



# The Tucson Garden Railway Society

## TIMETABLE

Send Articles, Photos, Announcements to:  
 Nick C Buchholz, 3401 West Blacksill Dr., Tucson AZ 85741-1419  
 or email: nbuchholz@greatscalemodels.com

31 August 2013

### - July was Renewal Month -

If you haven't sent your dues to Ruth and wish to remain on the mailing list, you should renew before September 30, 2013. We will purge the mailing list before sending the October Newsletter

### General Membership Meeting

September 21, 2013 - 0900 running trains and viewing 1000 TGRS General Meeting at John Carmichael's House Home of the *Cholla Patch Railroad* 925 E. Foothills Dr. (Near 1st. Ave & River)

After the meeting Gary will present a short clinic on fabricating metal roofing.

**Directions:** Drive North on 1st Ave from River Road about ¼ Mile to Foothills drive and turn right (East) onto Foothills Drive.

or Drive South on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave from Orange Grove about 1.6 miles and turn left (East) onto Foothills Drive. John's House is about ¼ mile from the turn.

John asks that we park on the street.

### Cholla Patch Railroad Description

Theme: cactus landscaping and American wooden constructions from Victorian era.

Total track Length: 328 ft. of LGB brass- mostly flex-track on Mainline and Trolley lines.

Height: 80% elevated to an average height of 18"

Materials: Buried support foundations of buildings and trestles are of composite plastic wood. Roadbed is HDPVC "post and ladder" construction. Trestles and buildings are made from redwood, copper and leaded antique glass. Ballast is aquarium gravel.

Landscaping is mostly from Catalina rocks and Coconino flagstone and local soil.

Motive Power: RC controlled electric, steam and propeller locomotives using both Aristocraft Crest and MTH DCC control systems.

Accessories: Low voltage AC signals and lights

### TGRS Board Meeting

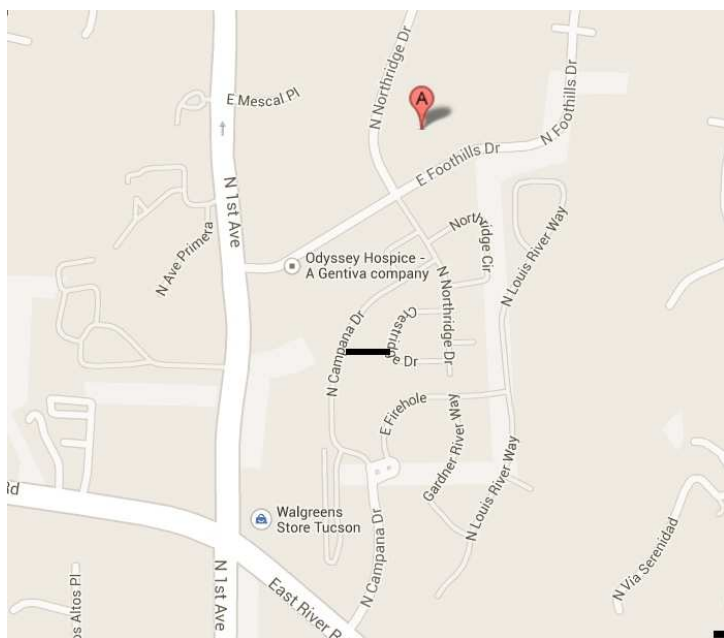
The TGRS Board will meet at 7:00PM on Thursday, September 10, 2013 at Gary & Peggy Martin's home 4625 E. Cerro de Aguila

### G-scale for sale

My name is Ronald (Ron) Thomas and I was a member of TGRS. Due to recent physical limitations, I have had to move and to take up my G scale layout.

I would appreciate it if you could pass the word to the members that I have track, track switches, a 10 amp power pack, locomotives, train cars, buildings, figures and misc. items for sale. If anyone is interested and would like to know the particulars I can be reached by calling 401-6456 between 9am and 8:30pm daily.

Ron Thomas



## President's Clatter

TGRS members, as you know, we have gone through several hot summer months. A time when many of our members have left town and the rest of us have neglected our railroads, stayed inside and worked on indoor projects. Well summer is almost over, those members who have left town, will soon return and it will be time to clean up, repair and get the railroads running. I keep thinking if I start to clean up my railroad, the summer heat may end.

As president, I would like to give special thanks to those club members who have participated in special summer events such as Fourth July Picnic, Third Thursday at the Tucson Botanical Garden, Children's Layout at the Gadsden-Pacific swap meet, TMC children's layout and most important the new event at U of A children's hospital "It's a Summer Christmas".

I know that most of you and especially new members joined TGRS to gain knowledge and get help with your garden railroad. At times, due to our many civic commitments we have neglected our primary goal of keeping members interested and involved in this hobby. We have many members with special knowledge (layout design, track installation, equipment repair, structure modeling and others) and they are very willing to pass this information onto other members. Once again, the Board is asking for input on what you would like in the way of educational classes to help with your railroad. Be thinking of the classes you would like and we will be discussing this at our first meeting on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. Do not hesitate to inform me or Board members on what your needs are, and we will do our best to accommodate your requests. Another way to learn and get ideas is to attend the monthly meetings that are held at different member's houses. Each layout is unique and by observing and talking to the owner, you will gain information and insight. To show my comment to education, at the conclusion of our first meeting, I will present a short workshop on fabricating metal roofing from soda cans.

In conclusion, I would like to express my gratitude to the past Board members who have dedicated their time and effort to TGRS's many activities over the past two year: Willis Fagg - President, Gina Blackwell - Secretary, Pat Somerhalder - Vice President, Ruth Taylor - Treasurer, Editor - Jim Miller (Elaine Miller), Members at large - Norm Ulmer, Barry Blackwell, Bob Conrad, Glenn Mitchell, and Webmaster- Jerry Tulino. Special thanks to Ibbey Ulmer for opening her home and being a great hostess for our monthly Board meetings.

## Social Luncheon- Wed. September 18th.

Come celebrate that the first day of fall is just four days away!! We'll meet at The Red Garter Saloon located at 3143 E. Speedway just east of Country Club. The food

and service there is always great, so we keep going back. They changed to AC a while ago, so it will be comfy. Join us at 11:30 for cards or pool or be there at noon (note time change from the past) for lunch. Call Chuck Cook at 977-7673 with any questions.

## SATM Displaying Bob Dirksen's work train

Below is a photo from the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum of Steve Anderson in front of the work train built by the late Bob Dirksen and donated to the Museum for display by Phyllis Dirksen.



## Vice-President's Look Ahead

As we end the summer break, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to our club activities.

First of all we are scheduled to visit the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park on October 19. This trip will replace our regular October general meeting so I hope we can get as many members as possible to attend. I understand this is a great facility for railfans. Information on this trip has been sent via e-mail. If you are interested in this trip and don't have e-mail, please give me a call at 760-0147. Since I'm going to be making several short personal trips in the near term, leave a message at that number.

Looking ahead at our other planned events for the remainder of this calendar year:

November 2<sup>nd</sup>-tour of ABTO layouts: This will be a self-driving tour and I will try making a list of interested members so we can take advantage of carpools wherever possible. Chuck Cook is the primary contact with ABTO and will provide maps once we have the information from them. Once the tour is planned, I'll set up a gathering point so we can travel in caravan.

November 8/9-Gadsden Pacific Swap Meet: A sign-up sheet will be available at the September meeting.

December 26-30-VA Display: This year the occurrence of the Xmas holiday made scheduling of the event a little difficult. The current plan is to set up on

December 26 (Thursday), run trains on Friday and a half day Monday with teardown Monday afternoon. We will not be running on the weekend. I'll start sign-ups for this in October.

## It's a Summer Christmas

Several TGRS volunteers attended "It's a Summer Christmas" event at the Diamond Children's Hospital on August 20. Our participation provided the children's layout decorated in a winter holiday theme.



This event was organized by the Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church & Academy. It provided the hospital patients and their families a welcome break from the normal course of long term hospital stays. In addition to our trains, they were treated to a visit from Santa, complete with gifts. Wilber and Wilma rounded out the entertainment for the day. Lunches (150 in all) were provided by Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches.



Our trains were well received and considered a plus for the event. The joy the trains provided to the children who were able to leave their rooms for a few minutes,

made the hauling of the layout to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the hospital well worth the effort. Although the event was only two hours in duration, this could become an annual event for us.





## McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park

All,

The plan for the excursion is coming together. The trip to the park will be Saturday October 19th. This trip will replace our regular general meeting for October.

We have chartered a bus for the event. The initial cost is set at \$20/person. This cost does not include a gratuity for the driver. If we get a sufficient number of passengers, the \$20/person cost could be adequate for the gratuity; otherwise we will collect additional monies during the trip to make up any shortfall.



The tentative plan is to depart from the Foothills Mall parking lot at 8:00 AM and arrive at the park approximately 10:00 AM. We will spend 4-5 hours at the park, including time for lunch. I understand there will be some food options at the park and I will be looking into other possible options for lunch. If all goes as planned, we will also have a tour of the backshop for any interested members. Our planned return time to the Foothills mall is 4:00-5:00 PM.

Admission to the park is free, but there is a small charge to ride the trains. See <http://www.therailroadpark.com> for more details on the park.

I would like to collect the bus money at the September meeting. If you don't plan to attend the September meeting, please send a check to Ruth Taylor before the end of September.

I currently have 37 members signed up for the trip and 35 planned for the bus. If you are on the attached list and are not going to make the trip, let me know as soon as possible.

The bus accommodates 56 passengers so there is plenty of room for additional members. If you would like to attend and haven't yet done so, please contact me.

Willis

## TGRS Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting

June 13, 2013 at the Home of Norm and Iby Ulmer

Members present were: Willis Fagg, Ruth Taylor, Pat Somerhalder, Norm Ulmer, Nick Buchholz, Gary and Peggy Martin, Glenn Mitchell, Bob Conrad, Chuck and Debbie Cook, Larry Erb, and Barry and Gina Blackwell. The Ulmers were thanked for hosting the meeting.

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

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

Vice-President's Report: The Toy Train Swap Meet of 05/31 and 06/01 went well although attendance was poor. There was a good vendor turnout.

The Editor's Report: No report as Jim Miller was absent. He has requested that Nick Buchholz take over as of the June Newsletter.

### Committee Reports

Clinics: No report. Gary Martin proposed having a tent city-making clinic, a new town clinic and possibly a clinic on ballasting.

Education: Nothing new to report.

Maintenance: Nothing to repair. Two cars for the Rodeo Parade Museum are ready. He has placed the equipment removed from the TMC layout in the storage unit.

Membership/Website: No report; the chair was absent. Per Ruth Taylor, there are 93 members.

Mentor: Nothing new to report.

Social: There will be no social luncheon in June; July and August dates are pending.

### Old Business:

Norm reported that the TMC layout is now working fine with the one steam engine. The wiring was re-worked. Removal of some switches fixed the derail problems. The landscapers at TMC are walking on the track which is creating some problems.

There are no new updates on the Rodeo Parade Museum layout, but it still needs town buildings. Gary made one tent and will explore making kits that could be

assembled in a clinic setting. Nick offered to make wooden frames. Barry has a tent that Madelyn Cook made that could be used as a model as well for the 10-12 needed for the proposed tent city.

The Children's Museum and the Transportation Museum layouts are working very well.

There were no new issues regarding the 2013 Rails in the Garden (RITG).

The New Town module is on hold. There is a 20' x 40' storage unit/garage that rents for \$500/month. This has potential for short-term workshop space and will be explored further.

The date for the picnic at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park is October 19 in lieu of a general meeting. Thirty-eight are signed up so far. Willis is looking into chartering a bus and will present options at the General Meeting.

### **New Business:**

Dates are entered in the club calendar through June, 2014. The Board Meetings will take place at the Martins' home on the 2nd Thursdays and the General Meetings for 2013-14 are currently scheduled as follows:

September, January, June (open)

October 19 – McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park

November – Martins'

December – holiday luncheon; awards presentations

February – Rincon Country West (tentative)

March – Blackwells'

May – Tucson Botanical Gardens (tentative)

The ABTO tour in Phoenix is scheduled for November 2. Members are encouraged to carpool to the layouts. More information will follow in the coming months. Chuck Cook has offered to help set up tour packets if none are forthcoming from ABTO.

The rental renewal on the storage unit is coming due. The Board agreed to a 12-month renewal.

The date for the VA layout is pending due to Christmas and New Year's falling on Wednesday. Willis will send a proposal to Pepe Mendoza at the VA to set up on 12/26, run Friday 12/27 and Monday 12/30 with tear-down on Tuesday, 12/31.

We have been asked to participate in the Diamond Children Center's "Christmas in August" program on August 20 or 21. We would set up the children's layout with a Christmas or possibly a circus theme. More information will follow.

Chuck Cook reported that the Rails in the Garden Tour 2014 will be March 8 and 9 on the east side of town. The U of A Book Festival takes place one week later. The ticket price will remain the same. The layouts currently scheduled are the Martins, Faggs, and Blackwells with possibly the Botanical Gardens.

Gary Martin reported that he met with the Botanical Gardens administration regarding mutual responsibilities for the layout maintenance. The engines are property of the

TGRS and are on loan to the Gardens. No one except an authorized TGRS club member is to do any repair work on them. The roadbed needs to be re-done and the track needs ballasting. He will ask for a crew of at least 6 to sign up at the General Meeting. He will also ask for volunteers to run trains on the Gardens' Thursday night events from 4-7 pm. He also learned that volunteers should always check in at the desk in the gift shop. There is a new Children's Garden in the planning stages that may include a new train layout.

The next General Meeting is to be at the Forgues home on June 15.

The next Board Meeting is September 12 at the Martins' home (Nick Buchholz to bring the cookies).

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

Respectfully submitted,

**Gina Blackwell**

## **TGRS Minutes of the General Meeting June 15, 2013**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Willis Fagg, at 10 AM at the Jack and Rosalie Forgues residence. There were approximately 32 attendees present.

Jack and Rosalie were thanked for hosting. There were no new members present. Pat Somerhalder's daughter Nancy and grandson Kyle were guests.

The minutes of the May 2013 General Meeting were approved as published in the Newsletter.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as read by Ruth Taylor.

Total on deposit: \$26,859.

Revenues from 05/19/13: \$660.

Expenses from 05/19/13: \$255.

Net revenues from 05/19/13: \$405.

Total dues paid 2012-13: \$2,848.

Total dues paid to date 2013-14: \$902.

### **Vice-President's Report:**

Pat Somerhalder thanked everyone for their help and support the past 2 years. She reported that the Toy Train Swap Meet of 5/31-06/01 went well.

### **Editor's Report:**

Jim Miller asked members to be sure to send all future articles and pictures to Nick Buchholz as the new Editor.

### **Committee Reports:**

Clinics: No report.

Education: Nothing new.

Maintenance: All repairs are made except for two cars. Gary reported that after receiving complaints about the condition of the Botanical Gardens layout he investigated and found that the entire layout needs cleaning and the track needs major repairs. There are two new engines now "on loan" to the Gardens with any repairs to be made only by TGRS authorized members. He brought a sign-up sheet

for a work crew scheduled for Tuesday, June 18 at 7 AM. There will also be some night-time events at the Gardens that could include club members running the layout and being available for questions from visitor and to promote the Rails in the Garden tour. These evenings include a 4th of July picnic and every 3rd Thursday twilight runs from 4-7 pm. Sign-up sheets were made available for each event. He asked that any volunteers to the Gardens check in at the gift shop prior to reporting to the layout. There is also a Children's Garden in the planning stages that may include a new train layout.

**Membership/Website:** Jerry Tulino reported that we now have 93 member families, although there has been some difficulty in contacting the newest member family to confirm their information. The website calendar has been updated.

**Mentor:** Nothing new.

**Social:** No social event in June. July's event is pending. The Rails in the Garden Tour 2014 will be 03/08 and 03/09 on the east side. The Faggs, Martins and Blackwells are currently signed up. Chuck Cook also thanked the outgoing Board members for their service.

### Old Business:

Norm reported that the TMC layout is working well with one steam engine with sound.

The Rodeo Parade Museum layout needs buildings. It is hoped that it will be completed prior to next winter's re-opening. A clinic to build a tent city has been proposed. Gary Martin is working on kits for the tents. Please contact Gary if you are interested in participating.

All was well at the Diamond Children's Center at last check.

In lieu of an October meeting, we are planning a picnic excursion to the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park in Scottsdale on the 19th of October. We are looking into chartering a bus and keeping the cost to about \$20 per person. If seats are available, we may offer them to other clubs in order to keep the cost down. Members were asked to please sign up as soon as possible so that plans can be made well in advance. A sign-up sheet was made available.

### New Business:

A host for the September meeting is needed.

The ABTO tour of Phoenix area layouts is scheduled for 11/02. Members are encouraged to carpool. The time is to be determined.

The VA layout is proposed for setup on 12/26, run 12/27 and 12/30 with run and tear-down on 12/31. We are waiting for a response from the VA.

The Diamond Children's Center has invited us to participate in their "Christmas in Summer" event for those children who may not see another winter. This would involve setting up the children's layout with a Christmas theme. The general membership indicated a willingness to be involved in the project.

Ron Koehler is willing to host a meeting and possibly a workshop on live steam. This is tentatively set for January.

The winter swap meet is set for January 10 and 11.

The next general meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 21 – a host is needed. The Board will meet on September 12 at the Martin residence.

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

Respectfully submitted,

**Gina Blackwell**

## Railroad Operating Rules

### CLASSIFICATION SIGNALS.

19. A marker must be continuously displayed while a train is authorized.

20. All sections, except the last, must display two green flags and two green lights in the places provided on the front of the engine, both day and night.

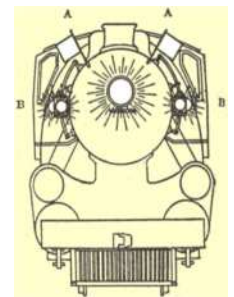
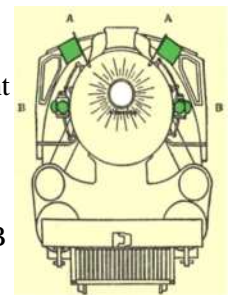
Engine running forward displaying signals for a following section.

Green flags at A A and green lights at B B.

20-A .Extra trains must display two white flags and two white lights in the places provided on the front of the engine, both day and night.

Engine running forward as an extra train.

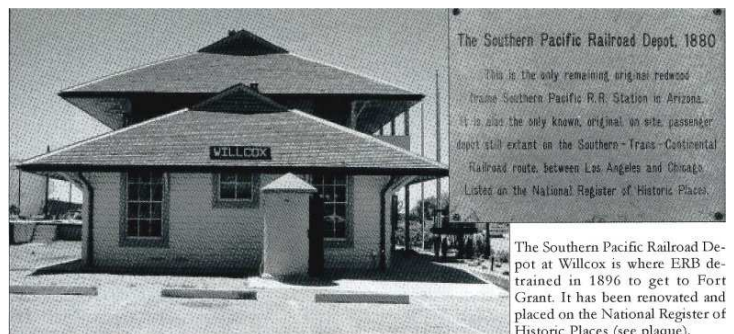
White flags at A A and white lights at B B.

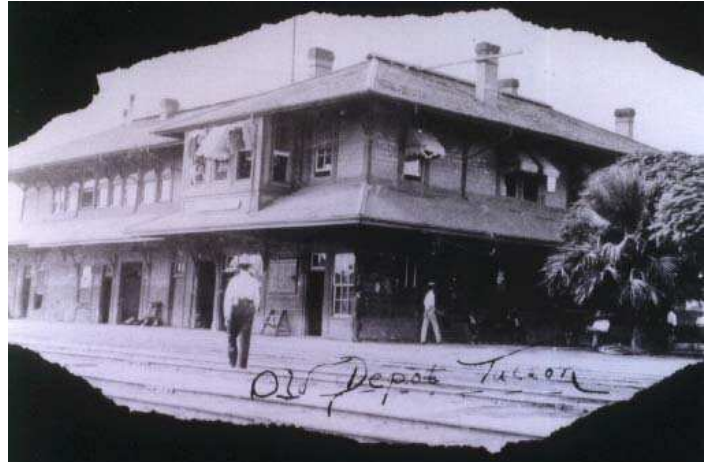
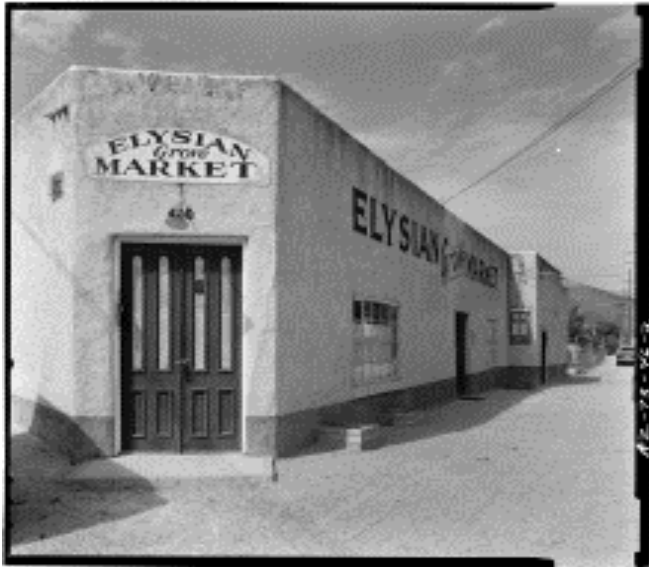


**NOTE:** Trains authorized to display signals must notify inferior trains that are met or passed, including trains at train-order meeting points. Such notification will be accepted as evidence of green signals displayed. Identification of engine authorized to run extra will be accepted as evidence of white signal displayed.

## Around Southern Arizona

Some photos of southern Arizona buildings that would make great models





This is a picture of Tucson in 1890 I have no information on where it was taken from, maybe A-Mountain???



First Tucson Depot



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

**Thursday, September 12, 2013**

Board Meeting-Martins

**Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>**

Social Luncheon- The Red Garter Saloon

**Saturday, September 21, 2013**

General Meeting-Carmichael's

Clinic after meeting on making metal Roofs

**Thursday, October 10, 2013**

Board Meeting-Martins

**Saturday, October 19, 2013**

McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park Trip, Phoenix

**Saturday, November 2, 2013**

ABTO Tour-Phoenix

### **TGRS Officers and Board of Directors**

President: .Gary Martin - [president@tucsongrs.org](mailto:president@tucsongrs.org)

V-President: Willis Fagg - [vicepresident@tucsongrs.org](mailto:vicepresident@tucsongrs.org)

Secretary: Pat Sommerhalder- [secretary@tucsongrs.org](mailto:secretary@tucsongrs.org)

Treasurer: Ruth Taylor - [treasurer@tucsongrs.org](mailto:treasurer@tucsongrs.org)

Editor: Nick Buchholz - [editor@tucsongrs.org](mailto:editor@tucsongrs.org)

#### At Large Board Members:

Bob Conrad - [memberatlarge1@tucsongrs.org](mailto:memberatlarge1@tucsongrs.org)

Larry Erb - [memberatlarge2@tucsongrs.org](mailto:memberatlarge2@tucsongrs.org)

Jack Forgues - [memberatlarge3@tucsongrs.org](mailto:memberatlarge3@tucsongrs.org)

Norm Ulmer - [memberatlarge4@tucsongrs.org](mailto:memberatlarge4@tucsongrs.org)

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TGRS c/o Nick C Buchholz  
3401 West Blacksill Dr.  
Tucson, AZ 85741-1419