



# The FIREBOX



Official Newsletter of the

## Carillon Park Rail & Steam Society

Oct 11, 2023

1000 Carillon Blvd, Dayton, Ohio 45409

[www.CPRSS.org](http://www.CPRSS.org)

### Upcoming Events:

- 1) CPRSS meeting Saturday, **October 14 at 10 AM** at the track under the shelter.  
**The CPRSS meeting starts at → 10 AM ←** Plan to be early so you're not late.
- 2) Work Days are Tuesdays & Saturdays starting about 10 AM at the track in good weather.
- 3) The **LAST** regular season public train run is Saturday, Oct 21 from 1 to 4 PM.
- 4) The Dayton Train show is Nov 4 & 5 at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds.
- 5) The Carillon Christmas train runs begin Nov 21 and run every night through Dec 30, 2023.

**Oct 14:** CPR&SS meeting topics: **Nov election of new officers for the 2024-2025 term**, Dayton Train show plans, track restoration progress and planning, work days, train runs, etc.

**Members:** Club memberships **EXPIRE on March 31**. You **MUST** be a member to run **ANY** equipment at the track. For memberships, sign up at the track or send an email to: Larry Wassell, [Reilmann6240@att.net](mailto:Reilmann6240@att.net) or postal mail to 2824 Vale Dr., Kettering OH 45420. For info also see the Membership page at: [www.CPRSS.org](http://www.CPRSS.org)

CPR & SS 2022/23 Officers(\*) and others:

\***President:** Jim Eaton 812-603-6275

[Jim.Eaton@CPRSS.org](mailto:Jim.Eaton@CPRSS.org)

\***Vice President:** Norm Gibson

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\***Treasurer:** Bob Schwenke 937-572-3411

[RBSchwenke50@AOL.com](mailto:RBSchwenke50@AOL.com)

\***Secretary:** Ken Hemmelgarn 937-275-9589

[Ken.Hemmelgarn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Ken.Hemmelgarn@sbcglobal.net)

**Membership, Engine Maintenance,**

**& Special Runs:** Lawrence Wassell

937-293-3615 [Reilmann6240@att.net](mailto:Reilmann6240@att.net)

**Safety Committee:** Ken Hemmelgarn

**Boiler Inspections:** Ken Hemmelgarn

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**Newsletter, Website, Volunteer Hours:**

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Above is the raffle prize donated by Dennis Gilbert which will be raffled off at the Dayton Train Show. The show runs two days, Nov 4 & 5 and is held at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds on the west side of Dayton, Ohio. Dennis has donated a train-related LEGO prize for many years (15 or more) and it is always a big hit with show attendees. The raffle tickets are sold at the show and the drawing occurs on Sunday near closing time.

Below are engineer Bob H and conductor Howard W on 7695 carrying a full passenger load during the Sept 17 Concours d'Elegance classic car show. This yearly show is always well attended and we get a constant flow of passengers as a result. You can also see a lot of track work in progress.



At left are (L-R) Jim H, Larry W, and Bob H behind a stack of 4 curved track sections they have just completed (the stack on the right side). These are the first 4 sections put together using the rail bender build by John L from a Harbor Freight tubing bender. The rails are steel West Coast type "T" rails bent to a 50 foot radius and the plastic ties are from [Accu-Tie](#) that have molded in tie plates with a 7 5/8" spacing. To bend the "T" rails, three new rolling dies needed to be machined and installed in the bender.

The left hand stack are two rail sections (numbered F1 & F2) removed from the east side of the fiberglass tunnel area and are planned to go back there when time permits.





At left are Thom P (holding the red impact driver) and Bob H attaching a joint bar to two rail sections. We have gone through a long learning process trying to find an acceptable approach to re-attaching the rail sections together. We started using hex head  $\frac{1}{4}$ " – 20 (NC) bolts but found the wheel flanges impacted the bolt head. Then we tried a few other bolt head styles but these also were impacted by the flanges. We are now using 12 point  $\frac{1}{4}$ " – 28 (NF) which have a very small head and are working fine. The white coating is concrete overspray from the 3 foot RR workers.

Below is Ken H grinding rails preparing them for welding. This is back by the far west gate where the track was mangled by the 3 foot RR construction workers. All fixed now.



Above are (L-R) Mark F, Jon F, and Bob S working on the block wall and doing ballasting under the third arch. The wall was needed to move the track behind the group more toward the arch's center to gain extra head clearance for train riders under the arch.



Below are (L-R) Bob S, Bob H, Ken H, Thom P, and Larry W connecting the two switches on the west side of the engine house on the Sept 26 work day. These two switches connect the rightmost two tracks and do what the old "escape" track did before. You can get from the rightmost track to the next track and can then back up to get into the yard. With the switches being put in place, the tracks can now be built back through the big tunnel in the background.



At left is Greg D on his tractor back filling the wall under the third arch on the Sept 30 work day. Greg also did some additional final grading on the track way behind him in this picture and it is now ready for track to be laid there.



Below left are (L-R) Bob S, Greg D (on tractor) and Jim E doing more grading at the west gate. Some grading had been done here a couple months ago (by Greg and the group) which allowed the track in this picture to be built here. This extra grading provides better access for any trucks that may need to enter here and it also better protects the track from the trucks.



Above right is Mike H taking on water during the Oct 7 run day.



At left is Ken H on the Oct 7 run day putting out some nice looking steam. It was a bit cool so that always makes the steam look great.

At right are three trains on the Oct 7 run day. Bob S is working on the track and has his work train behind him. By the engine house is Mike H and wife Terry on their Shay, and in the far back is club loco 7695 carrying passengers.



**Oct 2023**



At left are Jim H (sitting) and Howard W behind a big pile of plastic ties they have just cut. The club bought recycled plastic 2x2's which are cheaper and can be cut to lengths we need. Below is a switch that Jim and Howard installed the new (gray) ties on the Oct 10 work day.



Miscellaneous links: **Check each website for the most recent updates and additional details.**

[Mill Creek Central](#): See website for all meets and work days. The next meets are the Fall Blow Down: Oct 12 – 15 and the last meet of 2023 is the Turkey Run: Nov 24 – 25. Safety chains between RR cars are mandatory now. See the website for the latest details.

[FortWayneRailRoad.org](#) Excursions are ongoing. See website.

[Cincinnati Cinder Sniffers](#)

[Indiana Live Steamers](#)

[Lebanon Railroad](#)

[Age Of Steam Roundhouse](#) Roundhouse Tours: Through Nov: Thu, Fri, & Sat. The LAST Ferroequinologist tour of 2023 is Nov 11, 2023. See website for details and other activities.

[UP.com/heritage/steam/](#) 4014 Home Run Express – recently completed. See website for next event.

[LiveSteam.Net](#) Live Steam & Outdoor Railroading magazine – Articles, vendors, other clubs and schedules.

[DiscoverLiveSteam.com/](#) Live steam and diesel model RR – Locos & items for sale, vendors, articles, etc.

[WhiteCreekRR.com](#) No more meets listed for 2023. See website.