



Tucson Garden Railway Society's

Time Table

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

Editor e-mail: editor@tucsongrs.org

April 2012

Announcement

There is no meeting scheduled for April as TGRS will be at the Pima County Fair To sign up to help please contact Pat Sommerhalder vicepresident@tucsongrs.org see you there.

President's Clatter

Once again we celebrate a successful Rails-in-the Garden event. Even more we celebrate that it's over for this year. While our attendance was down somewhat this year, I think we had many plusses not the least of which was the tireless effort of our organizers Janet and Glenn Mitchell along with the tireless help of Jerry Tulino. I would also like to thank the Mitchells' predecessors, Roy Eberbach and Bob and Phyllis Dirksen who pioneered the event.

Over the eight previous years of this event, Dottie and I had served as volunteers for seven of them but were never on the tour. We were always reluctant to host in that we were concerned about traffic and parking in our small development. Now that we have finally had that pleasure, I have a new level of respect for those who have been hosts all those years. Thanks again to all the hosts over the years and, for those who have never opened their layouts, it's something every member should experience.

In closing out this year's event, Glenn has requested that we find a replacement coordinator for the 2014 event. He (and Janet) will serve in that capacity for one more year before "retiring". This presents us with a great opportunity to have someone step up to serve as assistant for next year's event and learn the ropes before taking full responsibility. There's a lot of work involved in coordinating the event, but after nine years it's very well organized and any successor will find it easier going.

Finally, I am pleased with the County Fair sign-ups to date. In reviewing Pat's latest roster, most shifts are filled. There are, however, six shifts with only five volunteers and one shift with only four. If you have worked the fair, you know you can survive on four or five, but it is much more difficult to provide reasonable breaks. PLEASE take a look at the roster and volunteer for a shift or two where the needs exist. This is especially true if you are a new member or an existing member who has not yet signed up for other shifts. This is a great opportunity for new members to learn about our modular layout. Contact Pat Sommerhalder to sign up and get your tickets.

See you there.

Willis

MONTHLY SOCIAL LUNCHEON

We had a great turnout for the weekend luncheon at Maynard's at the Depot. Thirty-two souls braved traffic, street fairs, farmers markets and sun to lunch next to the trains. Of the folks there, I think only 4-5 were from the usual weekday luncheon crowd. Two ladies in the crowd won gift cards to Sonic for their beautiful Easter bonnets that also included a railroad theme. A thanks to Ken Karrels for a tour of the depot and museum after the lunch. We will skip a luncheon in April due to our heavy involvement with our display at the county fair. Look for a new lunch location to debut in May.

2012 Rails in the Garden Wrap-Up

The ninth annual Rails in the Garden Tour is now in our rear-view mirrors, so to speak, and it was another successful event! Attendance was good but down a little from the last two years – we sold approximately 1300 tickets. Again there were lots of compliments from our guests and no complaints that I heard. The weather cooperated and we had a beautiful spring weekend.

The Tucson Botanical Gardens was on the tour and sold tickets for us. That seems to be beneficial to both their organization and TGRS.

Our collection for the Community Food Bank was another success – TGRS members, guests and neighbors donated over 320 pounds of food and \$450 dollars for the food bank.

There were three winners in the door prize drawing. First prize was a new Bachmann “Thomas” starter set that we purchased from Upland Trains, and its winner is Jim Leach of Tucson.



Mr. Leach with the starter set.

Mr. Leach has grandchildren that will “definitely enjoy” the train. The second and third prizes were subscriptions to Garden Railways and were won by Nathan Larkin of Tucson and Jay Simon of Brainard, Minnesota.

A BIG Thank You to all that helped make this event a success!! I want to especially thank the hosts – Barry & Gina Blackwell, Mike & Jane Dorgan, Willis & Dottie Fagg, Rick & Sue Gast, Ken & Mary Karrels, Ryan MacCabe, Gary & Peggy Martin and Tucson Botanical Gardens (Thorne Pierce) – and our webmaster, Jerry Tulino for the excellent RITG website. According to the sign-up sheets, there were over 54 club members that assisted the layout hosts. Also there were family and friends helping at several layouts. Thank you all!!

2013 will be the tenth RITG so maybe we can do something special for that one.
Thanks again and keep smiling!

Glenn Mitchell

TGRS Clinic Schedule for 2012

TGRS is looking for a volunteer to take over the position of Clinic Coordinator, Jack Forgues is stepping down.

The May 12, 2012 clinic at the Koehler residence has been cancelled.

At the Martin residence, Saturday, June 09, 2012

Location: 4625 E. Cerro de Aguila, Tucson

Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Subject: Building artificial mountains with rebar, burlap and stucco mix.

Clinic Size: **20 participants maximum.**

Presented by: **Gary Martin**

At the Forgues residence, Saturday, July 14, 2012.

Location: 61786 E. Sandlewood Road, SaddleBrooke

Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Subject: Cladding metal buildings by Eaglewings Iron Craft with plastic material.

Cost per person: **\$20.00.**

Clinic Size: **4 participants maximum.**

Presented by: **Jack Forgues**

At the Martin residence, Saturday, September 8, 2012.

Location: 4625 E. Cerro de Aguila, Tucson

Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Subject: Building an Ozark Miniatures kit. The participants will be able to keep their project.

Cost: **\$25.00 to \$30.00** per person.

Clinic Size: **Must have 20 paid participants to hold clinic.**

Presented by: **Gary Martin**

Contact Jack Forgues at 818-9598 or jr4gus@wbhsi.net, If you have any questions or if you would like to sign-up for a particular clinic.

2012 West Coast Regional Meet - July 6, 7 & 8

The San Diego Garden Railway Society will be hosting this additional summer event that offers a series of Open Houses to all Garden Railway enthusiasts. The other scheduled event is the 28th Annual National Garden Railway Convention that will take place in Chicago, Illinois, the week of August 14-18, 2012.

Unlike Garden Railway Conventions, West Coast Regional Meets only have ‘self-guided tours’ of the Open Houses. We provide our visitors with a Tour Guide, which will include daily schedules, maps and descriptions of our garden layouts. These will be obtained through our online Registration at: sdgrs.com and bonitagardentrains@cox.net and will be available by April 1, 2012. There is not a ‘host’ hotel and there will be no tour buses provided. Scheduled to be open Friday, July 6, will be our member’s garden railways located in San Diego’s Southern, our Central and East County. Saturday, July 7, the Open Houses will be on San Diego’s Pacific Coast, inland to the east and will

extend into our North County. Also in the plans, we will have for our Members and Visitors, an optional, pay for banquet at The Old Poway Park, and rides with their steam engine.

Sunday's Open Houses will include more of our North County member's layouts, then further north, our visitors will see garden railroads in Riverside County and an opportunity to visit the Los Angeles County Fairplex Railroad in Pomona. Returning south towards San Diego, a couple of the Orange County Garden Railways Society members are opening their garden layouts to our guests.

For current information or questions, email to bonitagardentrains@cox.net or call Gene Cook at 619-948-1467 and 619-479-9164.

(See page 5 for Application)

TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

March 13, 2012 at the home of Barry and Gina Blackwell

Present were: Willis Fagg, Pat and Bruce Somerhalder, Ruth Taylor, Norm Ulmer, Bob Conrad, Glenn Mitchell, Gary Martin, and Barry and Gina Blackwell. The Blackwells were thanked for hosting the meeting.

The minutes of the February Board of Directors' meeting were approved as published in the newsletter with the exception of the corrected spelling for Werner Kroebig.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

Vice-President's Report:

Old Tucson event had mixed reviews from the membership but was well received by the visitors.

The County Fair shifts are almost filled.

The swap meet venue has changed to the Expo Center. The next one is scheduled for June 2, with setup on June 1. Future swap meet dates are November 3 and January 12.

Fountain of Life School event – sometime in November, more information is needed.

The Editor was absent; no report.

Committee Reports

Clinics: The chairman was absent, no report.

Education: Nothing new to report.

Maintenance: Gary has one engine to repair.

Membership/Website: The chairman was absent; no report. According to Ruth Taylor, there are 91 member families.

Mentor: The chairman was absent; no report. Willis has made contact with the Montessori school on the northeast side of town regarding help in setting up solar power for their layout. More to follow.

Social: The chairman was absent; no report. The next event is a luncheon at Maynard's Market on 03/24.

OLD BUSINESS:

Norm reported that the TMC Project is still delayed due to the irrigation needing repair. He is working on getting sound in the steam engine.

Rails in the Garden (RITG): Glenn reported that more than 50 club members volunteered and we had a great turnout for the event. Ticket sales and attendance were down slightly, but still good. More than 300 pounds of food and \$452 in cash/checks was donated to the Community Food Bank and, due to the amount of past-expiration-date food donated, it has been suggested that only monetary donations be accepted next year.

We still need to find work space in order to refurbish the town portion of the modular layout and the two trailers.

The volunteer recognition and incentive program was discussed as presented by Norm and Pat. The Board approved a measure to move forward to finalize costs. Norm Ulmer was named Awards Chairman.

It was suggested that a shift manager or team leader be designated for each shift at the County Fair.

NEW BUSINESS:

The ABTO Tucson tour will be November 10 – Chuck Cook will coordinate the event.

It has been suggested that we may wish to volunteer for pledge drives at our local PBS station whenever there is a railroad-related program. This will be discussed at the general meeting.

A crew from Tracks Ahead filmed the Martins' layout on March 8 for a future program.

A RITG visitor sent photos of her son viewing one of the layouts and has given permission for their use in a future promotion if we would like.

The next General Meeting will be at the Tucson Botanical Gardens on 3/17. The next Board Meeting will be April 5, 7 PM at the Ulmers.

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
March 17, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Willis Fagg, at 1:00 PM. The Tucson Botanical Gardens, and especially Thorne Pierce, were thanked for hosting. There were approximately 46 attendees present.

Steve Swanson, Barbara Vollandt and Durham McCormick were welcomed as new members. Rick Gast's mother was welcomed as a guest.

The minutes of the February 2012 meeting were approved as published in the Newsletter.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

1. Total on deposit: \$34,127.
2. Revenues from 02/10/12: \$5,059.
3. Expenses from 02/10/12: \$886.
4. Net revenues from 02/10/12: \$4,173.
5. Total dues paid for 2011/12: \$2,528.

Vice-President's Report:

The Old Tucson event went well, but was not a good venue for RITG tickets due to the out-of-town visitors.

Sign up for the Pima County Fair is good, but more volunteers for tear down are needed. Setup is April 12. Parking passes and badges were available for those who had already signed up.

The swap meet is scheduled for June 1 (setup only from Noon until 2 PM) and June 2.

The May general meeting will be at the Somerhalder's and the June meeting at the Faggs.

Editor's Report:

Jim stated that the articles and pictures received from the members are great and reminded us that they are due by the 25th of the month.

Committee Reports:

Clinics: The Chairman was absent; no report. Gary Martin stated that the Ozark Miniatures clinic is full. He offered to purchase more kits for any interested members at the 35% off price. He has also scheduled a mountain-making clinic for June 9 at 9 AM. See him to sign up.

Education: There have been no new requests.

Maintenance: Gary stated that the B unit needs maintenance.

Membership/Website: There are currently 92 active member families. Pictures from the TMC project are now on the website.

Mentor: Willis and Ken Karrels are working with a Montessori school in setting up solar power for their layout.

Social: No report. The next scheduled event is Saturday, 3/24 at Maynard's Market. Contact Chuck Cook to sign up.

OLD BUSINESS:

Norm Ulmer reported that the TMC project is in and running except for the circus.

Glenn Mitchell reported the 2012 Rails In The Garden to be a success. Fifty-plus member volunteers and hosts combined to make everything work in very smooth order. More than 300 pounds in food and \$452 in cash/check donations were collected for the Community Food Bank.

Madelyn Cook reported that the director of the Mini Time Machine Museum toured some of the RITG layouts and enjoyed them very much. Madelyn stated that those members who are donating buildings, equipment, etc. need to complete an insurance form. Setup is scheduled for April 23 at 10:30 AM. Members may drop off donated items at Madelyn's if unable to be at the Museum for setup.

NEW BUSINESS:

The ABTO Tucson tour will be November 10. It is hoped that 6 or 7 layouts will be open and that they are different from those open for the last ABTO tour.

A show of hands indicated that the majority of club members would be interested in volunteering to help at a pledge week event for our local PBS station.

The membership has been invited to a night run of trains at the Rincon Country West layout. The date is March 26 at 6 PM.

The next general meeting will be May 19 at Pat and Bruce Somerhalder's home – trains to run at 9 AM and the meeting to start at 10 AM

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

Respectfully submitted,
Gina Blackwell



REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE 2012 WEST COAST REGIONAL MEET - JULY 6-8

Individual, Family Or Group: _____ \$25.00 Postmarked Before May 1, 2012
 _____ \$30.00 Postmarked May 1, 2012 And After
 _____ # Of Individuals Attending With This Registration

The 2012 WEST COAST REGIONAL MEET Tour Book Will Be Mailed To You Before June 25, 2012

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip Code _____
 Phone # _____ Cell # _____
 Email Address _____

BANQUET AT THE OLD POWAY PARK - SATURDAY - JULY 7, 2012 - 3:00 TO 5:30

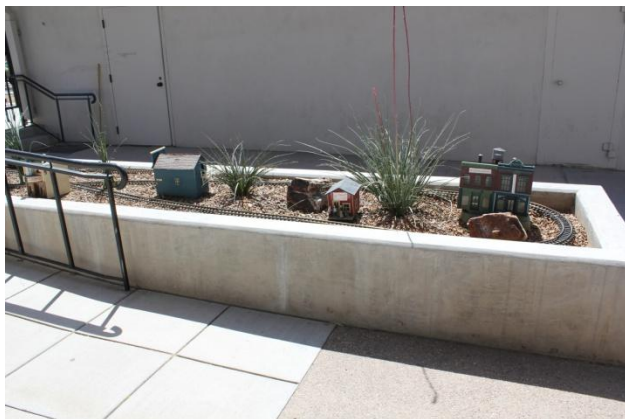
Individual Price \$28.00 X ___ # of Guests = \$ _____ Enclosed With Registration Fee
 Sliced Tri-Tip Beef & Chicken Combo, Two Side Dishes, Bread, Dessert, And Drinks
 Childrens Menu Will Be Available For Ages Under 10, \$6.00
 Located At The 'Hamburger Factory', 14122 Midland Road, Poway, California 92064
 Includes Rides With The Old Poway Park 1907 Baldwin 0-4-0 Steam Locomotive And Tender

Mail Registration Form, With Payment Made Out To: San Diego Garden Railway Society

Gene Cook - 2012 WCRM
 1029 Surrey Drive
 Bonita, California 91902-2426

For Questions Concerning Registration, Call Gene Cook At: 619-479-9164
 Or Email To: bonitagardentrains@cox.net Returned Check Fee \$35.00

**TGRS Luncheon
 Maynard's at the Depot**



The Southern Arizona Transportation Museum has their own Garden Railway.



Everyone enjoyed the tour of Locomotive 1673



Members enjoying the tour of the Depot

A Big Welcome to New Members

Durham McCormick, he lives on the East side of Tucson.

Steve Swanson & Barbara Vollandt, they live in Green Valley.

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, 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 e-mails 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:

Jerry Tulino
6911 E. Baker St.
Tucson, AZ 85710

Calendar of Events

Apr 12-30	Pima County Fair with Set Up and Take Down
May 19	Monthly Meeting: Pat and Bruce Somerhalder's
Jun 2	Gadsden Pacific Swap Meet
Jun 9	Clinic: Gary Martin Building Artificial Mountains
Jun 16	Monthly Meeting: to be determined
Jul 14	Clinic: Cladding Metal Buildings
Aug 14-19	National Garden Railway Convention
Sep 8	Clinic: Ozark Minatures G-Scale Kit

TGRS Officers and Board of Directors

President: Willis Fagg..president@tucsongrs.org	At Large Board Members
V-President: Pat Sommerhalder..vicepresident@tucsongrs.org	NormUlmer.memberatlarge4@tucsongrs.org
Secretary: Gina Blackwell. secretary@tucsongrs.org	BarryBlackwell.memberatlarge1@tucsongrs.org
Treasurer: Ruth Taylor.treasurer@tucsongrs.org	BobConrad..memberatlarge2@tucsongrs.org
Editor: Jim Miller.editor@tucsongrs.org	Glen Mitchel memberatlarge3@tucsongrs.org

Tucson Garden Railway Society
8132 E. Baker Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85710