

On Track with The Columbus Garden Railway Society



August 2025

Engineer's note:

Upcoming Destinations:

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

Next Club meetings 2-4pm

Aug 31 Alvin & Bev Mann, Columbus

Sep 28 Robert & Eileen Brenner, Sunbury

Oct 16 Brian Santin, Columbus

News table meetings 7-8pm ish

Sep 18 Mary Ricci, Westerville

Oct 16 Brian Santin, Columbus

Nov 20 Gail Klink, Buckeye Lake



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

TheCGRS.org

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to August in Ohio. Another year of little rain and hotter temperatures. The grass may be a bit 'crunchy' but the trains keep running. CGRS members are still on the move and taking advantage seeing new rail experiences. *On Track* continues to inform and share our adventures!

In this issue:

Highlights from our July meeting,

Upcoming events,

The latest trip information,

Gardening information,

A visit to the Adirondacks,

and the regular contact, Membership & Merchandise info.

Continue to enjoy what is left of the summer

and your Garden Railways, Tim Dove



Columbus Garden Railway Society

Thank you, Paul & Earleen Jackson for hosting our July meeting!



Some highlights... Paul is working hard to create quite the garden RR!

And Earleen... the food was amazing!



...and we enjoyed another great day with GGRS members!



It did rain a bit... but we had a great meeting with great food!





Just a bit of water that day... but we moved inside and had a great meeting. Always good to see the efforts and progress of our members as they grow a new railroad.



Directions to our next Destination

Next Club Meeting

Leaving the Station...

The home and garden

railway of Alvin & Bev Mann

- When: Sunday Aug 31, 2025
- Where: 5497 Crawford Dr Columbus, Ohio
- Time : 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Bring a chair... your offerings for the swap meet and money for your new acquisitions
- Program: Swap Meet *more details on next page*



Columbus Garden Railway Society

The Annual CGRS Swap meet

Our Next Club Meeting

This is an opportunity to obtain some new railroad and project materials! Items are displayed with bid sheets.

It's easy! At the end of the auction, and the highest bidder pays the member and takes the item home.

If you are bringing items to sell, bring your own tables and bid sheets to display. Those in CGRS and those outside our membership that are interested, are invited to attend. A great way to find items no longer available at stores.

Bid sheets are available on the website to print and bring with you.

[Swap BID Sheet](#) *link*

(item description)	

(offered by)	
Starting price _____ minimum bid increment = \$1	
Bidder Name	Bid Amount
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____
7. _____	_____

We'll reserve a seat for you!

News table meetings 7 until 8pm ish

Sep 18 Mary & Tom Ricci

6039 Poplar Ridge Drive, Westerville

Oct 16 Brian & Crystal Santin

578 South Fifth St, Columbus

Nov 20 Gail Klink

4401 Hunts Landing Rd #201, Hebron

...more events & details read on the website

TheCGRS.org

News Table Meetings

Please join us for Our Club News Table on Sep 18th hosted by Mary & Tom Ricci. 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.



Columbus Garden Railway Society

A Friendly Reminder...

our *CGRS* Building adoptions

Many of the club buildings have been refreshed and shared at meetings since our 'adoptions' March 30th .

If you have not completed/returned them yet, please complete and bring to an upcoming meeting. There are still a few out for rework. Remember... 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)***



Columbus Garden Railway Society

So far... the updates continue to look amazing!!!

Upcoming CGRS events!

Open House 2025

Plain City Event

Rocky Mountaineer Trip Info

Save the Date Banquet 2026



The CGRS 2025 Open House

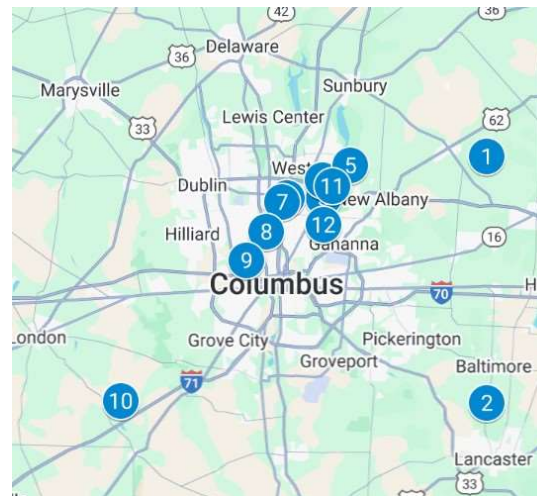
Sunday September 7, 2025
1-5 PM

Only a few days before our 2025 version of the CGRS Open House!

All current information is available on our thecgrs.org website.

<https://thecgrs.org/2025-rr-tour/>

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



Plain City Event

The Buckeye TTOS Model & Toy Train Show will be held on Saturday, September 14, 2024, from 10 AM to 3 PM at Der Dutchman, 445 S. Jefferson Ave.

Plain City, Ohio. Admission is just \$5 per person (children under 15 are free).

Come and enjoy a day of fun featuring all scales of model trains, operating layouts including the CGRS Mini-Layout, door prizes, and plenty of free parking.

A perfect event for train enthusiasts and families alike!

- Jed Hacker

BUCKEYE DIVISION TOY TRAIN OPERATING SOCIETY PRESENTS

TRAIN SHOW

**SATURDAY
SEPT 13TH, 2025
10AM TO 3PM**

BUCKEYE DIVISION
TTOS

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

**DER DUTCHMAN
445 S JEFFERSON AVE PLAIN CITY, OHIO**

SHOW FEATURES

DOOR PRIZE EVERY HOUR • TABLES OF TRAINS & MORE FOR SALE
OPERATING MODEL TRAIN DISPLAYS • FREE TEST TRACK AVAILABLE
ADMISSION \$6 PER PERSON (CHILDREN 15 & UNDER FREE)
DER DUTCHMAN RECEIPT DATED DAY OF SHOW GOOD FOR \$1 OFF TICKET PRICE

VENDOR INFORMATION: \$20 PER TABLE (\$30 IF RESERVED AFTER 8/13/25)
TO RESERVE SEND REQUEST WITH INFO BELOW AND CHECK PAYABLE TO:
BUCKEYE DIVISION TTOS
C/O PAUL TINKER, 13760 TAYLOR ROAD, PLAIN CITY, OH 43064

The Latest: current info regarding a Canadian Rail experience

We have several Members who are interested in this event! Friends of CGRS are also invited!

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.

A detailed information meeting with Fred Kerner will be 6:30-7:30pm September 18th at Mary Ricci's before the regular News table meeting.

Those interested in more information, contact **Deb Sweet** dcordrey@sbcglobal.net ASAP.

- 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.



Save the date – CGRS Banquet information!

- Our banquet will be held on Saturday, February 28th at the Worthington Country Club.
- Upcoming newsletters will have information regarding the menu, and our guest speaker.
- Future newsletters will contain more information. Stay Tuned!



Columbus Garden Railway Society

The Gardens (in Garden Railroading)...

Watch Out for Yellowjackets!

Everyone is aware of the Yellowjacket intruders that disrupt our late summer activities. What is with these guys?! They are docile all June and

July, and then something happens, and they become overwhelming and aggressive.

Yellowjacket (*Vespula*) is not a BEE, it is a WASP. The one that most commonly ruins our picnics and late-season sport events is the Eastern Yellowjacket (*Vespula maculifrons*). The spelling of Yellowjacket OR Yellow Jacket is accepted.



The Gardens (in Garden Railroading)... continued



The Yellowjacket is a social insect that builds communal nests. The queens are the only ones to survive the winter. In the Spring a queen will start a nest by laying a few eggs and caring for them until they mature (pupate). These larvae become the sterile female workers, and as she continues to lay eggs, the workers take over the responsibility of building the nest, and feeding the next generation, growing the colony. A Yellowjacket nest colony can reach in the thousands. In the Spring, and early summer, their food is basically protein based: chewed up insects and such.

The Gardens (in Garden Railroading)... continued

Late summer is when they really ramp up their activity. Due to the large number of members of the colony, and the scarcity of food, they become very aggressive. They begin looking for alternative food sources, especially sweet carbohydrates. Unfortunately, our picnic tables with the Gatorade, watermelon, hot dogs, and all the fixings are just too good to pass up. Hummingbird feeders are also prime targets.



The Gardens (in Garden Railroading)... continued

Yellowjackets build nests in cavernous spaces with small entrances. Places like in the ground, in railroad ties, garden timber/edgings, gaps in exterior walls, etc. For those of us with outdoor railroad buildings and structures, it is important that we make sure that they are in good repair, and that the Yellowjacket queen cannot enter the inside space. When bringing in your buildings, make sure you don't have any squatters!



The Gardens (in Garden Railroading)... continued

An ounce of prevention – keeping the Yellowjacket wasps at bay :

1. Avoid any area that has wasp activity, if you can help it. If you find a nest, it's time to call a professional to remove it from the area. There is a remedy on the internet using Dawn dish soap and water, but I can't find any valid research that says it eliminates the nests.
2. Rinse out sport drink bottles before throwing in the trash
3. Keep a lid on said trash can!
4. Lids or caps on sport drinks
5. If drinking from a soda can (regular or diet), tap the bottom on the table before you drink. If a wasp got in there (when you weren't looking) it will come out. Ask me how I know about this....



The Gardens (in Garden Railroading)... continued

6. There is some research that suggests that MINT oils repel the wasps. Mix full strength peppermint or wintergreen oil with water into a spray bottle and spray the area around your layout buildings and tunnels

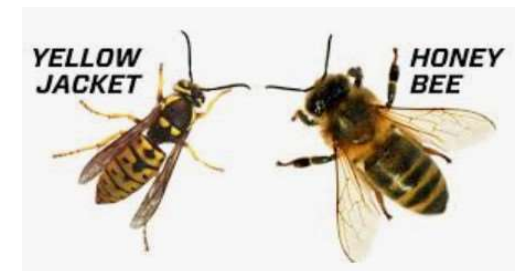
The good news is that the cooler weather of the fall in late September and early October will mark an end to the wasp colonies. To learn more about Yellowjackets, please visit the Ohio University Extension website:

<https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/HYG-2075-11>

See you in the garden – Lisa Dove



Yellowjackets

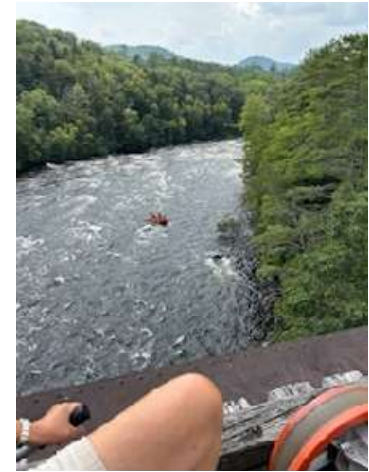


Tim & Lisa Dove visit the Adirondacks!



Interested in a different experience on the rails? Check out these “Rail Excursions” We took advantage of this trip while in the Adirondacks with Revolution Rail Co. out of Hadley, NY.

A different afternoon enjoying a section of historic rail.



If in KY, WV, NY, IA, CA, RI check out

<https://www.railexplorers.net/>

If in NY, NJ, ME or CO check out

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

Columbus Garden Railway Society

Welcome to our New Members this month!

Myron Knox from Delaware, 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/>

Columbus Garden Railway Society

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. Recheck those in boxes!

This month Doug shared...

Aug 4 Important details for Trip information

Aug 7 Flyer for upcoming Open House

Aug 19 The GR new edition

Aug 22 Auction Bid sheets for swap meet



On July 9th he a 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!

Columbus Garden Railway Society



GR News Edition 3 was released

From our MGRS friends

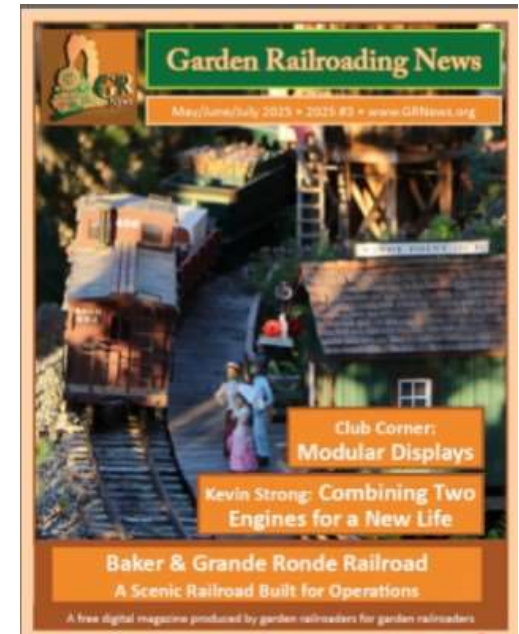
Edition 3 has been a long time coming, but was released Aug 19, 2025. See Editor Carla's note on page 43 about the gap between Editions 2 and 3.

Gary & Jonette Lee's amazing Oregon RR, a kit build of a Russia C.68 Loco and Kit Bashing 2 old locos into one handsome new loco are some of the highlights of the edition.

Meanwhile, Meta reports that GR News reached 100,000 accounts via its Facebook and Instagram posts since edition 2 was released, so we are getting the word out that Garden Railroading is a great hobby.

- Sue Elliott MGRS

Go to <https://www.grnews.org/> and click CURRENT EDITION



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. Current examples and ordering will also be available for review and purchase at a later meeting.

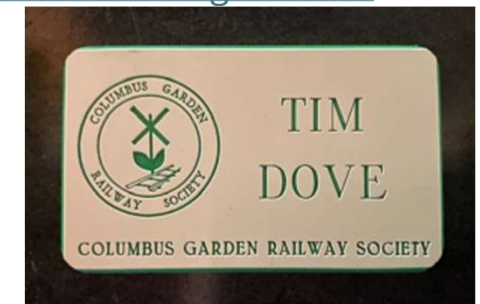


Name Tags with Magnet fastener \$6 each

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**

Columbus Garden Railway Society

This Issue: Aug 2025

Vol. 34 number 8

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, Jed Hacker, Doug Kruest & Sue Elliott.

Photography contributors:
Tim Dove & Kent Kloes.

Columbus Garden Railway Society



Any articles for the Sep issue are due to TMDedc@gmail.com by Sep 15.

