



Tucson Garden Railway Society's

Time Table

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

Editor e-mail: jmiller66@cox.net

October, 2006

The Meeting this month is at Rick and Sue Gast

The T&T Railroad began as a family project and work continues on the layout. Presidential approval has been given to expand the layout to the west yard. However, with the lack of the original track gang (two sons) now working and on to other things, the expansion is at a slower pace.

The layout is running most weekends for our family's enjoyment and relaxation. We run a train, have a beer, and try to inspire others to get involved in garden railroading.

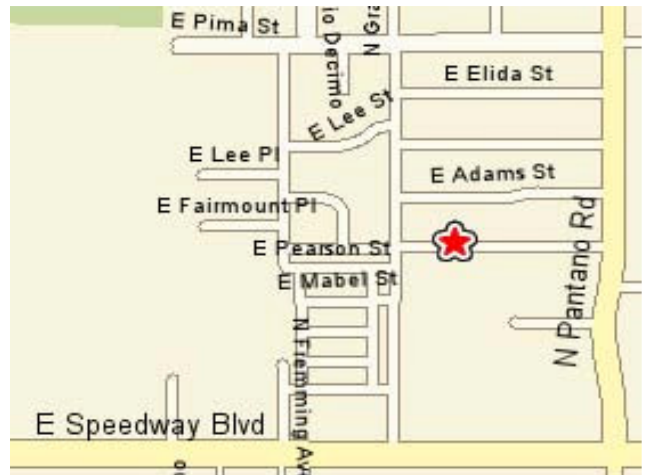
We hope that club members will be able to come to the meeting and enjoy viewing the layout again. **Please bring a chair** and watch your step around the pool.



The T&T Railroad

Driving Directions

The Gast's live at 7751 E. Fairmount St. and their phone is 721-8305. From the South take Speedway to Pantano Rd, go North ¼ mile then turn West on Fairmount St. From the North come down Sabino Canyon Rd. Turn East on Wrightstown Rd. ½ mile then South on Pantano Rd. ¾ miles then turn West on Fairmount St. to 7751.



History of the TGRS Part 5

The Miller family, Jim, Elaine and Angela had been into G-Gauge Trains for several years prior to moving to Arizona. Elaine saw a display in a mall at Christmas time several years ago in North Carolina and found out that that size train could be purchased for home use. They started with a starter set before Angela was a part of the family and gave each other cars to go with the set as Christmas Presents. After Angela was born in California, the buying of cars stopped for a few years. Jim did get a Live Steam Engine and some other Steam toys before we moved to Guam. When we arrived in Tucson in 1993, we found out about a LGB Club meeting at Udall Community Center and went to see what that was. Jim talked with Clint Watkins, the President of the Club, and was invited to attend a meeting at the Depot Restaurant where we became members of the club.

Jim runs mostly Steam outdoors on a couple of loops that are in the yard, but he also has electric trains that run in the house on the floor in the front room. Elaine and Angela both have their own starter sets, Angela's is battery powered and Elaine's is electric. We set them up outside at Christmas time in the patio but take them down again when we take down the Christmas Decorations.

The Millers enjoy riding trains and seeing the scenery that you can see from the windows of older trains like the Grand Canyon RR, The Skunk Train in Mendocino, CA., Roaring Camp and Big Trees RR in Felton, CA., Durango and Silverton RR, and other trains in Utah and Hawaii.

Now that Jim is retired from the Air Force his wife volunteered him to be the Newsletter editor. Angela is now married and so does not have much time to help play trains with her parents but someday she might renew her interest in trains. Elaine and Jim enjoy playing trains and helping run the displays when they can at the Fair and the other venues that TGRS is involved with.



Jim and Elaine Miller with their daughter and son-in-law Angela and Mike Long at the Grand Canyon Rail Road

Minutes of the Sept. 16th, Meeting

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Stoesser

The meeting was held at the home of Willis and Dottie Fagg at 10:00 A.M.

Nick thanked Willis and Dottie for hosting.

There were 53 attendees at the meeting. There were 2 guests who later joined the club.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved after 3 corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Willis Fagg, reported a:

1. Current checking account balance of \$8,647.49
2. Revenues account balance is \$3,004.90 for a total of all accounts of \$11,652.39.
3. Revenue to date for fiscal year 2006-2007 is \$600.00 and expenses are \$1,131.64 for a net decrease to date of \$531.62
4. Membership renewal is at 83.
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.

Venues Report: Pres. Nick reported on events:

1. **Great Train Expo:** Formerly Greenberg has no scheduled events in AZ thru next April.
2. **Ronald McDonald House** has been put on hold.
3. **UMC** would like to work with us about putting a display there. If possible there will be a meeting with Gary and Chuck around Sept. 27-29th. We would setup but not run.
4. **County Fair:** Chuck is looking for a volunteer to be chairman of the display at the next fair. Chuck is working with John Baker to solve the problems at the fair.
5. **GATS:** It doesn't look like that **GATS** will be coming here.

More Events:

1. **Oktoberfest;** we will do this if asked but will not ask if they want us to do it.
2. **Buddy Walk:** Oct. 21-setup will be at the DeMeester Performance Center in Reid Park---11:00 A.M.--6:00 P.M. Chuck Cook is in charge. There was a sign up sheet passed around.
3. **Casa de Los Nino's:** Kids layout-set up @ 11:00 A.M. on Nov 6th, run on the 7th & 8th-at 12:00. Jerry Tulino in charge. There was a signup sheet.
4. **Polar Express** at the Depot---Ken has asked if the kid's layout is available.
5. **Christmas Party** is on 12/2/2006. 12-4:00 P.M. Money needs to be paid by Thanksgiving. The price is \$9.25 per person. This includes drinks, meal and tip.
6. **Botanical Gardens:** We will be doing "luminary nights" and some hours during the remainder of the days. It may be extended to Dec.17. Nick and Gary are in charge.
7. **St. Thomas:** We will be doing a Children's setup for their preschool on 12/12.
***** (Changed to October 29 – 31, editor)*****
8. **St Marks:** Kids display ---18& 19th—Bob & Phyllis Dirksen are in charge.
9. **Arizona Hotel:** Possible display at the Hotel and/or display at the Fox Theater. Chuck Cook is in charge.
10. **VA Hospital:** Lew Sleeper is suggesting a full display to management. Dates--12/27-28-and the 29th half a day. There be a sign up sheet at the next meeting.
11. **Reid Park Zoo:** Ken Karrel is in discussion about a permanent display there.
12. **January, 2007:** Home Show—Jan. 6-8-----GP-TTOS-Jan.21?

Committee Reports:

Membership: lby had pictures of the 2008 raffle quilt

Education: Janet Mitchell is going to have Sue come to a meeting when she is available, she can make decals on shirts of your railroad and she also has other items.

Old Business: Racks There will be a meeting at Jim Cook's house on Sept. 24th at 9:00 A.M. to rearrange the new and old racks.

Children's Layout: There was a corner module and a bridge trestle for us to see at the meeting. Jerry Tulino will work on the animation of the layout.

Convention Report: Norm Ulmer had sign up sheets for the 2008 Convention with the contact person, date, time and how many people needed. There will be a 2008 Convention meeting on Saturday Sept. 23, and after the meeting they are going to see Dennis's layout which was in Tracks Ahead. You can reserve rooms beginning in April 2007 for the San Marcos; the cost is \$109 plus tax. If they are full they will book you into another hotel.

Vendors—Gary Martin---**Events** ---Dick Izen---**Train Layouts** (Tucson) ---Glen Mitchell—**Vendor**

Clinics--- Bob Rauperstrauch---**Layout Tours** --- John Meyers

Registration Desk---Sharon Hull & Lee Willets—

General Store--- Bill Nagle

Live Steam ---Stan Cornforth

Layouts for the Convention: Layouts that will be open for the 2008 Convention are:

Barry & Gina Blackwell---Mike & Jane Dorgan---Rick & Sue Gast---Gary & Peggy Martin ---Janet & Glen Mitchell ---Bob & Eileen Schwab.

TBG: plans have been shelved for a permanent layout at TBG.

Announcements:

Alan Lathrem had his Jigsaw catalog for us to see.

Frank Turnzo had a Straub brewery car. This was the only brewery open during prohibition.

Madelyn Cook had a display that was made up entirely of all car parts.

Fred Wray has track for sale, if you are interested, contact Gary Martin.

Gary wanted us to know that LGB sold their North American holdings.

Gary will hold an Open House on November 19th from noon till 4:00 P.M. If you would like a flyer please contact him. He is also having Open House on the weekend of November 11th. The next regular meeting will be held on Oct. 14, at the home of Rick and Sue Gast at 10:00 A.M.

Copper Canyon Trip – Part 1

By Dick Izen

On Friday, September 8, the Dorgans (accompanied by their son Rob), the Faggs, the Izens, the Karrels, the Martins and the Mitchells joined 12 other couples, a few single travelers, four guides and a medic on the Sierra Madre Express. We had all met briefly at a dinner and orientation meeting the previous night. Now we boarded a motor coach for a quick tour of Tucson before heading south to join the train in Nogales, Sonora. One of the highlights of the Tucson tour was a visit to the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum. Ken Karrels, who is Chairman of the Museum Board of Directors, not only managed to have it opened for us outside of normal hours, he also opened the fence around locomotive 1673 displayed at the depot.



Ken Karrels (in cap) hosted our visit to the museum and locomotive 1673.

From Tucson we headed south stopping only to visit San Xavier del Bac and the Rio Rico resort where we had lunch. After crossing the border we drove to our train. While the scenery and opportunity to experience Mexico are the main purpose of the trip, the Garden Railroaders were, of course, interested in the train itself.

The train consisted of four cars including Arizona, a beautiful round end observation car with five sleeping compartments, a bar, and a large lounge complete with a DVD player which came in handy as Gary had brought DVDs of the Santa Clara convention.



One of the four cars on our train, the round end observation Arizona.

The Tucson was a dome car with a kitchen, a lounge, a bar and seating for more formal meals. The other two cars were the Ballesteros and the Divisadero. Both had been built as crew cars and were now configured as sleeping compartments. The two cars differed only in that Ballesteros had an open space for loading and storage of luggage at one end while Divisadero used that space for an open air lounge and bar. As you can see, with three bars in the four cars libations were never a problem. I think even Gary had enough cerveza.

We departed Nogales on time, and were soon exploring the train. Some people opted for the open platform and some for the dome or the lounge in the dome car. I think, however, that the Arizona car with its comfortable seats and wide picture windows was the most popular spot, at least with the TGRS contingent.

Dinner was served in the dome car in two seating's. Those of us in the first seating were treated to a showing of the movie "Treasure of the Sierra Madre" (what else?).



From left to right, Mary Karrels, Phil Stapleton (from Scottsdale), Jane Dorgan, Glenn Mitchell, Mike Dorgan (face hidden) and Janet Mitchell enjoy the view from the rear of the Arizona lounge.



Chris and Carol McGuire (of Arcadia, Ca.) Dottie Fagg and Jeanne Izen enjoy someone's joke in the forward portion of the Arizona lounge.

The plan had been to travel southward all night to Sufragio Station where the train would reverse and head northeast up into canyon country, passing the spectacular scenery during daylight hours. Some time during the night the train had come to a halt near Hermosillo where we found ourselves on Saturday morning. We learned that three days of heavy rain had caused a mud slide over the tracks along our route and that the railroad had decided to inspect the entire track before allowing us to

proceed. Eventually we got under way but it was no longer possible to reach our intended destination of Bahuichivo on that day. Instead we halted for the night at El Fuerte.



Gary and Peggy Martin in the Arizona Lounge.

At El Fuerte we stayed at the luxurious hotel Posada Del Hidalgo which had been created from several mansions. Before dinner we were treated to a spectacular performance by Mexican dancers.



Dancers at El Fuerte.



The El Fuerte River from on top of the fort/museum.

National Narrow Gauge Convention, Durango, Colorado June and Buzz Weaver

June and I visited friends in Durango and while I didn't register we were able to visit four G scale layouts in the area. I also was able to leave the literature for our national convention in Phoenix at the registration table and at the vendors exhibit.

The layouts we visited were all different styles. All used code 250 rail and had at least one Accucraft engine. Usually a K27.

The first one we visited, the White Water & Lemon Pass, is only 3 years old since the original is buried under eight feet of mud. A result of a mudslide due to the devastation caused by the Missionary Ridge fire of 2003. It has 350' of mainline plus sidings. All structures are scratch built from real barn wood. Trains were run with Locolink and Air Wire.

The Pine River, Tuckerville and Northerly RR was our next stop. A 400' point to point layout with wyes at both ends wandering among tall pines. Two large and impressive curved trestles spanning over 25'. The aluminum code 250 rail is hand laid and all switches are homemade stub switches. All power is RC. A neat structure is a model of the owners 3 story log home that was built prior to building their home.

The Lightner Creek and Animas is a mythical mining railroad connected to the D&RGW and presently operated by the latter. It is a continuous loop with passing sidings, a wye, trestles, a mine, and a river. Very neatly done and sits in the owner's front yard alongside the driveway so it is always open for viewing.

The most garden-like RR was the Miller Creek and Moss Rock. It is four years old and required 16 yards of topsoil, 5 tons of moss rock and 60 dwarf Alberta Spruce trees. All buildings are scratch built as are the bridges. It has 130' of code 250 mainline and hand laid turnouts. It is operated with the RCS system. There is a pond (with Koi), a waterfall, and a water wheel. The yard has a profusion of flowers and plants. Because it is in Durango, the yard is all grass and it adds to the garden effect. This layout is truly a jewel.

There were numerous HO, HOn3, O, On3 layouts and a new one on me was the F scale designation which is 1:20.3. This makes all Bachmann products Fn3 scale (?).

There is an Fn3 layout in Ridgeway, CO which is north of Durango on the road to Grand Junction. It is the Rio Grande Southern Railroad, Northern



Jeanne Izen in courtyard of the El Fuerte municipal building.

After breakfast and some exploration in El Fuerte we were again delayed while the railroad inspected the track through the Canyon. Due to the delay it was decided to skip our planned visit to the Tewecado Mission and Girls School until Tuesday, when we would be starting our return. Instead we continued to Divisadero and the Posada Barranca Mirador where we spent both Sunday and Monday nights. The name means canyon overlook hotel and is very descriptive. The hotel is built overhanging the side of the canyon with spectacular views from the terrace and the balconies of each room.



Glenn Mitchell and Joe Adams (from Wisconsin) looking at the hummingbirds on the hotel terrace. Note the balconies of the various rooms.



Copper Canyon as seen from our room's balcony.

Division. It sounds as though it is worth a visit if you are in the area. I features "over 2000 feet of Code 250 rail, three turntables, 35 turnouts and 10 bridges in a very spectacular setting". There are 13 locomotives, D&RGW, RGS battery powered DCC and live steam. Visitors are welcome and may bring their own locos if powered or live stream. Call Greg Posta at 970-626-3733 to get directions in the event you are able to visit it.

The convention had many clinics and visits to the D&S shops. It seemed to be well run and well attended with numerous vendors showing their products.



The White Water & Lemon Pass



The Pine River, Tuckerville and Northerly RR

Venues Report

Oct 21 - noon to 6pm - Buddy walk - SANDS (S. AZ. Network for Downs Syndrome) - DeMeester Center at Reid Park. (Chuck Cook)

Nov 6-8 - Casa de Los Ninos. (Jerry Tulino)

Dec 2-10, poss. to the 17th -Botanical Garden.(Nick and Gary)

Dec 12 - Kids layout @ St Thomas. (Stoesser)

December 18 and 19 - Kids layout @ St Marks. (Duerksen)

Dec 18-23 Downtown - Display inside Hotel Arizona and/or tie in with Fox Theatre with mini layout - not definite yet.

Dec 27,28 and 1/2 of the 29th - VA Med Ctr. - Definite. (Sleeper)

Jan 5-7 - Home Show - not definite yet.

Jan 20 - TTOS-GP Swap meet - not definite yet.

From the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum

Courtesy Ken Karrels

The Rindin' the Rails Raffle benefits the nonprofit Southern Arizona Transportation Museum. Grand Prize: Trip for two aboard the **Sierra Madre Express**, a five night, all inclusive tour valued at \$6,590.00. Second prize, win an Old West round trip for two on the Grand Canyon Railway! Third prize consists of a round trip for two on a spectacular canyon journey aboard the Verde Canyon Railroad!

\$25 a ticket, 2 tickets for \$45, 4 tickets for \$80. We now accept Visa and Mastercard. Drawing held: Sunday, December 10th, 2006 at 3 PM.

Event HOLIDAY EXPRESS at the Depot: *Photos with Santa & the locomotive, story time, "Steam & Sound" at the locomotive, free gifts & treats.*

For more information: check out the new museum website: www.TucsonHistoricDepot.org

Call: 623 -2223

Norm Ulmer sent the following sign up sheets requesting volunteers for the 2008 National Garden Railway Convention

Tucson Area Layout Tours Thursday, 1 May Report to Glenn Mitchell

Blackwells, 9 AM til 1 PM, 2 people: B. Conrad, _____
1 PM til 5 PM, 2 people: _____

Dorgans, 9 AM til 1 PM, 2 people: _____
1 PM til 5 PM, 2 people: _____

Gasts, 9 AM til 1 PM, 2 people: _____
1 PM til 5 PM, 2 people: _____

Martins, 9 AM til 1 PM, 4 people: _____
1 PM til 5 PM, 4 people: _____

Mitchells, 9 AM til 1 PM, 2 people: _____
1 PM til 5 PM, 2 people: _____

Schwabs, 9 AM til 1 PM, 2 people: _____
1 PM til 5 PM, 2 people: _____

11 AM til 3:30 PM, 2 people: _____
3:30 PM til 8 PM, 2 people: _____

TBD 9 AM til 1 PM, 2 people: _____
1 PM til 5 PM, 2 people: _____

Thursday, 1 May, 7 AM til 11 AM, 2 people: _____
11 AM til 3:30 PM, 2 people: _____
3:30 PM til 8 PM, 2 people: _____

Bus Guides - Meet buses at I-10 & Tangerine at 8:30 AM, need 5 people: _____

Friday, 2 May, 7 AM til 12 Noon, 2 people: _____
12 Noon til 5 PM, 2 people: _____

Lunch box distributors - pick up box lunches from vendor and deliver to pre-determined location - need 5 people: _____

Saturday, 3 May, 7 AM til 12 Noon, 2 people: _____
12 Noon til 5 PM, 2 people: _____

Sunday, 4 May, 7 AM til 11:30 AM, 2 people: _____
11:30 AM til 4 PM, 2 people: _____

**Live Steam-up
Report to Stan Cornforth**

Tuesday, 29 April, 11 AM til 4 PM, 1 person: _____

**Layout Tours
Report to John Meyers**

Wednesday, 30 April, 1 PM til 6 PM, 1 person: _____

Wednesday, 30 April, 6 AM til 8 AM, 3 people: _____

Thursday, 1 May, 3 PM til 6 PM, 1 person: _____

Thursday, 1 May, 6 AM til 8 AM, 3 people: _____

Friday, 2 May, 12 PM til 5 PM, 1 person: _____

Friday, 2 May, 6 AM til 8 AM, 3 people: _____
2:30 PM til 4:30 PM, 3 People: _____

Saturday, 3 May, 12 PM til 5 PM, 1 person: _____

Saturday, 3 May, 6 AM til 8 AM, 3 People: _____

Sunday, 4 May, 10 AM til 2 PM, 1 person: _____

**Events
Report to Dick Izen**

**Registration Desk
Report to either Sharon Hull or Lee Willetts**

Wednesday, 6:30 PM til 10 PM, 3 people _____
(Mexican Fiesta night)

Tuesday, 29 April, 12 noon til 4PM, 5 people needed:
G Blackwell, _____
4 PM til 8 PM, 5 people needed: _____

Friday, 2 May, 4 PM til 8 PM, 3 people: N. Buchholz, _____
(BBQ @ Adobe Mtn)

Wednesday, 30 April, 7 AM til 1 PM, 4 people needed _____

Saturday, 3 May, 5:30 PM til 8 PM, 2 people: _____

Thursday, 1 May, 7 AM til 12 Noon, 4 people needed: _____

**Vendor's Exhibit Hall
Report to Gary Martin**

Friday, 2 May, 7 AM til Noon, 4 people needed: G.Blackwell, _____

Monday, 28 April, 8 AM til ? 2 people: N. Buchholz, _____

Saturday, 3 May, 7 AM til 12 Noon, 4 people needed: _____

Tuesday, 29 April, 8 AM til 9 PM, 2 people: _____
11 AM til 4 PM, 3 People: _____
4 PM til 9 PM, 3 People: _____

**Clinics
Report to Bob Rauperstrauch**

Wednesday, 30 April, 8 AM til 1 PM, 2 people, _____
1 PM til 6 PM, 5 people: _____
6 PM til 10 PM, 1 person: _____

Wednesday, 30 April, 3 PM til 6 PM, 1 person: _____

Thursday, 1 May, 8 AM til 4 PM, 1 person: _____
3 PM til 10 PM, 5 People: _____

Thursday, 1 May, 6 PM til 9 PM, 1 person: _____

Friday, 2 May, 8 AM til 1 PM, 1 person: _____
12 PM til 5 PM, 5 people: N. Buchholz, _____
5 PM til 10 PM, 1 person: _____

Saturday, 3 PM til 4 PM, 1 person: _____

Saturday, 3 May, 7 AM til 12 Noon, 3 people: _____
12 Noon til 5 PM, 3 people: _____
5 PM til 10 PM, 1 person: _____



**ALL ABOARD
YOU ARE INVITED TO THE 4TH ANNUAL OPEN
HOUSE OF GARY AND PEGGY MARTIN'S EAGLE
MOUNTAIN RAILROAD
DATE: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2006
TIME: 12:00PM – 5:00 PM
PLACE: 4625 E CERRO DE AGUILA
TUCSON, ARIZONA
QUESTIONS OR DIRECTIONS CALL GARY OR
PEGGY MARTIN AT (520) 299-7428**

**General Store
Report to Bill Nagle**

Tuesday, 29 April, Noon til 4 PM, 2 people: _____
4 PM til 9 PM, 2 people: _____

Wednesday, 30 May, 7 AM til 11AM, 2 people: _____

New Members

Welcome to new members Dick and Lee Hudson. They attended our September meeting and joined on the spot. They are new to the Tucson area having moved here from California. They have had smaller scale railroads but now have room for a garden layout. So, they are just getting started and will probably welcome any help they can get. Current membership now stands at 87 families.

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 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:

lby Ulmer
4935 N. Craycroft Road
Tucson, AZ 85718

Calendar of Events

Oct 14	Meeting at Rick and Sue Gast
Nov 11	Meeting at Garb & Dorothy Mechigian
Dec 2	TGRS Christmas Party
Jan	No meeting due to multiple setups

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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Tucson, AZ 85710