

# The Tucson Garden Railway Society



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## November 1, 2015

### TGRS GENERAL MEETING NOVEMBER 14<sup>th</sup>

- Where: Gary & Peggy Martin 4625 E. Cerro de Aguila
- When: After Martin Open House (see next page historical photos below)





**Directions**: Just west of Swan Rd, between River Road and E. Sunrise Drive.



# SOCIAL ACTIVITES UPDATE

By Chuck Cook

First, our next monthly social luncheon will be held on Thursday November 19th. This is the week before Thanksgiving, so use this opportunity to expand your tummy to get it ready for the feast to come. It's always lots of fun with good conversation and yummy food. The details are the usual - come early to shoot some pool, no rules, just fun on the felt. The place is <u>The Red Garter Saloon</u>, 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.

Our next big event will be our trip to Phoenix to see 6-7 layouts of our friends at <u>AZ Big Train Operators</u> (<u>ABTO</u>) on November 7th. The event is drawing near, but you can still join in. Contact me if you are interested.

Lastly is our annual Holiday Party on December 5th. It's held at Golden Corral on the NW side of town at noon. We share yummy food and a fun gift exchange. You may sign up with Ruth Taylor via e-mail or pay her at any meeting. The cost is \$11 per person for all you can eat and drink. You do not have to participate in the gift exchange. If you wish to do so, purchase a new, preferably train related item in the \$15 range. Wrap it like any other Christmas gift and bring to the event. You will be given a number, and when called you may select a gift. The rules for steals will be explained at the party. The Golden Corral is located at 6865 N. Thornydale Rd. If you are arriving from the north, just turn right in to the parking lot. If you are coming from the south, turn left at the stoplight on Horizon Hills Dr. and then turn right behind the first building and drive to the restaurant.



If you plan to stay for the food and beverages, please RSVP by November 07<sup>th</sup> with numbers who plan to attend.

520 299-7428 or pgmartin5@hotmail.com

# The "Un"planned Adventure of Riding Amtrak

By Jackie Conrad

The first part of our trip home from our Mississippi Riverboat vacation went as planned. We boarded Amtrak at the St Paul Union Station at 8:05am. We rode coach for this portion as it was a 7½ hr. day ride, stopping at a number of stations along the way and arriving on time in Chicago.

Day 2: we boarded in Chicago at 1:45pm for the two and a half day ride to Tucson. This time we had a roomette-seating for 2 that converted to an upper and lower bunk for sleeping. However we got to use it for only half the first night. In St. Louis, (7:30pm) we were informed there was a freight de-railed down the track. We were awakened at 3am in Little Rock, transferred to buses and conveyed to Fort Worth, a 5 hr. ride. There we met the train from L.A. traveling north to Chicago. It reversed direction; we boarded and continued our journey. I woke that night during a 5 hr. layover in San Antonio happy to be horizontal in a comfortable bunk. Amtrak had us home in Tucson right on time at 6:45pm the next evening. Amtrak has given us a rebate for the inconvenience, but we still enjoyed our train trip.

## Light the Night Walk for Leukemia

On October 3rd, on a nice Saturday evening, at the Kino Sports Complex soccer field. Several TRGS members volunteered to assist in the <u>Light the Night</u> event to help fight Leukemia and other cancers.



The volunteers were Chuck & Ruth Taylor, Richard Edwards, Janet & Glenn Mitchell, Art Braucksick, and Dennis Mahar.



We set up the children's display and ran trains from 4:30 to after 7:00 pm. There were free samples of food from some of the vendors and we received a free dinner thanking us for our support. There were several hundred families at the event who did the night walk. There was live entrainment and a really good fireworks display in the evening. Several families thanked us for having the train layout up and running. When it was all said and done, we ALL had a good time.

# Carmichael / Pappas Open House

John Carmichael and Phil Pappas invited TGRS members to an early evening open house and train run on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. We used their fantastic cupola and weathervane as a sighting to find the house. As usual, there was lots of fabulous food and beverages.





He's also added a beautiful new church or school nestled in their large tree above the trestle in the front of his layout.

John has added some impressive detail and interesting additions to his layout, like the beautiful spire on the new *Cholla Patch* multi-level station (to the left).





Note the great detail in the dining scene (left): happy-looking diners, hard-working servers, wroughtiron tables and chairs, street lights, and even food and drink.

## **TGRS General Meeting Minutes**

### October 17, 2015

President Glenn Mitchell called the meeting to order. He thanked Capp Pearson for opening his home and trains to the club.

Minutes of the last general meeting were approved.

Treasurer Ruth Taylor reported a total on deposit of \$24,855. Revenues for the last month were \$148 and expenses were \$612. Dues collected were \$1,880.

Dennis Mahar, acting Vice President, reported

- Richie's Walk Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> has 6 people signed up. He has 3 openings. It was reported to him that they were expecting over 800 youngsters.
- 2. ABTO, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>. Chuck Cook will be forthcoming with layouts and carpool opportunities.
- 3. Swap Meet, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Still need more help for the 14<sup>th</sup>, especially with tear down.
- 4. Luminaria Nights, Dec.4, 5, 6, and 11, 12, 13. Could use people to set up.
- Christmas party is Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. \$11.00 per person. Pay Ruth Taylor.
- VA Hospital, set up Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>. Trains run Mon.-Wed. with tear down on the 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> is Gary Martin's open house with the meeting at 4:00. Those staying for dinner need to let him know.

#### **Committee Reports**

1. It was announced we had three new members last month.

2. Education - Edmonds School is doing a display, however they have not returned any calls and there has been no contact.

#### **Old Business**

1. Gary Martin reminded everyone of the Lego display at the Botanical Gardens. He suggested come run the trains and get in free to see the display.

2. Glenn Mitchell mentioned that the Diamond Children's Hospital is wanting to upgrade their train area. He thinks it is best to let them show us what they want and we help them.

3. Janet Mitchell talked about Rails in the Garden in 2016. She reminded everyone that those without displays still need to volunteer and help those with layouts.

4. A quick discussion on the SATM 2<sup>nd</sup> display letting everyone know what the Sothern Arizona Museum is doing. We already have some things we can donate. The board has approved up to \$600 for additional expenses.

#### **New Business**

1. John Carmichael invited everyone to his open house on Sat. Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>.

2. Ruth talked about train pins she has ordered that we can purchase and also sell at events.

Next Board Meeting is Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> at the Ulmer's. Next General Meeting is at the Martin's on Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Pat Somerhalder, Secretary

## CLINICS / WORKSHOPS

### Tender Building Workshop with Bruce Lynn

The next tender building workshop is on November 16, at Bruce's house at 630pm. You can call him with questions and RSVP's at 343-2881. Some questions can be answered by reviewing the group email he sent last month (excerpt following):

This auxiliary tender was featured in the April 2013 issue of Garden Railways magazine. I really liked the idea of the tender, but I didn't like the square sides. I used 5 gallon metal cans cut into strips to make the sides of mine. We can also use the sides from a television that had radiused plastic sides. I have quite a bit of both materials. Assembly is fairly easy. The cost depends on the trucks that you chose and how many detail parts you have to purchase. Material List - there are several ways to build this tender:

1.) Mine is a 4x4 piece of pine for the body. I would recommend redwood as it is a lot lighter.

2.) Build a rectangular frame to be covered by the skin. This is a lighter solution, plus you can use the tender for a sound or battery car.

We'll buy the lumber after we figure out how many we are going to build. (road trip!)

I used a frame from a Bachmann boxcar for the undercarriage. This makes it very easy to mount the trucks (the bolsters are part of the frame). Other brands will also work. Look in your scrap pile.

Trucks; I first used Aristocraft tender trucks (2 axel), then used 3 axle trucks that I made from 2 sets of Aristo tender trucks. These trucks are now on the big tender that I tow behind the Mallet. The tender now has Aristo Commonwealth trucks on it. We can make the 3 axle trucks if anyone is interested. Regular freight trucks will work as well.

Detail parts; coal load, ladder, brake wheel, steam pump, styrene sheets, handrail items

Call me on my cell at 343-2881 with any questions and location address. We can work on multiple projects if interested.



Tender we will build





#### Big tender build by Dick Izen



Modified 10 wheeler tender



Aristocraft USRA tender that I modified the coal load

# SIDETRACKED

While David and I were roaming around San Francisco we stumbled across the <u>San Francisco</u> <u>Railway Museum and Gift Shop</u>. San Francisco has a number of restored street cars from various parts of the world that run through the city daily. Unfortunately, the museum was closed when we got there, but we'll be sure to check it out next time we're in the city.



#### PRICE LIST FOR CLUB REGALIA

DECALS	\$1.50 EACH
PATCHES	\$2.00 EACH
HATS	\$12.00 EACH
SILK TOUGH SHIRTS (LIGHT IVORY COLOR)	\$22.00 EACH
DENIM SHIRTS (SHORT OR LONG SLEEVE)	\$26.00 EACH

**NOTE**: Shirts are available in ladies' or men's sizes. (Size 2X and up are an additional \$3.00 per shirt)

Contact Ruth Taylor phone or email for purchase (520-908-1312) taylor1985@comcast.net

### Calendar

November 6, 2015 Richie's Walk @ Flowing Wells HS November 7, 2015 ABTO Tour – Phoenix November 12, 2015 Board Meeting – Ulmer November 13-14 2015 Gadsen Swap Meet November 14, 2015 Open House & General Meeting – Martin December 1-2, 2015 St. Mark's December 3 2015 **Board Meeting – Mitchell** December 4-6, 2015 Luminaria Nights @ TBG December 5 2015 Holiday Luncheon – Golden Corral December 11-13, 2015 Luminaria Nights @ TBG December 26-31, 2015 **VA** Trains January 8-10, 2016 Home Show January 8-9, 2016 Gadsen Swap Meet January 7, 2016 Board Meeting – TBD January 16, 2016 General Meeting – Averill February 11, 2016 Board Meeting – TBD February 20, 2016 General Meeting – RCW

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

President: .Glenn Mitchell- president@tucsongrs.org V-President: Willis Fagg - vicepresident@tucsongrs.org Secretary: Pat Somerhalder- 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

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