



Tucson Garden Railway Society's

Time Table

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

Editor e-mail: jmiller66@cox.net

April, 2009

There is no meeting in April , we will be at the Pima County Fair from the 16th of April through the 26th of April.

This is our big show for the year.

Pima County Fair

Pima County Fair will run from April 16th through April 26th. Our participation in the fair is the only venue where we have the opportunity to set up the largest configuration of our modular layout. For our newer members, it offers a chance to learn set up and operation of the modular layout. We will also be running our children's layout, which is very popular with the younger set.

We have scheduled our initial set up of the layout for Friday April 10th at 9:00 AM in Old Pueblo Hall. Population of the scenery modules will take place beginning Monday. The fair opens at 12:00 noon on Thursday, April 16th. We will be running two shifts a day through April 26th, including tear down at 5:30 PM on the 26th. Load out of the trailers will take place on Monday April 27th at 10:00 AM.

Volunteer sign-ups started at the January meeting and continued during the February meeting. We need 6-8 volunteers per shift throughout the run of the fair and need to complete the volunteer sign-ups in early March in order to submit our requirements for badges and passes. If you have not already signed up and wish to do so, contact Willis Fagg no later than March 8th at 760-0147 or by e-mail at km6mv@cox.net.

Willis Fagg

Grand Opening

A quick reminder that the Grand Opening of the Train Gallery we built at the Tucson Children's Museum will be at 11 am on Sunday, April 5. All TGRS members and families are invited. Please wear your badge for free admission.

TGRS Elections

By Dick Izen

As you know this is the year when we elect officers and at-large directors for the next two years. Per our by-laws the nominating committee (that's me and Gary Martin) is to submit a list of at least one name for each position in April. That's the purpose of this article.

We propose the following slate, all of whom have agreed to serve:

Officers (* designates incumbent)

President	Norm Ulmer	*
Vice President	Willis Fagg	*
Secretary	Sallie Sanders	
Treasurer	Ruth Taylor	*
Editor	Jim Miller	*

At Large Board Members (* designates incumbent)

Barry Blackwell
Nick Buchholz *
Bob Dirksen *
Jack Forgues
Jay Sanders

Remember nominations from the floor are accepted. If you think you know a member in good standing who is willing to serve please let me know. If they agree to serve their name will be added to the list of candidates. Since we don't have an April meeting, nominations from the floor will be accepted through April 26, the last day of the Pima County Fair. That will just give me enough time to check the candidate's willingness to serve and amend the list for publication in the May news letter. Elections will

be held at the May meeting as per the by-laws. FYI, the May meeting is scheduled for the 16th at Rick and Sue Gast's home.

Rails In The Garden 2009

Well, we have concluded another RITG tour and I want to reiterate my thanks to everyone that helped make it so successful! Thanks to the layout hosts that opened their layouts and gardens to the tour and thanks to all the volunteers that run trains, meet-and-greet, and share our hobby with the visitors. The Monday following the tour, the door prize recipient tickets were drawn. The first prize of a starter set and TGRS membership went to Philip Messick of Cochise and the second prize, a 2008 NGRC convention car, went to Debbie Grumble of Tucson. Philip attended the TGRS meeting on March 21st at the Botanical Gardens and we presented his prize at the meeting. Unfortunately, the photo of Philip with his starter set was lost in one of those astounding cyberspace accidents where files mysteriously go missing – sorry Philip. However, we did manage to save the following photo of Ms. Grumble receiving her convention car. Finally, at the March meeting we presented a “thank you” memento to the RITG hosts that were in attendance that day. We received a note from the Rincon Country West club (see photo that follows) that read, in part: “... It was a great privilege to be selected for the 2009 Rails in the Garden tour. It was a wonderful tour this year and we want to commend the participants and TGRS for their efforts in putting it together. We love our railroad here at RCW and invite you and the TGRS to visit us again soon.” Thanks again everyone!!
Glenn Mitchell



2nd place, Debbie Grumble with her train car

Minutes of the March 21, 2009 Meeting

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Stoesser

The meeting was held at The Tucson Botanical Gardens.

Norm thanked them for hosting

There were 48 attendees. There was also one new member.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Michelle Conklin had a plaque made with the name of the TBG railroad on it. It is called “The Thornville Garden Railway”. The plaque was dedicated to Thorne Pierce and Gary Martin and the members of the TGRS club.

Vice President's Report: Willis Fagg reported about our upcoming event:

The Pima County Fair will be held April 16-26th, 2009. Willis had badges, tickets and parking passes for the members who have signed up to work. There was an instruction sheet with the tickets, about where to park and which gates to come in. Willis would like all members to make sure we obey all the fair rules. Be sure to leave any spare passes at the layout. On the 10 -15th you can drive into the building to drop off equipment. Come into the Brekke entrance if you are coming for the day shift. There will only be one golf cart this year and Peggy will make it available to us as much as possible. Willis will be gone from 3/27—4/12, if you need information contact Joe Stoesser or Jim Cook.

Treasurer's Report: Ruth Taylor reported:

1. Checking account balance 3/21//09	1,530.36
2. Saving account balance 3/21/09	\$17,158.75
3. CD maturing 1/11/10 (13 months @3.25%)	\$5,000.00
4. CD maturing 2/11/10 (11 months @2.25%)	\$5,000.00
5. Total on deposit	\$28,689.06
6. Revenues from 2/15/09	\$ 5,862.95
7. Expenses from 2/15/09	<u>286.90</u>
8. Net revenues from 2/15/09	\$5,576.05.

YEAR TO DATE RECAP:

Revenues to date	\$22,419.85 *
Expenses to date	\$11,582.84**
Net revenue	\$10,857.01

9. (*) Includes \$12,459.97 revenue from Convention

(**)Includes \$5,380.16 for TCM project

10. **Tucson Children's Museum Recap:**
Rails in the Garden Recap:

Budget	\$4,000.00
Income	\$5,508.00
UP Donation	<u>\$1,500.00</u>
Expense	<u>\$1,658.32</u>
	\$5,500.00

	Net	\$3,849.68
Expensed	<u>\$5,380.16</u>	
Unused	\$119.84	

11. Total dues received \$1,536.00
 12. The treasurer's report was approved.

Editors Report: Jim Miller would like us to keep the articles and pictures coming.

Mentor Committee: Nick Buchholz will be looking for a mentor for our new member Philip Messick. Philip won the RITG raffle of a starter set and a year membership in the club. This was presented to him by Glenn Mitchell.

Membership Committee: Ibby reported we now have 92 members. Our information sheet has been revised and also we have a sheet for a poster explaining the club objectives.

Social Committee: Chuck Cook has the Silver Spike /Globe trip all set up. There is room for a few more people. The March social luncheon will be held at on March 28th at Maynard's Market and Kitchen at the historic train museum. Everyone will meet at 11:15a.m. Contact Chuck if there are questions. There will not be a social luncheon in April.

Education Committee: Janet Mitchell and Phyllis Dirksen held a presentation for the Cadillac Club which had did our RITG tour.

Maintenance Committee: Gary reported all the repairs were in order; the next project would be a work day on the 13th of April at Jim Cook's house. They are going to replace the fixed casters on the 4 racks. Norm will check into getting a mobile welder to do this.

Old Business:

A. Tucson Children's Museum: There will be a grand opening on April 5, 2009. They will be open to the general public at noon but they will open to TGRS members at 11:00 a.m. There will be reps from the UP and Museums representatives and Norm will give a talk. You must wear your badge to get in early at 11:00 a.m. Several members of the club have made a diesel engine puzzle for the project.

B. Rails in the Garden: Glenn Mitchell reported that there was a lot of positive feedback from visitors and volunteers alike about the tour. He had small tank cars made for the hosts of the convention. RITG will be on the east side in 2010 and he would like to do *clusters* for the 2011 RITG. There would be one in Saddlebrook and one in the central and North West.

New Business:

A. Chef for a Day: Jerry Tulino had a sign up sheet for May 9, 2009. He needs someone to drive the trailer, set up and run the trains and to

cook the meal. He needs 6-8 families to prepare a meal consisting of chicken, potato, and vegetables. All money spend by the members would be given back or you could use it as a donation.

B. Jerry also asked "if there was a really big need for a place on the website to sell, buy and trade equipment?" It would be a lot of work for him to set this up. It was decided this was not really necessary, as members could just bring equipment to the meeting, email or *word of mouth*.

Announcements: Don McCutchal donated a coat hanger rack designed like an engine. Chuck Cook was the lucky person who took this home with him.

The Gadsden Pacific Division of TTOS is having an auction on April 3rd at their museum. Their 7 1/2 inch riding train is in the planning stages.

Frank Trunzo (Green Valley) suffered a stroke last week and will be inactive for a while.

Rick Hoffman is a presenter for Operation LifeSaver There was a railroad special for lunch after the meeting.

Jack Forgues had a really neat looking modified engine and tender at the meeting.

Jay Sanders emailed Jim about the deduction of 14 cents a mile allowed for mileage when going to events all except monthly meetings. Also deductible is the hotel expense at the convention. This information was also brought up at the meeting and forwarded to the members by email.

There will not be a regular meeting in April because of the fair. The next regular meeting will be at on May 16th at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Rick & Sue Gast.

Minutes of March BOD Meeting

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Stoesser

March 17, 2008-7:00 P.M. at the home of Norm and Ibby Ulmer

All Board members were present except 1 Pres. Norm thanked Ibby for hosting Minutes of the January meeting were approved

Treasurer's Report: Ruth Taylor reported:

1. Checking account balance 3/17/09 \$5,393.93
2. Reserve account balance 3/17/09 \$17,158.70

3. CD maturing 1/11/10
\$5,000.00

Total on deposit

\$27,552.63

3. Revenues from 2/15/09

\$4,593.00

4. Expenses from 2/15/09

\$233.33

5. Net revenues from 2/15/09 \$4,359.67

6. YEAR TO DATE RECAP:

Revenues to date \$21,229.85 *

Expenses to date \$16,509.27

Net revenue \$4,720.58

7. (*) includes \$12,459.97 revenue from Convention

(**) includes \$5,380.16 for Tucson Children's Museum project.

**8. Tucson Children's Museum Recap:
Rails in the Garden Recap:**

Budget \$4000.00

Income \$4,368.00

UP Donation \$1,500.00

Expense \$1,658.32

\$5,500.00

Net \$2,709.68

Expensed \$5,380.16

Unused \$119.84

8. Total dues received \$1536.00

9. Ruth will put \$5,000.00 in an 11 month CD earning 2 ¼ %

10. The treasurer's report was approved.

Vice Presidents Events: Willis Fagg will have badges, tickets and parking tickets to give out at the March 21 meeting. Once the fair starts members can not get badges. He will have 22 badges and the rest will be tickets. The raffle prize will be bought at Ace on 22nd for their loyalty in selling tickets for us.

Social Luncheon: Chuck Cook reported this would be on the 28th of March at Maynard's Market and Kitchen at the historic train depot at 11:15 a.m. The Copper Spike Railway trip is all set to go. The GPD division of the TTOS will be holding an auction on 4/3/09 at 6:30 p.m. at the museum.

Education Committee: Janet Mitchell reported that the new projector worked great at their presentation to the Cadillac Club. The club is looking for a replacement for Janet.

Membership Committee: lbb reported that we have 92 paid members.

Old Business:

A. UMC Hospital: Norm reported that he has the plans for the UMC gift shop.

B. Tucson Children's Museum: Several members of the club have made a diesel engine puzzle for the project. Ruth had several foam poster board train logos. The club will not be getting a bench for this project. Open House will be on 4/5/09; this will be open to club members at 11:00 a.m. Please wear your badges to get in.

C. Scout Merit Badge Program: Nick still needs people for training.

D. 2009 Rails in the Garden: Glenn Mitchell reported this went very well but attendance was down. If we stay with \$5.00 a ticket should we put more tickets in the envelope? There were questions about what the club does. It was suggested we revise our applications form and have posters with important events we do. It was suggested we do posters rather than flyers because these are usually thrown away.

New Business:

A. We will be getting swivel casters for the 4 racks. We will check Caster City for the casters. We will also be checking Woodcrafters for rubber mats. The club will be purchasing 2 garden carts to help in hauling equipment.

B. Frank Trunzo suffered a stroke last week and will be inactive for awhile.

There was no date for the next board meeting.

**Eaglewings Iron Craft
10th Annual Open House Update!**

April 18-19, 2009 in Phoenix, Arizona

29 layouts will be open for tour in all areas of the greater Phoenix metro area!

Open house tours are free, but donations will be accepted to benefit Make-A-Wish of AZ!

Visit 10 or more layouts, and be eligible for a special drawing, including trips on the Verde River Canyon Railroad, Grand Canyon Railroad, Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, or a host of other great prizes!

NEW! St. Aubin's will be running live steam trains on their portable layout (20' X 45') at the Wild Eagle Railroad both days of the open house event!

NEW! Movie Mix productions will have their 20' X 40' portable layout running track power trains at the Wild Eagle Railroad both days of the open house event!

Banquet and dinner theatre at Dennis Sirrinc's layout, catered by Tia Rosa, on Saturday, April 18th! "Murder at the High Noon Saloon" – theme is appropriate for those ages 18 +, **and you must RSVP no later than April 11th!** Prices are \$24.95 and for those who do not RSVP, the price will be \$29.95 (price includes one raffle ticket – St. Aubin's will be supplying great prizes). Important!! **There will be no admittance to the layout without first paying for the banquet and dinner theatre.**

For full details, including location, hours, and maps, be sure to visit:

www.eaglewingsironcraft.com or call 602-276-8101

South County Garden Railroaders

**Invite you to the 15th annual
Garden Layout Tour
August 15th, 2009**

Visit 11 model railroads running thru some of the most unusual backyard gardens in Morgan Hill, Gilroy and Hollister. Please bring non perishable food [canned goods, pasta, cereal, etc] to donate [cash or check to "St Josephs Family Center" or "the Community Pantry" also gratefully accepted] and pickup a guide book after August 1st at the All Aboard Junction train store at 8355 Monterey Street, Gilroy [behind Cottage Floors], Garden Accents at 1155 Lena Avenue, Gilroy [near 101-Masten exit], BookSmart at 80 East 2nd Street,

Morgan Hill [Near Depot Street at RR Tracks] or San Juan Model Railroaders at Bolado Park in Hollister. For more information visit <http://www.bagsr.org/FoodDrive> or call Pat [408-846-8841] or Dale [408-848-1440] or Email "dalemcanally@verizon.net" or Dave [408-842-1843] for more information.

We received this from one of our members;

Hi,

I'm Jeff Tyler, member TGRS and president of IPTrains LLC. I'd like to offer a 5% discount to all members in good standing of TGRS. Is it possible to get that in the news letter? I believe we already have a link on the society website but pointing that out in conjunction with the discount would be nice.

IPTrains sells G scale signals and signaling control equipment, on board digital video equipment and floating battery conversion kits. The store is at www.IPTrains.com and the technical reference site is at www.IPTrains.org. There is also a user forum at the technical website that we welcome all to join and use to discuss the technical aspects of signaling, control and digital video.

Next question: Would there be any interest in a beginners level article for the newsletter on basic signaling for garden railways? If so, then tell me how much space you can provide and I'll be happy to write one. I suspect many people might like some signals to dress up their railroads but are unsure of how to proceed. We also have an article like this on the tech ref web site at:

[http://www.iptrains.org/mediawiki/index.php/Control_Systems#Local_Control .28switch_position_indicators.29](http://www.iptrains.org/mediawiki/index.php/Control_Systems#Local_Control_.28switch_position_indicators.29)

Many thanks!

Jeff Tyler
President, IPTrains LLC
PO Box 166
Hereford, AZ
85615

(520)-220-9692

A Big Welcome to New Members

Welcome to two new members. Alan Tonelson and his wife Jo Ann Daly. They do not have a railroad in their garden but plan to start one next spring. They do, however, have O and Z scale layouts.

The winner of the Rails in the Garden Raffle also received a year's membership and that is Phillip Messick and wife Marsha who live in the town of Cochise, Arizona. Philip was at the March meeting and now that he has the starter set he would like to have a layout.

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

Mar 7&8 **RITG**
Mar 21 **Tucson Botanical Gardens**
Apr 16-29 **Pima County Fair**
May 16 **Rick & Sue Gast**
Jul 5-11 **National Garden Railway Convention, Denver**

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

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