



Columbus Garden Railway Society Newsletter

Volume 11 Number 3 March 2003

Editor: Richard J. Abler
Visit us on the Web at: www.cgrs.org

CGRS Annual Banquet a Success

In This Issue



Red star on your mailing label?

If there is a red star on your mailing label it means we have not received your dues payments for this year. It also means this is the last issue of the newsletter which you will receive.

If you have paid your dues and we goofed, we apologize for the error. Better get in touch with our Money Guy, Doug Clark:
dclar5@columbus.rr.com or call 740-369-4807.

Of course if you're reading Email you don't have a mailing label. You're OK.

The annual CGRS Banquet was another smashing success! Emcee Barb Kimmel started off with a short, fun contest and kept the action lively and on schedule.

Unfortunately, the bad weather kept several folks from attending. Freezing rain and "wintry mix" made most of the roads hazardous.

After the social hour and delicious meal CGRS members were recognized for their contributions to the society during the previous year. Then garden railroad builder extraordinaire, Paul Busse, showed slides of some of his projects around the country. Outstanding!

Next was a drawing for the almost 200 door prizes. Everyone won at least one. The raffle prizes were next - about two dozen very nice ones, including a very nice scratch-built country church by Jim Kimmel.

The church was won by Bob Dana who said that his father used to preach in a church very similar to that represented by the model!

Thanks to all who donated prizes, created the table decorations, and worked behind the scenes. It couldn't have happened without you!

OK, the March CGRS Newsletter has been sent. Some folks got it via email, some via the Post Office, and some both

Welcome New Members

The Columbus Garden Railway Society is pleased to welcome the following new members:

John and Gloria Minch of Hinckley, Vicki Wilker of Columbus, and Bruce & Barbara Keever of Irwin.

A hearty Welcome Aboard from us all.

CGRS

Bus Trip Almost Full

There are a few spaces left on the CGRS Bus Excursion to Eastern Pennsylvania. Contact Cecil Easterday for information: ceasterday@columbus.rr.com or 614-889-1424.

There's a reservation form further back for your convenience.

CGRS

Newsletter: Email or Paper?	Next Meeting March 30	Who's Who and What's What
<p>OK, the March CGRS Newsletter has been sent. Some folks got it via email, some via the Post Office, and some both ways. Hopefully no one has been missed!</p> <p>No doubt I've made some mistakes as to who should get the News and which way. Be patient, we'll get it sorted out.</p> <p>The difficulty arises from the two noncompatible software packages I'm using. The historical member database, and a new Apple Mail email package. Unfortunately, these two pieces of software can't "talk to each other."</p> <p>So if you got this newsletter the "wrong" way or both ways here's what you can do.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If you got email but you prefer paper send me an email note saying you want paper . 2. If you got paper and you want email please send me a note saying so. 3. If you got both email and paper, please let me know which way you prefer. 4. If you didn't get the newsletter at all, you are probably not reading this. So forget it. :-) <p>Anyway, I hope you like the new format and delivery methods. I'm open to suggestions.</p> <p>Here's how to get in touch with me: Richard J. Abler CGRS Newsletter Editor Email: abler@wideopenwest.com Phone: 614-885-0351 Snailmail: 990 Blind Brook Dr Columbus OH 43235-1281</p> <p>Be patient, we'll get it sorted out. [Ed.]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CGRS</p>	<p>CGRS will meet on Sunday, March 30, at the Madison Township Community Center in southeast Greater Columbus. We're pleased to have Frank Klatt - a garden railroader from Dayton, and a retired rocket scientist - to bring us up to date on a timely topic. See below. But of course we encourage members to bring along some of their train stuff for an informal show-and-tell.</p> <p>The gathering begins at 2pm, followed by a brief business meeting and then the program.</p> <p>The official title of the the day's program is: America's Role in Space: A lecture and discussion with Frank Klatt.</p> <p>Frank Klatt, a retired Aerospace Propulsion Engineer will use his extensive collection of ballistic missile models and a large (4 foot) model of the space shuttle to explain how and why the U. S. is dominant in space. Normally his discussion covers the history of rocket development including shuttle operations and details of the Challenger loss. Since the loss of Columbia, he has received published information and original shuttle press data relating to reentry to be able to discuss the formidable task facing the failure analysis team. The future of NASA's manned space program is clearly in question. Frank will show samples of both black and white tiles and describe their unique characteristics.</p> <p>Directions: From Interstate 70 East or West take the Hamilton Road Exit. If east bound turn right. If west bound turn left. This will be south on Hamilton Rd. (Rte 317) go approximately 3 miles. Traffic light here. Groveport Madison High School will be on the right side, Fire Dept. on the opposite corner. Turn Left go past the Fire house to dead end, turn right on Madison Lane, go to 4575 Community Center.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CGRS</p>	<p>This newsletter is intended as a medium in which to air the news and views of CGRS Members in good standing. CGRS is an informal group which meets monthly or thereabouts to share a common interest in garden railroading and to socialize. Membership is open to all interested persons. Most CGRS Member Families are from the Greater Columbus area.</p> <p>Newsletter-related business, such as articles and classified ads, as well as changes to the membership list, should be directed to the editor:</p> <p>Richard J. Abler / Puddlefort Press 990 Blind Brook Drive Columbus OH 43235-1281 Phone 614-885-0351 Fax: Same, call first. E-mail: abler@wideopenwest.com NOTE: New Email Address</p> <p>Membership dues and financial matters: Doug Clark 249 Penick Ave Delaware OH 43015 Phone 740-369-4807 E-mail: dclar5@columbus.rr.com</p> <p>CGRS principal business contact: Bill Logan 1421 Norma Road Columbus OH 43229 Phone 614-846-1089 E-mail: WRLogan@msn.com</p> <p>Meetings and Programs: Bill Lott 614-837-8520; wlott@insight.rr.com</p> <p>Library/Archives/Books/Videos Cecil Easterday ceasterday@columbus.rr.com Phone: 614-889-1424</p> <p>Webmaster: Peter Wine Email: Webmaster@cgrs.org Phone: 937-228-1491</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CGRS</p>
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The Plant Manager

By Barbara Abler

Recreation

After two straight years of planting a hundred different seed pots only to have most of them die because my knees kept me from caring for them, I vowed I would not order any seeds from the three rock garden societies I belong to. And I didn't. Is that fantastic willpower or what?

Then a catalog came in the mail for tomato seeds. I was about to pitch it when I remembered that I had not saved any seeds from my Micro Tom dwarf tomatoes. So I checked the catalog for Micro Tom and there it was - as well as several other dwarf tomatoes. Well, you guessed it - I ordered five packets of tomato seeds and one of a small pepper. So much for willpower.

I think there is something buried deep in the human primitive brain that compels people to plant seeds. Seeds for beauty. Seeds for food. Seeds for fun. Seeds to give hope and for the continuation of life.

I check the seeds pots every day. When the first signs of germination appear I become ecstatic. There is something very satisfying in watching the tiny plants emerge and begin to grow. This is truly recreation, i.e., creation anew.

If you haven't tried growing plants from seed, perhaps you should consider it as a way to 'ground' yourself in these hectic times. Pick something easy that you can also use in the railroad. There are several small, decorative peppers that will work as well as the dwarf tomatoes. Alyssum or the smaller varieties of Sweet William are also useful. Portulaca will provide a colorful, medium-sized ground cover.

Start looking through seed catalogs for ideas. A good catalog to use is the Thompson and Morgan seed catalog. It provides some cultural information about the plants as well as great pictures (wish

my plants looked that good). You can order a catalog or seeds online or call or, if you haven't forgotten how to do it, you can also write to:

Thompson & Morgan Seedsmen Inc
P.O. Box 1308
Jackson, New Jersey 08527-0308

Telephone: 800-274-7333
Fax: 888-466-4769
Email: tminc@thompson-morgan.com

Web Page;
<http://www.thompson-morgan.com/seeds/us/>

If you are really nice to me, you can probably get some of my seeds leftover from previous years to practice with. I still have some seeds of *Mibora minima*, a small annual grass, that are probably viable and the plants work in the railroad. I'll bring some to the meeting.

CGRS

New Garden Books

We're pleased to pass along some information on new garden books co-authored by CGRS member Deb Knapke. The books are:

Perennials for Ohio by Debra Knapke and Alison Beck; released mid February, \$18.95; stocked at Barnes and Noble's, and

Annuals for Ohio by the same authors to be released mid-May; same price.

They are slightly smaller sized books that have water resistant covers (dirt washes off). There are about 625 perennials discussed and many of them are pictured in full color.

For additional information one may contact Deb:

Debra Knapke
The Garden Sage
Phone: 614-459-7167
Email: dknapke@copper.net

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CGRS Dues Renewal Form - 2003

Dues for calendar year 2003 are \$24. Make your check payable to "CGRS" and mail it to Doug Clark / 249 Pennick Ave / Delaware OH 43015-2211.

Your name _____

Current Email Addr. _____

If you need an extra badge(s) add \$5 for each badge and list the name(s) here:

Name for badge _____

Your check Number _____ Total amount on Check \$ _____

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Garden Railways Magazine Mentions CGRS	Special Offer (con'd)	RR Museum Damage (con'd)
<p>The April 2003 issue of <i>Garden Railways Magazine</i> has a half page article entitled "Favorite Plants of the Columbus Garden Railway Society." The article appears as part of the "Pathways" column by <i>GR</i> garden editor, Pat Hayward.</p> <p>Pat goes on to mention our special "garden" edition of the newsletter last April and has followed up on four contributors to that issue, Dan & Katy Hill and Jack & Cecil Easterday.</p> <p>If you'd like to know which plants are described I guess you'll have to read the article for yourselves. If you don't subscribe to <i>Garden Railways</i> you can find a copy at most full-service bookstores. You can also take advantage of the reduced subscription rates available on a short-time limited offer from Kalmbach Publishing Co. [See separate story].</p> <p>The article is on page 52. We thank Pat Hayward and magazine editor, Marc Horovitz, for including some of the favorite plants of CGRS members. [Ed.]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CGRS</p>	<p>is well worth your while to go along with this offer.</p> <p>Here's all you have to do:</p> <p>1a) For a new subscription write a check for \$21, \$41, or \$58 payable to "CGRS." Let us know to where you want the magazine delivered - if that's different from the address on your check.</p> <p>1b) For extending an existing subscription write a check for the one of the amounts above and bring along the subscription number on your mailing label. If you don't have that number don't worry, the publisher will find you in their files.</p> <p>2) Then either bring your check and any other information to the next meeting or mail those materials to: Bob Collins GR Offer 924 Middlebury Dr Worthington OH 43085-3466</p> <p>Bob will gather the checks and send a lump sum payment to the publisher, Kalmbach Publishing Co. We'd like these materials by a deadline of April 25th. [Ed.]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CGRS</p>	<p>(B&O) Railroad Museum has announced the cancellation of the Fair of the Iron Horse 175, Festival of Trains due to damage the Museum incurred during the recent snowstorm in Maryland. The railroading exposition was scheduled to take place June 28 through July 3, 2003 at the Museum and in Baltimore's Carroll Park to commemorate the 175th Anniversary of American Railroading.</p> <p>"Due to the catastrophic damage to this historic Roundhouse and its magnificent collection, the Fair of the Iron Horse must be cancelled," stated Jim Brady, Chairman of the B&O Railroad Museum Board of Directors. "Our focus now is to restore, re-build, and re-open this national treasure. This Herculean effort is already underway. It is imperative that this process be driven by the highest standards of historic preservation, restoration and museum programming. I have the greatest confidence in the team that has been assembled to face this challenge.</p> <p>We look forward to the re-birth of the Birthplace of American Railroading when this national treasure is returned to an even greater state of glory," added Brady. During the height of the storm, the Iron Structure of the 1884 Baldwin Roundhouse, the Museum's signature building and collections exhibit space, collapsed under the weight of the snow and force of wind. Fortunately, no one was in the Museum at the time of the collapse. Structural engineers are working daily to stabilize the building and protect the collection from further damage. The Museum is home to the oldest, most comprehensive collection of railroad artifacts in the Western Hemisphere.</p>
Garden Railways Magazine Special Offer	CGRS	
<p>Garden Railways Magazine has a special subscription offer for CGRS members. You can extend your existing subscription or enter a new subscription at reduced prices.</p> <p>The subscription rates through this special club offer are as follows: One year (6 issues) \$21; two years (12 issues) \$41; and three years (18 issues) \$58.</p> <p>Regular subscription rates are \$27.95, \$52.50, and \$75.00, respectively. So it</p>	<p>Snow Damages RR Museum. Festival Cancelled</p> <p>BALTIMORE & OHIO (B&O) RAILROAD MUSEUM CANCELS THE FAIR OF THE IRON HORSE 175, FESTIVAL OF TRAINS.</p> <p>MARYLAND'S LARGEST SNOWSTORM TAKES ITS TOLL ON MUSEUM - FOCUS TURNS TO RESTORATION EFFORTS (Baltimore, MD)— February 28, 2003 – The Board of Directors of the Baltimore and Ohio</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CGRS</p>
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Fall Bus Excursion Registration Form

REGISTRATION FORM:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

State and Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

of People @ \$485 person: _____

Total Deposit @ \$150 per person:* _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Special Diet Needs: _____

Choices of Activities:

(It is assumed you will be going with group unless marked below.)

_____ I will not be going to Steamtown on Friday.

_____ I will not be going to the day time activities at Strasburg on Saturday but will be joining the group for the dinner train excursion.

*We will need a \$150 deposit for each person planning to go. Please make checks payable to CGRS and send to Cecil Easterday, 7320 Macbeth Drive, Dublin, OH 43016. Any registrations received after number 44 will be on a waiting list in case there are cancellations. A full refund (less \$7) can be given until August 10.

Columbus Monthly Magazine to Feature CGRS Railroads

It is our understanding there will be a story on local garden railroads in the April issue of *Columbus Monthly*. Anyway that's what the photographer and reporter told us last fall when they stopped by to take photos of our railroad.

I believe there were three or four railroads that were photographed; I seem to recall Shirley Green's was one of them. I don't know who the others were.

It will be interesting to see how closely the write-ups compare to what we actually told the interviewers.

I was told the April Columbus Monthly will be available on March 27th.

You've been alerted. [Ed.].

CGRS

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Philadelphia Flower Show

By Joan Obusek

February is my least favorite month. Its too cold and gloomy to be outside in the garden and I'm anxious for the first signs of spring. This year was especially bad. I was worn out with shoveling snow off my driveway when a friend said "Let's go the the Philadelphia Flower Show". Needless to say I didn't need any coaxing.

This show is one of the biggest and best in the U.S. The show exceeded all my expectations. The theme of the show was Festival de de las Flores (Festival of the Flowers) and the hall was filled with displays featuring hot colors and tropical flowers. There were horticultural lectures and demonstrations along with flower arrangements and window displays, room and table settings, and magical gardens designed for every taste.

The "Old Tijuana Cantina" offered a South-of-the-Border experience and was filled with ten life-size topiaries that included a mariachi band, señoritas with colorful dresses and an old hound dog asleep at the bar. Another whimsical garden featured three delightful frog musicians and a host of copper sprites.

There were 140 vendors in the Marketplace at the flower show and something for every visitor to take home.

The Bachmann Trains' booth had a display with two trains running and there was always a large crowd gathered around it.

Garden railroads are becoming mainstream. It won't be long before a display garden will be designed around trains!



Welcome New Members!

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Vicki Wilker of Columbus, and
Bruce & Barbara Keever of Irwin.

A hearty Welcome Aboard from us all.

CGRS

Financial Report

By Doug Clark

The CGRS Financial Statement for Calendar Year 2002 appears in the next column.

CGRS

Beginning Balance \$335.26

Income

Dues	2,942.50
Badges	97.00
Ads	703.00
Banquet	3,369.00
Donations	184.00
Fall Trip	2,900.00
Rose Festival	348.68
Inniswood	366.00
Other	100.00
Total Income	11,010.18

Expenses

Postage	574.00
Badges	125.18
Web Site	167.00
Banquet	3,420.67
Newsletters	1,011.62
Bank Charges	30.45
Event Expense	50.00
Fall Trip	2,941.87
General Expense	596.48
Memorials	75.00
Total Expense	8,992.27

Ending Balance \$2,353.17

CGRS

Visit Cross Creek Engineering



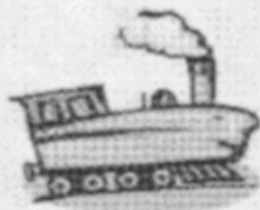
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E-mail crosscreektrains@juno.com

Thank you.... Bob & Lynda Pennock

Cash, Checks, VISA/MC accepted



Schedule of Events

Month/Date	Day/Time	What/Where	Comments
March 30	Sunday 2 - 5 PM	CGRS Monthly Meeting Madison Township Community Center	Speaker: Frank Klatt
[April 4 - 6 April 27	Friday - Sunday Sunday 2 - 5 PM	East Coast Large Scale Train Show CGRS Monthly Meeting <i>Madison Township Community Center</i>	York PA] <i>Speakers: Gary & Joan Sines: Weathering</i>
May 25	Sunday	CGRS Monthly Meeting: Craig & Audrey Biggrigg / Bexley	
June 14 - 15	Saturday & Sunday	Rose Festival / Whetstone Park of Roses CGRS will run trains and staff information booth	
[June 21 - 25	Sat - Wed	LGB Model Railroad Convention - King of Prussia PA]	
June 29	Sunday	CGRS Monthly Meeting: Franklin Park Conservatory	
[July 9 - 13	Wed - Sun	National Garden Railway Convention - Sacramento CA]	
July 27	Sunday	CGRS Monthly Meeting: <i>James Leasure / Fredericktown</i>	
August 24	Sunday	CGRS Monthly Meeting: Dan & Katy Hill / Grandview Heights	
September 7	Sunday	CGRS Open Garden Tour	
Sept. 26-28	Friday Eve thru Sunday	An Affair-of-the-Hort Inniswood Metro Park / Westerville	

For information about hosting a meeting call Bill Lott at 614-837-8520 or email to wlott@insight.rr.com

Items in italics are new or changed this month.
[brackets] = National events

Guests are always welcome at CGRS Meetings.

Columbus Garden Railway Society
 1421 Norma Rd / Columbus OH 43229
 614-846-1089 / info@cgrs.org