



# 2023 GHAFM Holiday Train Garden Making Memories



Gary Rickrode Photo



Gary Rickrode Photo

*Gary Rickrode  
& Bob Straw  
\*Kate Klunk  
& Family at the  
train garden*



Carolyn Markie Photo

*Landon Eshbach  
with Grandfather  
Warren Eshbach  
having a great  
time.*



Kate Klunk Photo



Kate Klunk Photo



Gary Rickrode Photo





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Gary Rickrode Photo

*Lori Brillhart's beautiful green tinsel tree with a train layout.*



Gary Rickrode Photo



Jody Cramer Photo

*Winds of War band entertained visitors.  
Jeff Cramer is a member.*



Gary Rickrode Photo

The halls of the Greater Hanover Area Fire Museum fell silent after our 2023 Holiday Train garden closed at the end of December. The silence in the Fire Museum today compared to the buzz of the 3,450 visitors is a welcome relief. We are very fortunate to have welcomed this many visitors from all ages and walks of life to our "Greatest Train Garden on Earth." Their support was greatly appreciated and we invite them and their families back in 2024.

The task of returning and inventorying the Train Garden trains is no small task as thirteen of our Fire Museum members will attest to. Rob Brady, Kevin Adams, Jason Kopp, Eric Brown, Gary Rickrode, Andy Hoffman, Keith Taylor, Dale Geiman, Dave Bollinger, Dennis Weaver, Dwight Bollinger, John Lucabaugh and Robert Holt were instrumental with providing their stamina to accomplish this monumental task. Tip of the Tin Helmet to all who assisted this year with the Greater Hanover Area Fire Museum, Holiday Train Garden.





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## “Many Hands Make Light Work” at GHAFM Holiday Train Garden

### 2023 Holiday Train Garden Highlights By: Rob Brady

Our 2023 GHAFM Holiday Train Garden occurred from November 24 to December 30, 2023 for a total of 111 hours and entertained 3,405 visitors. Busiest days were; Friday, December 29 had 285 visitors, Saturday, December 23 had 332 visitors and Sunday December 17 had 227 visitors. This was the first year for Pay Pal donations coming from the public and layout sponsorships. Our 2023 Sponsors were; Home Assoc. of McSherrystown, Fraternal Order of Eagles -Aerie #1406, Republican Club of Hanover, New Oxford Social Club and Hanover VFW Ladies Auxiliary. Our famous cookie and cake sale was a success again this year. We had several musical groups entertaining our visitors this year.



Rob Brady Photo

*We had some professional fire-fighter help and muscle*



Rob Brady Photo

*Our Infamous Train Garden Set-Up Crew Silsby Movers?*



Rob Brady Photo



Rob Brady Photo





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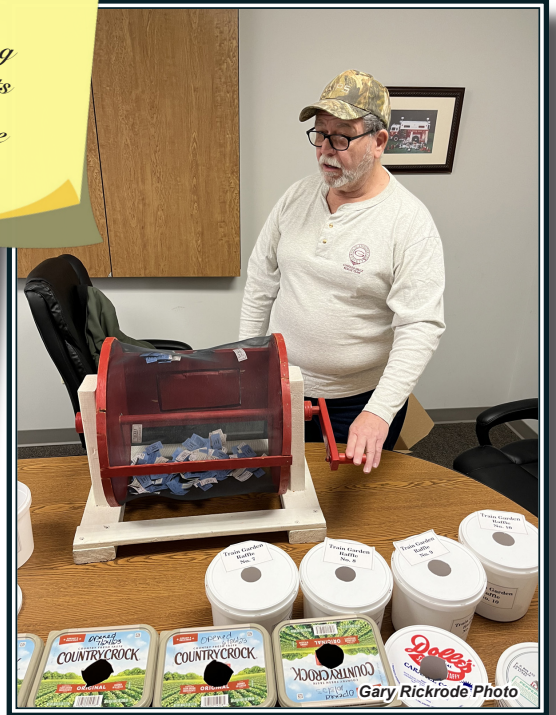
Kate Klunk Photo



*Wow  
Outstanding  
Train Layouts  
Gordy on the  
Raffle Ticket  
Barrel*



Rob Brady Photo



Gary Rickrode Photo



Rob Brady Photo

**2024 GHAFM Holiday Train Garden "SAVE the DATE"**  
October 2, move antique apparatus to specified HAFLR location.  
October 4, Move train garden items - HAFLR Clover Lane to museum.  
October 5, Begin train layout set-up and organize museum.  
**Train Garden Open Dates**  
November 29 & 30  
December 1, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29 & 30