



## Tucson Garden Railway Society's

# Time Table

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

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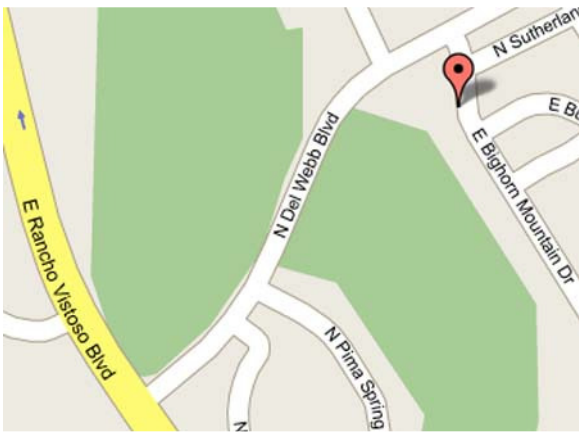
March, 2008

### MARCH MEETING

The March meeting is at the home of Bob and Jean Hoffman on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March at 10:00am, the trains will start running at 9:00am. 2044 E. Bighorn Mountain Dr. in Oro Valley, phone is 825-2423.

#### Directions

Going North on Oracle to Rancho Vistoso, turn left, going South from Saddlebrook, turn right. Proceed to Del Webb where you turn right. Proceed to Bighorn Mtn. where you turn right. It is the 4<sup>th</sup> house on the right.



2044 E. Bighorn Mountain Dr. in Oro Valley



The Circus is coming to Cactus Corners RR

### Cactus Corners Railroad

Bob and Jean Hoffman

Excitement is high in the little town of Cactus Corners. Today the Circus is coming to town!! There will be a Big Top, an Animal Tent, a Merry-Go-Round and other rides, Peanuts and Cotton Candy, and a Sideshow with the strangest folks you've ever seen! Here comes the Circus Band right now, dressed in their finest and leading a parade from the Train Depot to the Circus Grounds! People are coming from Casa Grande, Green Valley, Red Rock, Picacho and even as far away as Tombstone to see the fun.

Cactus Corners is a mining town about 1881 to 1946. Once a prosperous town of Gold and Silver mining, it is experiencing a boom once again with the resurgence of the price of Silver. The railroad brings in dozens of hopeful people every day. They check in at the Pair o' Dice Hotel in town or get a room in the hitching post out by the lake. (The Trolley only runs up to the train roundhouse, but it's only a short walk to anywhere in town.) The dollars they bring in helps the economy.

Cactus Corners has three parts. The Main Street of course has stores, a railway station, a Church with Cemetery behind, a school and quite a few homes. Some Kits and other scratch built. There is also Silver Mine which almost became a Diamond Mine when a patio table was blown off the patio and into the Pale Verde tree, smashing it into a million gleaming "Diamonds". (Bob the realist dismissed that idea out of hand,)

Old Towne, on the other side of the tracks, is becoming a Mecca for hikers, swimmers, and fishermen. The waterfalls, however, tend to attract Bears, and the water beneath the falls is treacherous for small boats.

The third part of town is the Indian Village to the North of town, the Indians are friendly and often appear at the Fruit Stand to sell eggs and vegetables, as well as artifacts made by members of the Tribe. Several guests have come to town for the Circus. You can see their camping gear atop the

hill, (there is some talk about a Casino in the works, but that is just speculation.

The Cactus Corners Railroad had its beginnings when Jean invited Bob to drive her from Thousand Oaks to Santa Barbara for a Doll, Toy, Bear, and Miniature Show. (She hoped he would get interested in making some furniture for the Doll's House she was building.) The ruse backfired and this is the result—about 360 feet of track, a ten-foot scratch-built trestle over the Cactus Corners Dry River Bed, a water feature built by Gary Martin, three engines, 20 cars, two trolleys, and a 4-foot high mountain built stronger than our house, with a tunnel curving through it.

Bob is the Mastermind, Builder, and Engineer. Jean is the Painter, Enabler, and Indian Village maker.

**A heartfelt thanks to the Rincon East RV Resort, they have graciously volunteered to host all future February Meetings.**

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AND APPRECIATED**

If you can help any of these people for the 2008 Rails in the Garden Tour, March 8 and 9, call them and volunteer. Even a half day (10-1 or 2-4) on either Saturday or Sunday would be appreciated.

Barry and Gina Blackwell	322-5033
Jim and Madelyn Cook	760-2325
Mike and Jane Dorgan	529-2430
Rick and Sue Gast	721=8305
Ken and Mary Karrels	749=5345
Gary and Peggy Martin	299-7428
Jay and Sallie Sanders (Mitchell)	743-9263
Joe and Ellen Stoesser	577-1210

Robert Dirksen

## **Minutes of the February 9, 2008 Meeting**

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Stoesser

The meeting was held at the Rincon Country West RV Resort

All future Feb. meetings will be held there. Pres. Norm thanked their club for hosting

There were 48 attendees, 5 members of the RV club stayed for the meeting. Minutes of the November meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Willis Fagg reported a;

1. Current checking account balance of \$2,960.75.
2. Reserve account balance is \$3,919.82 for a total of all accounts of \$6,880.38.
3. Reserve to date is \$3,486.10 and expenses of \$5,027.67 for a net decrease of \$1,541.57.
4. Initiated the new insurance policies (State Farm). Coat was \$330 for the \$2/4 liability plus \$25 for the convention rider and \$160 for the trailers. The trailer policy will be paid every 6 months (\$80 each). The old policy paid last May was \$853. We received a \$308 from the cancellation of the old policy
5. Membership total is 90.
6. The treasurer's report was approved.

**Editor's Report:** Jim Miller reported things were going fine. He would like members to submit any train events they have enjoyed and to include a photo.

**Vice Presidents Report:** Lew reported:

1. The Swap Meet went well.
2. The meeting in April will be a Round-a-Bout. It will be at Jim & Madelyn Cook's and Ken & Mary Karrel's
3. Home Show—June 6-8—Lew will be gone
4. There were informational forms for all to fill out.
5. We are pursuing to see if we could have a layout at the Veterans Hospital in October. Would the children be able to be there?
6. We will pursue seeing if Sahba would like a layout at the Parade of Homes in Marana. It runs from February 2-17, 2008
7. We are working on a brochure to be sent out to the elementary and private schools to see if they would like a layout there

**Mentors Report:** Nick Buchholz reported he has 3 members he is working with. Also counselors are needed for the Boy Scouts in order for them to get their railroad badge. If you would like to volunteer, see Nick. There is an article in the Garden Railways about an internship at (DECA) in Dayton, Ohio. This is about 2 boys who chose the construction of a garden railroad as one of their 4 internships. It is on page 54.

**Social Event:** This will be at R&R Pizza at 11:15. 1970 West River Road ---293-9333. It will be held on Friday--2/15/08.

**Old Business;**

### **A. Convention Report:**

1. **Registration Desk:** Sharon Hull—1 volunteer needed
2. **General Store:** Jay Sander
  - a. There will be 2 cashiers, 2 baggers and a personal shopper
  - b. Volunteers will be trained right there
  - c. Jay is hoping most of the items will be gone in the first 2 days.

- d. In March he will bring our t-shirts and April our polos.
- 3. **Exhibit Hall:** Gary Martin
  - a. Gary will be the security
  - b. He had drawings of the pavilions (tents). These are on the web.
  - c. All the major manufacturers are signed.
  - d. Volunteers will be given sheets with vendor's names and locations.
  - e. He would like someone there on Monday to represent Tucson.
  - f. Vendors will move in on Tuesday. They will then be given their packets.
  - g. Wed. the booths will open.
- 4. **Events;** Dick Izen
  - a. This is basically watching the door
  - b. 4/30/08---Manufactures are open from 7-10:00 P.M.
  - c. A red wristband is needed
  - d. There will be a **No-host bar---strolling Mariachi Band---Folklorico dancers**
  - e. Banquet—5/3/08 –5:30-6:30—set-up--- This includes putting 5 Bachman cars & 10 coasters on the tables. Watching the door from 6:30 -8:00 P.M.
  - f. Banquet is limited to 373, of which 70% is sold out. Volunteers must pay to go to the banquet to get the meal
  - g. Our speaker will be David Baule, producer of Track Ahead.
  - h. Tuesday Evening 4/28/08 at 8:00 P.M. there will be a presentation by Michael Broggie about Walt Disney interests in railroading. He was in Las Vegas last year. He also has a book out about it.
- 5. **Clinics:** Bob Rauperstrauch
  - a. Volunteers would show quests to the correct room for the clinics.
- 6. **Tucson Layouts:** Glenn Mitchell
  - a. Volunteers will be needed to answer questions, help host, meet and greet, run trains, direct parking.
  - b. b The buses will be going to 8 layouts and there are 13 layouts on the self guided tours.
  - c. Bus guides are needed and if you sign up you will get a room free for one night.
  - d. We have 2 and 1/2 bus loads and 4 bus guides, so far.
- 7. **Live Stream:** Stan Cornforth—2 volunteers needed-Thursday & Sunday
- 8. **Hospitality Service:** Roy Towne
  - a. Giving basic information about Chandler and surrounding area.

**Registration:** Gina Blackwell will be taking over for Lee Willets. Her phone number is now on the web site. The hotel is now full. You will be directed to other hotels

**Parking:** parking space is limited. There are 2 parking garages where we can park for free. We also have 2 golf carts rented for shuttling people.

- B. **Rails in the Garden:** Bob Dirksen reported that he mailed out the application form. We have collected \$650.00 so far. He compted a ticket to Michelle at TBG and The Arizona School for Deaf and Blind. There will be 11 attending from there. He is hoping the people on the west will car pool to help at the event. There was error on the ticket, the month and day are correct but the year is wrong. He will be sending a letter to the hosts 2 weeks before the event. Cross bucks and signs will be delivered the week before. 22<sup>nd</sup> Ace Hardware has been added; so far Alan Oelschlager has been selling the tickets. Dates we will have people there is being decided. He is undecided how to notify people about next year's event
- C. **Storefront:** The downtown Alliance would like us to put a layout downtown for Christmas. It would be by the Fox Theater. They would also like the Miniature Club with us or close by. We would have reserved parking and security by Tucson Police. The dates are: The weekends of December 11--12—13&19—20—21&26--27—18. The time would be from 11—3. We would need 2 volunteers each day.
- D. **D.UMC Children's Hospital**—a letter from Norm was sent to Kent Rollins who is in charge of Fundraising. This was about a permanent layout there. He would like this to be our charity to support.

**New Business:**

- A. Nick Buchholz will host the May meeting.
- B. Our membership application is now on the website.
- C. Tucson Gardener: This is a new committee headed by Janet Mitchell and Peggy Martin
- D. Nick had information about 2008 Railroad Tours and an upcoming NMRA spring meet on March 1, 2008.
- E. A model of the Convention Car was on display at the meeting.

**Q&A Session:**

- 1. Bruce Lynn asked if the roster was up dated? It is and is on the website.
- 2. Bob Conrad asked about the TBG layout. Gary said "buildings and stock could be donated but he would not be working on it until after the convention".
- 3. There was a card for all to sign for Lee Willets. He is in Hospice and very weak.

The next regular meeting will be at Bob & Jean Hoffman's on March 15 at 1:00 P.M.

## Minutes of the TGRS Board of Directors meeting February 6, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the home of President, Norm Ulmer. Members present were: Norm Ulmer, Bob Dirksen, Willis Fagg, Jim Cook and Lew Sleeper.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter

The Treasurer gave the following report:

1. 1. Checking Balance \$2,944.75, Reserve Account \$3,918.82 for a total of \$6,863.57.
2. 2. New insurance policies have been initiated. Cost was \$330.00 for \$1/4M liability plus \$25.00 for the convention event rider and \$160.00 for the trailers. This is considerable savings and we have received a \$307.00 check from the cancellation of the old policy.
3. Membership total is 89.

The report was approved.

Bob Dirksen, Chairman of the Rails in the Garden Tour gave the following report:

1. Expenses so far are \$491.63. The board voted to approve the expenditures.
2. Bob and Glenn Mitchell have delivered flyers to various Mobile Home parks.
3. The Arizona Daily Star has been contacted
4. R & R Pizza Express is going to distribute flyers with their boxes for a couple of weeks in advance of the event.
5. Two restaurants in the downtown area will distribute flyers and have some at the downtown Visitors Center
6. Mail-in requests are coming in and we have received some donations.

Vice President's report:

Lew Sleeper reported that the next show scheduled if the Home Show in June. Neither he, Gary Martin or the Dirksen's will be here at the time.

Lew passed around a sample of a flyer to be sent to the elementary schools in the area to promote programs to be presented to the children by TGRS such as we did at Hudlow School. It was suggested that the flyers include information about the club, perhaps the information sheet that goes with our membership applications. It was also suggested that the flyers go to the individual schools, not District Headquarters.

Old Business:

- A. Convention report. Volunteers are still needed. The co-chairmen of the various committees will describe what the duties of the volunteers will be on their various services at the general meeting on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

B. It was announced that The Tucson Botanical Garden has decided to keep the track in place and they will be looking for buildings and rolling stock. We will put together a work party there after the Convention.

C. A few of the Board Members met on January 24<sup>th</sup> with the Down Town Renewal people to discuss having a layout in the down town area. They were shown an empty store owned by the city two doors west of the Fox Theatre. Our full layout would not fit and there is no alley access. However, the kids layout would fit. They proposed opening it for 4 hours a day possibly on the following weekends: December 12, 13 and 14 – 19, 20 and 21 – 26, 27 and 28. They would provide 2 volunteers to help. December 13<sup>th</sup> is the Parade of Lights. It was decided that we should look into it, but must make sure the dates do not conflict with our annual date at St. Mark's Methodist Church or any other of our commitments.

D. Lew Sleeper agreed to talk to Pepe at the VA regarding a possible layout in October since we cannot do it after Christmas again because it falls on a weekend.

E. Jim Cook gave us copies of a proposed letter to the Childrens Hospital regarding our interest in a layout in the proposed building. It will be put on a TGRS letterhead and sent to them.

New Business:

- A. We received a letter from the Tucson Gardener website expressing an interest in our having an article with pictures. Janet Mitchell and Peggy Martin were suggested to pursue that project.
- B. There is a consensus that we should get involved with a charity. We need to pursue that idea. The project at the Childrens hospital would be a good choice.
- C. The club at Rincon Country RV Park has offered to host the February meeting every year. This met with the approval of the Board.
- D. It was suggested that we publish a downloadable copy of the Membership Application on the website. The Board approved.
- E. Willis Fagg reported that we have received a 1099 income tax form from the Bank of America for the interest we have earned on our bank accounts. He is going to find out what we have to do in the way of filing an IRS form.

The Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ibby Ulmer, acting Secretary

## Adobe Mountain Model Railroad Swap Meet

March 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 3:00pm  
Donation \$4.00 a person, children free

Adobe Mountain Railroad Park  
22822 N. 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
South off of Pinnacle Peak Road

For more information contact  
Alan Lathrem at 520-544-9738



### Southern Arizona Transportation Museum

**EVENT:** Transportation Lecture Series  
**DATE:** Tuesdays,  
**TIME:** Noon-1pm or 7pm – 8:30pm  
**LOCATION:** Just north of Congress St. and 6<sup>th</sup>  
Ave.  
Museum at the Historic Depot,  
414 N. Toole Ave. Tucson, Arizona  
**SPONSORED BY:** Southern Arizona  
Transportation Museum  
**PRICE:** \$5 per person or \$20 for all lectures  
**CONTACT:** Laura Caywood Barker, 623-2223  
[www.TucsonHistoricDepot.org](http://www.TucsonHistoricDepot.org)

The 4th Annual Transportation Lecture Series will be held in Depot Lobby. The schedule is a mix of photo-rich historical presentations and a first-hand account of life as the 4th woman railroad engineer hired in the State of Arizona. Choose from lunch time, noon-1pm or the extended evening version of the same presentation from 7pm – 8:30pm.

Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
*Tucson's Southern Pacific Depot, 1907 to Present.*  
Presented by Richard Dick, local historian.

Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
*Warren-Bisbee Railway.*  
Presented by Gene Caywood.

Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
*An Engineer's Experiences on the Southern Pacific Railroad.*  
Presented by Julianne Hurst-Williams.

## Celebrate the 128th Anniversary of the Arrival of the Railroad in Tucson

Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 11am in front of historic Locomotive #1673. You won't want to miss this annual historical event in Tucson! This year the museum welcomes back members of the 4th Cavalry Regiment Band and Mayor Bob Walkup. There will be a tribute to longtime Southern Pacific employee, Ms. Julie Newman. Ms. Newman worked for the railroad for 35 years and she has a railroading family! Her dedication to the railroad and to the museum will be honored.

Also join us for a Bubbly & Cheese Event, as we celebrate the grand opening of the Vault Room gift shop inside the museum from noon - 7pm. New and current members of the museum receive a 20% discount on merchandise sales!

**EVENT:** TRAIN CLUB FOR YOUTH!  
**DATE:** Saturdays in March & April, 2008  
**TIME:** 10:30am

Story time, train hand signals and train stamping fun all during free and fun gatherings of train loving YOUTH, Saturdays in March & April!

Train Story Time, co-sponsored by Pima County Main Library.  
Saturdays, March 1st & April 12th, 2008 at 10:30am. The museum welcomes storytelling experts from the Main Library. Listen to exciting train and transportation stories while trains roll by outside. These stories will be enjoyed by all ages.

Fun with Train Hand Signals!  
Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 10:30am. The museum welcomes our resident hand signal expert. This former railroader will teach us all about hand signals on the railroad! This activity will be enjoyed by all ages.

Train Stamping Fun! co-sponsored by the Postal History Foundation  
Saturdays, March 29<sup>th</sup> & April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 10:30am. The museum welcomes stamp experts from the Postal History Foundation. Use train and transportation stamps to make stamp crafts while learning more about postage stamps. These activities will be enjoyed by all ages.

## New Members

Our new member is Luis Bayard who is the owner of R & R Pizza Express on River road where we have been having our lunches. If you have been to his restaurant you know that he has a train running around the ceiling. He has graciously agreed to put flyers for the Rails in the Garden Tour on the Pizza boxes he sends out.

## 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

**Mar 8&9**      **RITG**  
**Mar 15**      **Bob and Jean Hoffman**  
**Apr 12**      **Jim and Madelyn Cook**  
**May 17**      **Nick Buchholz & Mary Ker**

### 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**