



If anyone has a digital image of the GGRS Logo please send it to the Editor to place here.

GEORGIA GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY

I'm still looking for a digital image of the GGRS Logo.

# GGRS GAZETTE

June 2009

## Inside this issue:

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Editor's Soapbox  | 2 |
| New Members       | 2 |
| Committee Reports | 2 |
| SEGRS Report      | 3 |
| Calendar          | 4 |
| Answers to ?s     | 5 |

## Georgia Garden Railway Society

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## Atlanta Botanical Gardens Holiday Layout

A motion to adopt the Atlanta Botanical Garden holiday layout as a GGRS project was approved unanimously. Don Nute will inform Cathleen Cooke at ABG. Some of you received her recent emails. She mentions paying for a carpenter for a few days. Don is going to recommend to her that she instead think about hiring Dave Bennett for a few days. He thinks buying some of his time and getting some GGRS volunteer help with some of the carpentry would probably be a better use of their money. Most of us can

cut boards and hammer nails, but few carpenters have Dave's experience designing and building layouts. Don will also serve as liaison between GGRS and ABG for now.

Someone nearer to the Garden may volunteer later to do this.

Don will also be putting out an email Bulletin soon. This is to include brief notices between Newsletters. Longer versions of everything will go into the Newsletters and online.

## Our Hobby as a Group Pursuit

The hobby of model trains can be a lonely pursuit if you decide to go it alone but if you choose to join a club like the vines garden railroad club you have the benefit of company of men and women who share your hobby and by putting your minds together and working together. Last November the vines garden railroad club set up a model train layout at George Pierce park in Suwanee GA. The layout ran from thanksgiving day thru new years. It was so well received by the general population that the layout will be repeated again

in 2009. Except in 2009 the layout will be larger with more features. This was a club project and shows what can be accomplished when club members work together toward a common goal. A secondary benefit is that it was fun and rewarding the see the eyes of the children light up and beg mom and dad to stay a little bit longer.

*Bob Giselbach*

**What is the function of the steam dome on a steam locomotive?**

Answer on page 5

## Welcome New Members

**Bob and Cathie Kelley**  
106 OAKWIND PKWY  
CANTON GA 30114  
678 880 3469  
[cekmail@earhlink.net](mailto:cekmail@earhlink.net)  
Railroad Status: Planning

**Bill and Carol Ness**  
3370 MACLAND ROAD  
POWDER SPRINGS GA 30127  
770 943 9806  
[wgness@hotmail.com](mailto:wgness@hotmail.com)  
Railroad Status: OPERATIONAL  
Railroad Name: No Where and Beyond

**Barry and Valarie Morris**  
107 CORNFLOWER COURT  
PEACHTREE CITY GA 30269  
770-487-4540  
[barrymorris@att.net](mailto:barrymorris@att.net)  
Railroad Status: ?  
Railroad Name: Georgia Midland & Gulf

**Ray and Barbara Barr**  
3290 COUNTRY WALK DRIVE  
POWDER SPRINGS, GA 30127  
770-439-6502  
[Barr.R@comcast.net](mailto:Barr.R@comcast.net)  
Railroad Status: Planning

## Editor's Soapbox

Thanks to all those who contributed to this newsletter.

I'm still looking for information to publish from the rest of the membership. See Editors Soapbox in the January Newsletter for more on how you can help.

As I will be traveling for all of June, I got this newsletter out early. That is the probable reason there are no committee reports.

I will attempt to get another newsletter out shortly after the National Garden Railroad Convention in Denver.

Thanks,  
Lowell Dietz  
Publications/Editor  
[trains@healthtrains.com](mailto:trains@healthtrains.com)

Your comments are always welcome.

## Treasurer's Report

None

## Program Chairman's Report

None

## Exhibits Coordinator Report

None

## Special Events Coordinator Report

None

## Upcoming Events

**Don't forget the June train ride and the August show. We need a volunteer to pull the trailer to the August show as Lowell will be out of town...again.**

**We also need volunteers to write material for the Newsletter.**

**Charles Guiteau assassinated which U.S. President in the ladies' waiting room of the Baltimore & Potomac Railroad's Washington, D.C. station?**

Answer on page 5

## 2009 Southeast Garden Railroad Show

The 2009 Southeast Garden Railroad Show is now history. The show had just fewer than 1000 paid attendances, plus all the members of the clubs and clinic presenters. For a first show and for the current economy, this was an acceptable number. The promoter, David Roberts, and vendors wished for more, but were happy because those present seemed to buy a lot of large scale model trains and supplies.

A bit of history on this show for those not totally familiar with this event. For the past three years, a strictly large scale train show was held in Perry, Georgia, and sponsored by Aristo-Craft Trains. A fourth edition of this show was scheduled for 2009, however, in late October, it was announced that the show was cancelled by Aristo-Craft. Less than a week after the cancellation, David Roberts who promotes shows in the Midwest, called Ted Yarbrough and discussed possibly sponsoring the show. Several conversations were held with Georgia Garden Railway Society board members, a couple of club members, Aristo-Craft's President Lewis Polk, and David Roberts. By early November, the show was on again with David Roberts being a new sponsor/promoter. Several venues were investigated and the location of the Northwest Georgia Trade Center in Dalton was selected because of price, convenience to Atlanta, Chattanooga, Nashville, Knoxville and other locations in the southeast, as well as what the facility had to offer.

The new show had lots of advertising from billboards, newspaper articles on local garden railroaders, newspaper articles on the show, TV appearances by Club members Randy Blackstock and Ted

Yarbrough, TV spots on cable news, and radio and TV ads, plus the traditional *Garden Railway's* ad and model forum discussions. Color sheets were provided to elementary school students in the county around the show site. Flyers were included by St. Aubin and RLD Hobbies in orders from folks in the region. The show was bound to be a success based on advertising alone!

Show time arrived and the Georgia Garden Railway Society joined the Florida Garden Railway Society's Tampa Division and the Emerald Coast Railway Club, the Mesa Grande Modular Club, Ed Dice's switching 'Time-Saver' layout, Mark Furhman's display, Georgia Live Steamers, together with approximately 40 vendors as they all set up for the show on Thursday April 30. This was a long day for all, but when the first ever 2009 Southeast Garden Railroad Show opened Friday morning it was all worth the work! Many new folks were introduced to the hobby as they came through the show.

A banquet was sponsored by our club on Friday night. Member Don Nute gave a talk on steam locos within a day's drive of Atlanta and did a super job relating them to models that are available from the various manufacturers in large scale. Food was southern and delicious. Door prizes were given out in large numbers again. Everyone seemed to be very complementary of the Georgia Garden Railway Society's banquet.

Clinics were presented by our club members Don Nute, Norman Lundin, Dave Cummins, and Bob Kelly. These were well attended and those folks all left with lots of ideas to carry back to their own railroads and layouts. Buddy Richard, Mark

Furhman, and Ed Dice presented other clinics. On a sad note, Don Browning passed away one week after assisting Buddy in his clinic. We can be glad that Don enjoyed the show and had a fantastic time just one week before his unexpected death. Don has been a member of our club before his work took him away from the metro Atlanta area.

A model contest was held and Alan Mole's beautiful R.G.S Rico Depot took best in show, while James Robinson's Jack Daniel's Warehouse took a ribbon. Club member Richard Garlinghouse and others had nice models entered, too.

Some people worked extra hard to open their home layouts after the show. The Shiflett's, Yarbrough's, Blackstock's, Michels', Bennett's, Mole's, and Vines Garden's layouts were on display. Rains came in north Georgia but held off in the Atlanta area until the tours were finished. Anywhere from 30-40 folks enjoyed the tour. With all the train activity associated with the show, it lived up to its billing as a true mini-convention!

The 2009 version of the Southeast Garden Railroad Show was a success thanks to all that attended, purchased items, instructed clinics, helped set up, run train, and take down the club layout, entered a contest, donated door prizes, bought banquet tickets, or had anything else to do with the show. You can check the club's web page (<http://ggrs.info/Meetings/SEGRS2009/index.htm>) for photos of this great event. It takes a lot from everyone to put these together and plans are already underway for next year. The 2010 event will be April 30-May 1, 2010 at the same location, so make plans **now!**

*Ted Yarbrough*

# GGRS Calendar

| Date               | Event  | Details   |
|--------------------|--|---|
| June 13, 2009      | Club Meeting/Open House  | <p>Dan and Deb Michel, Canton, GA<br/>           June 13, 2009, 5:00 to ? - Club Meeting<br/>           Dan and Deb Michel, Canton, Georgia<br/>           For those who are interested, we have lots of lights if you wish to stay till dark. At night all buildings and streets are lit with over 25 street lights and 17 lighted buildings.</p> <p>Menu: Barbecue Beef</p> <p>RSVP : We will be using the Evite like last month's meeting or you can email me at <a href="mailto:flyindan@hotmail.com">flyindan@hotmail.com</a> or call me at (770) 402-6038</p> |
| June 20 2:00 pm,   | 1:1 Scale Train Ride<br>Three Rivers Rambler<br>Knoxville, Tennessee | <p>Tickets \$26.50 for coach (caboose is sold out)<br/>           Get directions and information at <a href="http://www.threeriversrambler.com">http://www.threeriversrambler.com</a><br/>           More details about lodging to come.<br/>           Contact Ted Yarbrough at <a href="mailto:tyarbrough@windstream.net">tyarbrough@windstream.net</a></p>   |
| July 5-11, 2009    | <u><a href="#">National Garden Railway Convention</a></u>            | Denver, CO  |
| August 2009        | No open house scheduled  |   |
| September 19, 2009 | Canton, St. Paul & Pacific RR  | 7-1/2 inch live steam<br>Canton, Georgia  |
| October, 2009      | Club Meeting/Open House  | <p>Greg and Teresa Williams<br/>           Kennesaw, Georgia<br/>           Details will be posted later.</p>   |

**Buckeye-style freight car trucks are notable for what feature?**

Answer on page 5

**The mark "TA" on a freight car indicates that it is a:**

Answer on page 5

**What is the average length of a modern boxcar?**

Answer on page 5

## Answers:

The author of this newsletter takes no responsibility for the accuracy of these answers.

Q: What is the function of the steam dome on a steam locomotive??

A: Theoretically, the function of the steam dome is to serve as a reservoir for steam and to give the steam a chance to drop some of its entrained water. Practically, it is a convenient place of attachment for the throttle valve, safety valve, and other fittings.

Q: Charles Guiteau assassinated which U.S. President in the ladies' waiting room of the Baltimore & Potomac Railroad's Washington, D.C. station?

A: James A. Garfield. Garfield was mortally wounded on July 2, 1881 and dies on November 19, 1881

Q: Buckeye-style freight car trucks are notable for what feature?

A: 6 wheels. Buckeye trucks are equipped with six wheels, making them perfect for cars that carry very heavy loads. A flatcar with two sets of buckeye trucks contain 4 more wheels than a normal freight car, which has eight wheels. Here's a little bit factoid that wouldn't fit anywhere else: It cost less for trucking companies to send their trailers by train than by truck, which I find very ironic.

Q: The mark "TA" on a freight car indicates that it is a:

A: General service tankcar. TA indicates that the freight car is a general service tankcar, with no special qualities or anything.

Q: What is the average length of a modern boxcar?

A: 50 feet. The boxcar, often called the jack-of-all-trades freight car because of its widespread use hauling every good imaginable, is often about 40-50 feet long. Stockcars, when they were in widespread use, were about 30 feet long. Certain boxcars, known as hi-cube boxcars because of their high cubic foot capacity, can be as long as 93 feet from coupler to coupler.



5 of the 7 original RGS Geese were operating at the Colorado Railroad Museum on Mother's Day 2009. Three of them are pictured above: Numbers 5, 6, and 7.

For more info and pictures go to [www.healthtrains.net/Goose.html](http://www.healthtrains.net/Goose.html)

# Georgia Garden Railway Society

Having fun with trains  
in the garden.



**We're on the Web!**

**[www.ggrs.info](http://www.ggrs.info)**

**TO:**

**I have a tip that can  
take 5 strokes off  
anyone's golf game.**

**It's called an eraser.**

**Arnold Palmer**

Got a project you  
are working on?

Write a "How to"  
article and include  
some photos.

Ok, so some of  
your projects don't  
come out as you  
had hoped. Write  
a "How not to" ar-  
ticle and include  
some photos.

**Be nice to nerds.  
Chances are you'll  
end up working for  
one.**

**Bill Gates**

**Bill Gates is a very  
rich man today...  
and do you want to  
know why? The  
answer is one word:  
versions.**

**Dave Barry**