

Large Scale Garden Trains Clubs.

Growing friendships in our garden...

www.gardentrainsclubs.com

Joining a local Garden Railroad Club or Society is a great way to get local help, share your knowledge with others and develop long-lasting relationships. Of course we never get to spend as much time as we'd like being active in our own local club, but we cherish the time we do spend at meetings and participating in events like setting up a Christmas railroad for local Spokane kids.

LSOL.com has been supporting clubs from the first day we started our business. We were the first to offer a searchable database of clubs. We were the first to designate a person to help clubs keep their information updated. We were the first to join local clubs across the country as a member to support their efforts. Now we are the first to expand the services we offer local clubs and to create a central place for clubs around the world to work together.

GardenTrainsClubs.com is sponsored by the industry leaders in Large Scale Garden Trains: **Aristo-Craft Trains, USA Trains and Large Scale Online (LSOL.com)** Please keep in mind that you do not need to be a member of LSOL.com to take advantage of any of these free features and services.

Quick Overview

For those who do not want to read to the end, here are the four main points you should know:

Free Club Internet Site - LSOL.com expands its free Internet site for local Garden Train Clubs. LSOL.com even pays for your club – owned domain each year.

The Garden Train Clubs Depot – Private discussion forums for each club allow members to talk to other members about club business. Also, we're introducing the exclusive Garden Trains Executive Lounge – a place for officers of clubs to talk with other clubs about problems and solutions. **Sponsored by the industry leaders in Large Scale Garden Trains**

Updated Online Database – Now visitors can find your local group even faster. There is an interactive map as well as an advanced search with lots of detailed and updated information.

Special Club Access to LSOL.com Gallery – Clubs can now upload photos of their special events with the easiest to use software on the Internet for sharing your photos.

OK, want to get the details and see how exciting this really is? Read on!

Free Club Internet Site

For several years LSOL.com has provided free web services to local clubs. With our new, more powerful servers, we can support all the clubs that are interested in having a website. This is more than just web space. We will help you get an appropriate and easy-to-remember domain name with your club as the owner and we even pay for the domain name each year for your club.

Being www.cnylsrs.com or www.rmgr.org or www.midwestrails.org or www.chicagobtobigtrains.com is a lot better than being clubname.someotherwebsitename.com. If your club is interested in finally getting on the web, contact us at info@lsol.com and find out how we can help you get your club online and in action. If you already have a web site contact us and we can help you see if it makes sense for you to switch.

The Garden Train Clubs Depot

Several clubs have expressed an interest to us in having a way to contact and talk with their members other than email. Some have told me horror stories of trying to set up and use a Yahoo Group. Also there is no easy way for the officers of different clubs to talk with each other. LSOL.com comes to the rescue. We have created www.gardentrainsclubsdepot.com. It's a easy to remember name where local club members can talk with their local club and local club officers can talk with other local club officers.

The Club Car – Local Member to Local Member

Each club will have their own private and personal message board where they can hold discussions with only their members. The local club has the ability to add and remove people to their message board with a simple web-based interface. They can choose people to be moderators to help the flow of information. Best part is the system is hosted and maintained on LSOL.com super servers so you do not have to worry about software installation, maintenance, or downtime for updates. Easy to use message software gets members online fast.

Executive Lounge – Club to Club

To start, we are inviting two people from each club to join this area. The President or Leader of the club and the Newsletter Editor or Club Secretary will be invited to join. One more cool thing: Each person who joins will receive an exclusive "Executive Lounge" patch to show that they are participating in this forum. Great to add to your vest or hat for the next show you attend. So just why would you want to participate?

You can talk with other clubs about how to handle a public event. What about the advertising you use for your open house tours? What have people done in the past when they are thinking of hosting a National Convention? If you are an officer of a local club you will love the chance to meet with fellow officers of local clubs from around the world.

Also, as the Executive Lounge grows, manufacturers will have an organized group of people who represent a wide range of participation in Large Scale Trains. What better place to solicit ideas, get opinions and directions for future products. We have been talking about it for years. Now is the time to do it.

Updated Online Database

With new hardware comes new software. Our clubs database gives you faster searches, an easier to read layout, and a comprehensive update of information. (www.gardentrainsclubs.com) Clubs do not have to wait for someone to update their data; they can do it themselves with an easy to use online interface. This is so much more than a place for clubs to paste a link. Visitors from all over the Internet can find your club to join.

The best part of our online database is that it is tied into the Garden Trains Network of sites. We help your club by directing new people to their closest local club from GardenTrains.com and other networked web sites. People search our database and contact the clubs directly, or they contact us and we pass the information on to your club to contact the prospect.

Make sure your club is listed and the information is up to date. You can contact peter@lsol.com or clubs@lsol.com for complete details on getting your clubs listed or information updated.

Special Club Access to LSOL.com Gallery

We have updated our Gallery software as well. We have set up a place for clubs to upload photos so that the general public can see what they are up to. This is the ideal place for clubs to post photos as the Gallery, with over 100,000 photos, is visited continually by the general public every day.

Team Large Scale Members know there is no other place like the LSOL.com Gallery on the Internet. Uploading your pictures is easy and automatic. It is the easiest to use software on the web. It uses a simple point and click menu. It resizes your photos so they will load fast on the Internet and even makes a thumbnail of the image for you. Clubs will now be able to take advantage of these features and share their hard work with the world in one convenient place.

If your club would like a public club account to share your events and activities, please email peter@lsol.com so he can set you up an account right away.

The Future is Today

I hope the "Club's Individual Message Forums" will help you communicate better in your club. I also hope our "Executive Lounge - Club Officers" will give the leaders of clubs from around the world a forum to discuss common problems and find common solutions. It may take some time to grow these new features, but not to worry. We have the backing of the major manufacturers and know how to create a quality web experience for you. We have been working to grow the Large Scale industry for almost 15 years and we are not going anywhere.

I hope if you are a member of a local club that you will check and see if the information we have on file is correct. If it is not, or you do not see your club listed, contact your club's officers or contact peter@lsol.com direct. Peter can help you get updated or get started. Thanks for your support.

All the best,
-Jo Anne