can cause a skin reaction similar to poison ivy, but for some people, it can be much worse. Best way to manage this plant is to pull the vines before they flower. If you have shrubs along a fence line, be sure to check around and under the hedge. The key is to pull it (roots and all) before it produces seed. Look for the distinct purple flower. Also, this has a strong smell when it is pulled.



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## The Gardens (in Garden Railroading)... continued

### POISON IVY:

<https://weedguide.cfaes.osu.edu/singlerecord.asp?id=113>

Many of us know the rule: *Leafs are 3, let it be!* The oil from this plant (leaves and stems) cause severe blistering and swelling. If you come in contact with this plant, immediate soap and water will help remove the oil, and all clothes should be washed (separately, not with other laundry). Again, be careful around telephone poles, hedges, and fence lines. It is easy to identify this vine in the fall with its bright red leaves. Gloves and long sleeves while working in these types of areas is recommended.

Obviously there are many more plants that gardeners consider to be weeds. Weeds are simply plants that have chosen to exist where they are not wanted. If you are interested in more information about identified weeds in Ohio, please visit the link: <https://weedguide.cfaes.osu.edu>



- Lisa Dove – (forestparkgardener@gmail.com)

## An Information Meeting about possible trip!!!

**Sunday, June 22 from 1-2:30pm**

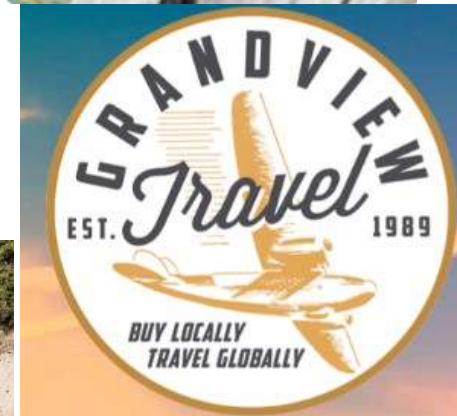
**150 East Wilson Bridge Rd Worthington OH**

Fred Kerner from Grandview Travel and a representative from Rocky Mountaineer Luxury Train company will present a program on "The First Passage to the West," with Rocky Mountaineer. This exciting journey will travel through the majestic Canadian Rockies from Vancouver, British Columbia, to Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

This will be a optional group trip for 2026, with a date to be determined.

The complete itinerary will be discussed along with inclusions and the expected total cost. Please RSVP to Sheila Young [1229hope@gmail.com](mailto:1229hope@gmail.com) , by June 19.

- More information on this journey can be found at <http://www.rockymountaineer.com>.



# Members on the move... The Bush Family!

CGRS members David, Sherry, and their daughter Madeline recently took a train-filled trip to St. Louis, Missouri, where their travels revolved around locomotives both big and small. Their adventure began with a visit to the St. Louis Zoo—one of the few free zoos in the country.

While admission to the zoo was complimentary, the family opted to ride the scenic Zoo Line Railroad, a narrow-gauge train that loops around the park. For just eight dollars a person, they enjoyed unlimited hop-on-hop-off rides, which proved to be a welcome break from the miles of walking the zoo demands.



The journey to the zoo was just as exciting, as the family rode the St. Louis MetroLink from their hotel and passed through the city's downtown rail yard, where they caught glimpses of freight trains and switching locomotives in action.

# The National Museum of Transportation... (trip cont)

But the true highlight of the trip was their visit to the National Museum of Transportation, a must-see for any train enthusiast. Located in the western suburbs of St. Louis, the museum boasts one of the largest and most diverse collections of transportation vehicles in the world.

Among the massive locomotives on display, none impressed more than Union Pacific 4006, one of the famous “Big Boy” steam engines—among the largest and most powerful ever built. Other highlights included a trolley ride, the #724 Georgia Rainbow Locomotive which was painted to show all the parts of the locomotive and a real snow thrower.



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## The National Museum of Transportation... (trip cont)

The museum also features a fully operational G scale garden railroad outside, delighting visitors young and old with miniature trains winding through beautifully landscaped tracks.

Between full-size engines and pint-sized replicas, the CGRS crew found themselves immersed in a world of trains—making St. Louis an unforgettable destination on their railway adventures (at least for David).



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# Beginners Help Page... Another Source & Perspective

**THE ORIGINAL FENCE THE ONLY FAMILY GARDEN TRAINS™**

This free article is sponsored by Family Garden Trains(tm)

For more information from Family Garden Trains, click on any link below:

**Building a Simple Raised Railroad**

Garden Railroading Primer Articles

Best Choices For Beginning Garden Railroaders

Garden Train Starter Sets

Bachmann Garden Trains

Garden Railroad Track Order Form

Garden RR Buildings

Large Scale Christmas Trains

Free Large Scale Signs & Graphics

Garden Railroading Books, Videos & Magazines

Collectible Trains & Villages

This is another nice resource for beginners (and those of us looking to modify) who are considering starting their own railway.

If interested in his entire index of resources...

<https://familygardentrains.com/index.htm>

Written by Paul D. Race

[https://familygardentrains.com/primer/fence\\_posts/fence\\_posts.htm](https://familygardentrains.com/primer/fence_posts/fence_posts.htm)

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We'll reserve a seat for you!

**News table meetings 7 until 8pm ish**

We review the efforts of the club and make future plans for the organization.

**June 19 Mary & Tom Ricci**

6039 Poplar Ridge Drive, Westerville

**July 17 Cecil Easterday**

6000 Riverside Drive, Dublin

**Aug 21 Paul & Dana Ginot**

771 Rutherford Ct., Delaware

...more events & details read on the website

[TheCGRS.org](http://TheCGRS.org)

## News Table Meetings

Please join us for Our Club News Table on June 19<sup>th</sup> hosted by Mary & Tom Ricci. Your time and talent is a big part of our club. We would enjoy you help in guiding the different aspects of our organization along with your ideas and creative suggestions in railroading.



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# Reminders for this summer...

## A Day trip from Central Ohio

Oh! The Places you will go...

Hocking Valley Scenic Railway Robbery Train fun:  
Train Departs from Nelsonville, Ohio at 6pm

June 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>  
July 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>  
August 9<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>

Pricing \$25 Adults  
\$21 Children 3-12  
\$23 Senior/Military  
\$19 Wheelchair Ticket

<https://www.hvsry.org/train-rides/ohios-friendliest-train-robbery/>



Please read the information on each web site to know important details

Ohio Rail Experience:

Scheduled rides throughout the summer, including:

June 14 (Washington Court House to Urbana),

June 15 (Urbana to Maitland),

June 21 (Jackson Center to Washington CH),

June 22 (Leipsic to Diann, MI).

<https://www.ohiorailexperience.com/2025-schedule>

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## ***CGRS Timetable***

Members! Make sure to pay attention to the CGRS Timetable emails from Doug Kruest!

Doug provides important and timely information for the club and its members throughout the year.

Latest Shared... May 11 about the Great Lakes Large Scale Train Expo... Membership has its privileges ;)



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## *Referenced from the CGRS Timetable*

from Sue Elliott 5/14...

<https://mgrs.org/newsletters>

You can sign up as well...

The Minnesota G Scale Railway Society sends out great info! Check out the latest (and archived) Workshop & Train Station Newsletters!

At [MGRS.org](http://MGRS.org)



# CGRS merchandise...

The CGRS Depot Store:

- Crew neck sweatshirts - XSmall to 4Xlarge - \$25.00 to \$27.00
- Golf shirts S to 3XL - \$28.00 to \$42.00
- Golf Shirts WITH pocket - same sizes as golf shirts without pockets - \$37.00 to \$45.00
- Jackets with hood - S to 3XL - \$62.00
- Hats - baseball type \$18.00 please choose color - Khaki, green, black, white.
- PLEASE NOTE: ALL golf shirts are ordered without a pocket unless a pocket is requested. **Bob Collins** is our Conductor for all wearable merchandise. Any questions, please contact him at 614-975-5753.



Name Tags with Magnet fastener \$6 each

Bag Tags with loop \$8 each

## Order forms

<https://thecgrs.org/members/cgrs-store/>



# About us

## Contacts

- *Newsletter related business, articles and classified ads*  
**Tim, Lisa Dove & Sheila Young**
- *Membership & Address Changes*  
**Bob Collins**
- *General Information & Webmaster*  
**Kent Kloes**
- *News Table Meeting Agendas*  
**Jed Hacker**
  - *Traveling / Display Layout*  
**Doug Kruest**
    - *Meeting hosts*  
**Dave Bush**
- *Principal Business Contact*  
**Bill Logan**
  - *Bills and Invoices*  
**Lisa Dove**



### **The Coal Hopper:** (Suggestion Box)

Where everyone can add their fuel to the fire of our hobby...

Suggestions, comments and creative ideas for upcoming events, news table meeting agenda items, possible new event ideas, information etc. are welcomed here. For CGRS to stay on track your input is important to us.

Send your ideas **Contact Us** (bottom of [TheCGRS.org](http://TheCGRS.org) page)

Select **Newsletter** Tim, Lisa Dove & Sheila Young

Start message with “Coal” or “Idea”...

# This Issue: May 2025

Vol. 34 number 5

*ON TRACK* is intended as a medium in which to share the news and views of the Columbus Garden Railway Society members.

CGRS is an informal group which meets monthly or so to share a common interest in garden railroading and to socialize.

Membership is open to all interested persons. All articles in this newsletter are provided by our members unless otherwise noted.

Article and content contributors:  
Sheila Young, Lisa Dove, Tim Dove, Dave Bush, & Doug Kruest.

Photography contributors:  
Tim Dove, Kent Kloes, Dave Bush & Jed Hacker.

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Any articles for the June issue are due to [TMDedc@gmail.com](mailto:TMDedc@gmail.com) by June 15.

