

On Track with The Columbus Garden Railway Society



December 2025

Engineer's note:

Upcoming Destinations:

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

Next Club meetings 2-4pm

- Dec 28 Sheila & Barry Young, Fredericktown
- Jan 25 Pat Waddell, Columbus
- Feb 28 CGRS Banquet
- Mar 29 Craig & Audrey Bigrigg, Johnstown

News table meetings 7-8pm ish

- Jan 15 Deb Sweet, Westerville
- Feb 19 Tim & Lisa Dove, Columbus
- Mar 19 Bob & Jo Collins, Worthington

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

TheCGRS.org



Hello Everyone,

That time of year for family and friends. Celebrations abound... train shows and Winter/Holiday train trips. CGRS members continue to be on the move and taking advantage of new rail experiences. *On Track* continues to inform and share our adventures!

In this issue:

Highlights from our Nov Club meeting,
Upcoming events, visits by members,
Banquet & Membership Info,
Holiday traditions, member update,
3D possibilities with Jed,
and the regular contact, & Merchandise info.



Continue to enjoy the holidays and our Garden Railways,

Tim Dove

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Thank you, Angela Burdge for hosting our November Club meeting!



Some highlights...



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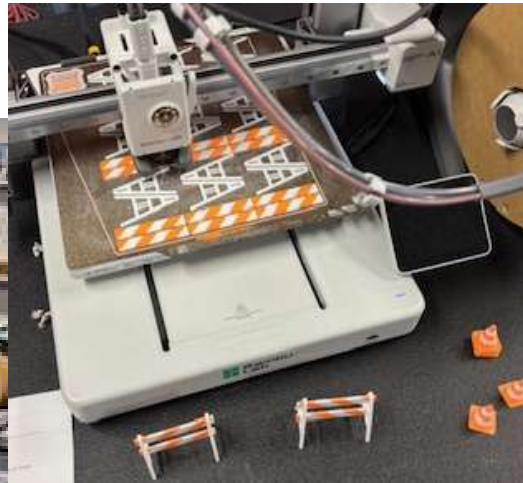
... 3D printing at its' finest! Thank-you Jed and Kent for sharing..

What is possible & what to try to avoid



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So many possibilities!



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Train Shows coming up...

January 10th & 11th 10am-4pm

Ohio Expo Center

717 East 17th Avenue Columbus

Time

•10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Price

•Adults: SAT \$12.00 & SUN \$11.00
(children under 12 free)

Event Website

•<https://www.greattrainshow.com/gts-show-landing-pages/columbus-10-26>



CGRS will be there!!!

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The Great Train Show... *Some new design elements!*

Contact Gary Schneider at upcoming meetings or email eagle_waits@yahoo.com / phone (716) 969-3716 for details to sign up for 2-hour shifts to run trains...



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The Next Club Meeting... The Christmas Party

by Sheila Young

Please Join Us December 28, 2025
for the CGRS Christmas Party.

Where: The Young's 137 W. Sandusky St.
Fredericktown Ohio

Time : 2pm -4pm

The Main Entrée will be Provided
Please bring a dish to share and...

a decorated car entry! Reminder... next page.



Upcoming Events... Car Decorating Contest

There will be a second annual Train car Decorating Contest!!!

Please bring your creations for cash prizes for top three entrants!

Selected by those in attendance...

1st place \$50- 2nd place \$25- 3rd place \$10



So... final touches this week . Good luck!

Last year entries.. And our winner
1st place Bev Mann (3) Lighted Manger scene

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Upcoming Events... Our February Banquet Info

**CGRS Annual Banquet Dinner – Make your reservation! –
Saturday, February 28, 2026 - Cash Bar Opens at 6:00pm**

It's time to make your reservation for our annual celebration at the Worthington Country Club. Thank you to Richard Abler for leading this effort for so many years!



All reservations must be made and paid no later than February 1st. Please use the order form that is available on the CGRS website <https://thecgrs.org/> to make your reservation. As always, all \$\$ should be sent to directly to Bob Collins.

More details on the following pages.

A Reminder of Details... Our February Banquet Info

The cost of the dinner this year is **\$42.00**. Here's what we have to look forward to on our plates...

First Course – Served:

Salad/Rolls & Butter with 2 dressings – Ranch and Balsamic Vinaigrette

Entrée: Buffet Style

Braised Beef Short Ribs – Gluten Free

Chicken Florentine – Gluten Free

Vegetable Medley

Roasted Red Skin Potatoes

Optional Entrée (upon request) - Served:

Vegetarian Meal – Pasta Primavera with Marinara Sauce

Dessert - Served: The Pecan Ball with Hot Fudge endures!



A Reminder of Details... Our February Banquet Info

The Annual Raffle:

Thank you, Doug & Ginny Clark,
for coordinating again this year!

We raised a little over \$1200 last
year due to the generosity of
members!

Please inform the Clarks what you
would be bringing, more logistics
later.



We'll reserve a seat for you!

News table meetings 7 until 8pm ish

Jan 15 Deb Sweet

3611 Madrid Dr, Westerville

Feb 19 Tim & Lisa Dove

5785 Lindenwood Rd, Columbus

Mar 19 Bob & Jo Collins 924
Middlebury Dr, Worthington

**We need volunteers to host for
April, May & Jun**

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News Table Meetings

Please join us for Our Club News Table on Jan 15th hosted by Deb Sweet. 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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Another Gauge, Another love... the OR&W RY



And yes we can model it in G scale as well!

Bill Logan shared further details of the efforts to preserve the legacy of Southeastern Ohio's Narrow-Gauge Line, particularly the Ohio River & Western Railway at our last meeting.

Anyone with an interest in rail history, model railroading, or hands-on preservation work is encouraged to get involved, CGRS member Bill Logan will be happy to discuss how. More information, including upcoming events, ways to contribute, and historical photos can be found on their website: <https://orwfriends.org/>. Further information can be found on two Facebook sites by searching; Friends of the OR&W and Ohio River & Western Railroad History and Models.

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New 3D printing project...

by Jed Hacker With the snowy weather lately, many of us dream of running a plow on our railroads. Inspired by our November meeting and 3D-printing clinic, I downloaded a free snow plow file and fired up my printer. A couple of days later—voilà—a working snow plow.



The model was printed in PETG, a strong, UV-resistant material well suited for outdoor use and more durable than standard PLA. The design resembles a plow from a railroad in Hungary and was shared by a fellow 3D-printing train enthusiast.

My only modifications were adding about one pound of stick-on tire wheel weights for additional mass and creating a top cover for the riser behind the plow using TinkerCAD. After assembly, the plow was painted using an airbrush, which allowed for smooth, even paint coverage and added a realistic, professional appearance. This project is a great example of how accessible 3D printing has become, and I encourage anyone curious about the process to give it a try.

New 3D printing project...

The true test, an Ohio snow in Dec!



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Membership Info...

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.

Come to a Sunday event. Learn more about the hobby and meet others.



Membership Form & Information

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

Current Members... It's that time!



Ok veterans of the Club, it is time to renew your membership. The forms are on our website (thanks Kent. As every year, print the form and send your check and current information to Bob Collins. He keeps all the membership data up to date (thank you Bob).

Note: If you are planning to attend the Banquet, you can complete it all and pay with one check!

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How many of us started our interest in model trains as a result of the Holidays?!

By: Paul Minot

I thought we would share some pictures of our Christmas layout for 2025.

I usually set up a Christmas layout of some sort right after Thanksgiving. This year I'm running behind schedule.

This is a small size layout I have set up for the last couple of years with different buildings and some slight changes to the track plan.



Christmas Train Traditions at the Minots...

It fits in my living room which we use as a plant and reading room. It is 6 feet x 13 feet this year with a steep grade to the top. R 1 and R 2 curves. It is operated by a LGB shuttle system.

This year I am using a USA trains 44 tonner. Its really works out quite nicely.



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Christmas Train Traditions at the Minots...



In previous years I have used my rack engine and had overhead catenary. This year I won't be home for Christmas, so I just used the track and did not light any buildings.

My wife and I really enjoy decorating for the Holidays.

Happy Holidays from the Minots

Christmas Train Traditions...

Members and Friends... As we enjoy the holidays, please snap a few pics of your efforts and send them to Tim TMDedc@gmail.com for the next newsletter. It is a bit difficult this time of year to get to everyone's to see your efforts in person. A few wonderful memories of Richard Abler's Christmas extravaganza!



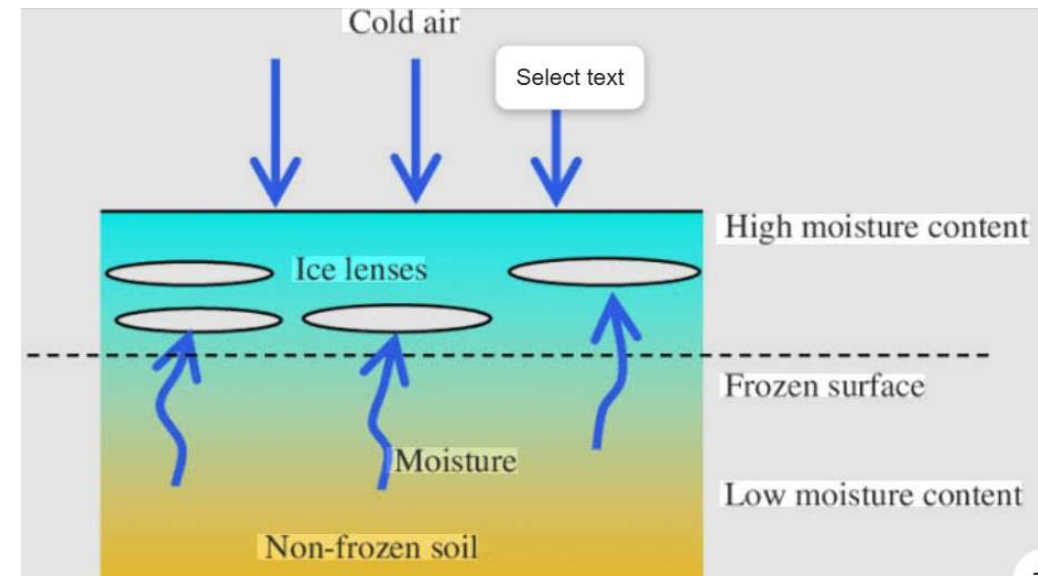
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The Gardens (in Garden Railroading)...



By Lisa Dove **Frost Heave** – As we just experienced, winter temperatures in Central Ohio can be a roller coaster. Weather fronts that shift from rain to freezing rain and snow can disrupt our trainscapes.

Frost Heave occurs when freezing temperatures cause moisture in the soil to expand. This is not just a surface problem; it can begin as far down as 3 feet below the surface. The force of the expansion can cause our cement patios to crack, our tunnels and bridges to crumble, and can twist our rail beds. Our clay and terra cotta planters can crack and flake. Frost Heave can cause significant damage and can be costly to fix.



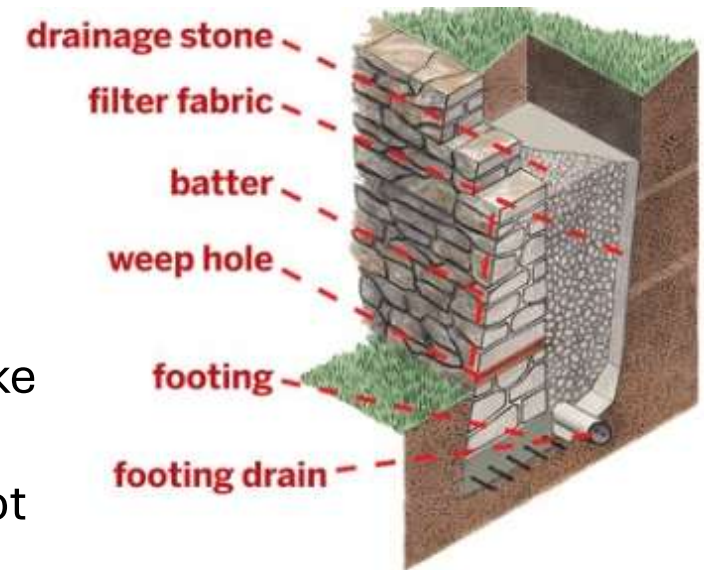
The Gardens (in Garden Railroading)... continued



Things we can do to prevent Frost Heave:

*Make sure you have good drainage around your train bed and bridge supports. Adding a layer of gravel that slopes away from the supports will help move water away and prevent twisting.

*If you have created raised beds with a stone wall, make sure to allow water to weep and drain out of the walls. This will help ensure that the wall stays true and will not start to lean forward.



The Gardens (in Garden Railroading)... continued

Things we can do to prevent Frost Heave:

*Store ceramic and clay planters out of the weather. If they are large, you can empty them and cover them in plastic. The key is to keep them dry! Terra Cotta pots are especially vulnerable to flaking. Terra Cotta is highly porous and absorbs water which is great in the summer...

*Mulch your plants in the fall with an additional inch or two of fine material. This is critical for plantings made in the fall, as their roots may not have had time to establish.



CGRS Timetable & Member Updates



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. If you missed these... check them out!

This month Doug shared...

Nov 28 Meeting Details

Dec 8 Northern Ohio GRS Christmas Display

Dec 21 Dues and Events



Member Update... I'm recovering from a Knee surgery, which I had yesterday. It was not pre-planned, but Everything went fine. Now it takes time to heal. I look forward to walking around with no pain. Thanks, Pat Waddel

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.

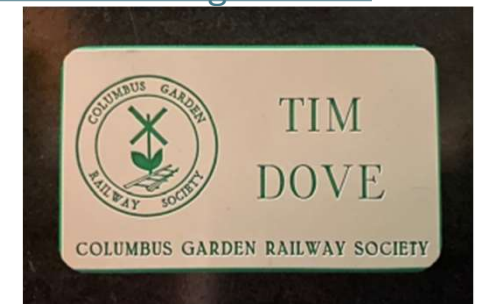


Name Tags with Magnet fastener \$6 each

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*
Gary Schneider
 - *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: Dec 2025

Vol. 34 number 12

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, Pat Waddel
Jed Hacker, Doug Kruest,
Sheila Young, & Paul Minot

Photography contributors:

Tim Dove, Dave Bush, Jed Hacker,
Sheila Young, Kent Kloes & Paul
Minot

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

