

# On Track with The Columbus Garden Railway Society



July 2025

# Engineer's note:

## Upcoming Destinations:

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

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

July 27 Paul Jackson, Reynoldsburg

Aug 31 Alvin & Bev Mann, Columbus

Sep 28 Robert & Eileen Brenner, Sunbury

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

Aug 21 Paul & Dana Minot, Delaware

Sep 18 Mary Ricci, Westerville

Oct 16 Brian Santin, Columbus



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

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

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to the storms of July. The rains have at least added to the lush surroundings of our back yards with trains. CGRS members are still taking advantage of summer trips. *On Track* continues to inform and share our adventures!

In this issue: Highlights from our June meeting,

A trip to Cuyahoga Valley Scenic RR,

A member contribution to local Garden Tour,

Gardening information,

The latest possible trip information,

Upcoming events, and the regular contact,

Membership & Merchandise info.

*Continue to enjoy your summer and*

*your Garden Railways,*

Tim Dove



# Thank you, Gary Buchannan for hosting our June meeting!



Some highlights...



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...and members enjoy another great day with Garden Railroads!



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# Directions to our next Destination

## Next Club Meeting

Leaving the Station...

The home and garden  
railway of Paul Jackson



- When: Sunday Jul 27, 2025
- Where: 8250 Reynoldswood Dr. Reynoldsburg , Ohio
- Time : 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Bring a chair...
- Program: Club Building Refurbish Efforts part III (new examples)

Guidelines on next page

# A Friendly 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 We will continue to return to the club for use at our next club meeting***  
*(or make other arrangements if you cannot make this meeting)*
- 3 Make sure it has a box to protect and be able to pack it with others (some already have boxes)***



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**So far... the updates have been amazing!!!**

# Beth & Kent Kloes visit the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic RR!



The sign shows the different stops on the route. We took the train from Independence (just south of Cleveland) to the north end of Akron. It began running in 1880 and followed pretty much the route of the Ohio & Erie Canal.



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# Cuyahoga Valley Scenic RR visit (cont.)



A few places along the way gave us views of the old towpath for the canal. In addition to the old towpath, there is a bike trail, or you can kayak or canoe down the Cuyahoga River, and take the train (with your bike or kayak on board) back to your beginning stop. The cars were 1930's standard Pullman cars.



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# Cuyahoga Valley Scenic RR visit (cont.)



For More Info:  
<https://www.cvsr.org/>

One interesting site along the train route was a marsh that had been a junkyard for used cars. The cars were cleared, with plans to create a parking garage, but the local beavers had other ideas. Eventually, the parking garage idea was scrapped, because the beavers basically claimed the area!

– Beth Kloes



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# The Bush Family hosts during the Clintonville Garden Tour



We had the opportunity to share the Madeline Apple Garden Railway as part of the Clintonville garden tour this year. A huge thanks to the 283 people that stopped by!

- Dave Bush



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# The CGRS 2025 Open House

Sunday September 7, 2025  
1-5 PM

A request from Deb Sweet... For those who will be opening their hearts, yards and trains to the public this year, please inform Deb [dcordrey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dcordrey@sbcglobal.net) so you can be included in the upcoming information packet to be shared in the public media.

It helps us share our passion of the hobby, enables smiles of young and old... time to get our Garden Railways in tip-top shape!



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

For those of us that are intentional about the Gardening part of our hobby, August is a time for harvesting seeds from your vegetables *and flowers*. It's important to note, however, that the seeds you save will NOT be biologically identical to the plant you grew this summer. This is due to cross-pollination from our busy bees.

Example, you have a gold coreopsis and a red coreopsis. There is a good chance that the pollen from the red variety has transmitted to your gold one. In this case, your current flower will be gold, but the seed that is produced carries the genes from the gold and the red variety. When the seed germinates, it has a few possibilities of what it's flowers will look like.... Gold, Red, or maybe variegated. Until it matures and blooms, you won't know.



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



If you find that you had great success with a specific plant this year, and would like it to be replicated, the best thing to do is purchase more seed from your source. Commercial seed growers focus on high quality, and purity of the seed production. There are strict standards, so that a packet of seeds that you receive is consistent and guarantees a high potential for germination.

Saving seeds is nothing new! Did you know that there are many organizations in Ohio that are involved in saving seeds.

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

At The OSU the Ornamental Plant Germplasm Center is part of a global effort to preserve the genetic diversity of crop plants (National Plant Germplasm System). Check out the webpage!

<https://opgc.osu.edu/home>

Columbus and Westerville have community seed libraries, where you can bring seeds or take some for yourself, for free!

Find our more information at your local library...



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

So, what is the difference between a Seed Bank and a Seed Library? A Seed Bank is a facility specifically for storing specific seeds for long term preservation and scientific research. A Seed Library is community focused, offering programs where seeds can be shared, as well as information on environmental and gardening practices.

Remember to keep your plants hydrated and look for pollinators to really amp up their activity.

See you in the Garden! -Lisa Dove



## A Follow-up: current info regarding a Canadian Rail experience

We have several Members who are interested in this event!

There are openings for next year's train trip across the Canadian Rockies on "The Rocky Mountaineer". The dates are set for May 9 -15, 2026. This exciting journey will travel through the majestic Canadian Rockies from Vancouver, British Columbia, to Calgary, Alberta. We will be travelling as Gold Superior guests. This higher-level package includes a guided trip, most meals, upper-level hotels and transportation from the train to the hotels.

Visit their website for more details. The final price is currently being negotiated. We will have another meeting with Fred Kerner in September, when he returns from his Japan adventure, to clarify all details.

Those interested in more information, contact **Deb Sweet** [dcordrey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dcordrey@sbcglobal.net) Currently, Deb Sweet is gathering full names (as seen on your passports) birthdates, and email addresses for interested travelers.

The first downpayment will be due end of October in the range of \$966 for each/double occupancy and \$1300 each, travelling as a single.

- More information on this journey of "The First Passage to the West," can be found at <http://www.rockymountaineer.com>.

***FYI.. This not a club sponsored trip. It is a trip CGRS members are attending.***



We'll reserve a seat for you!

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

**Aug 21 Paul & Dana Minot**

771 Rutherford Ct., Delaware

**Sep 18 Mary & Tom Ricci**

6039 Poplar Ridge Drive, Westerville

**Oct 16 Brian & Crystal Santin**

578 South Fifth St, Columbus

...more events & details read on the  
website

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

## News Table Meetings

Please join us for Our Club News Table on Aug 21<sup>st</sup> hosted by Paul & Dana Minot. Your time and talent is a big part of our club's success. We would enjoy your help in guiding the different aspects of our organization along with your ideas and creative suggestions in railroading and gardening.



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*Welcome to our New Members this month!*

**Greg & Ellen Earp from Grove City, OH**

**Interested in becoming a member?**

Get on board with The CGRS. We would love to invite those who have a garden railway, those who would like to learn more about garden railways, those who want to join in this exciting hobby, and those who are just love trains.

We all have family and friends who enjoy our current garden railways! Bring them to a Sunday event and have them learn more and meet others who love this hobby and want others to join in on the fun.



**Membership Form & Information**

<https://thecgrs.org/membership/>

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## *Referenced from our MGRS friends*

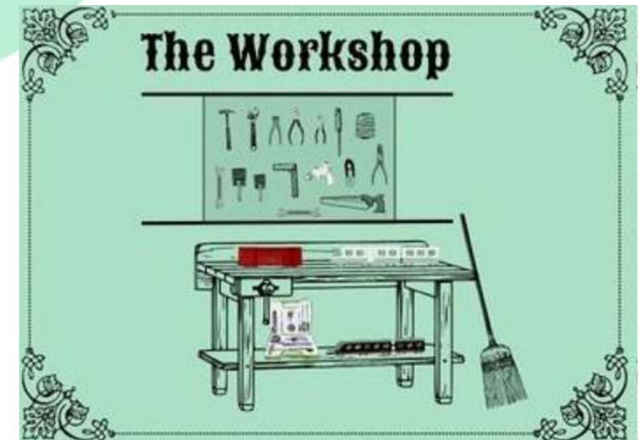
from Sue Elliott 7/14...

<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! New this month...

At [MGRS.org](https://mgrs.org) Issue 22 / Workshop Vol 32



# Beginners (& Vet) Help Page...

From our MGRS friends

## ***Highlights from MGRS Workshop Vol. 32***

- \*Simple tool to help an Old Man with Trifocals
- \*Porter Tourist Train conversion to Battery Power
- \*Why buy new when “slightly used” will do?
- \*Passing along Knowledge
- \*Surprise Upgrade from the RR Supt.
- \*More Treasure from Trash

Thanks to contributions from: Tom Hakala,  
Duke Snyder and Leland Snyder



**[MGRS.org](http://MGRS.org) click on workshop  
archives... then scroll to bottom for  
“MGRS Workshop Volume 32.pdf”**

## *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.

This month Doug shared... July 4<sup>th</sup> an announcement about our Cincinnati RR Friends having an open house on Sat 26<sup>th</sup> (see next page for the current details).

On July 9<sup>th</sup> he shared timely info re: the Clintonville Garden Tour with the Bush family p.10. This year's event is now in the books. Pay attention to his emails. They are timely indeed. Thanks Doug!



# 2025 SUMMER LAYOUT TOURS



**SOUTH TOUR** Saturday  
July 26th 11am – 5pm

**NORTH TOUR** Sunday  
July 27th 11am – 5pm

Free family fun activity.  
Open to the public.



Visit [gcgrs.org/tours](http://gcgrs.org/tours) to download your tour booklet with more info, maps, and photos.



## *Two Days of Garden Railroading!*



In addition to our CGRS Club meeting at the home of Paul Jackson on Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup> ...

We can visit and support our friends of the Greater Cincinnati Garden Railway Society the day before!

They will be running their “South Tour” on Sat July 26th from 11am – 5pm.

For all the details visit [www.gcgrs.org/tours](http://www.gcgrs.org/tours)

Greater Cincinnati Garden Railway Society

Columbus Garden Railway Society

## More Fun for this summer... A Day trip from Central Ohio (worth repeating from June newsletter)

The Zanesville and Western Scenic Railroad provides a tourist destination in Southeast Ohio, offering passenger train excursions on an exceptionally scenic and historic rail line known as the Glass Rock Spur.

Details Found  
<https://zwsr.org/>



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

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/>



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# 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 Dove**
- *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**



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

Content, 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. Please share photos and a short narrative to be shared with our members and beyond.

Send your ideas **and content to [TMDedc@gmail.com](mailto:TMDedc@gmail.com)**

**Columbus Garden Railway Society**

# This Issue: July 2025

Vol. 34 number 7

*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:

Lisa Dove, Tim Dove, Dave Bush, Deb Sweet, Beth Kloes & Doug Kruest.

Photography contributors:

Tim Dove, Kent Kloes & Jed Hacker.

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

