



Tucson Garden Railway Society's

Time Table

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

Editor e-mail: jmiller66@cox.net

February, 2010

FEBRUARY MEETING

This month's meeting will be on the 20th of February at 1:00 PM at Rincon Country West RV Resort in the Recreation Hall located in the building immediately adjacent to the club layout. Trains will be running at noon. All TGRS members are welcome to bring their trains to run.

Rincon Country West RV Resort
4555 S. Mission Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85746
Contact person: Ken Zacharias
Telephone: 294-4980

Driving Directions

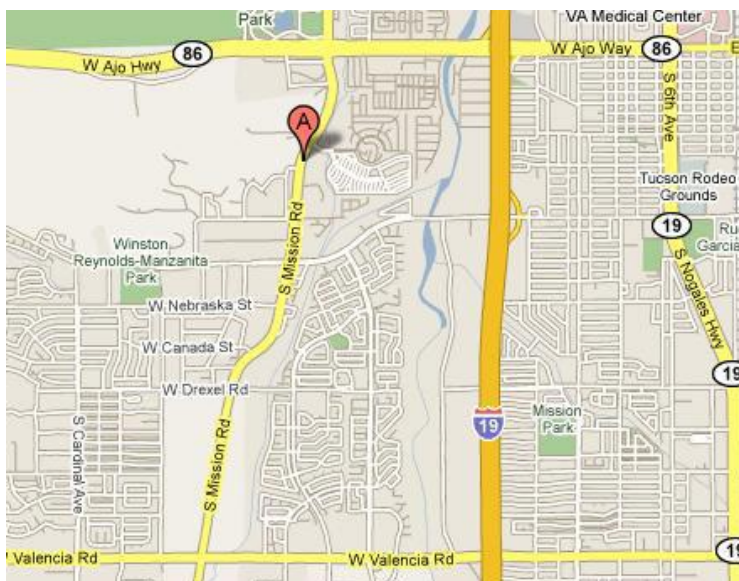
From I-19 take the Ajo Exit and proceed west on Ajo Way to Mission Rd. Turn left onto Mission Rd. and proceed approximately ½ mile to a left turnout (3rd turnout on Mission Rd.). Turn left here at white entrance wall marked 4545 and flag flying. Go 500 ft. and turn right into RCW Resort. Stop at gate keeper building and indicate you are attending TGRS meeting. Proceed straight down the boulevard to large parking lot on the left. There is parking all around the buildings in this area. The RCW Railroad layout is located at the end of the parking lot.



The RCW Railroad



The RCW Railroad



Rincon Country West Railroad

The RCW Railroad layout is the ongoing project of the RCW Garden Railroad Club located at the Rincon Country West RV Resort. The club has been developing its layout over the past five winters as most of our members are "snowbirds". We have

over 900 ft. of track with four independent loops and a trolley line running from the town of Rincon to the circus. Each loop has track power. Our village of Rincon is composed of lighted, scratch built structures named for existing clubs in the RCW Park (Shuffles Boarding House, Tennis Court House, etc.). Our extensive vegetation is maintained by club members and has its own irrigation system. Our Train Depot contains a work bench, shelf and track storage for trains and all our electronics.

This winter club members added over 100 ft. of track and a new loop while also doing extensive regrading of the upper area of the layout. New trestles and a covered bridge have also been added to the layout. Future plans include a water feature and new tunnel.



The RCW Railroad

MONTHLY SOCIAL LUNCHEON

For the month of February; let's head back to The Red Garter Saloon at 3143 E Speedway. We always have fun conversation about model railroading and many other things; and the food there is yummy. I have a feeling this time I am going to be able to talk somebody into a game of pool. The date is Thursday Feb. 18th. Meet at 11:30. Hope to see you then. If you have any questions call Chuck Cook at 977-7673.

Volunteers Needed for Rails in the Garden Tour

We still need more volunteers to assist the hosts of our Rails in the Garden event. We are fast approaching the 2010 edition of our Rails in the Garden event. Since we are offering free admission to active military (and their families) this year, we expect to see record attendance. More than ever the tour hosts need support from club members.

For members unfamiliar with tour operations, volunteers are needed for a variety of support tasks such as running trains, greeters/ticket takers, parking assist and talking to attendees (cookie eaters too). You can volunteer even if you are not comfortable running trains.

So far only five (including TBG) of the nine layouts have what appears to be sufficient support. Volunteers are needed for Cooks (Jim & Madelyn), Gast (Rick & Sue), Mechigian (Garb & Dorothy) and Stoesser (Joe & Ellen). Please contact the hosts directly if you can volunteer.

Those who were hosts at last year's event may want to return the support favor.

Hosts: If you have any new information regarding your volunteer list, please e-mail Willis Fagg at km6mv@cox.net to get them on the list.

UMC Children's Layout

On Thursday, the 21st of January, Nick and I met with the UMC Hospital Contractor, and the Construction Manager in order to finalize the details of the suspension system the Contractor is going to provide for our track plan. Nick has provided the Construction Manager with an electronic file showing the location of the supports we require to hang the track from the ceiling. The hangers we need to suspend the frames from the ceiling will be provided by the Contractor.

In about three weeks, we will meet with the Interior Designer to finalize details of the mountain scenery he is to provide for that portion of the track which lies outside the Gift shop. At this time, everything is on "Go" for the project. As soon as Nick comes up with the scale drawing, we can put together a cost estimate for our part of the project. Completion is now planned for August 2010, with a Grand Opening set for September.

Norm Ulmer

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Pima County Fair

The Pima County Fair will run from April 15th thru the 25th. This is our largest volunteer requirement of the year. I have sent an e-mail to the general distribution requesting volunteers, so please read your e-mail and sign up early. I need to fill all shifts before the March meeting so that I may distribute tickets at the meeting.

The following shift times have been established:

Thursday April 15th (first day):

First shift: 11:30 AM-4:30 PM (Fair opens at 12:00 Noon)

Second shift: 4:00 PM-9:00 PM

Friday April 16th thru Saturday April 24th:

First shift: 9:30 AM-3:30 PM

Second shift: 3:00 PM-9:00 PM

Sunday April 25th:

First shift: 9:30 AM-2:30 PM

Second shift: 2:00 PM through tear down

Tear down: 5:30 PM; Require 8-10 volunteers in addition to the second shift staff

Note: On weekdays, the fair will open at 11:00 AM, but Old Pueblo Hall will open at 10:00 AM for school children. On weekends, the fair will open at 10:00 AM.

Monday April 26th:

Load out: 10:00 AM; Require 8-10 volunteers including 3 drivers

Volunteers should contact Willis Fagg via e-mail at km6mv@cox.net or by phone at 760-0147

Children's Museum Award Presentation

On New Year's day Dottie and I met with John Poore, owner of Upland Trains. The reason for meeting him on that trip was to present him with a memento acknowledging his support for our Tucson Children's Museum project. John provided most of the rolling stock, some track and other support hardware at a deeply discounted price enabling TGRS to stay within the established budget for the project.

The award was a framed copy of the Whistle Stop entry banner at the museum. The banner acknowledges all the contributors for the museum project.



Willis Fagg presents John Poore, owner of Upland Trains a copy of the Whistle Stop entry banner

The following article was written by Ashling Whelan, Liam Whelan's sister when she was 10 year old. Their family is still involved in Railroading and they regret that they have been unable to attend our meetings for a while. On January 10th their family went to the Arizona Railway museum in Tempe and had a great time. The docent spent most of 1 1/2 hours walking around and answering their many many questions.

Building a model railway by Ashling Whelan

An interview with Laura Whelan

Me: So how did you decide to make a model railway, and when did you start?

Laura: We put it off for a long time not knowing quite where to start until I read an article that said "Build one to throw away." which made a lot of sense so we started building a model railway for experience knowing it didn't have to be "perfect."

Me: So what did you use for a base?

Laura: Since we wanted to use materials on hand we used crushed caliche from excavating our garden and sand packed tightly together, and that was our base. Then on our living room floor we laid out the track we had to find the best layout. We had two starter sets, one was purchased used from eBay. After optimizing our track indoors we laid it out on our base. The day was predicted to be 110 degrees and we started at five or six o'clock on a Saturday when it was finished it was in a cactus garden. Some rocks from my parent's ranch made mountains and thus came the name Rocky Mountain Railway.

Me: Why did you make the model railway?

Laura: Because Liam my son is fond of trains. He's 9 years old and it's his railway.

Me: I see you have a great setting for your model railway.

Laura: Some were scavenged from toys we had, such as farm animals, and some we bought, such as a log cabin which was four dollars at Michael's. The house, the people, and the cars were bought at a model railway meeting sale.

Me: Thanks for letting me interview you.

Laura: You're welcome.

The Whelan family builds a Garden Railway



Liam Whelan with his Garden Railway



The Whelan family visits the Arizona Railway Museum in Tempe



Steps to building a model railroad

1. Arrange your track to find the best layout.
2. Lay down foundation. {BASE}
3. Put track on foundation. Make sure it is secure.
4. Attach your wires to power the train and make sure they are working.
5. Add décor [houses, people, cars, animals other]
6. Add train.

An interview with Liam Whelan

Me: So Liam why did you want a model railroad?

Liam: I liked trains for a long time and I really wanted a model railroad.

Me: Were you surprised when you saw you had a model railroad in your back yard?

Liam: Yeah.

Me: One, do you like it, and two why did you name it the Rocky Mountain Rail road?

Liam: I like it. It is rocky and it is a railroad.

Me: Thanks for letting me interview you.

Liam: You're Welcome.



Liam and Ashling explore engine 2562

TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

January 26, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President, Norm Ulmer. The following members were present: Norm Ulmer, Willis Fagg, Ruth Taylor, Nick Buchholz, Barry Blackwell, Gary Martin and Glenn Mitchell and Ibbly Ulmer.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

The Treasurer's report was given (see attached.) Total amount on deposit in checking, savings and certificates of deposit is \$28,938.39. Revenues from 11-22-09 - \$1,395.62. Expenses from 11-22-09 - \$2,519.18 leaving a net revenue of (1,123.56.) The board voted to have the treasurer roll over the CD's for the best possible interest rate. The treasurer's report was approved.

The Vice President reported that he has only a few people signed up for the County Fair in April. He will pass around a sign up list at the next meeting. He has received a package of newspaper and TV clips of our display at the VA from Pepe Mendosa.

Maintenance Chairman, Gary Martin, reported that he has repaired two of the club's cars.

Membership Chairman, Ibbly Ulmer, reported that there are 91 total members at present and that she is expecting another from a couple who attended the social luncheon.

Mentor Chairman, Nick Buchholz, reported that he has had requests from two new members.

Social Chairman, Chuck Cook, was not in attendance, but reported to the President that he has been in touch with ABTO in Phoenix and they are looking into a possible joint tour in May.

Old Business:

- A. Barry Blackwell has made arrangements for boxes for food donations to the Food Bank to be placed at all the venues on the Rails in the Garden Tour. It was decided to include money donations.
- B. Norm and Nick met with the construction people at the Children's Hospital and it seems that they are going to provide more of the support for the tracks in the Gift Shop than we had anticipated. There will be a meeting with the Studio Productions people soon to coordinate plans for the Mountain they are planning in the lobby outside the Gift Shop. It was noted that Bob Hoffman may have a circus train for sale and that might be a good choice for the display. The

construction is scheduled to finish up in late August for a grand opening in September.

- C. Rails in The Garden Tour chairman, Glenn Mitchell, reported that we have sold a few tickets and that the Telephone is activated and mailings have gone out. We are still in need of volunteers to help at some of the venues. It was suggested that, in future we should have a meeting in January in because it was too long from the Christmas Party in early December to the February meeting.

New business:

- A. The possibility of saying the Pledge of Allegiance at the general meetings was discussed and tabled with no action taken.
- B. It was announced that Jerry Tulino has arranged for the club to be "chefs for the day" at Ronald MacDonald House on May 8.
- C. A great deal of the equipment that Buzz Weaver donated to the club has been sold and the rest will be made available at the next meeting.
- D. There are 28 convention cars left. It was decided to reduce the cost to members to \$40.00 a piece, \$120.00 for a case of four.
- E. Glenn offered to build racks onto the sides of the large trailer, suggesting that it could be done during the fair.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ibbly Ulmer
Acting Secretary

In Memory

Another of our Charter Members, Chuck Argubright, has died. A memorial service was held on January 15th, 2 PM at the Valley Presbyterian Church in Green Valley

A Big Welcome to New Members

We haven't had any new members for January.

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.

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".

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

Jan 16	TTOM Swap Meet
Feb 20	RCW Rec Hall
Mar 2010	Tucson Botanical Garden
Apr 2010	Pima County Fair
May 8	Ronald McDonald House, layout and serve dinner
May 15	Herb Waesch

TGRS Officers and Board of Directors

President:.....Norm Ulmer.....520-299-9401	At Large Board Members
V-President:.....Willis Fagg.....520-760-0147	Barry Blackwell.....520-322-5033
Secretary:.....Sallie Sanders.....520-731-1999	Nick Buchholz.....520-744-4932
Treasurer:.....Ruth Taylor.....520-908-1312	Jack Forgues.....520-818-9598
Editor:.....Jim Miller.....520-886-7611	Jay Sanders.....520-731-1999

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