



Tucson Garden Railway Society's

Time Table

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

Editor e-mail: editor@tucsongrs.org

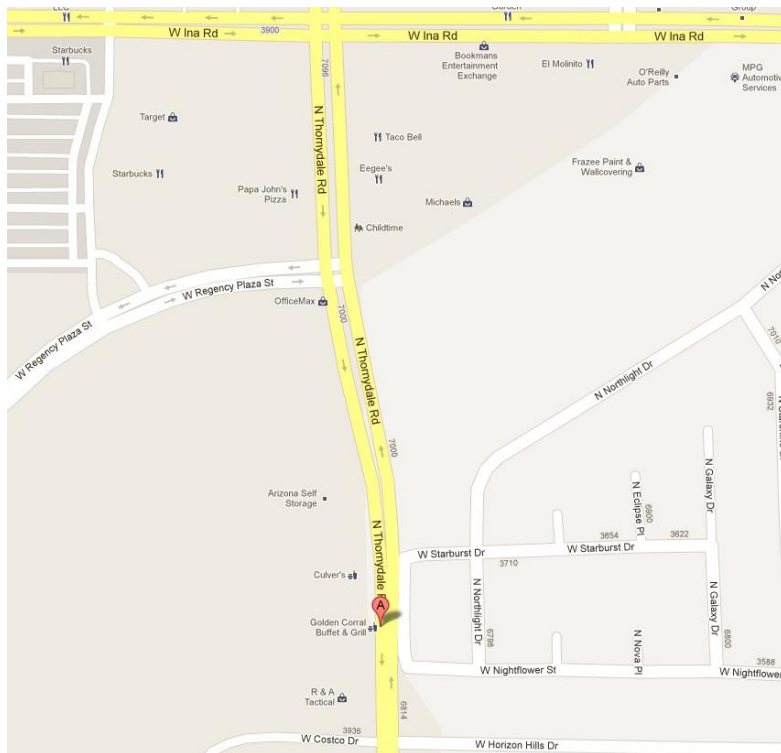
December 2012

Our meeting for December is our annual TGRS CHRISTMAS/HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

The annual holiday luncheon will be at the Golden Corral Buffet, on Saturday, December 1st, 2012 at noon. The cost per person will be \$11.00 The Golden Corral is located at 6865 N. Thornydale Road, Tucson, 520-544-0350.

Ruth Taylor 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 or email her in advance** to make your reservation.

(520) 908-1312 or taylor1985@comcast.net



Getting to The Golden Corral

Southbound on Thornydale: Cross Ina, cross the CDO wash, turn right into the parking lot.

Northbound on Thornydale: Cross Orange Grove, cross Costco Dr., turn left at the next light, which is Horizon Hills Dr. Then turn IMMEDIATELY right in to the parking lot in front of 2 businesses and a bank and you are then at Golden Corral.

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 "railroad inspired" gift per family with a limit of \$20.
- Steals are limited to two and no person can have more than two gifts taken from them.

In addition to the gift exchange the first Membership Recognition awards will be distributed.

President's Clatter

November is over and we've already had a couple of great events. The touring members of ABTO were very appreciative of the layouts offered for display and indeed we had a couple that had never been shown before. I would, once again, like to thank those who opened their layouts for the tour. For members with layouts that have no real opportunity, because of parking access or limited yard space to host a meeting, I suggest you consider the ABTO tour that we will again host in two years. Gary's open house, our second November event was well attended in spite of the El Tour conflict during the first hour or so. We had a great turn out for the meeting.

After going through our normal dip in membership during the annual renewal period, we are once again showing a healthy recovery of our membership numbers, including three new additions to our membership this month.

Looking forward, we have the VA on the horizon. I noticed that the sign-ups for set-up and teardown are still a little short. This is a great opportunity for new members to get to know our modular layout. Pat will be making her final plea, so please sign up.

At the November meeting, the membership agreed that if we don't have a firm commitment for the home show by December 1, we would not participate. I must caution you to be prepared for a sign up scramble should that deadline be met.

We also have one other activity coming up in December that will require a little effort. The Rodeo Parade Museum project will need to be operational no later than December 31. Jeff Tobin is working with the rodeo parade folks to determine when the platform will be available so track laying can be done. This is a relatively small project and will require only a few volunteers so be ready when Jeff calls.

We now have a tentative schedule for the Michael Broggie presentations. Mark your calendars for April 13 if you're interested in hearing a great presentation of Walt Disney and his dedication to the trains that became one of the driving forces behind the creation of Disneyland.

Finally (and by no means insignificant), Chuck and Debbie Cook have come forward to take over the leadership of Rail in the Garden for 2014. They will be looking for help to make the overall task easier, so let them know if you are available.

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and are well prepared for the year end holidays and events.

Willis

LUMINARIA NIGHTS

Tucson Botanical Gardens
December 7,8, 9 from 5:30 pm to 8 PM

As in previous years, a few volunteers from TGRS will be needed to help set up the luminaries and monitor the train layout during the event. A sign-up sheet will be available at the November meeting.

The Southern Arizona Transportation Museum

*Presents it's "8th Annual Holiday Express
Down at the Train Depot
With Santa"*

- **Join** in Holiday singing
- **Write** letters to the North Pole:
- With help from the Tucson Postal History Museum Elves.
- **Look** at the museum's exhibits, new live action displays
- **With operating model trains.**
- **Listen** to a reading of the *Polar Express*

- And see the movie in the afternoon*
 - **Photo** with Santa in front of Locomotive 1673
 - (the star of the movie "Oklahoma")
- . STOP and LOOK** at the Art in the AMTRAK Lobby

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|------|---------------------------|-------|-------|
| FREE | FAMILY | FUN | DEPOT |
| DATE | December 15, 2012 | | |
| DAY | Saturday | | |
| TIME | 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM | | |
| ADDR | 414 N Toole, Tucson | 85701 | |
| TELE | 623-2223 | | |

There is plenty of FREE Parking on Saturday around the Train Depot

*** 2:00 PM, PLAYING AT THE FOX THEATER ***

SEE THE **POLAR EXPRESS** MOVIE

www.TucsonHistoricDepot.org

Chef for a Day Ronald McDonald House



The whiteboard welcoming TGRS

Saturday, October 27th was the "Chef for a Day" day for TGRS. Several members arrived at the Ronald McDonald House at 8am and setup the "Children's Layout" at one end of the dining room. This group included Ryan McCabe (who again was there for setup and spent the entire day), Charlie McCabe, Chuck Taylor, Jerry Tulino and Chuck's neighbor Dennis. After a few missteps we were able to get it all assembled and running. We spent the rest of the day "playing" with the trains and helping the few house guests enjoy them too. Later in the day the "Chef" volunteers arrived. These included Gina Blackwell, Jackie and Bob Conrad, Debbie and Chuck Cook, Willis and Dottie Fagg, Maxine and Billie Joplin, Melissa Halpern, Ruth Taylor, Rita Tulino, Ibbly and Norm Ulmer and Pat and Ken Zacharias. Also Peggy and Gary Martin were not

able to attend but did make a donation for the dinner. We livened up the area with some festive decorations and then everyone got down to "chef work". A terrific Italian feast was prepared consisting of beverages, several salads, entrees of Pizza, Chicken Cacciatore, Baked Ziti, multiple versions of Lasagna, great Italian bread, Pumpkin cookies and a Halloween cake. After the house guests had eaten we all sat down to enjoy the fruits of our labors. Any food that was not consumed was stored in the refrigerators for everyone to enjoy later. Cleanup of the kitchen and tear-down of the layout went without any problem and we left around 7pm. We enjoyed the day, feel fortunate to be able to participate in this program and look forward to our next "Chef for a Day". As a special thank-you, the staff at Ronald McDonald House gave us a beautiful train-themed quilt that was hand-made for them. We have decided that we'll raffle it off at the Christmas party and donate the proceeds back to Ronald McDonald House. Thank you again to everyone who helped make this a successful day.

Jerry

2013 Rails In The Garden Layout Tour

I guess time flies when you're having fun. It's already time to start planning for next year's RITG which will be our 10th annual tour. For 2013 we have moved the tour ahead to the first weekend in March. The RITG dates are March 2nd and March 3rd. The tour is back on the (mostly) west side of town for 2013, and we a full slate of eight layouts signed-up. Hosts that have agreed to have their layouts open for 2013's tour include:

Buchholz / Ker
Carmicheal
Eberbach's
Lynn's
Martin's
Mitchell's
Rincon Country West RV Resort Club
Toy Train Operators Museum

As part of next year's tour we will again support the Community Food Bank. However, we will collect cash/check donations only and not collect food donations. This simplifies post-tour logistics and the Food Bank prefers cash donations as it allows them to purchase food items that they most need. Hopefully, our guests and neighbors can be as generous as in 2012 when we collected over \$450 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/maps will be available to TGRS members at

the TGRS Christmas party on December 1st. If you have questions or comments, please call or email.

Thanks and keep smiling!
Glenn Mitchell

TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

November 15, 2012 at the Home of Norm and Ibbey Ulmer

Present were: Willis Fagg, Ruth Taylor, Norm Ulmer, Glenn Mitchell, and Barry and Gina Blackwell. The Ulmers were thanked for hosting the meeting.

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

The Treasurer's Report was approved as amended. (See November General Meeting minutes for report.)

Vice-President's Report:

In the Vice-President's absence, Willis reported on the following:

1. The ABTO tour seemed to go well and on time.
2. The Holiday Party is all set for the Golden Corral on 12/01.
3. VA display signup going well. Need drivers.
4. January Home Show commitment still pending.
5. The children's layout is all set for St. Mark's for 12/3-5.

The Editor's Report: No report; the Editor was absent.

Committee Reports

Clinics: No report.

Education: No report.

Maintenance: No report

Membership/Website: No report; the chair was absent. Per Ruth Taylor, 76 families are paid plus 4 life members, totaling 80.

Mentor: No report.

Social: No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Norm reported there are no TMC volunteers interested in maintaining the layout. A full-time TMC employee will be tasked with turning the layout on and off. In the meantime, a higher fence is planned for the enclosure.

There was some discussion about sound for the LGB mogul for the Rodeo Parade Museum project and whether we should purchase a spare engine and a wood versus coal tender? More information and research about the time period (1880's) is needed.

Again, the ABTO tour was reviewed as a success. Glenn Mitchell reported that the Rails in the Garden 2013 tour will feature 11 stops. He presented tickets incorporating the new design. There will be a short "Town Meeting" on the new modular layout at the Nov. 17th meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Joe Melhorn, an HO model railroader, is very knowledgeable about DCC control systems and may be available for a clinic on electrical controls, LEDs, etc.

Our club has been invited to the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park in Scottsdale for a BBQ and tour. Next year? After Rails in the Garden? To be presented to the membership on 11/17.

Willis has been in contact with Michael Broggie about the possibility of his giving his talk on the Disney Train. This will be presented to the general membership on 11/17.

The next general meeting is November 17 at the home of Gary and Peggy Martin.

The next scheduled Board Meeting is to be determined (Ruth Taylor to bring the cookies).

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 November 17, 2012

The meeting was called to order by the President, Willis Fagg, at 3 PM at the home of Gary and Peggy Margin. There were approximately 75 attendees present.

The Martins were thanked for hosting. There were new member signups present: Freeman and Rebecca Taber, Douglas Law, and Dean and Donna Mead.

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

The Treasurer's Report was approved as read.

1. Total on deposit: \$27,863.
2. Revenues from 10/19/12: \$356.
3. Expenses from 10/19/12: \$534.
4. Net revenues from 10/19/12: (\$178.)

Vice-President's Report:

The ABTO tour and the November swap meet both went very well.

The VA project still needs a driver and additional setup volunteers – a signup sheet was set out.

The January 4-6 Home Show commitment is still pending.

The Holiday Party will be 12/01, Noon, at the Golden Corral on Thorneysdale. Please see Ruth Taylor to sign up and pay for your meal.

Janet Mitchell is spearheading the St. Mark's event with the children's layout 12/3 to 12/5.

Editor's Report:

Jim Miller appreciates the articles and pictures sent in and would like more. He stated that the submission deadline for the January issue is 12/23.

Committee Reports:

Clinics: This committee is currently without a chairperson. No report.

Education: No report.

Maintenance: No report.

Membership/Website: Per Ruth Taylor we currently have 84 families.

Mentor: No new requests.

Social: The 20 ABTO club members that came down for the tour on 11/10 had good comments about all of the layouts seen. Chuck Cook thanked the hosts and volunteer helpers.

OLD BUSINESS:

Norm reported there are no TMC volunteers interested in maintaining the layout. A full-time TMC employee will be tasked with turning the layout on and off. In the meantime, a higher fence as well as a monitoring camera for the enclosure are now planned.

We will need buildings for the Rodeo Parade Museum layout. The space is approximately 17' x 20' in the 1880's era. The track has been purchased and rolling stock will be supplied by the club.

There were no maintenance issues reported for the other club projects.

The 2012 Christmas Open House ABTO Train Tours will be 12/8, 12/9, 12/15, and 12/16. This is a fund raiser for their club and to help support the maintenance of the Cardon Children's Medical Center layout. This is a nighttime, holiday-theme event.

The 2013 RITG will be March 2 and 3 and will have eleven stops. We need helpers for hosts so please contact the hosts as soon as possible to sign up.

The January Home Show is still pending.

NEW BUSINESS:

Our club has been invited to the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park in Scottsdale for a BBQ and tour. More information regarding signing up and possibly obtaining a bus for the trip is pending.

Willis has been in contact with Michael Broggie about the possibility of his giving his talk on the Disney Train at the Mini Time Machine Museum. The general membership agreed to the \$500 fee and Ken Karrels has agreed to provide lodging. The date is to be determined.

Information was provided about the “El Paso and Southwestern Railroad Centennial” at the depot to take place on 11/18.

The next general meeting will be at Noon at the December 1 Holiday Party at the Golden Corral on Thorneydale. Lunch will be \$11/person.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Gina Blackwell

TGRS at Gary and Peggy Martin’s Open House
Photos by the Miller Family



A Big Welcome to New Members

Our new members joined TGRS at the Martins Open House/November meeting.

Douglas Law

Dean & Donna Mead

Freeman Taber

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

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|-----------|---|
| Dec 1 | TGRS Christmas/Holiday Social |
| Dec 3-5 | St. Marks |
| Dec 7-9 | Luminaria Nights Tucson Botanical Gardens |
| Dec 26-28 | VA Display |
| Jan 2-7 | American Home Show Display |
| Jan 11&12 | Gadsden Pacific Swap Meet |
| Jan 17 | Board Meeting |
| Jan 19 | Monthly Meeting (TBD) |

TGRS Officers and Board of Directors

President: Willis Fagg..president@tucsongrs.org

V-President: Pat Sommerhalder..vicepresident@tucsongrs.org

Secretary: Gina Blackwell. secretary@tucsongrs.org

Treasurer: Ruth Taylor.treasurer@tucsongrs.org

Editor: Jim Miller.editor@tucsongrs.org

At Large Board Members

NormUlmer.memberatlarge4@tucsongrs.org

BarryBlackwell.memberatlarge1@tucsongrs.org

BobConrad..memberatlarge2@tucsongrs.org

Glenn Mitchell memberatlarge3@tucsongrs.org

Tucson Garden Railway Society

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