

PGRS TRACKIN'



The Newsletter of the Piedmont Garden Railway Society

August 2022

Editor: Wayne Hamilton

Greetings

If anyone is interested in being a contributor, please contact me. Don't be surprised if I call you for a telephone interview about your layout progress. Those members with active layouts, please share with me a few photos to publish. If your layout has a theme or back story, also include that as well. Please send any idea, project, photo, something you found surfing on the Internet, etc., no matter how great or small they may be, to your newsletter editor. Send your materials to: railman1959@aol.com Thanks.

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Club Messages

The club layout is still for sale @ \$500.00. It will be taken apart next month if no one is interested and then we'll be selling the parts separately. It has 80' foot of track including 5' and 4' dia. curves. (Track has never been used outside) It includes 52 rail clamps and a transformer which runs 2 trains. If interested, please contact Fran Monahan @ 828-890-0890.

The Autumn Rails train show will be held Friday Sept. 30 from 12pm to 6pm and Saturday Oct. 1 from 10am to 4pm at the WNC Agricultural Center, Expo Building. The flyer is included as part of this month's newsletter.

Autumn Rails 2022



ALL ABOARD!

All Scales Model Railroad Show

www.fbe-nscale.org/autumn-rails/

Friday Sept. 30, 12PM to 6PM and Saturday Oct 1, 10AM to 4PM
 WNC Agricultural Center, Expo Building
 785 Boylston Hwy. (NC 280), Gate 5
 Fletcher, NC 28732

Admission \$6 Adults for both days of the show
 Kids under 12 and scouts in uniform FREE
 Railroading merit badge class starts at 10am Sat

Dozens of new and used model train, railroadians,
 hobby and toy vendors.

Operating layouts from Z to #1 scales

FREE PARKING **Door Prizes**

Dealer Tables \$35 for both days.
 Contact: Pam Swann
 828-226-0476
 PO BOX 1571 Arden, NC 28704
 FrenchBroadNpire@gmail.com



Presented by the
French Broad e'N'pire N Scale Club

As always, 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. Dues can be mailed to PGRS Secretary/Treasurer at:

Doc Watson
 125 Mistletoe Trail
 Hendersonville, NC 28791
docwatson@morrisbb.net

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Railfanning

A prototype to inspire a small garden railway layout.

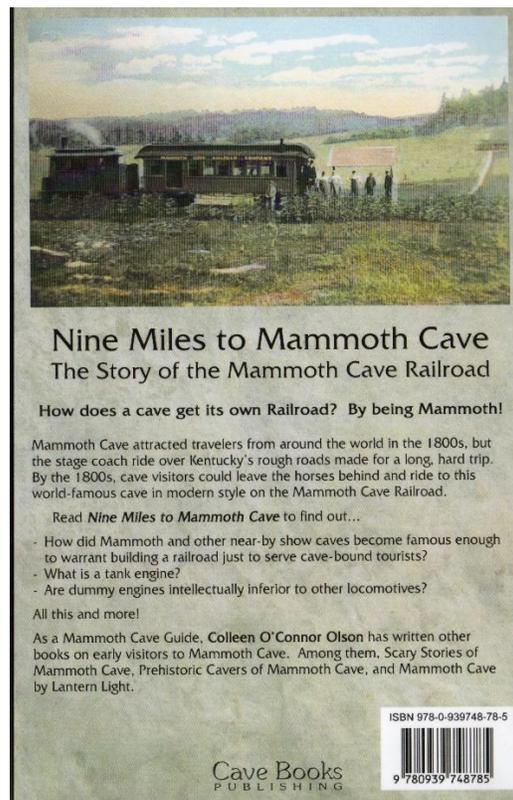


Mammoth Cave Railroad Locomotive "Hercules" #4 and Coach #2

Earlier this year we visited Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky. There is this equipment on display there. The neat thing about modeling this prototype is the limited structures, engines, and rolling stock needed, as the main park attraction of the cave is underground, so unmodelled. The LGB #2150 locomotive "Elias" and a Bachmann or LGB combine would be a good start for a kit-bashing project. It would make a great point to point layout. A little history on this railroad follows.

The Mammoth Cave Railroad played an important role in bringing more tourism to Mammoth Cave during its early development and it improved transportation for the local populace. It also served residents as an avenue of trade to ship farm products to the town of Glasgow Junction and bring back supplies from the merchants in town. The tiny 9-mile track from Glasgow Junction (Park City) to Mammoth Cave operated for 45 years. Between the ending of the Civil War and 1880 there were about 40,000 to 50,000 passengers annually on the L&N Railroad that stopped off at Glasgow Junction and then boarded a stagecoach to Mammoth

Cave. In 1874 Colonel Larkin J. Procter, who was the owner of the stagecoach line, chartered the Mammoth Cave Railroad with his brother George and other investors and leased the railroad rights to Mammoth Cave from the L&N Railroad. The new railroad acquired four used steam engine locomotives. They were Baldwin “dummy” steam engines formally used on the street railways in Memphis and Nashville, Tennessee. The reason the small steam Baldwin locomotive was called “dummy” was because it was boxed up to look like a passenger streetcar. They also acquired two wooden passenger coaches and two wooden combination coaches and baggage cars. The Mammoth Cave Railroad was a short rail line with a small train. This “dummy” type locomotive and its accompanying combine coach were among the last of their kind used in the United States. The final run of the Mammoth Cave Railroad occurred in 1931. The original Locomotive “Hercules” #3 was unable to make the last run, so Locomotive #4 was renamed “Hercules” to keep with tradition. Today, visitors can still travel by foot or bicycle on the rail path as the abandoned line was converted to the Mammoth Cave Bike and Hike Trail in 2004. Another great source for information is this book I purchased, and I would be happy to loan out if interested.



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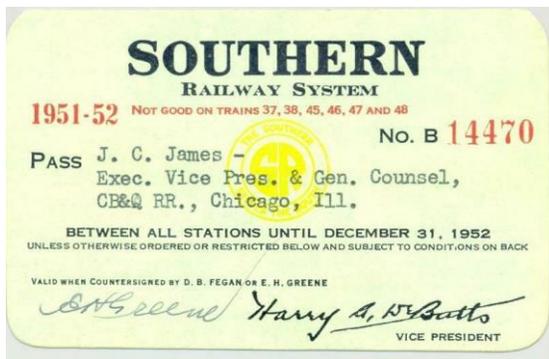
The Backshop – Modeling Tips and Projects

Railroad Passes

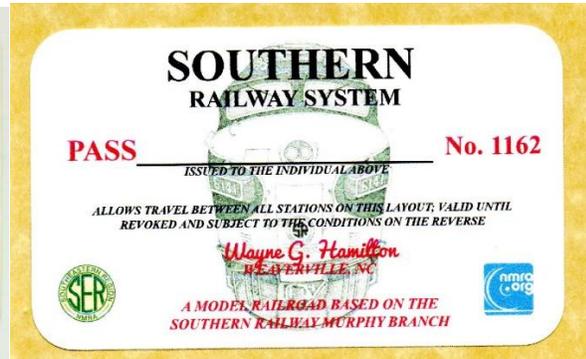
From years of government service, I can confirm that the job isn't done until the paperwork is filed. So, this month we'll tackle a simple paperwork project, the Railroad Pass. Prototype railroads used to issue passes to employees to travel on their trains on company business. Railroad officials would often issue exchange passes with officials of other railroads, so they could travel farther afield than their own lines.

This practice was picked up by model railroaders, who made passes for their own model layouts. Most likely these passes for model railroads were first used as invitations to others to visit their layouts. This developed into a sub-hobby within model railroading, with modelers exchanging and collecting passes from all over the world.

Pass collecting does not appear to be as popular as it once was. With the popularity of the computers and the Internet, the latest versions of model railroad passes are "e-passes" that modelers exchange by e-mail or from their web sites. However, the NMRA still has a [Railroad Pass Contest | National Model Railroad Association \(nmra.org\)](#). Making passes on a home computer is easy. I used Avery brand 3 x 5 index card stock. (Item#5388) This includes 3 prescored cards per sheet and allows you to use their free design software on-line. www.avery.com/print These can be used with either inkjet or laser printers. You can even design a reverse scheme and run the sheet through your printer a second time to print the back.



Prototype Pass – Front



My Layout Pass - Front

The disadvantage of the Avery product is the only card color available is white with square corners. I purchased off Amazon a corner cutter to round the edges to make my pass look more prototypical. You could print on plain colored paper but must cut them out yourself. As with the real railroad, you may even keep a record of honoring the passes like the Southern Railway did below. Well..... that may be a little too much paperwork.

P. Form PIC

Southern Railway System
 CONDUCTOR'S REPORT OF PASS
 HONORED BUT NOT LIFTED.

1. Train.....Date.....19.....

2. Card Pass No.
 Trip Pass No.....P. O. Commission No.....

3. From.....

4. To.....

5. Company Business () Personal Trip ().....
 If 1 or more use pass, No. Pgrs. Carried
 check each and reason.

6. Coach.....Pullman.....

7. Favor.....

8. Account.....

9. Employing Company.....
 (R. R., Ry. Expr. Agcy., Pullman, Western Union, Bureaus, Assns., etc.)

Passengers will fill in lines 1 to 9, incl. Conductors will see that all information is shown, punch and forward with ticket collections to Auditor Passenger Accounts.

: Conductors :
 : Punch :

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Railroad Trivia

Railroads just don't toot their locomotive whistles or horns for no reason. Every toot has a meaning. Some of the most common "whistle talk" is listed below. Can you "engineers" remember what your engines should "say" at the appropriate time?? Answers later in this newsletter.

Each  means a short toot, while a  means a long toot.

1. 
2.  
3.    
4.    

- 5. ○ ○ ○
- 6. ▬
- 7. ▬ ▬ ○
- 8. ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
- 9. ○ ○ ○ ▬

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MEMBER PHOTOS & THOUGHTS

Last summer my wife and I (Wayne & Leona) went on an extended camping vacation out west. We road some of the more popular tourist trains and this lesser known one, the Cripple Creek and Victor Narrow Gauge Railroad in Colorado.





All are their passenger engines are coal-fired two-foot narrow gauge locomotives. The Number 1 is an Orenstein and Koppel built in 1902 0-4-4-0 articulated mallet. The Number 2 engine is a Henschel built in 1936 0-4-0, built in Germany. The Number 3 is a Porter built in 1927 0-4-0 tank engine. The Number 4 engine is the Bagnall built in 1947 0-4-4-0T, this engine is currently being restored. Besides the four passenger engines the Railroad owns another locomotive. It is a 1951 General Electric, four-wheel, Diesel-Electric engine, originally battery operated for underground work at the Idarado Mine near Telluride. The engine is currently being used by the track crew. You can see this tiny “engine” in the background of the second photo above.

Hosting an Open House by Randy Theis

The fun part of a garden railroad. Our community recently had a week where all of the grandkids came up for activities. I opened up my layout and had several groups come and run Mr. Randy’s trains. I realized I hadn’t run the trains since the beginning of Covid, so it forced me to get some much-needed maintenance performed. The enjoyment was well worth it. Share your hobby with the youth in your neighborhood by having a “Train Day” at your house. My only suggestions are to do it by appointment and limit to 4 kids at a time and make sure the train speeds are limited. Everyone wants to go as fast as they go.



More Photos of the Slick Rock Logging and Mining Co. By Randy Theis



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Railroad Trivia Answers

1. Apply Brakes. Stop
2. Release Brakes. Proceed.
3. Flagman, go back and protect the rear of the train.
4. Approaching a highway crossing at grade.

5. When standing, to back up. When running, to stop at the next passenger station.
6. Approaching stations, junctions, and railroad crossings
7. Approaching meeting, or waiting, points of trains.
8. Several short toots are an alarm for persons or livestock on the tracks.
9. Flagman, protect the front of the train.

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Businesses associated with our Club



Jim's Train Sales

O & G Gauge New & Used Trains

Jim Hendley

Etowah, North Carolina 28729

Lionel, MTH, USA Trains, PIKO, LGB
Bridgwerks Power Supplies, Bachmann
Split-Jaw Rail Clamps, O & G Gauge Track

Garden Railroad Design, New and Used Track
You can now reach Jim at: hendleyjim4@gmail.com
Or....(828) 333-2523



Peggy Keyes
Owner / Chief Conductor
RightTrackTrainMuseum@gmail.com
828,625-5551

The Right Track Toy Train Museum
A non-profit museum to benefit Pancreatic Cancer
research
2414 Memorial Hwy (Rte 64/74)
Lake Lure, NC 28746
Find us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/The-Right-Track-Toy-Train-Museum-141291999274246/>

I am planning to close the Right Track Toy Train Museum at the end of 2023. Hours for both years are Fri., Sat., Sun 1- 5 PM.

2022 - everything that is for sale in the museum - 20% off.

2023 - everything that is for sale in the - 50% off.

A reminder to all our members of the Train Lovers Luncheons:

The Asheville Train Lovers Luncheons are on every 2nd Thursday of the month at the Post 25 restaurant in Arden, NC at 11:30.

The Greater Greenville Train Lovers Luncheons. They are on the first Tuesday of every month at the A&P Restaurant in Greer starting at 11:30 AM.

The Columbus Luncheons at Rural Seed are held at 12:00 on the Third Thursday of each month.

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Web Bits

Here are some more YouTube channels which may be of interest to our members:

7idea Productions

Stone Wall Rail Road

MrGardenRailroads

Olli's Railroad

G Scale Jake

Mike and Cheryl Newell

Scott Williams shares that he has been enjoying photos of some of the layouts that were open houses at the National Garden Railway Convention. Bill Davies went and told him there were about 40 garden railroads open in the area and he visited them all. Sure wish we had more in our area!!

Here's a video link to photos:

[Denver Railroads by GR News - YouTube](#)

He also shared these video links, since it's SO cool to see this massive engine running again.

[Western Maryland Scenic Railway C&O H-6 1309 - YouTube](#)

[Western Maryland 1309: Allegheny Winter Freight Service \(4K\) - YouTube](#)

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