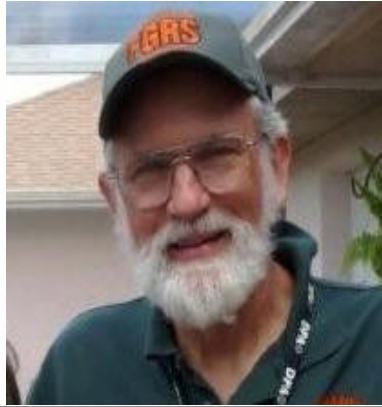




JANUARY 2020



PRESIDENT'S NOTES FROM PAUL WAGNER

Happy New Year you to all of you! We are entering the 30th Year of Florida Garden Railway Society bringing Garden Railroaders together, and helping to promote the hobby! When Patty and I moved to this area in 2003, we encountered a group of FGRS enthusiasts running trains at the Fort Myers Train show, and immediately knew this was the group for us! I couldn't fill out the application form fast enough, and we began attending meets at every opportunity. From the beginning, FGRS became the nucleus of our hobby activities. I've said it before, "It's great to be a part of something so good that's lasted so long!" Please send in your dues for 2020 if you have not already done so. All renewals are due in January. Send a check for \$30 payable to Florida Garden Railway Society (FGRS), to:

Attn: Jay Archer, Florida Garden Railway Society, P.O. BOX 2695, Dunedin, FL 34697-2695

December started out with an innovative Christmas Lighting Display by the Smalls' in Sebastian. Phil and Cindy reported that it was a truly great display layout, which, in addition to having wonderful Christmas lights, has lots of realistic scenes including an operating quarry with operating gravel loaders. We hope to have additional meets down their way soon.

Don Carter's meet, despite being some distance from the largest concentration of our members, brought in 25 members and guests from as far away as Cape Coral.

The Tampa Train Show was quite busy and productive for us, with several new members signing up, and visits from many others who expressed a serious interest. Tom Hite's mechanized remote control track cleaning car attracted a steady stream of onlookers when he raised and lowered the cleaning brush and set it all in motion. We also demoed a Pacific type locomotive with R/C and sound, and Jay ran a seminar and demonstration of firing up a live steam engine.

Dave and Ruth's meet on January 18th in Tavares will serve as the annual general FGRS membership meeting. So besides coming for an enjoyable day running trains at a great railroad, please come to vote for officers, and to add your suggestions for club activities.

The Deland show is this coming weekend, January 10 (setup) and running Saturday and Sunday, the 11th and 12th. We still need more help setting up, running, and tearing down our layouts, so please call Fred Weber at 410-310-6001 to sign up for a time slot. We will be selling off some of our donated equipment to members at a low member's price. See details in the separate writeup in this issue.

These are exciting times for Garden Railroading! Used trains and track abound – there will be many bargains at the Deland Train Show. There are many new garden railroads being built throughout the state. Ron White, Ross Marvin, Jim Jerele, Bill Severns, Richard and Kim Chatfield, to name a few. And many of our old members are hard at work refurbishing their layouts, as well, and will schedule meets in the near future. As you will read in this issue, there is a full compliment of monthly Fun Run meets scheduled in the coming season, as well as our participation in more train shows and special events than we have ever done before.

Until next time,
Good health and railroading to all!
Paul Wagner

FGRS 2019 BOARD MEMBERS



FGRS President

Paul Wagner

941-445-0409

fgrs.president@gmail.com



FGRS Vice President

OPEN POSITION

fgrs.vicepresident@gmail.com



FGRS Treasurer

Melinda Archer

727-421- 5894

Fgrs.treasurer@gmail.com



FGRS Membership

Jay Archer

727-736-1989

fgrs.membership18@gmail.com



FGRS Newsletter

Tom Hite

860-803-0049

fgrs.newsletter@gmail.com



FGRS Event Chairman

Fred Weber

410-310-6001

fgrs.eventchair@gmail.com

NGRC 2020 Nashville News

Hindsight is 2020... Don't Miss Out.



The Nashville Garden Railway Society is honored to host the 36th National Garden Railway Convention in our beloved Nashville, TN. The event is scheduled to cover the days from May 31st, 2020 to June 6th, 2020. There are tons of exciting things in store for the convention so check out the information here and make your plans... see you in Nashville.

NGRC2020.com

FGRS Fun Runs

2020

January 18th – Fun Run Meet at Dave & Ruth Taisch's house.

Rescheduled from October 19th.

Dave and Ruth Taisch

11605 Lane Park Rd

Tavares, 32778

Phone 352-343-3196 or daveanruth@aol.com

The Lane Park & Wherever RR will start running trains at 11:00, with plans for lunch at 12:00. Please bring a dish to share. The LP&W has a thousand feet of track divided into four loops, with another ninety feet of storage track in the shed. We run NCE DCC track power. Twenty two wooden bridges cross two rivers connecting three ponds and two dry river beds. Two mountains with fifty feet of trestle complete the layout. I found a picture of the depot/warehouse that used to be just down the road from us and built a loose interpretation of it for the LP & W this year.

January 31 (Friday)– Special Meet and “Fish Fry” at the River Bend RV Park in Alva (Near Labelle)

If you'd like to join in a delicious fish fry followed by a train run on this well-known layout, come at 10:30 AM. This is a gated community; when you arrive, check in at the office, and call Bill Severns, (505-263-1598) for instructions for getting to the layout.

The address is 5800 Hwy 80, Alva 33920. The fish luncheon costs approximately \$15.50, and you must place your order no later than Monday, January 27th with Bill Severns, at 505-263-1598. If you would like to arrive after lunch, or bring your own picnic lunch, plan to arrive at 12:30, same entry instructions, as above.

This is a large community club layout which includes several switching yards and interesting routing features, with an extensive scratch-built town and many industries. They operate 1:20.3 fine scale narrow gauge trains, but if you have any "G" scale train you would like to run, bring it along. There is no track power. Check the website for pictures of this fine railroad.

February 8, Fun Run Meet at Bob and Irene Anttila's in North Port

Address is:

6520 Center Lane

North Port, FL 34287

Call 941-468-8183 or email at banttila@comcast.net to confirm.

Starts at 11:00 AM

Bring Chairs and a picnic lunch. As usual, his village and industries are very interesting and well detailed, including a trolley line which carries the little villagers to his local VFW. He is using electric switch machines to add operating interest. He runs track power with MTH control system. From I-75 Exit 182, go south 4.6 miles to US 41. Turn right on US 41, go .4 miles to Tuscola Blvd. Turn left into Holiday Parkway, the gate code is 2726. Go straight through to the clubhouse and park in the lot. Walk to the left around back, past the swimming pool, follow the path across the stream to the only house with a railroad in the side yard.

March 28th — Fun Run at Jim Jerele's Storage facility

The J&G SHORTLINE RAILROAD is located at:

Jim's Garage (a storage facility)

7225 Sanibel Blvd

Fort Myers, FL 33908

Unit No: 33

Hours are 11:00 to 3:00 Bring a lunch, chairs, drinks are provided.

If you are on I-75, Exit at the Alico Rd and travel West to US-41.

Turn Left (South), travel about 2.5 miles south to Sanibel Blvd (Traffic Light)

At the corner are a Walgreens and a CVS. Turn right (West) and follow that road passing behind the Public's Grocery Store and you will see the MY GARAGE storage. Unit #33 is down the 3rd Aisle, second from end. park along the grass on the back property line.

My GPS does not track this address properly, so follow the written description above.

The J&G SL RR is a free lance designed railroad. It doesn't have a specific geographical location. It is purely made up of ideas that I wanted to incorporate into MY railroad. It is located indoors, in a 1000 sq. ft. climate-controlled space, storage facility. It is a tri-level railroad consisting of approximately 400 ft. of main line and approximately 100 ft. of sidings, 29 turnouts and 2 diamond crossings. 20 of the turnouts are controlled by LED Touch Toggles from the Berrett Hill Shop. The other 9 are hand throws in the yard area. The main table and upper level are all custom bent from 10 ft. long stainless-steel rail. The lower level is custom bent from 4 ft. aluminum flex track.

I operate with AirWire and Phoenix Sound systems with on board batteries. I have track power available, used mainly to light up the passenger cars and caboose marker lights.

I primarily operate D&RG equipment in 1/24, 1/29 or I bring out the 1/20 K-27. I also run a NYC Hudson (USAT) with a consist of 20th Century Heavyweights (Aristo).

The railroad is in year three and is still a work in progress. Last major component to be built is the turntable.

This is the first FGRS meet for this layout which Jim has been building for four years, and it is still a work in progress. Don't miss this one.

April 18th – Fun Run and Meet at Paul and Patty Wagner's home in North Port.
Starts at 11:00 AM

Address is:

1781 S Cranberry Blvd, North Port, 34286.

Phone 941-426-4847, or mobile: 941445-0409

email: wagstation@aol.com

Bring chairs and a picnic lunch, and a train to run. This layout was designed for 1:29 scale rolling stock. The clearances will not allow most 1:20.3 to run. Control is by Airwire with battery power only.

This layout is patterned after the South Fork Division of the Southern Railway in the Lake Cumberland area of Kentucky. The layout depicts the Southern Railway as it would have appeared near the end of the steam era (circa 1945).

The layout covers 23' x 72' of hilly terrain with a pond and cascading waterfalls. The landscaping was constructed using 17 tons of rock and 70 yards of various types of fill. Embankments and roadbed grades were constructed using buried bricks, and various concrete mixes, including hypertufa, with the ballast and stone embankments being bonded in place with concrete bonding agent.

Sunday May 10th — Meet at Charley Beall.

DATE CHANGED FROM THE 3RD

7839 Sloewood Dr.

Mount Dora Fl.

Noon till 4PM. Drinks and paperware provided,

A railroad inside of a driveway is easy to view. The photo scene is a bridge crossing a koi pond observed as you enter the property. There are four main lines and sidings with about 1200 feet of track. Since I am from Maryland I run B&O, C&O and Western Maryland consists. After the mergers, Chessie System and CSX. Track one is Aristo Craft stainless steel, tracks 2&3 are a French manufactured stainless steel track which comes in 10 foot sections. This track has been outside for 20 years and is good as new. Track 4 is LGB. The 10 switches are Aristo Craft stainless steel. I use Split Jaws to connect track. Much of the track is laid on cement board which prevents weeds. My

power source is Bridge Werks. There are two 20 foot bridges. several tunnels, one under a waterfall. I have few buildings. Most of the railroad was built in 2007. I have 20 locomotives and 111 cars. The railroad lights up for evening running. I do a lot of entertaining and my guests enjoy viewing it in the evening.

if anyone else is interested in hosting a fun run at their house please send me an e-mail with all the details, date, time, address, length of main line, minimum diameter curves, what you will supply, and anything else you feel is pertinent to the event.

If you have requested to host an event with someone else you need to contact me to get onto the official schedule. Please do not contact any other board member. Things can get forgotten or lost in transition.

Syd and Joanne Small's Christmas Lighting Night



CLUB LAYOUT TO APPEAR IN FOUR SHOWS

Sharing the Fun!

Four events are coming up in the new year with the opportunity for you to run your trains on a large scale layout. The clubs' new layout can be set up and running in about an hour and a half. When we have a setup day, that leaves about four hours that members can run their trains. If the event runs two days, the members will have up to fourteen hours between the two days of train time.

The other opportunity is to bring the clubs' layout to your home. If you always wanted to host a club run, this is a great way to run trains. Weather will be a big factor in the planning. If you have an interest in this option, please contact FRED Weber.

The four upcoming events are as follows:

Deland train show January 10, 11 & 12th

January 10th - Setup starts at 10am. Trains can run until 5pm.

January 11th - Show day 9am - 4pm. Trains can run from 7am - 4pm.

January 12th - Show day 10am - 330pm. Trains can run from 9am - 330pm

Take down is from 330 - 430pm

Northeast Florida Scottish Games and Festival February 28 & 29th
(Jacksonville)

February 28th - Setup (time tbd)

February 29th - Show (time tbd)

This is an amazing event with many fun activities and plenty of time to run trains.

Real Rail Model Train Show (Palmetto) March 20, 21 & 22nd

March 21st - Setup (time tbd)

March 22nd - Show 9am - 4pm

March 23rd - Show 10am - 3pm

Take down 3 - 4pm

Tampa Train Day May 8th & 9th

May 8th - Setup (time tbd)

May 9h - Time tbd - open to the public.

An interesting day of train related activities and great potential for new memberships.

Each of these events will have both the large scale layout as well as the kids layout. We will be looking for volunteers for each of the events for setup, take down and running trains.

It is necessary for everyone to know who is coming and the times you are available for each event. The club would like to schedule two hours of running time per member at all events.

This is your club and we encourage you to enjoy the benefits of your membership at any or all of these events. Please contact Fred Weber with your availability.

Cell phone : 410-310-6001

Email : FRGS.eventchair@gmail.com

TAMPA TRAIN SHOW

We all had a fun time at the show. We signed up two new members.



Captain Frank Intino



Bill Graham

Let's give them warm welcome when we see them at a show or meet.





Here's Paul manning our table. Besides the two we signed up we had interest from a few others as well.



Kids had a great time running trains.

CORKY'S MEET CONTINUED

These are pictures and videos from Corky's meet that were not published in the December issue.



<https://youtu.be/CQIT1pu9DSg> <https://youtu.be/GymS3O6UWzY>
https://youtu.be/j-UiL3cx_N4 <https://youtu.be/4IRBTcVwgoc>

DON CARTER'S MEET





TRAIN SHOWS

2020 Toy Train & Toy Shows Schedule.

January 11,12 - 70th Florida Rail Fair, Deland, FL, Volusia County Fair-grounds (Model Train Show), **"FGRS will exhibit, please contact Fred Weber if you can help"**

January 18,2020 Brooksville
Hernando County Fairgrounds
6436 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34601

February 15, 2020 Kissimmee
Columbia Club of Osceola
2000 Neptune Rd
Kissimmee, FL 34744

March 15, 16, 2020
Araba Shrine Temple
2010 Hanson St,
Fort Myers, FL 3390

March 7th, 2020
Melbourne Train Show,
same details as the earlier one.

March 28,2020 Pinellas Park
Lopez Hall
7177 58th Street N
Pinellas Park, FL 33770

April 18,2020 Crystal River
US Army National Guard Armory
8551 Venable Street
Crystal River, FL 34429

May 2nd, 2020
Venice Historical display in the Venice Train Station,
details to follow .

May 23, 2020 Brooksville
US Army National Guard Armory
8551 Venable Street
Crystal River, FL 34429

August 29, 2020 Pinellas Park
Lopez Hall
7177 58th Street N
Pinellas Park, FL 33781

September 12, 2020 Brooksville
Hernando County Fairgrounds
6436 Broad Street
Brooksville, FL 34601

November 28, 2020 Pinellas Park
Lopez Hall
7177 58th Street N
Pinellas Park, FL 33781

December 12, 2020 Dover
Hillsborough County Fairgrounds
215 Sydney Washer Road
Dover, FL 33527

Vendors- Running Train layout- Indoors- Food- Free Parking
All Shows 9-2
\$5.00 Adults Children under 12 free
www.regalrailways.com

For a Complete list of Train Shows go to http://www.railserve.com/events/train_shows.html

Save the above web address as it has a complete updated list of Train Shows Nationwide, along with a lot of other good information about the Hobby. You will be very surprised at how many train shows there are just in Florida year round and will find them listed here.

TRAINS FOR SALE

I am trying to liquidate my track inventory.

Factory new Aristocraft G Gauge Brass & Stainless Track, Switch's, and Crossovers for sale, Contact Bruce Benardo for prices @ 941-474-2792, or bcb1226@comcast.net.



FGRS Membership Application

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, outdoors, or modules. We are a group of individuals, Couples, and families who enjoy socializing with others and participating in train related activities. Dues

\$30/YR for single or family memberships. Annual dues include subscriptions to FGRS Newsletter. All renewals are due in January. If 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. They have two lines: One for your name and the other line can have the town where you live or the name of your railroad.

First Badge

Second Badge

Name: _____

Town or RR name: _____

Please take note

When submitting pictures and articles to the NL I need the articles written in Word and the pictures as .JPG attachments.

Imbedded pictures in an e-mail sometimes gets stripped off by my virus software.

A few sentences to be put in the NL is okay.

Copying word documents into the NL works great. Problems exist when I have to copy and paste. Imbedded pictures do not work well and sometimes come out weird and I have to do a lot of editing.