

Flagman's Box Editorial

Subscription renewal time is always a little crazy around here. On the one hand we are trying to maintain a semblance of normality in our daily lives, doing what needs to be done, trying to get the next issue of Garden Railways off to the printer, and on the other hand, we are deluged with mail on a continual basis.

And with the renewals come the questionnaires. It has been quite interesting to go through them and record the information. Some trends are already beginning to surface. There were some things which were just as we expected and there were some surprises, too. The final results will be published in a later issue, along with some comments, both from subscribers and maybe one or two of our own. In any event, we wish to sincerely thank all of you who took the time to fill out the questionnaire and return it to us. We feel that the body of knowledge gleaned from these will be a valuable asset both to the magazine and to the hobby.

We've had to cut back on the number of pages in this issue for reasons of economy, but we will try to get the page count back up soon. We have, however, retained the color cover, and we expect this to be a standard feature of the magazine from now on. Eventually we plan to have some interior color as well, but that must wait for now.

Cover photo: #2, a 16mm scale battery-powered steam outline loco, rounds the curve on the Lloyd County Railroad. To read about operations on this interesting garden railway, turn to page 15. Photo: M. Horovitz

Hotline

If you have any questions about garden railways, small scale live steam, or related topics, or if you would just like to chat, we invite you to use our Monday Night Hotline. Just call (303) 377-4777 between 6pm and 9pm, Mountain Time, on any Monday night. We regret that we are unable to accept collect calls.

Vandalism

We have the sad duty to report that Norm and Gloria Grant's C&S Railroad was badly vandalized last month. All of the bridges were either damaged, destroyed, or stolen, and a lot of the track was pulled up. The Grants, naturally, were heartbroken. After some discussion, however, they have made the difficult decision to rebuild.

While Norm and Gloria are pretty sure who their vandals are - neighborhood kids from a stressed background - the police offered no assistance whatsoever, which makes things even more discouraging.

I know of only three cases of vandalism of garden railways, and in each case the culprits were neighborhood kids who knew of the railway and went after it deliberately. In two of the cases severe damage was inflicted. In the third case vandalism was expected (the builder resides in a bad neighborhood), and the railway was built accordingly. When the vandals came, damage was minimal. We know of no way to eliminate this problem, but we do not feel that the threat - real or imagined - of vandalism should be a deterrent to the building of a garden railway. Life offers hazards in many forms. If we cloister ourselves, we will ultimately be the

Monc \$ Barb

Marc & Barb

GARDEN RAILWAYS CORRESPONDENT'S LIST

Do you wish to communicate with other garden railroaders? Join the Correspondent's List and communicate through the mails. Just send \$2 (to help defray costs) and four large (#10) SASE's to: Correspondent's List, c/o George E. Najar, 3904 Allendale, Colleyville TX 76034. Your name will be added to the list and you will receive the current list plus three quarterly updates. This list will not be released to anyone other than those whose names appear on it. Sanctioned by Garden Railways Magazine.

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