



Tucson Garden Railway Society's

Time Table

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

Editor e-mail: jmiller66@cox.net

December 2010

TGRS CHRISTMAS/HOLIDAY LUNCHEON:

It will be at the Hometown Buffet at 5101 N. Oracle Road on Saturday, December 4th beginning at noon. The cost is \$10 per person. Ruth will take advance payments by mail (check only) or at the November meeting. She will also take payments at the door but requests that you **call her in advance** to make your reservation.

Her number is: (520) 908-1312

Make checks payable to: Tucson Garden Railway Society

Mail to: Ruth Taylor, Treasurer
4081 S. Tarantula Hawk Place
Tucson, AZ 85735

There will be a gift exchange. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange please bring a gift.

The rules of the gift exchange:

One gift per family with a limit of \$10.
Steals are limited to two and no person can have more than two gifts taken from them.

In Memory of our good friend Jim Cook By Madelyn Cook

We are sorry to announce the passing of James R. Cook. Jim lived a full and rewarding life that spanned centuries and crossed the continents. He was born the elder of two children on The Fourth of July in Cumberland, MD to Dr and Mary Cook.

He passed on Thanksgiving Eve in Tucson, AZ surrounded by all eight of his loving family members.

Jim requested that he be cremated and no public service will be held. Anyone who wishes to offer a remembrance the family requests that donations be made in Jim's name to Operation Homefront (www.operationhomefront.net) to help the families of our servicemen and women abroad.

Announcement

There will not be a social luncheon in December in favor of the club Holiday Party.

TGRS Displays 4th Annual Welcome Home Event

The 4th Annual OEF OIF Welcome Home Event was held Saturday October 16th at the U of A Mall. This event is intended to provide veterans a single point of contact for the various services available to returning veterans.

Our participation involved displaying various elements of our garden railroad hobby and to advertise our 2011 RITG event and the Martin open house. It was also an opportunity for us to establish local military contacts to enable us to distribute free RITG passes for military personnel.

Nick, Gary, Dottie and I manned a table displaying a static running engine, Jane Dorgan's "people" display, a couple of Gary's scratch built buildings, layout photos, etc.

The majority of the attendees seemed to be older retired vets and very few younger folks and families. While our display did get a lot of visitors, we were clearly not typical of the service organizations on display.



Upcoming TGRS Elections

By Dick Izen

One of the problems any club has is getting people to volunteer to help run the club. If the same old group is always making decisions the club misses the vitality it needs. Many people hesitate to step forward because they are not certain of how to do the job. TGRS has at least partly solved this problem by creating a pathway for the Vice President to move up to President and the past President to move onto the Board of Directors. This ensures that there are at least two experience people to help the newly elected people.

It is, once again, time to consider another set of elections. In May, 2011 we will elect officers and at large board members to serve from July 1 for the next two years. The current officers have asked me to serve as a nominating committee and come up with a slate for the five officer (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer & Newsletter Editor) and four at large Board of Director positions.

As per the bylaws we will announce a slate of candidates in April. At the April meeting additional candidates may be nominated from the floor. Elections will be held in May, usually at the May meeting.

While I am certain that we will have a full slate of names, I am looking for additional members who would be interested in holding either an officer's position or a seat on the Board of Directors. We are particularly interested in new faces who can bring a fresh point of view to running the club.

If you have any interest please contact me.

2011 Rails In The Garden Layout Tour

Where has spring and summer gone!?! It is already time to start thinking and planning for next spring's RITG. For 2011 the RITG dates are March 12 and March 13. The tour is back on the (mostly) west side of town for 2011. We have a great group of layouts for next year including at least three layouts in Saddlebrook that have not been on the tour before. Hosts that have agreed to have their layouts open for 2011's tour include:

Jack & Rosalie Forgues
Ron & Helen Koehler
Bruce & Pat Somerhalder
Roy & Mary Ann Eberbach
Nick Buchholz & Mary Ker
Glenn & Janet Mitchell
Gary & Peggy Martin
Rincon Country West RV Resort club layout

The Toy Train Operators Museum is also likely to be a tour stop.

2010's food and donations drive for the Community Food Bank was so successful that we are going to have collection boxes and receptacles at each layout again in 2011. Hopefully, our guests and neighbors can be as generous as in 2010 when we collected over 300 pounds of food and \$400 in monetary contributions.

We are again using last year's ticket pricing scheme – individual adult tickets will be \$5 and children/teens 18 and under will be admitted at no charge, when accompanied by an adult. Tickets to be sold by TGRS members were available starting at the Christmas party on December 4th. If you would like tickets to sell, or more tickets, please call or email.

Thanks and keep smiling!
Glenn Mitchell

3rd Annual Children's Festival

The 3rd annual Children's Festival was held Sunday October 17th in front of Centennial Hall at U of A. There were a variety of children's activities and displays prior to the show "Choo Choo Soul". Activities included musical presentations, face painting and numerous craft booths. For the first time, there were train displays from TGRS, Gadsden Pacific and the Transportation Museum. Festival organizers were happy to have train displays which supported the theme of the show.

Gary, Dottie and I provided a TGRS display similar to that of the Welcome Home Event the day before. Our display was well received and we were able to publicize both RITG and Gary's open house. This venue was an excellent opportunity to promote our club and activities. This was definitely a good fit for our public outreach effort.



SEE *Trains* IN THE GARDEN



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS *Open House Tours!*

Sat & Sun, December 11-12

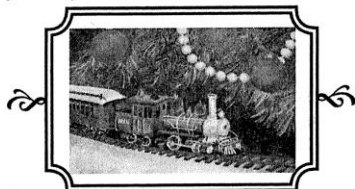
5:30 - 8:30

Sat & Sun, December 18 - 19

5:30 - 8:30

Celebrating the holidays, thirteen homes and a children's medical center with G-scale garden railroads will be on display in Phoenix and the east valley for public viewing.

Bring the family and don't miss out on the fun!



Donations will be accepted and given to support train layouts in the Children's Hospital and Children's Medical Center in the Valley.

See the Arizona Big Train Operators
web site for MAPS to the train layouts
www.azbigtrains.org

Santa Claus Is Coming to the Train Depot!

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum Presents
Historic Train Depot—414 N. Poole Avenue
12:00noon—2:00pm December 11, 2010



Have your picture taken with the Jolly Ol' Elf Himself.
Shop at a Variety of Arts & Crafts Booths

FREE

Toy Train Rides—Chalk Drawing Contest
Christmas Music—Jumping Castle
Locomotive Simulator—Antique Cars
Write A Letter to Santa—Operating Model Train Display
Bilingual Polar Express Reading
6:15pm Polar Express Movie Showing



For more information call 520-623-2223

www.TucsonHistoricDepot.org

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER TGRS BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING November 8, 2010 at the home of Norm & Ibby Ulmer

Present were: Norm Ulmer, Ibby Ulmer, Willis Fagg,
Nick Buchholz, Glenn Mitchell, Barry Blackwell, and
Gina Blackwell

The minutes of the October Board of Directors
meeting were approved as published in the
newsletter.

The Treasurer's Report was approved in Ruth
Taylor's absence.

1. Total on deposit: \$35,508.21
2. Revenues from 10/10/10: \$201.46
3. Expenses from 9/12/10: \$831.46 (includes power
supplies for children's module)
4. Net revenues from 9/12: -\$630.00
5. Total dues paid for 2010-11: \$2,455.00 (13 unpaid
members to date)

Vice-President's Report:

1. The ABTO tour 11/6 was a success with 30
ABTO members attending. They asked for the
hosting members names in order to send thank
you notes from their club.
2. The Children's Festival at the U of A 10/17 was
also a great success. Many Rails in the Garden
flyers were handed out.
3. The Welcome Home event sponsored by the
Southern Arizona VA Health Care System
(SAVAHCS) for returning veterans at the U of A
mall 10/16 went well. Contacts for the Rails in
the Garden passes for active military families
were made.

4. The SAVAHCS layout is confirmed for 12/27 through 12/30 and the signup sheet is filling up with the 6 members/shift schedule.
5. The Home Show in January is still tentative.
6. There are plans to set up for the Gadsden Pacific's swap meet in January (15th). Norm Ulmer is proposing an additional table layout to add to the children's' layout.

Norm mentioned that the ABTO annual Christmas tour this year will include eight layouts open from 5:30 to 8:30 PM on December 11, 12, and 18, 19. The website for more information is www.azbigtrains.org

No Editor's Report.

Committee Reports:

There were no reports from the *Clinics, Education, Maintenance* or *Social Committees*. Norm mentioned that the next social event is scheduled for 11/18 at the Red Garter Saloon
Membership Committee – there are no new members.
Mentoring Committee – Nick arranged for Dick Izen to assist a non-member's inquiry.

Old Business:

- A. The Diamond Children's Medical Center installation and battery charger retrofit is complete. The booster antenna is ready try out.
- B. New Project Suggestions still under consideration include:
 Holiday/theme cars for the Diamond Children's layout.
 An elevated layout in the Transportation Museum.
 A permanent layout at the SAVAHCS.
 A permanent layout at the Ronald McDonald House.
 A layout in the garden at the new Tucson Medical Center children's wing is also being explored.
- C. Two signal bridges are to be purchased from Eaglewings Iron Craft.
- D. Received Bridgewater controllers for the children's modular layout. Glenn Mitchell and Willis Fagg are working on the retrofit and they are considering adding a joystick. Approval was granted for additional expenses up to a total of \$650.
- E. Rails in the Garden 2011 maps are in the works. Tickets and passes still need to be printed.
- F. New trucks from Aristocraft are finally in.

New Business:

- A. Due to Jay Sanders' recent resignation from the Board, Glenn Mitchell was nominated and unanimously approved to fill the vacancy. There will be a request of the membership at the November general meeting for a volunteer to take over the Regalia (shirts, hats, etc.).

- B. Willis reported that a nursery on Tanque Verde will be adding a permanent garden railroad, He offered them TGRS resources. He also noted they have a meeting room that may be available to us.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
 Gina Blackwell

**TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY
 MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
 November 13, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Norm Ulmer, at 3:00 PM. Gary and Peggy Martin were thanked for hosting the meeting.

There were no guests present, but John Lawrence was introduced as a new member.

The minutes of the previous meeting (October, 2010) were approved as published in the newsletter.

There was no Vice-President's report.

The Treasurer's Report:

1. Total on deposit: \$35,508.21
2. Revenues from 10/10/10: \$201.46
3. Expenses from 9/12/10: \$831.46 (includes power supplies for children's module)
4. Net revenues from 9/12: -\$630.00
5. Total dues paid for 2010-11: \$2,455.00 (13 unpaid members to date)

The Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

Jack Forgues reported that there are no new clinics scheduled until possibly January, 2011.

The Editor (Jim Miller) asked the host families for pictures from the Nov. 6th ABTO open house tour.

There was no Education Committee report.

The Maintenance Committee (Gary Martin) reported that there are three engines newly repaired and ready to go back into service.

Thorne Pierce announced that the Tucson Botanical Gardens' Luminaria Nights would take place on December 3-5. No volunteer staffing is needed, but all are welcome to attend.

Ibby Ulmer reported the addition of two new members.

There was no Social Committee report, but it was noted that the next social event is scheduled for 11/18 at the Red Garter Saloon.

Old Business:

A. A number of future projects are currently under consideration. New to the list is the possibility of installing a permanent layout at the new children's wing to be built at Tucson Medical Center.

B. TGRS logo cars are still available for sale at \$40 each.

C. Velcro closures are now installed on the transmitters to facilitate battery removal and installation.

D. Due to safety concerns, grounded power supplies for the children's layout have been purchased. They should be ready for use at St. Mark's.

E. It was announced that the Board of Directors had approved the appointment of Glenn Mitchell to complete Jay Sanders' term. Any members wishing to serve on the Board were asked to submit their names to Dick Izen for the upcoming elections.

F. Glenn Mitchell reported that the Rails in the Garden 2011 tour will include at least three Saddlebrook layouts and others on the west side of Tucson, plus the Martins' layout. More volunteers are needed to help the hosts.

New Business:

A. Ruth Taylor has agreed to take over the sale of the shirts and caps (Regalia).

B. Madeline Cook reported that she has donated several of her miniatures to The Mini-Time Machine Museum of Miniatures. All club members are invited to a celebratory wine and cheese reception on December 16 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Reservations are required and anyone wishing to attend must call 881-0606.

C. Ken Zacharias announced that he has rolling stock for sale.

D. Ken Karrels announced the upcoming 6th Annual Holiday Express at the Transportation Museum on Dec. 11 from 11 AM until 2 PM (Santa will arrive at Noon). The Polar Express will be the movie shown outdoors that evening.

E. The ABTO Christmas Open House Tour will take place on 12/11, 12/12, 12/18 and 12/19. Eleven layouts will be open each night and donations for the Children's Hospital in Phoenix will be accepted. For more information contact www.azbigtrains.org

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Gina Blackwell

Inexpensive (Cheap) Rolling Stock

By Dick Izen

Over the years, the NMRA has offered rolling stock lettered for various famous model railroads. Currently they are trying to get rid of excess stock and are offering the G cars for \$15 each, plus shipping. These are brand new USA cars (a couple of them are by Roundhouse, as noted in the list below) just as they come from the manufacturer.

They can be run with the model railroad names and logos. I plan to pick up a few and repaint them for my Sleepy Hollow railroad.

If any of you are interested in piggybacking on my order (they offer free shipping on orders of 20 or more cars) please contact me with your \$15. I will be at the December 4 club party and will take orders there.

This is what is available (but quantities may be limited):

From USA Trains

40' Steel Box Car with sliding doors
(Texas & Rio Grande Western, Alturas & Lone Pine, Bent Spaghetti Lines, Platteville & Calamine, Canandaigua Southern, and Gibraltar Railroad)

40' Wood Outside Braced Box Car with sliding doors
(Glencoe & Skokie Valley)

40' Wood Box Car with sliding doors
(Crooked Mountain Lines)

40' Wood Ice Refrigerator Car with hinged doors
(Hollywood & Western, Hardscrabble & Great Divide, and Virginian & Ohio)

40' Work Flat Car (Davies Steel)

3 Bay Hopper Car (Susquehanna Northern)

From Roundhouse

40' Steel Refrigerator (2003 NMRA Maple Leaf Convention)

40' Steel Box Car with sliding doors (NMRA 60th Anniversary)

At this price we have a great opportunity to add to our rolling stock.

Want Ads

For sale Dremel 1830 18" scroll saw mounted on stand. The saw retails for \$182.95 and the stand \$40.00. New condition. Asking \$150.00
Call Jay Sanders at 520 731-1999.

A Big Welcome to New Members

Joel R. Lapointe in Marana is our newest member. He is currently building a not yet named Narrow Gauge Railway modeled after the era from the 1890s to 1920s. John Lawrence was introduced at the November meeting at the Martin's open house.

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:

Ibby Ulmer
4935 N. Craycroft Road
Tucson, AZ 85718

Calendar of Events

Dec 4	Christmas Party	Noon
Dec 27-30	VA Hospital	
Jan 5-9	Arizona State Home Show	Tucson Convention Center
Jan 15	Gadsden Pacific Swap Meet	
Jan 22	Bruce and Pat Somerhalder	1:00 p.m.
Feb 19	Rincon Country West	1:00 p.m.
Mar 12-13	Rails in the Garden tour	
Mar 19	Tucson Botanical Gardens	
Apr 14-24	Pima County Fair	Proposed set-up on Apr 6 th

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:.....Gina Blackwell...520-322-5033	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

Tucson Garden Railway Society
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