



Tucson Garden Railway Society's

Time Table

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

Editor e-mail: jmiller66@cox.net

June 2011

**Just a reminder,
there is no meeting in June
due to the National Convention**

Membership Renewal Time is Here

Current membership expires on June 30.
Membership renewal for the 2011/12 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

MONTHLY SOCIAL LUNCHEON

Ready to celebrate the first day of summer? Actually I think for most of us in the heat of Tucson it is the day to have a beer (or more) and think of air conditioned places to hang out, and where the shade trees are in the Costco parking lot. But celebrate we will; at The RED GARTER Saloon for lunch. The date is Tuesday June 21st. The Red Garter is located at 3143 E Speedway. Pool players arrive at 11 a.m. and lunch only folks at 11:45. Come Join Us! Call Chuck Cook at 977-7673 with any questions.

Remaining TGRS Clinics for 2011

Tucson Botanical Gardens, Saturday, June 11,

2011.

Location: 2150 N. Alvernon Way

Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Subject: Body mounting Kadee couplers on locomotives and rolling stock.

Presented by: **Dick Izen, to be held in the SAHBA Pavilion.**

At the Martin residence, Saturday, July 9, 2011.

Location: 4625 E. Cerro de Aguila.

Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Subject: Locomotive and rolling stock maintenance.

Presented by: **Gary Martin**

Tucson Botanical Gardens, Saturday, August 13,

2011.

Location: 2150 N. Alvernon Way

Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Subject: Building a battery car.

Presented by: **Nick Buchholz, to be held in a classroom.**

The clinic scheduled for Saturday, September 10,

2011 at the Forgues residence had to be

cancelled.

Tucson Botanical Gardens, Saturday, October

15, 2011.

Location: 2150 N. Alvernon Way

Time: First clinic, 8:00am to 11:00 am and the

Second clinic, 11:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Subject: Building with Precision Board products.

Presented by: **Rainbow Ridge, to be held in the SAHBA Pavilion.**

Contact Jack Forgues/ Clinic Coordinator at 818-9598 or jr4qus@wbhsi.net.

If you have any questions or if you would like to sign-up for a particular clinic.

Clinic

Body Mounting Kadee Couplers

On Saturday, June 11 from 9 a.m. to noon

Dick Izen will present a Tucson Garden Railway Society clinic on how to body mount Kadee couplers on locomotives and rolling stock. The clinic will

include a discussion of the reasons to change couplers and the benefits of body mounting as opposed to the truck mounted couplers with which most cars are sold. The clinic will cover techniques and the tools needed. Examples of 9 cars and three locomotives from seven different manufacturers will be shown. Among the examples will be two transition cars used to allow multiple types of couplers in a single train.

Body Mounting Kadee Couplers Clinic By Dick Izen

On June 11, from 9 am to about noon, at the Tucson Botanic Gardens we will have a clinic on how to body mount Kadee couplers on locomotives and rolling stock. It will include a discussion of the pros and cons of changing couplers and the benefits of body mounting as opposed to the truck mounted couplers with which most cars are sold. We will discuss the techniques and the tools needed.

Examples of nine cars and three locomotives from various different manufacturers will be displayed (see list below). The freight cars will show how to get consistent coupler height with different floor levels and construction. The locomotives will be used to demonstrate the mounting of Kadee's specially designed fully functional operating front couplers.

Among the examples of freight cars will be two transition cars used to allow multiple types of couplers in a single train. While consistent couplers are desirable, transition cars allow you to avoid the cost of having to convert all of your cars at one time. They also allow you to interoperate with other people's cars.

Please note that while you are free to handle the cars, this will be more of a show and tell clinic than a hands-on, or make and do clinic. I plan to bring the following cars and locomotives:

Freight Cars

Aristocraft (Transition Car)	3 dome tank car
Bachmann	Wood Box Car
	(Sleepy Hollow RR)
Charles Ro (very early USA Trains)	
	Refrigerator Car (Pacific Fruit Express)
Delton	Refrigerator Car (Colorado & Southern)
LGB	Refrigerator Car (Tiffany)
LGB (Transition Car)	Beer Barrel Tank Car
Scratch Built	Composite Box Car
	(Sleepy Hollow RR)
USA Trains (early)	Steel Box Car
	(Sleepy Hollow RR)
USA Trains (Ultimate Series)	Steel Box Car
	(Santa Fe)

Locomotives (Specialized Front Coupler examples)

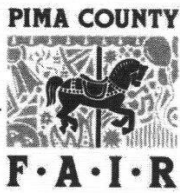
Bachmann	4-6-0 (Ten Wheeler)
LGB	2-6-0 (Mogul)
LGB	2-6-6-2 (Sumpter Valley)

Clinic on Scratch Building Rolling Stock By Jack Forgues

On Saturday, May 14, 2011, fifteen members of the TGRS met at the Fairfield Recreation Center to attend a clinic on Scratch Building Rolling Stock, presented by Norm Ulmer. Each person at the clinic was given a four page outline on how to build a car from start to finish. The first thing we talk about was the type of tools and material, such as various thickness of styrene plastic sheets and shapes, different types of glues, paints needed to build and finish a freight car. Also Ozark Miniatures would be a good source for various small detail castings used for grab bars, brake wheels, nuts, bolts and washers.



We all followed along with our outlines as Norm explained in detail how to build the various components used in rolling stock such as box cars, cattle cars and reefers. Generally these are the types of cars typically found on model railroads. The next step would be to paint the car in your choice of colors. Now add the details to the car, such as push plates, corner braces, nuts, bolts, washers, brake wheels after painting the details in contrasting color. Next add decals and lettering of your choice. Finally add the couplers and trucks and you have a great car for your railroad. I'm sure everyone enjoyed the clinic as much as I did. I want to thank Norm for putting on such great clinic on scratch building rolling stock.



May 10, 2011

Tucson Garden Railway Society
Willis Fagg
12440 E Avenue de la Vista Verde
Tucson, AZ 85749

Dear Willis:

Thank you for being part of the Pima County Fair. It has been great working with you and I hope to see you next year. I felt your group did a great job and was very enjoyable to work with. I hope that your staff enjoyed the fair. It was fun to have your group with us again.

Thank you for making our 2011 Pima County Fair a great success!

Sincerely,

Peggy Bauernfeind
Manager Old Pueblo Hall

SOUTHWESTERN FAIR COMMISSION, INC.

11300 S. HOUGHTON ROAD
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85747 - 9755
INFORMATION LINE 762-FAIR (3247)
520-762-9100 • FAX 520-762-5005
www.pimacountyfair.com

We received this nice letter from Peggy Bauernfeind Manager Old Pueblo Hall at the Southwestern Fair Commission

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH
Tucson Garden Railway Society (TGRS)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

May 19, 2011 at the home of Norm & Ibbby Ulmer

Present were: Norm Ulmer, Ibbby Ulmer, Willis Fagg, Ruth Taylor, Jim Miller, Nick Buchholz, Jack Forgues, Glenn Mitchell, Barry Blackwell, and Gina Blackwell

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

The Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

1. Total on deposit: \$36,447.
2. Revenues from 03/19/11: \$1,379.
3. Expenses from 03/19/11: \$4,797.
4. Net revenues from 03/19/11: -\$3,418.
5. Total dues paid for 2011-12: \$120.

The Board determined that the CD that matured on 5/16 should be placed on deposit for two years to earn a better interest rate.

Vice-President's Report:

The Toy Train swap meet will be June 4th. We will need someone to pull the trailer. Bob Schwab has asked to run his circus train on the children's layout. Signup for setup, shifts and take down will be requested at the May meeting.

We will be unable to participate at the Home Show in June (6/3-6/5) due to the conflict with the swap meet.

ABTO layout tour in Phoenix will take place either on 11/12 or 11/13.

The club has received a thank you letter from the Pima County Fair – to be published in the Newsletter.

The next scheduled meetings are as follows:

- (no meetings in June or July)
- Aug. 20 – Dr. White at Cairndu
- Sept. 17 – Forgues
- Oct. 18 – Coburn
- Nov. 19 – Martin

Editor's Report:

Jim Miller will be going out of town and needs all minutes and articles by Tuesday, 5/24.

Committee Reports:

There were no reports from the *Education*, *Maintenance* or *Social Committees*.

Clinics: The Rainbow Ridge clinic signup for October at the Tucson Botanical Gardens is filled with a waiting list. Extension cords will be needed. Participants will be asked to bring their Dremel grinders. The first clinic will begin at 08:00 AM and the second will start at 11:30 and must end by 02:30 PM due to a wedding.

Signup sheets for the other four scheduled clinics will be available at the general meeting on Saturday.

Membership: There are currently 95 paid club families.

Mentoring: There is one request for help and Nick Buchholz has volunteered. There was some discussion about instituting a "welcome wagon" type of visitation for new members to help get them started with a layout.

In the absence of the *Social Committee* chairman, Nick mentioned that the National Train Day event was fun, the food was good, the trains were interesting, but the parking was a problem.

Old Business:

- A. The booster antenna for the Diamond Children's Medical Center installation still needs to be ordered. There is a problem with the supplier. The camera is now off. We may need to re-think the battery system.
- B. New Project Suggestions still under consideration include:
The new Tucson Medical Center children's wing layout design is in process. A number of valve boxes have been installed in the patio designated for the layout and this has made coming up with a final plan very difficult.

There has been no update from the Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS) regarding a permanent layout.
- C. Election of Officers: The slate is complete. There was some discussion regarding the complex Vice President duties and the possibility of setting up a sub-committee to help.
- D. Glenn Mitchell reported that up to \$120 in parts/equipment will be needed to modify the Tucson Botanical Gardens layout controls. The second loop is running. The equipment enclosure has been purchased and needs to be installed.
- E. The modification of the Children's Museum layout is on track for completion soon.
- F. The switching module layout is nearing completion – needs ballast.

New Business:

Nick presented a list of suggestions for module equipment, improvements, and additions. It has been proposed that we find a venue large enough (the Expo Center?) to serve as a workshop where club members could work in teams to repair and update the modules. There was some discussion about selling lots on the town modules to try and get more members interested in the project. We will also look into purchasing another large trailer as the medium-sized one is not very practical for our needs.

Dick Izen has been authorized to purchase a folding pavilion for use at outdoor events.

The Board decided to purchase Bob Schwab's circus train (eleven cars plus engines) for \$1000.

This could be used in part or whole on the TMC layout and/or the children's layout.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Gina Blackwell

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**TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
May 21, 2011**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Norm Ulmer, at 10:00 AM. Glenn and Janet Mitchell were thanked for hosting the meeting. There were approximately 36 attendees.

There were no guests or new members present.

The minutes of the March 2011 meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

The Vice-President's Report:

The swap meet is scheduled for June 4th – we need volunteers. Gary Martin signed up for all day and to drive the trailer to and from the event. Setup will begin at 7 AM. See Willis to let him know which shift you will be able to staff, 7-11:30 or 11-3:30.

The next scheduled general meetings are as follows: (No meetings in June or July)

- Aug. 20 – Dr. White at Cairndu (he will need a head count)
- Sept. 17 – Forgues
- Oct. 18 – Coburn
- Nov. 19 – Martin

The ABTO layout tour in Phoenix will take place either on 11/12 or 11/13. A show of hands indicated that 11/12 is the date preferred by those members present.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

1. Total on deposit: \$36,447.
2. Revenues from 03/19/11: \$1,379.
3. Expenses from 03/19/11: \$5,090.
4. Net revenues from 03/19/11: -\$3,613.
5. Total dues paid for 2011-12: \$120.

Ruth also has a new supply of shirts, decals, and club logo patches for sale.

The Editor's Report:

Jim Miller will be going out of town and needs all minutes and articles by Tuesday, 5/24.

Committee Reports:

Clinics: There are five (5) clinics scheduled. The two Rainbow Ridge clinics for October 15 are full with a waiting list. This event will take place at the Tucson Botanical Gardens in the pavilion. Participants are

asked to bring their Dremel tools, other materials will be supplied. The other clinics still available include: 6/11 Couplers, 7/11 Maintenance on Locomotives and Rolling Stock, 8/13 Battery Cars, and 9/10 Creating Mountains. Contact Jack Forgues to sign up.

Education: Nothing new to report.

Maintenance: Nothing new to report.

Membership: We now have 95 member families. 2011-12 dues need to be sent to Ruth, not Ibby.

Mentoring: Nick has had one request for help that he will follow-up on himself.

Social: The picnic planned at Reid Park on April 2nd was a success. The National Train Day at Maynard's also went very well. The next social event will take place on 06/21, details to be announced. Another event in July on a weekend day is also in the planning stages.

OLD BUSINESS:

The design for the layout at Tucson Medical Center is in process but several valve boxes in the designated patio are an issue.

Nick is working on the UMC Diamond Children's Center battery circuit problem.

There is nothing new to report on a possible VA hospital layout.

The Tucson Botanical Gardens has doubled their track size. They are in need of 4-6 volunteers to stop by once a month on a Saturday for equipment maintenance and to run trains if they would like. This is tentatively scheduled to start on the last Saturday in June.

NEW BUSINESS:

The town in the modular layout needs refurbishing and possible expansion. We need volunteers for the project. It has been proposed that we "sell lots" to members to build on.

Dick Izen bought a portable pavilion for small outdoor venues.

It was announced that the Board had agreed to purchase the Schwabs' circus train in its entirety (11 cars plus engines).

Election of Officers and Board: (There were no nominations from the floor.)

President	Willis Fagg
Vice President	Ted Golembiewski
Secretary	Gina Blackwell
Treasurer	Ruth Taylor
Editor	Jim Miller
Past President	Norm Ulmer
At Large Members	Barry Blackwell,

Bob Conrad, Glenn Mitchell

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Gina Blackwell

A Big Welcome to New Members

We didn't have any new members join our Society in May.

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

Jun 4	Gadsden Pacific Swap Meet
Jun 18	Clinic; Mounting Kadee Couplers
Jun 21-27	National Garden Railway Convention - Kansas City
Jul 9	Clinic; Locomotive and Rolling Stock Maintenance
Aug 13	Clinic; Building a Battery Car
Aug 20	Meeting; Dr. White at Cairndu
Sep 10	Clinic; Building Mountains
Sep 17	Meeting; Jack & Rosalie Forgues

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
8132 E. Baker Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85710