



OCTOBER 2017

PRESIDENT'S NOTES FROM ROSS MARVIN



THINKING AHEAD AND LOOKING FORWARD IN 2018

Without trying to sound too dramatic, the future of the club is in the hands of our members. That's true of any successful club. And that is especially true of the health and wellbeing of the Florida Garden Railway Society. While we have started back in the right direction, participation is the thing most needed. The club is back in good standing and registered as a non-profit with the state. The name of our club is legally protected. The newsletter is in great shape and great hands with Tom Hite's excellent work. The Website is a work in progress with a new look, and updated info, thanks to the hard work of our incoming President Paul Wagner. The club is solvent and has a reserve to keep it going. The By-Laws have been redrafted and are awaiting input from the board. Our logo has been updated and looks great thanks to Ron White. We have our own private club Facebook page. There's more but you get the message.

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FGRS 2017 BOARD MEMBERS



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UPCOMING TRAIN SHOWS

2017-2018 Upcoming Florida Train Meets/Shows

October 7, 2017: 61st Florida Rail Fair, Volusia County Fairgrounds, Tommy Lawrence Arena, 3150 E. New York Ave., Deland 32724 (Golden Spike, Charles W. Miller, 3106 N. Rochester St., Arlington, VA 22213, 703-536-2954, email: rrshows@aol.com. Website www.gserr.com

October 14: Elks Lodge, 401 N. Indian Ave., Englewood 34223 (Regal Railways: 727-244-1341; all shows 9A-2P, Adults \$5, children 12 and under free; EARLY BIRD \$7 by reservation; vendors and model train layout; lunch available Joe_@regalrailways.com; www.regalrailways.com)

October 28: Columbian Club of Osceola County, 2000 Neptune Rd., Kissimmee 347449 (Regal Railways, above)

November 4: Lions Club Show, First Christian Church, 1908 E Fort King St., Ocala 34471, 9A-3P, contact Bob Chadwick at 352-694-6381

November 18: Jacksonville, 10A-3P Meet Story in this issue. (TCA Southern Division)

November 18: Hillsborough County Fairgrounds, 215 Sydney Washer Road, Dover 33527 (Regal Railways, above)

December 2: Lopez Hall (former K of C) 7177 58th St. North, Pinellas Park 33781 (Regal Railways, above)

December 2: Azan Shrine Temple, 1591 W Eau Gallie Blvd., Melbourne 32935 (Schultz Space Coast Train Show, www.Schultzspacecoasttrains.com, 321-805-1963)

December 9-10: 9th Annual Toy and Train Show, St. Marks School Gymnasium, 3395 Burns Rd., Palm Beach Gardens 33410, Sat: 9A-3P, Sun: 11A-3P Contact Will Wagner, 561-373-9603, Derrickwagner-foundation@gmail.com or wwainc@comcast.net; website www.DerrickWagnerFoundation.com

December 16-17: Tampa Model Show, Florida State Fairgrounds, 4800 U.S. 301, Tampa 33610 (Golden Spike, above)

January 6, 2018: Hernando County Fairgrounds, 6436 Broad St., Brooksville 34601 (Regal Railways, above)

January 13-14: 62nd Florida Rail Fair, Volusia County Fairgrounds, Tommy Lawrence Arena, 3150 E. New York Ave., Deland 32724 (Golden Spike, above)

January 20-21: Martin County Fairgrounds, 2616 SE Dixie Hwy., Stuart 34996 9A-3P both days; contact Bill Smet 847-331-0440, email cqwbill@aol.com

January 27: Minnreg Hall, 6340 126th Ave., Largo 33773, 10A-3P Meet Story in the next issue. (TCA SD)

February 10: Jacksonville, Prime Osborn Convention Center, 1000 Water St., Jacksonville 32204 (Golden Spike, above)

February 17: New Lake Civic Association, 8330 Civic Rd., Port Richey 34668 (Regal Railways, above)

February 24: Fenn Center, 2000 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce 34982, 10A-3P Meet Story in the next issue. (TCA SD)

FGRS UPCOMING EVENTS AT MEMBERS HOUSES

October 21st - Meeting at Dave
& Ruth's house. Located at
11605 Lake Park RD in Tavares.

The Lane Park & Wherever RR will start running trains at 11:00, with plans for lunch at 12:00. 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. I replaced the last temporary aluminum bridge with a covered bridge this year. Two mountains with fifty feet of trestle complete the layout.

Raffle prizes have been rolling in, there will be a big one! And for those of you who missed Charlie's meet May 20, our president, Ross, had us try a new raffle drawing wrinkle that makes it much easier to win only the prize you have your eye on.

Paul Wagner, our Vice president and Webmaster has the new website ready to go live, and will be demoing it for us on a new TV acquired for FGRS train show displays. Paul also has some info to share about dwarf trees for your layouts, and where to get them.

Paul and Ross will bring us all up to date about progress & plans for FGRS for the coming year, and, as always, we will be looking for everyone to speak up about what they would like to see for the club to grow and improve.

Mark your calendars for the Tampa train show, December 16th, we will need folks to sign up to help set-up and man the FGRS exhibit.

April 28th - Fun Run at Tom & Gloria's House. Located at 23379 Superior Ave Port Charlotte. The Tropical RR hours will be 12:00 to 4:00. Bring your own lunch. Soda and water will be provided. The TRR has 400' of main line track with 20' diameter curves so bring on the Big Boys. The switching yard has 7 tracks for plenty of storage. All switches are #6.

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November 11th - Fun Run at Corky's

Corky and Wanda Eckman's

[611 Via Cala](#)

[Englewood, 34223](#)

RSVP via [612-850-4071](#)

or email

[wcg611@gmail.com](#)

The C&W Bigboy Railroad occupies this entire yard, running completely around the house, crossing the driveway in a molded concrete crossing. Photos of this layout have been featured several times in Garden Railways magazine, and it features extensive hardscape scenery, trestles, bridges, tunnels, scores of structures, mines and industries. Watch for many interesting trains to run, including a USA bigboy.

Wc & Grr Railroad

established in 2007 and still growing including 650 feet of track and 25 switches . Scratch Built Mountains, Tunnels, Ponds, Bridges, Trestles and Buildings. The mountains were constructed by Corky himself using concrete and other cement products. He also hand built the 55 ft. long trestle and some of the bridges. Locomotive's include all Steam pulling Logging, Freight , and Passenger trains. Over 60 - 70 pieces of rolling stock including Passenger, and Freight cars.

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January 21, 2018— Fun Run at Charlie Beall's

Charlie Beall was once again a great host and from all who attended, a Big "Thank You" Charlie for opening up your home and sharing a spectacular Garden Railway layout with us for a Club meeting. Charlie said the layout is roughly 70 feet x 90 feet and has four train track lines. It was built in 2006. There is a waterfall, water feature, stocked with fish, long truss bridges, and as the pictures show a varied, beautifully landscaped terrain throughout the layout. If you missed this opportunity, Charlie has reserved January 21, 2018 for another event. Also...we have two videos of his layout on our closed to members only [Group Florida Garden Railway Facebook page](#) from May 10th last year. If you haven't joined yet....sign up, it's free as part of your membership, and you'll see great Garden Railway pictures and videos from members.

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.

Past meets

There were no meets in August.

LINKS TO TRAINS PAST & PRESENT

GERMAN WONDERLAND IN HAMBURG!

Submitted by: Bruce Bernardo

Remember the two brothers, in Germany, who had a wonderful model railway that was something to see? This is an update of their German Wonderland.

A short review...it was started by two brothers as a place to show their hobby began to grow by leaps & bounds. Soon they were joined by other 'Model Railroad Clubs' and other craftsmen. Some were electricians, model makers, carpenters, computer programmers. Their wives would stop by to see what they were doing and usually bring them a lunch.

One thing led to another. Three of the ladies had worked at a bakery, several visitors would ask if they had a snack bar. The idea was planted; some of the carpenters came and built a nice restaurant area for the bakery and a kitchen, too. If the fresh coffee smell didn't get you, then the bakery definitely would. Over 400,000 man hours were spent making this dream come true.

This was about 5 years ago. One of the breweries came and furnished all the tables and chairs, serving counter etc. Their latest finished area is the airport. Planes look like they are flying and landing. GERMAN WONDERLAND IN HAMBURG!

https://www.youtube.com/embed/ACkmg3Y64_s?rel=0

“Selling Sunshine”

Reprinted from “The Flatwheel”, newsletter of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society, submitted by Ross Marvin

The Florida Trains' to Premiere Oct. 13 in Winter Park September 1, 2017 WINTER PARK, Fla. — A video production telling the story of Florida's historic trains will premiere at Mead Botanical Garden in Winter Park at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 13.



The one-hour documentary, *Selling Sunshine: Florida Trains*, is produced by Rich Luckin of Luckin Productions in conjunction with Kalmbach Publishing's *Trains Magazine* and Pete Hansen. The program explores why railroads moved to Florida and will tell the story about two major Florida rail developers — Henry Flagler and Henry Plant. Another chapter will discuss some of the brightly colored diesel streamliners that rolled over Florida rails in the late 1930s. The film is narrated by television star Michael Gross from *Family Ties*. In addition to its October debut, the film will be circulated throughout PBS affiliates statewide and across the country beginning in late fall. The DVD is also available from *Trains Magazine*. CSX's "Very Good Progress": Hunter Harrison

All Aboard Florida's Brightline Passenger Rail Service Update

BrightRed Underway to Florida Written by William C. Vantuono Wednesday, September 27, 2017 BrightRed, the fifth and final higher-speed trainset for All Aboard Florida's Brightline passenger rail service, has departed the Siemens USA plant in Sacramento, Calif., and is on its way to South Florida, traveling 3,052 miles across the southern U.S. via the Union Pacific and CSX through eight states (California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida). "The transcontinental journey is a milestone as it marks delivery of the final trainset for Brightline's Phase 1 service between Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach," said Brightline CEO Dave Howard. "The voyage of BrightRed across the U.S. is an exciting milestone as we gear up to launch service later this year. The five trainsets represent thousands of hours of dedication from the Brightline teammates who designed and oversaw the assembly to the 1,000 people who built them in California and the 40 suppliers throughout the country that manufactured components." BrightRed and its four siblings — BrightBlue, BrightOrange, BrightPink and BrightGreen — are built as integrated trainsets comprised of two Siemens Charger diesel-electric locomotives (one at each end) powered by Cummins 4,000-hp, EPA Tier 4- compliant QSK-95 engines, and four stainless-steel coaches. Among the passenger amenities are automatic level boarding platforms, aisles that exceed ADA compliance standards, comfortable leather seats with multiple outlets for devices, and complimentary Wi-Fi powered by multiple antennas on every car. David Rockwell of architecture and design firm Rockwell Group designed the interiors. 32 Upon arrival at Workshop b, Brightline's 12-acre railroad operations facility in West Palm Beach, BrightRed will soon begin testing and commissioning. Said Siemens Rolling Stock President Michael Cahill, "I salute the Brightline team for their innovative and courageous approach, and I am proud of the team of highly skilled employees in Sacramento and the suppliers across the nation for their significant contributions to this great American manufacturing success story."

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TRAINS FOR SALE

This area will be used to list trains for sale. List them here before going to e-bay. If a club member wants it, you can save the hassle of listing and fees.

Rules are simple. Submit two pictures per item, a description of the item, contact information, and the price.

Send your info to the fgrs.newsletter@gmail.com e-mail by the cutoff date and that's it.

Items will appear for two issues unless I am notified of sale before hand.



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 FRS 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: Fred Weber, 7686 E. Oak Forest St. Floral City, FL 34436.

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____
State: _____ **Zip:** _____ **Phone#:** _____
E-Mail: _____

Would you like your information shared with the club members only? Yes_____ No_____

Name badges are \$18 each. If mailed add \$3.00. 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: _____

**The FGRS Newsletter will be
Published by the 7th of each
month. The deadline to submit
information for the newsletter will
always be the last day of the
month.**

ATTENTION!!!!!!

The November cut off date has changed. Our son is getting married on November 3rd. We have a ton of stuff to do before hand so I am putting a hard date of October 25 for all newsletter articles. Whatever I have then will be published the next day.

As we look forward to 2018 we need members help to:

Rethink, revise and most importantly execute a new event strategy

Members to step up and host fun-runs and meetings at their Garden Railway layouts.

Members to step up and share experiences by being published on our Facebook Page and in our newsletter

Members to bring a new club idea for board and/or club approval and then help execute it.

Pick one of the above. You have time to think about it. Paul is going to need your help to make this club great again. Oh, that line has already been used. How about; “To make it a great club with something for all members.”

While I will do it again in my final President’s Notes in December, you can never thank your board enough, for all they do to keep the club going. Thank you all for everything you have done to support our club.

Respectfully,

Ross Marvin – 2016-17 FGRS President

WD Tower, West End Jct., on the Lackawanna, Jersey City, NJ. 1921

By Abram Burnett & Reprinted from "The Flatwheel" September 2017 newsletter
of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society



Fascinating place...

where the Lackawanna, the Erie and the New York Susquehanna & Western all met and/or crossed one another. Both the Lackawanna and the Erie were climbing up Bergen Hill at this point, coming up out of the Hudson River valley, coming west out of their waterfront Ferry-to-Manhattan terminals at Hoboken. The Lackawanna had a 4-track, two-tunnel main, and the Erie came up on a 2-track main and through its own tunnel. Also at West End, the Lackawanna had a big interlocking where its two principal lines to the west split. And all this was "at grade," until sometime in the 1890s, when the various grade separations were made. Here is the machine you will be working:

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