



The Columbus Garden Railway Society

ON TRACK!

DECEMBER 2019



Be of good cheer . . . holiday party at the Easterday home

**FRIDAY
DECEMBER 27
6:00 p.m.**



**Hostess
Cecil Easterday
7320 Macbeth Drive
Dublin 43016
614.582.3099**



DIRECTIONS TO 7320 Macbeth Drive Dublin 43016

The most direct way is from I-270 to Sawmill Road; go north to the second traffic light and turn left (heading west) on Bright Road. Continue on Bright Road, through the roundabout, to Macbeth which will be the first intersection past the roundabout. Turn right (heading north) and 7320 Macbeth will be on your right at the corner of Macbeth and Macduff.

The 2019 annual holiday party will be at Cecil Easterday's home, Friday, December 27, 6:00 p.m.

It is a potluck and Columbus Garden Railway Society will provide the main dish. I'll provide table service and soft drinks, beer and wine and you bring your favorite side dish to share. CGRS has many very good cooks so that will be a treat and fun to see what everyone brings.

I'm really looking forward to having you in my home. The S&S Railroad is put away for the winter but trains do run occasionally in the family room around the Christmas tree.

There might be one "little" problem - the I-270 and Sawmill Road exit is the advertised route for people to get to the Zoo for Wildlights. If the weather is good, there could be quite a traffic jam. You might want to consider taking an alternate route. Hope to see you soon.



Annual C.G.R.S. Banquet Saturday, February 29 6:00 p.m. — Worthington Hills County Club

**Lasting
Legacy
of
Union
Station**

**Columbus
Garden
Railway
Society's
2020 banquet
speaker,
Jeff Darbee**



Jeff Darbee began his career when he joined the staff of the Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Society, in early 1974. In 1980 Jeff and his wife, Nancy Recchie, began Benjamin D. Rickey & Company, a consulting firm specializing in historic preservation. A major part of the company's work has been over 100 certified rehabilitation projects using the Historic Preservation Tax Credits. One of the firm's specialties is serving as preservation consultants on major public building projects such as the Ohio Statehouse, Ohio Stadium at The Ohio State University, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.

In addition to consulting work for others, Jeff and Nancy have undertaken the rehabilitation of a deteriorated carriage house in downtown Columbus and converted it into three condominiums; moved and rehabilitated a historic house in Granville, Ohio to prevent its demolition; constructed a new single-family residence in downtown Columbus, Ohio (the first in over 50 years) utilizing the historic stone façade from a

building being demolished; rehabilitated a three-family residence in the German Village Historic District in Columbus, Ohio and turned it into a single-family dwelling; and rehabilitated the former Lazarus House in the East Town Street Historic District in Columbus, Ohio converting it into three large apartments. The Granville house and the Lazarus House utilized federal historic tax credits and the Lazarus House used the Ohio historic tax credit, as well.

Jeff is a noted historian and contributor to "Columbus Neighborhoods", a continuing series produced by WOSU-TV, the local Public Broadcasting Service affiliate.

Jeff has served as a member of the boards of Preservation Action, the Columbus Landmarks Foundation, the Columbus Architecture Foundation, the Columbus Historical Society, the Ohio Historical Society, the Ohio Preservation Alliance, and Downtown Ohio, Inc.#

To make your banquet reservations, see page 7

The bus adventure continues

Day Three, Saturday, October 19
Chattanooga, TN.

article and photos by JoAnne Hamblin

Hiwassee River Rail Adventure

This day began early, before the birds were up, with a hotel breakfast at 6 a.m. and then board the bus at 7 a.m. to pick up our lunches before heading to Etowah, Tennessee to board the #5109 diesel. The 3-hour train ride followed the Hiwassee River taking in the gorge and the Hiwassee Loop.



Originally the line had multiple switchbacks to gain elevation to cross the high mountains. But then it was decided to loop the tracks around Bald Mountain creating one of only three points in the United States where railroad tracks loop over themselves to gain elevation in limited space.



At the Copperhill layover, we grabbed our box lunches and dined while bussing back to Chattanooga and our DoubleTree home away from home.

The evening meal was a five to ten minute bus trip to the Easy Bistro and Bar. Another great day concluded on the 2019 CGRS bus adventure to Tennessee. Keep reading for the crème de le crème event of our trip, the double headed steam excursion to Summerville, Georgia. #



Coming in January, 2020

Make It Take It Clinic — A-frame Railroad Bridge.

Epworth UM Church, Columbus, January 26.

Questions? Contact Bob Duggan

614.975.4257 or deisel45@hotmail.com

The bus adventure continues

Day Four, Sunday, October 20, Chattanooga, TN.

article by Beverly Mann; photos by Beverly Mann and from the internet



I crawled out of bed with great anticipation like a kid on Christmas morning. This was the day we had all been waiting for, the steam double header from Grand Junction Depot in Chattanooga, Tennessee to Summerville, Georgia. We all climbed on the bus 15 minutes early and arrived at the Depot with plenty of time to spare. We were to be in two private cars; the Pullman and the observation/club car. We even had our own porter who took excellent care of us all through our trip. Half of the group rode in each car. On the trip back we swapped spots, so everyone had a chance to see the magnificent views from the observation car.

As we headed out of Chattanooga, we passed the Chattanooga National Cemetery. It was created as a memorial park to the Union soldiers and some civilians who died there during the Civil War.

Of most interest to train enthusiasts is The Andrews Raiders Memorial, erected in 1890. It includes a bronze replica of the locomotive known as *The General*, stolen by Union partisan James J. Andrews and his men in the Great Locomotive Chase.



Not far from the cemetery and on the opposite side of the train was a most unusual sight. What should have been a rolling hay field was dotted with oversized, unique sculptures. It was a park, Sculpture Fields at Montague Park. This 33 acre outdoor art museum is home to 40 colossal sculptures, mostly abstract. That led to

great speculation as to what it might be. Imaginations ran amuck, thinking alien space invasion to hippie sit-ins, and all things in-between.

Once we were past the tunnel, there was ample time to sit-back and enjoy the conversation, as we feasted on the most excellent breakfast of the trip. The French toast casserole was incredibly decadent and mouthwatering. I'm sure it will taste better each time I remember it and retell the story.

After breakfast we took the opportunity to walk the train and pause in the vestibule for just a breath of chilling air as we moved on.

Our porter was most helpful answering every question we put to him. He even set up one of the Pullman berths to show us how it was done and just what it would be like to spend the night in such a cubicle. It was amazing that he could find all the pieces and parts used to provide for every convenience of the passengers staying there. The Pullman we were sitting in was used in the movie, "Some Like It Hot". And the distinction of standing in the very spot that Marilyn Monroe did . . . WOW!

Sharon & Wendy 'Treated' us to some 'Tricks' of their own. Our own little witch came with her robotic broom. But alas, the broom had a mind of its own and refused to give the handle or anyone else a ride! At least it knew how to 'clean up' after itself! Our little lamb, kitten, **fawn**, was most welcome with her bag of treats for all. Our porter was most impressed

— continued on page 5

The bus adventure continues Day Four, Summerville Steam Special

— continued from page 4

with our antics. In the seven years he had been on the job, he had never come across a group quite like ours. I think he got a kick out of it.

As we pulled into Summerville, half the town was there to greet us. The welcoming committee was glad to direct us to all the sights and festival food and activities. However, our greatest interest was the turntable just ahead of us. The steam engines were turned individually with utmost efficiency. This time the crew had it altogether and had no need of Charlie's expertise.

Afterwards we had time to inspect the vendors' wares and do some souvenir shopping.



The food wasn't of much interest since we were to have lunch on the train.

The highlight of the return trip was the double header run-by. We stopped at Rock Springs to drop off the photographers. The train then backed out of sight. The engineers had a full head of steam billowing as they headed back up the tracks. Add the sound of the steam whistles echoing in the valley and who could possibly ask for more? Those videos and pictures will spark memories and conversations for years to come.

As we headed back to the hotel, the consensus was, next year's trip would have to go a long, long way to top this. Can't wait to see what Cecil comes up with next. #



Photo by Dave Hamblin



**November
20-24, 2019**

Model Railroad Days



Once again, many CGRS volunteers arrived at the Center of Science and Industry in Columbus to play with trains, engage in joyful conversation with kids of all ages, and invited visitors to join our hosts in September for the open



garden railroad tour. If you haven't volunteered, you are missing fun, fun, and more fun. And it's free! And lunch is half price. It doesn't get much better than this. See you in November 2020!

Article and photos by JoAnne Hamblin



Thank You

To the COSI Volunteers,
Now that we've gotten through the busy week with family and Thanksgiving, I would like to Thank You on behalf of myself and CGRS for your participation with our display during C.O.S.I.'s Model Railroad Days, November 20-24.

There were a number of good comments on our display and we passed out many cards about the fall open house. We also had several people interested in membership and have already received dues from one new member.

Again, thank you for helping. *Bob Duggan*

NEWS TABLE News . . .

Thank you to Cecil Easterday for hosting
the November 15 news table meeting



**Time to pay your 2020 membership dues!
AND to make your
February 2020 Banquet reservations**

Name (s) _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

2020 dues \$ 24.00

Feb 29, 2019 banquet \$32 x # _____ = \$ _____

Check # _____ TOTAL enclosed \$ _____

Who's Who in Columbus Garden Railway Society

Articles & Classified Ads

Editor JoAnne Hamblin
newsletter@thecgrs.org

Principal Business

Contact Bill Logan
business@thecgrs.org

**Request for invoice
payment** Cecil Easterday
bills@thecgrs.org

Newsletter
DEADLINE 5th
of the month

All Payments made
payable to CGRS and
send to Bob Collins,
924 Middlebury Drive,
Worthington OH 43085.
Contact Bob Collins
membership@thecgrs.org

Meetings & Programs

Bob Duggan
meetings@thecgrs.org

Address Changes

Bob Collins
addresschange@thecgrs.org

Webmaster Wayne Beedle
webmaster@thecgrs.org

The Columbus Garden Railway Society



William Logan, Business Contact
1421 Norma Road
Columbus OH 43229-5153

DECEMBER 2019
Volume 28, Number 12

On Track deadline is 5th of month

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
www.thecgrs.org

ON TRACK is intended as a medium in which to air the news and views of the Columbus Garden Railway Society members. CGRS is an informal group which meets monthly or thereabouts 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 the editor unless otherwise noted. Photographs by Dave and JoAnne Hamblin.



Photo by Beverly Mann



Inside this issue

February Banquet	2
January Make It Take It	3
Fall Bus Trip to Tennessee	3-5
November C.O.S.I.	6
Dues & Banquet Reservation Form	7
Who's Who	7

2019-2020 CALENDAR

December 19, Thu, 7:30pm News Table at Mann home, Columbus
December 27, Fri, 6:00 pm Holiday Party/Potluck at the Easterday home, Dublin

2020

January 16, Thu, 7:30 pm News Table-location to be announced
January 26, Sun, 2-4 pm Make It Take It A-frame train bridge Epworth UM Church, Columbus 43229

February 20, Thu, 7:30 pm News Table-location to be announced
February 29, Sat, 6:00 pm Banquet, Worthington Hills Country Club

October 7-11 Fall bus trip to North Carolina