



Tucson Garden Railway Society's Time Table

Society web site: <http://tucsongrs.org>

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June, 2006

The June Meeting is at the home
of Nick Buchholz and Mary Ker

Saturday June 24th at 9:00 am.

Directions to the Buchholz/Ker Home

From the South, East and West:

Go to the intersection of Ina and Thornydale Rds. Turn North on Thornydale Drive about .7 miles to Wesleyan Road. (Wesleyan is at the end of the decorative "Sound wall", one block north of the Fire Station on the east side of Thornydale)

Turn right (east) onto Wesleyan. Drive until Wesleyan T's into Rasmussen

Turn left onto Rasmussen. Go to the second right. This is Blacksill Dr. Turn right onto Blacksill Dr

From the North:

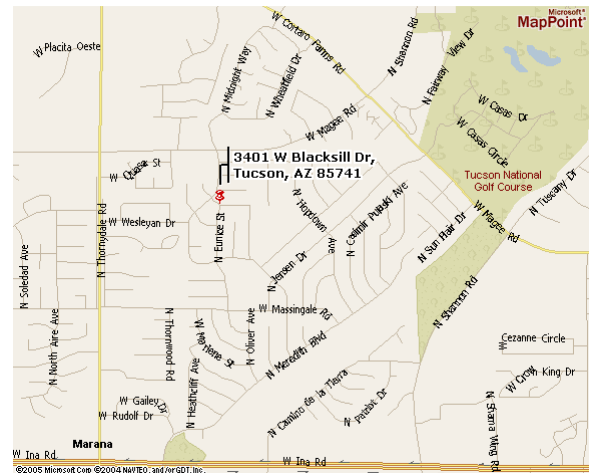
Go to the Intersection of W. Magee, W. Cortaro Farms and N. Shannon Rds. near Tucson National.

Turn West onto W. Magee Rd go about .4 Miles until you reach Rasmussen Rd.

Turn Left (south) onto Rasmussen.

Go 4 blocks to Blacksill Dr. Turn left (east) onto Blacksill Dr

Our house is straight ahead of you as you finish the turn onto Blacksill, on the southeast corner of Blacksill and Eunice. Its the orange slump block house with a 30 foot pine tree in front. The number is 3401 W Blacksill Dr. Our phone is 744-4932



THE TUCSON, PIEDMONT AND SONORAN DESERT RR

The TP&SD is a narrow gauge railroad set in 1926 in southeastern Arizona. The railroad goes from Douglas on the border to Klondike in the White Mtns., traveling up the Sulfur Springs valley through Paul Spur, Gleeson, Courtland, and Pearce to arrive at Cochise Courthouse, the track continue north and east through Cascabel, Cactus Flats, Wilcox and Bonita to finally arrive in Klondike.



The railroads timetable lists many scenic wonders that will help you enjoy your trip. Two water courses the Rainbow Rock River and

Stetson Falls provide rafting and fishing for the inhabitants and an active tourist passenger service.

Locomotives are Bachmann and Accucraft 1:20 scale units and a couple of scratch-built locomotives are under construction. The buildings and rolling stock are mostly kits or scratch-built also in 1:20.32 scale in keeping with a three foot gauge railroad. Inspiration for structures comes from buildings in So AZ. and from the right of way of several three foot gauge Railroads, (EBT, NPC, C&C and PCR).



The railroad is designed with operations in mind. Industries include copper and cala rock mines; pepper jelly, lemon balmb and sausage factories; quarries, a lumber camp and saw mill and pepper orchards.



Dinosaurs roam the right of way and are common in the towns on the TP&SW. Lizard Cars transport dinosaurs to market as no cows are harmed on the TP&SD. Photos courtesy Nick Buchholz.

Trip on Tranz Alpine Train New Zealand

By Pat and Dave Tiefenbach

We've just returned from an extended trip to Australia and New Zealand with Pat's sister and her husband who live in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

We were gone 33 days, took 10 flights, and stayed in 16 different hotels. We got around on trains, boats, taxis, cars, buses, shuttles, a gondola, a monorail, and our tired feet. We tasted kangaroo, crocodile, emu, barramundi fish, billy tea, Fosters beer and vegemite (locals love this paste spread on crackers).

While we were on New Zealand's south island, we spent a day riding the Tranz Scenic train on the Tranz Alpine route, which is advertised as "one of the top ten train trips in the world." The train left Christchurch on the east coast and traveled over the Southern Alps to Greymouth on the west coast, a distance of about 70 miles. We traveled through the flat Canterbury Plains with its farms and braided rivers, into alpine foothills and snow-capped mountains, and through Arthur's Pass (2200 feet high). We continued past beautiful Lake Brunner and down into Greymouth, the largest settlement on the west coast, in about four hours. After a brief lunch stop, we boarded the train and rode back down to Christchurch on the same track, which took 36 years to build.

The route has several tunnels, and the longest is the six mile tunnel that passes through the Otira Gorge. It took the train almost 15 minutes to transit the tunnel in pitch blackness. Because of its length, the tunnel has special ventilation systems to clear the diesel exhaust. In the early days of steam, electric engines and many trips were used to pull cars through the tunnel to reconnect to steam engines. Nowadays the train is pulled by diesel engines.



Pat and Dave Tiefenbach in front of the train

Riding the Tranz Alpine train made for a long day but was a great experience, and Dave

added a new train pin to the collection on his engineer's hat.

Pima County Fair results Willis

Total revenues collected at the fair were \$1,244.01 and expenses were \$176.34 for a net gain of 1,067.67. Expenses included an additional roll of tickets which we didn't use. Winner of County Fair Raffle Mary Ballike.

2007 Rails in the Garden Tour

If you would like to be on the 2007 RITG call Bob Dirksen at 490-5987. We already have the Diesings, the Bob Hoffmans, the Eberbachs, Rincon West, and Buchholz.

From the May 20th Meeting at the home of Gary and Peggy Martin



Photo by Elaine Miller



Photo by Elaine Miller

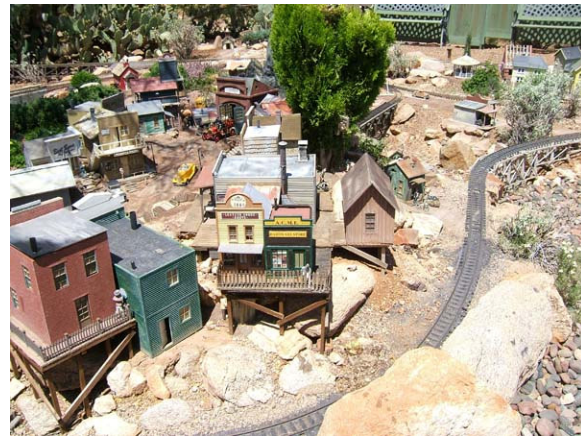


Photo by Angela Miller

Minutes of the May 20, Meeting Respectfully submitted by Ellen Stoesser

The meeting was held at the Gary and Peggy Martin's Home at 10:00 P.M.

Nick thanked Gary & Peggy for hosting.

There were 58 attendees at the meeting.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Willis Fagg reported:

1. Current checking account balance of \$7,644.52. Reserve account balance is \$3,001.37 for a total of all accounts of \$10,654.89. Revenues to date for fiscal year 2005-2006 are \$10,207.90 and expenses are \$6,056.41 for a net increase to date of \$4,151.49.
2. Revenues for the County Fair were \$1,244.01 and expenses of \$176.34 for a net gain to date of \$1,067.67.
3. We added two new members at the fair for a total of 113 going into the membership renewal period. Total paid for next year is 7.
4. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Editor's Report. Jim Miller reported the newsletter was doing great but that he needs more articles. Jim is very busy with Angela's upcoming wedding.

Vice President's Events Report: Chuck Cook said "if anyone had to pay for parking or admission at the County Fair to see him or Willis".

June 3---Toy Train Swap Meet will be held at the Rodeway Inn from 9A.M.-3P.M. A sign up sheet was passed around. The Children's Layout will be used.

June 9-11---American Home Show---Setup will be Wednesday at 12:00 with tear down on Sunday after 5:00 P.M. Sign up sheets were passed around for members to sign up for hours they would like to work. Chuck has some passes for friends of members. There will not be a Children's Layout. He also has the name of a person selling a LGB K28 engine with the box.

Children's Layout: Gary is redoing this.

A. Membership Committee: Ibbby Ulmer reported that we now have 115 members.

B. Mentor Committee: Joe Stoesser said "he was available for anyone to talk to". He also showed us the new hat style and was selling shirts, caps and decals.

C. Module Committee: Joe Duda said" he had made some small pieces for clamping, gold color was LGB and black color was Aristo-Craft".

D. Education Committee: Janet Mitchell reported they had given a luncheon presentation. In the fall they will put in a formal proposal for a projector.

Old Business:

A. Rails in the Garden: Bob Dirksen reported on the RITG Tour:

1. He has 3 families signed up for the 2007 RITG Tour.

2. He had small photo albums for the 2006 host families.

B. Trolley Tracks: Gary rebuilt the track, lead sheets will be needed for weight on the bottom of the trolley. The club purchased an egg liner.

New Business:

C. We will be doing a SANDS display on October 21st.

D. We discussed having a Round-a-Bout: seeing 3 layouts and a meeting at a site.

Christmas Party: There was much discussion about the Christmas Party and where it would be held. Should we go to a restaurant or should we rent a room and cater the food or have a pot luck? Several places and prices were named--Hometown Buffet, El Parador, Casa Vallarta, and the 49er County Club. Prices ranged from \$13- 30 per person. More members preferred having it at a restaurant rather than renting a room. This would be our club meeting and it would be on the weekend. A motion was made that the Board make the decision about the Christmas party and let the members know. This motion passed. A motion was made that the gift

exchange be one gift per family and cost \$15.00. This also passed.

2008 Convention: April 29th-May 4th. Gary talked about where the volunteers will be needed---registration, security, vendors, newsletter, etc.

Announcements:

1. June Weaver talked about the Green Valley Garden Tour, it was for 6 hours and they had 400 people

2. Rich Hall is planning a trip in 2008.

3. Ibbby needs the blocks for the quilt before the end of July. You can mail them to her.

4. The Big Train Show is moving from the Queen Mary to the Ontario Convention Hall. This is closer to the airport and the I-10 freeway.

5. Gary still has train items to sell from the estate sale

The next regular meeting will be held on June 24th, at the home of Buchholz/Ker home, at 9:00 A.M.

History of the TGRS

Part 2, by Ibbby Ulmer

Marty and Loyal Hart were charter members of the TGRS when it was formed in 1994. Loyal was the third President of TGRS. Under Loyal's leadership the first standardized modules were built, enlarging the layouts that could be set up for display. Marty was the first secretary of TGRS, a position she held for several years. Marty put together several photo albums of our members' layouts and the layouts the club set up for several events and displays.



Loyal and Marty Hart at a Garden Railway Convention

Loyal and Marty set up their trains every year for Christmas at Cavett Elementary School where Marty was the Librarian.



The Hart to Hart Railroad on the 2006 RITG tour. Photos courtesy of Marty Hart

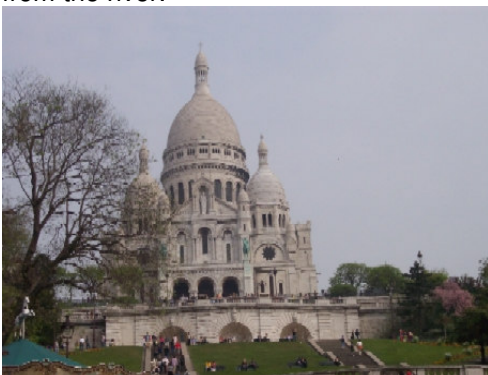
Loyal and Marty built an Awnuts (Always whimsical not usually to scale) layout at their home which they called the Hart to Hart Railroad. It is known for its cartoon character figures. Loyal passed away in 2004 and Marty has continued her membership and, with some of the club member's help, was able to have the Hart to Hart Railroad in the 2006 Rails in the Garden Tour.

Europe

By Dick Izen

On Wednesday, May 3rd four TGRS couples (the Izens, Martins, Mitchells and Ulmers) joined by a Tucson couple (Dan and Penny Lowe) met in the Phoenix airport with a party of ABTO couples (and a few relatives) and flew first to Chicago and then on to London.

In London we went directly to the Eurostar or Channel Tunnel train and rode from London direct to Paris, passing through the 21 mile channel tunnel. In Paris we spent several days and toured Notre Dame, the Paris Opera House, the Louvre Museum, the Eiffel Tower, the artists quarter in Montmartre, and the Sacre Coeur Church. We took a dinner cruise on the Seine River and saw the building ablaze with lights from the river.



Sacre Coeur or Sacred Heart Church in Paris

After Paris we headed to Normandy where we saw the Bayeux tapestry (which tells the story of pledges, broken promise and eventually the invasion of Saxon England by the Norman's under William the Conqueror in 1066, which was more or less the beginning of modern English history.). We also visited the Peace Memorial, the harbor and museum explaining the artificial harbor built to supply the armies after D Day, St. Mere Eglise where the American paratroops landed, Omaha Beach, and the museum of the invasion. We then went to both the American and German cemeteries in the D Day area.



German gun emplacement overlooking Normandy beaches

Leaving Normandy we returned to Paris to catch a train to Lausanne in Switzerland. We transferred by motor coach to the town of Tausch where we boarded the rack railroad up to Zermatt near the Matterhorn. The next day we took the Glacier Express from Zermatt to Saint Moritz enjoying magnificent views en route.

By this time it was Thursday the 11th and we were en route to Munich, Germany. We were disappointed when the famous Glockenspiel clock failed to operate but enjoyed walking in the spacious pedestrian mall and seeing the quaint architecture. Most of us met for dinner at the famous Hoffbrau House and enjoyed the authentic dishes, the omph pa pa band and the good German beer.



Dinner at Munich's Hoffbrau House- L to R, The Ulmers, the Lowes, the Meyers and Dick Izen

On the next day we split up with the bulk of the group going to see the Neuschwanstein and Hohenschwangau castles. The Izens and the Ulmers together with two ABTO couples took the subway to Dachau and viewed the camp and memorials there. After lunch this group split up with some taking a city sightseeing tour while others went to the Deutches Museum.

Saturday the group traveled to Salzburg, Austria where we had a combined Mozart and Sound of Music tour beginning at the abbey where Maria had been a novice. We saw the house where Mozart was born and visited several historic buildings and churches in the town. There was also time for shopping in Salzburg's crowded center before we traveled to see the gazebo used in the movie and the house whose exterior represented the Von Trapp house in the movie.

On Sunday we encountered some rain so we canceled a plan cruise on the large inland see and visited a salt mine instead.



The Mitchells in protective miner's clothes at Salt Mine near Salzburg

After lunch we toured the Nazi bunkers and the Eagles Nest.

The next day it was back to Munich to catch the fast German Inter City Express or ICE train to Nuremberg. There we toured the LGB factory and met with Wolfgang Richter. One of the women from ABTO had sewed a series of railroad place mats which were given to Wolfgang from the entire group.



Sandy Rauperstrauch presents place mats to Wolfgang Richter

After LGB we visited Soldiers Field which was where Hitler held his marathon rallies and then had time to enjoy the beautiful old city center of Nuremberg.

After Nuremberg it was back on to the ICE for the trip to Berlin. Berlin is a strange mixture of the old and the very modern. We saw the Brandenburg Gate, the Reichstag Building, the Berlin Dom (a church), the Victory Memorial and the Chlotenburg Palace representing historic Berlin and Checkpoint Charlie, the Berlin Wall Museum, the Holocaust Memorial, the East German TV tower and the new glass and steel Berlin main train station representing the very modern new Berlin.



The Izens at the Berlin Holocaust Memorial

After a farewell dinner and a nights rest it was time to come back. We flew from Berlin to Frankfurt and then to Washington and on to Phoenix. It was a great trip and despite some minor snafus with tickets and luggage I think we would all recommend the trip to anyone interested.

CONVENTION 2008

By Janet Mitchell and Dick Izen

The 2008 convention will begin with a Mexican Fiesta—it will replace the ice cream social that has been the welcoming event at many recent conventions. Here is a description that Dick Izen, our events chair has written.

Mexican Fiesta Night

On Wednesday, April 30, join us for our “Mexican Fiesta” and experience some unique southwestern hospitality.

There will be a buffet dinner with Fajitas, Spanish Rice and Refried Beans, Nachos with Chili con Queso (cheese), Salsas and Guacamole, plus miniature Burritos and Taquitos all served by the expert staff of the San Marcos Resort. A no host bar will offer Margaritas and Mexican Beers in addition to the usual alcoholic and non alcoholic beverages.

Entertainment will be provided by several manufacturers who will make brief presentations on their new products and plans for future products. Between presentations we will be entertained by a strolling Mariachi band playing traditional Mexican tunes.

This enjoyable meal, spiced by local food and music, will be the kick off to our convention and will offer a venue to socialize with fellow garden railroaders, renewing old acquaintances from around the world as well as providing an opportunity to make new friends from among the garden railroad community.

Membership Renewal Reminder:

Membership dues for the current year expire on June 30, 2006. Annual renewal is \$30. Checks should be made out to TGRS and should be submitted either in person or by mail to Willis Fagg, 12440 E. Ave. De La Vista Verde, Tucson, AZ 85749. If you have any questions regarding your dues, please call Willis.

New Members

We have three new members since the last newsletter bringing our total to 115 family memberships.

Alan and Eileen Warshaw are originally from Brooklyn, NY and most recently from North Carolina. He is a small business Consultant and she is Director of the Jewish Heritage Society. They moved to Tucson to be near some of their seven grandchildren who live in Scottsdale. They joined the TGRS at the Pima County Fair. It seems that Eileen is the one who's very interested in Garden Railroading and has piqued his interest as well. They do not have a layout as yet.

Roger and Trini Russell recently moved back to Oro Valley from Florida. They are retired and he is into narrow gauge. He has SN3, ON3 and HN3 as well as G gauge. They are remodeling their home and getting ready to set up their remote control garden railroad

John Lemon has been in Tucson some 30 years. He has live steam.

Electronic News Letter

With so many new members, I want to remind you that you can have the news letter delivered by e-mail. The club saves printing and postage costs but more importantly you get the news letter faster and can view the photos in color.

The Tucson Garden Railway Society is a non-profit corporation incorporated in Pima County, Arizona. Society members are interested in all areas of garden and modular large scale railroading. We welcome new members and hope you will consider joining. Members help each other build layouts and learn about railroading and modeling.

The TGRS dues are \$30.00 per year and are due on June 30th of each year. For new members dues are pro-rated at \$2.50 per month remaining in the year until June 30th plus a \$15.00 initiation fee, the first year. Additional name badges cost \$1.00 for each badge after the first.

If you are interested in the TGRS please contact one of the officers at the phone number listed below. If you wish to join immediately, send a check and your name, address and telephone number and the names for any additional badges to:

Ibby Ulmer
4935 N. Craycroft Road
Tucson, AZ 85718

Calendar of Events

June 24 Meeting at Nick Buchholz and Mary Ker
July No Meeting
Aug Meeting at Chuck & Debbie Cook
Sep Meeting at Ken & Mary Karrel
Oct Meeting at Rick and Sue Gast
Nov 11 Meeting at Garb & Dorothy Meechigian

TGRS Officers and Board of Directors

President:.....Nick Buchholz.... 520-744-4932
V-President:..... Chuck Cook.....520-797-1006
Secretary:.....Ellen Stoesser.....520-577-1210
Treasurer:.....Willis Fagg.....520-760-0147
Editor:.....Jim Miller..... 520-886-7611

At Large Board Members

Jim Cook.....520-760-2325
Rick Gast.....520-721-8305
Lew Sleeper.....520-751-9628
Joe Stoesser.....520-577-1210

Tucson Garden Railway Society
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