



Tucson Garden Railway Society's Time Table

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

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December, 2007

The Meeting this month is the Christmas Party at HomeTown Buffet on Oracle and River

The address is 5101 N Oracle Rd. December 1st starting at 12:30 pm.



TGRS MAKES PRESENTATION AT HUDLOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

By Jannet Mitchell

Thanks to Jerry Tulino's organizing, the children's layout spent the morning of November 26, 2007 at Hudlow Elementary School in TUSD. We set up the layout, and Phyllis Dirksen made a presentation on the history and growth of railroads in the US to over 120 students in 7 kindergarten and first grade classes. The children (and adults) all seemed to enjoy the trains. The children learned new words as parts of railroad equipment were pointed out to them. With the help of Gary Martin, who drove the trailer to the school; Richard Creamer; Lew and Jan Sleeper; Robert and Phyllis Dirksen; Jerry Tulino; Willis Fagg; and Glenn and Janet Mitchell; we arrived at 8 AM set up, made the presentations, and were out by noon. The new children's layout makes quick set ups and teardowns a breeze—thanks to all who were involved in designing and building it! If we

have more requests for presentations of this type, we may need to add rolling stock to the equipment stored with this layout—this presentation requires realistic trains not just toys. For this presentation, Jerry, Dirksens, and Mitchells brought trains to run.



Photos by Phyllis Dirksen



Photo by Phyllis Dirksen

The micro-ferroequinologist's "A NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS"

Twas the night before Christmas, and all through my
pike, not a steamer was stirring, not even a Mike.
My yard track invitingly bare,
in hope that St. Nicholas soon would be there.

The diesels were nestled all snug in their sheds,
while visions of DCC danced in their heads.
While I, in my; blue I & white engineer's cap,
had just settled down for a long winter's nap.

When down in the train room, there arose such a
clatter,
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.
Away to the basement; I flew like an ace,
Tripped over the cat and fell flat on my face.

I stifled a curse, meant far Chessie (the cat),
and muttered to no one, "I meant to do that".
When what to my wondering eyes did appear,
but a G Scale sleigh and eight Presser reindeer.

With an engineer driving, so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment in must be St. Nick.
More rapid that GG-1's, on ward they came,
and he blew a steam whistle and called them by
name.

"On Athearn! On Lionel!. Kato and LGB!
On Kadee, Aristo, and others!
To the top of the mountains of Hydrocal plaster.
Now dash away, dash away, dash a away faster!"

As dry leaves that behind a new Mogul flew,
When they met with an obstacle, mount to the sky,
So in through the window the coursers they flew
With a sleigh full of trains, and St. Nicholas too.

And then on my roundhouse, I saw on the roof

The prints in the dust of each G-scale hoof.
As I drew a deep breath, and was turning around,
From beneath the benchwork, St. Nick came with a
bound.

He was dressed like an engineer from head to foot,
And his clothes had that fine smell of cinders and
soot.
a bundle of trains he had flung on this back,
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.

His eyes- just like marker lights! Dimples, how merry
His cheeks like a Warbonnet, nose like a cherry!
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And his beard was so white it would please Phoebe
Snow.

He puffed on his pipe as he refilled his bowl,
And the smoke, it smelled just like bituminous coal.
He had a broad face and belly (I found)
That shook like a tank car with wheels out-of-round.

He was chubby and plump, and I wanted to shout,
"Yes! The man's got a route the UP can't buy out!"
A wink of his eye as he passed near the door
Soon gave me to know I'd have freight cars galore.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
He filled all my yard tracks" then turned with a jerk,
And leaving an airbrush he'd found on E-Bay.
And giving a nod, he returned to his sleigh,

He pumped up the brakes, blew two blasts on
his whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,
HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL! KEEP'EM
ROLLING! GOOD NIGHT! "I

From Newsletter of the Sierra Division of NMRA
Sent in by Jim Cook

Minutes of the November 10, 2007 meeting, held at 10:00 A.M. Respectfully submitted by Ellen Stoesser

The meeting was held at the home of Buzz and June
Weaver. Pres. Norm thanked the Weaver's for
hosting.

There were 40 attendees at the meeting.
Minutes of the October meeting was approved as
amended.

Treasurer's Report: There is a:
1. Current checking account balance of \$3,419.02
2. Reserve account balance is \$3,916.85 for a total
of all accounts of \$7,335.87.

3. Revenue to date is \$1,445.50 and expenses are \$2,528.43 for a net decrease to date of \$1,082.93.
4. Membership renewal is 85
5. The treasurer's report was approved.

Events: St Marks—December 10&11

Committee Reports:

A. Maintenance Committee: Gary Martin reported that all equipment is repaired and running.

B. Mentor Committee: Nick Buchholz reported that 3 members need mentors and they have been assigned.

C. Social Committee: Norm reported on the Christmas Party. It will be on 12/1/2007 at the Hometown Buffet at Oracle and River on the Northwest corner. It will last from 12:30 to 4:30. It is \$10.00 per person with one gift per family. Chuck Cook is setting up monthly social gatherings. The first one is on 1/15/2008. It will be at R&R Pizza at River & LaCholla on the Northeast corner.

Old Business:

A. 2008 Convention Report: Norm reported that volunteers are needed to fill all the positions and we only have 2 more meetings to sign up, February and March.

He will make a PDF file of the sign up sheet and mail it to the general membership.

B. Cross over Bridge. George Fitzner is painting this; it will not be needed until we use the full layout.

C. 2-2 connection modules are built and ready to go.

D. Cog railway-no new information on this.

E. Day Chairman Outline of duties. Jim Cook reported the first page was done and he will try to have it done for the next board meeting.

F. Volunteer coordinator: we are still in need of this volunteer.

New Business:

A. Sign up sheets for the Home Show and the VA will be at the Christmas Party.

B. American Home Show: January 4-open at 12:00-closing at 5:00 on the-6th.

Set up will start-Wednesday -1/2/2008 at 12:00. We will be in the basement at the same place as last time.

There were buildings for sale and Phyllis had a Halloween witch for show and tell.

TBG layout: Gary reported all the materials were here and set up will be on the 27th -9:00-2:00 and 9:00 to 2:00 on the 28th of November. Anyone who would like to build a building or donate a car may do so. TBG will be using Gary's Christmas cars this year. The club is allowed to go on Luminary night, make sure you wear one of the club shirts. This will be on 12/1/2007. The layout will be located by the

restaurant for viewing by the patrons. This will run 3 weeks.

Meeting: The next meeting will be the Christmas Party at the Hometown Buffet on 12/1/2007 at 12:30 P.M.

**Minutes of the November BOD Meeting
Respectfully submitted by Ellen Stoesser**

November, 27 2007-7:00 P.M. at the home of Norm and Ibby Ulmer

All Board members were present except 3
Pres. Norm thanked Ibby for hosting
Minutes of the October meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Norm reported for Willis Fagg:

1. Current checking account balance is \$3,854.98.
2. Reserve account balance is \$3,916.85 for a total of all accounts of \$7,771.83.
3. Revenues to date are \$1,995.50 and expenses of \$2,602.47 for a net decrease of \$ 646.97.
4. Membership renewal total is 85.
5. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

Vice President Events: Lew Sleeper reported events are as follows:

1. Hudlow school---this was very successful. 100 students saw the train layout. Phyllis Dirksen had a presentation explaining about the trains, tracks, etc.
2. Casa de los Niño's was cancelled
3. December 1---Christmas Party
4. December 8---Swap Meet Show
5. December 10 & 11---St Marks,
6. December 26-28---VA Show—26th is set up, run on 27 & 28th; tear down at 2:00 p.m. on the 28th
7. January 2-6--- American Home Show—Set up is on Wednesday---1/2/2008---there maybe a problem with parking and unloading because of heating and air conditioning repairs. Lew will check on this.
8. 1/19/2008---Swap Meet--Lew was wondering if we needed to be there. We need to be there to be able to sell tickets for the RITG and pick up members.
9. Shaba Home Show—4/12/2008—we will not do because of 2008 convention.

Membership Chairman's Report: Ibby Ulmer would like to know if anyone has Bruce Dusenberry address. Please call Ibby if you do.

Mentor Committee: Nick reported he has 3 mentors assigned to the 3 members requesting them.

Social Committee: the Christmas Party is at Hometown Buffet on 12/1/2007. Bob Conrad will

make the numbers for the gift exchange. There will be sign up sheets for the VA and the home show at the Christmas party.

Old Business:

- A. **Non-Profit filing report:** Willis will look into an accounting program from Intuit for us to use and ask Ruth Taylor for advice on our accounting.
- B. **Convention report:** Norm said "that people are starting to sign up". There will be a new sign up sheet at the Christmas Party.
- C. Norm let us know the 2-2 foot connection modules are in the trailer and ready to go.
- D. Day Chairman duties. Jim Cook had a preliminary list of the duties of a Day Chairman. He should have a cell phone. Know when to lube the engines.
 - What people running trains people do and don't do, what non-running trains people do and don't do. Day Chairman needs a completed copy of the schedule as well as all members.

New Business:

- A. **A.TBG. Layout---**Gary Martin and several members of the club have started the layout at the TBG. This will run for 3 weeks.
- B. **B.TTOM Swap meet---**we are committed. It will be at the Rodeway Inn on 12/8/07
- C. **C.Boy Scout Railroad Merit Badge---**Bob Conrad reported to us on the Boy Scout Merit Badge. Nick will contact the person in charge to see how we can assist them.
 - a. How would we support them? Would they like a presentation? Would they like mentors?
- D. Joe Stoesser had an estimate for the banner for the Children's Layout. It will be made by Graphic Impact at a cost of \$121.08. It will already have the Velcro on it when we get it. A motion was made and accepted to go ahead and purchase the banner. This will stay with the Children's Layout.
- E. Lew was looking for a way to get volunteers that do not usually sign up to volunteer.
 - a. Nick will make a data base of the member's interests and talents to help Lou.
- F. Nick received a notification letter from the IRS. He will contact them to clarify the issues and give the letter to Willis.
- G. Dirk would like to see more cars stay with the Children's Layout. He will make a list of a basic set that is needed. The Children's Layout trailer needs to be more organized. Nick will present a proposal on how this can be done. When the Children's Layout is used; the person who sets up the date is usually in charge of everything about the event, volunteers, set up, getting it there.

RITG: March 8&9 2008 --There will be a party on Friday night -30th—to assemble the packets for the event. Bob will have 25 packets for the club members and 600+ for BBG.

The sites will be in this order---Blackwell---Martin---Dorgan---Stoesser---Sander---Gast--- Jim Cook. These will be open from 10:00 to 4:00. There was discussion on whether to pay for advertising or not. This is very expensive. We will try to get into the Events of the Day in the Accent section. KNST is free on Friday morning, just call in. It was too late to get into Tucson Lifestyle maybe next year.

Bob has been costing out the cost of the copies this year. Prices so far are \$140.00 for 1200 or \$108.00 for 1200. We will need 2400. Ace Hardware is selling us a starter set for \$199.00 for the raffle. Bob suggested the members from Saddle Brook car pool and help to work at some of the sites.

No date was set for the next board meeting.



Southern Arizona Transportation Museum

EVENT: Maynard Dixon replica murals coming home to the Depot Lobby.
DATE: **Saturday, December 8th, TIME:**
1:30 – 2:30pm
PLACE: Southern Arizona Transportation Museum at the Historic Depot, 414 N. Toole Ave. Tucson, Arizona,

Short description:

A special reception and book signing celebrates the Maynard Dixon replica murals coming home to the Depot Lobby. The 1907 murals were originally made by Maynard Dixon, famous for his characteristic Southwestern art. In addition, the Mayor will issue a proclamation, celebrating the 100 year-old Depot.

Full description: After the Holiday Express at the Depot on Saturday, December 8th, 2007. Join us for ...

1:30pm: A special reception and book signing celebrates the Maynard Dixon replica murals coming home to the Depot Lobby. Light refreshments provided by Hotel Congress. The 1907 murals were originally made by Maynard Dixon, famous for his characteristic cowboy art. The three half-moon, full-scale replica, giclée murals are 6' wide and 3' tall. The replica murals will permanently grace the depot lobby once more. Maynard Dixon was originally commissioned for four murals that were installed for the Depot grand opening in August of 1907. It is not known where the fourth mural is today, it may have been destroyed. The three original murals currently reside at the Arizona Historical Museum on 2nd Street. The mural replicas are made possible by the generous cooperation and/or donations of the Arizona Historical Society, the Tucson-Pima Historical Commission, the Medicine Man Gallery, the City of Tucson and the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum.

A special book signing by William D. Kalt III will be held during the reception to unveil the much anticipated local rail history book, Tucson Was a Railroad Town. The author will be available from 1:30pm until 2:30pm to autograph your copy of this large text, packed with more than 250 never before-published photographs. Tucson Was a Railroad Town: the Days of Steam in the Big Burg on the Main Line, details life during the steam era and focuses on Kalt's conversations with the men and women who worked on the Southern Pacific

Railroad.

Free parking surrounding the Depot site, metered street parking is always free on Saturday or park in the Pennington Garage (Just north of Congress on Scott Ave.).

Gadsden Pacific Division Toy Train Operating Museum

Santa Claus Train Show & Meet

Saturday, December 8, 2007

Open to the Public 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

**Quality (Rodeway) Inn Events Center
(Grant & I-10)**

**Exit I-10 from Prince Road from the North or 29th
Street from the South**

**Use the Frontage Road to Grant Road
Events Center is located on Grant immediately West
of I-10 & behind the Quality Inn**

**Admission \$5.00 Adult / Children Under 13 Years Old
with Adult Free**

**Polar Express Raffle: \$5.00 a ticket (175 tickets total)
Snack Bar Operated by Las Cazuelitas Restaurant or
Bring Your Own!**

New Members

We have not gained any new members in the month of November.

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

Dec 1	Christmas/Holiday Party
Jan	No meeting in January
Apr	Jim and Madelyn Cook

TGRS Officers and Board of Directors

President:.....Norm Ulmer.....520-299-9401
V-President:.....Lew Sleeper.....520-751-9628
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
Chuck Cook.....520-797-1066
Nick Buchholz.....520-744-4932
Bob Dirksen.....520-742-9503

Tucson Garden Railway Society
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