Kathy Perry Final Departure

Another one of our dear members has passed away. Kathy Perry fought cancer for a long time and succumbed on Monday, 15 June 2015. Kathy and Tom were frequently seen at the various train shows that we did over the years, especially the Dothan, Fairhope and Foley train shows. Kathy enjoyed running her 2-8-8-2 Mikado with its green Southern paint scheme and loud sound. When it graced the rails, Kathy's loco was a definite crowd pleaser to both big and little kids. It ran on Saturday, 20 June, and caught the eye of another little railroad engineer as he followed it around the Jordan Lot on Loop #1.

Kathy and Tom were regular participants at our train show and dinners in Dothan and Foley. Kathy always had a smile on her face and was always very friendly. Her quick wit produced lots of humorous cracks and comments.

Tom and Kathy enjoyed traveling in their RV trailer. Tom's big truck pulled the big heavy trailer all over the place. One trip included up to Alaska and back. Think that trailer got replaced...
after the trip, and it was not because of a polar bear.

Kathy mothered two sons (hence the grey hairs) and was grandmother to two granddaughters. Kathy grew up in Palm Beach County, Florida. Jackson County was Tom and Kathy's home in 2006. Where they did a lot of work for Toys For Tots annual Christmas toy campaign.

The memorial service for Kathy was held Saturday, 27 June 2015, at the St. Anne's Catholic Church of Marianna FL. It was a nice small church with exposed beams. Father James did a nice service. Tom spoke at the service about Kathy and how much he missed her and what she meant to him. The reception afterwards was very nice and had plenty of good home-cooked food.

Tom and Kathy were at the February monthly Club meeting. That was the last time we all saw Kathy at the Jordan Lot. Kathy will be greatly missed, especially at the Jordan Lot and those train show dinners. Tom and Kathy joined the Club in January 2009.

Tom sent the Club a thank you card for all of the well wishes sent his way. If you wish, the family suggested memorials be made to Toys for Tots.

**Tallahassee Train Show**

The Big Bend Model Railroad club guys held their annual train show. It was a one-day show held Saturday, 27 June 2015, at the Tallahassee Fairgrounds. They used two buildings again this time and both buildings were full of vendor tables and various model railroad layouts.

Will Davis (former ECGRC member) was there with his live steam locos scooting around their elevated two-track set up in the back of Building 1. Another local guy, Ron, and his wife set up a one-track G scale display using tan felt under the track on banquet tables. They used colored sawdust to create scenes on the tan felt around the tracks. It looked really nice and worked well. Ron ran battery operated steam locomotives on his G scale railroad.

Ed Dice set up the WFRM info display board. This year the RR Museum's display spot was located in the middle of the first building. Ed arrived early (yawn), set up the display, put out the handouts and info cards, then ran over to Marianna (thru some seriously heavy rain storms), then back to Tallahassee by 2 PM.

The train show was a one-day show and closed at 4 PM on Saturday. While some vendors complained about skimpy crowds and lackluster sales, Porky Bacon did very well with all of his t-shirts, wooden letter trains, and other train related items. There were at least two vendors selling G scale trains, albeit one was a bit pricey.

The Florida rain showers popped up all over the area. Fortunately, an afternoon heavy shower was gone by the 4 PM pack up and load up, so the vendors and everyone did not have to contend with rain at the end of the day.

Sorry no pictures of the train show. The camera did not make it into the building. At the show were Jack Grill, Susan & Bob Cope, Tim & Ed Levins, Bill & Steff Carrington. Did not notice anyone else from the Club there. All in all, it was a very good one-day show.

**New Member**

Jenny & David Rouse of Pensacola joined the ECGRC in late May. They have a teenage son, Stone. Stone is a railroading fanatic. He loves running his G trains at the Jordan Lot.

AND, Stone is very knowledgeable about the myriad of locomotive types and model numbers.

REMINDER: Wear your **name tag** at the Jordan Lot.
Flomaton RR Depot

Keith Rapley has been busy with his construction job. Keith has been building the Flomaton Railroad Depot, or a detailed model of it. Seems this is a fairly accurate true-to-scale model. Keith is building it for Dayon Sheppard of Jay FL. That is Dan Jr to some of us. This is a very large structure and is even bigger than the Milton Railroad Depot that Keith built and brings to the train shows.

This Flomaton RR Depot will sit in Dayon's rebuilt G scale layout. It will occupy a large footprint on the railroad there.

North wing progressing - pic by Keith Rapley

Middle section coming up - pic by Keith Rapley

North wing early construction - pic by Keith Rapley

South wing at 42” long - pic by Keith Rapley

Siding 2/3rds done - pic by Keith Rapley

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So far the total length of the Flomaton Station model is seven feet. That is one big footprint.

What is next, Keith? The Empire State Building? Or will it be Grand Central Station?
NAME TAG

Remember to wear your name tag at the Jordan Lot. It helps the public know who is who around the Garden Railroad and the Riding Train. PLUS! it helps some of the old guys remember names.

There is a storage cabinet in the Train Shed at the Jordan Lot. It was the old 30" x 30" portable cabinet that we took to various train shows back in 2004 and 2005. It held the name tags for everyone. Well, it has been resurrected and placed back into service. You name tag can be stored there so it is always handy and you can find it.

If you still need another name tag, contact Ed Dice for a replacement name tag.

Train Mountain

Orlando Gomez and friends went out to Train Mountain in Oregon for a train vacation. Train Mountain has 35.5 miles of 7-1/2" gauge track. A true mecca of 1/8 scale trains. Orlando explained that a trip out on the tracks took at least four hours. That is a long time for a single lap out and back.

That four hour trip would equate to about 20 minutes for a single lap at the Jordan Lot. Think not that much patience at the Jordan Lot to take that much time to run the rails.

The yards at Train Mountain are H-U-G-E!!! And there is a full 360 degree turntable with tracks all of the way around. The whole place is a beehive of activity. Can you overdose on trains? What would the ER docs call it?

Most of the mainlines at Train Mountain are two-tracked for some interesting meets. You can check out their website at http://www.trainmountain.org/ - lots of cool information, pictures and videos.

Party Time

At the July monthly Club meeting, 11 July 2015, Lorene Fasnacht threw a wonderful birthday party for Bob's 75th birthday. There was lots of great food for the luncheon plus ice cream and a birthday cake. Well done, Lorene!
Wonderful and plenty of food, BBQ and potato salad excellent.

Workshop Swap

Ed has a wood lathe that he inherited from his Dad. It has seen service, but not hard service. It was made by Sears many years ago. Includes a bunch of chisel tools for carving the spinning wood.

Looking to swap it for a drill press. Anyone interested?

Dothan Train Show

Our next train show is Dothan 19-20 Sept 2015. We have participated with this train show for several years now. Set up is on Friday morning and usually takes all day. Then off to a group dinner. The train show is two days and has lots of vendors with different sorts of trains and related items. Something for everyone.

We usually get an inside spot that is about 25' x 40' or so. Sometimes they give us a little extra. Being right by the roll-up door helps speed unloading and pack-up.

Normally we get several tracks set down and operating. Plenty of track for folks to run on and plenty of train running time.

The group dinners on Friday and Saturday evenings are great. We usually catch a steak or BBQ place one night and a seafood place the other night. We have a great time.
Lots of eager hands make quick work of the set up and take down at Dothan. If you want to help or participate, let Ed know ahead of time, so you are kept in the loop as things happen and details are worked out.

## Fall Swap Meet

The date for the Fall Tailgate Swap Meet has been set for 17 Oct 2015.

Last April we had a wet swap meet. While we did not get the heavy rain storms that the weather radar predicted as did the weatherman and all of the "local experts with free advice", we did end up with some light rain. Because of all the warnings and wailing of teeth, we got everyone shoved under cover. Even used the Waiting Room for some folks. It was hectic, fast paced and a tad confusing. But it all worked out OK.

The swap meets have been very popular with all or almost all of the seller spots reserved and filled up. If you want to have a selling spot, let Ed know BY EMAIL so things can be logged and arranged.
Events and Dates

21 June - Fathers' Day
27 June - Tallahassee train show
27 June - Kathy Perry memorial service
4 July - Independence Day
11 July - RR Museum Board meeting
11 July - ECGRC meeting; Fasnacht b'day party
19 July - Ice Cream Day
26 July - Parents Day
29 July - Lasagna Day
8 Aug - RR Museum Board meeting, 9:30am
8 Aug - ECGRC meeting, Noon
7 Sept - Labor Day
11 Sept - Patriots Day
12 Sept - RR Museum Board meeting, 9:30am
12 Sept - ECGRC meeting, Noon
13 Sept - Grandparents Day
17 Sept - Citizenship Day
19-20 Sept - Dothan train show
26 Sept - Mobile train show

22-26 Sept - Baldwin County Fair
10 Oct - RR Museum Board meeting, 9:30am
10 Oct - ECGRC meeting, Noon
12 Oct - Columbus Day
24 Oct - Atmore William Station Day, train show
22 Oct - 1 Nov - Pensacola Interstate Fair
31 Oct - Halloween
1 Nov - Daylight Savings ends
11 Nov - Veterans' Day
14 Nov - RR Museum Board meeting, 9:30am
14 Nov - ECGRC meeting, Noon
21-22 Nov - Pensacola train show
26 Nov - Thanksgiving
27 Nov - Black Friday

Health & Welfare

Bobbie Dorner - "Since Raps and I missed our Annual Anniversary 'shooting the Curl' at Maui due to a previous commitment, things are quiet here. I see a new surgeon Thursday [9 July]. Is anyone available for bail if he says "no"???? Everyone take care, and enjoy the summer! B&R + "Words from the new doctor is hip replacement surgery for Bobbie on August 10th and the other side two to three months later. He looked at her X-rays and immediately said let's get you fixed. Works for me. Rap"
**Frank Paine** - "Nothing to have reported."

**Ian & Barb Sinclair** - "We be fine. Barb & Ian"

**Margaret Bryant** - "Sorry, I have no 'hot photos' and that other 'stuff'. However, I am having a good summer so far. A couple of the G scale club members are having open house days, but not me. Say 'Hello' to everyone for me. - Margaret"

**Lorene & Bob Fasnacht** - Lorene had a bang up birthday party for Bob on 11 July for his 75th.

**Tom Perry** - "Sunny day outside with my puppy - Tom"

**Mike Stokes** - Mike got to get one of his bucket list items checked off with his ride in the cab of a real, live steam locomotive.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

4 Apr - Becky & Alan Cox anniversary

12 Apr - Stew & Sue Church anniversary

15 Apr - Frank Paine birthday

20 Apr - Mary Caraway birthday

20 Apr - Charlie & Cheryl Retherford anniversary

22 Apr - Sue Church birthday

28 Apr - Danielle Stokes birthday

3 May - Caden Reasner birthday

6 May - Caleb & Caylee Reasner birthdays

13 May - Lorene Fasnacht birthday

15 May - Jim & Edith Gaul anniversary

18 May - Colin Reasner birthday

22 May - Andy Sloan birthday

26 May - Angie Gomez birthday

27 May - Mike & Danielle Stokes anniversary

8 June - Chris Reasner birthday

10 June - Chris & Cara Reasner anniversary

15 June - Stephanie & Bill Carrington anniversary

23 June - Bobbie Dorner & Keith Rapley anniversary

1 July - Angie & Orlando Gomez anniversary

4 July - Pat Stevens birthday

6 July - Stephanie Carrington birthday

10 July - Terry Tucker birthday

11 July - Orlando Gomez birthday

12 July - Bobbie Dorner birthday

12 July - Caitlyn Reasner birthday

14 July - Bob Fasnacht birthday

15 July - Bill Carrington birthday

17 July - Olga Mobley birthday

18 July - Cyler Reasner birthday

20 July - Anne Kashynski birthday

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24 July - Bob Cope birthday
25 July - Jonathan Cox birthday
7 Aug - Dee Miller birthday
17 Aug - Anne & John Kashynski anniversary
29 Aug - Cara Reasner birthday
1 Sept - Becky Cox birthday
12 Sept - Tom & Rebe Walkup anniversary
13 Sept - Tom Walkup birthday
21 Sept - Rebe Walkup birthday
24 Sept - April Tucker birthday

We do NOT have ALL of the Club members’ dates for birthdays or anniversaries. Fine, if you do not want to be reminded nor let other folks know. But, if you do want to list them, then remember to let Ed know and please, be sure correct dates. Bad dates are like a nasty cold that never goes away. Everyone stay healthy and happy. - - Ed

**CSX Activities**

The CSX trains have been cruising by the Depot. Seems some of the freight trains, like #609 and #605, have gotten longer. Now up to 140 cars on each train. In the past they were around 60 cars.

A very long hopper train of about 164 cars loaded with rock or coal came thru. The loaded train was so heavy that CSX had a mid-train locomotive in the middle of the train. And that mid-train loco was working hard as it went by the depot. The train was headed to the East. First time that we have seen a mid-train loco power by with a very heavy train.

Track work continues on the roadbeds in the Milton and Pensacola areas. There have been lots of track inspectors cruising back and forth in their hi-rail trucks. Looking and looking, inspecting and inspecting. Hope they find any problems before it turns into a really messy and big problem.

**Pensacola Train Show**

Terry Tucker, of Pensacola Model Railroad Club, announced that the next Pensacola Train Show is scheduled for 21-22 November 2015. That is the weekend before Thanksgiving. This will be held at the Hadji Temple building on Nine Mile Road.

The ECGRC has been asked to set up on the stage again with some G scale trains again.

Pensacola Train Show G scale train display November 2014

Terry passed along that set up is expected to start on that Friday, 20 Nov, at 10 AM. Wonder if we will be the very last ones out of the hall again? If you want to participate, we can use the hands. Set up of the G scale track will be on Friday. Not yet sure what the track plan will be. More on that later.

Then we will need engineers for train running and staffing during the train show on both Saturday and Sunday. Then there is take-down, pack up and load it all up. Need lots of hands to help make a big job small, to get things down and speed things up. Maybe we can **NOT** be the last ones out this year.

[Volunteer]

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April - May - June 2015
Track Codes

The different brands of track can be confusing to folks. LGB is the oldest brand. Aristo-Craft and USA Trains arrived next. Then Piko and finally Bachmann brands. There are other lesser known brands like Sunset Valley and Accucraft but they focus on flexible track where you bend you own curves.

We use primarily Aristo-Craft track at the Jordan Lot Garden Railroad. And we also use mostly Aristo-Craft track for the traveling road show.

Fortunately, Aristo-Craft track matches, for the most part, the USA Trains limited assortment of track. Aristo-Craft had the most variety of track types, from 4' diameter to 20' diameter.

Now LGB and Piko are rather different. They both use metric measurements for their assortment of track types, and R-labels for different sized curved tracks. The R1 track in LGB is 1100 mm in diameter. Piko also offers an R1 track. Both LGB and Piko R1 sized track matches pretty close to Aristo-Craft and USA Trains 4' diameter curved track. I have heard of R7 and R9 but not yet able to track it down, may be just for curves in very large turnouts.

A heads up word to the wise (aka deaf ears). Track measurements are not exactly precise, especially in G gauge track. Even within the same brand, like Aristo-Craft track, the same type can vary just a little bit between production runs or the variability of the rails in the ties. For example, the Aristo-Craft 20' diameter type track is not REALLY 20' in diameter. The curved sections can and do vary in either direction, wider or narrower. One time it could be 19' 8" and the next time with the same pack of track it will come out to 20' 6" in diameter. It sure gets challenging to fit the 20' track sections onto the wooden planks for the elevated track. "Well, dang, it did work just fine last time at the xxx show! Give me another 6-inch piece."

Aristo-Craft sizes for curved track:
4', 5', 6.5', 8', 9', 10', 11.5', 12.5', 14', 15', 16.5', 20'

USA Train sizes for curved track:
4', 5', 8', 10', 16', 20'

LGB sizes for curved track:
R1/1100 (1200mm) 4' dia.,
R2/1500 (1560mm) 5' dia.,
R3/1600 (2390mm) just under 8' dia.,
R5/1800 (4640mm) about 15' dia.

Piko sizes for curved track:
R1 - 4' dia., R2 about 6' dia., R3 - 8' dia.

Bachmann sizes for curved track:
4', 5', 8'

We will visit this topic again. So if you have more accurate info, data or details, pass them onto Ed.

On The Road

C.J. Griggs does more than concentrate on the road when he is tripping across the county in his big truck. C.J. manages to visit some railroad sights in between his stops.

A very nice string of Union Pacific locomotives in their yellow livery with the prominent US Flag emblazoned on the side. OK, "Experts", who can name the model type of the diesels?

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April - May - June 2015
The Granite City hump yard has the Terminal Railroad Association (TRRA) red/white locos pulling out a long train of covered hoppers in March 2015. OK, how many cars are there?

Also On The Road

Other Club members have been busy visiting other railroads, too. Ben Love went on a 611 steam loco excursion recently. He has been asked to prepare a report, so feel free to bug him.

Also, Mike Stokes got to visit some scenic excursion railroads over in the Colorado area. Again, he has been asked to prepare a report, so also feel free to bug him.

Remember, Mike and Ben, we need pictures, too!

Jordan Lot

Well, the Jordan Lot refrigerator in the Train Shed is on its last legs. It served Andy Sloan many years before he donated it several years ago, like in 2009. Right now it is freezing up after a couple weeks of operation. We have been able to mitigate that by turning it off for a couple of days then plugging it back in and it cools fine for several days to a couple of weeks. It has been a trusty old frig keeping our drinks good and cool over the years in a very harsh environment.

We are hoping that another frig will be donated to us. But we have to wait and see if that happens. Otherwise, we will work towards getting a new frig once the size issue is discussed and then decided.

And no, we cannot get a frig with a keg tap in the door.

Also at the Jordan Lot, we got the isolated frogs powered via manual switches in the pedestal control panels. These frog switches operate left-to-right instead of the block switches which operate up-down. Remember to check the switches before cruising thru the #6 turnouts. If it is set wrong, there will be a short and the fuse will blow.

The isolated frog switches in the East end and West end control boxes are tiny switches. Their normal operating position is center for off, so no danger of a short circuit. IF you want to run a short wheel-based loco, like an 0-4-0, you need to throw the frog switch to the right for normal mainline run thru or to the left for siding or crossover run thru. If you are confused ask Ed before you damage your equipment. We try and keep it simple and reliable.

The center pedestal control box handles the crossovers for Loop #1 to Loop #2. This is a temporary placement but fully operational. The switches are larger here versus the East or West end control boxes.