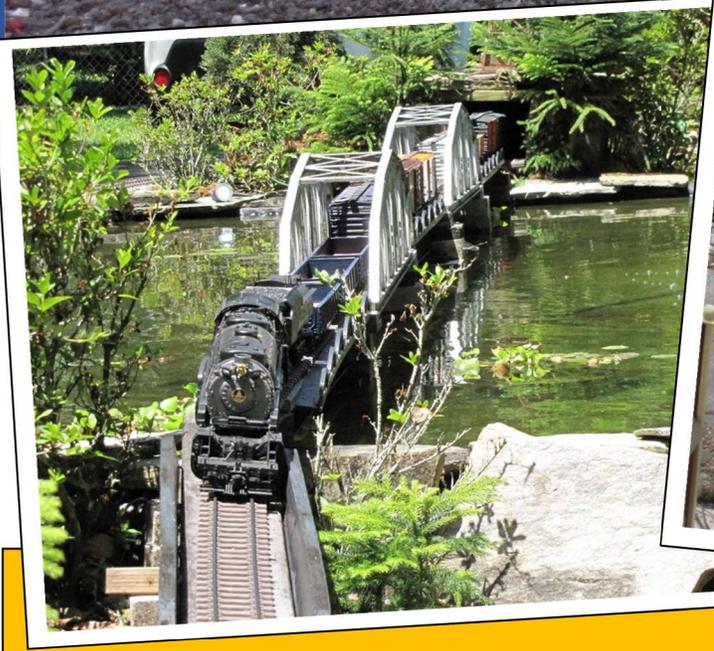




*April 2021*  
**NEWSLETTER**

*Celebrating 30 Years of Garden Railroading!*



**GO TO [WWW.FGRS.ORG](http://WWW.FGRS.ORG), "EVENTS" PAGE  
TO SEE PHOTOS FOR OUR UPCOMING OPERATING SESSIONS. GO TO THE  
"MEMBERS SIGN-IN" TO SEE THE CURRENT MEMBER ROSTER, NEWSLETTER BACK ISSUES,  
AND MORE!**



## April 2021 Newsletter

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## PRESIDENT'S NOTES FROM FRED WEBER

April 2021

It's great to finally be able to have our first Fun run of 2021! Millie, and I will kick it off!

I want to thank Phil Barcelona and Paul Marella for helping us in getting our railroad ready for the meet. It was a fun day and lots of work was completed. All members who may need help with their own layouts can let one of the board members know and we will find the help you need. Having extra hands makes the job much easier.

### **Fun Runs!!**

Driving 2 to 3 hours to see one layout and hanging out with other G-scalers is great, but wouldn't you rather see 2 or 3 layouts in one day instead? We could arrange a 15 to 20 minute trip between each and space them out so they overlap each other.

Example: 9am-11:30am at the first location, 11am-12:30pm for the second location and 1pm-4:30pm at the third. Or, we could do only two locations, beginning at 9am-12noon, break for lunch and do the second from 1pm-4pm.

Another idea would be to have a meet at a venue and we would set up the club's layout to run trains on. We have had meets at Live Steamers locations in the past and that has always been a fun day to ride trains and see their G Scale layouts.

I would really like to see more members take advantage of the great events that the club is providing once a month. Please email me at [FGRSPresident@gmail.com](mailto:FGRSPresident@gmail.com) to let me know your thoughts and ideas.

Happy Choo Choo!

- *Fred Weber*, FGRS President 2021

# FGRS 2021 BOARD MEMBERS



**FGRS President**  
**Fred Weber**  
**410-310-6001**  
**Fgrs.president@gmail.com**



**FGRS Vice President – Eastern Region**  
**Phil Barcelona**  
**386-562-4859**  
**fgrs.vicepresident@gmail.com**

**YOUR PICTURE  
COULD BE HERE!**

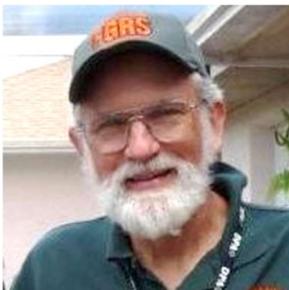
**FGRS Vice President – Western Region**  
**Position Open – This can be you!**



**FGRS Secretary**  
**Millie Weber**  
**941-224-2996**  
**Fgrs.secretary@  
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**Jay Archer**  
**727-736-1989**  
**Fgrs.membership  
18@gmail.com**

## 2021 TRAIN SHOWS AND EVENTS

### March 26th and 27th - East Coast Large Scale Train Show -

The proposed dates for the 2021 show are March 26th and 27th in Timonium, MD. At the present time, the Cow Palace (The previous location) is being used for Covid testing and vaccine administration. Firm dates and location should be "cast in concrete" by the end of February. Hotel information will be available at that time as well.

### April 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 - Florida Rail Fair (Deland Train Show)

Volusia County Fairgrounds

### May 1 - Martin County Model Railroaders Spring Open House

10 AM to 2 PM

Admission and Parking are Free. Face coverings required and CDC guidelines apply. Operating layouts for N, HO, O and G Gauge will be on display. The Vero Beach Model Railroaders will also have a display.

Martin County Fairgrounds, 2616 S.E. Dixie Highway, Stuart, FL

For More Information: [www.martincountymodelrailroaders.org](http://www.martincountymodelrailroaders.org)

Or call Gary Hawken 772-692-9017

### May 30th, 2021 to June 5th, 2021- National Garden Railway Convention

Nashville, TN – Go to <https://ngrc2021.com/> for information

### June 5, 2021 - Melbourne Train & Toy Show

9am - 2pm

Azan Shrine Center, Melbourne, Florida

Go to <http://schultzspacecoasttrains.com/> for information

For a Complete list of Train Shows go to

[http://www.railserve.com/events/train\\_shows.html](http://www.railserve.com/events/train_shows.html)

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# **NGRC Updates Arriving!**



Open registration, scheduling and clinic updates, and many more things are covered in this issue of the NGRC 2021 news. (Don't forget to share the info with friends or fellow club members.) To get all the news, [click on this link](#) to download updates on what is new and what to expect.

As always, Stay safe... we can't wait to see you in Nashville!

**Find Out More On [NGRC2021.com](http://NGRC2021.com)**

# **UPCOMING FGRS FUN RUNS/OPERATING SESSIONS**

**April 17, 2021 – Fun Run at Fred and Millie Weber’s**

7686 E Oak Forrest St.

Floral City, FL 34436

Email lgbfred2002@yahoo.com

Phone 410-310-6001



**Fred says:**

“Welcome to the Dew Drop Railroad! The Snow is gone. Spring is in the air. Ok maybe too much pollen.

The Dew Drop RR started back in 2012 with a loop around the old pine tree. The railroad now features 5 loops running on DC power. From a 6-foot circle to four L-shape loops, starting from 165 feet of track, down to 135 feet per loop. There is also a 55 Foot reversing trolley line. With a downtown area, to houses in the country. Don’t



miss the Fairy Mountain. But you don’t want to annoy the fairy! Keep your eye out for Dorothy’s house. You are more than welcome to run your trains here. We are located



between Inverness and Brooksville. E Oak Forest St starts on RT41. Plenty of parking on the right side of the house. (Garage side).

Please bring a chair and lunch. We will have water and some snacks. Possibility of a taste of Dew Drop Beer, fresh from the brewery.

We have plenty of room for social distancing.”

*(Upcoming Fun Runs Continued Next Page)*

*(Upcoming Fun Runs, Continued)*

## **Sunday, May 9, 2021 – Fun Run at Charlie Beall's**

7839 Sloewood Dr  
Mount Dora, FL  
Phone 352-383-3976



Noon till 4 PM. Drinks and paperware provided.



You won't want to miss this spectacular Garden Railway layout! The layout is roughly 70 feet x 90 feet, and has four mainlines. Including sidings, there is about 1200 feet of track. It was built in 2006 and has been featured in Garden Railways magazine. There is a waterfall, koi pond, long truss bridges, and a varied, beautifully landscaped terrain throughout the layout. Charlie has 20 locomotives and 111 cars.

### **CALENDAR PLANNING FOR FUTURE FUN RUNS**

We're looking for members to host Train Operating Sessions and Fun Runs for the rest of 2021.

We are hearing that many of you have your Covid vaccination now, so we are cautiously planning meets and events, but still are recommending precautions. Your safety is our primary concern, and of course, any plans you make will be subject to your final go or no-go judgement as your date approaches.

If you are interested in hosting, please contact Paul Wagner, the FGRS Newsletter Chairman at [FGRS.Newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:FGRS.Newsletter@gmail.com)

## Letters From Our Members

From Pete Thornton, Ft Myers, FL

RE: *Upgrading a Bachman 2-8-0*, by Gary Nichols, February 2021 Newsletter –

Gary, Nice piece on the 2-8-0. As a live steamer, I thought I'd better respond to your question: "Anyone know some live steamers?!?!?!?".

*Gary said:*

*"The coal load looks pretty good, and is activated charcoal I got at the pet store for aquarium filters. Unfortunately, that type is no longer made. The new stuff looks like rabbit pellets. If I had to make some now, I'd either use real coal or find something similar that could be painted to look like coal and wasn't too heavy (ie not gravel). I think you could put some real coal in cloth bag and hammer it into the right sizes without pieces flying all over the place. Anyone know some live steamers?!?!?!?"*

I don't run coal fired locos, but I do put real coal in my tenders. I got some from the East Broad Top, and used that on my EBT loco and hoppers. You do indeed put the coal in a bag and bash it - but you need a couple of sieves and bins/buckets, as there will be a lot of dust and tiny bits, plus some that are too big and have to be bashed again! Here's a pic of the tender and a hopper. After EBT went dormant and I ran out, I used Tuckahoe coal (Tuckahoe Steam & Gas, where they have all sorts of full-size steam stuff: traction engines, sawmills, etc.)



For something similar, we found Turface, which is a dried clay that is used on baseball fields - <https://www.turface.com/>. It comes in various colors (not black) but as you can see in this small gondola it makes a good mineral ore load. I am planning to glue some to a removable

tender top on my current locomotive project, and then spray it flat black, with a spritz of satin and gloss black.

If you want real coal, then Welsh Steam Coal can be bought from Triple R Services in NJ, who supply the coal-burning fraternity. Alternatively, coal pieces are sold in bags on eBay - just search for 'real coal'. (Big lumps sold as a joke for Xmas, anyone?) I bought some "G-scale" coal from "firecheifcujo" - He's a user on eBay who sells bags of coal.

<https://www.ebay.com/itm/G-Scale-Coal-100-Anthracite-Great-for-Garden-Railroads-Live-Steam-Forges/284170685346>

- Pete

(*"Letters" continued next page*)

*("Letters" continued)*

From Tim Smith, Ft Myers, FL

Tom, this is Tim Smith from Fort Myers. I read with great interest your article on FA1/FB1 Aristocraft rehab. You have done amazing work and I am definitely one member who can appreciate it. We are working on very similar projects. I so look forward to your next article! Through an estate sale I ended up with Aristocraft Daylight FA/FB units in proper paint scheme to pull a set of "Daylight" heavyweight passenger cars I have, but I did not like the look or the feel. The two locos were both "old style" Aristocraft with the "too-high" body to match the passenger cars, and they had shaky motor pickups, etc. But in that sale I had also acquired an Aristocraft ATSF FA/FB/FA 3-unit set with modern electronics, external connectors, and lowered body. I was able (with much effort) to swap the shells. There were tradeoffs and issues. But the deed is now done! I installed batteries, sound/speaker, and BlueRail RC in the now-NEW FB1 Daylight unit, in a project similar to your own. It was great to compare notes with you via the newsletter articles, and I would be happy to share my version of resurrecting these old engines in an upcoming newsletter.



- Tim

From Bob and Cheri Conant, Bradenton, FL – An open letter to their sons:

Dear Family and Friends;

I am calling this "Covid City" because I built all of these Lego kits from around November 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021. I may not always call it by this name, but it works for now. You may recognize from left to right: The Downtown Diner, Assembly Square and the Corner Garage. My plan is to use them on my tiny G scale train layout but I have a few other things to finish first. I think it looks pretty nifty.

Love, Dad



We do too, Bob. I hope we can talk you into doing an article about it for the next newsletter.

All: Be sure and catch Tim Smith's article in this newsletter about using Legos for garden railroad modeling - Ed.

# Resurrecting an Aristocraft FA Diesel Engine, Part 3

By Tom Hite



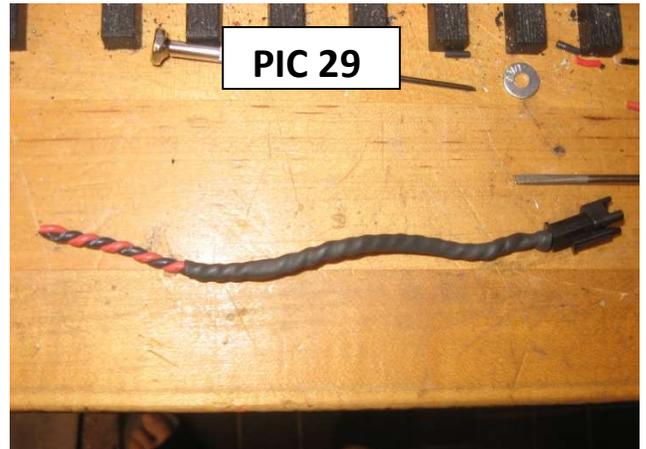
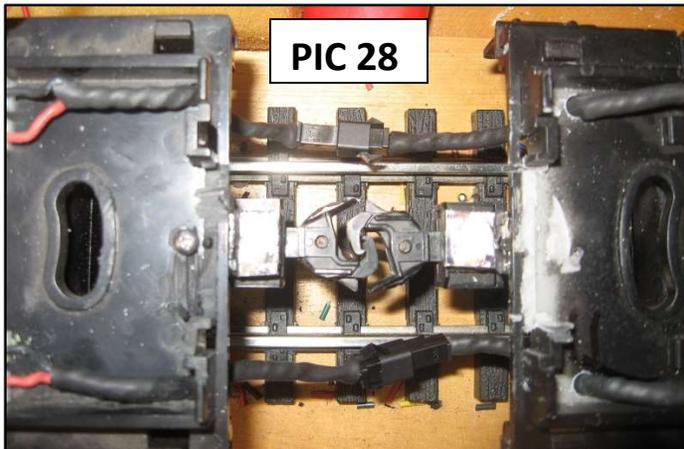
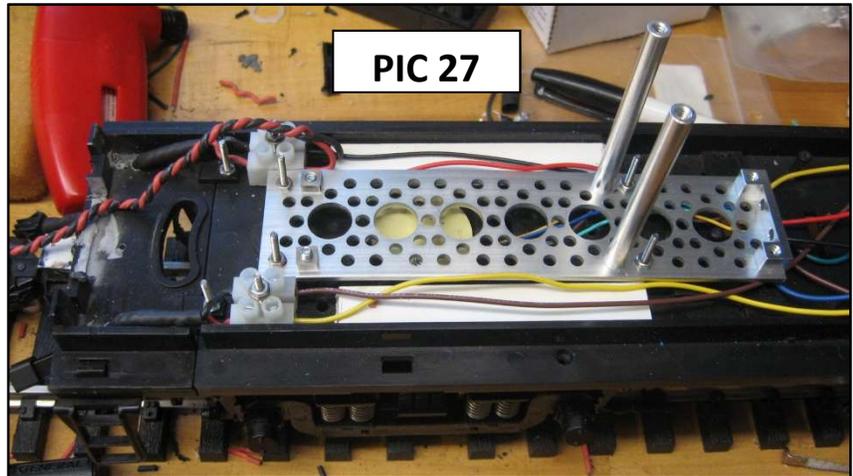
Here is the final chapter in the story of resurrecting an Aristocraft FA & FB unit. This month we will tackle the battery install, wire up the Rail Pro sound and motion decoder, and give her a test run! First, let me say, I prefer to have my batteries removable for two reasons:

1. If the battery runs down and I still want to run trains, I can take it out and put a new one in. Think of it as a flashlight you replace the batteries when they go dead. If the flashlight had a rechargeable battery in it that was not removable you can't use it until charged.

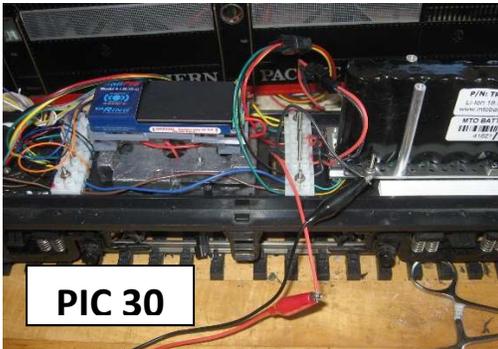
2. When the battery goes bad it can be replaced without taking off the shell. **PIC 27** shows the platform in which the battery resides when it is slid in through the door.

Now its time to make connections between the A & B unit. **PIC 28** shows two cables that connect the two units. The top wire is the battery voltage which balances battery

voltage between the A & B unit. If I just use one battery the A & B units share the battery power. If I have two batteries, I can run longer plus the battery voltage is balanced. The bottom wire is the track pick up. This ties all the track pickups together to give more contacts to avoid dead spots. To make the cables that connect to the units is simple, I just put the wires into a drill. Holding one end I spin it until I get a tight spiral then I put shrink wrap over the wire and heat it up **PIC 29**.

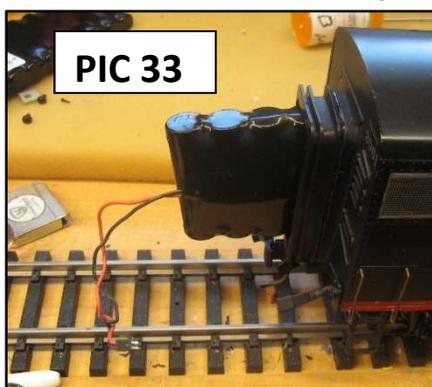


The next picture shows the final connections with voltmeter attached to test the circuit that will be connected to the Rail Pro module **PIC 30**. I do this to make sure there are no shorts. There are two circuits (battery & track). I use this option to connect to track power, so that the loco could be used on track power without a battery, if desired. This powers the Rail Pro system from track power, so the Rail Pro system is still needed to control the engine when using track power in this way. But I make sure that the battery and track power are not connected. **PIC 31** shows battery voltage when the switch is in the battery position and **PIC 32** shows voltage when in the track position.



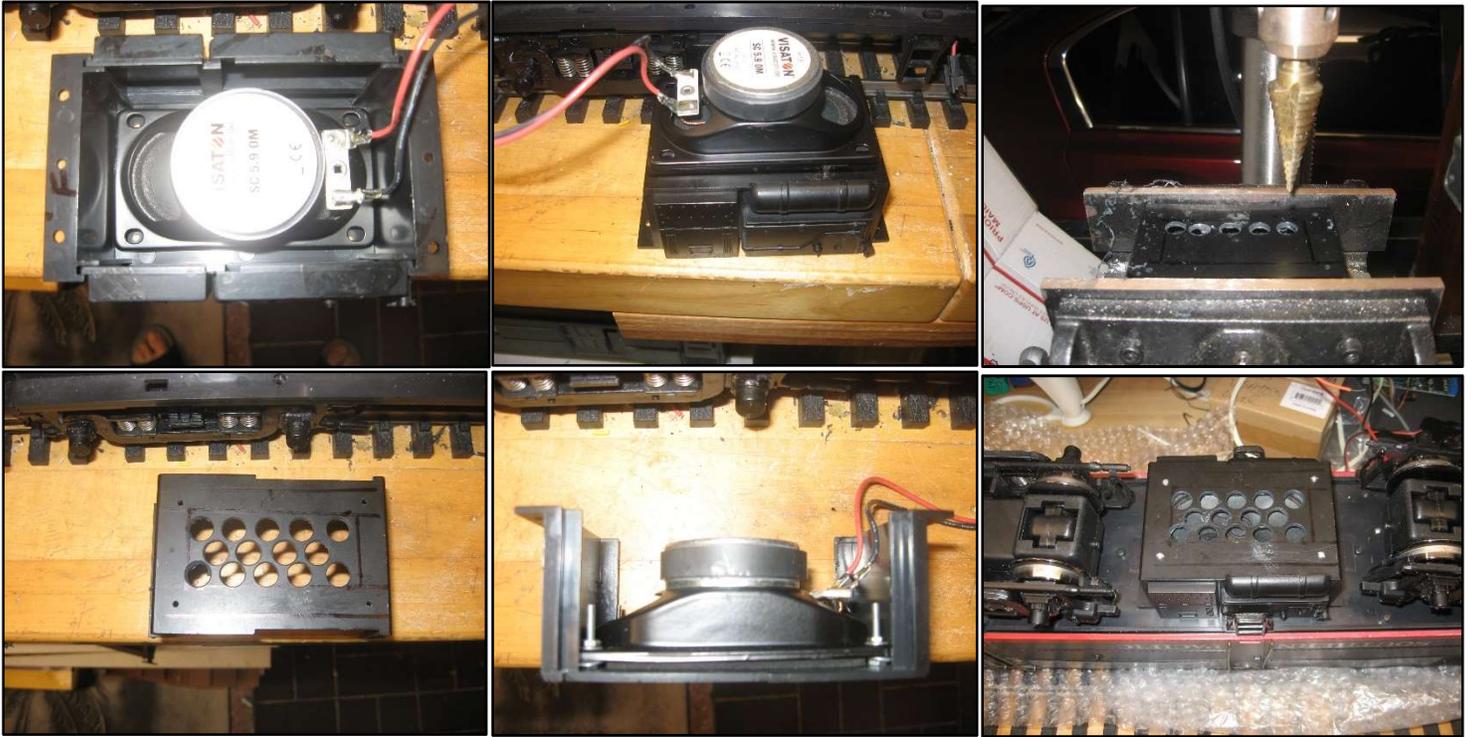
If you are wondering why the voltages are different this is done on purpose. I connect a 12V power supply to the rails. If I had the same voltage on the rails as well, I would not know if the switching circuit is working. Also, do not be alarmed that there is negative voltage. The Rail Pro module does not care how it is wired - it is not polarity sensitive.

Time to wrap things up. **PIC 33** is showing the battery half in and **PIC 34** it is all the way in. After the battery is in I connect up the power cable and tuck the wires in. Here it is all hooked up and ready to go in **PIC 35**.



The only thing left is to put a speaker in the fuel tank. This posed a little issue because when these engines were produced sound was not a big deal as it is today. I had to do a little fabrication work on the fuel tank.

The fuel tank was a simple step-by-step process as shown in the following 6 pictures. I put the tank in the drill press vice and started drilling on one side and advanced the table to the next spot, and so on until I got a bunch of holes. A “step drill” like the one in the picture does a nice job for this. I put the speaker in the tank and attached it to the engine.



**The finished SP “Black Widow” FA Diesel set, ready for a road test!**





For more information about the Rail Pro R/C – motion and sound system, please take a look at my previous article in the March 2020 FGRS Newsletter, available on the FGRS.org website if you didn't save it.

Here are some links to videos of the train in action. Enjoy !!!

<https://youtu.be/6gAs4IIYHtg>

<https://youtu.be/5bu58RIRUac>

<https://youtu.be/zS852uAb99o>

<https://youtu.be/tgPLVXQfnX4>

<https://youtu.be/YZIs-Ru-VRg>

## Member Spotlight

### Rick Kissinger, Orlando, Florida

Rick Kissinger, a natural born Floridian, lives in Orlando, and has been an avid addict and collector of model trains since his grandfather bought his first HO circular Styrofoam mountain set at the age of 7. Although briefly starting on his dad's Marx set, HO was the scale shared between him and his grandfather. As members of the Treasure Coast Model Railroaders, his family took him to the annual Christmas layout in Lantana as a kid. BAM!!!! This started his love of the BIG BIG BOY Train! Unfortunately LGB was too expensive at the time for anyone, so he continued with HO. As an adult you can DEF afford more. And as they say, "the difference between men and boys, is the price of their toys". Since those early days, many transitions of collecting took place, and now he incorporates his Star Wars Sci-fi collection, car collection, and his Disney Monorail Playset collection into his man cave of toys and collectibles. But his prized Kitzingen DB LGB layout pays tribute to his German heritage, and is modeled completely in the colorful European tradition. But there's never enough room!



Although trained and schooled as a touring Broadway pit orchestra musician, conductor, freelance contractor, and music educator, Rick still manages to find time in between tooting his own horn (clarinet), to enjoy his collection of HO, O and LGB trains. ESPECIALLY this past year being unemployed due as Covid.



Rick Kissinger,  
Artistic Director/Conductor/Educator  
Woodwind Doubler/ FBA Adjudicator  
Licorice Sticks Entertainment  
"thinking outside the music box"  
[www.LicoriceSticks.com](http://www.LicoriceSticks.com)  
AFM Local #802 NYC  
407-616-4599

## Member's Layouts A'Building

### Mike and Tracy Walls' Cobblestone RR – Update



Mike says if you look past some of the weeds (lol) you will see we added a new trestle, but need to complete a bridge at end. We got a Disney set and track laid, but haven't got it synced up to the controller yet. Our Amish village coming along. Home maintenance has taken us away from railroading for a while, but snapped a few pictures anyway.



# ***The Lemonade Stand***

**The first in a series by Jennifer Nisenoff and Tim Smith  
Ft Myers, Florida**



Jennifer Nisenoff and Tim Smith are new to garden railroading. They enjoy other hobbies including tennis, hiking, and making things. Tim has volunteered to do a series of articles for the Newsletter titled “*The Lemonade Stand*”. Each *Lemonade Stand* article will focus on a single “lemon” (i.e., problem/mistake) and also provide some insights on turning that lemon into lemonade (success!).

Tim says his specialized skills are: “Jumping-the-gun, thinking too big, never a look before the leap, and over-confidence”, which he thinks will ensure that there is plenty of material for this series. Jennifer's qualities, (patience, thoughtfulness, organizational skills, and tolerance) will help keep the entire process under control.

Every article will feature a little fun fact (not related to model trains) as the opening paragraph (similar to the lemonade quote story in this one). Every article will end with suggestions on how to overcome or eliminate a lemon problem/situation. Almost every article will highlight some mistake or error or omission that caused me headache and required redo or new direction.

## ***The Lemonade Stand***

### **“Failure to Use What We Already Have (LEGOs to the rescue!)”**

Elbert Hubbard introduced the idea of “turning life’s lemons into lemonade” in an obituary he wrote for a friend of his who passed away back in 1915. Elbert wrote it this way: “He picked up the lemons that Fate had sent him and started a lemonade-stand.” Model railroading provides many opportunities to use our problem-solving skills. Just like the crew of Apollo 13 in April of 1970, we can find ourselves trying to “fit a square peg into a round hole.” In order to “scrub” carbon dioxide from the air in the crippled spaceship, the Apollo astronauts used duct tape to fit round CO2 filters from the Command Module into square CO2 canisters in the Lunar Module to stay alive during their return to earth. Rookies like me too often discard and replace instead of finding a solution using materials we already have in our possession. This month’s lemon is about that kind of blind spot.

Backstory: My granddaughters love playing with LEGOs. Over the years, I found myself buying some sets and pieces, assisting in the construction of spaceships and race cars, and accumulating odd plastic LEGO pieces which appeared to have no practical use. Two years ago, I came across some little holiday tree ornaments at a local pharmacy. These little boxes were quite “interesting” to me since each one had a battery powered light. I bought several of them on sale after the holidays for less than \$1 each. I ended up not using the ornaments for the holidays, and recently I decided to just pitch them away. A couple of days later, I was looking at a model kit



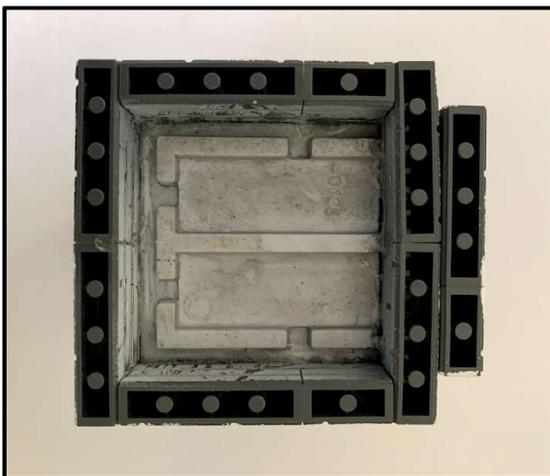
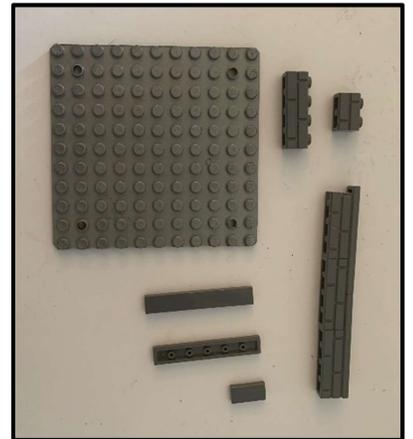
for a signal tower and it suddenly dawned on me that the top of a signal tower looked a lot like the ornaments I had just tossed. I was able to “rescue” three of the ornaments from the trash and I started thinking about finding a signal tower base.

Unable to find a ready-made base that seemed at all realistic, I began to think about using LEGOs to build the base. I dug out the bag of LEGO parts in the toy drawer and began to fiddle with the blocks and tiles in an effort to come up with a base for my signal tower. **NOTE: *The Lemonade Stand* does not buy LEGO sets...just LEGO pieces of the desired type when needed.**

LEGOs are made of a rather soft and flexible plastic. They behave almost like balsa. LEGOs bend a bit without snapping; are easy to cut and glue quickly with styrene or super glue. LEGOs take paint well and can be permanently curved or bent by holding a candle under them while bending to the desired shape. LEGO blocks are cheap and come in hundreds of shapes and sizes. LEGOs can easily be bought on Amazon or eBay. I prefer to use the same color blocks (gray mostly) and paint them as needed using generic latex paint which adheres well. After gluing, LEGOs are surprisingly stiff and strong.

I figured out what LEGO solution might work for a signal tower base and bought some additional “bulk” LEGOs on eBay to ensure I had enough blocks and tiles to build a base. Here on the right is a sample of the LEGO parts I used to construct the signal tower base. In order to complete the signal tower, other parts had to be improvised. The bottom of the base unit was cut out of a piece of plastic left over from a building kit. The door is also a thin sheet of plastic covered with sticky shelf liner paper. The doorknob is a small black Aristocraft Phillips screw. The door hinge is made of a thin strip of Duct Tape. In order to make the signal tower look a bit aged, I applied old white latex paint in splotches with a small sponge roller dipped in the paint can. I just lightly touched the roller to the exterior of the base at various places. I glued two loops of electric wire to the bottom of the ornament to keep the ornament square inside the base.

This picture (Below) shows the bottom of the base...See the LEGO blocks!



And here is what the signal tower looks like when completed! To turn the light on, I simply lift the ornament from the base and slide the switch on.



## Now, here's how I repaired a broken brake shoe assembly on one of my Aristocraft FA1 truck side frames using Legos:

The big blue shape is a LEGO flat tile. Those tiles were used to create the floor of a Steam Tender chassis. The flat tiles are strong and smooth. They lay like hardwood flooring when glued to a LEGO base. The second thin straight blue piece is an edge saved from trimming the chassis floor. The LEGO chassis for the Steam Tender was just about 1/4 inch too wide and 1/8 inch was trimmed off each side of the chassis floor with a utility knife and steel ruler. All the scraps were saved and put in a sandwich bag...just in case they could be used for something else. The next



curved piece shows the result of pinching the trimmed piece into a bow shape between thumb and finger while adding a bit of candle heat back and forth under the curve. The curved section was cut to length and installed in the brake shoe assembly. It was cut just a tiny bit too long and went in like a spring under a bit of tension. It is glued with Gorilla super glue. The repaired brake assembly is NOT an exact match of the original, but it is quite strong and will look much better than having NO brake assembly on the side frame.

So, How to Make Lemonade from this Lemon: "Failure to Use the Resources We Already Have"?

1. Think about what you already have available as a FIRST resort not a LAST resort.
2. Get in the habit of looking at throw-away items as potential solutions to future problems.
3. LEGOs offer a great potential for solving problems encountered in model railroading.
4. Not everything works. But most everything is worth a try!

I hope this was helpful and enjoyable! Stay tuned for another "Lemon" next month.



## Member Train Items For Sale

Looking to buy or swap something? Send in your request- [FGRS.Newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:FGRS.Newsletter@gmail.com)

*This page has been created solely as a convenience to our members who want to buy and sell from other club members. FGRS takes no responsibility for the condition of the items or sale of items. Any transaction is completely between the buyer and seller.*

*Please submit items you would like to buy or sell to Paul Wagner, [FGRS.Newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:FGRS.Newsletter@gmail.com)*

*Ads will be run for 2 months if they are not renewed. Please notify me when an item is sold, so it can be removed from the following newsletter. – Paul Wagner*

### **WANTED: Pilot cover for USA PA Diesel. (Cow Catcher Insert)**

This item is usually not needed if you have installed a front coupler on your PA.

If you have one to sell:

Please call or email:

Paul Wagner

941-445-0409

[wagstation@aol.com](mailto:wagstation@aol.com)



**Used, like new LGB items for sale:** to FGRS members at \$35 each. I will be happy to meet buyers part way for delivery.

Box Cars: 4067 A01 (3) (one without box); 4067 F01 Pacemaker; 4167 White Pass; 4067 D&RG: State of Maine (no box)

Reefers: 4074 B02 Tiffany; 42720 C&S

Stock: 4168 White Pass

Tanker: 4080Y Transcontinental; 4080W01 San Diego Arizona  
(No pictures available)

Gary Hawkins, Stuart, FL

772-692-9017

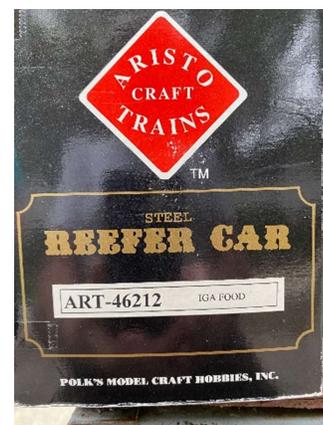
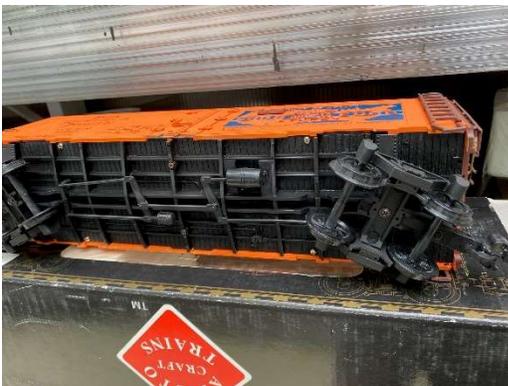
# Member Train Items For Sale

Don Carter has for sale:  
[doncarter521@embarqmail.com](mailto:doncarter521@embarqmail.com)

352-207-5434

Ocala Florida, Pick up at my residence or will work out a halfway somewhere

New Aristo Craft, IGA Food Store  
 ART 46212 Orange \$45.00



New Bachmann , Texaco Tank Car  
 # 93432 Metal wheels \$50.00



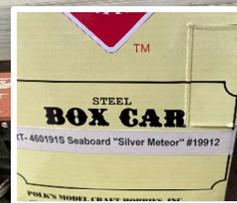
Used Aristo Craft, Pabst Blue Ribbon ART 46203 metal wheels, K-D couplers - \$45.00



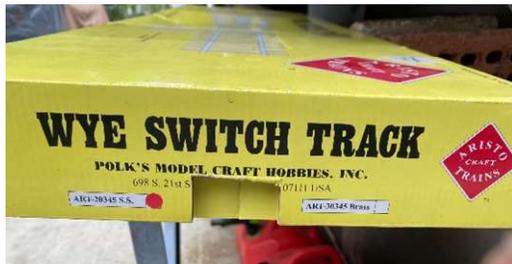
New Bachmann, Heinz 57 varieties boxcar metal wheels  
\$35.00 no box.



(2) New Aristo Craft, Silver Meteor #19913. ART 460191s metal wheels. \$50.00 each



New Aristo Craft, WYE Switch Stainless Steel  
ART 20345-S.S. \$85.00



(3) used LGB Rio Grand Western #3080 coaches  
all with lights, no box's \$50.00 each,  
With Combines, All five for \$225.00



(2) used LGB Rio Grand Western # 3081 combine cars one has a speaker inside, both with  
lights. No box for one \$50.00 each,  
With Coaches, All five for \$225.00

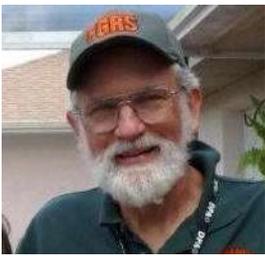


## Member Train Items For Sale

Glenn Copper, Inverness, Florida, has two items for sale. He can be reached at 352-765-4119  
Items must be picked up at his house.

This is the Orange Blossom  
Special show car from NCRC 2014.  
He is selling the one that has never  
been open. \$65.00





## **From the Newsletter Desk**

**Paul Wagner**

### **Printing and Searching your FGRS Newsletters**

Most of you already are aware of this, but you can print out your FGRS Newsletter in booklet form, if you want to save paper and ink. When you hit print, where it says “Page Size and Handling”, you hit “Booklet”. Make sure that “Print on Both Sides of Paper”, and “Portrait” are clicked, see if the little preview seems to look right, and hit “Print”. It will print out a handy little booklet that will only take ¼ the paper and ink of a full-size print-out. Of course, you can print full size, on both sides, by selecting that option on the print box, too. Be sure to click on “Flip on Long Edge”, also, or it will print every other page upside down. That is for folks who want to staple it along the top and flip the pages up. And, of course, you can select just one or a group of pages to print out, so if you see an article you want to take out to the shop with you, you can just print it, and not the entire newsletter. You just select the range of pages you want under the “Pages to Print” option, i.e. entering “5-7” will make it print out only pages 5 through 7.

And if you read your newsletter on a phone or tablet, don’t forget you can turn the device on its side, and most of the pictures will appear larger, and it might be easier to read.

Have you tried the on-screen search function? That little magnifying glass with 3 dots in it at the top of the PDF screen is the “Find Text” function. If, for instance, you wanted to search for something about “Legos” in the newsletter, you would hit the magnifying glass, and enter “Lego” in the box that pops up, and it will show you a “match”, click on it, and Bam! It takes you there faster than you can think about it.

What if you want to find an article about something you saw sometime last year in the newsletter? If you have saved your newsletter documents in a folder on your PC, you can go to that folder in “File Explorer”, and near the upper right-hand corner of the screen you will see a box that has a magnifying glass, and says “Search... (the name of the folder you are in on your computer). Type in the word or phrase you are looking for, say, “Rail Pro”, and you will see a list of all the issues that contain something about Rail Pro. Hit the blue arrow, and you will get the entire screen filled with the documents that contain it, and you can click and open the newsletter you are looking for. Then, you can do a search in that PDF, as above, and find everything you’re looking for. And remember, if you don’t have newsletters saved on your computer, you can download them all from [www.FGRS.org](http://www.FGRS.org), from the “Members Sign In” page.

I hope this helps you enjoy and get more out of your FGRS Newsletter! Call or email me if I can help.

- *Paul Wagner*

Email – [FGRS.Newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:FGRS.Newsletter@gmail.com)

Phone 941-445-0409

## FGRS Membership Application for 2021

The Florida Garden Railway Society (FGRS) invites you to join a group of people who share a common Interest in large scale trains, both indoors and outdoors, or modules. We are a group of individuals, couples, and families who enjoy socializing with others and participating in train related activities.

**Dues for 2021: \$20/YR for single or family memberships.**

Annual dues includes a subscription to FGRS Newsletter, via web and email. If you cannot receive the newsletter via internet, a printed copy will be mailed to you. All renewals are due in January. If you are interested in joining FGRS, or to renew your membership, please complete this application and send a check payable to

**Florida Garden Railway Society (FGRS)**

**Attn: Jay Archer, Florida Garden Railway Society,**

**P.O. BOX 2695**

**Dunedin, FL 34697-2695**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like your information shared with the club members (only)? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Name badges are \$12 each. If mailed add \$1.00. The badge has two lines: One for your name, and the other line can have the town where you live, or the name of your railroad.

<p>First Badge:</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Town or RR Name:</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Second Badge:</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Town or RR Name:</p> <p>_____</p>
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