



# DENVER GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

The Denver Garden Railway Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the education, promotion and enjoyment of all aspects of garden railroading.

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## Welcome

## New Members!

Tom & Jeanette Millar

[tjmjam@mac.com](mailto:tjmjam@mac.com)

David Brostron

[dbrostrom1@comcast.net](mailto:dbrostrom1@comcast.net)

Rick Gratch

[rick.gratch@gmail.com](mailto:rick.gratch@gmail.com)

## Highball

The past month, I saw many of you take the trek to Larkspur, to enjoy a barbeque and train rides on the LCRR. I was very pleased with the



attendance for the event as we increased our participation by over fifty percent from last year. This is only the second year for this event and with the generosity of the LCRR and your participation, this event looks to have a bright future.

As the seasons change and the club moves indoors, I look forward to seeing you all at the Clements Center for our general meetings. This month we have a lot of administrative duties to tend to at our general meeting. We will discuss the direction of our club and strategic vision, membership retention, and elections. This is perfect time for you reexamine your availability to volunteer for the club as we need leaders like you!

I'm so excited to see this club grow! That's correct, I said grow, we are now up to one-hundred and forty-five members. This is very close to the highest number of members this club has had in recent memory. I'm very thankful that our membership sees value in our club and the service that we provide.

## Train News

### Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

This page shows interesting railroad happenings as well as breaking railroad news. Check it often as you may learn about new events and ideas for your railroad. [Rocky Mountain News and Photos.](#)

### Rail Pictures and Videos

Photos from all over the US. You can select the locomotive type, railroad, location, etc. <http://www.railpictures.net>

### Colorado Railroads

Colorado Railroads, a site for the fans of past and present railroads serving the Centennial State.

<http://www.corailroads.com/>

### GR News

[GRNews.org](http://GRNews.org)  
[GRNews on Facebook](#)  
[GR News on Instagram](#)

Don't cheat yourself, check it out and enjoy the stories!



The board is constantly trying to find new and innovative ways to engage the membership, like our upcoming swap meet in October.

This event is usually paired with our picnic in June, but got pushed because of the NGRC. Many wanted this to happen, and we are very fortunate that the CRRM was available to include us along with the Hi-Plains 3-Railers to create a model train weekend at the museum. I look forward to interacting with other like-minded model train enthusiasts and learning new things about other scales.

I hope to see all of you at the September General Meeting.

Jeff Lillo

## Museum Happenings

As I write this we are in the middle of this year's "Day Out With Thomas" event which sold out in record time. The Big, people sized Thomas trains were packed full with riders all day.

The first Saturday was cold, cloudy and wet. Perfect for running live steam in the garden.

Visit the these Instagram links to see videos of the Shays in action.

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/Cifs0unPT2O/?igshid=ZDU1ZDhlY2E=>

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/CiVuJW-JqHB/?igshid=ZDU1ZDhlY2E=>

There were also 2 food trucks on site with a variety of good food.



Coming up right after the Thomas visit we have a very busy October with events which will need to have the DGRS in operation from 10 am to 4 pm.

There will be 2 half day shifts per day or you can sign up for an all day shift if you are able.

These will be from 9 am to 4 pm

10/1 Saturday Train Rides

10/ 6 SCFD Free Admission day

10/8 DGRS Swap meet/Train rides

10/15 tBoy Scout Day and Saturday Train rides

10/21 is the Boulder County Free Admission Day

10/23 Member Appreciation Day

A reminder to new members that there are a few requirements that need to be met in order to operate trains in the DGRS garden railway.



You must agree to work 8 hours a year to help maintain the railway, pass a short written test and sign a few volunteer documents.

Contact Alan [alanno@comcast.net](mailto:alanno@comcast.net) or (303-748-0957). Call or text.

**Alan Olson**



## DGRS Board

### President

Jeff Lillo [Denvergardenrailwaysociety@gmail.com](mailto:Denvergardenrailwaysociety@gmail.com)

### Vice President

Eric Petty [pettyhome@aol.com](mailto:pettyhome@aol.com)

### Secretary

Vivian Pershing  
[pershingperch@q.com](mailto:pershingsperch@q.com)

### Treasurer

Al Blount [a.blount@q.com](mailto:a.blount@q.com)

### Past President

Jim Desautel  
[jimandcindydesautel@yahoo.com](mailto:jimandcindydesautel@yahoo.com)

### Convention Committee Chairman

Doug Mayes [investwest@aol.com](mailto:investwest@aol.com)

### Outreach

Terry Foley  
[terry.foley.b670@statefarm.com](mailto:terry.foley.b670@statefarm.com)

### Museum & Club Layout Chairman

Alan Olson [alanno@comcast.net](mailto:alanno@comcast.net)

### Program Chairman

Ron Keiser [ron.keiser@comcast.net](mailto:ron.keiser@comcast.net)

### Summer Tours Chairman

Chris Greenwald  
[cgreenwald@hotmail.com](mailto:cgreenwald@hotmail.com)

### Exhibits Chairman

Scott Vance [slv50@hotmail.com](mailto:slv50@hotmail.com)

### Clinics Chairman

Jim Desautel  
[jimandcindydesautel@yahoo.com](mailto:jimandcindydesautel@yahoo.com)

### Hospitality Chairman

Michele Miller [Micdavmiller@aol.com](mailto:Micdavmiller@aol.com)

### Library Chairmen

Keith Pershing [pershingperch@q.com](mailto:pershingsperch@q.com)

### Publications

Cherylene Evans  
[cheryleneevans@outlook.com](mailto:cheryleneevans@outlook.com)

### Web Master

Bob Finch  
[Webmaster@DenverGardenrailway.org](mailto:Webmaster@DenverGardenrailway.org)

## Hospitality Report

I'm already missing the easy breezy days of summer and our amazing outdoor gatherings! Thanks to Bob and Glen Leise and the LCRR folks for their hospitality last month. A delayed club picnic and trains big and small-couldn't have been better! Add to that perfect weather and great conversation / catch up time with folks I hadn't seen in awhile. They had to boot me out!

Hopefully, we'll see you all as we head back to the Clements Center for the upcoming September 27th meeting as well as our October 25th one (think Halloween for that one if you're bringing a snack to contribute 🍎). As in the past, if you're thinking of bringing something sweet or salty to share, please let me know what if possible so I can plan accordingly. Email ([micdaviller@aol.com](mailto:micdaviller@aol.com)) or phone/ text (720.560.3165) equally ok. Please check in if no response from me, especially with email...

We have some new members to celebrate, and look forward to officially meeting you all at the upcoming meeting. Make sure to say hello if you haven't been around in awhile, or are new to the group!

### Michele Miller



# 3 Foot Gage in Central Michigan

During a recent trip to Grand Rapids, MI, we stopped at Flint to visit The Huckleberry Railroad. The railroad, which is part of Crossroads Village, operates about a 3' gauge 5 mile line with loops at each end. The steam engine operates on weekends and a diesel, once owned by the Georgetown Loop railroad, operates weekdays. The railroad also owns K-27 D&RGW No. 464, one of only three Rio Grande engines narrow gauge engines not in Colorado. (One is at in Knotts Berry Farm in California.and the other is at a museum in Ogden, UT.)

The line operates over an old Pere Marquette RR right of way. I was told that narrow gauge was chosen as when they were constructing the line in 1977, standard gauge equipment was either unavailable or too expensive.



No 167 is a Baldwin product, tracing its history back to the Alaska Railroad.



The caboose and coach came from Mexico



A blow down on the first loop



2022 Wally Weart

I guess the conductor is looking at the “White Walls” for sliding wheels but the land is table top flat.



2022 Wally Weart

A view on the second loop. The first car was built in their shops.

## Wally Weart

## This and That in DGRS Country



Bob Dunlap

Engine #455 taking on a load of coal early in the morning on the Denver & Rio Grande Western. The Chama coal tower is scratch built using plans from [brewer.com](http://brewer.com).



Vivian Pershing with other characters during the Como Rail Road Day celebration.

**Autumn Railroad Day will be on Saturday, September 24 in Como. A great time to visit the railroad and see the fall colors!**

**David Parker**

**A celebration of Life**

Thursday, October 6

Brentwood Methodist Church  
1899 South Irving Street

Service 10-11 AM

Reception Lunch 11:00-12:15

Fort Logan Military Service 1:00-1:30

# The World of 71/2" Trains



John Cushman

Train people know how to have fun!

## LCRR Hosts the August Meeting of DGRS August 27, 2022

In line with the DGRS President’s suggestion that summer meetings be held at a member’s layout, the Larkspur Consolidated Railroad (LCRR) offered to host the August meeting of DGRS (the LCRR is located on property owned by Bob & Glen Leise). The offer was accepted, so on August 27th, the LCRR hosted the DGRS General Business Meeting. We (the LCRR crew, Kirk and Pam, Pete and Marilou, Dale and Sharon, Bob and Glen, Jim and Cindy, Ron K, and Randy) were thrilled to welcome over 50 club members to the event, about 10 more members than last year.

Our goal in hosting the event, beyond supporting our President’s request, was to give club members a first-hand look at ride-on trains, learn some unique aspects of ride-on trains, experience what it is like to ride on a train barely wide enough on which to sit. The route we follow on the ‘ride’ is about 3,800 feet long, and it takes 20 – 25 minutes to complete each ride depending on how many stops are taken to discuss features along the track and answer the questions that riders would ask.



John H Cushman

Goose Riders in the Sky!



Dale's New York Central with Pete and Connor as passengers

There were two parts to the event, with the first being the General Business Meeting held in Bob and Glen's trailer shed, which is ideal for holding events of 80 or fewer people. The Club President, Jeff Lillo, chaired the meeting. While Minutes of the meeting are being published, the purpose of this article is to share with Club Members the perspectives of the LCRR crew in hosting the event. The need to share this information with you became apparent after the event was over and the LCRR crew gathered around a table to 'discuss the day' – both good things and things we could do better. In hearing all the comments from attendees and the observations of the LCRR crew, I wanted to share with DGRS members how much fun we had hosting all of you. We laughed at many comments, were sad with others, appreciated many of the suggestions we received, but most importantly, we ended the day with the feeling that our fellow DGRS members enjoyed themselves and appreciated the effort expended to host them. So below are some of the snippets and comments the LCRR crew heard and reflected on at the end of the day.

### **Things we got right!**

At the end of the event, the consensus among the group was that the few changes we made from the prior year, seemed to work as expected. For example, holding the General Business Meeting first was good, just like last year. But the change we incorporated this year occurred after the meeting. Last year, we asked everyone to bring a sack lunch, so the LCRR crew wasn't responsible for providing a meal. But this year, after coordinating with the President and Hospitality Chair, it was decided that DGRS would pay for the main entrée for lunch (burgers and dogs) plus the drinks, and ask everyone to bring a side dish. This was a huge success for several reasons!!

1. It seemed much easier on DGRS members not to bring their entire lunch. Instead, each person brought a side dish to share with everyone, and those dishes were big hits with most people.

2. As the business meeting began, some of the LCRR crew departed to begin cooking the burgers and dogs, so by the time the meeting ended, much of the meal prep was ready.

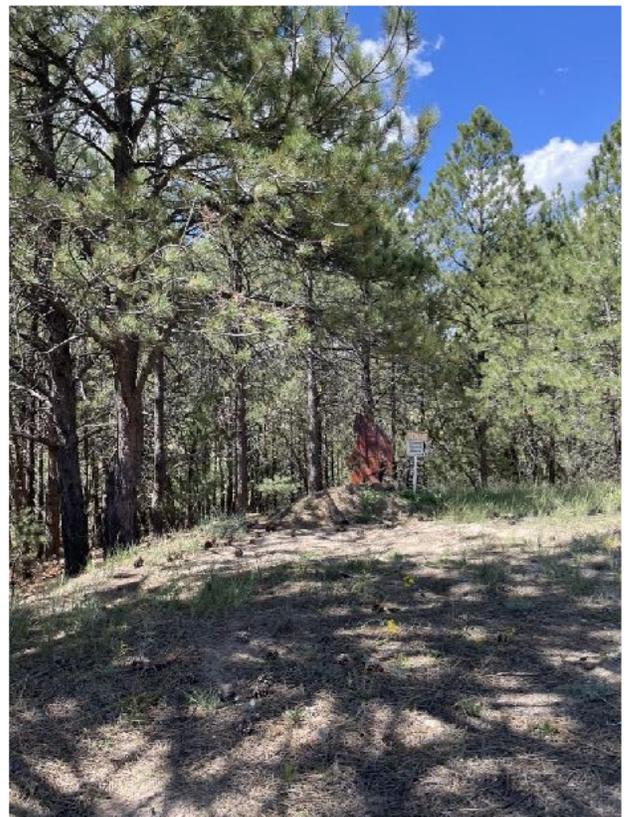
3. Since both the meal and the trains were ready to roll about the same time, attendees could choose to either eat or ride a train. That option seemed to work well as there was neither a long waiting line for the food nor the train ride – divide and succeed! As train riders finished their ride, they could go to the lunch area and eat, and then return to the train area to ride again – or vice versa.

4. One service that the LCRR crew provided was a 'taxi service' (or golf cart) which Marilou Hendel operated to help those who found the walk difficult between the two areas. Marilou was very busy, and many DGRS members appreciated her service.



**Things we can do better!**

As the meal progressed and DGRS members enjoyed the various side dishes that others provided, we received requests for many recipes. Well, we did not think of that beforehand, so one change we would like to incorporate next year is to ask those who provide a side dish, to also provide a few note cards or some written form of their recipe, so others can try making the dish at home. We hope that will help.



Big Foot was spotted from the train!

**Things the LCRR crew 'heard':**

- A 4-year-old repeatedly saying "Goose, Goose" until he was able to ride on the Goose. So cute.
- On one ride, the engineer commented to one woman that she asked good questions. Her response was so funny, "Do you think this is just a pretty face?" The engineer still laughs when he thinks of that comment.
- Several people mentioned how much they liked the lovely property, great weather, and rides on the train.
- The Town of Larkspur is known as the hidden gem within Colorado, and definitely Leise's ranch is a jewel. We heard the following comment so often – "what a beautiful and peaceful piece of property, and the view was outstanding."
- Hearing one teenager who felt inspired to build his own ride-on train.
- The engineers heard many laughs at the LCRR Cell Tower, an old windmill with old cell phones attached.

**Things the LCRR crew 'observed':**

Attendees enjoyed the variety of rolling stock within the LCRR group – a Goose (actually two), a New York Central, two War Bonnets, and a Union Pacific. And then there were many questions like, "How did you decide on that engine? How long did it take to lay the track? Who made all the characters and signs? What are you going to do next? And which do you enjoy more – the Ride-On or G-Scale trains?"

- The interest about the locomotives, rolling stock, and layout construction was much greater than previous gatherings.
- So many people were taking photos or videoing their family members on the trains
- Watching the expression of excitement as we pulled into the station and seeing the next group who were ready to Board and Ride.
- There were two teenage boys who were happy to ride on any train with an empty seat. It seemed they may have gone around the loop as much as some of the engineers!
- A young man, probably in his 20s, who was very delighted he got to ride more than once.
- One attendee brought a new G-Scale locomotive and wanted to take a photo of it on Bob & Glen's long trestle in their Mining Loop.

**Comments from LCRR crew members:**

- Attendees brought the BEST side dishes.
- Most attendees seemed very comfortable with the venue and event. It seemed that most really enjoyed the opportunity to relax for the afternoon and visit with other DGRS members.
- It was awesome to sit at the train dispatch area, and look up to the garage/picnic area and notice so many engaged in conversations, laughter, and true enjoyment.
- The smiles, laughter, and good cheer began before the Business meeting, and continued until the end of the day. Everyone seemed relaxed and comfortable. One driver commented that every time he went passed the picnic area, people waved and smiled.
- We were very appreciative of how respectful DGRS members were of Bob and Glen's property.
- The weather was perfect, calm wind with temperatures in the mid-70's.
- It was a great turn out. The Business Meeting was short but comprehensive.
- The spirit of attendees seemed high and relaxed.
- It was a great opportunity to downshift after workload and stress of the Convention.
- There was lots of wonderful food.
- The rolling stock was in tip-top shape.
- Riders waited patiently for their turn to ride.
- One senior club member acted like a little kid in a candy store when he got to ride.
- Our locomotives were still running at the end of the day – very few problems with them.
- The track was really good – no problems.
- 

**“Take-aways” by the LCRR crew (things that impressed us):**

There were three things that truly impressed the LCRR crew.

- First, during the Business Meeting, one DGRS member gave away his seat to a senior member with a cane who forgot to bring his own chair. Such caring!

- Don McCullough expressing his deeply heart-felt appreciation for all the support, prayers, and cards he received during his sad times
- And finally, how many DGRS members seemed to really enjoy just sitting in a relaxed atmosphere visiting with other club members. It seemed that long after the rides ended, many members stayed around just enjoying the company of others.
- And when the event came to an end, the LCRR crew truly appreciated how all of those members pitched in and cleanup both the dispatch area and the picnic area. Many hands made light work.

In conclusion, the LCRR was happy to host the meeting, provide a sheltered venue for the meeting, demonstrate Bob & Glen's G-Scale layout but most of all, giving train rides to anyone who wanted to ride. The LCRR crew is open to hosting another meeting next summer and show the club the new additions to the railroad that may be coming next year.

## Jim Desautel



## DGRS Calendar

Date	2022 Event	Details
Sept 24 Saturday	Como Autumn Railroad Day	All Day Enjoy the colors and the latest restorations to the Como Historical Railroad
September 27 Tuesday	General Meeting Ron Ruhoff will talk about The San Juan Express a 3 day excursion for the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club	7:00 PM, <a href="#">Clements Community Center</a> 1580 Yarrow St. Lakewood, CO 80214
October 8 Saturday	Hobo Brunch <b><u>Cancelled this month</u></b>	
October 5 Wednesday	DGRS Board Meeting	7 PM Doug Mayes office
October 8 Saturday	Swap Meet Members Only Bring your table, chairs, etc and treasures to sell or trade.	9 AM <b>Colorado Railroad Museum</b> 17155 W. 44th Ave. Golden, CO
October 25 Tuesday	General Meeting Program:Doug Junda from San Juan Models	7PM, Clements Community Center 1580 Yarrow St. Lakewood, CO 80214
November 2 Wednesday	DGRS Board Meeting	7 PM Doug Mayes office
November 12 Saturday	Hobo Brunch	8:30 am, Valley Inn 1997 S. Wadsworth Blvd.
November 29 Tuesday	General Meeting Information to come	7PM, Clements Community Center 1580 Yarrow St. Lakewood, CO 80214

### Publisher

Deadline for November Newsletter will be **October 12**. Please send pictures and reports to : [CheryleneEvans@outlook.com](mailto:CheryleneEvans@outlook.com)

# Garden Railway Clubs Links

This section is an opportunity for our members to learn from the efforts, tips, techniques, and news of other garden railway clubs. Please Click on each club name below or go the following link to access all the clubs: <http://www.denvergardenrailway.org/index.php/links-to-other-clubs/>

[Northern Colorado Garden](#)



**Northern Colorado  
Garden Railroaders**

[\*\*\*Mile High Garden Railway  
Society\*\*\*](#)

**THE GARDEN WHISTLE**

[New Zealand Large Scale  
Newsletter](#)

[Bay Area Garden Railway](#)



[Puget Sound Garden Railway Society](#)



[Rose City Garden Railway Society](#)



[North Texas Garden Railroad Club](#)



[Gold Coast Garden Railway](#)



[Northern Ohio Garden Railway Society](#)



[Santa Clarita Valley Garden Railway](#)



[Central California Coast Garden Railroad Society](#)



[Garden Railroading News \(GR News\)](#)

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