



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.

Contents

-
- Highball
- Calendar
- Train News
- Museum Happenings
- Repair of DGRS Gallows Turntable
- Building a Minature Trimmer
- How Boys vs Girls tell a story
- Grandfather & Grandson win prizes
- Railway Club Links
- Convention Report
- Hospitality
- Publisher
-

Welcome New Member

Liam Wright
jeise12199@gmail.com

Annual Dues

Family membership \$48
 Individual membership \$36
 Make checks payable to
DGRS

Mail to :

DGRS co/Al Blount
 6038 Iris Way Arvada,
 CO 80004

Highball

Another month has past, and summer is quickly turning to fall. This is my favorite time to get out in the backyard and run some trains. I don't know about you, but I've been busy with life and neglecting my layout, so I've spent the past couple of days getting my backyard and train operations running again.



I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the upcoming meeting at the Larkspur Consolidated Railroad as we get to explore another side of the garden railroading on a larger scale. September will start the club back into the normal routine of meetings and layout tours. We will have one more special event at the beginning of October, a member only swap meet at the Colorado Railroad Museum.

Over the next few months, I would like to work with the board and all of you to chart a direction on how the club will progress in the future. Some of the things that I hope to work on include the successful closure of our National Garden Railroad Convention (NGRC), a club strategic plan, and a future technology strategy.

Our club has had a fantastic year and it would not have been possible without all your volunteering. We have had an awesome volunteer turnout for musseum operations, layouts and the convention. We as a club are doing great things and I look forward to spending the next couple of months charting the couse for the future!

Jeff Lillo

DGRS Calendar

Date	2022 Event	Details
August 27 Saturday	General Meeting at 10 am Larkspur Consolidated Railroad Home of Glen & Bob Leise 10401 Spruce Mountain Rd Larkspur, CO 80118 Pot luck, LCRR will provide hotdogs,condiments, and paper plates RSVP bgleise@yahoo.com	10:00 am General Meeting 11:00 ride trains visit garden railroad Noon eat and visit Frito Lay Products provided by Richard Cory DGRS will provide drinks Bring chairs and salad or dessert to share
September 7 Wednesday	DGRS Board meeting	Doug Mayes Office
September 10 Saturday	Hobo Brunch No reservations needed Call Byron Fenton for details 303-936-0920	8:30 am, Valley Inn 1997 S. Wadsworth Blvd.
September 27 Tuesday	General Meeting Program details to come	7PM, Clements Community Center 1580 Yarrow St. Lakewood, CO 80214
October 5 Wednesday	DGRS Board Meeting	Doug Mayes Office
October 8 Saturday	General Meeting/Swap Meet Members Only	9 AM Colorado Railroad Museum 17155 W. 44th Ave. Golden, CO
October 8 Saturday	Hobo Brunch <u>DUE TO CONFLICTING CLUB ACTIVITIES</u>	
October 25 Tuesday	General Meeting Program:Doug Junda from San Juan Model Company	7PM, Clements Community Center 1580 Yarrow St. Lakewood, CO 80214

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.](#)

Railroad 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/>



Museum Happenings

August has been a very busy month for operating the DGRS garden railway at the CRRM.

Trains were running for the “Raise a Reader” event, for the “Boulder County Free Day,” held on the last “Thrilling Thursday” of this year, for the CRRM. We also ran for “Neighborhood BBQ”, “Rail Fair” and the CRRM “Member Appreciation Day”. All of these **and** regular operations were on Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday and Friday.

At the September CRRM Board of Directors meeting board President James Smith said “I want to thank the DGRS for really stepping up the amount of time that they are running trains. It seems like they are always running!” ***Interestingly enough we have increased the amount of run time with fewer DGRS members operating.*** Thank you DGRS members who have put in so much time to keep the railway up and running! Two of the reasons that we have had fewer operators is that some of the most active operators at the museum were working hard on the convention and getting their own railway ready for tours. Several of them had health issues.

There have been many times that there have been complaints by visitors that we do not have any trains running. These complaints are told directly to us or we hear from the museum staff about them. The museum has several small events like “ThrillingThursdays” which are for children and we have been requested to have the DGRS in operation for them. It has always has been very difficult to find DGRS members willing to operate in the afternoon. So we have less operating time for visitors.

We have addressed this problem of not enough operators in several ways:

One is to run from 10am to 2pm for special days. This allows solo operators to do a more manageable 4 hours mid day. Of course operators can start earlier and or run later if they choose. We have found that having 4 varied trains running is interesting enough to entertain most visitors. Maybe a long freight train on track #1, a rail truck on track #7, a narrow gauge freight up on track #5 and perhaps a passenger train on track #3.



Several of us have done many stints as solo operators. **Steve Hahn** sets the bar high by putting on a really interesting show for visitors. While the trains are running he also manages to clean up leaves, weeds, and trash.

The second temporary fix has been developed over time. Many of us have been wanting trains running in the garden when no operators are available, say the afternoon when we have a lack of operators. Yes, this could be disastrous but we have managed to lessen the hazards.

There are rock throwers that aim at our trains or tracks and there is not much that we can do about that. Believe me we have had several ideas but none are legal.

We decided to run only 0-4-0 locomotives with 0-4-0 powered tenders and only 0-4-0 rolling stock which are easy to repair and have a minimal amount of detail. These would only run on the innermost track loops, #4 and #5 in the hope that it would be harder to hit them with rocks and also be more survivable in bad weather.

This was tried out and in about a half hour someone threw a rock that managed to derail a short train behind the roundhouse. However there was no damage to the rugged train. The track #5 train ran safely for the rest of the afternoon without any issues. The trains have operated several other times without issue.

What happens if the trains do derail? Do they just lay there on the ground for hours screaming for help? This is where DGRS member **John Meixle** makes a suggestion. He is on the track crew that is extending the rails just east of the garden railway that will end up going all the way north to the wood fence across the road. This will be an ongoing project. Since he will be working next to the DGRS he is willing to keep an eye on the garden railway and watch out for derailments or other issues. This is not an every day situation but it has already extended our operating times for visitors.

Coming up is the “A Day Out With Thomas” event on the first three weekends in September.

This is one of the museum’s 2 big events every year. Thomas requires lots of volunteers to be successful so please sign up early. This year there will only be two shifts per day for the DGRS, mornings 9-12 and 12-3 afternoons.

To sign up or for information contact Alan Olson at alanno@comcast.net or call/text 303-748-0957.

Also required are volunteers to staff the many positions that need to be filled outside of the DGRS.

For more information about volunteering for the CRRM Thomas needs please contact Danielle Riebau Danielle@crrm.org

Alan Olson



DGRS 2022 Board

President Jeff Lilo [@msnJLillo.com](mailto:msnJLillo.com)

Vice President. Eric Petty
pettyhome@aol.com

Secretary. Vivian Pershing
pershingsperch@q.com

Treasurer Al Blount a.blount@q.com

Past President Jim Desautel
jimandcindydesautel@yahoo.com

Convention Committee Chair.
Doug Mayes investwest@aol.com

Outreach. Terry Foley
terry.foley.b670@statefarm.com

Museum & Club Layout Chair.
Alan Olson alanno@comcast.net

Program Chair. Ron Keiser
ron.keiser@comcast.net

Summer Tours Chairman. Chris
Greenwald
cgreenwald@hotmail.com

Exhibits Chair. Scott Vance
slv50@hotmail.com

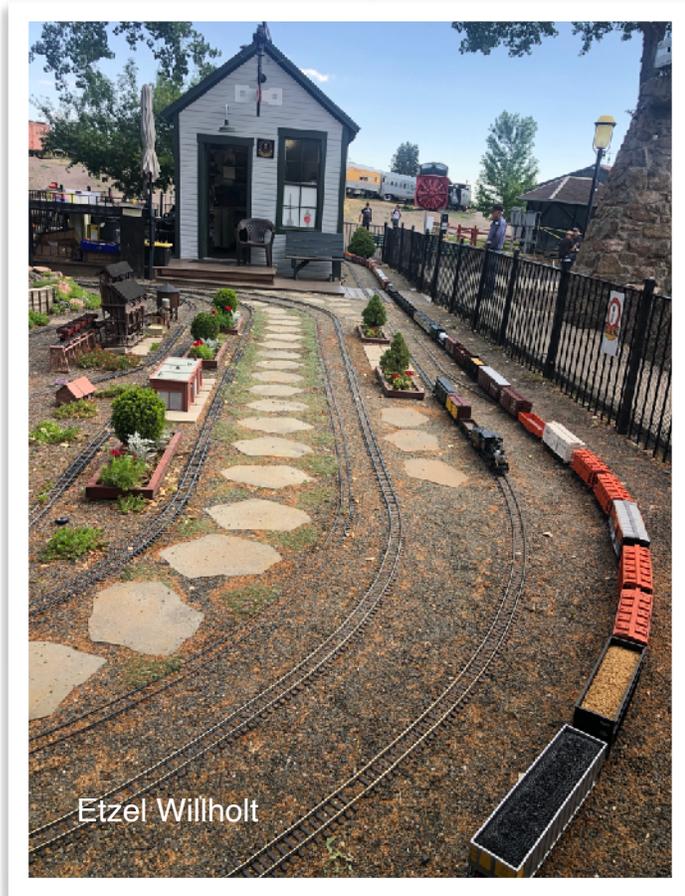
Clinics Chairman. Jim Desautel
jimandcindydesautel@yahoo.com

Hospitality Chair Michele Miller
Micdavmiller@aol.com

Library Chair. Keith Pershing
pershingsperch@q.com

Web-Master
@DenverGardenRailway.org

Publications. Cherylene Evans.
CheryleneEvans@outlook.com



Etzel Willholt

Sam Kunugi and Luke Miller ran a train at the museum with 3 Engines, 3 cabooses and 68 cars on July 13 2022. Included is a link to Etzel's YouTube channel where a 2 minute video shows the train in action. ***If the video doesn't make you want to play with trains at the museum, you are not a real train enthusiast!***

<https://youtu.be/W2D9pCjFe34>



V. Pershing

Repair of the DGRS Gallows Turntable

Our turntable is a real point of interest for those visitors viewing the DGRS layout. I had noticed the annual decline during the various work sessions and knew it was just a matter of time before it would decline to the point of no return. Preparations for the 2022 NGRC gave me the incentive and motivation to attempt to make the necessary repairs.



The first step was a major cleaning of the pit and the area underneath the actual turntable bridge in addition to gathering various pieces of the structure which had fallen off. Following cleaning it took

some time to determine how it was mounted to the concrete base. Several mounting bolts were stripped and the rotation plate was rusted in place. It took about two hours to remove it from the base as I was deliberately trying not to cause any additional damage.



Once I got the structure home it was obvious that this was a much larger project than I had anticipated. Fortunately, the rotation mechanism was a standard "Lazy Susan" plate found at ACE Hardware that only needed some changes in the mounting hole locations. At some point it appears someone had stepped on the turntable, breaking one side in half. This had been repaired sometime in the past but that had also since failed. The two broken sides of the bridge structure were repaired with the addition to two metal plates and glue.



The most tedious aspect of this repair was the removal of all the ties, adding new nails then aligning, gluing and clamping them in place individually. Fortunately, all the ties still remained and were in useable condition. One support cable was also broken and repaired with new wire.

During this process I discovered the following carved in the bottom of one the ties: FCRRS ITZ 12-94, Does anyone know the history behind this?



The structure had push bars at one time and those were not added during this repair.



Finally, the structure was stained, I chose a darker shade in the hopes it would weather to a darker grey over time. Replacement in the pit onto the concrete base was simple using the existing bolt holes and the turntable actually rotated following installation.

I really enjoyed completing this project and helping to preserve this important structure on the DGRS layout in advance of the 2022 NGRC and for future CRRM visitors and DGRS members to enjoy.

Eric Petty

Building a Miniature Trimmer

There was an article in the Garden Railway newsletter about making a miniature trimmer for your railroad. I failed to make a copy so I don't remember who the person was that wrote the article. However it was a brilliant idea and I decided I would try to make one for myself.

The idea was to get a battery powered Dremel tool and attach it to a long handle. Then the author said to use fishing line and attach it to the Dremel tool and then you could trim your ground cover without having to get down on your knees. I don't know about you but I can get down, it's the getting back up that gets me.



I found an old broom in my garage made by Mr. Clean. I found that the broom bristles would pop right out.



I looked on Amazon and found a rotary tool at a good price (not a Dremel). I attached the rotary tool to the bottom of the broom handle with a zip tie.

It was now time to try it out. I tied some fishing line to the screw on the end of the rotary tool and it didn't work. I guess my fishing line was not thick enough. Bummer! I started looking through my box of Dremel tool accessories and found a miniature saw blade that Dremel makes.

I put it on and it worked. I imagine in time it will wear out and I'll have to buy a new one. I think it will be cheaper than a doctor bill.

I put it on and it worked. I imagine in time it will wear out and I'll have to buy a new one. I think it will be cheaper than a doctor bill!

Bob Poncar



How boys tell a story



How girls tell a story



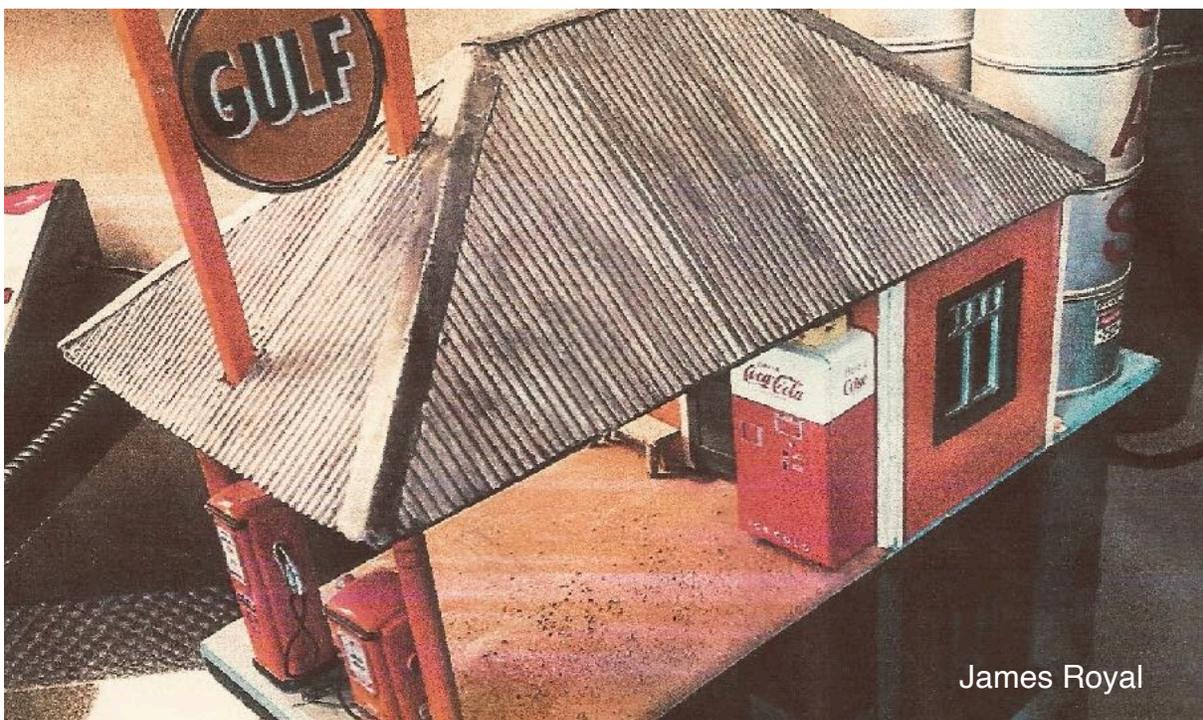
2022 National Garden Railway Convention:

Grandfather, grandson win modeling prizes

Smuggled bottles of glue help the team come home with two “Best in Show” awards.

The 2022 National Garden Railway Convention saw a grandfather and grandson take home prizes in a modeling contest. Here’s a report from the former:

I attended the 2022 National Garden Railway Convention in Denver in June with my son and his family. Both me and my grandson entered models in the conentions contest this year. We each won a prize.



James Royal

This structure won Adult Best in Show at this year’s NGRC

I shipped a gas station model I planned to enter in the modeling contest to one of the members of the Denver Garden Railway Society, Bob Leise. Bob texted me to say that the package arrived damaged. When I arrived at the hotel, I found the model broken into several pieces. Thankfully, the tubes of cyanoacrylate adhesive I’d packed in my checked luggage had escaped the TSA’s attention. I repaired the model in the hotel room before the contest.

My grandson wanted to enter the Youth modeling contest, as he did at the 2021 National Garden Railway Convention in Nashville. The challenge was to create a load for a center beam flatcar. He cut 1.2 pine boards to fit the flatcar and created wrappers to protect stacks of phywood. He named his fictional lumber company after his dog and my dog: The Pepper-Murphy Lumber Company



We entered our models in the contest on Wednesday. As at other conventions, the attendees and the public voted on their favorite models in both the Youth and Adult categories.

Matthew works on his flatcar load for the contest



This flatcar load won Youth Best in Show at this year's NGRC



The author and his grandson Matthew pose with their contest prizes, both PIKO America items

At the Friday night banquet my grandson won the Best in Show for the Youth categories. I won the Best in Show for the Adult categories. My grandson received a plaque and a PIKO America flatcar. I received a plaque and a PIKO America Camelback locomotive. That made a nice ending for the convention and I had fun getting the locomotive on board the return flight. (When TSA x-rayed the box, the agents gathered to look at the engine.)

We really enjoyed Denver Garden Railway Society's convention. It was well run and had plenty of outdoor railroads to visit. There were good clinics with great information. Our plan is to go to next year's convention in the Bay Area of California. My grandson will age out of the Youth contest (He will be eighteen next summer), so he is challenging me to enter the adult competition with him.

James Royal

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 \(GR News\)](#)
digital magazine

Convention Report

Officially over nearly two months ago the 2022 NGRC lives on. The question on everyone’s mind is “did we make money or not?” And the answer is YES, but until the two remaining invoices are corrected and paid, it’s difficult to say how much. Unsold convention merchandise to be offered at upcoming meetings and swap meets should bring in additional revenue. Judging by the positive comments and thank you cards from convention attendees, I’d say our convention was a success.

Doug Mayes

Convention chair (Retired)

CONGRATS TO ALL 2022 NGRC MODELERS ON A JOB WELL DONE !!!

Some folks, unable to attend the banquet, have asked about how their favorites fared in the convention's Modeling Contest. Submitted items were all very well done, resulting in some brisk competition. Top results are as follows:

ADULT DIVISION

YOUTH DIVISION

Locomotive	Eric Petty	Best Trackside Building	1st Ian Wetterlind 2nd. Aurelia Hill 3rd. Caleb Dula
Diorama	Ron Huntimer		
Rail Car	Barry Roth	Center I Beam Car	Matthew Royal Evan Wetterlind Tied for 1st place 3rd Ian Wetterlind
Overall Winner	James Royal		
Overall Best	Reid Elworthy Trackside Building scene		

Hospitality

And just like that, our outdoor summer gatherings come to an end!

Many thanks to Chris and Nola Greenwald for hosting our July meeting.

Thanks as well to Bob and Glen Leise and the LCRR crew for hosting our upcoming August meeting at the Leise Ranch (see details below). If you haven't already RSVP'd, please make sure to do so they'll know how many folks to expect and have enough food.

DGRS Meeting: October 27th

The Leise Ranch

10401 Spruce Mtn. Road
Larkspur, CO 80118

RSVP 303-681-2182

bgleise@yahoo.com

Meeting at 10 am

11am train rides and garden railroad

12 pm lunch (plates, hot dogs and condiments provided by the LCRR)

Richard Cory will provide Frito Lay products for lunch and DGRS will provide drinks

Bring a side dish or a dessert to share

Bring a chair

Next month will see our return to the Clements Center. If you're unable to make the August meeting, we look forward to seeing you September 27th!

Michele Miller

Publisher

Thank you for allowing me to serve as editor of this newsletter. It has been both a delightful learning experience and a curse as I swore at my computer and threatened to throw it into the trash or at least get a hammer and kill it. I must thank Pete Hendel for being my mentor and guide for many months before I finally got the hang of it. He has graciously continued to proofread and correct mistakes. A thankless task, but absolutely necessary. As a teacher, I was able to assign a grade to papers I struggled to read. Unfortunately, Pete's reward was listening to my frustrated sighs. I am leaving this position at the end of the year and am hopeful that someone will step up to keep the membership informed via this publication. We can all learn to do new things and you will become better and do more than you ever imagined if you agree to step into this opportunity.

Please send your stories, pictures, minutes and such to me no later than September 15.

Cherylene Evans