



The Tucson Garden Railway Society

TIMETABLE

Send Articles, Photos, Announcements to:
Claudia Nelson: ccgnelson@gmail.com
454 E. Cedarvale Rd., Tucson, AZ 85704

August 1, 2015

A big THANK YOU to the 56% of our members who have paid their annual dues (you know who you are)!

For everyone else, please send your dues to:

Ruth Taylor
4081 S. Tarantula Hawk Place
Tucson, AZ 85735

NO MEETING IN JULY OR AUGUST

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING:
SEPTEMBER 19th**

Where: Bob and Lucy Murphy
2839 W. Lambert Lane
Tucson, AZ 85742

SOCIAL LUNCHEON

We continue to have large turnouts-check out the photos in this month's newsletter.



Good conversation before lunch...



And discussion at the other end of the table...

The next outing is Wednesday August 19th. Come early to shoot some pool, no rules, just fun on the felt. The place is The Red Garter Saloon, located at 3143 E. Speedway just east of Country Club. Pool at 11:00 a.m., or be there at noon for lunch.

Call Chuck Cook at 977-7673 with any questions.

TGRS Goes to the D-Backs

Just a reminder that a group of us are going to see the Diamondbacks on the afternoon of August 12th. We have already purchased tickets as a group, but you can still join us for the caravan, light rail ride, and 7th inning stretch at Cold Stone Creamery. Just get tickets on your own as close to Section 117 as you can. Let me know if you can join us so that I can e-mail you details of the trip.

Chuck Cook

2015 NGRC Model Contest

By Jack Forgues

I decided to enter my 4-8-8-2 Cab Forward locomotive in the NGRC 2015 Model Contest. There were three contest categories: Locomotives, Rolling Stock and Structures. The contest display area was located in a special designated section of the vendor hall.



The model contest winners would be determined by a vote of the convention attendees. Ballots were provided and the votes would list their first, second and third choices. Our names would be announced at the Friday evening banquet dinner. Ribbons and gift certificates were awarded to the winner and runner up's at that time.

We had just finished dinner with ten members from our club when they started calling out the third place winner, second place winner and then my name was announced that I was the first place winner of the model contest.



I want to personally thank Gary and Peggy Martin for lugging my two large boxes, containing the locomotive, in their car all the way to Denver and back. This was my first big trip after surgery, so Rosalie and I decided to fly to Denver.

NGRC 2015 - DENVER

TGRS was well represented at this year's convention in Denver. There were at least sixteen of our members in attendance. The abundant rain this spring was a mixed blessing-for hosts it was challenging to get their layouts ready, but the plants were beautiful.



We saw some really nice layouts, and I think we all came home with new ideas.



There was a very good representation of vendors to keep us in the vendor's hall. Most of us came away with new projects to add to our layouts and lighter wallets. As always, we met new people who share our passion and took time to socialize with old and new friends.

...GETTING FIRED UP

By Glenn Mitchell

Early in July, several of your fellow club members were fortunate to have the opportunity to attend the National Garden Railway Convention in Denver. While chatting one day, someone mentioned that attending the convention "fired them up" about garden railroading. In our hobby that could mean many things, like live steam, real smoking locos and accessories, etc. But what was meant was that the person's enthusiasm and interest in the hobby was rekindled and rejuvenated. Now one does not have to attend a convention to get "fired up". One of the purposes of a club, our club, is to help each other build and maintain our interest in whatever segment the hobby interests us. Our club offers many ways for you to be exposed to new modeling ideas and to help other club members learn and enjoy garden railroading. Some of the obvious include: visiting members' layouts, participating in our clinics, seeing other's modeling projects, discussing a prototype railroad at a club social function and, helping a fellow club member solve a modeling problem or assisting with a project. These are all ways to build our interest and expand our modeling knowledge. Helping with the club's educational outreach projects and activities can be rewarding as well. Any of these may help you get excited to take the first, or the next, step to work on your next favorite project.

We are always trying to find more ideas, projects and/or activities of garden railway interest to keep each other interested and involved in our hobby. If you have ideas, please let your fellow members and/or board of directors know.

Until next time... **GET FIRED UP** and, keep smiling!

Comments from the Outgoing TGRS President

When I took on the office of President, I thought two years was a long time. That's what Peggy kept saying. But the time has passed quickly. I think about all the projects our club is involved with: Botanic Gardens, Diamond Children's Hospital, Children's Museum, Rodeo Museum and the special set ups such as Rails in the Garden, VA hospital, Home and Garden show and Pima County Fair. I know I have missed some projects, but it reminds me of all the important events that we participated in.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing Board officers for their support and hard work in making all our projects a success. The outgoing Board members and project leaders include: Willis Fagg, Glenn Mitchell, Pat Sommerhalder, Ruth Taylor, Bob Conrad, Larry Erb, Jack Forgas, and Norm Ulmer, Nick Buchholz, Jerry Tulino, Chuck Cook, Janet Mitchell, Debbie Cook and Jeff Tobin. I am sure I have missed members who should have been on this list, but these are the ones I can remember.



I would like to give special thanks to all those members who have opened their homes to our monthly meetings, participated in the Rails in the Gardens, and those who have volunteered at our events. My sincere thanks for your time and help. The new Board took over July 1 and I know they will lead this organization with enthusiasm and new ideas.

I have enjoyed being your President, it has been fun. Thanks again!

Gary Martin

MINUTES - WHAT ARE THEY?

By Pat Somerhalder

Minutes are a written record which occurs at a business meeting. There are very few meetings that have dispensed with them. Some meetings are taped which can get very lengthy when trying to review. Traditionally, however, written minutes simply record the outcome and any noteworthy remarks leading up to that outcome. In other words the minutes are simply a record of what was discussed at that particular meeting. Unless something is actually moved, seconded and then voted on, the remarks made are not necessarily written to be established as permanent. Things may change. If this happens a new discussion updating the situation will take place at a future meeting. For instance dates may change or events may have to be changed. Occasionally something which has been voted on may have to be followed up and re-voted on because of something unforeseen. This usually isn't discovered until a meeting down the line. The reasons are then recorded and the item is voted on again.

Why should you read the minutes? It gives you the opportunity to be informed, particularly if you were unable to be at that meeting, but it can also act as a good review. It may also alert you to a conflict or perhaps even give you a much better idea which you can then bring to the attention of others. You may not understand why something occurred and the minutes could explain that. Minutes can also be referred back to. For instance the organization may need to know how much they donated to a certain charity for the last three years, or exactly what date something happened. They may need to know the name of a person they dealt with or what caused a certain accident.

It is very important, consequently, if something is recorded wrong or left out, and it will happen occasionally, hopefully somebody draws this to the attention of the organization before the minutes are approved. At that time it can be corrected and noted in the new minutes. Minutes are simply an informative and accurate record of what has occurred at the meeting.

Note: *Beginning with the September meeting, the Board Meeting minutes will not be published in the monthly newsletter, BUT will be available on our TGRS web site (see below):*

Information about the Club's history, leadership and membership.

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [History of the Club](#)
- [Club By-Laws](#)
- [Board of Directors Meeting Minutes](#)
- [Educational presentations](#)
- [Officers and Committee Chairmen](#)
- [Volunteer Recognition Program](#)
- [How to join](#)
- [Mailing list information](#)



Amtrak from Tucson to Los Angeles and Back

By Peggy Martin

Gary and I often travel from Tucson to Los Angeles. Most of the time we fly or drive. If you have traveled by car from here to Los Angeles, you know the eight hour drive can be boring. Maybe I have just done it so many times, I do not see the beauty anymore.

In April, we decided to take the 10 hour train ride to Los Angeles, a new adventure. First you need to find where to park your car or have someone drop you off at the train depot off Congress.

Once we were in the Tucson train station, I was amazed how many people took the Amtrak. We left on a Thursday night about 7:30. It was obvious there were many passengers that had done this before as they brought on their pillow and a blanket. Gary and I grabbed a sandwich on the train, (think I would have gotten one at Maynards), but it was fine. The train left on time and within an hour it was dark. I thought it would be fun to go by train and enjoy the scenery. It is pitch dark and there is nothing to see.

The seat was very comfortable and it had a foot rest that raised up and you could recline your seat. Wifi is not available but as the conductor told a teenager in front of me, "You must practice the art of conversation, it is a lost art". By 10:00, Gary and I were asleep. I woke a few times, looked out the window but went back to sleep.

We arrived at the Los Angeles Train Depot at 5:30AM on Friday. This was the part Gary did not like, we had to wait till 7:00 to rent our car. It was a little unnerving to be in Downtown Los Angeles at rush hour on a Friday. We took the train back on Sunday night, left the station about 9:00PM. Back in Tucson at 7:00AM on Monday.

I loved it and would do it again. The cost was about \$75.00 round trip. Amtrak travels to Los Angeles three times a week and I think they are all at the same time in the evening. Ken Karrel was very helpful when I organized this trip. He and Mary have taken the train many times. I would like to look into the trip that goes to San Antonio, then on to New Orleans. Amtrak was an easy, no stress way to travel.

SIDETRACKED

This month's column is about an interesting sign David and I spotted on our way from Spokane to Wenatchee along US 2, outside Reardon, WA.



We were intrigued by both the sign and the storage of several old railway cars along the road.



It seems a group of train enthusiasts is trying to setup a museum ([Inland NW Rail Museum](#)) to preserve the history of the railroad in Eastern Washington.



Construction of the first building (began in 2014) and they're well into phase I. Here's hoping they are able to finish their museum.

Calendar

July – Aug

No Meetings

August 12 2015

Phoenix Diamondbacks

August 15 2015

Swap Meet – Prescott

August 19 2015

Social Luncheon

August 28 2015

TBG - Thomas and Friends

September 10 2015

Board Meeting- Martin

September 19, 2015

General Meeting- Murphy

October 8, 2015

Board Meeting - Mitchell

October 17, 2015

General Meeting – Pearson

November 7, 2015

ABTO Tour – Phoenix

November 12, 2015

Board Meeting – TBD

November 13-14 2015

Gadsen Swap Meet

November 14, 2015

Open House & General Meeting – Martin

December 3 2015

Board Meeting – TBD

December 5 2015

Holiday Luncheon – Golden Corral

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, Tucson, AZ 85710

TGRS Officers and Board of Directors

President: .Glenn Mitchell- president@tucsongrs.org

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

Secretary: Pat Sommerhalder- secretary@tucsongrs.org

Treasurer: Ruth Taylor - treasurer@tucsongrs.org

Editor: Claudia Nelson - editor@tucsongrs.org

At Large Board Members:

Dennis Mahar - memberatlarge1@tucsongrs.org

Billy Joplin - memberatlarge2@tucsongrs.org

Bob Averill - memberatlarge3@tucsongrs.org

Norm Ulmer - memberatlarge4@tucsongrs.org

TGRS Website: TucsonGRS.org

Contact: webmaster@tucsonGRS.org