



## Tucson Garden Railway Society's

# Time Table

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

Editor e-mail: [jmiller66@cox.net](mailto:jmiller66@cox.net)

January, 2008

**There will be no monthly meeting in January due to several displays during the month.**

### Thanks from your President

We have just completed a very successful showing of our modular layout at the Veterans Administration Hospital. I would like to thank all of you who took your time during this very busy Holiday Season to come down and help to make this show a winner. Thru the able help of Pepe' Mendosa, the PR man for the Hospital, our Society got some priceless publicity, both in the local press and on television. Our newsletter editor, Jim Miller, was able to capture the TV coverage on disc for future use. I would especially like to thank, in no particular order, the Sleepers, Jim & Madelyn Cook, the Gasts, Martins, Faggs, Dirksens, Ray Moore, Jack Forgeus, George Fitzner, Ken Karrells, the Mitchells, the Conrads and anyone who I've forgotten, all who made it possible to dismantle, pack and load the modules and scenery in the near record time of one hour and twenty nine minutes. And an Extra Special thanks to Glenn Mitchell for his help in the use of his truck to make the show possible by pulling the big trailer to and from the show. Happy New Year, all you Garden Railroaders!  
Norm Ulmer

### TGRS in the news

Our club has been recognized by the local news media several times recently.

Davis-Monthan's Desert Lightning News Dec 14  
Article by Pepe' Mendoza, VA Public Affairs Office

Pepe also mentioned us in the December Update for the SAVAHCS the VA's in house newsletter.

Arizona Daily Star December 27  
Caliente Section and the Accent Section.

Tucson Citizen, December 28  
Weekend Section had a story with two large photographs by Val Cañez.

KGUN Chanel 9 news on December 28.

KVOA Chanel 4 news on December 29.

### MONTHLY LUNCHEON

In response to the member survey where a wish for more social times was expressed; we are starting a monthly social luncheon. This will be an informal gathering for talking about anything; your newest train for Christmas, a trip you took by rail, or politics if you must.

The first monthly luncheon will be held on Jan 15th at R&R Pizza Express. This is a railroad themed restaurant with an operating G gauge line running the perimeter near the ceiling. It is located at the northeast corner of River Rd and La Cholla Blvd. This is in Basha's shopping center and the restaurant is the farthest east shop in the center. They have a great lunch buffet, as well as smaller entrees, and a senior discount. We will arrive at 11:15 a.m. to beat the lunch crowd.

The owner is quite interested in our business (and he loves trains) and has volunteered to put our Rails in The Garden flyer on all his pizza boxes the month before the event.

Any questions, call Chuck Cook @ 797-1066.

**Minutes of the December 1, 2007  
Christmas Party**  
Respectfully submitted by Ellen Stoesser

The meeting was held at Home Town Buffet  
There were 87 attendees at the party

Pres Norm thanked Chuck Cook for arranging the party.

The next social get together is on January 15<sup>th</sup> at R&R Pizza Express at 1970 West River Road at 11:15 A.M. (293-9333) The owner is going to put flyers on the pizza boxes about our RITG event. The Karrels are on the RITG event.

Bob Dirksen had packets of tickets for the RITG for all members to take with.

There were several sign up sheets for the various upcoming events. All members were urged to sign up.

The gift exchange was loads of “laughs and giggles”. There were also a few moans and groans. Some members were also getting up and down a lot. All in all it was a fun party.

The next regular meeting will be in April at the home of Jim and Madelyn Cook.

### **History of Railroading From Iby Ulmer**

In keeping with our bylaws stated purpose to educate, we are printing a little railroad history this month rather than focusing on TGRS history.

In a recent article in Ancestry Magazine, there was an article discussing researching ancestors who worked for the railroad. Author, George G. Morgan gave some history of railroads in the US.

“There is a certain sense of romance and adventure that comes from riding a train. Just hearing the sound of a steam locomotive’s whistle or a diesel engine’s horn in the distance evokes a kind of excitement.”

He also listed the following facts:

“Between 1900 and 1945, ‘The Golden Age of Railroads,’ as many as 98 percent of all inter-city passengers rode the rails. No other means of transportation in the United States has ever surpassed that figure.

In 1920, the number of Americans employed by railroads topped two million, or one in every fifty people in the country. In comparison, today’s largest U. S. employer, Wal-Mart, employs only one in every 290 Americans.

In 1830, there were twenty-three miles of railroad track in the United States. By 1916, the track system reached 250,000 miles.

Over 90 percent of the Central Pacific railroad workers were Chinese immigrants during the building of the Transcontinental Railroad. Irish immigrants and members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints also played a large role in connecting east to west.”

### **TGRS at the VA Hospital 26-28 December 2007 Photos by Jim Miller**



**Our president being interviewed by KGUN 9 TV**



**KGUN 9 videotaping the layout**



**Children and veterans enjoy the layout**





Christmas/Holiday village



Santa flies over the Christmas village



Operating crew



Children watching sleigh and trains  
Photo by Bob & Jackie Conrad



A veteran watches the trains

**Gadsden Pacific Division  
Toy Train Operating Museum**

**Santa Claus Train Show & Meet**

**Saturday, January 19, 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 29<sup>th</sup>  
Street from the South

Use the Frontage Road to Grant Road  
Events Center is located on Grant immediately West  
of 1-10 & 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 extend a warm welcome to Jerry Pfeiffer from Gilbert, AZ. He is a member of ABTO and is on the Convention Committee. Those who are on the Convention Tour and had their railroad's filmed for the Convention DVD will remember him as the one who was with the photographer.

# 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](mailto: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 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. For new members dues are pro-rated at \$2.50 per month remaining in the year until June 30<sup>th</sup> 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

Jan No meeting  
Feb No meeting  
Mar No meeting  
Apr RITG  
Apr Jim and Madelyn Cook  
May 17 Roy and Mary Ann Eberbach

### 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**  
**8132 E. Baker Dr.**  
**Tucson, AZ 85710**