



The Columbus Garden Railway Society

ON TRACK!

JANUARY 2019



A lot of hammering going on at the January Make-It Take-It Clinic

SUNDAY
January 27
2:00-4:00 pm

Epworth United Methodist Church
5100 Karl Road
Columbus 43229



Hostess Pat Waddell

Snacks provided

Clinic—Make It Take It office building under the guidance of Bob Duggan



If you have already ordered a kit, you may send your \$15 check to Bob Collins (address on page 7) or bring your CGRS check to the January meeting.

The Sunday, January 27 Make-It Take-It project will be an office building. Reserve your \$15 kit by contacting Bob Duggan soon . . . only 5 kits remain . . . at 614.975.4257 or deisel45@hotmail.com.



Directions to 5100 Karl Road, Columbus 43229

I-270 exit 117 towards SR 161. Turn east onto SR 161, then right (south) onto Karl Road. Turn left into Epworth UM Church parking lot.

Banquet Speaker born mere feet from Erie Railroad

information & photo provided by Michael J. Conner



Our 2019 banquet speaker is Michael J. Conner, a fourth-generation career railroader. A native of Allegany County, New York, Michael was born about 1,000 feet from the main line of the Erie Railroad.

Michael's railroad career began while he was earning a Transportation Economics degree at John Carroll University in University Heights (Cleveland), Ohio. Service with a number of railroads followed, including a two year tour with the United States Army where he served as a Lieutenant in the Transportation Corps Military Railway Service.



Of special interest to us is the twenty years he served as vice president of the Ohio Central Railroad System where he was instrumental in the negotiations that saw the acquisition from Conrail (the "Blue Plague" as Michael refers to it) of the Columbus to Mingo Junction main line, which came perilously close to being made a "bike trail" instead of the busy and growing railroad it now is. Michael is still very active in railroading as a consultant and the organizer of new short-line freight and passenger railroads. Michael will focus on the "Three P's of Railroading in Columbus," a ride he hopes you will enjoy.

*"The Three P's
of Railroading
in Columbus"*

All Aboard!

More banquet information on page 3



Scratch-built buildings created by Jim Kimmel



Banquet Raffle Prizes REMINDER

by Dan Hill

The purpose of the raffle prizes program is to have the CGRS membership donate items that other members could win by purchasing raffle tickets. As such, it is a way for the membership to contribute to the success of CGRS. At this point (01/05/19) we have donations from eight members for the Saturday, **February 23** banquet. We still need more member donations for this year!

In addition to Dawn Wells' and Shirley Breitzman's custom-made quilting items and Judy Roth's planted fairy garden, items noted last month, the donations now include two of Jim Kimmel's special, scratch-built creations (see photos). Anything you want to create, or some other nice item you have, will be welcome. Gift cards from local garden centers and local or national train stores are always welcome. Just call Katy or me at **614.488.9025** or email us at danmhill@columbus.rr.com so we can add your contribution to the list of donations.



We will be selling raffle tickets at the banquet, a dollar each or six for \$5. There will be separate ticket bags for each item. Plan on purchasing as many tickets as you want to increase your odds of winning the item(s) of your choice. Just remember, make a donation so everyone, including yourself, will have a variety of items from which to choose. # *Banquet reservations are \$32 per person—form on page 8*

BANQUET
Saturday, February 23, 2019
Worthington Hills Country Club
920 Clubview Blvd. South
Columbus 43235
6:00 pm Cash Bar
6:45 pm Dinner

MENU
 Tossed salad with choice of dressing
 Hot dinner rolls
 Red wine braised beef short ribs
 Poached salmon with dill sauce
 Au gratin potatoes ** Corn
 California vegetable medley

Pecan ball
 a scoop of vanilla ice cream
 rolled in crushed pecans
 topped with hot fudge sauce

Reservations needed by February 14 — see form on page 8

The bus adventure continues

Saturday, October 13, 2018

article by Karen Engel
photos by Jim & Karen Engel



Day 4, Elkins, West Virginia and the new Tygart Flyer

**Western Maryland
locomotive 243
built in 1952**



Saturday morning, no rain! But now we have snow! When we looked outside our window, we say three deer grazing in the snow!

We all piled onto our leaky bus again to head to Elkins, West Virginia area to ride the New Tygart Flyer! Pulled by a diesel engine with regular enclosed passenger cars, this train takes you up to a waterfall where everyone piles off to take pictures and enjoy the beauty. They had a quaint little shop connected to the station and we had plenty of time before and after our ride to shop and shop and shop! I am sure they had to restock after we left.

We had a delicious dinner at the 1863 Appalachian Bistro before we boarded our bus to return to the station to enjoy our entertainment in a building next

to the train station. "The Greatest Show on Rails" was put on by the Franks family.



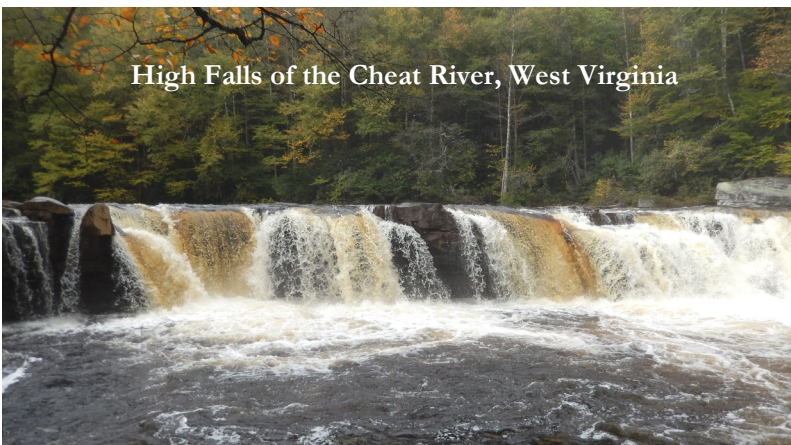
We arrived about an hour before the show, so we managed to entertain ourselves with paper airplanes! I will never understand how Marshall Winkle's square plane even flew! It was like a boomerang; it went in circles and kept returning to him! We settled down when another bus from, of all places, Celina Ohio, came to join the audience.



Above two photos: CGRS members awaiting their musical show in downtown Elkins, West Virginia

The Franks family took us on a musical train ride from West Virginia with bluegrass to Chicago to Vegas with show tunes and Hollywood with its music, then back thru Branson. They sang such fun music and were such a talented family of entertainers. Poppa Franks (he looked familiar, like he was on the Tygart Flyer earlier!) and his wife, two sons, and two daughters and a good friend kept us entertained for over an hour. I don't know about you, but I would enjoy seeing them again! #

High Falls of the Cheat River, West Virginia



Day five, our final day's adventure in 2018 by JoAnne Hamblin



*Day five, Sunday, October 14, 2018
Elkins, West Virginia to Westerville, Ohio*



Durbin Depot

We were up before the deer were and pulled out of the Resort at 7:34 am traveling to the Durbin Rocket railroad station. Back thru Elkins and Beverly arriving in Durbin at 9:05 am. Of course it began to rain as we stepped off the bus. After checking

out the restrooms and finding the boarding deck, we were ready. At 9:45 they called CGRS to board. The Cass Railroad steam locomotive that had pulled us up Cheat Mountain two days earlier was coupled to four cars, two enclosed, an open-air and a wooden caboose. CGRS filled all of one car and about a third of the second car. The equipment was crude — needs updated. One car had restaurant-type booths and the other had metal folding chairs around the perimeter. It took the conductor more than a half hour to get the coal stove fired up to take off the chill. Long johns, winter coats, stocking caps and gloves felt good!

About 11:10 the train stopped so we could get out and stretch our legs — nothing very scenic to explore but the river was nearby. After picking up a castaway caboose and getting water from the river for the steam locomotive, we were back in the station about noon. On



The middle car is a wooden caboose



our way off the train and heading to the bus, we were given our sack lunch and water. Yes, for about the third lunch in as many days it included pasta salad and this time a chewy, not home-made cookie.

Eating on the bus while we were on our way to Ohio and after our 20 minute rest break, by 4 o'clock we were in Ohio and at 5:05 pm in Newcomerstown to eat at the Old Main Street Museum. We ate promptly at 5:30, our best meal of the trip (in my opinion), which was served quickly and it was hot! Shredded



Some of the staff inside the Old Main Street Museum

beef, a quarter of a chicken, mashed potatoes with beef gravy, corn, roll, and apple or cherry pie. Way too much food but very good.

We made a quick run around the museum's Main Street USA, where we had eaten and then across the parking lot to the Temperance Tavern Museum to find the escape tunnel for the Underground Railroad above the fireplace mantel. Nice, yet small museum with model

—continued on bottom on page 6



Holiday party well attended

by Cecil Easterday

Between 55 and 60 people attended the holiday party at the home of Cecil Easterday. It was friends meeting friends — conversation was lively and we especially welcomed six of our new members. Unfortunately, I was too much into greeting everyone that I forgot to take any pictures.

The main course was the beef brisket from City Barbecue. Five pounds of the tender beef was completely gone by the end of the day. As usual, the side dishes provided by members were delicious! The weather was great and the company of CGRS members even better. What a group! It makes me very proud to be a member.

Cecil Easterday,
holiday party hostess



Cecil Easterday
Fall Bus Trip Coordinator



The Underground Railroad escape tunnel above the fireplace mantel in the Temperance Tavern Museum

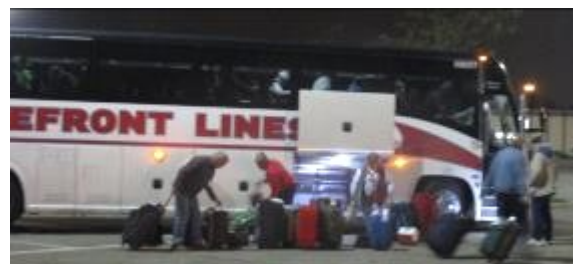


—Fall bus trip continued from page 5

buildings created in 1:12 scale by the local high school math class to teach the students the importance of math skills.

At 6:35 pm we were on US36 and OH16 to Westerville arriving ten minutes early at 8:05 pm. The end of a wet, but enjoyable five days of trains, trains, and more trains! #

Back home in Westerville after a great bus tour to VA and WVA



Thank You!



December 28



Many thanks to Cecil Easterday for hosting the holiday celebration on December 28. Also, thanks to all who attended and shared their holiday delicacies for the potluck. What a fun, and scrumptious, way to end 2018.

Coming in 2019



*Save
the dates*

Trip details are on the CGRS website and you may send your deposit today!

Next year's fall bus trip will take us to Tennessee on October 17, coming home on Monday, October 21. The star attraction will be a double-headed steam trip from Chattanooga, Tennessee to Summerville, Georgia.

**Time to pay your 2019 membership dues!
AND to make your
February 2019 Banquet reservations**

Name (s) _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

2019 dues \$ 24.00

Feb 23, 2019 banquet \$32 x # _____ = \$ _____

Check # _____ TOTAL enclosed \$ _____

Make check payable to **CGRS** and send to
Bob Collins, 924 Middlebury Drive
Worthington, OH 43085-3466

Thank you!





The Columbus Garden Railway Society

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

JANUARY 2019 Volume 28, Number 1

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.

2019 CALENDAR



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|---------------------------|---|
| January 17, Thur 7:30 pm | News Table, Easterday Home, Dublin |
| January 27, Sun 2-4 pm | Make It Take It hosted by Pat Waddell Epworth United Methodist, Columbus |
| February 14, Thur 7:30 pm | News Table, Easterday Home, Dublin Reservations due for Feb 23 Banquet |
| February 23, Saturday | Banquet at Worthington Hills Country Club |
| March 21, Thur 7:30 pm | News Table-location to be announced |
| March 31, Sun 2-4 pm | Event |
| April 18, Thur 7:30 pm | News Table-location to be announced |
| April 28, Sun, 2-4 pm | Event |
| October 17 to October 21 | Fall bus tour to southeastern USA |