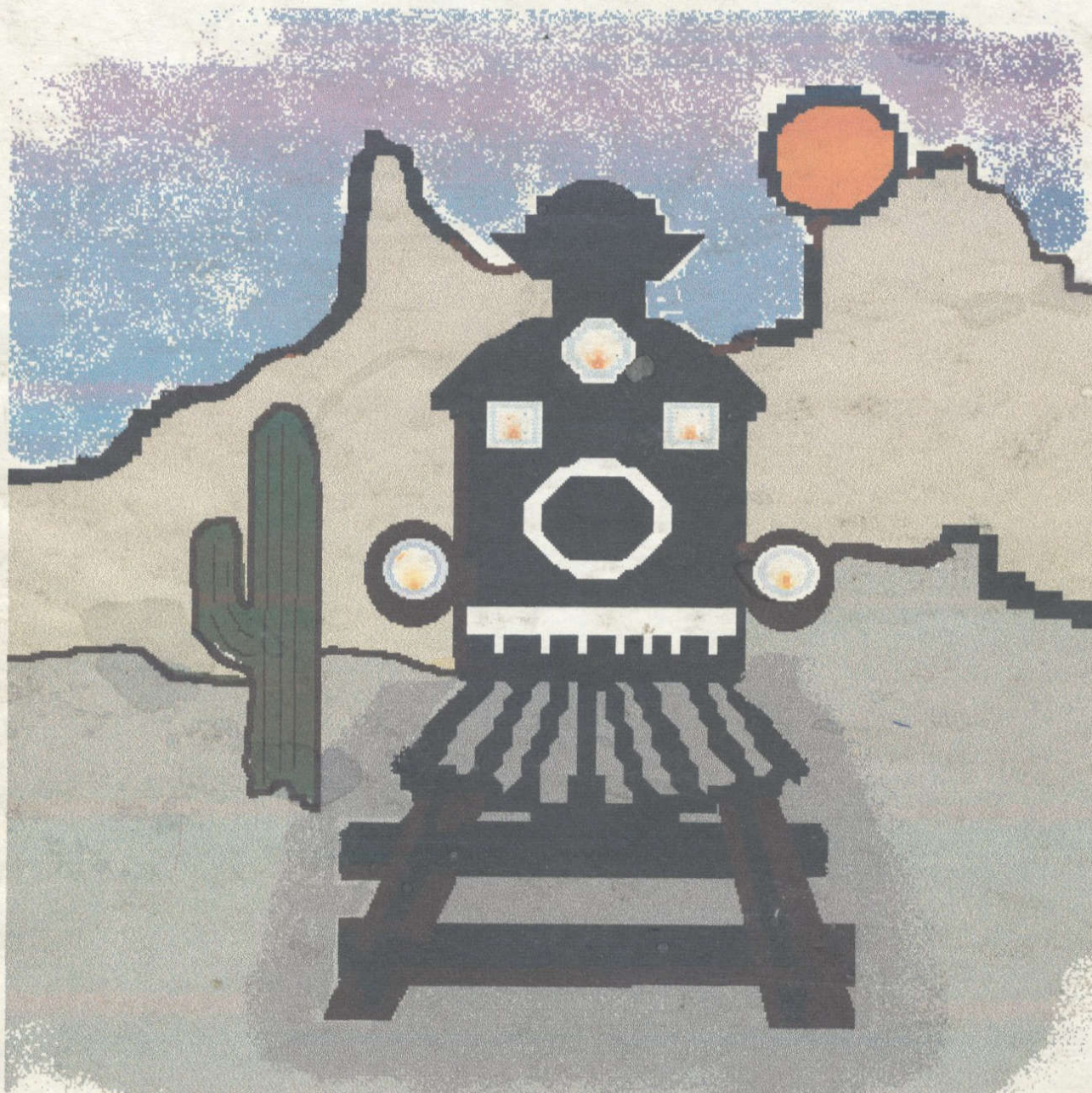


TGRS



ALL ABOARD



1997

1999

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!



GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW WINTER - 1997

THANK YOU

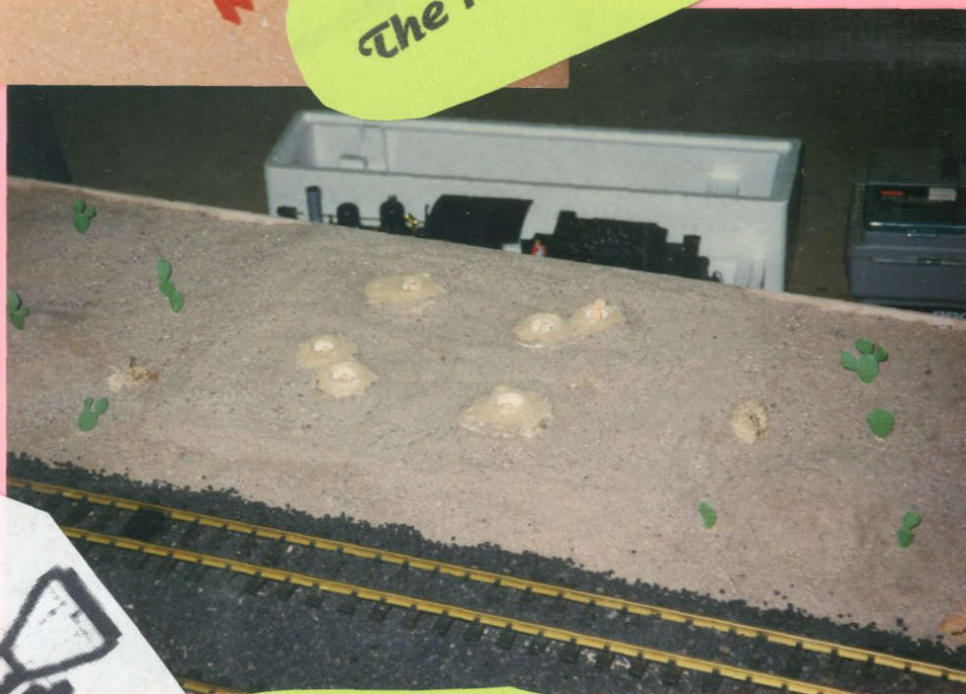
On behalf of the entire Great American Train Show staff
we would like to thank you for participating this weekend.
If we may be of further assistance please ask.



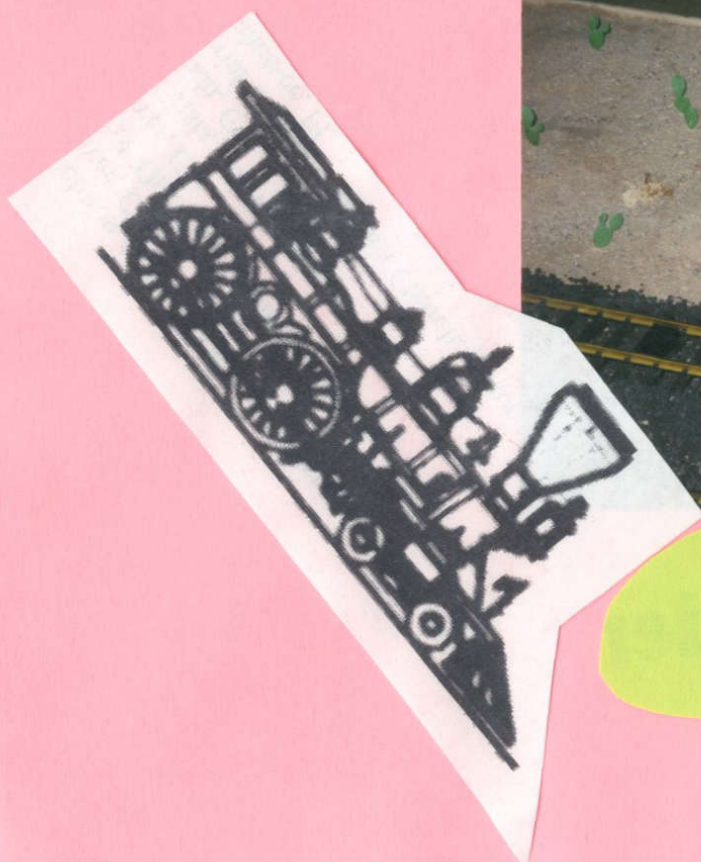
GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW WINTER - 1997



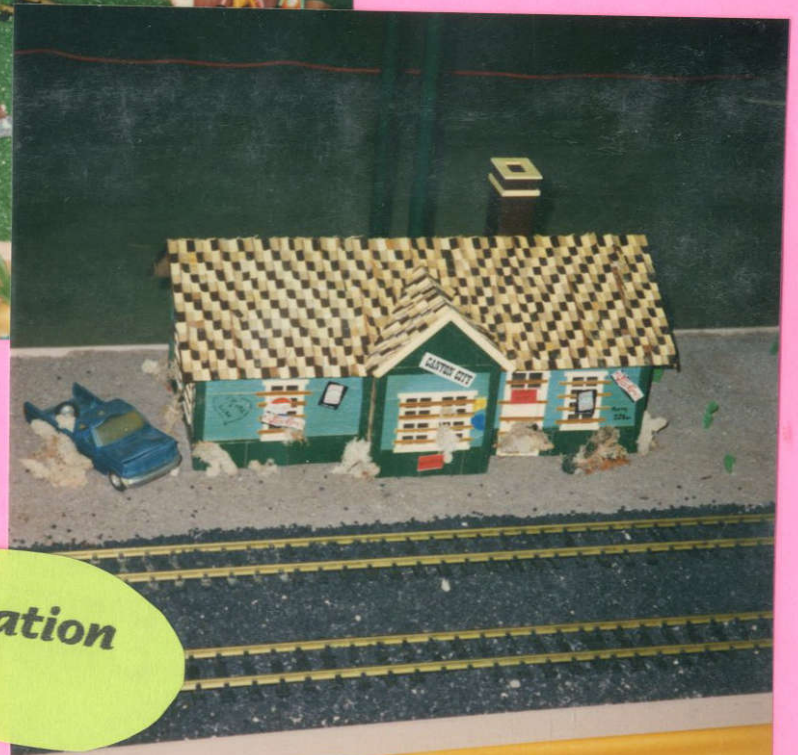
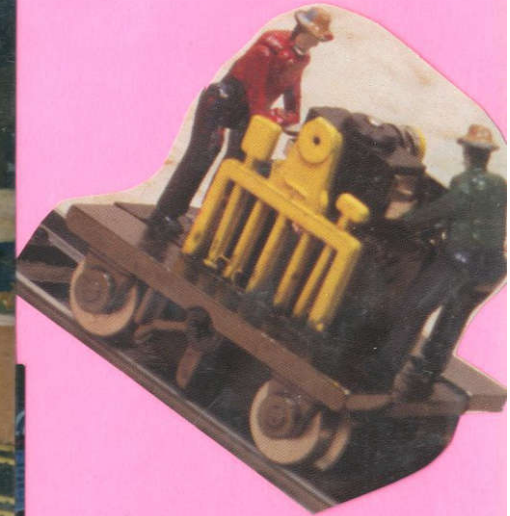
The Hart Playmobile Village



Fabbri Prairie Dog Town



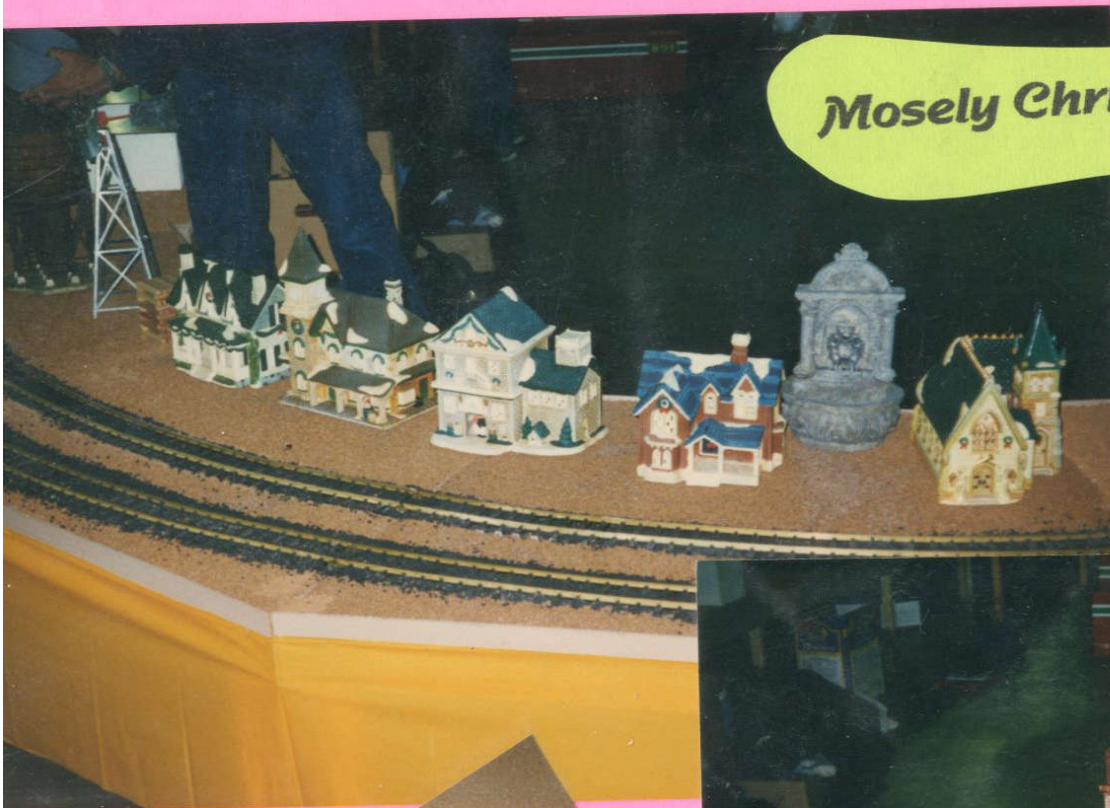
GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW WINTER - 1997



Jabbri's Abandoned Station

GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW WINTER - 1997

Mosely Christmas Village





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 8TH & 9TH, 1997



1885 OVER 100 YEARS OF DAILY SERVICE **1985**

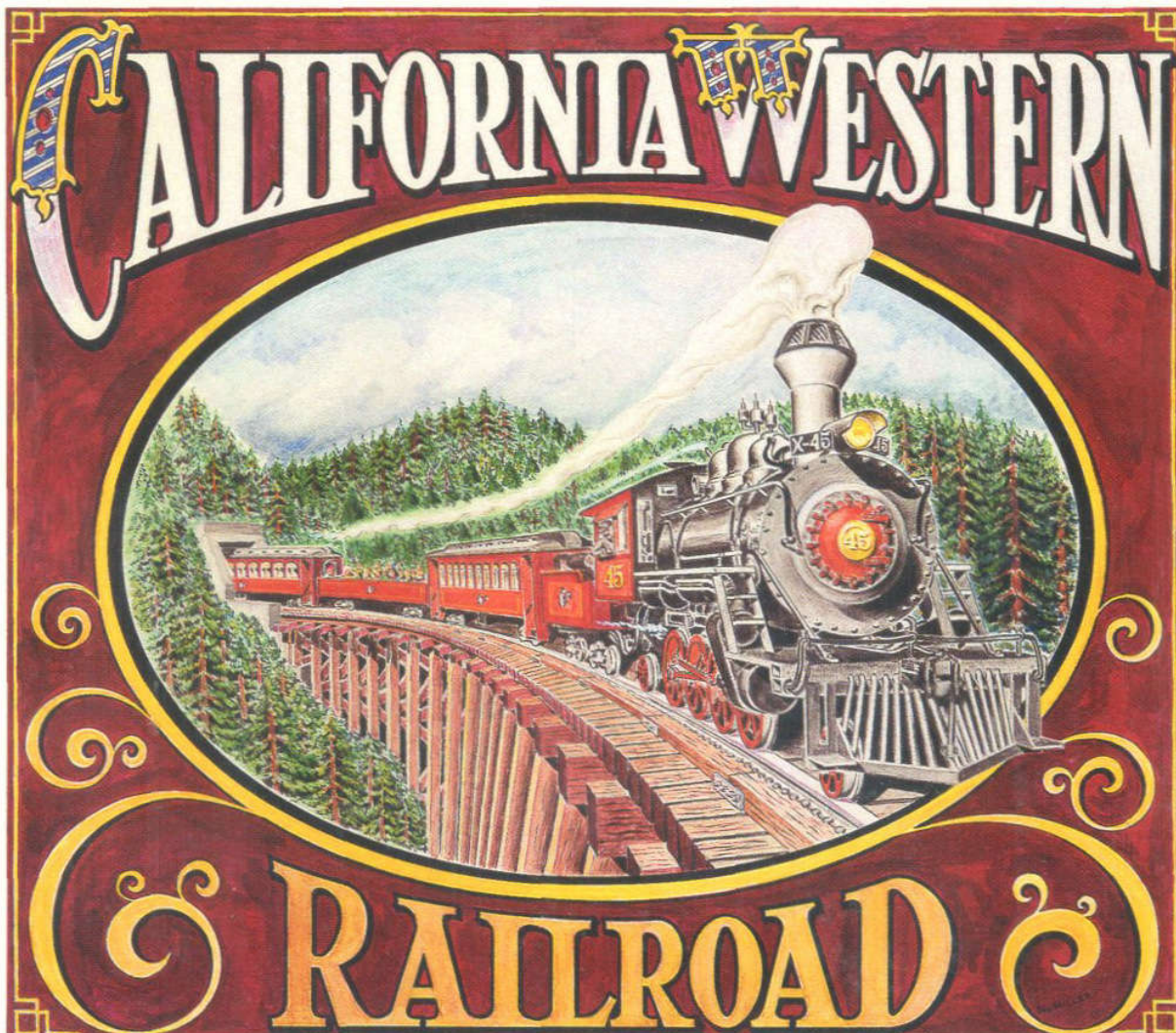
Dignitaries, Oratory,
Exhibits, Ceremony,

➔ **CENTENNIAL** ➔

and Refreshments
at Northspur

☞ RIDE THE SKUNKS, OCEAN TO THE REDWOODS ☞

★★★ **SATURDAY, MAY 25** ★★★



FORT BRAGG

**PAUL BUNYAN
★★★ DAYS ★★★**

**FRONTIER
★ DAYS ★**

WILLITS

Travelers for Pleasure, Health or Business • Ride the Iron Horse While Viewing In Comfort

★★★★★ The Wonders of Nature, Invigorating Fresh Crisp Air, Tunnels, Trestles, Switchbacks & Curves ★★★★★

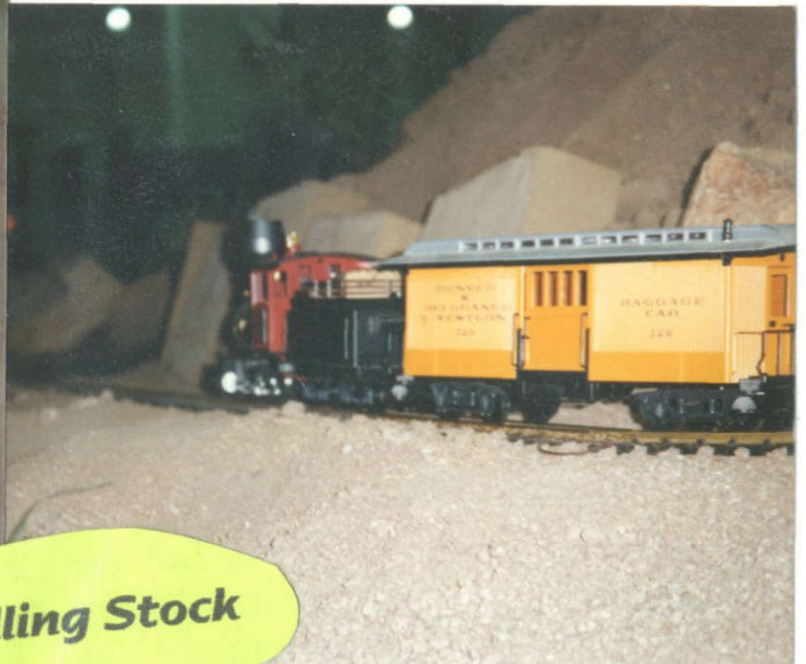
➔ **ROUTE OF THE REDWOODS** ➔

INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS 707-964-6371

**SOUTHERN ARIZONA HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION
HOME SHOW - SPRING 1997**



Trenching for the Tunnel



Fitzner's Rolling Stock

HOME SHOW - SPRING 1997

TUCSON GARDEN RAILROAD SOCIETY

URNS GARDENS INTO FUN.

ABOUT FOUR YEARS AGO, A GROUP OF PEOPLE GOT TOGETHER WHO LIKED MINIATURE TRAINS, A HOBBY WHICH ONCE WAS AN INDOOR ONE, WHERE SPACE IS SOMETIMES LIMITED. BECAUSE OF THE BEAUTIFUL TUCSON WEATHER, WHAT BETTER PLACE THAN THE GARDEN TO ENJOY THAT HOBBY. HENCE THE BEGINNING OF THE TUCSON GARDEN RAILROAD SOCIETY, WHICH HAS 42 FAMILIES. THE TRAINS ARE G SCALE SOMEWHAT LARGER THAN TABLE TOP ONES. THEY ARE CLOSE IN SCALE TO 1/2 INCH EQUALS ONE FOOT. THE TRAINS ARE AROUND 6 TO 7 INCHES HIGH.

TUCSON GARDEN RAILROAD SOCIETY'S DISPLAY AT THE HOME SHOW THIS TIME WILL COVER FEET. THERE WILL BE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY ON HAND TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.

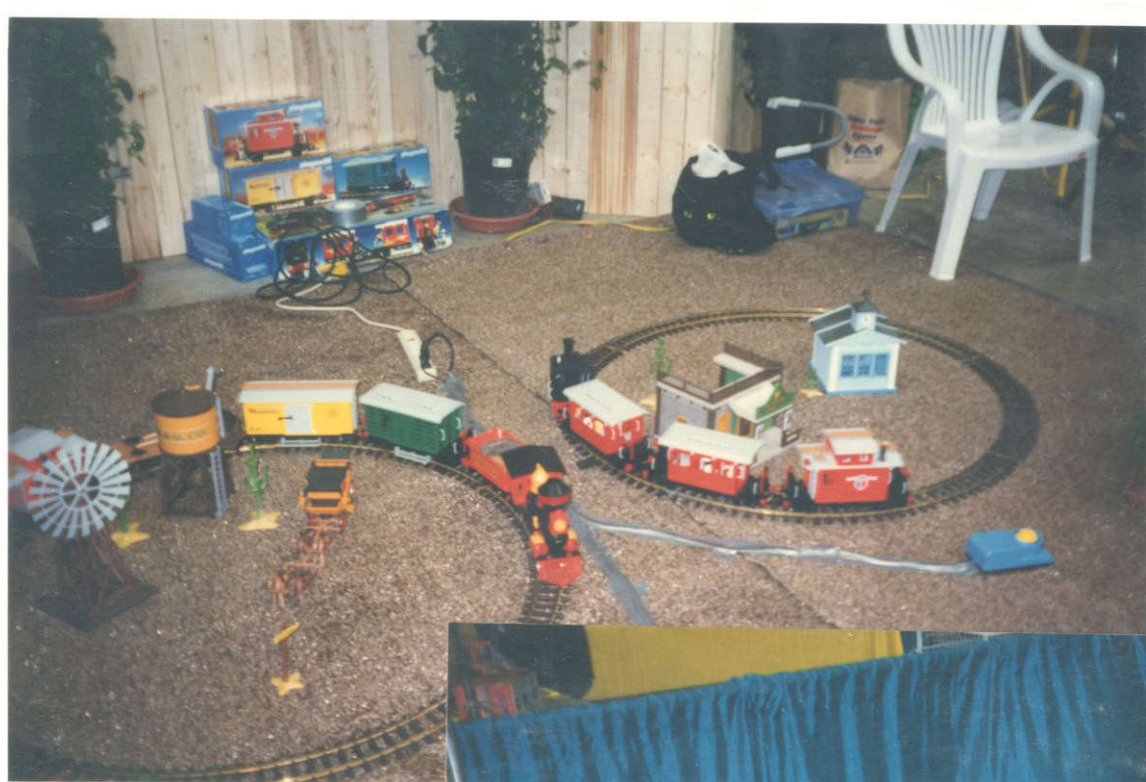


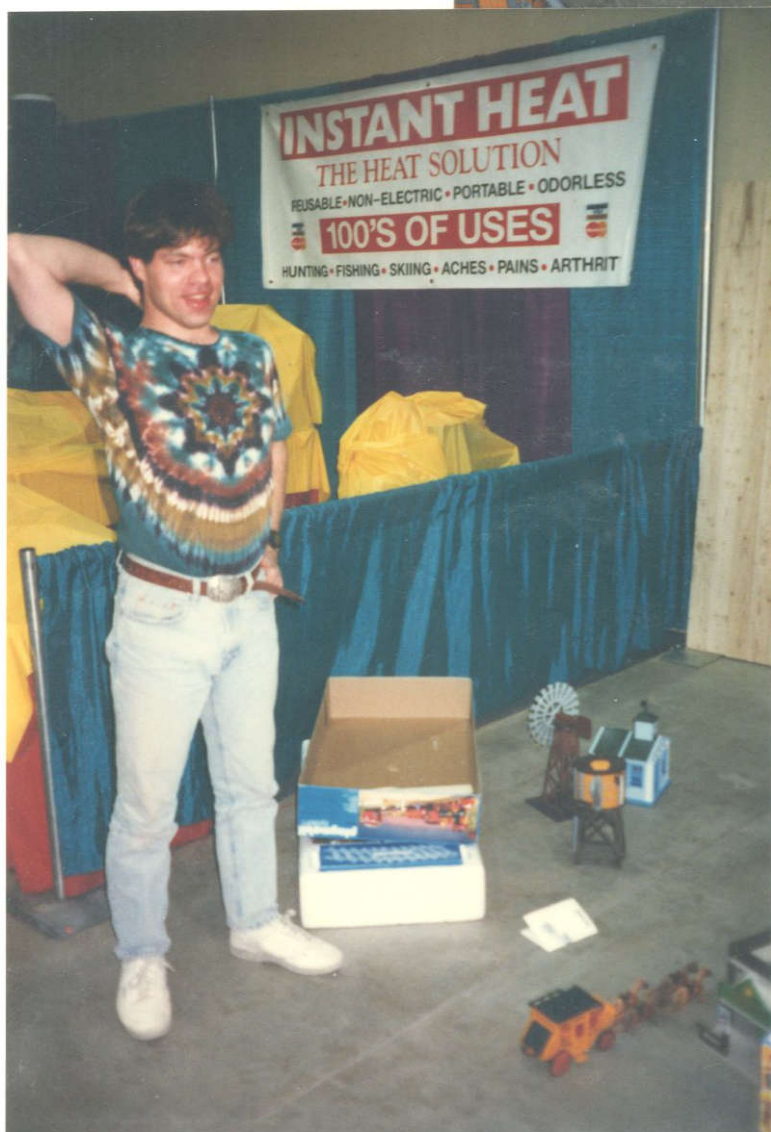








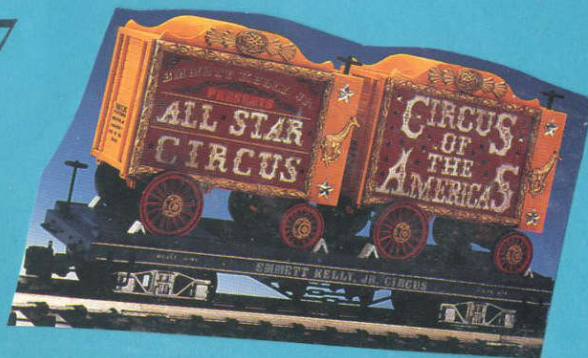








**VISIT TO ARIZONA BIG TRAIN
OPERATORS
SPRING, 1997**



ABTO



Arizona Big Train Operators

**WELCOMES
TUCSON GARDEN
RAILWAY**

Welcome Aboard!

It is with great pleasure that the members of ABTO welcome you. Our fellow garden railroaders from Tucson, to visit some of our garden railroads. We look forward to the opportunity to share and visit with you. Attached are some descriptions and pictures of the layouts you will visit.

A light lunch will be served at the Slinkard's home. Dinner will be at Scottsdale Station a restaurant with a railroad motif. The prices are reasonable and the food is excellent. A drawing will be held at the dinner for an attendance prize.

VISIT TO ARIZONA BIG TRAIN OPERATORS SPRING, 1997

Your Place For Trains and Accessories



Arizona Train Depot
755 E. McKellips
(corner of Horne/McKellips)
Mesa, Arizona 85203

Store: Lee
602-833-9486

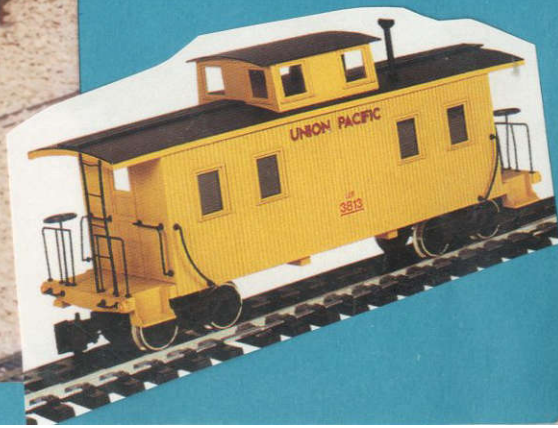
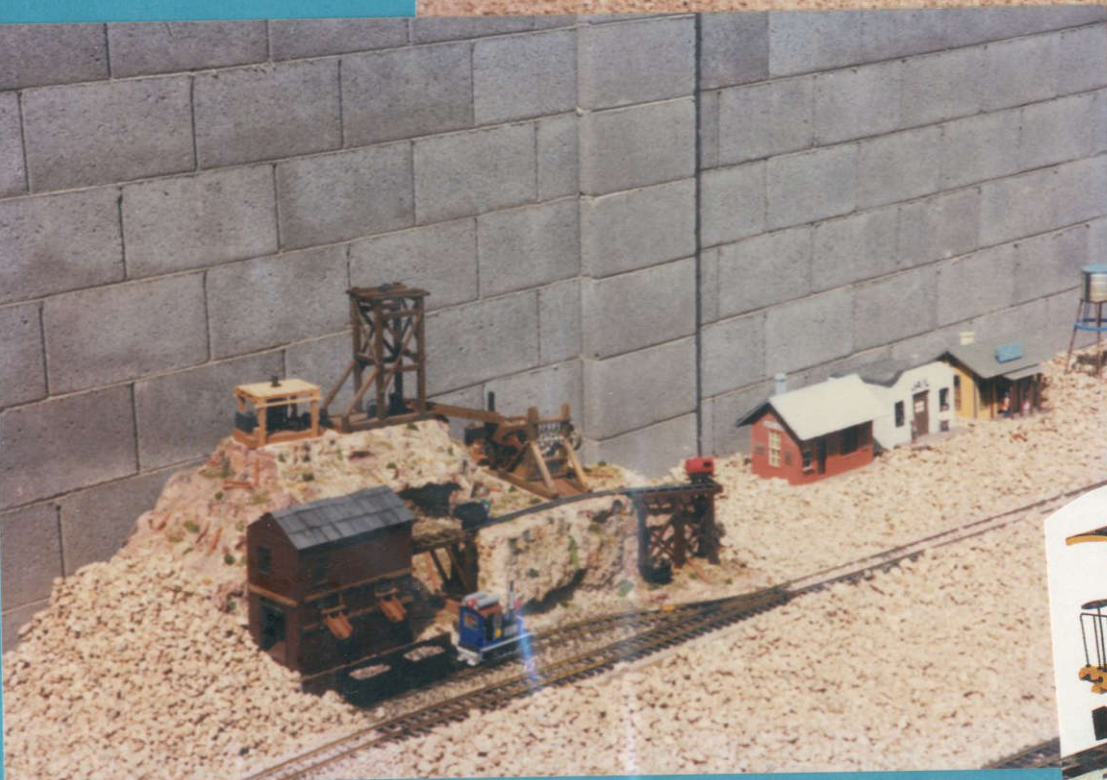
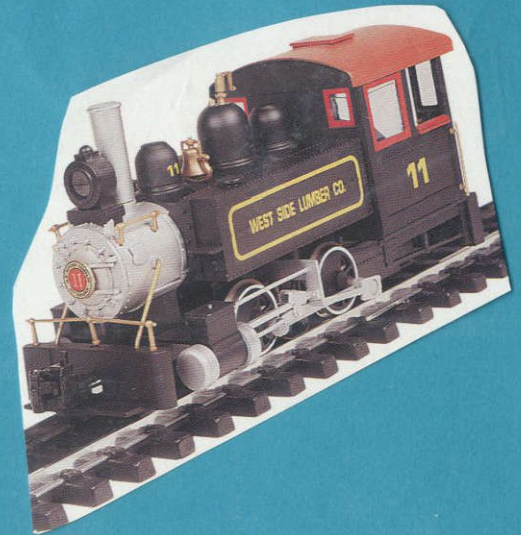
Office: Telephone / Fax
602-834-4644



ARIZONA TRAIN DEPOT, located at 755 East McKellips, Mesa (corner of Horne & McKellips) (602-833-9486) is probably Arizona's largest retailer of G Scale model RR items. Lee DeGross, owner, has three operating G-Scale RRs in his store encompassing Circus, Mining and Rocky Mountain themes. His 8' X 24' floor display consists of three loops, two elevations and 265 feet of track. The circus boasts of hand carved wooden animals and people figures. Just below the ceiling level, Lee has an overhead layout spanning 140 feet along the four walls of his store. It has bridges, arch ways and sidings. Lee operates LGB, Aristocraft and USA trains on his store layouts modeled from 1890s to the present era.

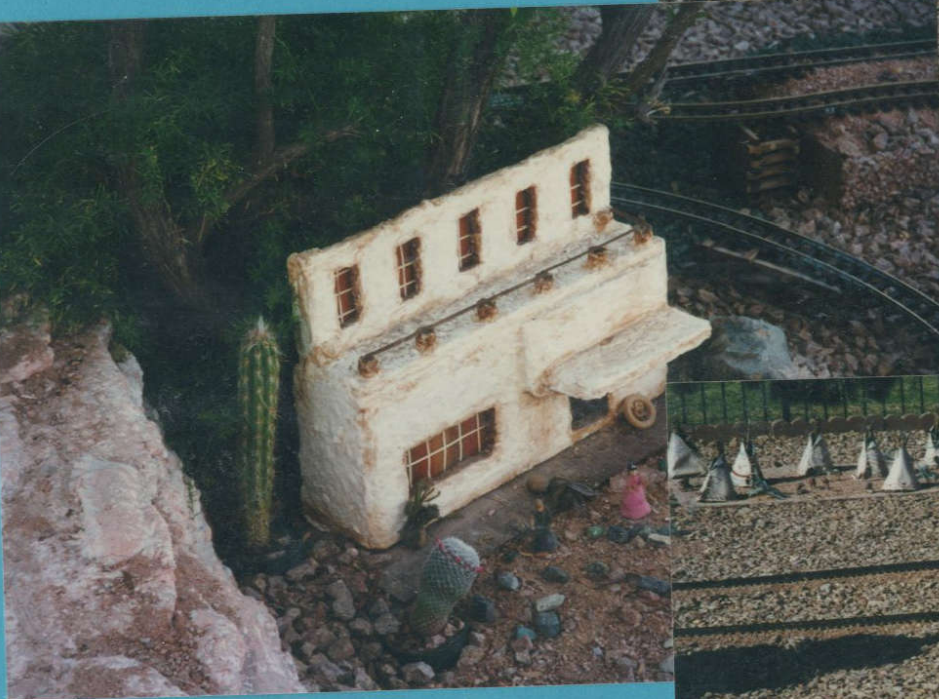
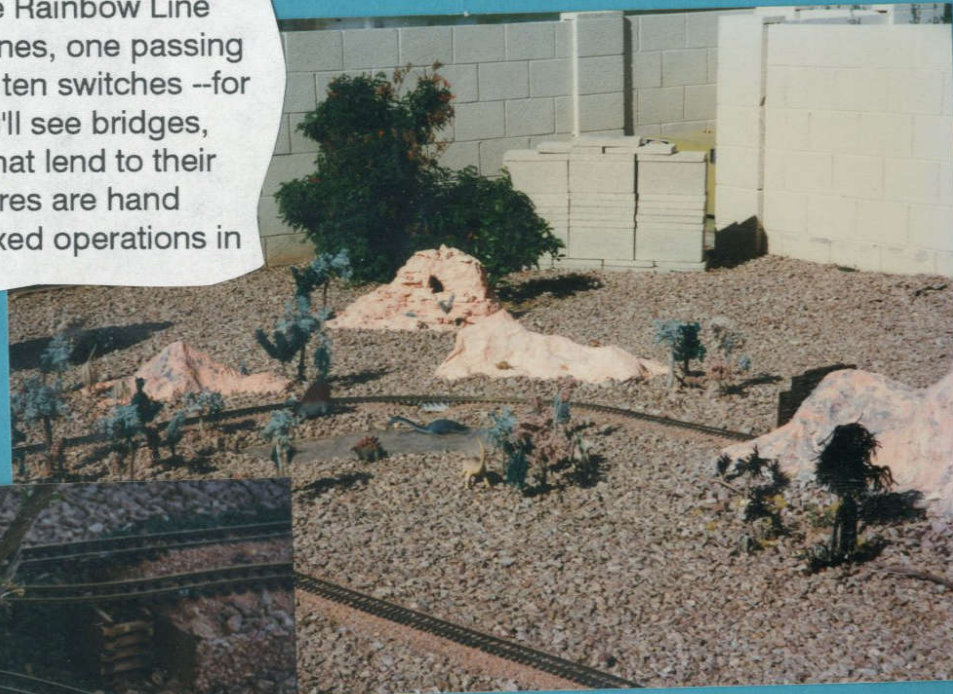
VISIT TO ARIZONA BIG TRAIN OPERATORS SPRING, 1997

FRITZ CORDES (1332 W. Glenmore Dr. Chandler, AZ) (602-899-8907) Fritz "Eagle Park and Desert" railroad is of Western USA motif. It has over 200 feet of track, two main lines, a siding and tunnel. Unique to Fritz's garden layout is that it leads to an indoor freight yard and staging area. The Eagle Park and Desert RR operates LGB, Aristocraft and USA trains in mixed freight and passenger. Fritz has both steam and diesel locomotives.



VISIT TO ARIZONA BIG TRAIN OPERATORS SPRING, 1997

ROBERT and MARIE STEADMAN (9349 Fairway Blvd. Sun Lakes, AZ) (602-895-6252). Bob and Marie Steadman operate the famous "Rainbow Line" which has been subject of several local news articles. They modeled their backyard layout after Southwestern history bringing to light the people and the culture over the ages. The Rainbow Line runs on 400 feet of track with three main lines, one passing siding, two elevations -- all connecting via ten switches --for variety and fun! Along the right away, you'll see bridges, tunnels and nearly two dozen structures that lend to their historical theme. All buildings and structures are hand made by Bob and Marie. Trains run in mixed operations in a past, present and future composition.



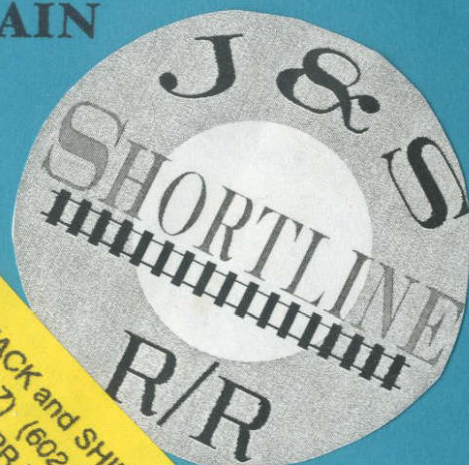
VISIT TO ARIZONA BIG TRAIN OPERATORS SPRING, 1997

MEL KINNEY (26641 S. Moonshadow, Sun Lakes AZ) (602-895-4864) Mel's "WESTERN RAILROAD" has been under construction for about three years with much more in mind for modification and improvements. Mel says, "does it ever really end". In its present form, the track circles around a small Indian village and passes a farm house with barn and windmill, and then on through a small western town with a railroad station. At the end of the loop the train moves through mountains (50 pine trees), a tunnel and a soon-to-be, creek with running water. The rolling stock Mel operates is all American with Southern Pacific Diesels and a Unitah locomotive pulling freight and ore cars. A second loop of track proceeds off of the first loop to support Union Pacific heavy weight passenger cars. This loop continues to pass through mountainous territory with a twelve foot tunnel (serving as storage) and passes over bridges and dry river beds. The second loop is totally independent of the first, operating with its own power supply. The combined loops create 275 feet of electrified track that is remote controlled.

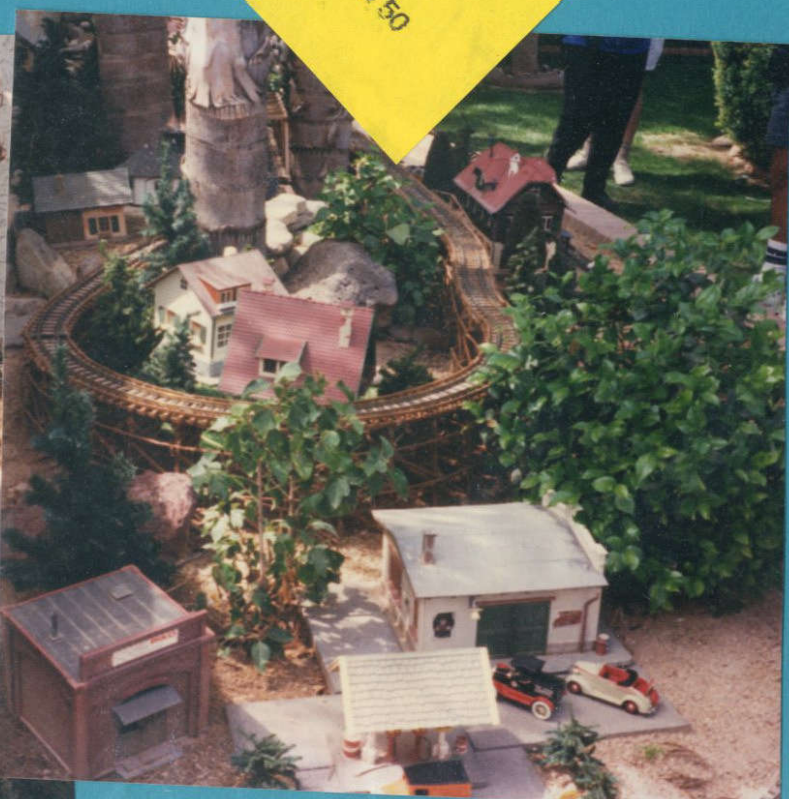


LITE
LUNCHEON

VISIT TO ARIZONA BIG TRAIN OPERATORS SPRING, 1997

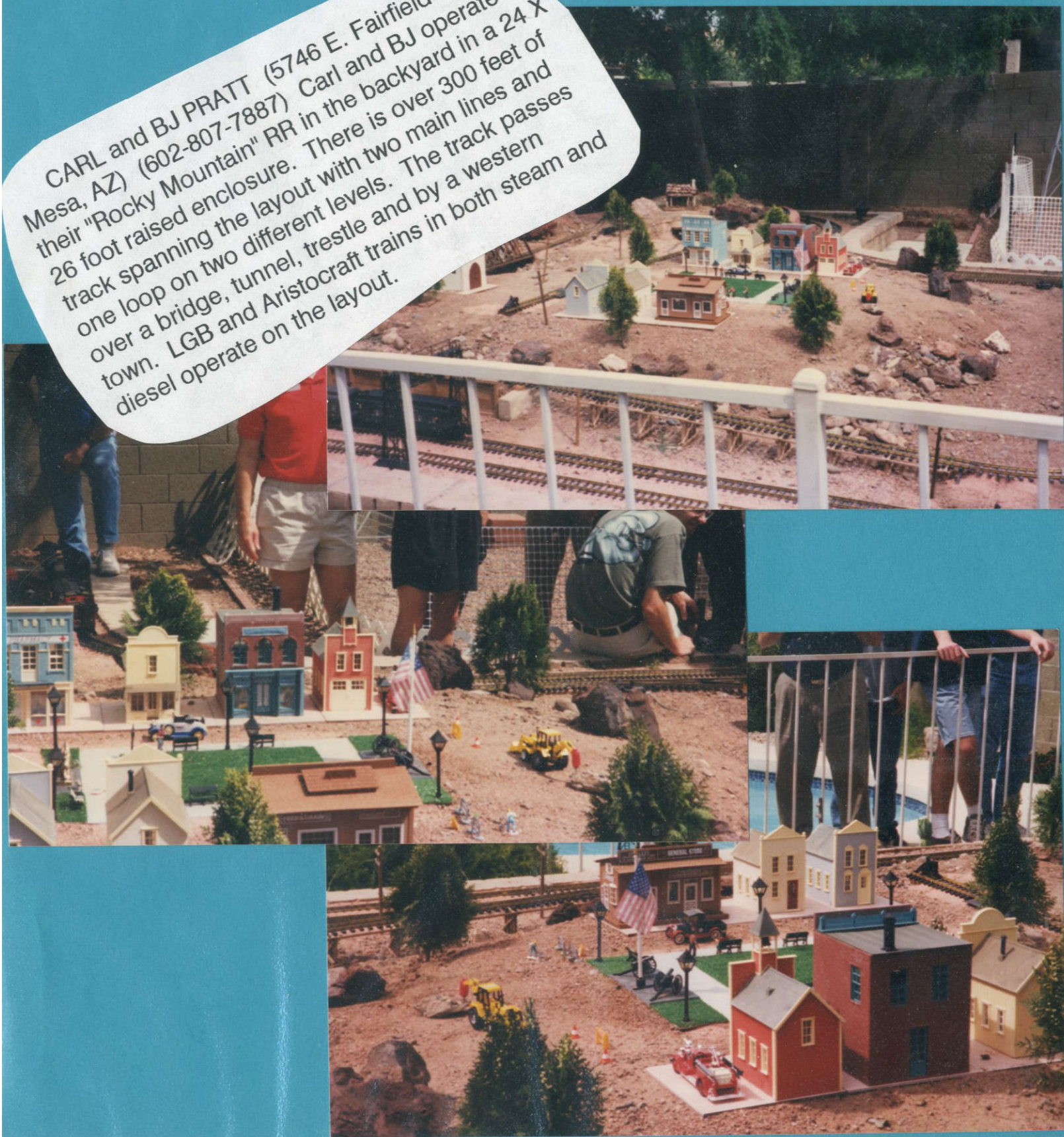


JACK and SHIRLEY SLINKARD (4923 E. Dallas Mesa, AZ) (602-985-7642) Jack and Shirley's "J & S Shortline" RR is modeled after a strictly European setting -- "somewhere in Germany". There are two main lines consisting of over 250 feet of track. The J & S Shortline has three bridges, five turnouts, a tunnel and a manual turntable among the plants and artificial trees clever use of both live plants and artificial trees intermingled among the plants and artificial trees buildings. The J & S operates primarily LGB in both freight and passenger modes, with 8 locomotives and 50 pieces of rolling stock to choose from.

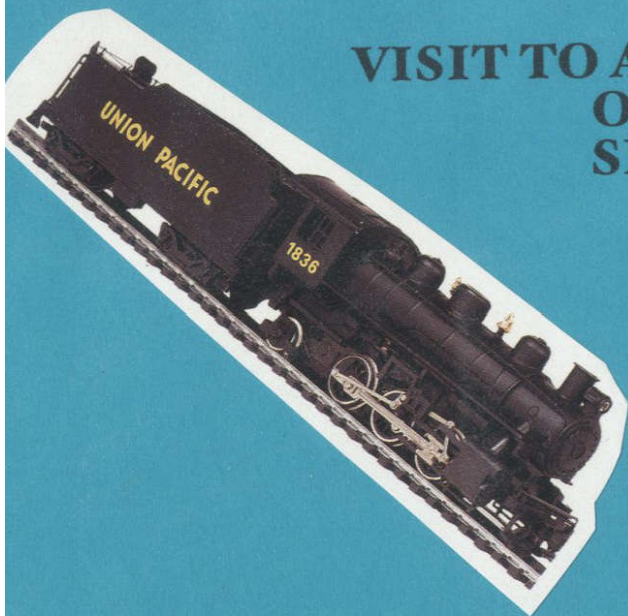


VISIT TO ARIZONA BIG TRAIN OPERATORS SPRING, 1997

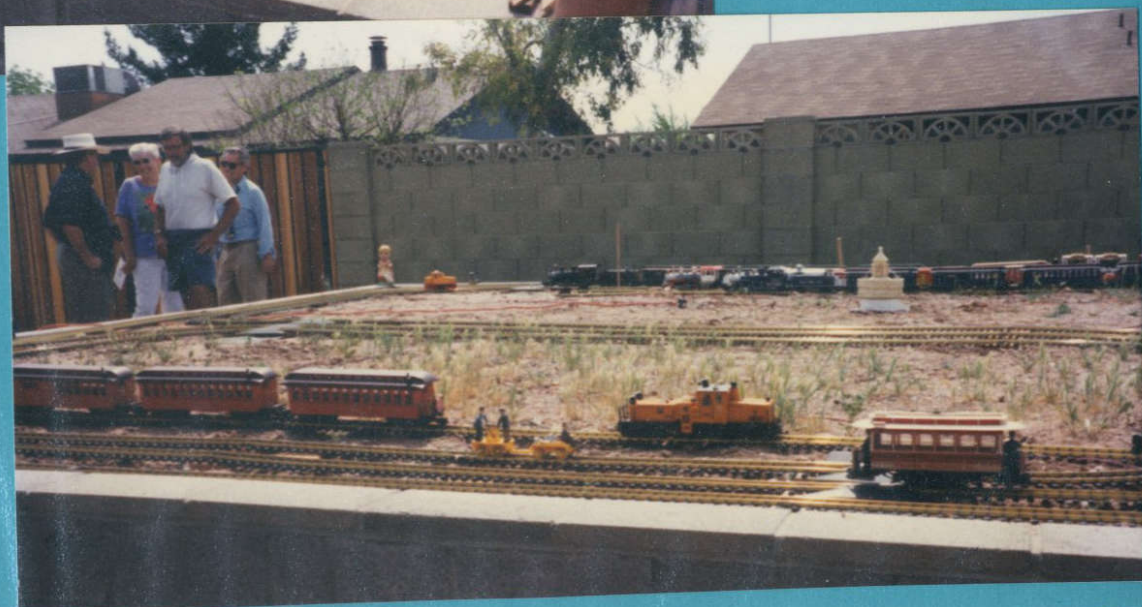
CARL and BJ PRATT (5746 E. Fairfield St. Mesa, AZ) (602-807-7887) Carl and BJ operate their "Rocky Mountain" RR in the backyard in a 24 X 26 foot raised enclosure. There is over 300 feet of track spanning the layout with two main lines and one loop on two different levels. The track passes over a bridge, tunnel, trestle and by a western town. LGB and Aristocraft trains in both steam and diesel operate on the layout.



VISIT TO ARIZONA BIG TRAIN OPERATORS SPRING, 1997



EARL GOLLNER (1029 E. 10th Ave, Mesa, AZ). The Earl George Gollner RR or "EGG RR" is a large backyard railroad that is "under construction." Earl has created a 25 X 36 foot raised playground to begin his dream. So far he has laid over 200 feet of track in three main line loop configurations and one point-to-point streetcar operation. The EGG RR has quite a bit planned: six turnouts, bridges, trestles, several freight yards, and huge mountains that will allow grade operations up to three levels! Currently, Earl runs LGB, Aristocraft, and Bachmann trains. He has several of Bachmann's special train sets on display.



VISIT TO ARIZONA BIG TRAIN OPERATORS SPRING, 1997



PAT WARREN PAT owns and operates the scenic Pinnacle Peak and Northern Railway in North Scottsdale, AZ. This large G scale layout has a special crew, managed by Rick Cartwright to oversee its maintenance and operations. The Pinnacle Peak and Northern consists of over 1,785 feet of track, with 45 turnouts, 3 tunnels, six trestles and a maximum grade of 3%. The PP & N is designed to run single track main line, with six passing sidings. Up to ten trains have been run simultaneously! It can take up to six engineers, linked through wireless radio nets and using remote control to ensure clear train operations. The PP & N features 39 feet of tunnels, 80 feet of trestles. Diablo trestle spans 25 feet with a 16 foot arch that can support the weight of a full grown person. There are two large ponds full of Koi fish, waterfalls, villages, airport, mountains and a brick path walkways for you to enjoy all the scenery and trains!



VISIT TO ARIZONA BIG TRAIN OPERATORS SPRING, 1997



1997



Specialties
 Vegetables and your choice of
 marinara. Your choice of cup of

Prices : \$8.50 -

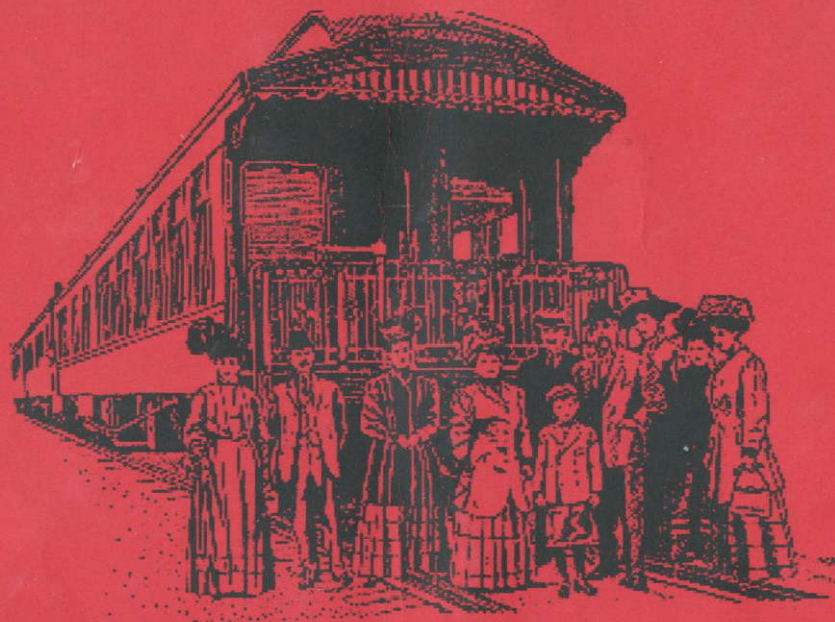
GRILLED CHICKEN
 with marinated tomato
 steamed vegetables and
 and basil

CHICKEN PAF
 Breaded breast of chicken
 marinara sauce and mel

8 OZ CENTER CUT SIRLOIN
 Sirloin char-grilled to perfec
 garlic scampi, sautéed vegetables
 alfredo

THIS IS ONLY A FEW OF





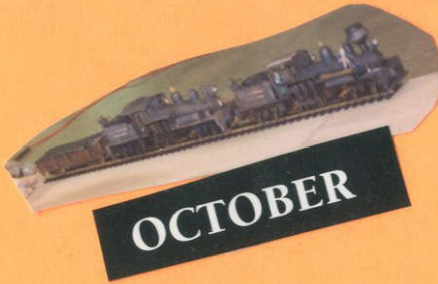
THANKS FOR COMING AND KEEP TRAINING!

*The Membership
of ABTO*

Grady's Graphics 1997



SAHBA HOME SHOW FALL, 1997



To everyone at Tucson Garden Railway Society;

We all at Community Effort Council want to thank you so much for your generous donation of \$505.50.

We are expecting to service 600 to 700 families with food, clothing & toys at Christmas time, so your donation will definitely be put to good use.

Again, please accept our heart felt thanks

Joanna Logan
PRESIDENT



OCTOBER

SAHBA HOME SHOW

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Awarded To

Tucson Garden Railway Society

Presented by

Southern Arizona Home Builder's Association

for your contribution to :

SAHBA's Fall Home Show

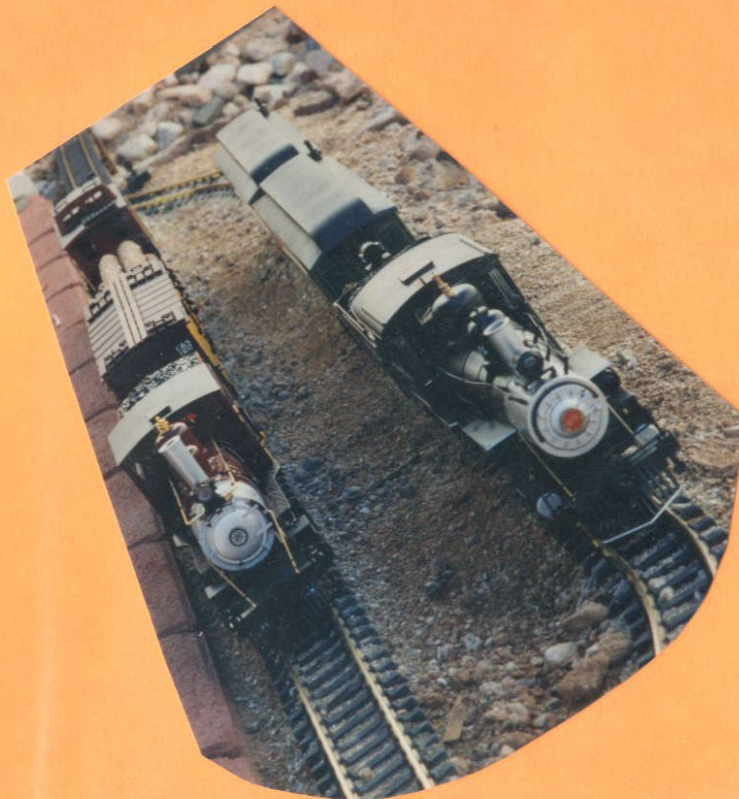
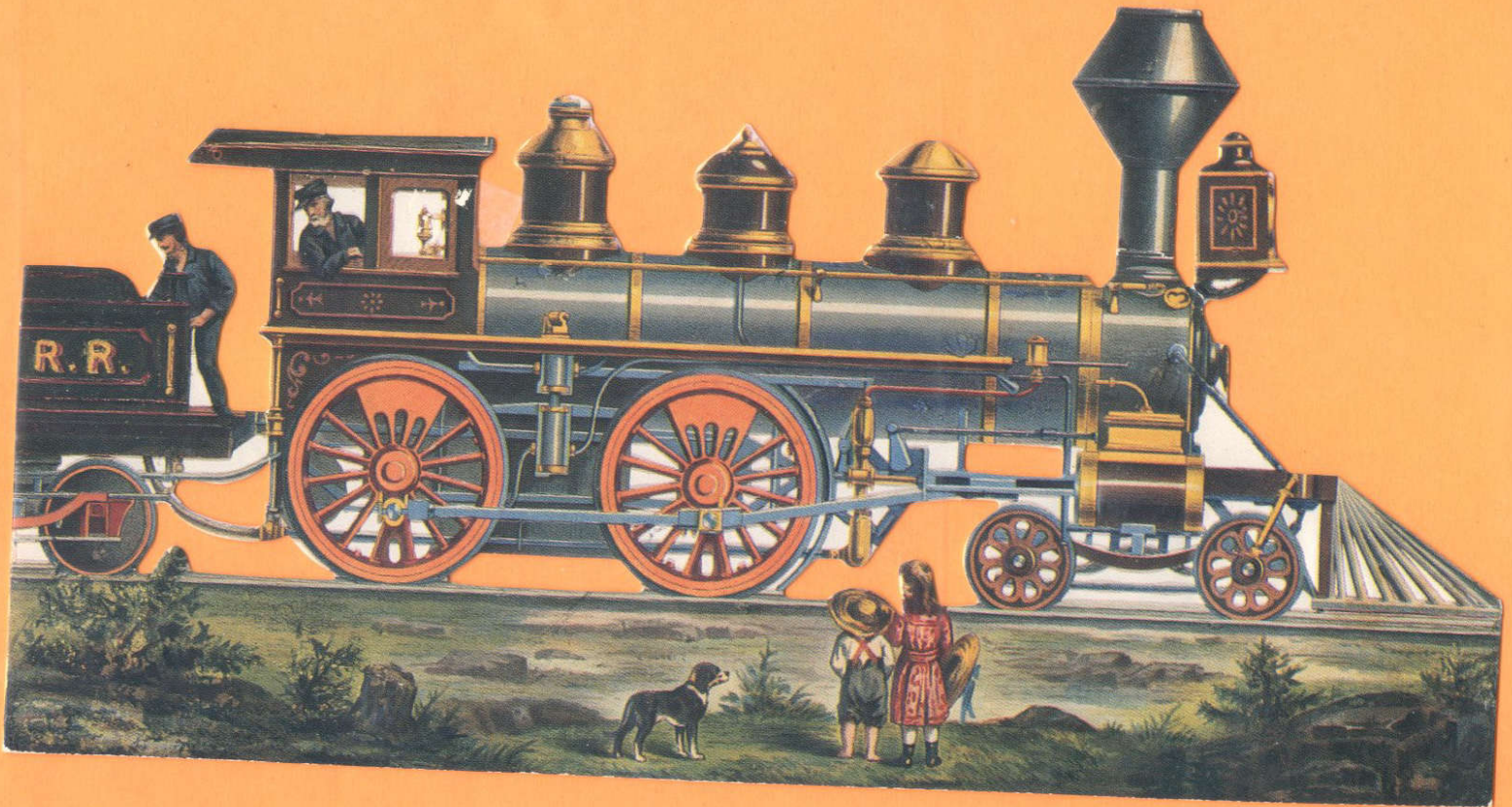
October 17 - 19, 1997

Alan P. Lurie
Alan P. Lurie - Executive Vice President

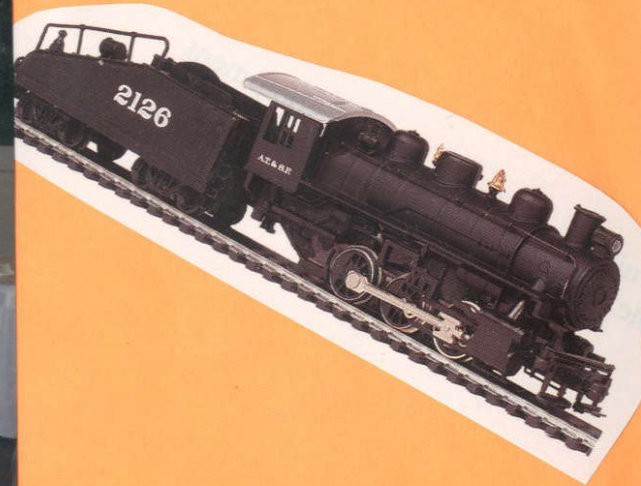
Maurya Palmer
Maurya Palmer - Show Manager



SAHBA HOME SHOW
FALL, 1997

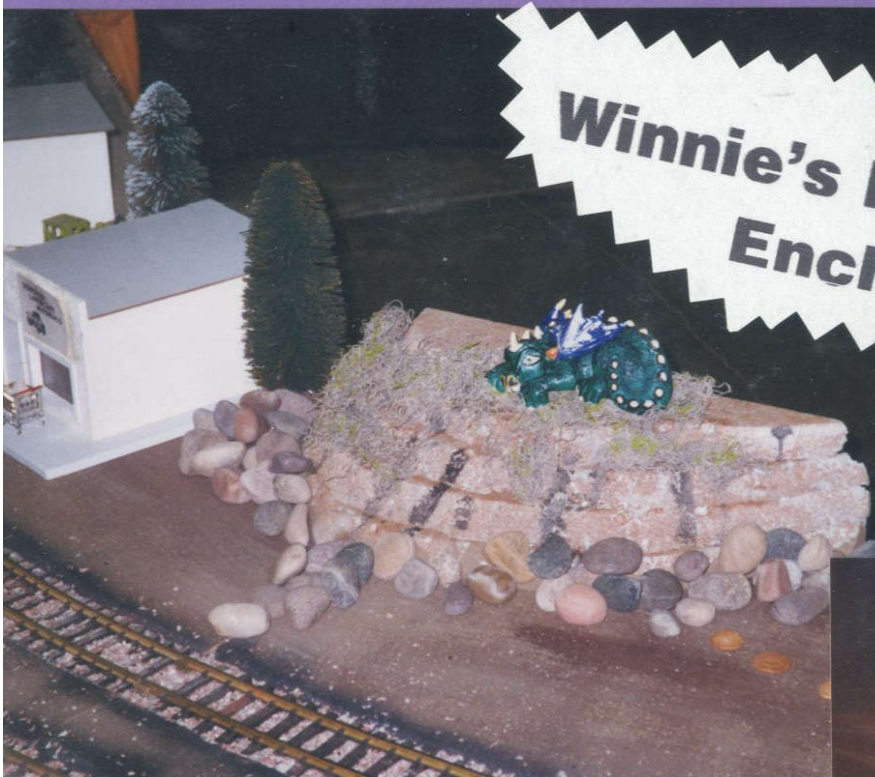


SAHBA HOME SHOW FALL, 1997



**GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW
JANUARY, 1998**

**Winnie's Dragon Protects the
Enchanted Village**



GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW
JANUARY, 1998

GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW

Certificate of Appreciation

We wish to thank

*Tu
Ra*

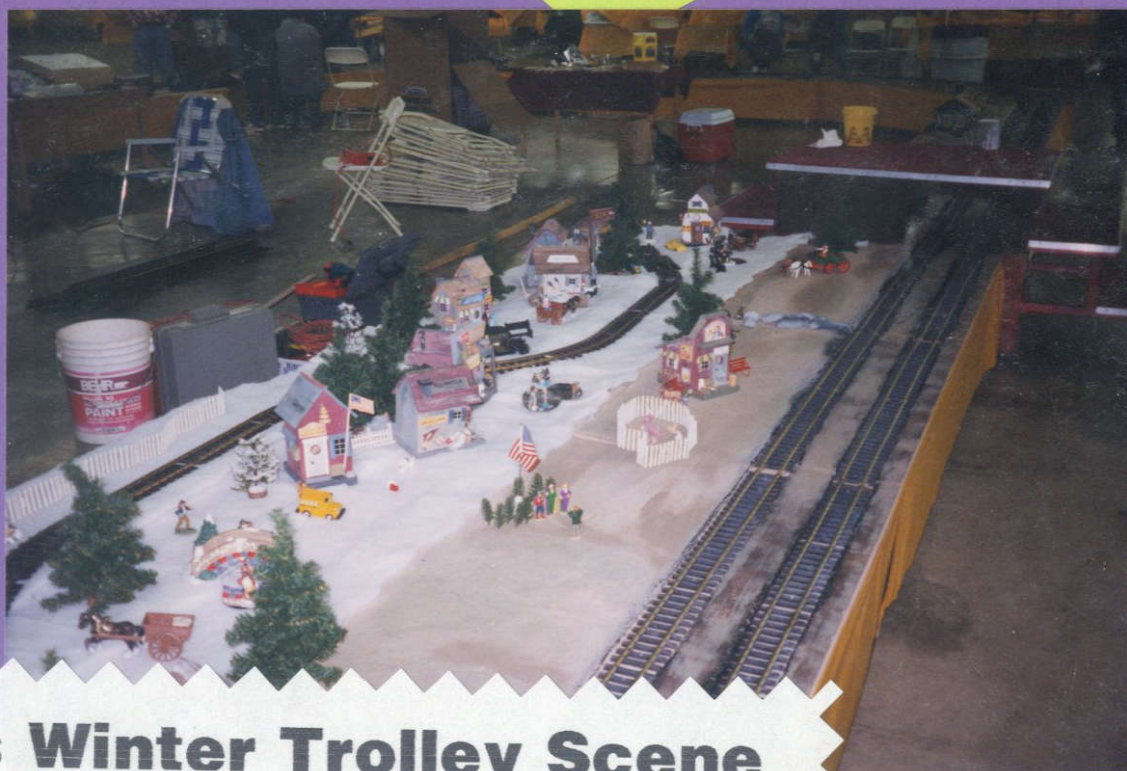
For p
Great A



**GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW
JANUARY, 1998**



Mine by Gary Martin



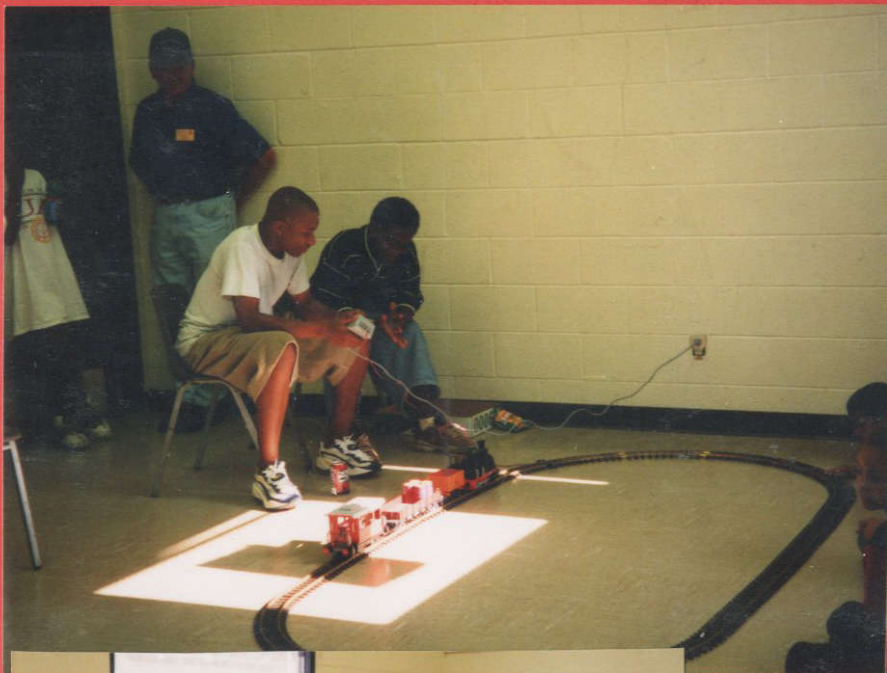
Hart's Winter Trolley Scene

GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW JANUARY, 1998



Yeah! Yeah!

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB PROJECT MAY, 1998



Being creative about landscaping

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB PROJECT MAY, 1998

Planning

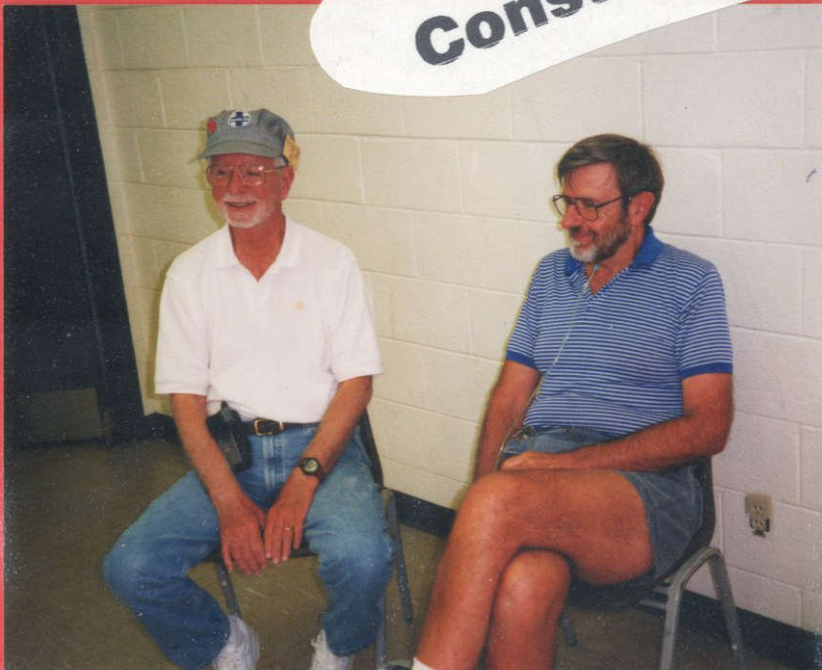


Getting into the Work

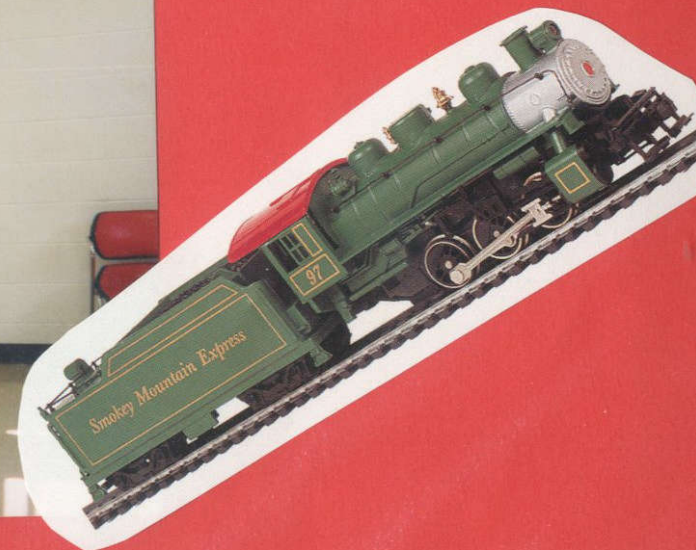
BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB PROJECT MAY, 1998



Construction and Detailing



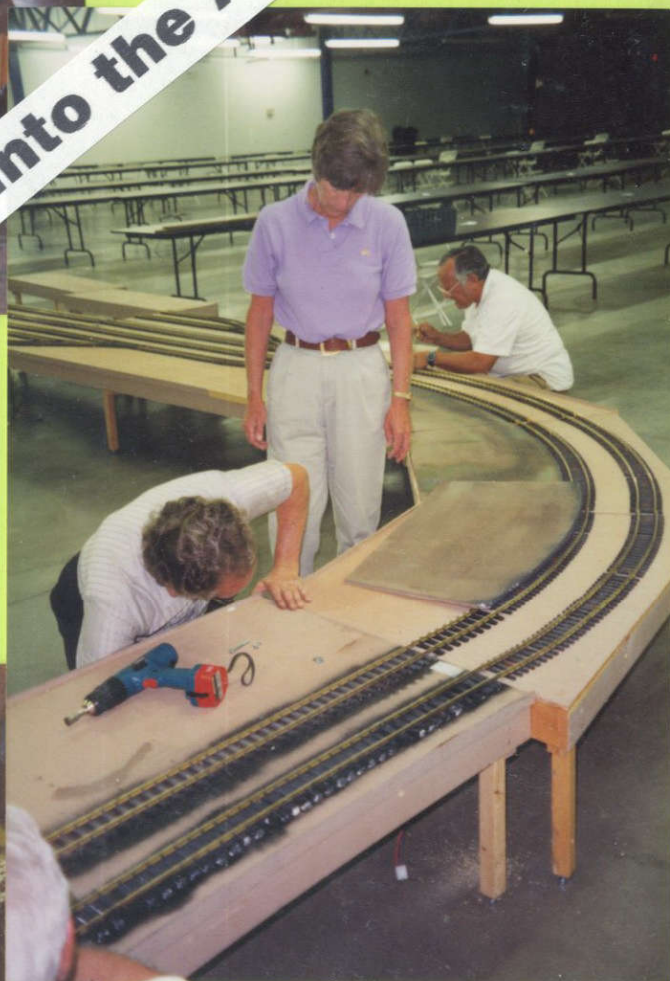
BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB PROJECT MAY, 1998



**ROADRUNNER
MODEL TRAIN SWAP MEET
JUNE, 1998**



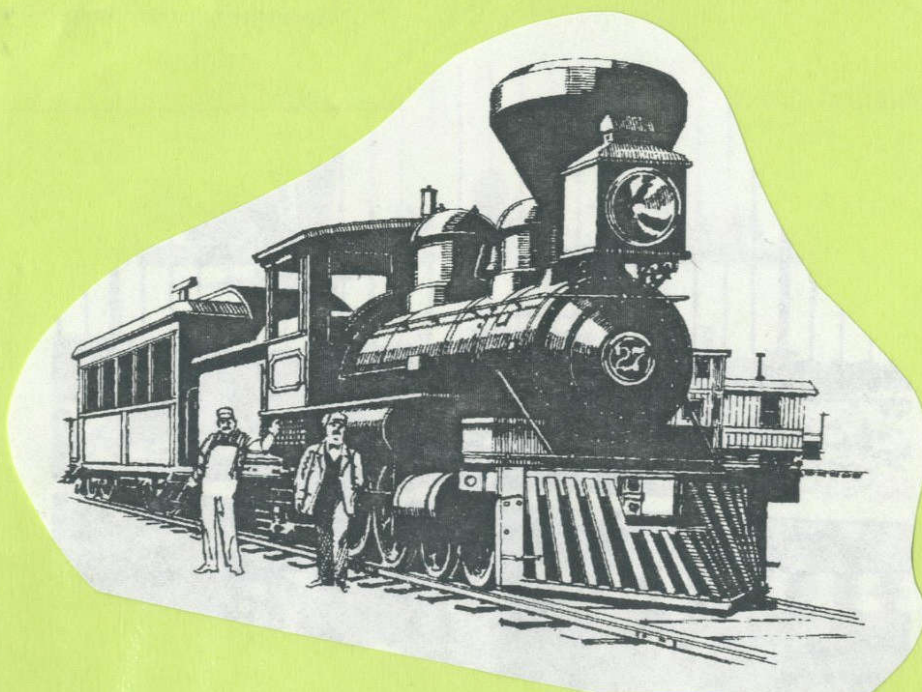
Everyone Gets Into the Act



ROADRUNNER MODEL TRAIN SWAP MEET JUNE, 1998



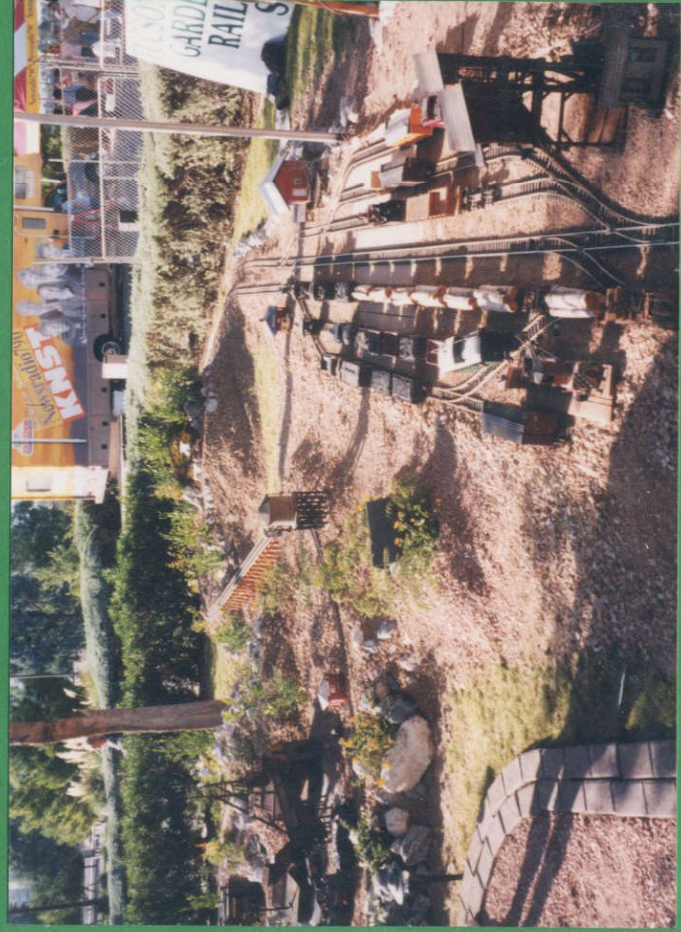
**ROADRUNNER
MODEL TRAIN SWAP MEET
JUNE, 1998**



**ROADRUNNER
MODEL TRAIN SWAP MEET
JUNE, 1998**



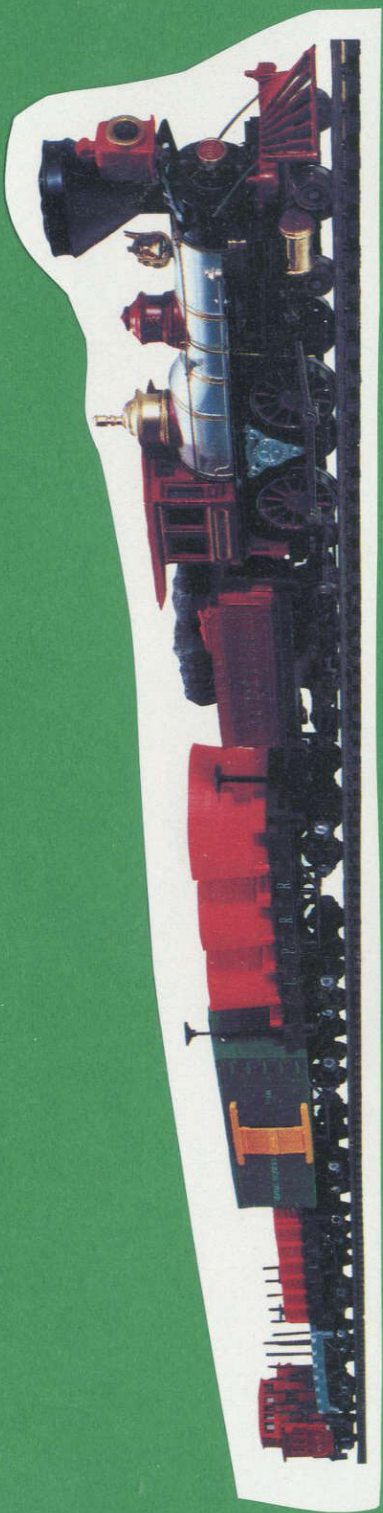
SAHBA HOME SHOW
OCTOBER, 1998



**SAHBA HOME SHOW
OCTOBER, 1998**



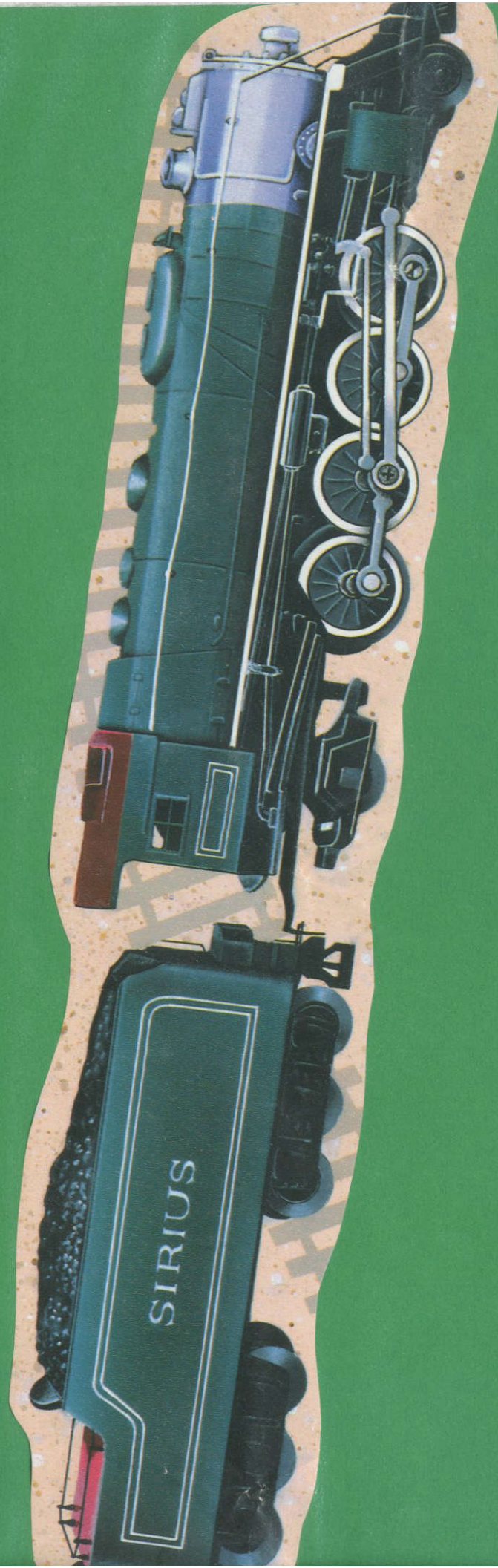
SAHBA HOME SHOW
OCTOBER, 1998



SAHBA HOME SHOW
OCTOBER, 1998



SAHBA HOME SHOW
OCTOBER, 1998

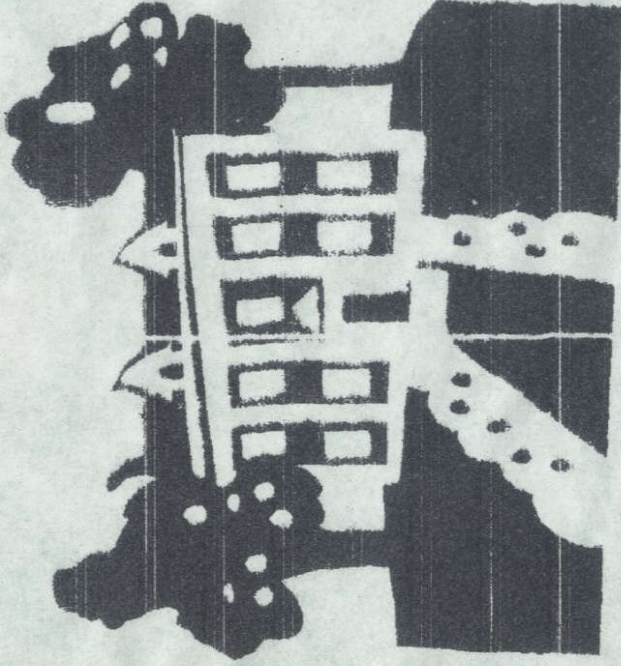


SAHBA HOME SHOW OCTOBER, 1998



Thank You

1999 SAHBA Home Show Dates
Spring April 8-11
Fall October 15-17



On behalf of the Southern Arizona Home Builders Association (SAHBA), thank you for exhibiting in the 1998 Fall Home & Garden Show. The tremendous success of the Show is due entirely to your professionalism and high quality of showmanship.

Thank you, again, for being a part of the SAHBA Fall Home & Garden Show and we will see you in the Spring of 1999 with a completely new and exciting Show!

Sincerely,

Maurya Palmer

Maurya Palmer
Show Manager

Cavett Elementary School
December 7 - 12, 1998

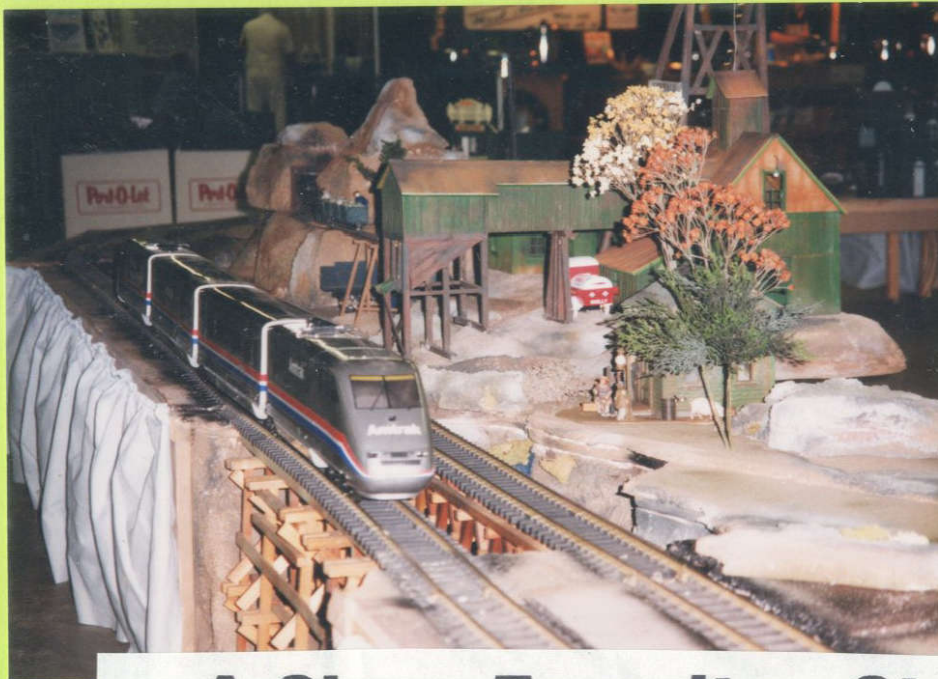


Holiday Season Display

December 1998

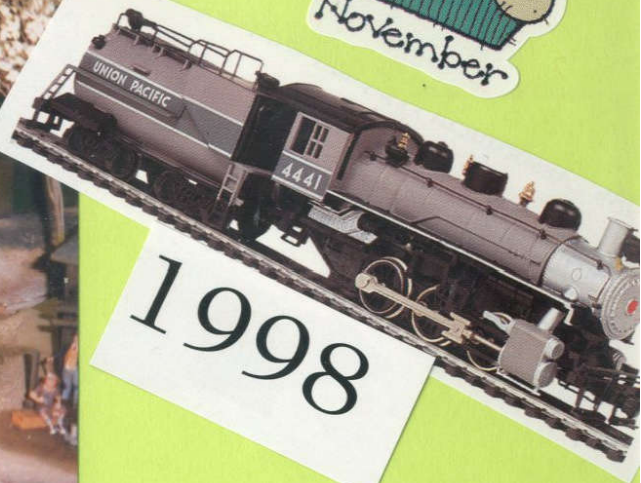


DESERT LIVING HOME AND GARDEN SHOW NOVEMBER 1998

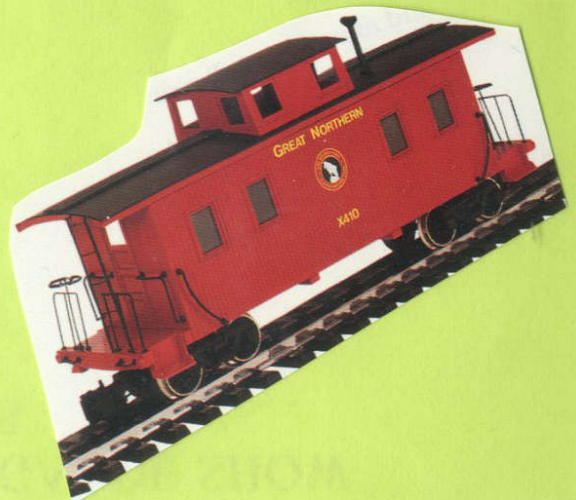


A Show Favorite - Steve's Amtrack



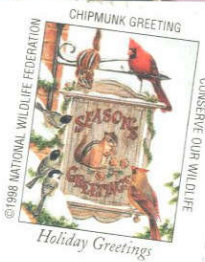


1998

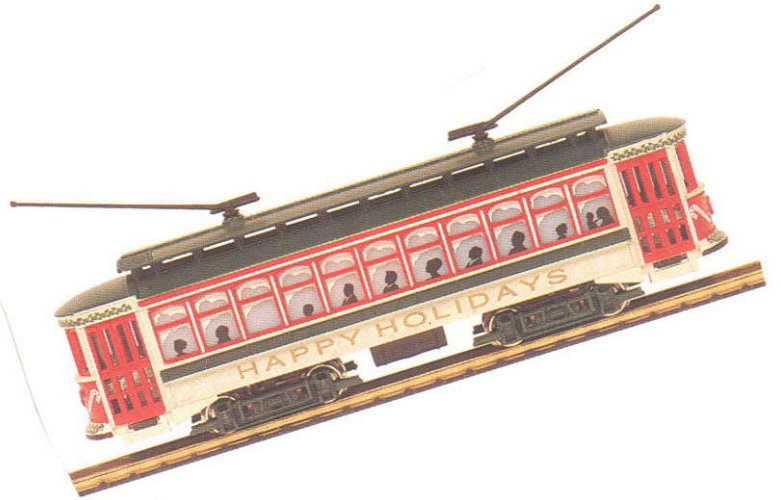




CHRISTMAS PARTY December 13, 1998



DECEMBER 1998



Dear Tucson Garden
Railway Society,

Thank you
for making our
children's program
so special. The
expressions on a
few of the boys'
faces said it all.

It was wonderful!
We appreciate
all your hard
work to make
a special event
so special.

Thanks
Sarah Miller



Santa Claus Party Display at St. Mark's Early Childhood Center December 14, & 15, 1998



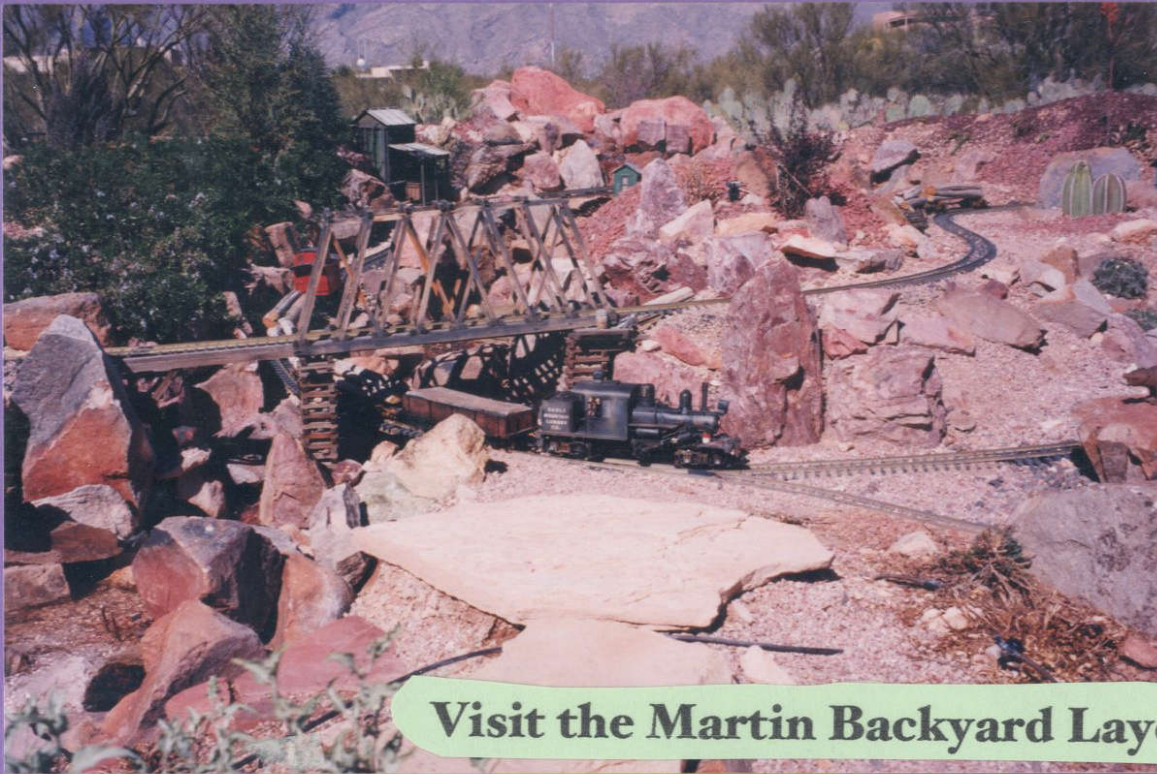


1998



1999

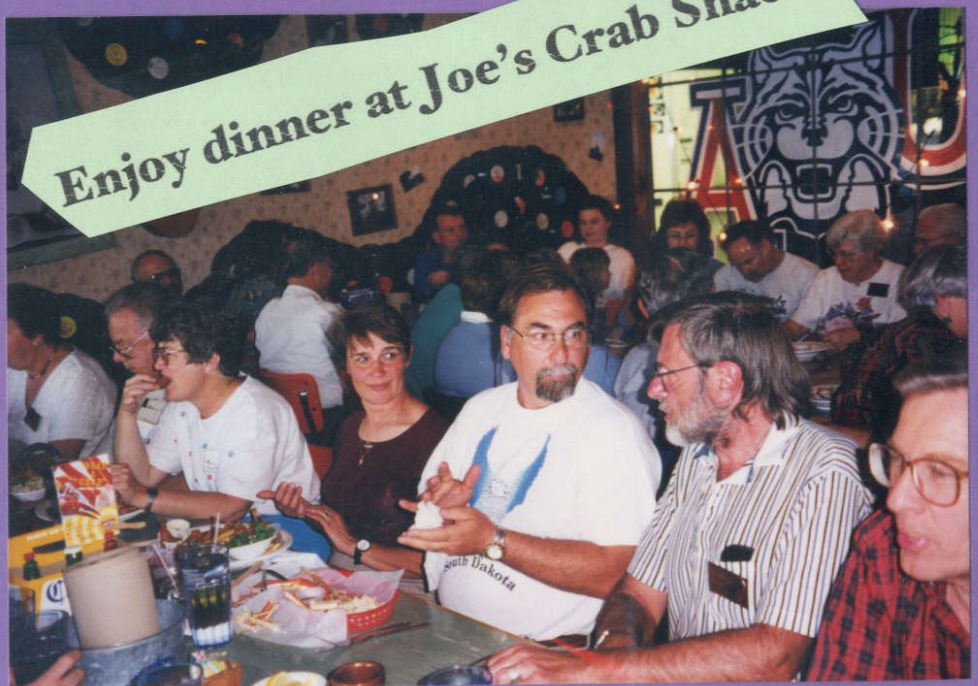
A WINTER MEETING OF TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY



Visit the Martin Backyard Layout

Conduct business at a meeting.

Enjoy dinner at Joe's Crab Shack.



A WINTER MEETING OF TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY

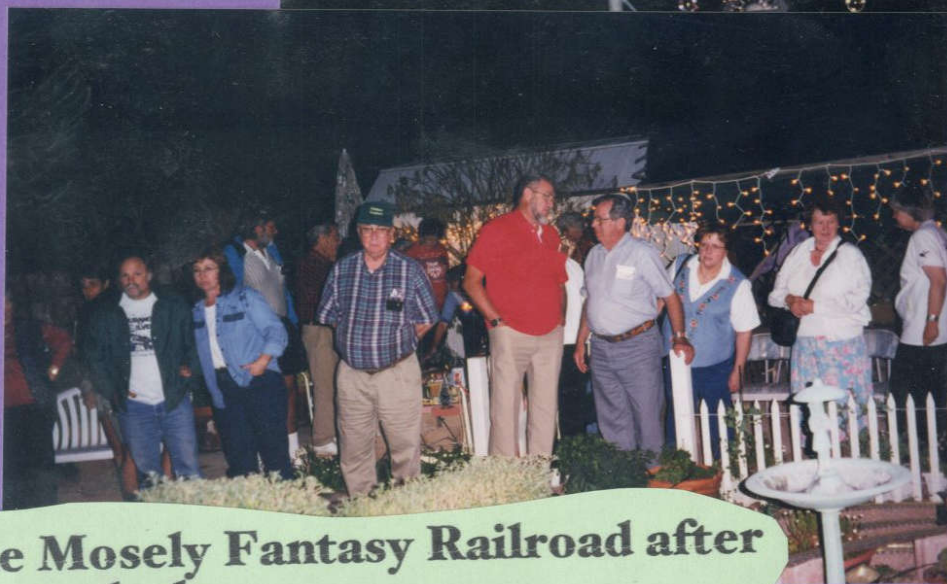
Jerry Sprinstead leads the Macarena.



Everyone shares Missy Kempin's Birthday
celebration and cake.



The group tours the Mosely Fantasy Railroad after
dark.



Spring 99

SAHBA HOME & PATIO SHOW



Garden Railways

The Garden Railway continues as one of the most popular features at SAHBA Home Shows. The 45 families of the Tucson Garden Railway Society set up the trains dedicated to your enjoyment. They work together to create intricate railway layouts in the 2000 square-foot space allotted. Come see the marvels wrought over a few loops of track as trains from vintage steam engines to modern diesels wind between

buildings scaled to size, all set in a wonderful garden setting. The Society invites railroad buffs young and old to enjoy the miniature magic of their proven crowd pleaser at the West Entrance of the TCC

Just for fun check out the garden railway sites on the internet:

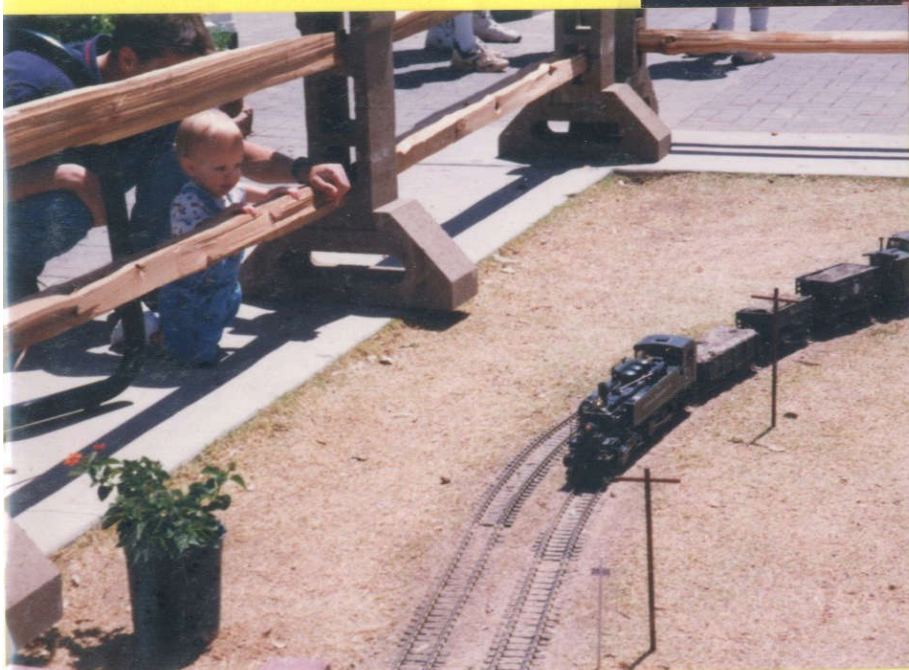
www.gardenrailways.com, www.lgb.com and www.largesca.com

APRIL 4, 1999

ADVER

SAHBA HOME AND PATIO SHOW

APRIL, 1999



SAHBA HOME AND PATIO SHOW

APRIL, 1999



Monday, April 5, 1999

Tucson Citizen

IF YOU GO

What: The 1999 Spring Home & Patio Show

When: Thursday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Where: Tucson Convention Center, 260 S. Church Ave.

Cost: \$7 per person; children younger than 12 admitted free

outdoor living areas.

▼ An alternative building exhibition, where the new wave of building systems, methods and materials will be showcased.

▼ The Tucson Garden Railway Society Train Show, a fascinating exhibit of model trains that is back by popular demand.

▼ Free drop-in day care, allowing children to play while their parents browse the exhibits.

Palmer said Intergroup will provide a wellness clinic Thursday, which will be Senior Day at the home show.

"Senior citizens can come to one location and get their blood pressure, cholesterol, hearing and vision tested and see a podiatrist. And there will also be bingo games on Thursday," she said.

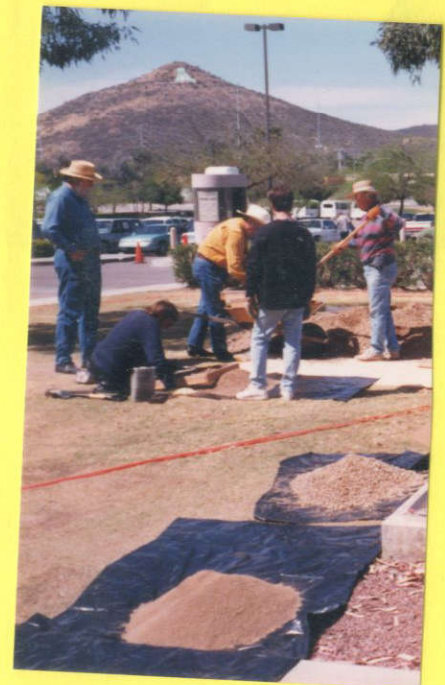
The shows will also have a big impact on the local economy. For instance, SAHBA will spend about \$120,000 advertising this year's shows.

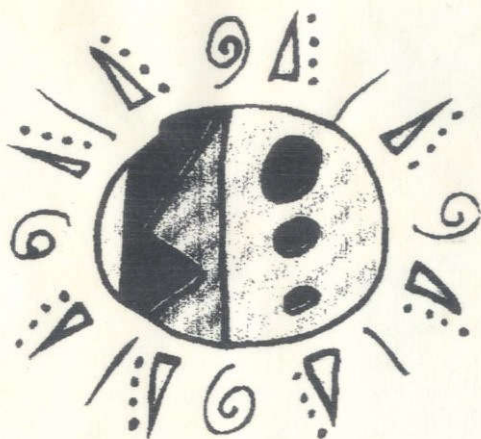
Highlights of this week's Home & Patio Show include:

▼ America's flower man, Dale Rohman, who hosts TV programs on two cable networks, and Mad Dog & Merrill, a comedy cooking team billed as "America's grilling buddies," will perform on stage.

▼ A "Patioscape" competition in which Tucson landscapers will demonstrate how to enhance

Assistant Business Editor David Pittman covers real estate for the Tucson Citizen. His column appears Mondays in Trend\$. If you have information about what's happening with real estate or construction in Tucson, contact him at the Tucson Citizen, P.O. Box 26767, Tucson, Ariz. 85726. Phone: 573-4609 Fax: 573-4569. E-mail: dpittman@tucsoncitizen.com





On behalf of the Southern Arizona Home Builders Association (SAHBA), thank you for exhibiting in the 1999 Spring Home & Patio Show. The tremendous success of the Show is due entirely to your professionalism and high quality of showmanship.

Thank you, again, for being a part of the SAHBA Spring Home & Patio Show and we will see you in the Fall of 1999 with a completely new and exciting Show!

Sincerely,

Maurya Palmer

**Maurya Palmer
Show Manager**



Thank You... We can't do it without you!
SAHBA Home & Patio Show
Fall October 15 - 17, 1999
Spring April 6 - 9, 2000

Spring 99

SAHBA HOME & PATIO SHOW



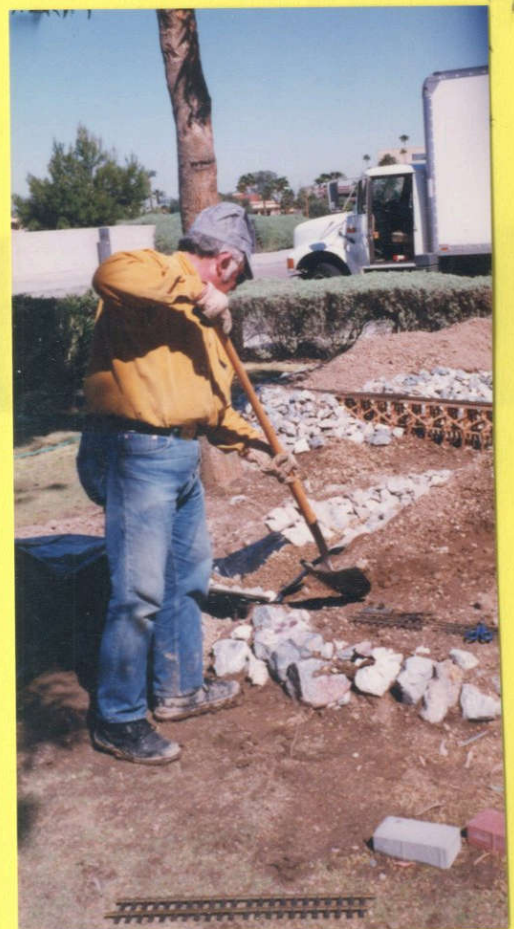
Garden Railways

The Garden Railway continues as one of the most popular features at SAHBA Home Shows. The 45 families of the Tucson Garden Railway Society set up the trains dedicated to your enjoyment. They work together to create intricate railway layouts in the 2000 square-foot space allotted. Come see the marvels wrought over a few loops of track as trains from vintage steam engines to modern diesels wind between

buildings scaled to size, all set in a wonderful garden setting. The Society invites railroad buffs young and old to enjoy the miniature magic of their proven crowd pleaser at the West Entrance of the TCC. Just for fun check out the garden railway sites on the internet: www.gardenrailways.com, www.lgb.com and www.largesca.com

APRIL 4, 1999

ADVERTISING

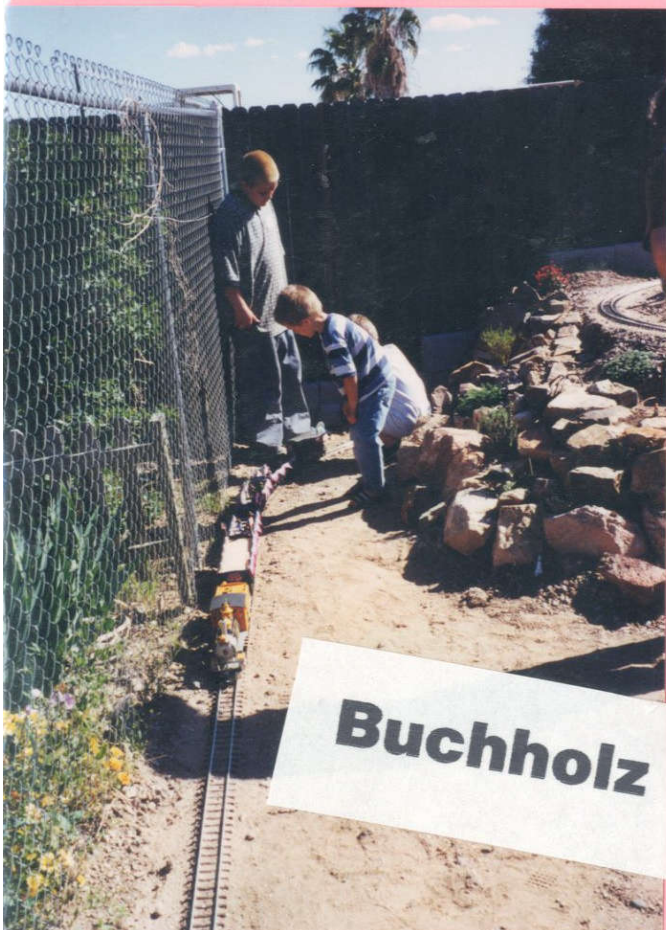


Spring Round-A-Bout, 1999



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Spring Round-A-Bout, 1999

Rotary Club District Conference May, 1999



Rotary Club District Conference May, 1999



GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW

Certificate of Appreciation

wish to thank

Tucson Garden
Railroad Society

For participating in
Great American Train Show

TUCSON, ARIZONA
MAY 15 & 16, 1999

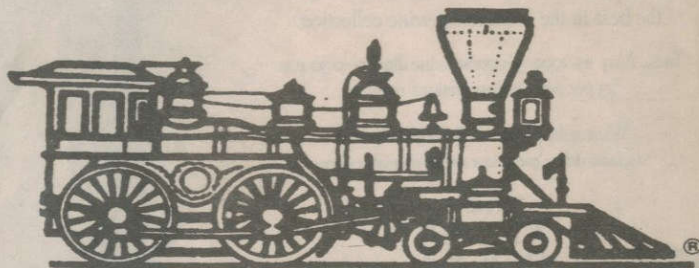
GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW
1999 DISPLAY EXHIBITOR

MAY/99

Please wear/show this identification for access to the show



Kids are FREE!



GREAT AMERICAN
TRAIN SHOW

- * **PLAY** on our *Big Fun Railroad* with trains kids can operate
- * **SEE** 8 intriguing operating layouts of various scales and sizes
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- * **EXPERIENCE** America's Largest Traveling Model RR Show!

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SATURDAY & SUNDAY, May 15 & 16, 11am-5pm

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GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW

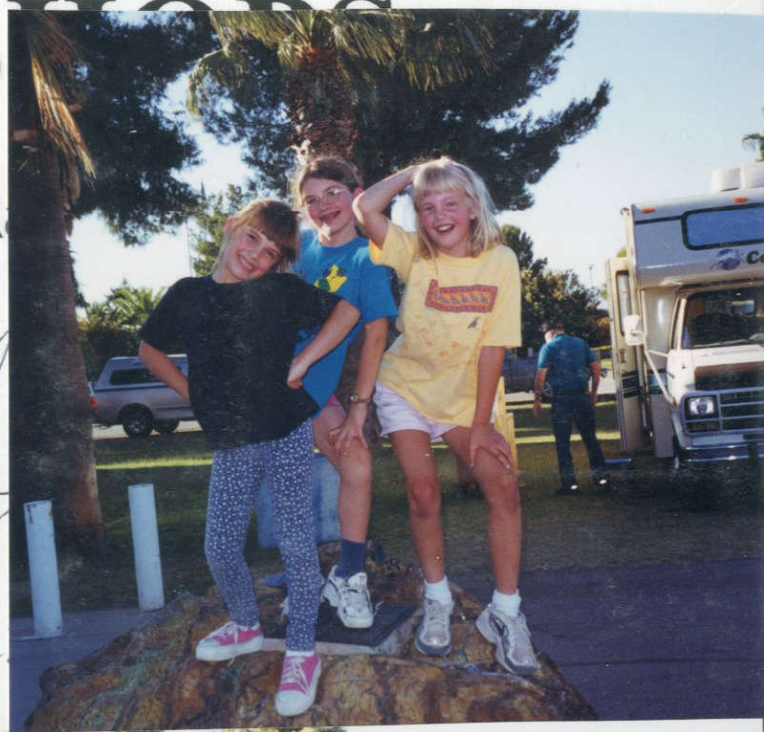
1999

SATURDAY
MAY 15

WORKSHOPS

Tucson Garden Railroad

- 12:15 TBA *Trees from Na*
1:15 TBA *Weathering W*
2:15 TBA *Trees from Na*
3:15 TBA *Weathering W*



Thank You

On behalf of the Great American Train Show
 would like to thank you for participating this
 We hope the show was enjoyable for you and look
 to seeing you again at a future show.

The GATS staff,

Roby Adams
Phyllis

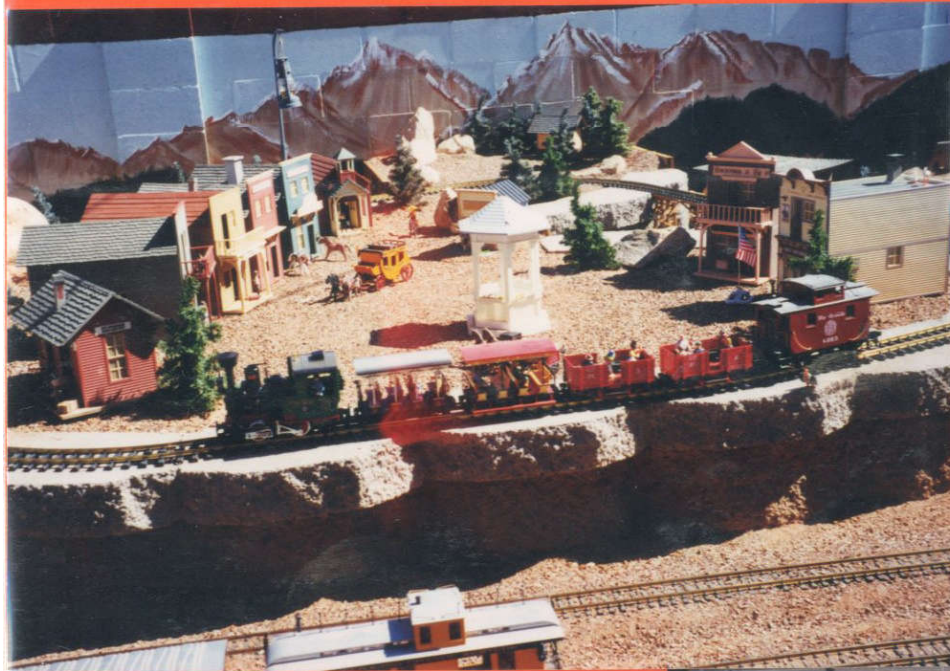
David & S.

John



JUNE, 1999

ROUNDABOUT



Hart



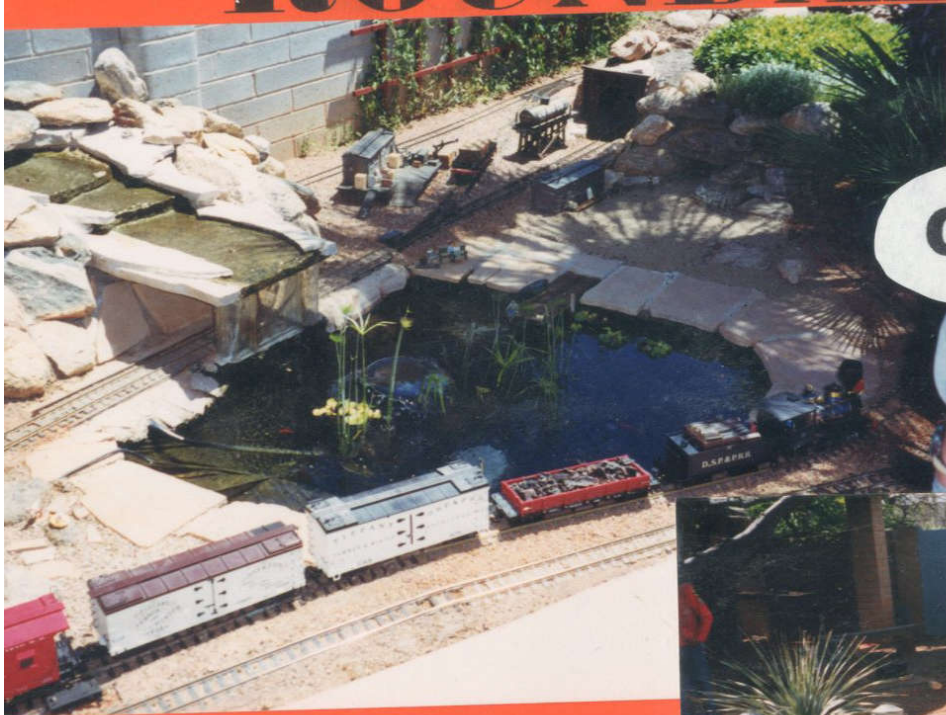
Fabbri



Miller

JUNE, 1999

ROUNDABOUT



Gast

Karrel



The Home Show Crew



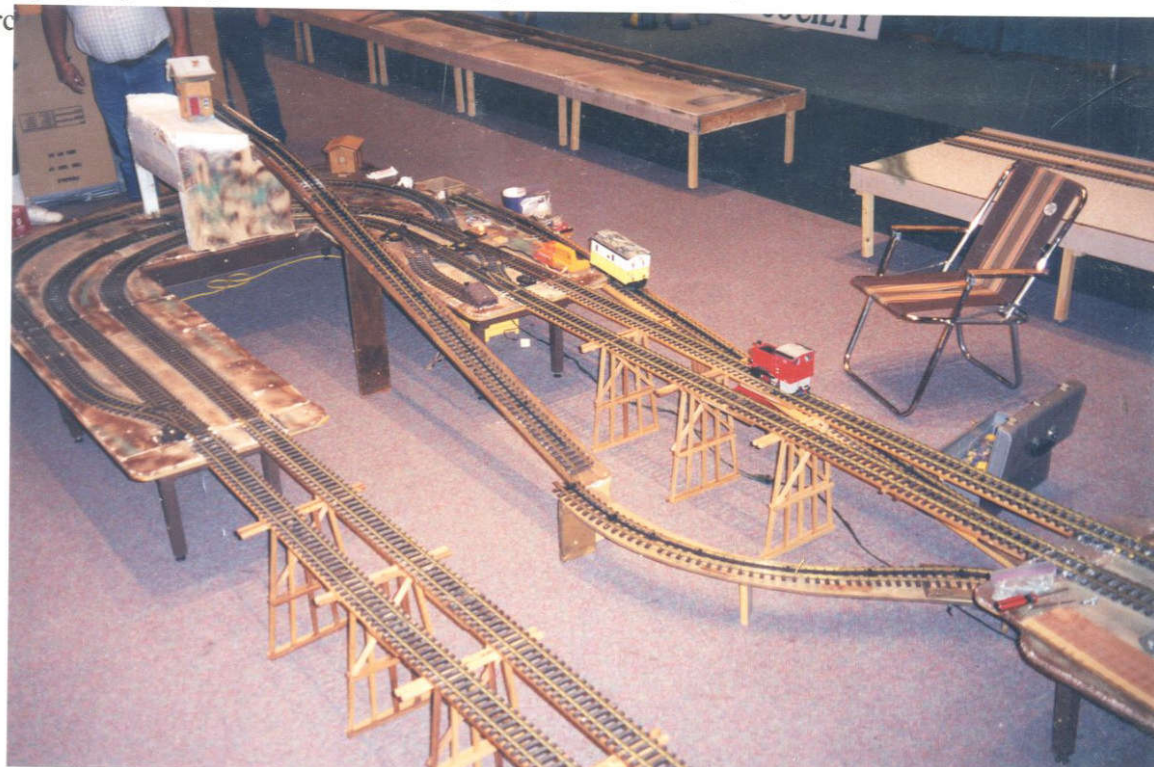
ELECTRIC TRAINS SHOW, FRIDAY. AUGUST 13, 1999

The Tucson Garden Railway Society and the Feather River Railroad N-gineers will put on a train show from 9AM to 5 PM at the Davis-Monthan AFB Community Center on Friday, August 13, 1999. Big trains(G Scale), and small trains(N Scale) will be displayed.

This is a show for big kids(adults), and small children. Kids under control will be allowed to act as engineers to operate the trains. Train wrecks must be kept to a minimum.

Admission is free.

The train displays are created and operated entirely by volunteers. The volunteers put on the show as their way of expressing their gratitude for the courage and skill of the personnel of the United States Air Force.





AUGUST



RAILROAD YARDS

Today's miniature locomotives
travel routes that go beyond
laps around the Christmas tree



The Sleepers' backyard railroad, which runs next to the 18th hole of the Dorado Golf Course, hauls a cargo of golf balls.



Ken Karrels and his wife, Marv, left, operate a hot & breakfast and encourage their guests to bring their trains with them when they stay. Photos by A.E. Aralza, The Arizona Daily Star

By Kristen Cook
The Arizona Daily Star

Smoke puffs out of the German Harzquerbahn locomotive as it lumbers across the track, hauling precious cargo — drinks destined for the patio.

The Beverage Express chugging through Lew and Jan Sleeper's Dorado Country Club home is usually a big hit with guests.

"When we have parties, all the drinks must be served by train and all dirty glasses returned by train," Lew said.

"Don't ask me how many glasses he's broken," said Jan, who insisted that her husband add a railing to prevent such mishaps.

The Sleepers have three trains running through their home. A fourth chugs along the perimeter of their back yard past neatly trimmed rosebushes and the Dorado Golf Course's 18th hole.

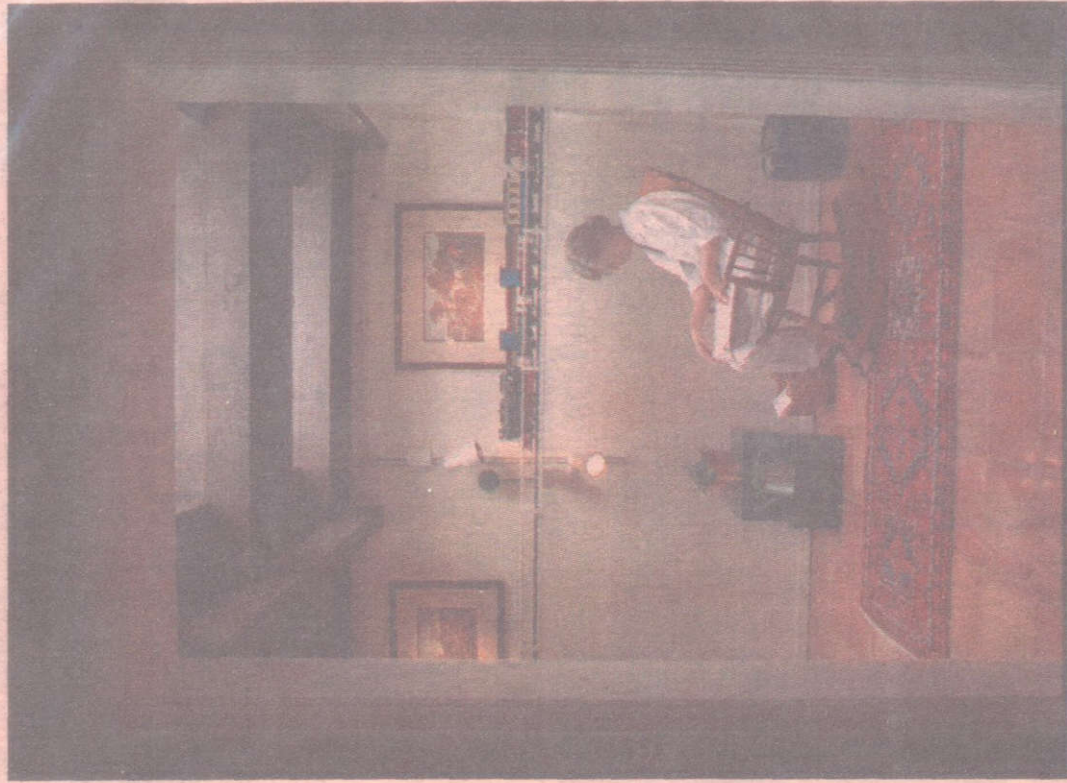
Trains that cut through gardens and circle pools account for a popular trend in model railroad-ing — the garden railway. And Tucson boasts many train enthusiasts like the Sleepers with layouts that put the little locomotive zipping around the Christmas tree to shame.

The child's hobby is all grown up. "You build just like it's a real railroad," said Gary Martin, a retiree and vice president of the

Tucson Garden Railway Society, a non-profit organization that boasts about 50 families.

Martin — who constructed an elaborate railway of about 450 feet of track and is working on another — had to take into account drainage of his desert yard and compact the earth. He also laid down a fine, gravel-clay mixture under the track to keep it level and prevent it from shifting.

The result of his careful engineering is an impressive railroad winding through desert shrubbery and a small waterfall across the yard of his Catalina Foothills home.



Jan Sleeper enjoys a quiet moment, undisturbed by the train carrying some refreshments from the house out to the patio.

See TRAINS Page 5H

Railroad

Continued from Page 1H

Martin shares gardening duties with his wife, Peggy.

About every 5 feet, Martin has created different scenes from an old Western town with a saloon and mercantile to an Indian village and even a prehistoric scene with a dinosaur, a pair of human feet dangling from its mouth.

Martin, who started building model trains when he was 7, estimates he spends about an hour a day maintaining his garden railway.

"I like the outdoors," he said. "I don't want to be cooped up in a garage."

Of course, an outside train track means the engines and scenery are not only exposed to the elements but also wildlife, which poses an occasional threat. Martin plants only greenery that rabbits don't find appetizing.

Once, one of his trains emerged from a tunnel with a tarantula sprawled across the engine. Martin let it off at the next stop.

But even not-so-wild wildlife can wreak havoc on model train sets.

Ken and Mary Karrels' rambunctious Weimaraner, Mystic, occasionally bounds through the miniature towns at their northeast-side Double K Ranch. During her puppy chewing phase, she maimed one plastic person and chomped on a horse.

"Having young, active dogs and a garden railway sometimes don't mix," laughed Mary, an artist and dog trainer.

Though family legend has it that one of Ken's first words was "choo-choo" and he's collected train memorabilia for years, he didn't begin working on a garden railway until about three years ago.

The Karrels' outdoor tracks jog past a gnarled mesquite tree, a towering saguaro and a palm tree. The train even passes across a bridge raised above a waterfall that cascades into a pool.

"This is our little oasis," said Ken, a psychologist who, along with Mary, runs a bed-and-breakfast that has a train-themed suite. "We've had people sit there and say their blood pressure drops."

Each scene has special meaning for the Karrels. A schoolhouse is similar to one Mary went to while growing up in Wisconsin. A church, like the one the Karrels got married in, has a sign bearing the date Nov. 14 — their wedding day.

The Karrels' scenes are intricate as are the trains. Peek through a train car door, and the detail is amazing, from the frosted glass on a restroom to miniature lamps lining the aisles.

Such detail doesn't come cheap.

Martin estimates he probably has about \$15,000 tied up in his hobby. So, needless to say, he doesn't crash his trains into one another like Gomez Addams



A.E. Araiza, The Arizona Daily Star

The garden railway at the Double K Ranch, where train buffs Ken and Mary Karrels are the proprietors of a bed & breakfast.

used to do on the old "Addams Family" TV show.

But you don't have to spend a mint to get into model railroading. Train enthusiasts say you can buy a complete plastic set for about \$100, which is fine for indoor use. A decent outdoor setup could run about \$500.

You also don't have to build a sprawling railway that's guaranteed to be time-consuming to maintain.

"I've seen too many people get carried away and then it's too big," said Lew Sleeper, a retiree and American Red Cross volunteer. "They can't keep up with the maintenance."

The Sleepers have short tracks at their townhome. One by their front door runs along a ledge carrying wrapped Christmas presents. An Austrian cog train chugs back and forth from the office to the back yard.

Sleeper said he gets the most pleasure out of setting up his models for others to tinker with and watch.

"The thing I enjoy most is seeing the kids love it," he said. "Big kids like it, too."

ON THE RIGHT TRACK

If you're interested in building your own garden railroad:

- Read up on the topic. Tucson Garden Railway Society members suggest "Garden Railways and Fine-scale Railroader," which you should be able to find at Barnes & Noble Booksellers and Arizona Trains & Hobbies.
- Visit a garden railroader and find out what the hobby entails.
- Start small — upkeep and maintenance can take a lot of time.
- A strong foundation is important. Spring for good track that can withstand the weather.
- Be on the lookout for bargains, which aren't confined to train stores. Ken Karrels said he's found bargain accessories at places like Ace Hardware and Target.

1999



1999

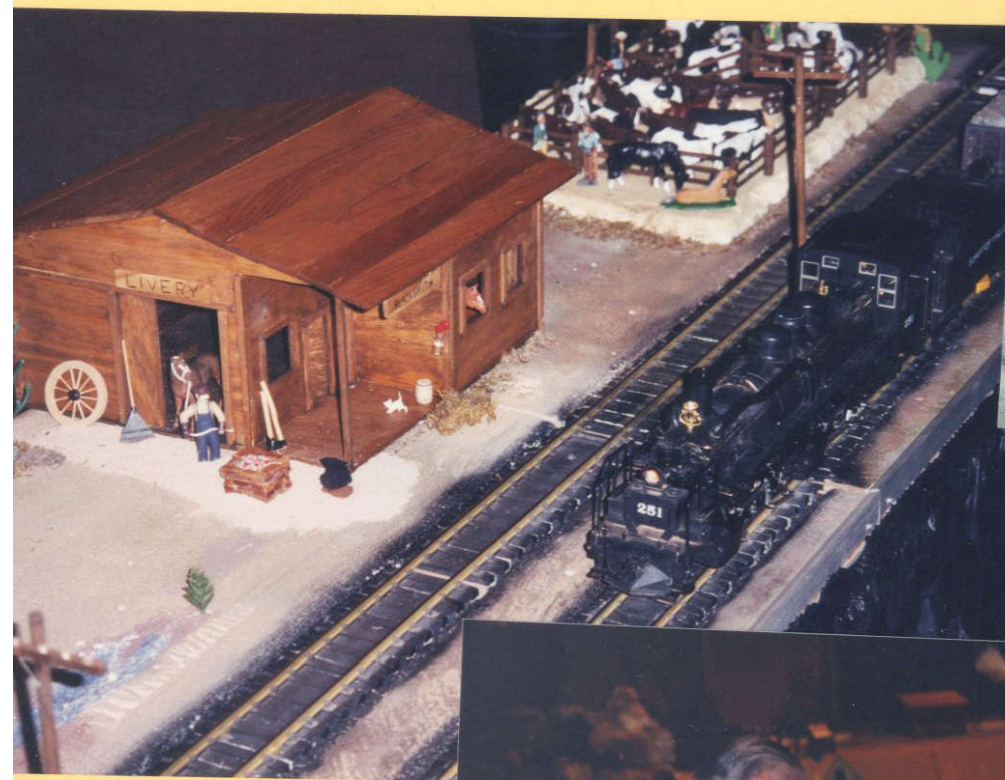
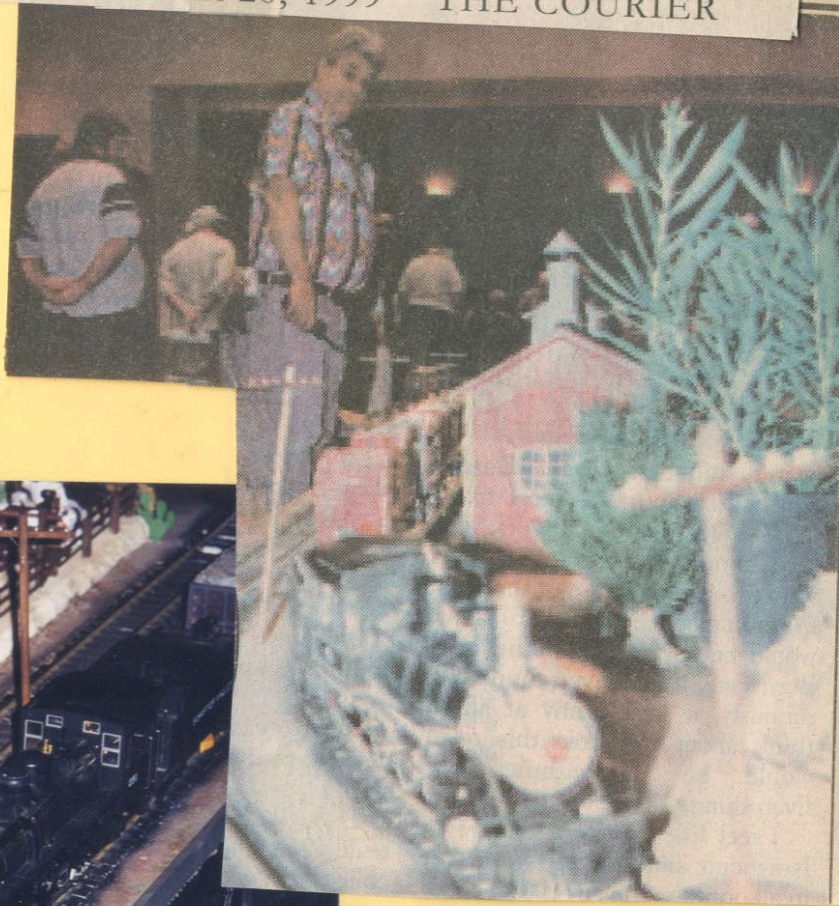


OCTOBER



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1999 THE COURIER

SAHBA's Home & Garden Show a big success



SAHBA 1999 FALL

HOME & GARDEN SHOW



SOUTHERN ARIZONA HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION
OCTOBER 15, 16 & 17 at TCC

LENOX DAY'S SOUTHWEST GRS



Garden Railway



Tucson's perpetually young-at-heart Garden Railway Society will add waterfalls, mines, tunnels, and elevated trackage to grace the setting for this year's home show.

The Garden Railway Society is helping with plans to create a permanent spot in which they can set up and take down their always entertaining and ever-popular trains.

Where do model railroaders come from?

Current Tucson Garden Railway president, Jon Anderson, did indeed start his choo-choo chugging when as an adult he received a train that circled the Christmas tree. Truly bitten by the garden railway bug, his interest and his train display grew. And grew. And grew. Now his Tucson backyard is a miniature world of just-for-fun railroading.

At Lew and Jan Sleeper's home a German Harzquerbahn locomotive makes the beverage run, delivering drinks to the family's patio.

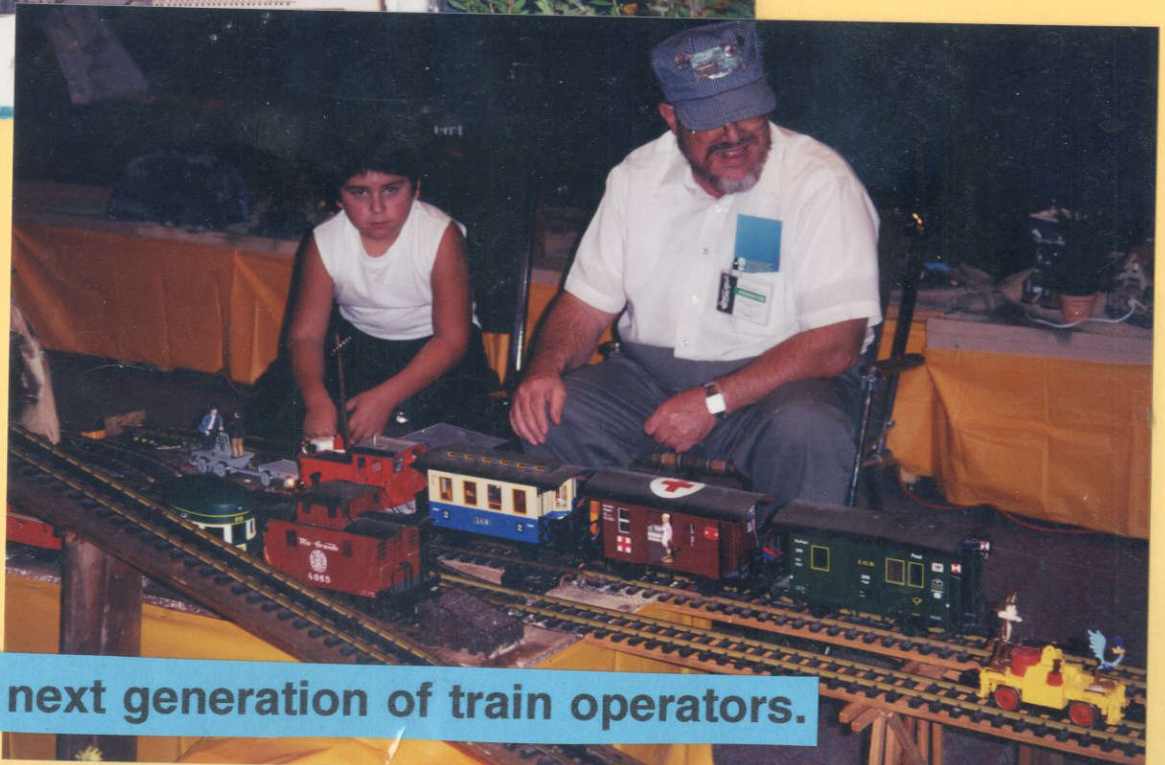
For society vice-president, Gary Martin, the fascination includes more than 700 feet of track that route his trains over paths that even include a small waterfall. These train enthusiasts love coming to the home show and finding and introducing more enthusiasts, especially children, to their engaging hobby.

Large Scale Model Railroad Association (toll-free), (877) 547-2253
<http://www.gardenrailways.com> <http://www.lgb.com>

OCTOBER 10, 1999

ADVERTIS





Helping the next generation of train operators.



DECEMBER
1999



Children at St. Mark's Early Childhood Center visit
model railroad demonstration.

TGRS HOLIDAY PARTY POTLUCK

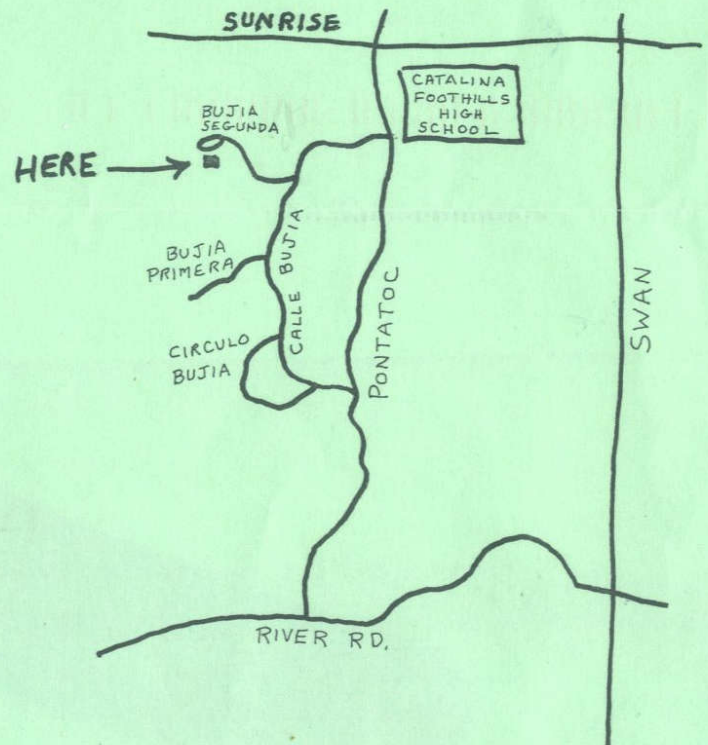
1:30 PM SUNDAY DECEMBER 19TH

JON AND GINNY ANDERSON'S
4080 E. BUJIA SEGUNDA

529-6554

Please RSVP by December 12th and sign up to bring a dish if you didn't sign up at November's meeting at Chris Lawson's. Please bring serving utensils for your dish, and hot dishes already heated. Lunch will be served at 1:45 PM.

Each person should bring an inexpensive wrapped, train related gift for the fun game after lunch.



MERRY CHRISTMAS



1999



DECEMBER



Tucson Garden Railways

Modelers work on varied projects.

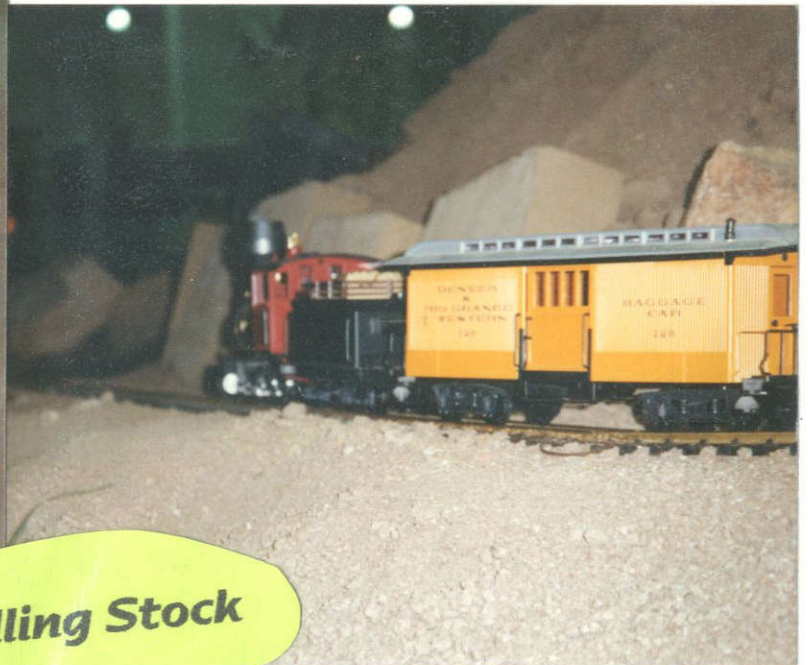




**SOUTHERN ARIZONA HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION
HOME SHOW - SPRING 1997**



Trenching for the Tunnel



Fitzner's Rolling Stock