



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

April 1, 2015

No Meeting in April

There will be no General meeting in April due to the Pima County Fair Activities. The Board meeting will take place as usual on Thursday April 2. At Gary and Peggy Martin's Home.

County Fair Setup April 9

The county fair is approaching fast. We will be setting up on Thursday, April 9 from 9:00AM until 4:30 or so. Tickets Badges and parking passes will be distributed at the Setup. If you won't be at setup Contact Willis at gscalefun@icloud.com or 520 760- 0147 to make arrangements to pick up your passes.

Setup is a great time to see how the modules go together and to get ideas for scenes you can build for the modular and you home layout. See you all there.

MONTHLY SOCIAL LUNCHEON

WEEKEND EDITION

For the brave, hard working members that are not yet retired-this lunch is for you! Our usual place is The Red Garter Saloon, located at 3143 E. Speedway just east of Country Club. The date is Saturday April 4th. Pool at 11:00 a.m. (no hard and fast rules or scoring-just fun), or be there at noon for lunch. Call Chuck Cook at 977-7673 with any questions. I will ask for some RSVP's when it gets a little closer.

Rails in the Garden 2015

Web site "by the numbers"

Due to our focus on the web site as the source of all information about the tour, activity on the site was greatly increased. The following information lists some of the most interesting numbers.

- 30 Average number of visitors per day during 2014
- 71 Average number of visitors per day in March 2014
- 394 Average number of visitors per day, March 1 thru 8, 2015
- 59 Highest number of visitors per day during 2014

- 299 Highest number of visitors on a day in March, 2014
- 942 Highest number of visitors on a day in March, 2015
- 400 Usual number of "views" of most viewed page in 2014
- 778 "Views" of most viewed page during March, 2014
- 3336 "Views" of most viewed page during March, 2015
- 20 Average number of referrals in any month in 2014 from any site to our site
- 29 Highest number of referrals in March 2014 from any site to our site
- 103 Highest number of referrals in March 2015 to our site (came from KGUN web site)
- 152 Average number of downloads of a page in 2014 (information from a clinic)
- 168 Highest number of downloads of a page in 2014 (information about RITG 2014)
- 994 Highest number of downloads of a page in 2015 (printable map for RITG 2015)

Comments from the TGRS President

March 23, 2015

Member, once again we have successfully presented Rails in The Garden to the Tucson community. A very special thanks to our thirteen club hosts and three outside railway contributors. I know the hours that were spent in preparing for this event. Another group that deserves a special thanks is the forty six + volunteers. The group that cannot be left out is the planning committee that made this year's event the most attended Rails in the Garden, with an approximate total of 10,000 visits to different garden railroads. There were many that worked on the project; Janet Mitchell was outstanding as the head of the committee that organized this event. Thanks to all for sharing their love of Garden Railways.

Gary Martin, President TGRS

Challenger Little League – March 14th

On Saturday, March 14th TGRS setup the children's layout at the baseball complex of the Tucson Challenger Little League.



The Challenger Division was established in 1989 as a separate division of Little League to enable boys and girls with physical and mental challenges, ages 4-18, or up to age 22 if still enrolled in high school, to enjoy the game of baseball along with the millions of other children who participate in this sport worldwide.



Today, more than 30,000 children participate in more than 900 Challenger Divisions worldwide. The Tucson league was established in 1990 and is the world's largest Challenger Little League program. Jerry & Rita Tulino, Chuck & Ruth Taylor and Bob & Jackie Conrad were the Conductors and Engineers for the day. We displayed our layout for about 4 hours and had a small but interested group of children around for most of the time.

Several coaches spent quite a bit of time watching the trains and explaining them to their players. As always there were kids who just had to grab the trains as they went by and a couple who had to race them around the track.



Even the helpers had fun



Even the littlest Kids had fun



Kids were fascinated



Bob Conrad showing a child how to run the trains

Rails in the Garden Recap

Total Visits 10,131

Food bank collections \$2968.00
plus several boxes of food.

TGRS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 5, 2015

Meeting was called to order by President Gary Martin. Minutes of the February board meeting was corrected to delete Norm Ulmer from being a member of the Challenger Little League committee. Minutes were approved as corrected.

Gary Martin presented the treasurer's report as submitted by treasurer Ruth Taylor. Checking account balance, \$8,499, savings account balance \$17,229 for a total on deposit of \$25,729. No revenues from 2/14/15, expenses from 2/14/15 were \$964. Year to date recap 2014/2015 are revenues \$4,042, expenses are \$6,663 with a draw on cash of \$2,621. 2015 recap, RITG expenses \$1,217, Tucson Rodeo expenses, \$4,425 and dues paid for 2014/2015 are \$2,475.

Gary Martin reported for Willis Fagg. We are in good shape for the fair. Larry Erb will pick up tickets and should have them at next meeting. Meeting has been changed to Blackwell's home on March 21st. Next board meeting is April 2nd. The Botanical Garden will be in May. We will have to use one of the rooms instead of being outside. Somerhalder's will host the June meeting. On March 14th the trains for the Challenger Little League will be operated by Taylors, Conrads and Tulino. Pima County Fair set up is April 9th.

Nick Buchholz announced that Claudia Nelson was willing to take over the newsletter. He will work with her for the next couple of months .

Committee Reports

Clinics, Nothing for March meeting

Education, Willis Fagg went to a meeting at a school for a presentation. KGUN News is doing a story on RITG.

Maintenance - TBG - LBG mobiles won't start. Gary put a Lionel down at the gardens and pulled out the mobiles.

Old Business

RITG -Janet Mitchell reported she visited all sights on the tour to see if anyone needed any help. She still has some metal signs.

Elections - Gary Martin went over the names of everyone that signed up who wanted to run. He is still looking for more people that may want a position. The term is two years and it is a good way to learn about the club and the people in it.

Challenger Little League is March 14th. The teams are made up of youngster that are challenged in some way.

Silver Spike at the Tucson Depot is March 21st. Gary is trying to move the time of the railroad meeting later so we can go to the depot at 10:00AM for the ceremonies.

Gary is suggesting 2:00PM at Blackwell's.

Norm Ulmer said he would bring cookies next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned,

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Somerhalder

Secretary

TGRS General Meeting Minutes

Saturday, March 21, 2015

Meeting was called to order by President Gary Martin.

Gary thanked the hosts Barry and Gina Blackwell. Two guests from Rincon West were introduced, Ron and Diana Gates.

General meeting minutes from February 14, 2015 were approved.

Treasurer Ruth Taylor reported that revenues since February 14, 2015 were \$3,050 (\$2,968 to be disbursed the Community Food Bank fro 2015 RITG.) Expenses since 2/14/15 were \$1,002 for a net of \$2,048 Year to date recap 2014/2015 revenues \$7,092, expenses \$6,701 for a net gain of \$391. 2015 RITG expenses are \$1,242, Tucson Rodeo museum expenses \$4,438 (\$5,000 was budgeted) and dues paid for 2014/2015 are \$2,475.

Vice President Willis Fagg announced upcoming meeting dates. Next board meeting s April 2nd, no general meeting in April, May 7th board meeting, May 9th general meeting at the Botanical Gardens, June 4th board meeting, June 20th general meeting. Fair set up is April 9th with possible follow ups on the 11th and 12th. Fair is in good shape.

Willis only has 5 on Sunday morning April 26th, but anticipates it will be slow. Next swap meet is may 29th and 30th. Looking for hosts for September and October. Nick Buchholz announced he will be meeting with Claudia Nelson who will be taking over the newsletter position.

Committee Reports

No clinics are scheduled at this time.

TBG is having some problems. Gary was checking on them.
 Glenn Mitchell has the camera car for TCH and is working on it. It hasn't been working for some time. At the TCM the sound system is out. One engine not working. Rodeo Museum nothing wrong right now. Need new station. Also need back up engine. Gary had to piece together the one there. He thinks it may have been dropped.
 Willis Fagg reported that he arranged for Bill Cult to give a presentation on "Railroads in Tucson" at the Valley District Esmond Station School which is over an old railroad bed. Under maintenance, Gary Martin requested that names please be put on any engines brought to him for repair.
 Jerry Tulino reported 90 members. He stated that the website has a large volume of hits due to RITG. Sue Averill and Ruth Taylor stated the same was true for the face book site.
 Chuck Cook reported that the next social luncheon will be Saturday, April 4th at the Red Garter.

Old Business
 Janet Mitchell gave a recap of the RITG. She thanked all participants. Between all layouts we had 10,131 visits. She considered it a success.
 Challenger Little League went well. Tulinos, Conrads and Taylors were there to set up and take down.
 135th anniversary of the train coming to Tucson was celebrated at the Silver Spike awards (in its 10th year). Mike and Jane Dorgan were awarded the Silver Spike for their many years of loyalty and service. Steve Anderson was awarded for all his volunteering.
 Gary announced that club elections will be in May. He is urging everyone to consider running for something. Non officers are always welcome at the board meetings.

New Business
 Next board meeting is April 2nd.
 Next general meeting is May 9th at the Tucson Botanical Gardens.
 Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Sommerhaldler
 Secretary

SATM Silver Spike Festival Celebration

The Southern Arizona Transportation Museum's (SATM) Silver Spike Festival celebrates that pivotal moment in Tucson history, when Southern Pacific Railroad's first train arrived. Townspeople chose Esteban Ochoa to present a Silver Spike from Richard Gird's Toughnut Mine to the company president in appreciation for building the line to Tucson. A large crowd gathered around Mayor Bob Leatherwood and other officials to watch the ceremony. That spike is here today, enclosed in a case near Historic Locomotive No. 1673.
 This year we will lead a re-enactment of the festivities at this location 134 years ago. Please join in playing the role of the crowd, who let loose their heartfelt joy with great vigor that day, then partied for a week! SATM will also honor inductees for its Railroad Hall of Fame.

The Museum helps keep history alive through free community festivals, including today's Silver Spike, its December Holiday Express, and August's Tucson Birthday Celebration. SATM also works to detail the story of transportation in Southern Arizona by collecting the accounts, art, artifacts, memorabilia, photographs, and documents central to the region. SATM shares the tale through bilingual exhibits, photographic and material archives, its annual lecture series, and group tours of the depot and locomotive.
 Created in a joint City and Citizen's Intermodal Task Force's Master Plan, a Museum management committee began planning in 2001. Using a variety of grants, private donations, SATM opened March 20, 2005. A division of Old Pueblo Trolley, a non-profit, 501c3 corporation, SATM resides in the former Southern Pacific Records building at 414 N. Toole Avenue.

- This year's Honorees were:
- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Railroader of the Year | Ken Jolly |
| Benefactor of the Year | Mike & Jane Dorgan |
| Volunteer of 18 Years | Paul Horky |
| Volunteer of the Decade | Judy Dare |
| Volunteer of the Year | Steve Anderson |



Our Members Work at the Tucson Botanical Gardens



Scottsdale Steam Engine



City of Tucson Snow Removal Department

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

April 2, 2015

Board Meeting-Martins – No General Meeting

April 9-12, 2015

Pima County Fair Setup 9:00 AM

April 16-26, 2015

Pima County Fair running trains

May 7, 2015

Board Meeting-Martins

May 9, 2015

General Meeting-Tucson Botanical Gardens

June 4 2015

Board Meeting-Martins

June 20, 2015

General Meeting- Somerhalder – 10:00 AM

TGRS Officers and Board of Directors

President: .Gary Martin - president@tucsongrs.org

V-President: Willis Fagg - vicepresident@tucsongrs.org

Secretary: Pat Sommerhalder- secretary@tucsongrs.org

Treasurer: Ruth Taylor - treasurer@tucsongrs.org

Editor: Nick Buchholz - editor@tucsongrs.org

At Large Board Members:

Bob Conrad - memberatlarge1@tucsongrs.org

Larry Erb - memberatlarge2@tucsongrs.org

Jack Forgues - memberatlarge3@tucsongrs.org

Norm Ulmer - memberatlarge4@tucsongrs.org

TGRS WebSite: TucsonGRS.org

Contact: webmaster@tucsongrs.org

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