



## Tucson Garden Railway Society's

# Time Table

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

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

July, 2008

### There is no Meeting in July

#### Membership Renewal Time is Here

Current membership expires on June 30.  
Membership renewal for the 2008/9 fiscal year is \$30.

I am now accepting renewal payments for the upcoming year. Payments can be made at the monthly meetings or by mail (please do not send cash through the mail) to:

Ruth Taylor  
4081 S. Tarantula Hawk Place  
Tucson, AZ 85735

#### **State of the Society**

In the past twelve months, our TGRS has gone thru and accomplished some momentous things. Some were sad - we lost two fine members in Lee Willetts and Bill Dillon; and some were glad - as a result of considerable effort on the part of Nick Buchholz, we filed for and were granted 501(c)(3) status by the IRS, and as the result of a lot of time and effort by many of our members, we were able to co-host one of the finest National Garden Railway Conventions ever, and at a profit, I might add. Rails in the Garden this year was our most successful ever, thanks to the hard work of Bob Dirksen and his committee. Bob has passed the baton to Glenn Mitchell for future RITG tours, and we look forward to another successful year.

For some time, we have talked about and looked for a worthy cause in which to engage, and lo and behold, we have landed several, beginning with working on a permanent layout in the new Children's wing of University Hospital. Another long term commitment is an overhead layout at the Tucson Children's Museum, and further, a connection with the Downtown Business Alliance for their Christmastime "Festival of Lights", which might lead to a permanent layout location at some future date. One of our new members is the Tucson Botanical

Garden, with whom we have had an enjoyable relationship in the past.

We have contacted all the local elementary schools, offering to conduct RR history sessions, and we have contacted the Boy Scouts of America, Catalina Council, offering our services in mentoring their RR merit badge program.

We have added a Social Chairman to our volunteer staff, and he - Chuck Cook, has instituted social luncheon get-togethers which have been enjoyed by all in attendance. We are considering sponsoring one or more railfan tours to nearby tourist railroads in the coming year.

I want to thank all of you who have, through your time and efforts, made this past year such a success, and I look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Your President,

Norm Ulmer

#### **Social Chairman Report**

Swap Meet - Went smoothly. Kids layout worked great. We need some more buildings for it and perhaps some animation, but letting kids run the trains is still the biggest draw and keeping it simple makes it easy to use frequently. Met several nice people that have kids interested in trains and gave them good information. Nick and I made a BOD members decision and bought a Aristo building from Richard Creamer in exchange for two years dues (\$60); guess that will put the new treasurer to the test, eh?? We met two club members that are sort of "off the radar" and one of them bought a convention car and the other has offered to open his combo indoor/outdoor layout to the club, probably in fall when it is cooler. We will probably roll it into a round-a-bout combo with a meeting. A few items were sold at the table we had for members to sell. I also met a guy that has a huge collection of O-gauge trains of great value, that is willing to show them off to us in El Cajon, CA - can you say "road trip".

I do have to ask that when we are at something like the swap meet; please do not stand in front of the tables and talk to the members behind the table. Most attendees will just walk right by the table in this situation. Members minding the tables and the layout; please try to make eye contact with attendees and at least say HI. Members minding the kids layout, please interact with the kids; don't sit and talk to each other (yes, I saw it happening).

**Social Luncheon** -The next will be Friday July 18<sup>th</sup> at a location to be determined before the newsletter goes out.

Convention DVD's 2006&2008: If you didn't get a DVD of our convention or want one of the 2006 convention in Santa Clara, you can get them under G gauge on ebay. They are really well done and worth the money; each run over 200 minutes.

## MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Come join your TGRS friends for a social luncheon on Friday July 18<sup>th</sup>. This month we will be meeting at Chuy's Baja Broiler at 3100 E. Speedway Blvd. These have consistently been fun gatherings with lots of conversation about trains and other varied topics. It is really important to make it to this one, as there is no club meeting this month to fill your social needs. Plan to arrive about 11:15 to beat the TGIF lunch crowd.

Any questions, call Chuck Cook @ 797-1066 or 977-7673

Thanks, Chuck Cook

## Minutes of the June 21, 2008 Meeting

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Stoesser

The meeting was held at the home of Jack & Rosalie Forgues

Norm thanked them for hosting

There were 42 attendees, which included several guests and new members

Minutes of the May meeting were approved.

**Vice President's Report:** Willis Fagg reported that at the December 6<sup>th</sup> Christmas Party, the money would be collected as the members come in the door. The reason for collecting it ahead of time before was to make sure we had enough people going. We needed 50 and we usually have around 80.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ruth Taylor reported;

- |                                     |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Checking account balance 6/16/08 | \$11,071.50.    |
| 2. Reserve account balance 6/16/08  | <u>5,624.67</u> |
| 3. <b>Total on deposit</b>          | \$16,696.17.    |
| 4. June revenues                    | \$14,460.00 (*) |
| 5. June expenses                    | <u>188.81</u>   |
| 6. <b>June Net Revenue</b>          | \$1,271.19.     |

7. YEAR TO DATE RECAP:
8. Revenues to date \$14,680.98
9. Expenses to date 6,453.12
10. Loan pay back 3,000.00
11. **Net revenue**-----**\$5,227.86**
12. \*Includes \$600.00 for 12 convention cars sold at \$50.00 each. (5 Convention cars donated per Norm Ulmer)
13. \*Proceeds from the May 24<sup>th</sup> silent auction--- \$315.00.
14. Membership renewals are due this month. Current renewal status is 26.
15. Please mail all membership dues checks to Ruth.
16. The treasurer's report was approved.

**Editor's Report:** Jim Miller reported things were going well. He said in June "the printer had to be repaired that is why the newsletter was a couple of days late."

**Membership Committee:** Ibbby Ulmer reported we have 26 members who have renewed.

**Maintenance Committee:** Gary Martin wanted to know if the club wanted him to build a box for the kid's layout trestle. He was given the go ahead. Glen Mitchell asked if some of the trestle should be solid so that it would hold together better. If it was solid when the cog train is incorporated, it could not be seen. So we will leave like it is.

**Education Committee:** Janet Mitchell reported that they are going to get a new projector. Peggy Martin will help in the fall to develop a program for middle elementary children.

**Social Committee:** Chuck Cook had a sign up sheet for the **Chef for a Day Event**. Norm reminded members that the club will reimburse the members for the food they buy.

### Old Business;

A. **Convention Report:** Norm reported:

1. There were free Convention books, tote bags, pins, pens and badges holders. for the members.
2. There are still 2 refund checks outstanding.
3. The club will each be getting \$11,000 plus after the fiscal year from the convention profits.
4. Do not wash your 2008 convention cups in the dishwasher.

**Rails in the Garden:** Norm with Joe Stoesser and Glenn will present the Convention Cars to Ace Hardware and BBQ Galore on Wednesday for their help.

- B. **Boy Scouts Railroad Badges:** Nick reported he has sent the names of the mentors to Mike Carruthers to be sent to the districts. He would also like a couple of mentors from the east side.
- C. **UMC Children's Hospital**—Norm reported Vicky Begen and Anthony Skikos had a meeting with TGRS about the revisions to the preliminary plans.
- D. **Tucson Children's Museum:** Dick Izen reported that Ruth is working with Union Pacific and they will have a meeting on July 7. Bryon Skinner is working with Operation Lifesaver and that they will probably donate posters and maybe some videos. Perhaps the Educational Committee would want to get involved in this also.

**New Business:** Norm reported a projector and cables will be purchased, the cost is not to exceed \$800.00.

**Open House:** Gary and Peggy Martin will host the Nov. club meeting and this will also be his annual Open House. This will be on the 15<sup>th</sup> with trains running at 12:00, meeting at 1:00 and the Open House at 2:00P.M.

**TBG:** Thorn Pierce would like all equipment donated be brought to the next meeting (Sept). They would like a steering committee to advise them in developing their railroad. Gary will head this committee. TBG works on the railroad on Wednesday mornings at 8:00 A.M. Alan Lathrem wanted us to know that ABTO will be with the Maricopa Live Streamers in October. More information to follow in the newsletter.

The next regular meeting will be at the home of Bob and Eileen Schwab on September 20, trains will run at 9:00 A.M., and the meeting at 10:00 A.M.

## Minutes of the June BOD Meeting

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Stoesser

June 17, 2008-7:00 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 May meeting were approved

**Treasurer's Report:** Ruth Taylor reported:

- |                                     |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Checking account balance 6/16/08 | \$11,071.50.    |
| 1. Reserve account balance 6/16/08  | <u>5,624.67</u> |
| 2. <b>Total on deposit</b>          | \$16,696.17.    |
| 3. 3. June revenues                 | \$14,460.00 (*) |
| 4. 4. June expenses                 | <u>188.81</u>   |
| 5. <b>June Net Revenue</b>          | \$1,271.19.     |
6. YEAR TO DATE RECAP:
- |                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 7. Revenues to date         | \$14,680.98       |
| 8. Expenses to date         | 6,453.12          |
| Loan pay back               | 3,000.00          |
| 9. <b>Net revenue</b> ----- | <b>\$5,227.86</b> |
10. \*Includes \$600.00 for 12 convention cars sold at \$50.00 each.
- a. (5 Convention cars donated per Norm Ulmer)
11. Membership renewals are due this month. Current renewal status is 25.
12. The treasurer's report was approved.

**Vice Presidents Events:** Willis Fagg will write up an article for the newsletter about collecting money at the door for the Christmas Party. There will be 2 people collecting in order for it to go smoothly.

**Veterans Hospital:** We will keep checking with Pepe about doing a display there.

**Social Committee:** Norm reported that the next social gathering will be on July 18 at a location to be determined.

**Swap Meet:** this went very smoothly. David Creamer donated an Aristo building in exchange for 2 years dues (\$60.00). A few items were sold at the members selling table. Chuck also met a man who has a huge collection of O-gauge trains in El-Cajon, CA. Maybe the club could take a road trip. Another man with an indoor/outdoor layout has

offered to open his condo up for a meeting when it is cooler.

### Old Business:

- A. **Convention Report:** Norm reported that Pat Meyers has 3 bullhorns for TGRS.
- B. We will wait until the start of the fiscal year to get the proceeds from the 2008 Convention.
- C. **UMC Hospital:** There was a meeting with Vicky Begen and Anthony Skikos about an overhead display there.
- D. **Scout Merit Badge program:** Nick Buchholz reported that he still needs 2 mentors for the east side. The mentors will need to fill out a Merit Badge Counselor application. This is available on the web.
- E. **Home Show:** Norm reported that he has confirmation SAHBA pushed the American Home Show out.
- F. BBQ Galore and Ace Hardware awards will be given out next week.
- G. **Projector:** A motion was made to authorize purchase of a projector and cables with the cost not to exceed \$800.00. This was approved.

### New Business:

- A. **Tucson Children's Museum:** There was discussion about electrical requirement, timing and configuration of the display. We would like Bryon Skinner and Operation Lifesaver and to work with us.
- B. **TBG Steering Committee:** TBG would like us to provide a 3 man steering committee for advisory purposes. Norm would like Gary to head this. Thorn Pierce will be at the meeting on Saturday to ask for donations
- C. **2009 Rails in the Garden:** Tentative date is March 7&8<sup>th</sup>.
- D. **Round -A-Bout with ABTO.** Ibby would like to know if we are going to start this again as the convention is over.
- E. **Membership:** In the by-laws membership is defined as the TGRS is open to any individual 18 years or older, and their immediate family regardless of age. Everyone is eligible to vote. We need to define family membership and corporation membership and amend the by-laws. Our by-laws do not define what membership really is. This was tabled until Norm and Willis further study and define all types of memberships. TBG membership could be under Thorn Pierce as their representative until we define membership.
- F. Road trips; Norm would like to look into taking some road trips. Ken Karrels and Chuck Cook will look into this. There is the Williams train tour, Cumbre and Toltec, and Durango and Silverton.

There was no date for the next board meeting.

## In Memory

TGRS member Ray Moore passed away on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June. Ray had just turned 65 this past March. He had a heart attack on May 19th and two stints were inserted in his heart. Ray was laid to rest in Riverside, California at the Veterans Cemetery. The family is in the process of setting up a scholarship fund for high school music students who play brass instruments. Ray was a musician who played the French Horn.

# New Members

We had no new members in June

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.

# 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".

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:

Ibby Ulmer  
4935 N. Craycroft Road  
Tucson, AZ 85718

## Calendar of Events

**Aug 16** "Chef of the Day" Ronald McDonald House  
**Sep 20** Bob and Eileen Schwab  
**Oct**  
**Nov 15** Gary and Peggy Martin  
**Dec** Christmas Party

### TGRS Officers and Board of Directors

**President:**.....Norm Ulmer.....520-299-9401  
**V-President:**..... Willis Fagg.....520-760-0147  
**Secretary:**.....Ellen Stoesser...520-577-1210  
**Treasurer:**.....Ruth Taylor....520-908-1312  
**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**