

PGRS TRACKIN'

The logo consists of the text 'PGRS TRACKIN'' in a large, bold, yellow, sans-serif font with a black outline. The word 'TRACKIN'' is partially obscured by a green steam locomotive with yellow accents, positioned on a set of brown tracks that recede into the distance.

Newsletter of the Piedmont Garden Railway Society

May 2017

Editor: Scott Williams

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After Trainfest I came home that evening totally 'Jazzed' and motivated for the coming season. I wondered though how many of us, like me, might be '**stuck**' in the "planning stage".

Jon Bole told me at Trainfest that the best advice he received early on was to get a loop of track down out in the yard and just get started. I saw a video interview on the Internet with the late Jim Strong, his son is Kevin Strong who writes many of the articles in Garden Railways magazine today, and in that interview he said the exact same thing. 'Start small and get something operational.' An old quote I found says; "Large streams from little fountains flow, Tall oaks from little acorns grow."

I think I get the message and it's "just get started". I've got a room with several large piles of track and I have a backyard, so I've decided this is the year to put the two together. I need to get started pretty soon as I'm going to be laid up later in the summer recovering from a pending surgery so now that the weather is nice I'm heading out back to lay out a basic loop of track. All I know is I want to start off with big radius curves and a pair of nice new larger radius switches I just bought but no other ideas so I'm just gonna throw some track on the grass and puzzle it out.

Now that Spring has sprung I hope other club members might be feeling the urge to move from the 'planning stage' to the 'running stage'. If so we all look forward to see what grows from the little acorns you all plant at your homes this year.

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First 2017 PGRS Open Houses Announced:

The PGRS has received two invitations for Open Houses. Please put these on your calendars.

The Apple Valley RR large scale group has scheduled an open house to be held at their layout behind the Hendersonville Train Depot. It will be held on Sunday May 21, 2017. Times and other details will follow in a separate email.

Jim and Helen Pitts have invited PGRS members to an open house at their Sugar Plum Express RR located on their beautiful Sugar Plum Farm in Plumtree, NC. It will be held on Saturday, June 10, 2017. Times and other details will follow in a separate email.

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PGRS Decals
Bill Huntman

I have worked with Stan Cedarleaf to develop some decals representing the PGRS. This a personal goal for my railroad, however, I am willing to share the results with interested club members. The logo sizes are suitable for typical Bachmann box car and for the larger 1:20.3 cars. If there is any interest in logos for the smaller scales, the logos can be resized to fit those scales.

The logos labeled 'Printed White' will appear on the decal as with white with no outlines or other markings.



The colored logos will appear on the decal in the colors shown.

The logos labeled 'Printed Black' will appear on the decal as black with no outlines or other markings.

I expect the cost of a set of logos (letters and the oval logo) to be approximately \$7-8. If you are interested in obtaining some of these decals, please contact me either by email or cell phone.

Email: whunteman@gmail.com Phone: 828-400-9982

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On a somber note, I received word that Tim Wagner's wife Kate may have suffered a mild stroke last week so please keep them in your thoughts and we'll hope for a favorable report from Tim soon.

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Notes from Larry Williams regarding the new club website;

How To Create An Account For the Piedmont Garden Railway Website

1. Log on to the PGRS Website at <https://piedmontgardenrailway.org>
2. In the upper right hand corner of your screen or in the slide out mobile menu, select the Member tab.
3. Once here click on the link under the user login section of the member's page.
4. In the center of the page towards the bottom you will see "New Users Register Here" click this to proceed to the Registration Page
5. You will next be prompted for a password which will is: PGRS2017 Then hit enter to proceed to the Registration Page.
6. Once you reach the Users Registration Page, you will be prompted to enter in your personal information. This is normal and you only need to fill out the "Red Starred" fields. Then finish by clicking the "Register" button.
7. Next, a conformation email will be sent to the email address you registered with. It will come in with the heading "WordPress" with the subject line "Piedmont Garden Railway Society Activate Test".
8. Open this email and click the link to confirm the account has been registered.
9. After clicking the link, you should be brought back to the website with a successful account creation message.
10. After you get the successful message proceed back to the members page to log in using your new account credentials.

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How To Reset Your Password For the Piedmont Garden Railway Website

1. Go to the Members Login Page and at the center towards the bottom will be "Recover Password" click this to proceed to the next page.
2. Enter your email that you registered your account with. (If you do not know this than contact the web admin to re-create a new account for you)
3. Click the button and go to your email for the next step.
4. Click the rest password link in your email. You should then be brought to the Recover password page.
5. Next, enter your new password two times, and click "Reset Password" at the bottom of the page.
6. You will then get sent a new email containing your new email address.
7. Finally proceed to back to the members login page and log in using your new credentials.

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The last circus trains....after 146 years Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus announced in January that the circus was closing for the last time. The owner corporation stated that many numerous factors finally lead to the demise of the circus in the 21st century. The pdf below shows the routes of the last red and blue train that the circus will run and the cars will be sold off.

<http://trn.trains.com/~media/files/pdf/map-of-the-month/trnm0417circustrain.pdf>

Member Photos:



About a month ago I had an orphan, half built, AristoCraft Warren Truss bridge land on my doorstep. When I received it several pieces were missing and a few errors had been made in the construction so I took it apart, ripped some new timbers on the band saw and found the

necessary nuts and bolts needed to finish it. I think it turned out pretty well and will find a place for it in the coming layout.

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Joe Phillips visits Spencer Rail Museum; Is he happy or what?





Thanks Joe for sharing photos of your visit to Spencer. What an amazing museum and so close to our club members that we should all put that on our, **To Do** list for this summer.

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Terry Ketcham sends this photo:

“Carr Lumber Co., # 3 climbs over the Davidson River as a couple of fishermen try their luck below the bridge on the Apple Valley's large scale Pisgah Valley RR.”



Thanks Terry for the Track Scene from the Apple Valley's PVC railway.

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“Hello Friends, I want to share with all of you a fun and whimsical train I installed at the Hendersonville Pediatrics, Brevard NC office. The little kids and the doctors, all love this train that travels around the two waiting rooms. I really enjoy the kid’s excitement as they follow the train around the rooms. Enjoy my cool train.”

Jim Hendley

I hope other PGRS Members will send me similar Train Photos and ‘Vignettes’ from around their layouts so we can all enjoy them.

Videos of Interest:

How to make Concrete Mountains on a G scale Garden Railroad

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0MuS9y0fj2Q>

How to make G-scale stone block tunnel portals and walls from foam insulation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RNNGJnAvH9A>

Norfolk & Western 611 - The American

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZsWKnS9L7g>

Mark Found-Garden Railway is a fun series, I wish PBS or someone would do an American Version of this type of program to promote the hobby, but these British programs are enjoyable to view. Here’s one on garden railway bridges where Mark interviews Richard Inge about his bridges. I think my favorite quote is Richard’s regarding scale and realistic modelling on your garden railway where he says; “It’s my railway, and I’ll jolly well do what I like with it.” So...there it is, do what you want on your own railway and to Heck with what anyone else thinks!!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lv4LMjGmsBY>

Two of the longest G scale trains on video.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98Fy_iHCGTA

and a record breaker pulled by one lone Big Boy:

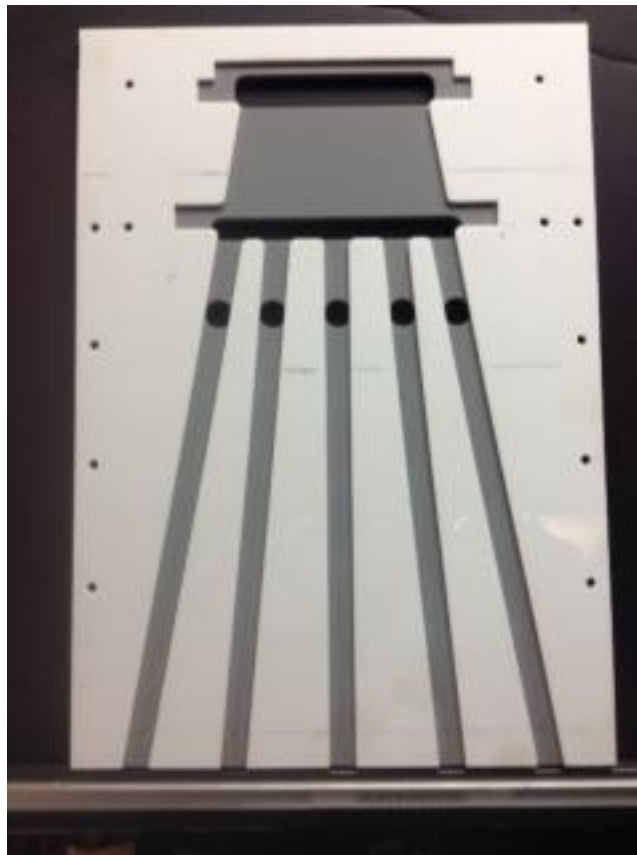
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fs7_fH0Bx5g

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**** A note on Trestle Bridges following that enjoyable video.**

Terry Ketcham, a member of the PGRS and the AVMRR sent me an email last week mentioning that the Apple Valley has purchased a "Black Bear Construction Co. Five leg trestle jig for G scale trestle construction."

Terry says: "It is available for any member to borrow." Check with Terry if this interests you.



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Trivia Question:

The Mallet Locomotive. Invented by the Swiss engineer Anatole Mallet [pronounced; Mal-lay, not Mallet.]

The essence of his idea combines articulation of the locomotive and compound steam use. The articulation was achieved by supporting the front of the locomotive on a bogie frame (called a Bissell truck); the compound steam system fed steam at boiler pressure to high-pressure cylinders for the main driving wheels. As the steam was exhausted from those cylinders, it was passed into a low-pressure receiver and was then sent to low-pressure cylinders to power the driving wheels on the Bissell truck.

How is it that these immense locomotives with their huge boilers, accomplishing the work of two engines running in tandem with just one crew, were still able to operate on existing tracks?

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** A reminder from Terry Ketcham that PGRS club members are invited to come by the Apple Valley Model Railroad Club in Hendersonville the last Saturday of each month to run their large scale trains on the club layout from 10 – 2 pm.

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Trivia Answer:

A UP film explaining how Big Boy did it...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXcD6ZdPR9k>

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Membership:

Please consider sharing this newsletter with friends who might be interested and if they wish to become members ask them to contact our PGRS Secretary/Treasurer for a membership form.

Don Watson
125 Mistletoe Trail
Hendersonville, NC 28791

docwatson@morrisbb.net

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Train Lover Luncheons:

The current luncheons are:

Columbus Area: Meets every Third Thursday of every month at Larkins Carolina Grill, 155 West Mills Street in Columbus, NC 28722. @ 1:00 PM. Contact Pete Gendron: 954-812-6270

Greater Greenville Area: Meeting the first Tuesday of every month - at 12 noon. It has been moved to Mutts in Greer as it is more centrally located for the greater Greenville area. Contact Ken Majchrzak at: kemajchrzak@gmail.com or call Ken at: 864-385-4951

Asheville Area: Meets the 4th Thursday each month. We meet at 11:30 AM at Gondolier Italian Restaurant and Pizza located at 1360 Tunnel Road, Asheville 28805. Contact Tim Wagner timwagner2012@gmail.com

The location is on the east end near the VA hospital, so it is recommended that you access Tunnel Road from I-40, exit 55. Take a left at the first light after you exit and a left at the next light. The venue will be on the right a few hundred yards from the intersection.

Winston Salem luncheons are currently being planned by Tony Potter and J.R. Snider.

Charlotte luncheons are meeting at Bubba's BBQ 4400 Sunset Rd. (exit 16, rte. I-77).
at 11:30am on the third Tuesday of each month.

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Thanks, and please help make our newsletters interesting!!!

Send any idea, project, photo, something you found surfing on the Internet, etc., no matter how great or small you may think them to be to your newsletter editor. We all love trains so...if it's about trains, and you've got it on your computer, chances are you won't be the only person who might enjoy reading about it.

Send your input to: srwavl@outlook.com

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Business Related to Our Hobby

Any Member who has a business related to our hobby is welcome to submit an entry for inclusion in PGRS Trackin' each month.



Garden Railroad Design
Old Trains Wanted

Jim's Train Sales

O & G Gauge New & Used Trains

Jim Hendley

Etowah, North Carolina 28729

Lionel, MTH, USA Trains, PIKO, LGB
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