

Tucson Garden Railway Society 1994 - 1996

A pictorial record of the activities of Tucson Garden Railway Society through the years.

1994-1996



Records and Photos by Marty Hart



Tucson Garden Railway Society





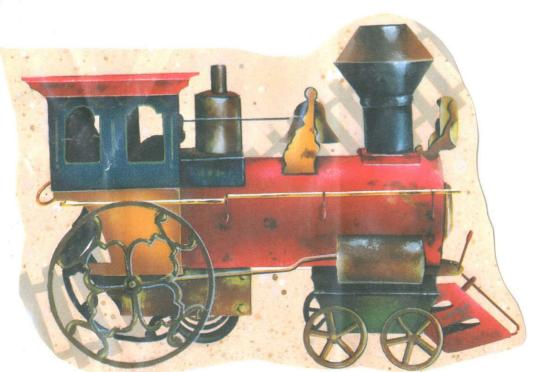
Tucson Garden Railway Society is a group of families that collect, run, and share trains. The group started in 1994 by Clint Watkins. Under his leadership we started meeting at the Ft. Lowell Depot Restaurant. Clint and his family moved to Colorado and the Vice President, Craig McKinnis assumed the Presidency.

For several years, Craig and his wife Janice kept us together and growing. Our members started to design and build layouts, indoors and out. The club as a group started to display a layout at the Great American Train Show and Home Shows each year. We started with painted doors for bases and lots of work laying dirt and gravel. We added waterfalls and bridges and scenery on a per-show basis. We even built a garden landscape at one of the Home Shows and put a railway in it.

Craig and Janice moved back to San Diego when Craig retired. Loyal Hart was elected President. The club decided that it was time to build modules that we could move and set up in less time. We asked the Del Oro club in California if we could start with their plans and modify if necessary. They agreed. We set our plans in motion. We have now built modules(4' X 32") that members bought. Each family is decorating their own module. These will be joined as needed at our displays.

We have a growing roster of 25 active families. We meet at members houses monthly unless we have a special event (Shows, dinners, visiting train groups etc.). We discuss ciub business, give help to members who need it, AND PLAY TRAINS! Our main thrust is G scale trains (1:25 approx.) As it varies in inches etc. everyone has their own preference as to brand, layout, etc. If you have any questions, call Loyal Hart (298-4006) If you would like to join us send in an application.

2/6/97



OYCE BROTHERS, Ph.D. ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS

ummertime celebrationsweddings, picnics, reunions, anniversary or graduation parties can bring families closer together, but can also renew old tensions. (It's the rare extended family in which everyone gets along with everybody else.) Suggestions for making your event a—happily memorable one: Tell everybody the full guest list in advance (so there are no surprise reunions); plan seating with care; and, if it's a party or picnic, use games and other activities to keep guests busy.



ATTENTION SEEKER

When my 41-year-old sister goes to the beach with us in the summertime, she always wears revealing bikinis, even though she's really not in good shape, and people laugh at her behind her back. I am mortified by this and can't believe she isn't. Is she just asking for attention? What should I do?

Some studies have found that women who wear revealing clothing may be emotionally immature and/or starved for male attention. Your sister may have concluded that it is better to have men look at her for any reason than not look at her at all. Or she may be so fashion-conscious that she doesn't care if a style is flattering so long as it is in vogue (like women with unshapely legs who still wear miniskirts). And then there's the possibility that she doesn't realize what she looks like in these suits.

Whatever the reason for her choice of swimwear, there's not much you can, or probably should, do about it. If the two of you are shopping together and the opportunity presents itself, you might point out more appropriate swimwear, even offer to buy her a new suit. But you run a very real risk of hurting her feelings. It's probably best to say nothing. She seems happy. As for the people who laugh behind her back, that is not your problem.

UPSETTING DREAMS

I am pregnant and have been having upsetting dreams. In some, I simply discover that I am not pregnant at all; in others, I lose the baby; or I give birth, but then no one can find the baby. I have two healthy children whom I love dearly, and the coming child is very much wanted. Do my dreams mean there is something wrong with my baby?

Relax. Dreams simply reflect our subconscious thoughts, including fears and other feelings you may be suppressing. You may, for instance, subconsciously feel that you are not worthy of such happiness and good fortune-and you're using your dreams to punish yourself. But pregnant women often have anxiety dreams like yours. Reassure yourself that there is nothing physically wrong by having regular checkups. Find ways to unwind, especially when you go to bed. Absorb yourself in a good book that will help you fall asleep and to which you can turn if you wake up from a bad dream.

MISSING JOB

I took early retirement from my job, which I hated, I was relieved at the time and expected to feel great being out of the job. Instead, I am depressed. I feel as if I am just filling my time with miscellaneous tasks (my husband is still working). I miss the people I worked with—even though a year ago I couldn't wait to get away from them. Why do I feel this way?

Many men and women who retire find that after a period of relief and euphoria, they become depressed. Your job played a large role in defining who you are, what you think of yourself, and what others think of you. It also provided the kind of social interaction most of us need. Now you have to live by a new set of rules. The

fact that your husband is still working makes the transition tougher.

Ask yourself what it is that you want from the rest of your life. Talk to your husband to formulate a plan for your future together. Get involved in activities and hobbies that will keep you busy and self-fulfilled; consider taking a course in something you always wanted to know more about; make travel plans. If, after a few months, you feel the same way, ask yourself whether a part-time job will give you fulfillment and still leave you with the freedom to enjoy semiretirement.

TRAIN NUT

My husband is a model-train nut. Our spare bedroom is his depot where he runs his system. He has friends who are also into this and come over to play with the trains. Is this normal behavior for a middle-aged man?

Unless you feel that your husband's hobby is having a negative effect on your marriage, I think it's a perfectly fine diversion for him. It's a hobby that allows him to use his imagination, relax, be a kid again, and have fun with friends who share his interest. In a society that seems to become more competitive with each passing day, model trains provide hobbyists with a sense of control over events in a noncompetitive setting. Let your husband play.

Dr. Brothers answers questions on marriage, sex, work, family, and other personal problems. Address yours to: Dr. Joyce Brothers, GOOD HOUSEKEEPING, 959 Eighth Ave., New York, NY 10019. Only those letters used in her column will be answered.

TUCSON GARDEN RAILROAD SOCIETY PO. BOX 30395 Tucson AZ., 85751-0395





GARDEN RAILWAY MEETING

WHERE: UDALL PARK CENTER / ROOM # 1

7200 E. Tanque Verde RD.

WHEN: 8:00AM TO 11:00AM MAY/14/1994

8:00 TO 9:00 Coffee & Donuts

GUEST: KEN BYRD from the Home Depot/AZ. Certified Hortoculturist SPEAKER

- DISCUSSION: 1) Planting For Outdoor Railroads
 2) Track Laying in Southern AZ.
 3) Upcoming Events

4) Developing A Module Thats Portable

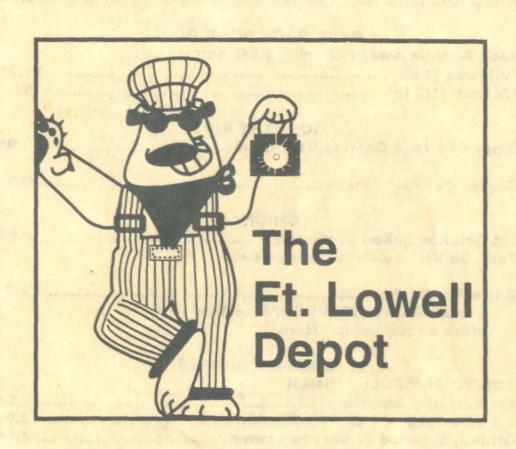
AFTERNOON: MEETING AT THE FT. LOWELL DEPOT RESTURANT.

AFTER 3:00 PM - APPETIZER,S

\$4.00 PER PERSON

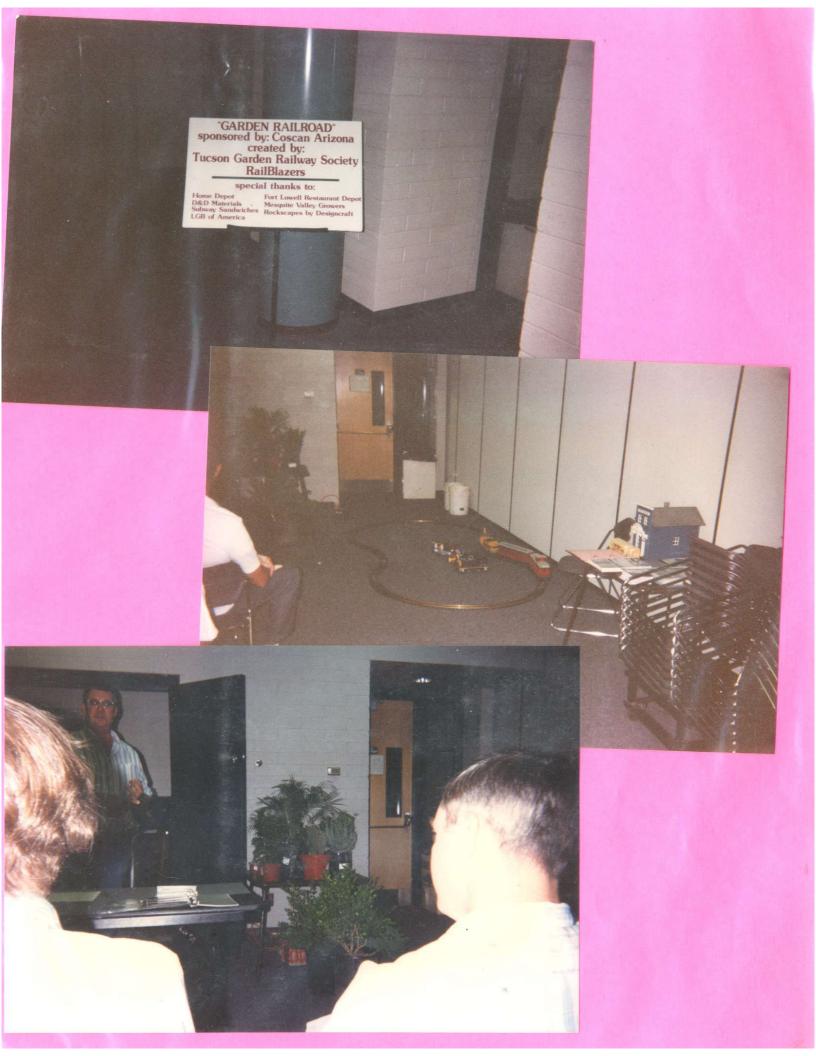
R.S.V.P. TO CLINT AT 577-6719

TAKE OUT MENU



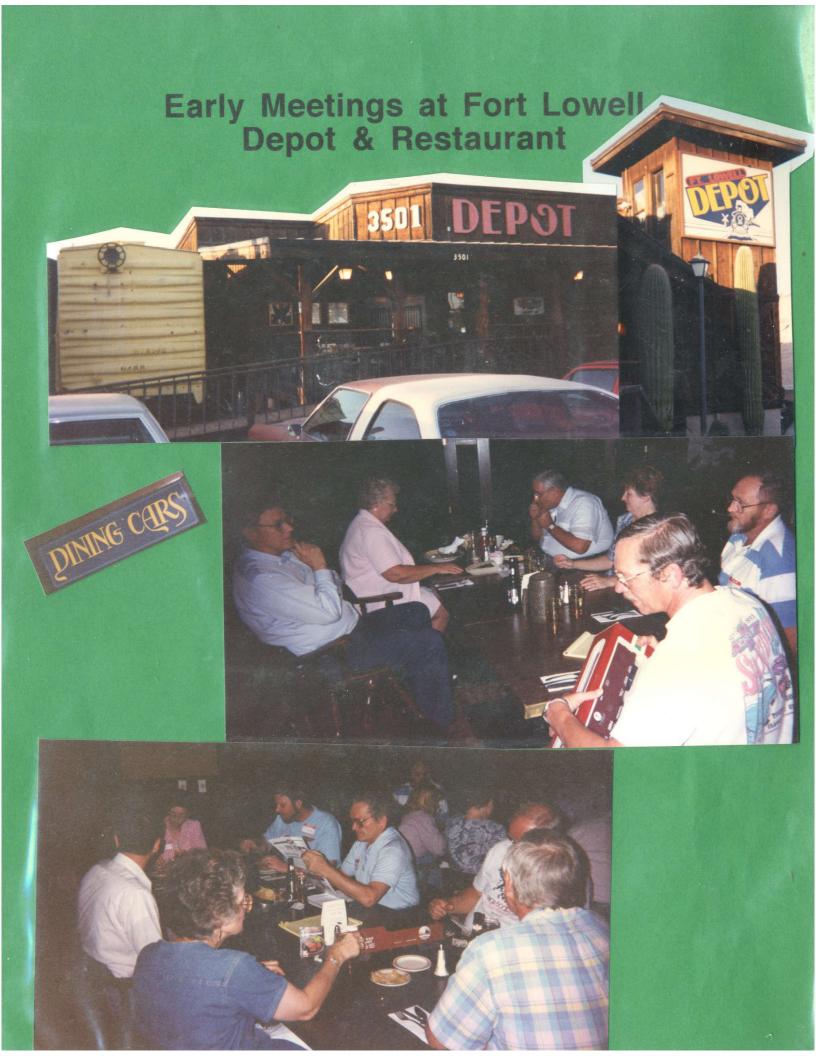


795-8110



5/14/94 PLEASE PRINT 1. Marty Fart 2. Loyal Hast 3 CHRIS LAWSON 4 Bill NUNH 5 Hunter Macpherson 6 BILL FADBAT CLINT Walter Charle ARonbrion Jandy Argubught 11 Rick Gast Tim Gast DEX WRIGHT Bob Brubaker HOWARD BANZHAF 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 20 25

26







SOCIETY

TUCSON GARDEN RAILROAD SOCIETY P.O. BOX 30395 Tucson, AZ 85751-0395



GARDEN RAILWAY MEETING

WHERE: FT. LOWELL DEPOT RESTAURANT

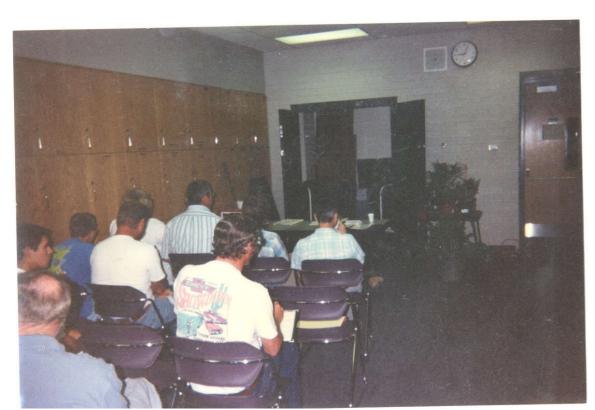
3501 E. Ft. Lowell

WHEN: July 14 (Thursday)

6:30 - 9:00 pm

DISCUSSION: Business will include delegation of jobs (Elections or Volunteers!)

We would like to get to know each other better! If you have pictures of layouts or trips or train fun bring them along to share. If you have questions or equipment that you want to share....COME ON DOWN!



7/14/94 Tucson garden Railway Society 1 Marty Hart 2 Loyal Hart 3 Orton Barnes 4 Pat Barnes 3 BILL FADDRÍ 6 MARVANN FARRI 7 Clif Wate. 8 CHRIS LAKISON 9. Chuck & Sandy HRGUBRIGHT 10 George FitzNER. 11 Jin 3 Elaine Miller daughter Angela 12 Craig & Janice Miller daughter Angela 13. Dick Colvin

TUCSON GARDEN RAILROADERS

ARGUBRIGHT, Chuck 6353 E. Cat Claw La. 85737 825-8800

BANZHAF, Howard 3340 N. Nambe Dr. 85749 749-9567

BARNES, Orton 6010 N. Mardelle Cir. 85704 742-5888

BRUBAKER, Bob/Dinny
8592 N. Bobby Jones Dr.
84741
742-9237

COLVIN, Dick 1294 E. Royal Oak Rd. 85737 825-0579

DONLON, Joe 2855 E. Camino Pocero 85716

FABBRI, Bill Mr. (Mr. S. 8901 E. McClellan 85710 296-6461

FELDMAN, Richard 28675 Shakar Blvd. Pepper Pike, OH 44124 H:216-292-2926/0:216-831-2266 Fax:216-831-2582

FITZNER, George George's Car Haus 3575 E. Grant 85716 795-4900

GAST, Rick/Sue 7751 E. Fairmont St. 85715 H:721-8305/W:889-4474

GRIMES, Tom
7759 E. Hampton St.
721-4555

HART, Loyal/Marty 7921 E. Scarlet 85710 298-4006

KARRELS, Ken 3930 N. Smoky Topaz 85749 749-5345

LAUGHLIN, John 9260 E. Simon P1. 85710 H:298-4741/W:794-4238 (Hughes)

MUSCARE. Andy 3720 Sumo Septimo 85718 577-2866.

PALMER, Tony 1151 W. Panorama 85704 297-8140

PORTER, Jack 5651 E. Bellevue 85712

ROBESON, Ed 1877 W. South Brooke Cir. 85702 292-6310

SCHMOLDT, Fred 2570 W. Ben Hogan Dr. 85741 797-1773

SENER, Grant/Ilkin 1772 W. Wimbledon Way 85737 297-9970

WARTON, Ron 9966 N. Big Horn Butte 85737 297-4466

WATKINS, Clint/Kathy
7160 E. Quail Run Dr.
85715
H:577-6719/W:886-1311

WRIGHT, Dexter C. 1089 E. Crown Ridge Dr. 85737 825-2081

NOT

WHY LIVE STEAM

- Realism for live steam enthusiast; exhaust blasts, plumes of steam
- Doesn't require track power

CHARACTERISTICS

- Limited run time
- Requires constant attention
- Upkeep/ maintenance greater than an electric track powered loco
- Controlled either manual or R/C (could be controlled by track power)

FIRING BOILER AND RUNNING

- Lubricate all moving parts
- Fill lubricator with steam cylinder oil, boiler with distilled water, and burner with fuel
- In safe (designated) area with fire extinguisher or wet towels handy light burner
- When safety valve lifts; ready to run
- Check water level and fuel (larger locos require constant attention)
- Set throttle & Johnson bar
- May have to push loco to remove condensation from cylinders & start it moving
- After cylinders & lubricator get hot, locomotive will run better

UPKEEP

- Mamod; Little upkeep, simple design, easy to clean and lubricate
- Aster Climax; extensive cleaning, inspecting, & lubricating of loco, valve gear, & drive train, before & after running, periodic adjusting of cylinder valve timing & drive train

MANUAL OR R/C CONTROL

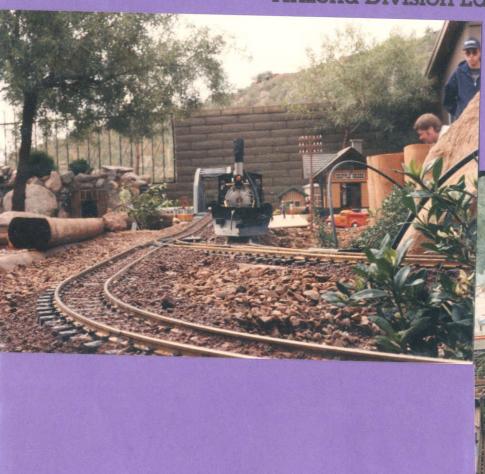
- Manual; if grade of road bed not close to 0% can require a lot of chasing locomotive on hands & knees to adjust throttle & Johnson bar
- R/C; allows continuous adjustments of controls

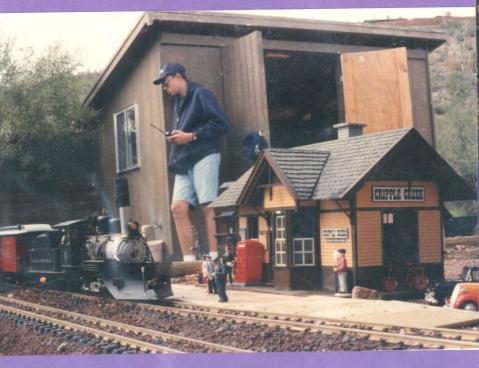
SAFETY

- Fire extinguisher or wet towels ready in case of fire
- Handle with care, Locomotives get very hot
- Smaller locomotives should be set up to run out of fuel before boiler is out of water.

CHARACTERISTICS OF ALCOHOL OR METHANOL FIRING OF BOILERS METHANOL

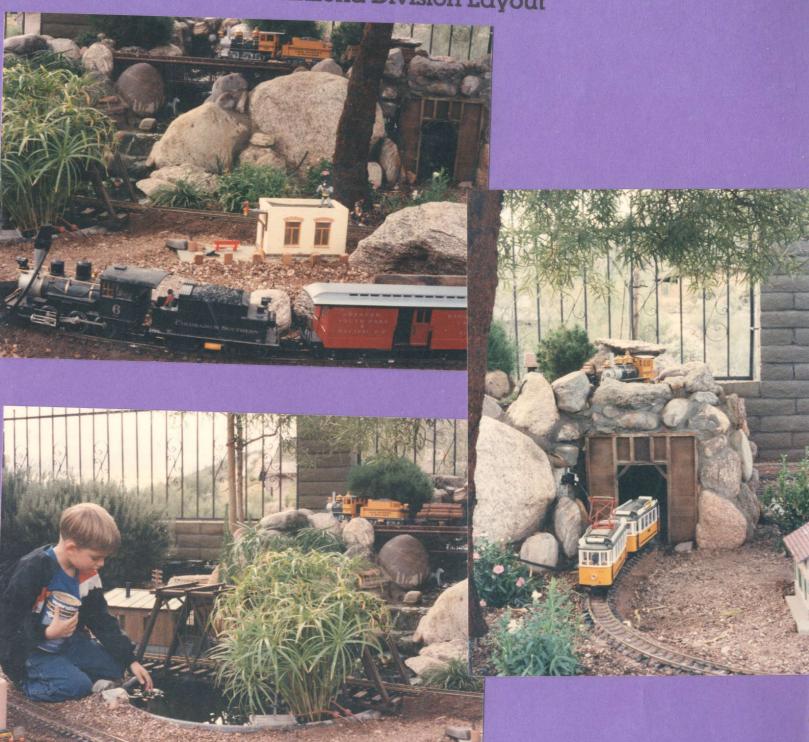
- Cooler flame than butane (won't unsolder boiler if it runs dry)
- Quieter than butane (no valve)
- Flames adjusted by wick (height or how tight they are packed)
- If boiler uses flues, requires blower to pull heat through boiler BUTANE
- No spills to catch fire
- Hotter flame, raises steam quicker (Can unsolder boiler if it runs dry)
- Easier to buy than methanol
- Burner must be kept adjusted (air mixture)
- Won't vaporize near freezing temperatures (difficult to run in winter)

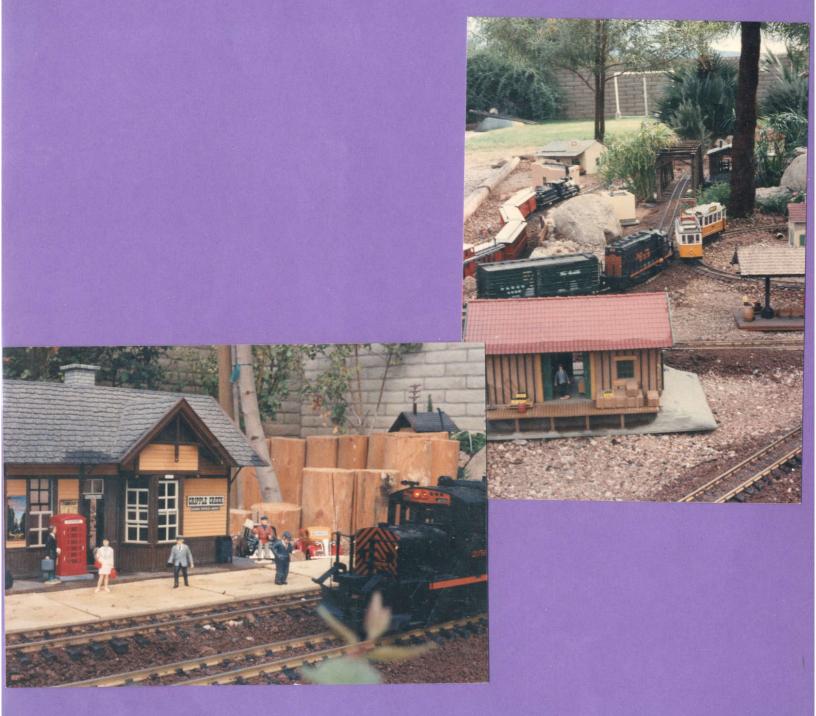
















GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

WE WISH TO THANK

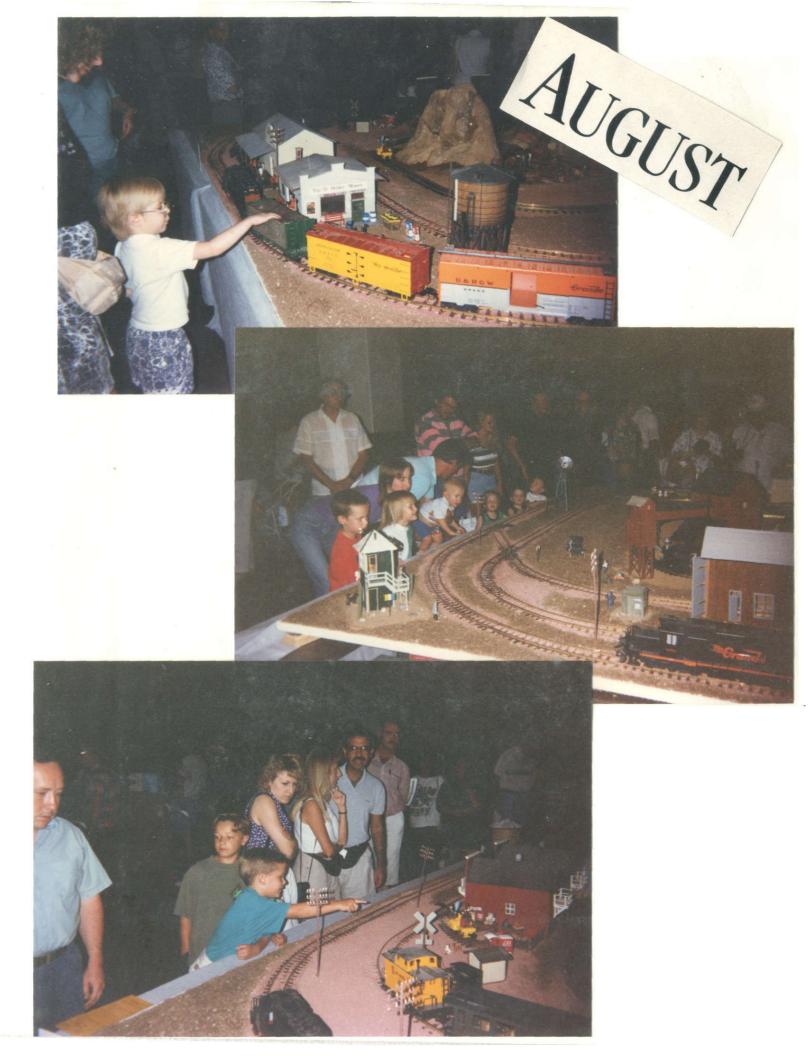
Tucson Garden Railroad Society

FOR PARTICIPATION IN
THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW



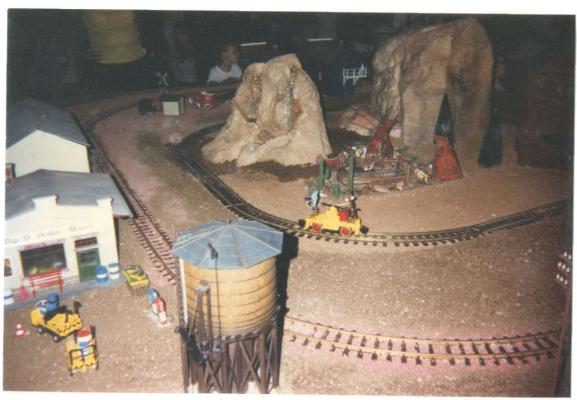
4th PLACE
LAYOUT AWARD

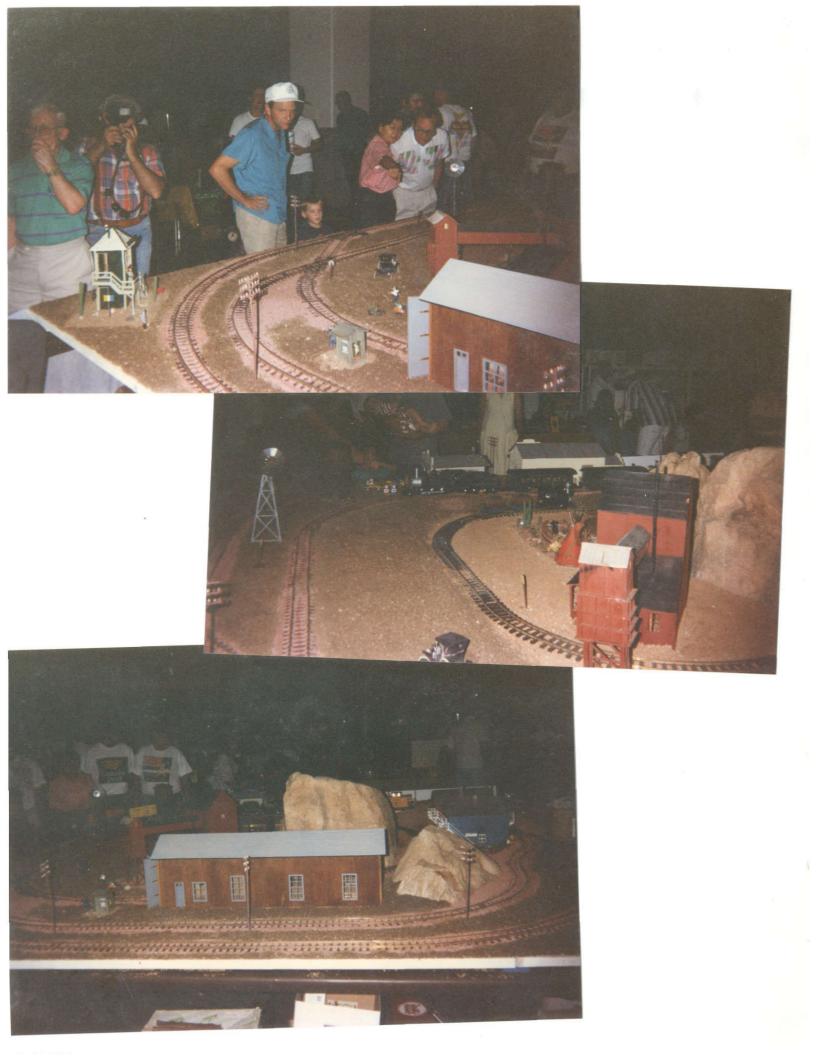




Great American Train Show - 1994



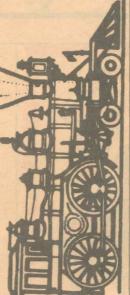






Great American Train Show

Kids are FREE!



Kids are FREE!

The whole family will enjoy seeing over 10,000 model trains.

- * Over 12 Operating Model Train Layouts.
 Arizona Model RR Soc. N Scale 20' X 40'
 - Canfield Family Circus HO Scale 12' X 30' - Tucson Garden RR Soc. - G Scale - 14' X 20'
- Graham Co. 4-H RRC 1/12 Scale 12' X 40'
 TTOS: AT&NM Div. 0, S, Sid. Gauge 12' X 18'
 - Arizona MRR Society G Scale 30' X 30'
- * Our Exclusive Layout For You & Your Kids To Operate.

Tucson Convention Center 260 South Church, Tucson, Arizona

- * 200 Tables Of National Train Dealers From:
- Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, New Mexico, Tennessee, & Texas
 - * Free Workshops On:
- How to Make a Mountain Making Trees
- Scratch Building In Large Scales Plus 7 Other Topics! * Adult Admission Only \$5.00, Good For BOTH Days. Kids Under 12 Are Free.

Saturday & Sunday, August 20 & 21 Noon to 5:00pm, both days

THANK YOU

On behalf of the entire Great American Train Show staff we would like to thank you for participating this weekend. If we may be of further assistance please ask.

The GATS Staff,

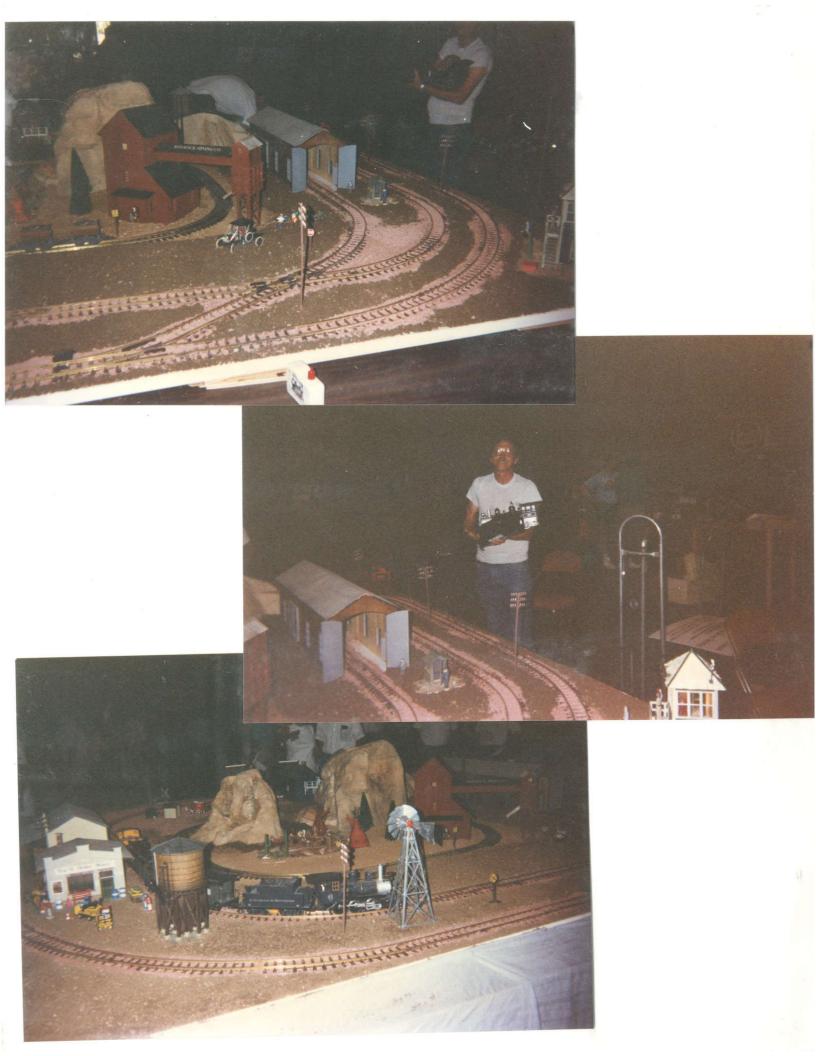
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David R Swamen

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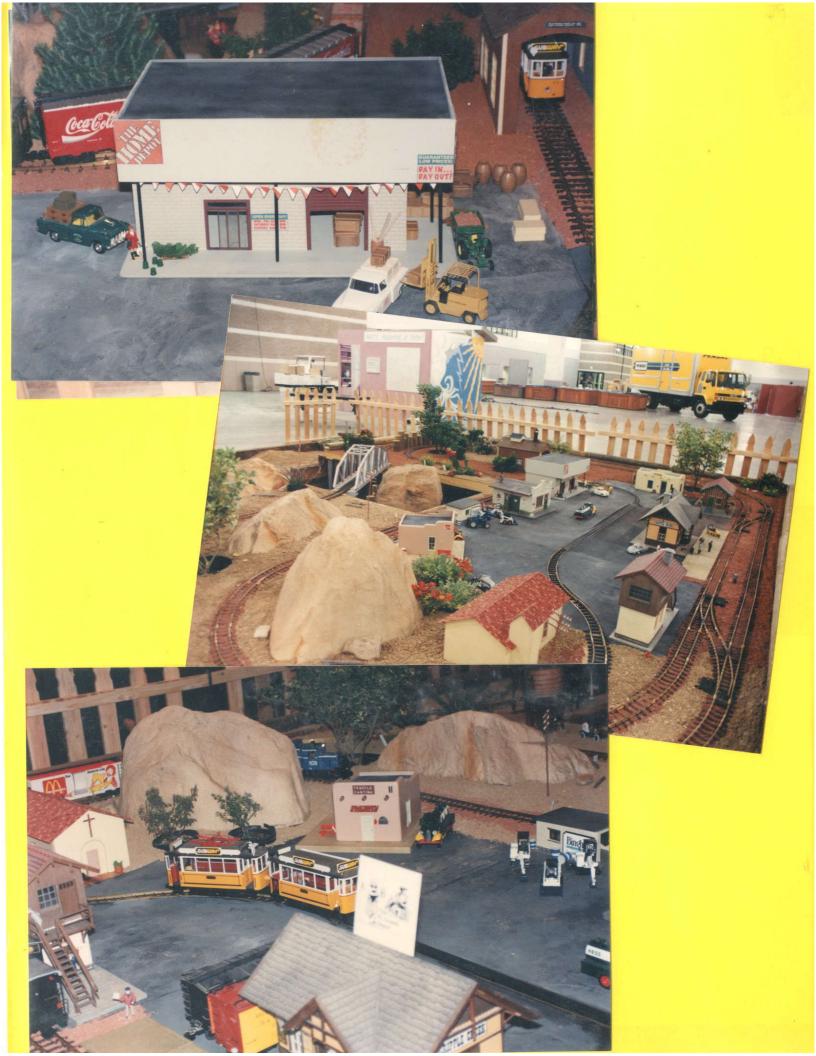
Great American Train Show - 1994





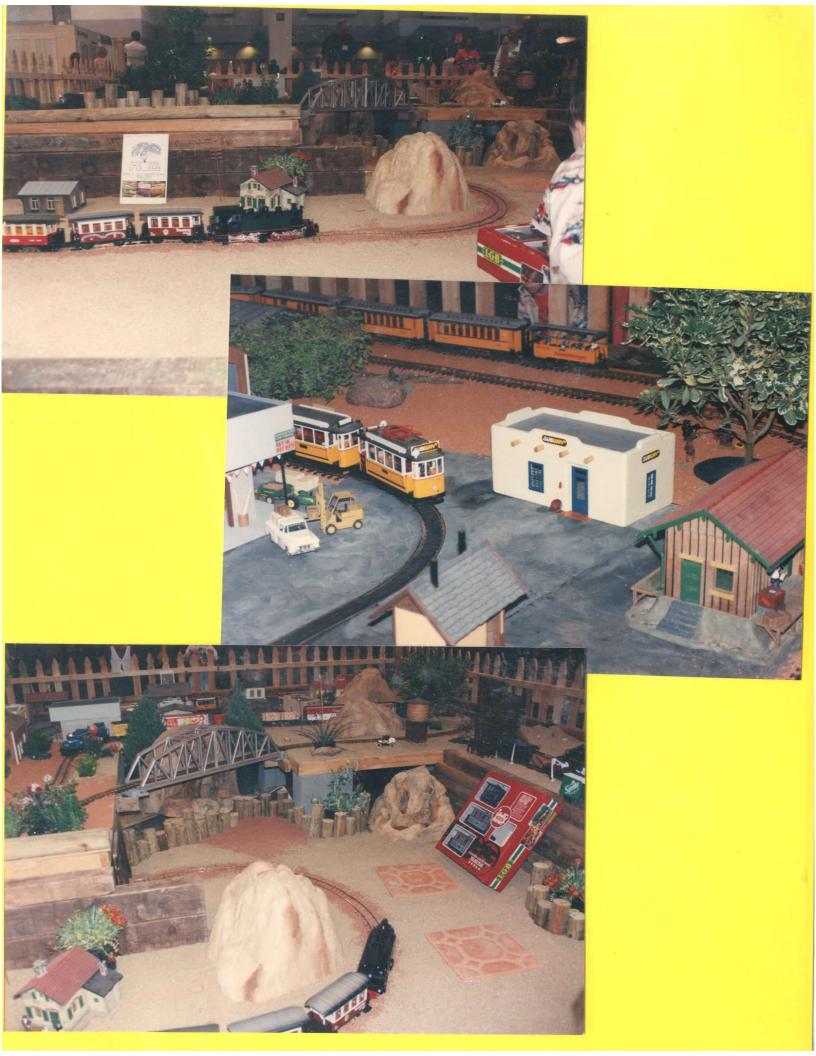
IOW - 1994

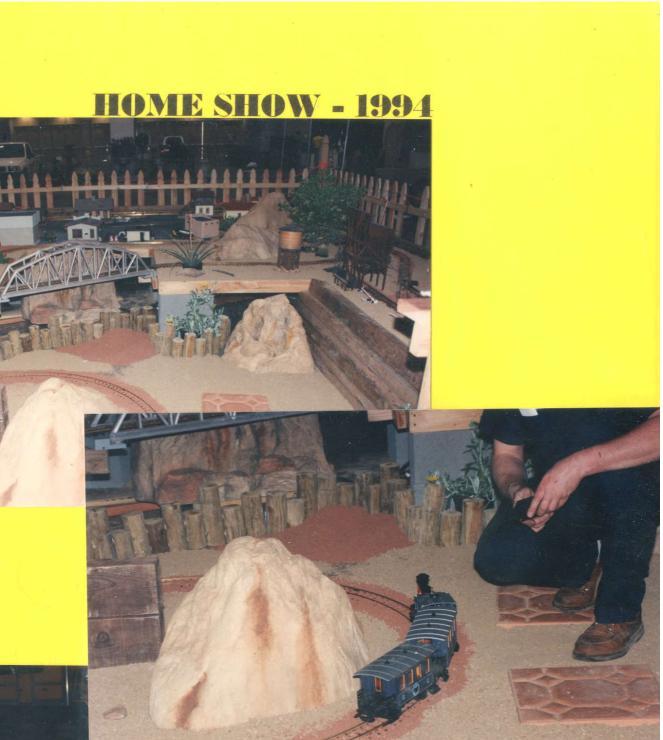




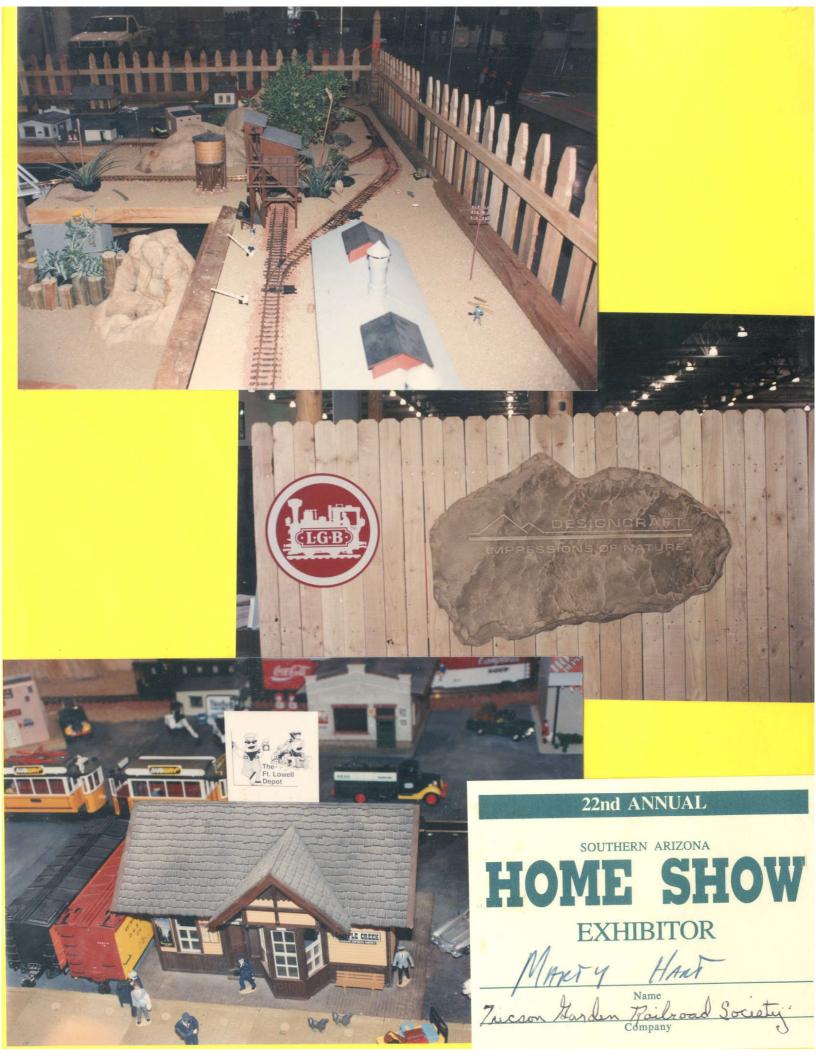
HOME SHOW - 1994



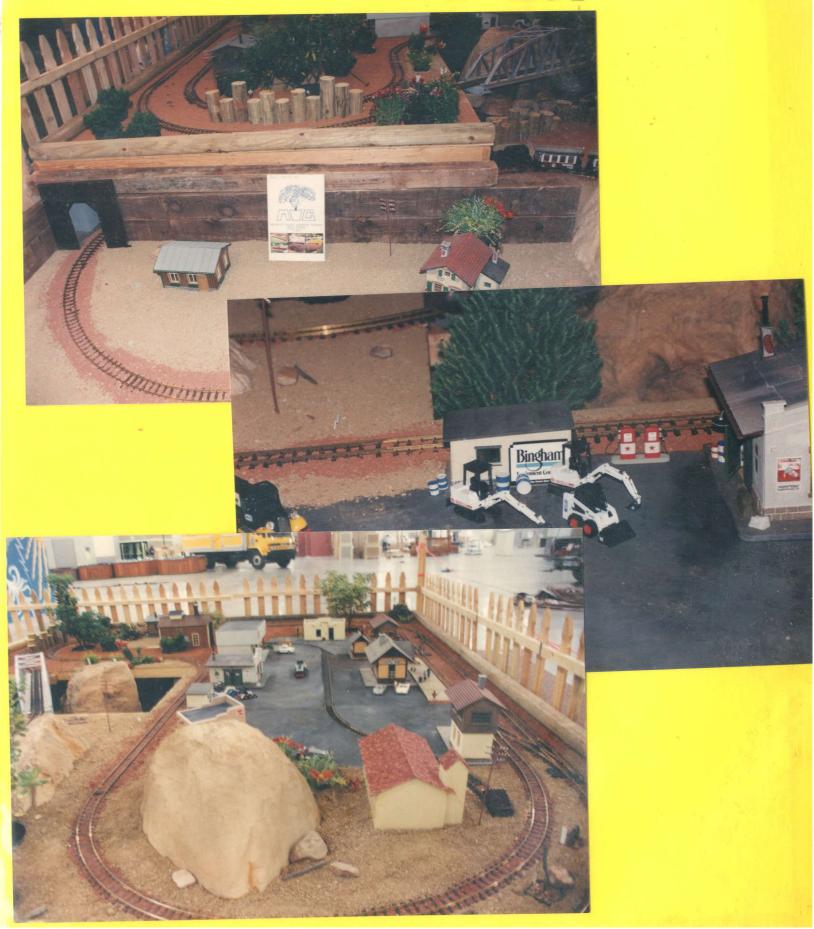


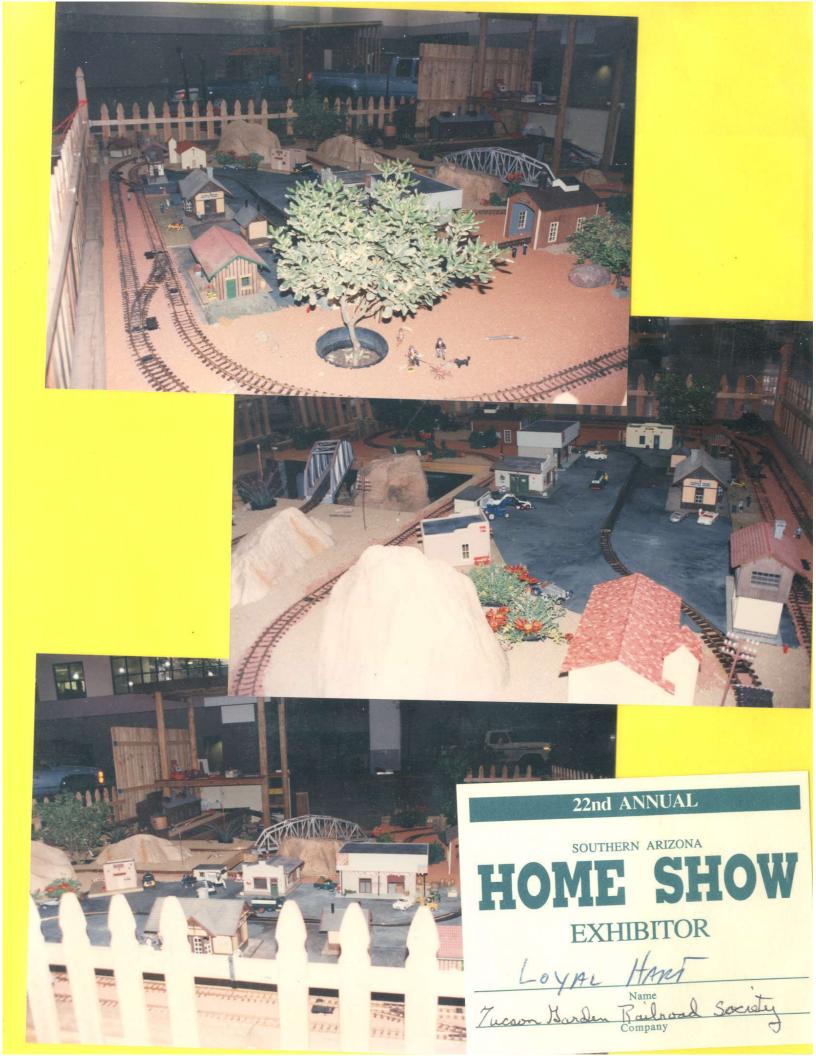






HOME SHOW - 1994









GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW

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Tucson Garden Railroad Society

FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW

Tucson, Arizona - December 2 & 3, 1995







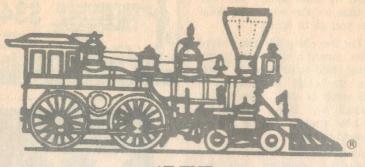
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The GATS Staff,

Javid K Swamen

Kids Are FREI



- * 200 tables of train dealers from over 15 states!
- * Our exclusive layout for you and your kids to operate!
- * Over 10 operating model train layouts, including:
- Arizona & Southwestern Hobbies 17' X 39' HO Scale Grand Canyon Division, TTOS 12' X 18' O, S, & Standard Tucson Garden Railroad Society 14' X 28' G Scale Verde Tunnel & Smelter Railroad 12' X 12' N Scale
- * Free workshops on:
- History Of Toy Trains, Making Rocks, Landscaping Layouts, Making Trees, Scratchbuilding Old West Buildings, Plus 11 Other Topics!
- * Adult admission only \$5.00, good for BOTH days!
- * Kids under 12 are admitted FREE!

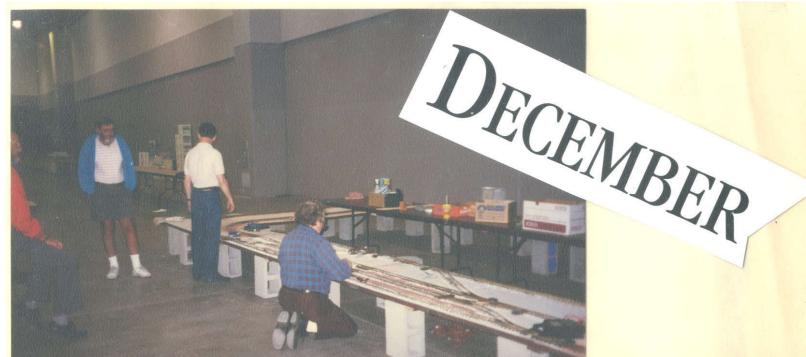
Saturday & Sunday, December 2 & 3 11:00am to 5:00pm, both days

Tucson Convention Center

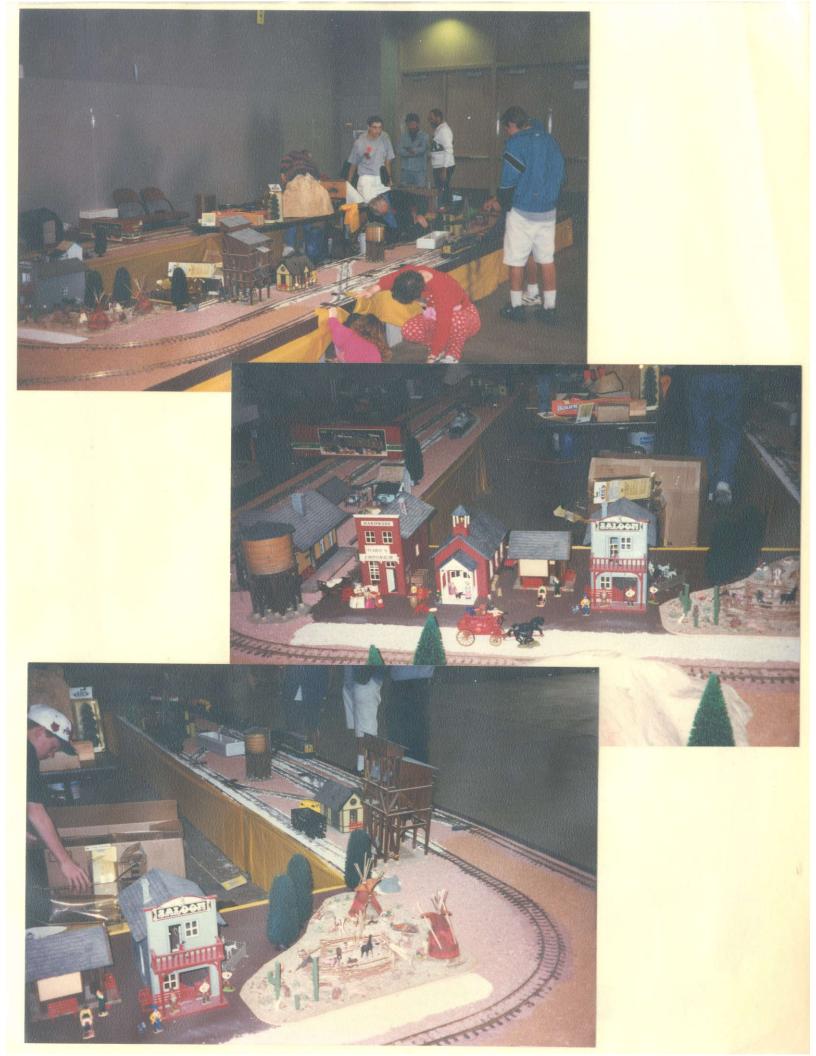
260 South Church

Tucson, Arizona





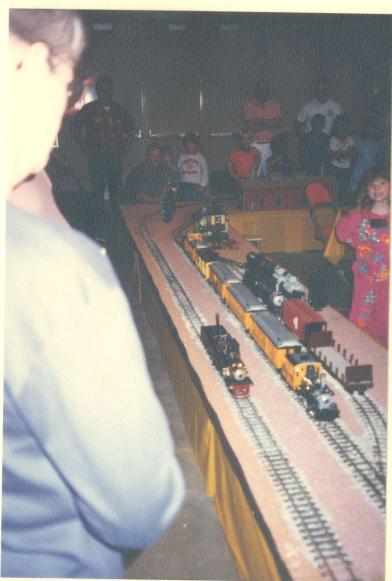




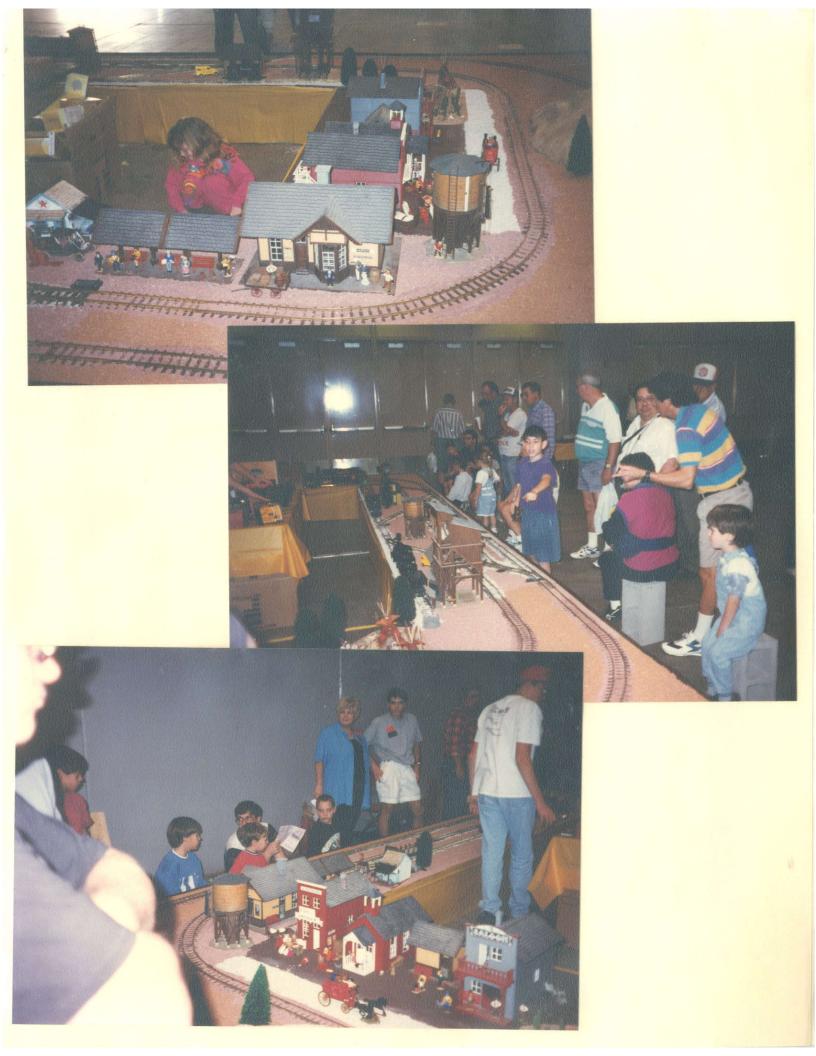


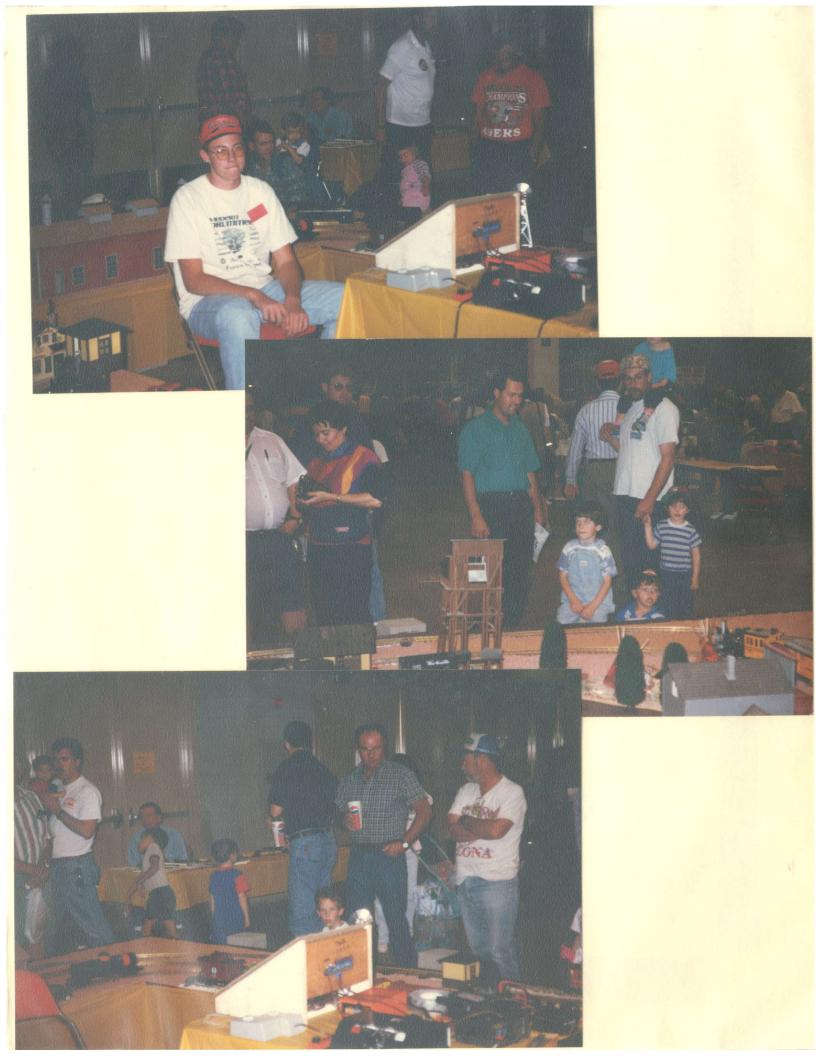






BEST OF SHOW 1995





Tucson Unified School District Title I Program

Certificate of Appreciation

lucson Garden Railann Socrette

In recognition of the dedicated time you have shared in the activities at your child's school and your interest in quality education for all children

Yay 15. 10

Title I Community Representative

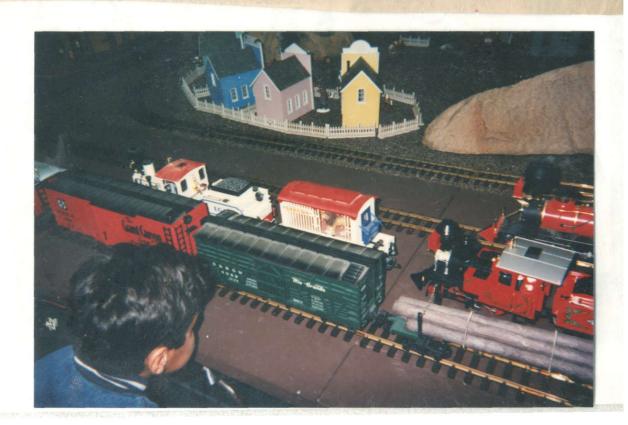
Title I Principal



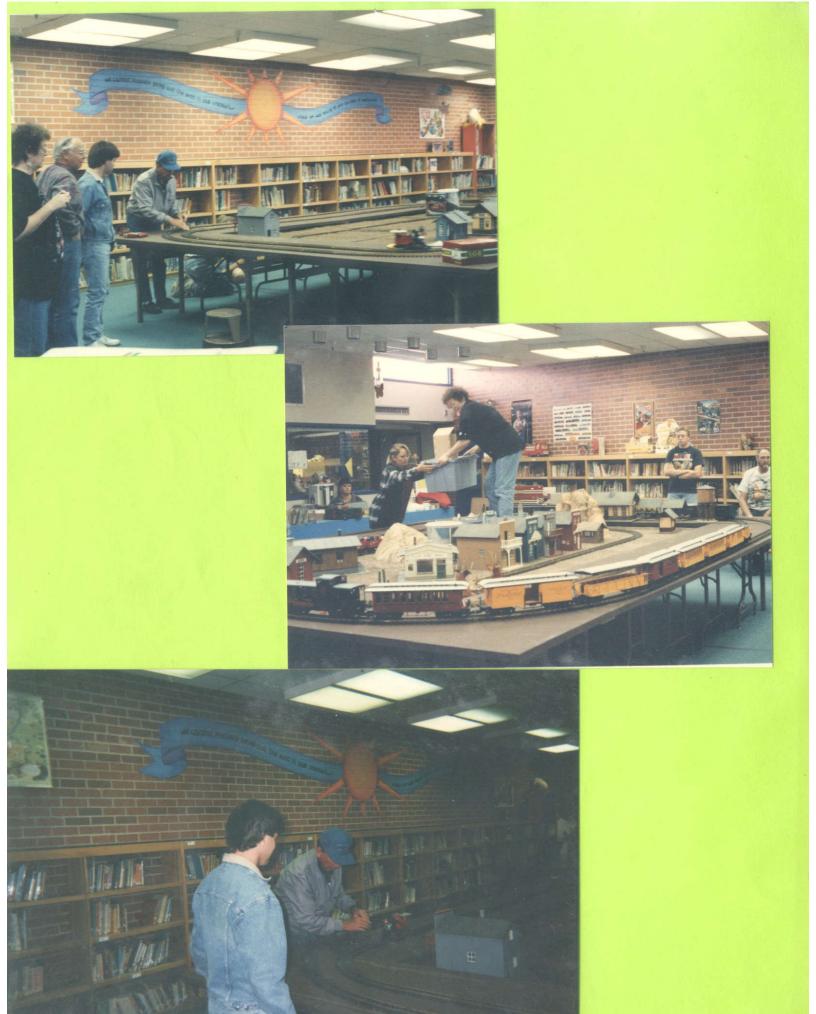
VAL CAÑEZ/Tucson Citizen

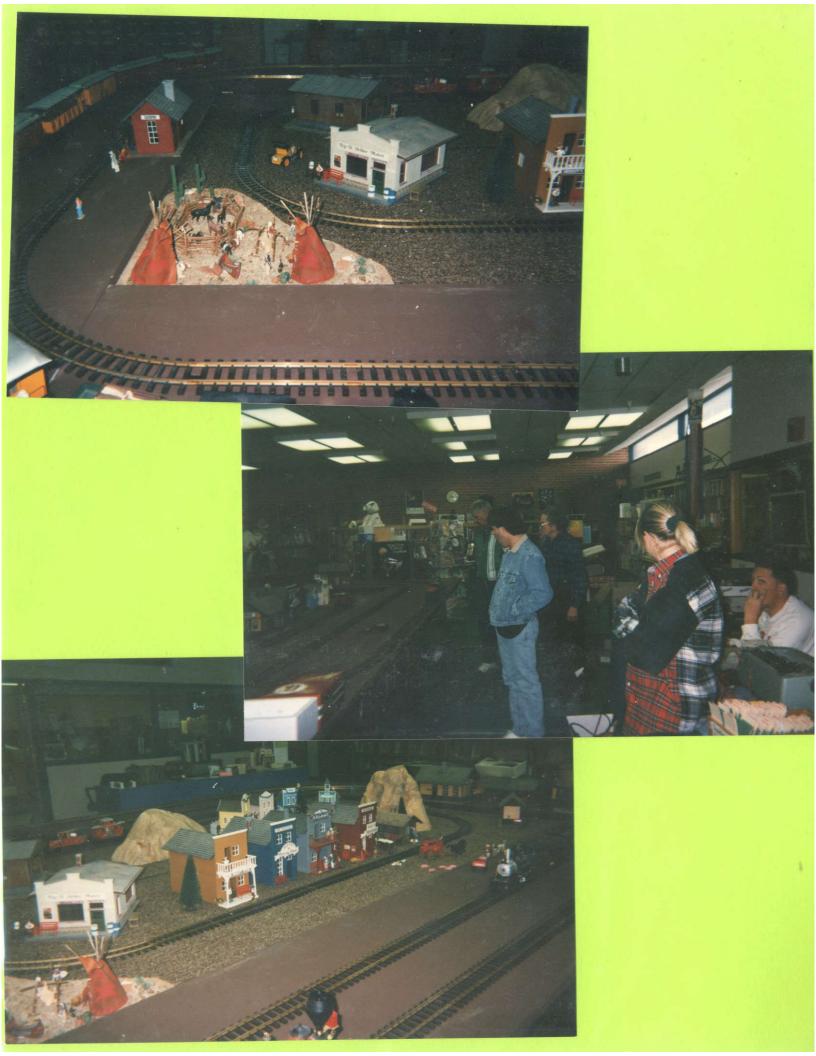
MODEL CHILDREN - Fourth-graders Lizeth Quintana (left), 9, and Brenda Victoria, 10, watch a model train chug by them at Cavett Elementary, 2120 E. Naco Vista. A pair of serious collec-

tors of model trains, Loyal and Marty Hart of the Tucson Garden Railroad Society, showed their trains to the students this week. Marty Hart is a librarian at the school.





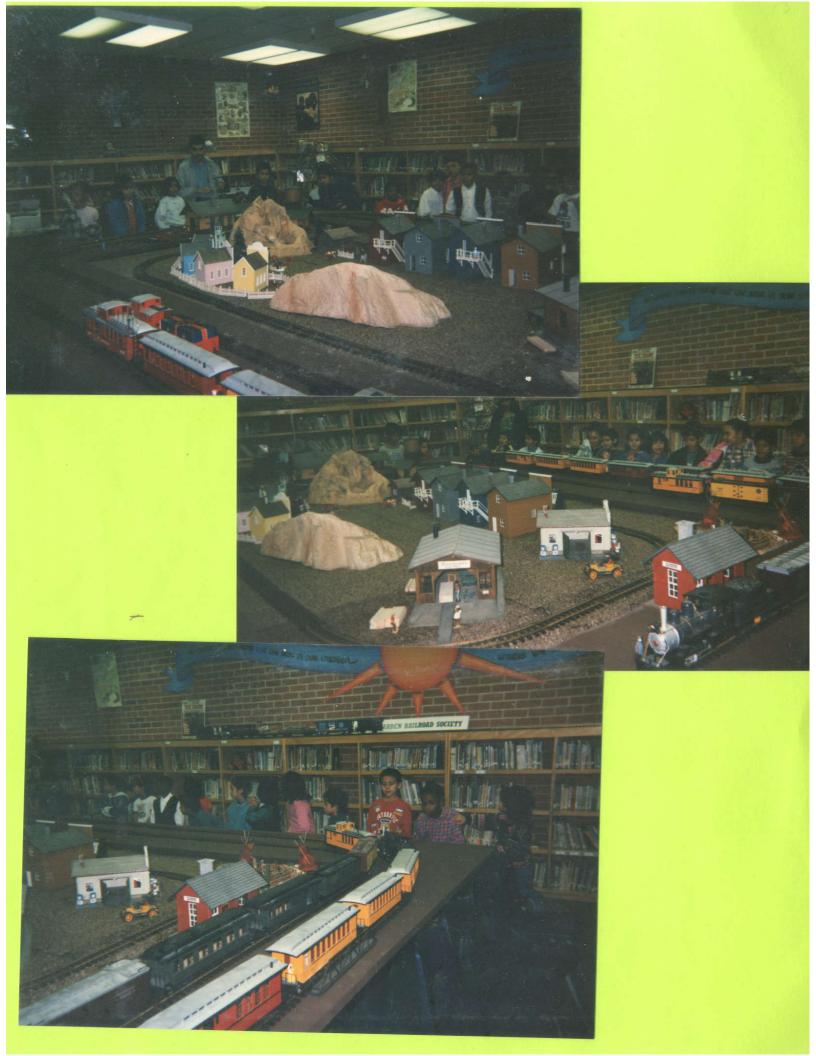




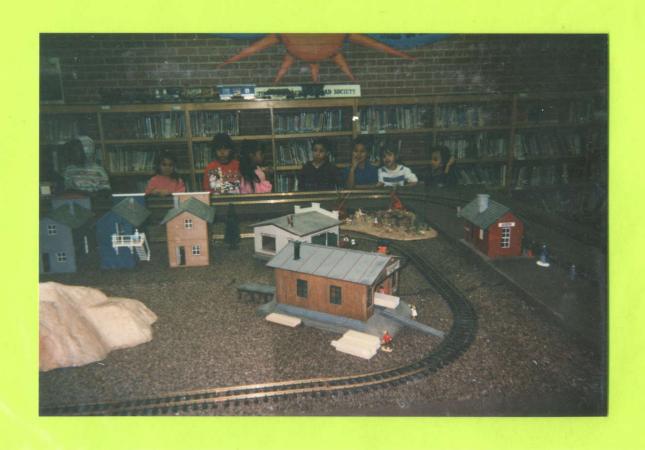






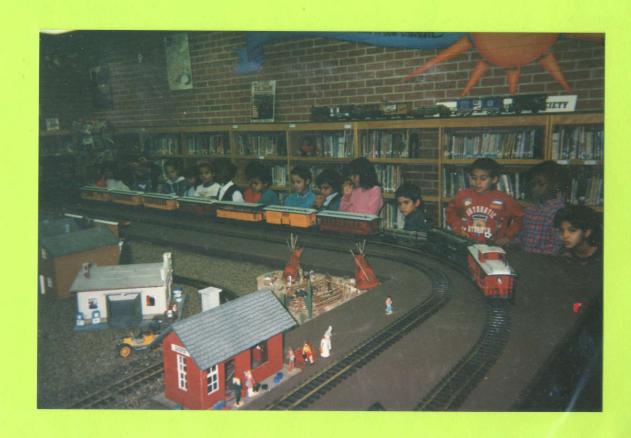
















GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

WE WISH TO THANK

Tucson Garden Railroad Society

FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW

Tucson, Arizona - February 2 & 3, 1996





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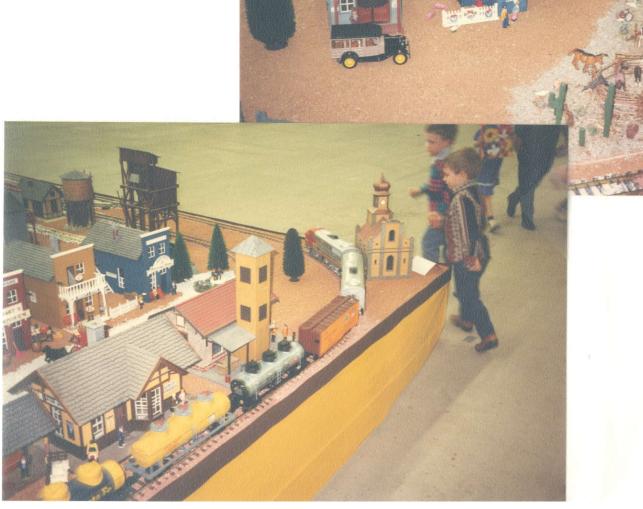
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The GATS Staff,

Jane & Swamson

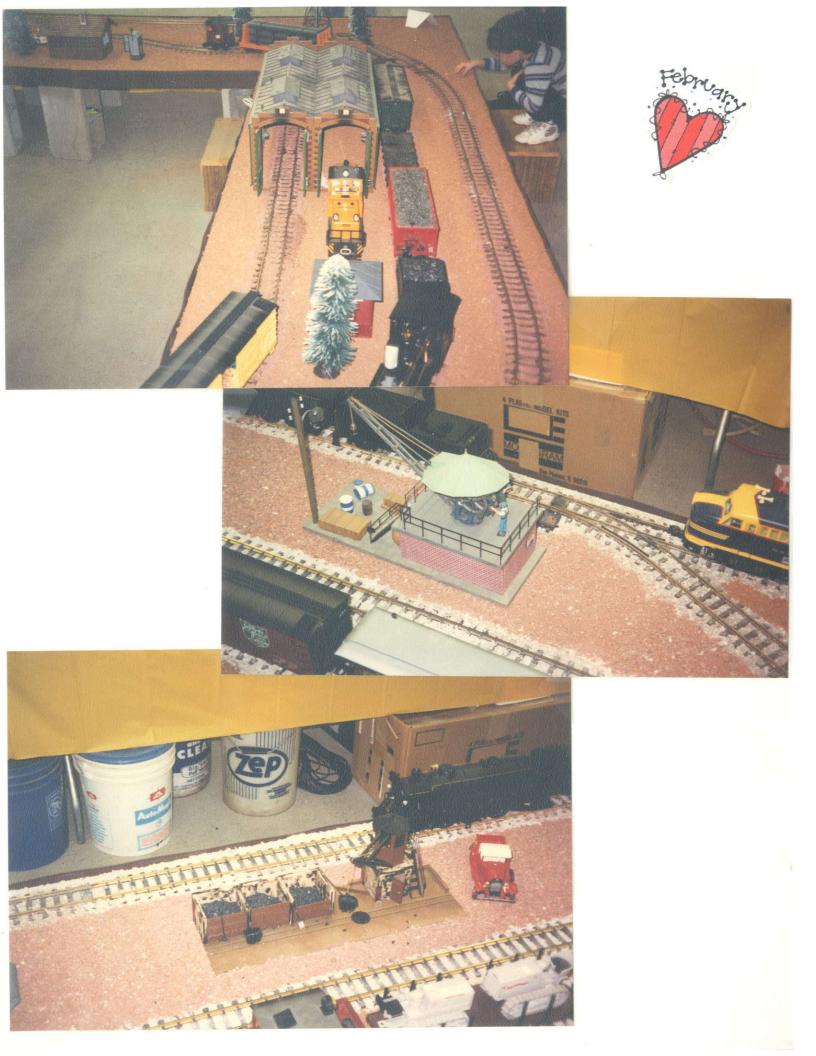


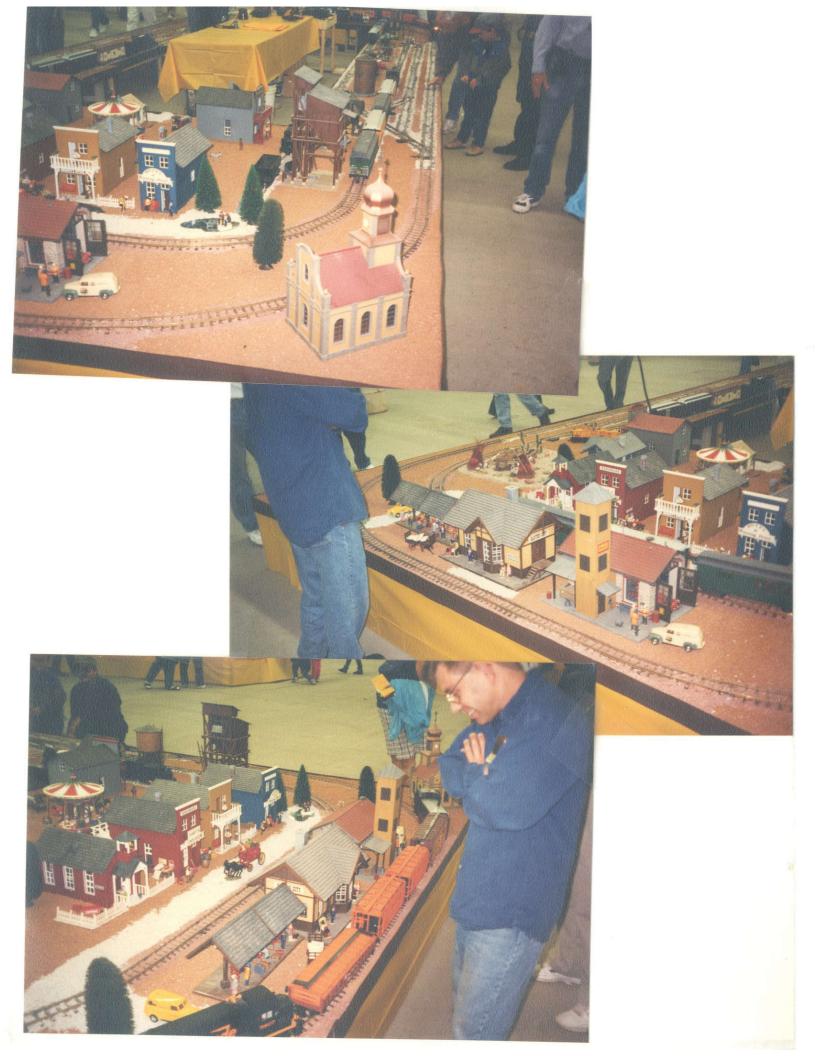
FEBRUARY

















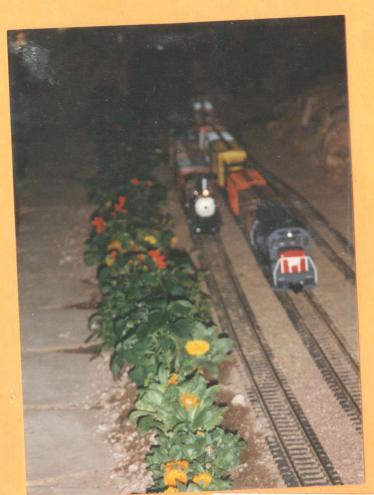




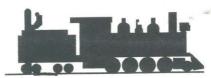




SOUTHERN ARIZONA HOME BUILDERS HOME SHOW - SPRING 1996







THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

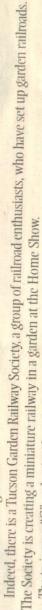
Please plan to join us at the May meeting, Sunday, the 19th, at 1:00, at Loyal and Marty Hart's NEW layout, 7921 E. Scarlett, Tucson, 85710. We look forward to seeing you then!

24th Annual Southern Arizona

thousands of home ideas

Garden Railroads Turn Gthe Garden into Playground

L is "where is there space to set them up?" The answer may very well be "in the garden.".



size that is close in scale to 1/2-inch equals one foot. The trains are approximately 6 inches high. The garden railroad at The trains are "G" scale, significantly larger than the tabletop trains people are used to seeing. G scale is a metric the Home Show will feature members' trains ranging in period from the late 1890s up to the 1950s.

garden setting lush with flowering plants. The railroad garden comes complete with sound effects—speakers will The garden layout will include train track, of course, as well as bridges, tunnels and buildings, all to scale, in a broadcast the sounds of trains running and their whistles. □

"AS THE SHOW TURNS"

The 24th Annual Southern Arizona Home Show

Friday, April 12, 1996 Day Two

official paper of the Home Show published by the SAHBA Show Office distributed daily during the show.

Good Morning Exhibitors! So, how did the first day go? One day down and three to go. There was a steady flow of show attendees yesterday. Today is day two. Have Fun.

PHOTOS for Home Show use will be taken Saturday morning beginning at 8:00am. Please clean your booth before leaving tonight. Don't forget to put your name on the list in the Show Office if you want photographs taken of your booth. We do not know prices. This can be discussed when you meet the photographer.

THURSDAY'S SHOW BUCK

WINNER..... Yesterday was Desi Gonzales' lucky day. Please watch for the large \$1,000 Show Buck as our winners shop the floor.

FIFTH ANNUAL CONTRACTOR'S

NIGHT - Tonight from 4pm to 7pm in the North Exhibition Hall SAHBA will host the Fifth Annual Contractor's Night. This is an appreciation party for all companies in the building industry. This invitation only event is expected to top 1,500 in attendance. At 7pm attendees will receive tickets to enter the Home Show Floor. Please be prepared to receive these VIP's look for their special name badges.

If you are an exhibitor at Contractor's Night please insure that your booth is ready to go and staffed by 3:30pm.

We thank Tucson Electric Power and Payless Cashways for sponsoring this event

Did you know today is Industry Day?

LIVE BROADCASTS TODAY...

Channel 13 taped a segment of the home show for a news broadcast AND their 5pm newscast will be broadcast live from the "Gardens of Flowers" today. Be on the look out for your favorite news personality.

RADIO REMOTES today will include KVOI/KGMS from llam to 3pm and KKHG from 5pm to 8pm.

Did you catch our Co-Chair, Deb Turner, on The Hog yesterday? She talked her way through an impromptu 30 second commercial jammed full of home show information.

BOOTH JUDGING RESULTS: After a long deliberation and an almost hung jury we finally have the results of yesterday's judging. We thought we might have to sequester them at the nearby Holiday Inn! Are you ready? Okay, here we go.....

Most Awesome Display Becklin Homes

Best Booth

Tucson Garden Railway Societu Techline and Contents 2nd **Furniture** 3rd Our Landscaper

Most Aesthetic Multi-Booth

Patio Pools & Spas 2nd Cheryl of Hawaii 3rd Protect-A-Child American Fence Co. Hon.

Most Creative Multi-Booth Tucson Garden Railway

Best Product Presentation - Multi Booth

Classy Closets Yeager Door Company 2nd 3rd Bear Enterprises

1st

Swiss & Martin Quality Hon Shutters

Most Aesthetic Single Booth

Rammed Earth Solar Homes 2nd New West Design Studio Wood Creations 3rd

Most Creative Single Booth

Rammed Earth Solar Homes

Best Product Presentation - Single Booth

lst Robin's Tile Design Beautiful Impressions 2nd Marslund Cedar Products 3rd

Best Professional Service Display Bank One

Most Effective Display of Do-It-Yourself Products Payless Cashways

Best Outdoor Living Display Patio Pools & Spas

Best Home Maintenance Product Andros Refrigeration

Best New Product Custom Cool Towers & Solar Design

JUDGING RESULTS CONTINUED

Best Display Interior Living
1st Techline and Contents
Furniture

Best Display of Cabinets & Woodwork
1st Bear Enterprises

Best Display of Floor Coverings Robin's Tile Design

Best Display of Fixtures CCS Systems, Inc.

Best Outdoor Enhancement Display
Fountain Center

Best Display of Exterior Building Materials

Harvey's Building Materials -Energrid

Best Display of Exterior Building Materials

Energrid

Most Unusual Display Bank One

Best Window/Window Covering Display

Tucson Rolling Shutters

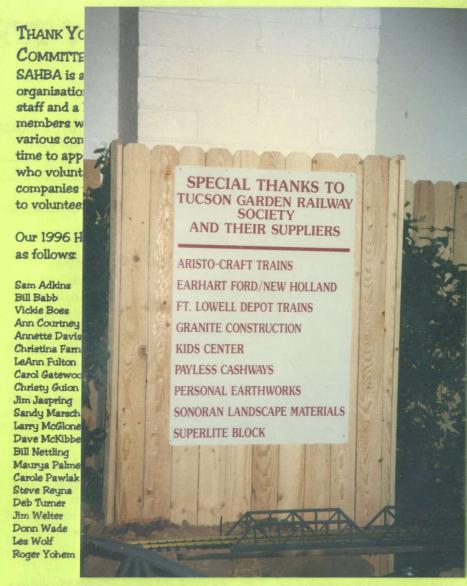
Best Kitchen Accessory Display
The Kitchen Shop

Best Landscape Award....Our judges could not choose. Congratulations to all participants of Gardens of Flowers

> Aravaipa Landscape Blooming Desert Decks & Things Our Landscaper

Congratulations to the various Judge's Choice award winners. Be sure to look for and congratulate the individual companies as you walk the Show Floor.

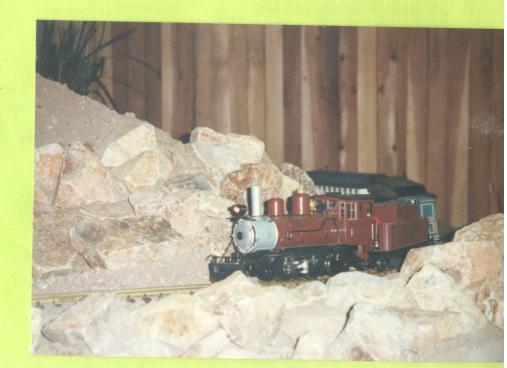
EMERGENCY CALLS ONLY - The Show Office can only take emergency calls for our exhibitors. We simply do not have the staffing to become a message center. The Show Office line is 770-7400.



WE ACKNOWLEDGE AND THANK OUR CO-CHAIRS:

LeAnn Fulton
Carol Gatewood
Deb Turner

L & L Carpet Insty Prints Breese Ways













APRIL























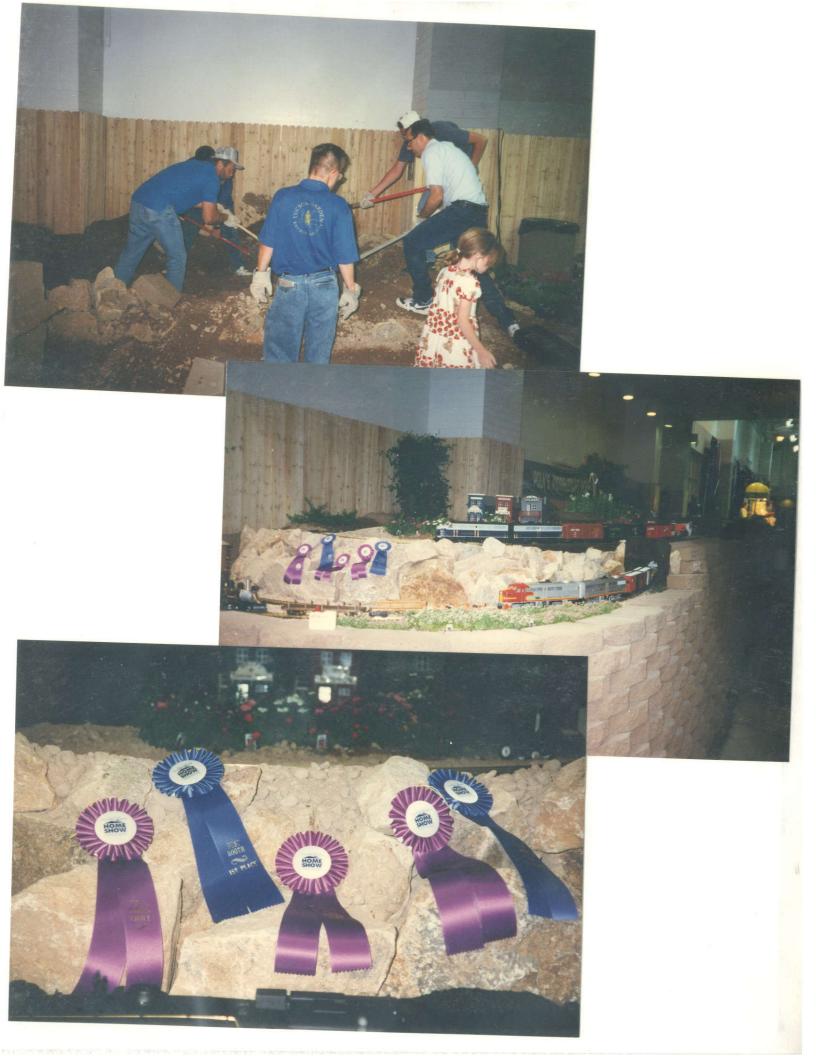














Instant Garden Railroad

TUCSON GARDEN RAILROAD SOCIETY 7921 E Scarlett, Tucson, AZ 85710

or

First take 130 tons of dirt

1.0 The People

The Tucson Garden Railroad Society is a group of people organized to promote garden railroading in the Tucson Arizona area. Consisting of about 35 family and individual members, we have monthly meetings, get together with other groups in the area and participate in events which will give exposure to the society and garden railroading. We have a G-scale modular layout which has been on display at two GATS shows in Tucson and has been fairly successful. Our event coordinator is always looking for things we can participate in to increase our exposure. Because of the long time between the Feb. 1996 and Feb. 1997 GATT shows in Tucson we decided to try something new. Hopefully this article will save others from a making the same mistakes we did.

The Tucson SAHBA Home show is a trade show open to the public to promote products and services in the Tucson area related to home improvement, renovation and building. It is presented by the Southern Arizona Home Builders Association in April and October. In general participants are commercial sellers and contractors who pay for booth space at the show. Each show also has several featured attractions. Our club had participated in a limited way several years ago and we asked about participating again. In early February the SAHBA people enthusiastically welcomed us as a nonpaying attraction for the Spring Show, April 11-14.

2.0 The Design

The area the Home show had available was a 30' x 70' ramp which connected the two show exhibit halls. Poorly lighted and required as a fire access. It was not usable as commercial space but could accommodate a garden layout nicely. The Fire Marshall had okayed our use of 12' of the ramp's 30' width along the east wall of the ramp. We immediately began to work on designs which would fit into the 12' by 70' space. That is when the fun began.

First the ramp, was well, a ramp, we were informed that it dropped 24" in two inclines, from one end of the 70' to the other. Second, there were three 30" deep columns which protruded into the twelve foot space we could use. By judicious placement of end loops and by shifting the ends of the track we finally came up with the design in Figure 1. By grading the ramp with dirt from 12" at the high end to 36" at the low end we could make a layout of two dog bones at two levels with transition tracks between the two levels. This called for five tunnels, the longest about 10 feet long and three four foot bridges.

Both loops were essentially at a level grade with 1-3% grades on the two transition tracks. We also planned in several sidings and passing tracks to allow multiple trains to run simultaneously. The design had space for buildings and plants. Plans for a cog railway up a mountain in the center of one dog bone loop and a water fall in the other, were dropped early on as too ambitious. With the design finalized we began to do some detailed planning of how to get the layout built. More Fun ensued. The 24" incline

turned out to be closer to 42" which meant more dirt or steeper grades on the mainlines. The coordinator working with a landscaper made an estimate of the amount of dirt and we decide to raise the dirt at the bottom of the ramp to 54" to retain a nearly flat layout.

3.0 The Plan

It was obvious from the beginning that the club had neither sufficient loose track or cash to fund a layout on the scale we had planned. a member with contacts in the Large Scale train industry made inquiries about the possibilities of corporate help for the layout. We received a favorable response from Aristo-Craft Trains and were able to secure the loan of six locomotives, about 100 pieces of rolling stock. In addition Aristo-Craft also shipped us about 500' of curved and straight track which we could use and either return or purchase at a discount when the event was over. In all about \$7000.00 worth of equipment was lent to us by Aristo-Craft. Our events chairman also rounded up donations from a construction company, a building materials company, a landscaper and a concrete block company. We were promised enough retaining wall block and as much dirt as we needed to complete the layout. We to this point still didn't have a clue what we were in for.

We developed a plan for how to build the layout and obtained the promise of help from many of our members. The bad news didn't start until about two weeks before the event. Due to restrictions imposed by other events being held at the convention center and the requirements of other exhibitors, (including a two complete houses), we could not begin setting up until Thursday evening April 4 less than a week before the start of the Show.

No problem, we thought, we have plenty of time.... Sure we do.

4.0 The Work

Several members of the club met Thursday evening to begin setting up the retaining wall and levelling the dirt. I had designed the layout and had planned in an 18' long trestle as one transition from the lower track to the upper. I planned to stay home Thursday to complete the construction of 36 trestle bents ranging from six to eighteen inches high. A call at 6:30 on Thursday cancelled those plans. The event coordinator was frantic trying to gather up the tools, equipment and donations for the layout and get the wall built, and asked that I go down and help out with the dirt and wall.

I arrived at the convention center at 7:00 to find five club members and the landscaper who was helping level the dirt staring in awe at a pile of 100 cu. yds. of dirt and 14 pallets containing 700 keystone retaining wall blocks. Since no one knew anything about how the blocks were supposed to be used, we started stacking the 30+ pound blocks in an interlocked pattern as if we were laying regular bricks. Merrily working away, in about three hours we had completed about 16 feet of the retaining wall to a height of about 4 feet. Hmm, only 110 feet of wall to go. I estimated another 24 hours would see us done. No problem. Then along comes the manager of the block company and we have a conversation something like this.

He: Oh, you're coming along nicely.

Me: Yep, we should get the rest of this done tomorrow or Sa urday.

He (looking around): looks like you're already out of pins. I'll get some more

First take 130 tons of dirt October 28, 1998 2

Me: Pins? Pins? What Pins?

He: Oh, the Pins that hold the blocks together... You know the 1/2"x6" pins you put in the holes in the blocks to keep the wall from falling down

Me: (head in hands weeping) Pins? Pins in holes? So that's why those holes are there., Do we really Need these pins? Oh my aching back, we have to take all this down.

Now putting a 30+ lb. block onto a wall is no fun, but, taking it off to put in the pins which we had forgotten, was even less fun. But, away we went, all the while calling down grand and glorious curses on the head of the poor marketing person who decided to name the block system "SuperLite Block". Three and a half hours later at 12:30 PM, we were back to where we had been at 9:00 PM, with pins now installed in all the blocks. Total time expended about 36 man hours.

Friday and Saturday went pretty smoothly. Though we found that 4 feet of curved wall took twice as long to lay as 4 feet of straight. After reading the instructions that came in a fresh box of pins we found out that the spacing for curves is supposed to be different. (The new box was opened on Saturday morning just after the last major Curve was completed.) Well just keep going and hope for the best. Working from 7:30 AM to Midnight a varying crew of four to seven, (including two of my friends shanghaied into helping), completed 80% of the wall by Saturday. All of the work to the continuous drone of a small front end loader struggling to move the pile of dirt. Total effort 165 man hours.

Sunday, Easter Sunday, the event coordinator gives the crew the day off. Not me, remember those trestle bents. I celebrate Easter with 14 hours work to complete the bents and begin the process of tying the trestle together. Total Time 14 Man hours.

Monday morning, the crew, down to three this AM continues with setup. Fence sections 8' by 6' are cut and used to line the back wall of the layout, Looks like a backyard,. Tunnel boxes and portals are delivered by various members who built them. Members bring by personal bridges for temporary use on the layout.

Around noon the bad news starts. We don't have enough dirt to fill the volume required. The wall design calls for it to lean in almost 12" at the highest point. This combined with a miscalculation on the placement of the columns means our track plan will no longer fit the available space. The Fire Marshall now thinks we should only use ten feet of the available space. The plants must be delivered a day early and there is no place to store them. The rolling stock and track hasn't gotten here yet. We may not have enough switches for the planned layout. We are told no additional trucks will be able to enter the hall for deliveries. The ballast gravel and landscape rocks have not been delivered yet. We are told we have to leave the hall at 6:00 PM on Wednesday to allow the carpets to be put down. The events coordinator is getting donated supplies delivered and is often unavailable to handle the various crises. Besides which his daughter is getting married at his house on Saturday during the show and he needs to get ready for that and handle a flood of relatives and friends. *Arrgh*. How did we ever get talked into this.

Well, a delivery of three additional 12 cubic yard dump trucks of dirt almost takes care of the volume problem. A quick redesign of the track layout produces a plan which will fit. The Fire Marshall is convinced that moving 130 tons of dirt is impossible and the base of the wall is only two feet past the permitted ten feet. He finally agrees. We talk to the Show people and find a place to store the plants and get a hose in so they can by watered. This is a twice a day ritual in 4% humidity in Tucson's spring. UPS delivers 'he donated track and rolling stock to the treasurer's house. A delivery of rock and ballast is promised

for early Tuesday. We decide to avoid the carpet problem by ignoring it. By that time we'll be putting the finishing touches on the top of the layout anyway.

Monday ends with a much larger crew than it started with. About two thirds of the dirt is in place and roughly at the right height. The wall is completed for 80% of its length and to full height. But we still have no mountains to hide the tunnels and we're missing two six foot curved tunnel boxes which we had forgotten to assign to someone to build. Total time 140 man hours.

Tuesday arrives with the core crew of six who have been here since Thursday arriving at 7:30. We are tired and grumpy. The job at this point seems impossible, but we can't give up, it would be embarrassing. While dirt, rock, ballast and plants are delivered we move the blocks needed to complete the wall near where they will be needed. Some of the crew begin the construction of the final terrain at the now filled deep end of the layout space. A quick estimate shows we are still short of dirt and two tunnels boxes, but we lots of extra blocks. The blocks are buried and dirt and rock placed over them to get the elevation for the upper track. Another redesign of the layout and the two missing tunnels are replaced by cuts with bridges over them. We're now missing two bridges about four feet long, but we saved a lot of dirt.

By evening the deep end of the layout has some track placed and the rough shape of the layout is beginning to take shape. The mound of 36 cu. yds of dirt is down to a few, too few cubic yards, and the shallow end of the layout has a huge unfilled hole. Show coordinators would like us to get rid of the block pallets soon. Hmm, we quickly construct a flimsy structure of the remaining unused block, empty pallets, cardboard and plywood in the hole remaining in the shallow end of the layout. Careful use of the remaining dirt, rock and two short uncovered tunnels, disguised by plants and the last minute donation of a concrete and fiberglass natural pool fountain by another exhibitor essentially complete the overall terrain for the layout. Total Time 180 Man hours.

Wednesday morning we arrive at 7:30 and start track layout and alignment. I get to install my trestle. We work until noon getting track laid. No work yet on the electrical setup. I call the person I carpool with, an electronics technician, and ask if he can give me a hand. Fortunately his boss is out of town and he can take a few hours off to help. He arrives at 2:00 PM and gets the lower track set up by six. We put a test engine on and run it around the lower track. It jerks, halts, slows, wobbles and hesitates but it goes around. The wiring for the upper track is laid down, but it's in even worse shape than the lower. We decide to work exclusively on the lower track except for cosmetics.

Wednesday evening, more members show up we have a crew of twelve now. Buildings are placed. Plants are laid out. and the lower track is leveled and ballasted. Three gaps still exist in the upper track. After a quick trip to the lumber yard, a crew is put to work constructing eight piling trestle bents 18" high. we disassemble a four foot bridge and stretch it by angling the girder truss sides. Two 2' bridges are attached to a 1x8 and made into a single four foot bridge and a 1x8 and several pieces of furring strip are turned into another four foot girder bridge. By the end of the evening at 2:00 AM. the plants have been watered and placed, both tracks are visually complete and we can run two trains on the lower track using a two block system and an of Aristo-Craft Train Engineer Radio control throttle. Total Time 216 Man hours.

5.0 The Finished Product

Thursday morning we arrive at 7:30. The Show starts at 11:00 AM so we have 3 and a half hours to finish. There is no electrical system for the top track so we write it off for now. The order of the day is to get the bottom track working. We spend the morning running trains and dragging the cleaning car around the track while we finish leveling and ballasting. A persistent problem shows up running around the lower loop in the preferred design direction the trains consistently stall at the top of a ten foot inclined tunnel. Unless the engineer is paying strict attention the second train catches up and a major derailment occurs inside the tunnel. This is made worse by the fact that the far end of the tunnel is out of view of the engineer. After the second incident, requiring the design and use of "The Hook" to clear the tunnel, we discover that the grade inside the tunnel is closer to five percent than the designed two percent. We reverse the track directions and have no further problems with tunnel. At 11:00 we are ready. There are still lots of details to cover but the layout has trains running. We put off working on the upper track until Friday morning. Total Time 60 Man hours including manning the booth and running the trains (hardly counted as work.)

Friday Morning at 7:30 we arrive and water plants. By 10:00 AM the upper track is working though it definitely has that Narrow Gage feel. The track wanders up and down, right and left. One curve cannot possibly be more than an 18" radius. And all of it is held in place by cribbing, large rocks and the good wishes of the designer and track crews. By noon on Friday we are running three trains on the layout. The upper track's power pack being incapable of delivering more than four amps. The buildings, plants and general layout look good and it is obvious from the crowd reaction the layout is a success. The big day Saturday will tell the tale.

Saturday morning we arrive and water plants and set up for the big day. The reaction of kids and adults alike is uniformly positive. The area near the layout is jammed continuously. We get to run the trains and show off our hard work the reactions of all concerned is almost enough to make all worth while. A small problem Saturday night is corrected by the night crew and Sunday goes just as well as Saturday. The layout wins First Place for the best booth overall and for the best multi-booth display we also win three of the five Judges' Choice Awards. We essentially we won first place in every category we were eligible.

Sunday evening at 6:00 the Home show was over and since we had only until Monday evening to remove the display we immediately began to disassemble it. By 9:00 PM less than three hours after we started the rolling stock, buildings and trackage were taken up and boxed. With help from two people sent by block company the block wall was disassembled and stacked back on the pallets. The plants and other donated materials were stacked ready to be picked up for return. Only a forlorn pile of dirt and rocks remained to be scooped up by front end loader and put back into the trucks.

6.0 The Lessons

After in excess of 700 man hours put in to do this show. There are several lessons in this for other Clubs. First, have someone else build the ground. Most of the time consumed was used to get the wall and dirt in place. A little sculpting, grading and leveling is okay but be sure the main effort is complete.

Second, take the layout designer to the site and check all the assumptions about space available, elevations etc. are correct. There is no substitute for standing on the ground.

Third, make sure the Show has security and insurance. While there was no problem during the show, four boxes of 5' straight track disappeared after we had packed it onto a trailer for removal the next day. The club has so far had to eat the cost of that track.

Fourth, be sure the track plan is flexible enough to allow changes, but detailed enough so that all of the structures needed for the layout can be predicted and built in advance.

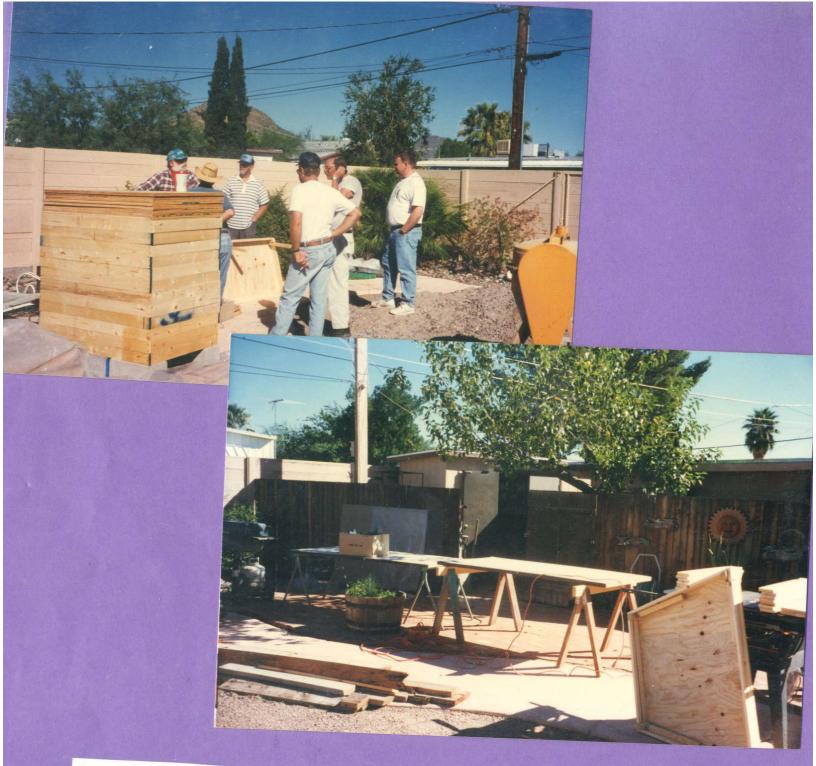
Last but not least, "Plan Ahead". Not only should you get commitments to help from club members, but get specific commitments as to time and place, tasks to be completed and level of effort available. Several of the people who came to help on Thursday and Friday were physically incapable of the heavy labor needed for the block wall. Know the capabilities of your members.

And finally when your event coordinator shows up at your monthly meeting and says "We have this wonderful chance to be part of X Y or Z". After you've tied and gagged him. Be sure you go through the proposal in great detail, so you can predict the time and effort which will be needed.

MODULE BUILDING PROJECT







MY JOB

It's not my place to run the train
The whistle I can't blow
It's not my place to say how far
The train's allowed to go
It's not my place to shoot off steam
Nor even clang the bell
But let the damn thing jump the track
And see who catches Hell!!!!

MODULE BUILDING PROJECT





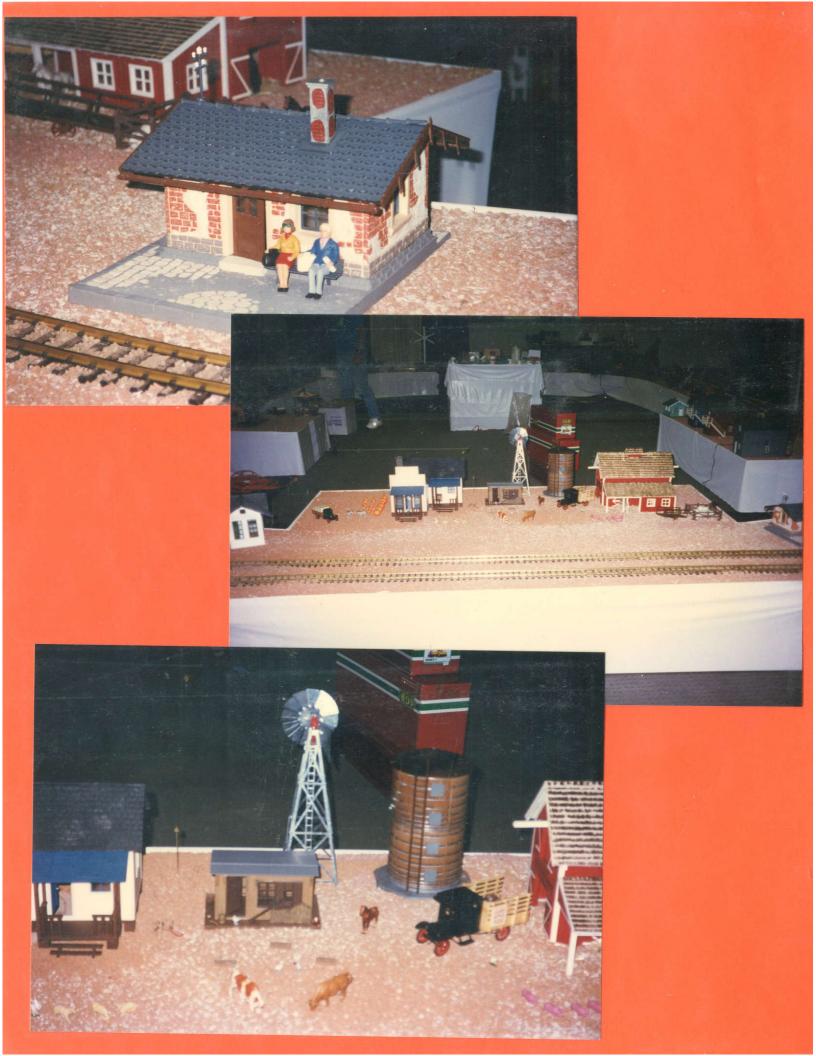


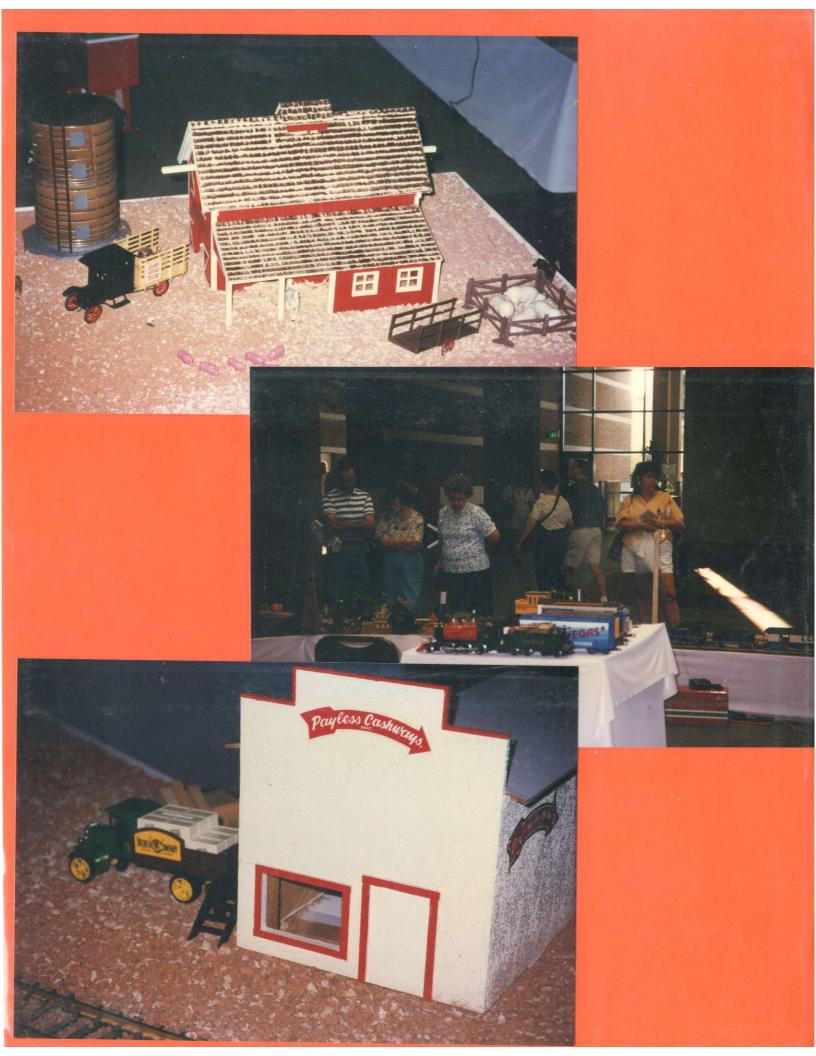


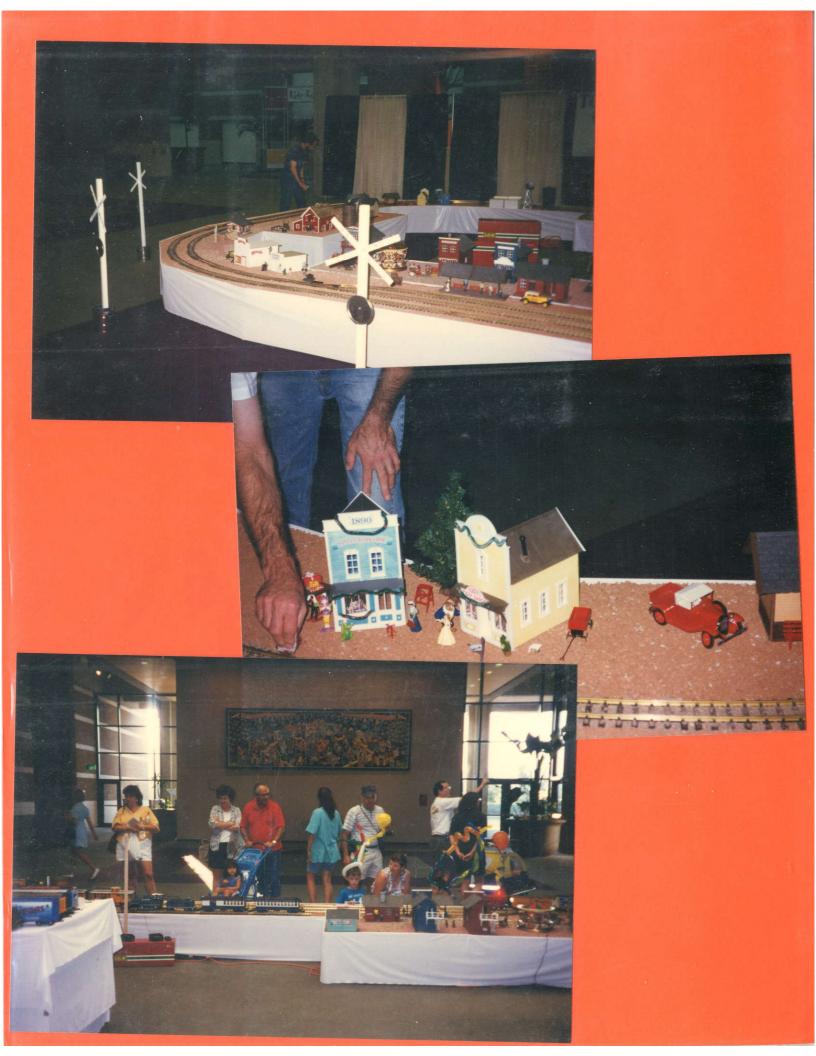
HOME DIKECTIONS HOME SHOW - Jall 1996

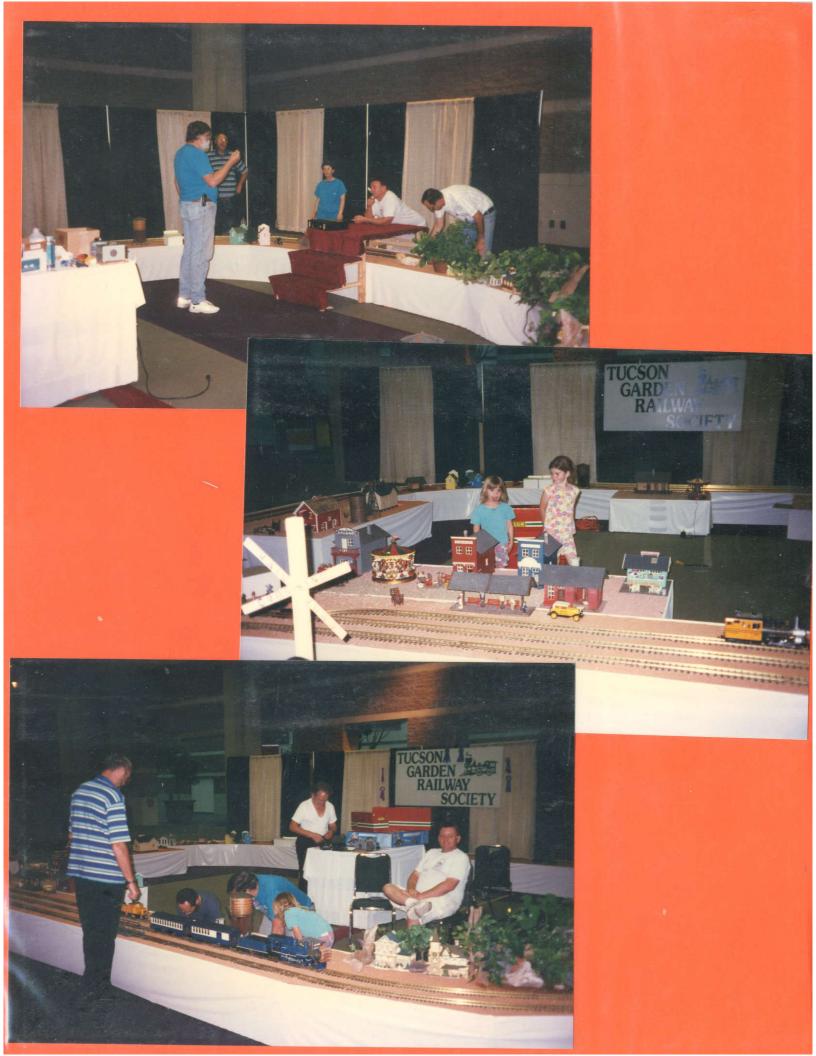
























The Tucson Garden Railroad Society Newsletter (intermittent publication vol 1, number 2) September, 1995

We hope everyone had a good summer and that you are ready to get back to regular Garden Railroad meetings.

Next Meeting - Sept. 14

The next meeting of the Tucson Garden Railroad Society will be held at the Ft. Lowell Depot Restaurant,3501 E. Ft. Lowell, at 7:00 PM on September the 14th. A major topic for discussion is to determine whether we want to participate in the Great American Train Show again this year. The show will be held on December 2nd & 3rd. If we decide that we will do it, we want to establish a small committee to plan the display. All of the membership will be expected to help put it together and to take turns staffing the display. Orton and Pat Barnes, the new owners of the G scale train business at the restaurant, have offered a door prize for the meeting.

Upcoming Meetings

We had planned on visiting Clara and Tom Inwagen's layout this month, however family emergencies resulted in having to postpone it until another time. We hope things have settled down for them and we can visit it soon.

For the October meeting we have made arrangements with Roger Russell to view his 1n3 layout (1/32 scale narrow gage, 3/8 inches/foot). He will host an open house beginning at 1:00 PM -? on Sunday, October 22, at his home at 9880 N. Desert Sky Road. (See map on back of this sheet). Roger is nationally known for his narrow gage modeling and his scenery techniques and has won several awards at the National Garden Railway conventions. He has written a series of five articles on modelling that appeared in the Outdoor Railroader magazine and has graciously agreed to share his layout and modeling expertise with us. Although his layout is 1n3, which is large scale although not G, his modelling techniques can be applied to any scale.

The club officers continue to need ideas for meeting programs and we solicit your thoughts.

Wanted:

Alan Lathrem is looking for Bachmann Porter 0-4-0's in any kind of condition for a kit bashing project he is working on. If you can help give him a call at 544-9738.

Hope to see you on the 14th!

Craig McKinnis, President 292-6619

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Reminder: The dues year runs June to June. If you have not sent in your renewal or new member dues, please do so as soon as possible, so we can get a new roster to you at the Oct.

meeting. Thanks!