



Tucson Garden Railway Society's

Time Table

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

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September, 2006

The Meeting this month is at Willis and Dottie Fagg's on the 16th of September at 10:00 am.



Address: 12440 E. Avenida De La Vista Verde

Driving directions

Heading east on Tanque Verde turn left (north) on Fennimore (marked by a school crossing signal approximately 2.5 miles east of Houghton Road). Turn right on Avenida De La Vista Verde (second street on right). Follow Vista Verde across the bridge and find a parking place.

Note: We have limited space for parking, so please try to carpool as much as possible. Someone will be out front to assist with parking.

CRS RR

The Catalina and Rincon Saddle Railroad has been a work in process for over four years. The general theme is pre horseless carriage (and very few horses). In its present state, the railroad features an Indian pueblo, a "flat" street, some western theme buildings, a "desert" riverbed and a zoo. Rolling stock consists of an LGB Mogul and an LGB 2-4-0, both of which are

battery powered using trailing boxcars, and a mix of freight and passenger cars.

The entire layout was constructed around existing landscaping with some recent landscape enhancements specifically for the railroad. The first phase of track was approximately 150 feet in length and provides for either continuous loop or dogbone operation. The second phase of track added approximately 200 feet of track that features a 25 foot elevated connection to the old section and two additional loops that can be operated independently or as another dogbone. In the present configuration the entire layout can be operated as one long dogbone.



Photo Courtesy of the Fagg's

History of the TGRS

Part 4, by Ibby Ulmer

One of our charter member families is the Gasts; Rick, Sue, Tim, Ted and Krista. According to Rick, his Dad had Lionel trains in their home back east, but when they moved to Tucson and had no basement, they had to move outdoors with a garden railroad.

Rick met up with Clint Watkins, the first president of TGRS and helped found the club. The whole family got involved. According to Rick, at first there was

nothing but track and trains until Loyal Hart gave him his first building. Loyal said, "You can't have a garden railroad without any buildings!"

Even though Rick's job takes up a lot of his time, he and his family are still active in the club. The boys are now 27 and 23 and Krista is 15 years old. Rick is currently serving on the Board of Directors as a member at large. When it comes to taking down a display on a Sunday evening at the Fair or at TCC, Rick and Sue are often there. The Gast's layout has also been featured on tours.

This is another family that helps make our organization be what it is today.



Rick and Sue Gasts Photo from the Gasts

Presentation at BARBEQUES GALORE



Photo by Joe Stoesser

On Wednesday the 16th of August the club presented BARBEQUES GALORE with two customized box cars in appreciation for all that they did helping us with ticket sales for our Rails in the Garden tours. The presentation was made by Gary Martin. There were 10 club members in attendance.

TGRS Holiday Party

The annual TGRS holiday party will be held at the Hometown Buffet on Oracle on December 2nd. This format replaces the traditional pot luck.

The price is \$9.25 per person for full access to the buffet and includes tax and gratuity. We will have a separate room that will accommodate the entire group in a comfortable setting. We have the room from 12:00 to 4:00 PM. Since we need to pay the bill as a group, we will be collecting payments for the event ahead of time. More information will be provided at the August meeting.

Willis

Please get your payment to Willis as soon as possible.

Australian Layout Invitation By Dick Izen

Recently I was visited by Greg Hunter and his charming wife, Pauline. While the hunters live in Loftus, Australia, a suburb of Sydney, Pauline was born in the U. S. A. and still has family in Tucson and Minnesota.

Greg is an avid garden railroader and not only ran trains at my layout but also visited Gary Martin's and Barry Blackwell's railroads. Greg's Sandstone and Termite Railroad was the subject of an article in Garden Railways a few years back. Most of his railroad is scratch built right down to the wheels that Greg turns from plastic on his workshop lathe but Greg builds to 'look right' instead of detailed rivet counting. Most of his motive power is built on Bachmann or Aristocraft chassis with a heavily modified scratch built superstructure and is battery powered.



Greg's stable of locomotives includes (from left to right) a steam dummy, a much modified double ended diesel, a 2-4-2+2-4-2 Garrett, a 2-8-2 Tank engine, a 4-6-0, a rail motor car (with a Bachmann Big Hauler in the rear), an 0-6-0, and a 2-6-0+0-6-2 Garrett.

You can see his railroad and more detailed pictures and descriptions of his locomotives,

rolling stock and entire railroad on Greg's web site which is www.users.bigpond.com/huntergpmi/gregs/SaTR.htm.

Greg noted in the news letter that several TGRS members had recently visited Australia and has graciously extended an invitation for anyone in the Sydney area with some spare time, to visit and view his railroad. I have been there and can assure you it is well worth an afternoon.



The train crosses above the window at Chuck and Debbie's home at the August 19th meeting

Minutes of the August 19th, Meeting Respectfully submitted by Ellen Stoesser

The meeting was held at the home of Chuck and Debbie Cook at 10:00 A.M.

Nick thanked Chuck and Debbie for hosting.

There were 49 attendees at the meeting.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Joe Stoesser, filling in for Willis Fagg, reported a:

1. Current checking account balance of \$8,502.04.
2. Revenues account balance is \$3,004.01 for a total of all accounts of \$11,502.04.
3. Revenue to date for fiscal year 2006-2007 are \$420.00 and expenses are \$967.57 for a net decrease to date of \$547.57.
4. Total Membership to date is 75.
5. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Editor's Report. Jim Miller would like any member who has pictures or articles that they would like in the newsletter, to send them to him. Winnie and

Neal Mosely were very pleased with the article about their layout.

Venues Report: Chuck Cook reported on our events:

1. **Oktoberfest; We** will do this if asked but will not ask if they want us to do it.
 2. **Casa de Los Nino's:** Chuck is checking on this.
 3. **Christmas Party** is on 12/2/2006. 12-4:00 P.M.
 4. **Botanical Gardens:** they would like us to do their Luminary Nights.
 5. **St. Thomas:** We will be doing a Children's setup for their preschool on 12/12.
 6. **St Marks:** We do not have a date yet. 12/?????
 7. **Arizona Hotel:** They would like to incorporate a layout at the Hotel with the Fox Theater showing train movies at the same time. This would be before Christmas.
 8. **VA Hospital:** We will do again if they want us. Dates—12/27-28-and the 29th half a day.
 9. **Home Show:** October 6th-8th.
 10. **Rails in the Garden:** March 3rd and 4th. 2007
- Old Business: Racks** Gary reported the welding on the racks was done and he working on the wood for the side and backs of the 3 racks. Also that the first stage of is pretty well done. If anyone is planning on making modules they need to be less than 18" to fit on the racks.

Children's Layout: This is 50% done and should be done before our next meeting. Glenn Mitchell is making the trestle and he also is working on the animation of the layout.

Convention Report: Norm Ulmer reported that the buses are lined up for the bus tour. There is going to be a live stream display at the Convention and the brochure is well on its way. He will have a sign up sheet at the next meeting. There will be 470 volunteer shifts—General Store, Vendor Security, and Registration. The shifts will vary in hours.

Layouts for the Convention: Logistics play a big part of how the bus tour layouts are selected. The bus tours are also limited to the most interesting ones. Anyone who needs help to get their layout ready for the tour or before or after should ask for help.

BBG Presentation: Gary Martin made the presentation of 2 LGB Cigar cars painted white with signs. Joe Duda made crates with their name and the address of each store and this was put inside the cars.

Ronald McDonald House: the Board is investigating a donation of a train set.

Membership Dues are due; please pay Joe Stoesser while Willis is gone.

TBG: Gary reported that TGB would like us there for their Luminary Nights—2nd & 3rd-9th & 10th, at least. There will be a sign up sheet with the hours being- 8:30 a.m. to 8 or 9 p.m. on Luminary Nights and 10 a.m. to 3 on non luminary days. Board would like to do this through the 17th. Nick and Gary are working on the design of the layout.

Permanent Layout: the TBG has purchased the lot and house to the south of the property. It is app. 1/2 acre and it is a standard lot size. We could remove the sheds that are there and maybe store the trains in the house, hold our meetings. All this is in the preliminary stages. Norm made a motion that the board have a sub committee pursue negotiations with the TBG about a permanent layout. The motion passed.

New Business: Gary had a LGB starter set with a transformer for sale for \$120.00. Chuck Cook made a motion that the Club buy it for \$120.00. The motion passed. It could be used as an extra set when needed.

Announcements: Members were reminded that there is \$25.00 available to pay for the snacks and drinks when they hold a meeting.

Janet Mitchell suggested having a co-host to help the host get ready for the meetings.

Open House: Gary Martin would like us to know his Open House is on November 19th.

Ray Moore of the Green Valley Club let us know that the Ace Hardware on 22nd has been remodeled. One of their new members in the GVC wrote an article about how his Grandfather when Grandpa was 6 years old, during a disaster, kept people informed about the disaster, by using telegraphy. Ray doesn't know when the article will be published, when it is he will bring it in.

Ken Karrel will contact The Depot to make sure they know we are not coming there for Christmas.

Round-a-Bout: 2007 February Meeting: Gary & Peggy will host. Club members will go to 2 or 3 homes to see their layouts and the meeting will be held at Gary's.

March: This month it will be held in Saddle Brook, with the meeting at Dave Tiefenbach's after visiting 2 or 3 other layouts.

The next regular meeting will be held on Sept. 16, at the home of Dottie and Willis Fagg at 10:00 A.M.

Willis would like us to car pool as much as possible.

Minutes of August BOD Meeting

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Stoesser

August 8, 2006-7:00 P.M. at the home of Peggy and Gary Martin

All Board Members were present except two.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved.

Treasury Report: Joe Stoesser reported for Willis Fagg:

1. Final checking account for fiscal year 2005-2006 was \$9,049.61.
2. Reserve account balance was \$3,003.12 for a total of all accounts of \$12,052.73.

3. Operating revenues for fiscal year 2005-2006 were \$12,553.90 and expenses were \$6,997.32 for a net increase of \$5,556.58.
4. The saving account earned a total of \$3.12 interest. (Note interest on the saving account was restated to post the interest in the month verses the month reported.)
5. Current checking account balance is \$8,793.52.
6. Reserve account balance is \$3,004.01 for a total of all accounts of \$11,797.53.
7. Revenues to date for the fiscal year 2005-2006 are \$360.00 and expenses are \$616.09 for a net decrease to date of \$256.09
8. Membership renewal is currently at 73.
9. The Treasurer's report was approved with a correction of the date in line 7. 2005-2006 was changed to 2006- 2007.

Newsletter: Jim Miller reported the newsletter was going well. Articles are always welcome. There will be a notice in the newsletter if you have not renewed your membership by September, you will not get an October newsletter.

Events: Chuck Cook reported that he is checking on **Casa de Los Nino's**

1. **St. Thomas Preschool** is scheduled for 12/12/06.
2. **St. Marks:** Janet Mitchell is checking on the date.
3. **Arizona Hotel:** The hotel director is thinking of working with the Fox Theater to show train movies at the same time as the hotel has a small display. If this does not happen the hotel would like to have a larger setup. More info to follow later.
4. **VA. Hospital:** Lew will check on the dates and make the arrangements. It would be after Christmas. Running would start on Tuesday and run through Friday a.m.
5. **October fest:** If DM calls we will do it, if they don't we will not pursue it.
6. **Ronald McDonald House:** Jerry Tulino will check on this.
7. **SANDS:** Chuck will check on this.

Old Business: 2008 Convention: Norm Ulmer reported that things are going well. The program done by Sandy is excellent. There will not be an ice cream social. The one at Santa Clara was a "disaster". Also the acoustics were "horrible" for the comedian that was there. *The Country Store* hours have not been decided yet. Our store and registration will be together but be 3x larger than Santa Clara. In September Norm will have a list for the volunteers needed, times of shifts, and the positions that need filling.

Cable Cars: Santa Clara sold 165 cable cars at a price of \$300.00 each. If you have one the company will be recalling them.

Gary Martin reported that 31% of the space in the Exhibitors Hall is sold. None in the Manufacturers

Hall, this will come later as they usually do not sign up this early. Gary will do a mail out one year ahead, around March or April. He would like all members to start thinking if they know someone who would like to advertise in our 2008 Convention Book.

Racks: Nick reported that 4 are welded and have wheels. Floor and sides are cut for 2; the tallest one is 82" high. Nick is doing the corners. We are still going to color code the shelves. All in all they are progressing in the project.

Kids Layout: Nick reported all corners are cut, the sides are done, and the edges are being worked on. More wood is needed. There is a security system with 30 relays that is to be refitted to be used for animation.

Christmas Party: Joe Stoesser reported the Christmas Party is going to be held on 12/2/2006, between 12 & 4:00 p.m. This will be held at Hometown Buffet on Oracle. We will have 2 rooms. All monies must be paid in advance by 11/18/2006, with the price being \$9.25 per person. While Willis is gone checks can be given or mailed to Joe Stoesser. A notice will be emailed to all members.

New Business: Tucson Botanical Gardens Christmas Layout: Gary reported that they would like us to be there from 12/2&3---12/9&10, Luminary Nights. No definite dates have been set, we could possibly do this until the 17th leaving us time to also do the VA. We would have a different area; this would hold 2 sections running 2 trains. This would take 12 people to set up and 6 to tear down and people to run it. This would start on 12/2; a conflict with our party but this could be worked out. The area is app. 50 ft. long and 20 ft. wide. It is hard to tell until it is trimmed.

TBG- Permanent layout: They now have a new grounds director, who is a train buff, and they have purchased property with a house on it to the south. We would use part of that. Things to be considered cost, who would run, who would maintain and who would supply the equipment. On the flip side Ken Karrel is talking to Mike Carter at the Zoo about a layout there. He has given them info. about other zoo's that have trains running in them.

Other Business:

Records and Trailer Titles: Jay Sanders is writing a letter to Kurt Collins asking him for the return of all the records and titles for our trailers that he has retained from his time as Secretary.

The railroad cars that are going to be presented to **BARBEQUES GALORE** on August 16, at the north store at 2:00 p.m. were on display at Gary's at the meeting. These are for all their help in selling tickets for us.

Lew bought information about a trailer for the Kids layout. It was dual wheeled 14x7 trailer on sale for \$3900. It was decided that it would be too big. We need to get something a SUV can tow. All members should be on the lookout for this.

Ray from Saddle Brook is selling some train equipment. Jim will email all members with the phone number.

Ken reported that the depot is having their Holiday Express Program on 12/10/2006. They also would like to work with the Fox to have train movies shown around that time. There is also a raffle with a train trip to Copper Canyon being the grand prize.

Norm asked "when the meeting with Jon Baker from the County Fair was to take place?" Nick will call and schedule.

Gary and Peggy's Open House will be held on November 19, from 12:00 until closing???. No date was set for the next Board Meeting.

Membership

Final Notice for Membership Renewals

This is the final notice for the 2006/7 TGRS membership renewal. Memberships which are not renewed prior to the October newsletter will be removed from the mailing list. Members with dues still outstanding are identified by a stamp below the return address on the back of the newsletter.

Dues are \$30/year and are payable to TGRS. Dues may be paid at the September meeting or mailed to:

Willis Fagg
12440 E. Ave. De La Vista Verde
Tucson, AZ 85749



ALL ABOARD
YOU ARE INVITED TO THE 4th ANNUAL
OPEN HOUSE
Of
GARY AND PEGGY MARTIN'S
EAGLE MOUNTAIN GARDEN RAILROAD

DATE: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2006
TIME: 12:00PM — 5:00PM
PLACE: 4625 E. CARRRO DE AGUILA, TUCSON
Airzona.

QUESTIONS OR DIRECTIONS, CALL
GARY OR PEGGY MARTIN AT (520)2997428

New Members

We have no new members this month.

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.

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.

To join the email mailing list send an email to members-subscribe@tucsongrs.org; include your name and a simple message like "I am a new TGRS member and would like to join the mailing list".

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:

lby Ulmer
4935 N. Craycroft Road
Tucson, AZ 85718

Calendar of Events

- Sep 16 Willis and Dottie Fagg
- Oct 14 Meeting at Rick and Sue Gast
- Nov 11 Meeting at Garb & Dorothy Mechigian
- Dec 2 TGRS Christmas Party

TGRS Officers and Board of Directors

President:.....Nick Buchholz.... 520-744-4932
 V-President:..... Chuck Cook.....520-797-1066
 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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