ON TRACK

with the

Columbus Garden Railway Society

November 2026, Vol 35, No 11





Engineer's Note:

Welcome to the November 2026 issue of ***On Track***! In this month's issue:

- Reflections on our October Meeting
- Upcoming Events and Meetings
- Show Participation / Volunteering
- Deb Visits a Neighboring Club Layout
- New Membership Info
- Merchandise Information

Tom Marthaller

Mark Your Calendars!

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

Upcoming Club Meetings 2-4pm

Nov 29 – Columbus Main Library

Dec 26 (Saturday starting at 1 PM, set-up at noon) – Warner Woods Pavillion – Westerville Holiday Pot-Luck

Jan 31 – "Hideaway on the Hocking" retreat in Hocking Hills

Feb 27 (Sat, 6-10 PM) – Annual Banquet – Worthington Hills C.C.

News table meetings 7-8pm ish

Dec 17 – Mary Ricci

Jan 21 -

See website for more events & details. Directions will be emailed by Doug Kruest closer to event times

Our October Meeting… Thank you, Camille Petersen

By Tom Marthaller

It was another beautiful day for our October meeting at Camille and Paul Petersen's home and the Puckerville Railroad.



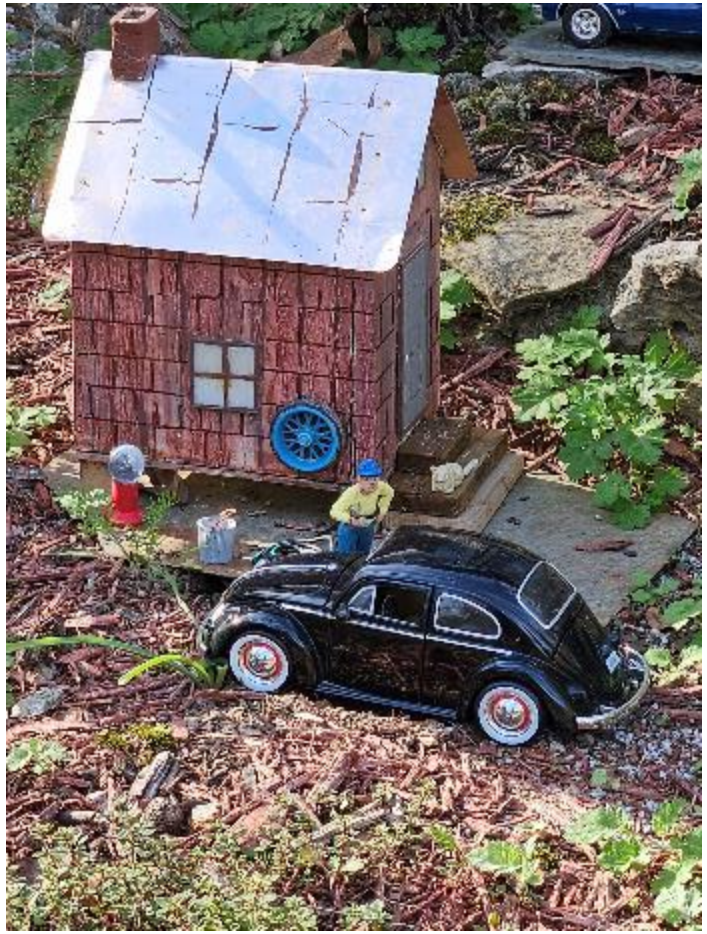




Camille passed out Sculpey clay and taught us how to create people and objects with it for use on our railroads. She has lots of her clay figures on the RR.

Our October Meeting… *continued*







Our Next Club Meeting Destination

By Deb Sweet

Join us for the November CGRS meeting at the Columbus Main Library where the Huntington Holiday train layout is on display. Enjoy hot chocolate and pumpkin cookies, while enjoying the trains, and viewing a video from Ron Meyer of its setup.

If you 've never been to the main library, it has a GREAT children's area with activities. Bring your family to this meeting!

- When: Sunday, Nov 29, 2026, 2–4 PM
- Where: 96 S. Grant Ave., Columbus, OH



(columbuslibrary.org)

Deck the Trains Holiday Car Decorating Contest

By Tim Dove

Join in on our third annual Train car Decorating Contest at our December meeting!!!
Please bring your creations for cash prizes for top three entrants!

- Show imagination and the holiday spirit connected to our G scale hobby
- Limit one entry per member
- Entry should include a G scale car
- Needs to be self-contained (electric etc.)
- Each CGRS member in attendance will get an official ticket to vote for their concept of the stacked “winner”.

Details of the procedures will be explained at the event.

Selected by those in attendance…
1st place $50
2nd place $25
3rd place $10



Examples of previous entries. Our winner for the past two years is Bev Mann. The rest of us need to step up our game 😉 !

January Club Meeting Destination

By Deb Sweet

Something different in mind for the January meeting!! Join the club to the "Hideaway on the Hocking" retreat in Hocking Hills, where five cabooses have been turned into overnight accommodations. We will get a "tour" of the cabooses, and one still waiting to be restored.

Also on site is an original depot. Over 130 years ago, The Depot was the site of lots of hustling and bustling, whistling hellos and steamy goodbyes. This original 1890 train depot started its journey in Millersport and stopped in Carroll for a decade before making its way to its final destination, Hideaway on the Hocking. With much of the authentic wood walls, floors and sliding doors still in place, she offers a glimpse into the past. You can enjoy your morning coffee or breakfast in bed, passed through the original ticket window, while its own ensuite bath hints to its former life with the caboose-red vanity wall.



(hideawayonthehocking.com)

There are three winter buildings to rent, if you choose to stay the weekend. Visit hideawayonthehocking.com for listings and prices.

More details in the next newsletter!!!

News Table Meetings

Please join us for our Club News Table on Dec 17th, hosted by Mary Ricci. These meetings present you with the opportunity to have a voice in the direction of our club. As Jed often reminds us, attending the meeting makes you a board member for the meeting.



Come join us and be in the room where it happens!

<u>News table meetings 7-8 pm ish</u>

- Nov 19 – Alvin & Bev Mann
- Dec 17 – Mary Ricci

We need volunteers to host news table meetings in 2027

Show Participation / Volunteer Opportunities

The CGRS Annual Banquet is February 27th. We need your donations for door prizes! Don't wait until the last minute! Please e-mail Doug Clark and inform him of what you are donating. His e-mail is dclar5@me.com

- Golden Spike Ent Show – Model Trains and Artifacts – Dec 5, 9 AM – 4 PM - Ohio Expo Ctr
- Great Train Show – Jan 10-11 – Ohio Expo Ctr
- 2027 Great Lakes Large Scale Train Expo – May 13-16 – Girard, OH
- 2027 National Garden Railway Convention – May 31 – June 5 – Nashville, TN
- 2027 TTOS Train Show – Sep 11 - Der Dutchman – Plain City

Contact Gary Schneider if you'd like to volunteer for any of the shows.

Central Ohio Model Railroad Club Open House

COMRC will be hosting it's 12th annual Holiday Open House beginning Thanksgiving weekend, and running every weekend in December Everyone is welcome! It's a great experience for the whole family, kids and adults alike!

See all of our different layouts in action. HO scale, O gauge, N scale, and S scale. Automated scenery with lots of lights, bells, and whistles! We will be unveiling the new Thomas & Friends trains on a super-size layout.

Free Admission and Parking

- When: Thanksgiving weekend: FRI, SAT, SUN from 12 to 4 PM
  Every Saturday and Sunday in Dec from 12 to 4 PM
  Closed Christmas Day
- Where: 6471 Proprietors Rd, Worthington, OH



(comrc.club)

A Visit to a Miami Valley GRS Garden Railroad

Deb Sweet paid a visit to Paul Race's garden railway on Saturday November 7th. Paul opened his railroad to visitors and invited CGRS to see his Holiday layout. It's always fun to see what our neighboring clubs are doing with their railroads and of course to support the hobby. Paul is editor of familygardentrains.com.







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.

Doug sends out directions to the meetings and any last minute changes or updates.





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 are planning 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 just love trains.

Come and join us at a Sunday event. Learn more about the hobby and meet others.



Membership Form & Information

https://thecgrs.org/membership/

CGRS Depot Store

- Crew-neck sweatshirts XS to 4XL $25 to $27
- Golf Shirts S to 3XL $28 to $42
- Golf Shirts WITH pocket S to 3XL $37 to $45
- Hooded Jackets S to 3XL $62
- Baseball Caps (choose color - Khaki, green, black, white.) - $18

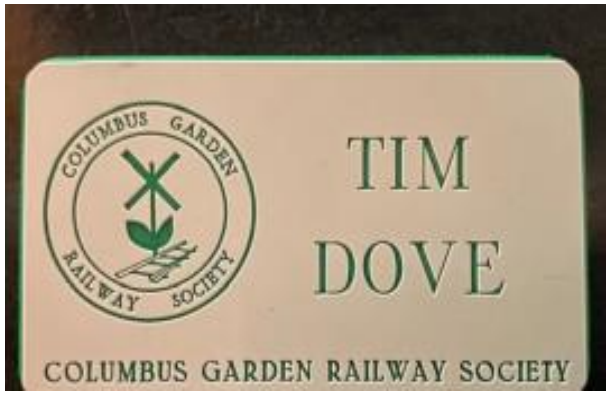




PLEASE NOTE: ALL golf shirts are ordered without a pocket unless a pocket is requested. Bob Collins is our Conductor for all wearable merchandise. Please contact him with any questions at 614-975-5753.

https://thecgrs.org/members/cgrs-store/

CGRS Depot Store Continued…



But wait … there's more!

- Name Tags with Magnet fastener - $6 each
- CGRS Mug (with lid) – 14-oz, cork base/white ceramic - $7 each for CGRS members
- Bag Tags with loop - $8 each

https://thecgrs.org/members/cgrs-store/





About Us…

CGRS - 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.

Contacts

- *Newsletter content*
  Tom Marthaller
- *Membership & Address Changes*
  Bob Collins
- *General Information & Webmaster*
  Kent Kloes
- *News Table Meeting Agendas*
  Jed Hacker
- *Traveling / Display Layout*
  Gary Schneider
- *Meeting hosts*
  Deb Sweet
- *Principal Business Contact*
  Bill Logan
- *Bills and Invoices*
  Lisa Dove

This Issue: November 2026, Vol 35, No 11

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:

Deb Sweet, Tom Marthaller, Alvin Mann, Tim Dove, & Doug Kruest.

Photography contributors:

Deb Sweet, Jed Hacker, Tom Marthaller, Kent Kloes,Tim Dove, hideawayonthehocking.com, comrc.club, & columbuslibrary.org





