



Tucson Garden Railway Society's

Time Table

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

Editor e-mail: editor@tucsongrs.org

April 2013

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.

an extra volunteer, he was there. He served on the board of directors and chaired the Rails-in-the-Garden tour for several years. During the fair, he literally lived at the fairgrounds (in an RV/camper). You would see him there early in the morning and late in the evening. For those not familiar with our modular layout operations, he was the one who always had his battery-powered train running in opposition to the track powered trains. We all will miss his contribution to our organization.

I look forward to seeing you all at the fair.

President's Clatter

We had another successful year with our Rail-in-the-Garden tour. The weather couldn't have been better. It's great to talk to all our visitors about their interests in attending our event.

We now move on to our remaining big event, the Pima County Fair. As of this writing, we still have plenty of room for more volunteers and a few shifts that really need help. Once again, our newer members are mostly missing in action. It's a great opportunity to learn about our modular layout and really get to know other members. The obligation is only six hours per shift with fair admission and parking included. Pat has distributed the most recent volunteer list. Please give her a call to sign up.

We are rapidly coming up on our biennial (occurs every two years) board/officer elections. The board consists of nine members, of which five are officer positions and the remaining four are at-large positions. This year we have three (VP, secretary and newsletter editor) of the five officer positions open and really need you to step up. Without leadership, our club will simply disappear. Roy Eberbach is serving as our nominating chairman this year, so, if you haven't contacted him, expect a call.

Lastly, but most important, we lost one of our most dedicated members last month. Bob Dirksen was a long-standing member with lots of interests. There wasn't an event he didn't support. He was always the first to volunteer to pull a trailer. If you needed

Willis

2013 Rails in the Garden Wrap-Up

Our 10th annual RITG event was held on March 2nd & 3rd and was another great success. Thanks very much to **all** who helped make it that way, including the host volunteers and the businesses that helped sell tickets! With just under 1200 tickets sold and over \$4000 net income for TGRS, attendance was good though down slightly from recent years. But, that's OK. The drive for the Community Food Bank brought in donations very close to the last few years - \$434 donated by our guests.



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Speaking of thanking people, each RITG host railroad received a thank you memento. This year it was a sign for their RR with a RITG theme:

As a new charitable activity, we raffled a railroad themed quilt to benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charity. The raffle brought in almost \$250. The winner of the quilt was Judy Lindsay of Lexington, Illinois. Judy's husband, Jim, is in the process of creating a train room (HO layout) and she intends to use the quilt as a decoration in that new train room. Judy receiving her quilt:



The "Thomas" starter set door prize was won by Clarissa Garcia of Tucson. Ms. Garcia and her husband have a young, train-loving son, and they are very excited to have won the train. Ms. Garcia with the train set:



Two additional door prizes – one year subscriptions to "Garden Railways Magazine" - were won by local residents Mary Perlick and Kris Kaemingk.

Please continue to support RITG and especially give your help and support to Debbie and Chuck Cook as they take over chairing RITG. With all the fun we've had, can we even wait for next year's RITG!?!

Remember Volunteers Needed.

April 11 County Fair Set Up

April 18-29 County Fair Daily Shift Workers.

TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

March 7, 2013 at the Home of Norm and Ibbey Ulmer

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

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

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

Vice-President's Report:

1. Signup for the Pima County Fair is slow-going. Bob Conrad will check with Jerry Tulino about sending a recruitment letter to members. Staffing problems may affect whether the children's layout and/or the raffle table can be run. Setup is set for 04/11 at 9 AM. Steve Anderson is in need of transportation to and from the Fair.
2. The Swap Meet is the next event to staff: 05/31 and 06/01.

The Editor's Report: No report.

Committee Reports

Clinics: No report.

Education: Nothing new.

Maintenance: The mogul has been repaired.

Membership/Website: No report; the chair was absent. Per Ruth Taylor, no new families.

Mentor: No report.

Social: No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Norm reported that the TMC display is doing well – no calls for help the past 3 days. There is no employee available to run the railroad on weekends. We need to install a Phoenix Sound system.

There seem to be some minor problems with couplers and a few other things at the Rodeo Parade Museum layout. These are being addressed.

The power supply at the Diamond Children's Center has been replaced.

Keys are available to those club members needing access to the new storage facility – contact Willis. The trailers are now at Bob Murphy's (Lambert & Shannon area).

Reservations for the Michael Broggie talks on April 13 are underway and the seats are filling up quickly. Go online to register.

The Rails in the Garden (RITG) weekend weather was great and everyone seemed to have a good time. There were no complaints passed on to Glenn. Attendance was down slightly from last year, although we had good media coverage and visitors from as far away as Wyoming and The Netherlands. Chuck and Debbie Cook will chair the 2014 event. All RITG signs and equipment are now in the rental storage unit.

The New Town module is on hold at present.

The date for the picnic at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park is still pending, but will most likely occur in October (the 12th?) in lieu of a general meeting. We will look into chartering a bus.

Bob Dirksen resigned as Nominations Chair a few days ago due to illness and he passed away today, March 7.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business brought before the Board.

The next general meeting is to be at the Tucson Botanical Gardens on March 9.

The next Board Meeting is not yet scheduled (Willis Fagg to bring the cookies).

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 9, 2013**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Willis Fagg, at 10 AM at the Tucson Botanical Gardens. There were approximately 32 attendees present.

The Gardens were thanked for hosting. Richard Edwards was introduced as a guest and we welcomed new members, Dan and Martha Cover.

The minutes of the February 2013 meeting were approved as published in the Newsletter.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as read by Willis Fagg.

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| 1. Total on deposit: | \$27,295. |
| 2. Revenues from 02/07/13: | \$6,299. |
| 3. Expenses from 02/07/13: | \$1,343. |

Vice-President's Report:

Pima County Fair signup is progressing. Volunteers were asked to please show up for their assigned shifts and be prepared to work at running trains, the children's layout, or selling raffle tickets. They were asked to please also check with the shift leader before leaving the area. Members working multiple shifts are to get badges for the Fair and they are to go to the County Fair office to fill out the paperwork. The office is open Monday-Friday, 8:30 to 3:30. Parking passes will be mailed to volunteers. Contact Pat Somerhalder if you have questions.

Editor's Report:

Elaine Miller reported that Jim appreciates the articles and pictures and would like more. He would also like to step down as Editor.

Committee Reports:

Clinics: No report.

Education: No report.

Maintenance: No report.

Membership/Website: Jerry Tulino reported that we now have 89 member families. There were over 200 website visits just prior to Rails in the Garden (RITG). All club newsletters dating back to January 2003 are now available on the website.

Mentor: No new requests.

Social: The next social will be 03/21 at the Red Garter Saloon. Arrive at 11 AM for pool and/or cribbage, Noon for lunch.

OLD BUSINESS:

Norm reported that there have been no calls for help from the TMC layout for one week. All seems to be going well.

The Rodeo Parade Museum layout is working pretty well. There have been a few minor problems with couplers.

The 2013 RITG was a success. There were lots of good comments. Around 1200 tickets were sold. \$434 was donated for the Community Food Bank and \$250 was raised for Ronald McDonald House from the quilt raffle. The Thomas the Tank Engine set was delivered to the winner on March 4.

The rented storage space at A Family Discount Storage on Valencia now contains items that are not used often and items that don't fit in the trailers. Contact Willis Fagg for information on accessing the stored materials.

The trailers are now stored at Bob Murphy's on Lambert Lane.

Members were encouraged to reserve seats for one of the Michael Broggie lectures at the Mini Time Machine Museum on April 13: 10:00 AM or 2:00 PM. The event is free, but reservations are required. Go online to register.

Bob Dirksen passed away March 7 and Roy Eberbach is now chairing the nominations for the spring elections. Please see him if you would like to be on the slate for an office. The positions of Vice-

President, Editor, Secretary and At-large Board member are especially in need of volunteers.

It was proposed and approved by the members present that Phyllis Dirksen be awarded lifetime membership in the Tucson Garden Railway Society in recognition of her long-time service to the club.

In lieu of an October meeting, we are planning a picnic excursion to the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park in Scottsdale. We are looking into chartering a bus. Please sign up as soon as possible so that plans can be made well in advance.

NEW BUSINESS:

ABTO is having an open house on March 16 and 17. Go to azbigtrains.org for information.

The next general meeting will be at Nick Buchholz & Mary Ker's on May 18. The Board will meet on May 16.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Gina Blackwell

**Meeting at the Tucson Botanical Gardens
9 March 2013**

Photos by Elaine Miller



The space heater was very popular





For Sale

Jim Miller is helping a club member sell several boxes of new track, switches, and related items he purchased a few years ago when he was preparing to put in a garden railroad in his back yard. Priced at 50% to 60% of the current new price. Contact Jim Miller for a copy of the list.

Gary Martin is selling a very ill club members garden railroad. Contact Gary Martin for availability and pricing.

Welcome to New Members

Dan and Martha Cover.

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 11	Pima County Fair setup
Apr 18-28	Pima County Fair
May 16	Board Meeting
May 18	Monthly Meeting at Nick Buchholz & Mary Ker's
May 31	TTOM Swap Meet
Jun 1	TTOM Swap Meet
Jun 13	Board Meeting
Jun 15	Monthly Meeting

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	Glenn Mitchell memberatlarge3@tucsongrs.org

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