



The Tucson Garden Railway Society

TIMETABLE

Send Articles, Photos, Announcements to:
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December 1, 2015

TGRS HOLIDAY PARTY & GENERAL MEETING – DECEMBER 5TH

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES UPDATE

By Chuck Cook

Where: Golden Corral
6865 N Thornydale Rd

When: Noon – 3:00pm
Includes lunch, brief meeting, & gift exchange

Location: On Thornydale Rd, just north of Costco.
See Social Activities update for directions.

Our annual holiday party is on December 5th and you can still get in on the action. It's held at the Golden Corral on the NW side of town at noon. We share yummy food and a fun gift exchange. The cost is \$11 per person for all you can eat and drink. You do not have to participate in the gift exchange, but if you wish to do so purchase a new, preferably train related item in the \$15 to \$20 range. Wrap it like any other Christmas gift and bring it to the event. You will be given a number and when it is 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 into the parking lot. If you are coming from the south, turn left at the stoplight at W Costco Drive, then turn right behind the first building and continue on to the restaurant. There will be no social luncheon in December, but the New Year will continue with a social luncheon on the third Thursday of each month (with an occasional weekend luncheon thrown in). Next up is January 21st.



Welcome to our newest
members:

Jerry and Louise Wilson

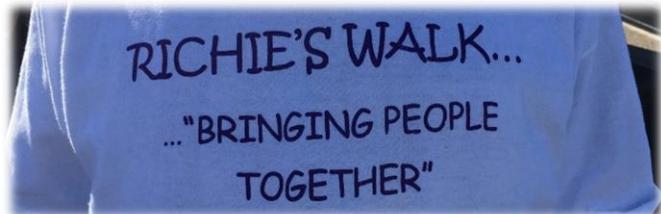
Welcome back former
members:

Fred and Celia Black

TGRS AT RITCHIE'S WALK

By Janet Mitchell and Ruth Taylor

On November 6th, five club members took our children's layout to Ritchie's Walk. Ritchie's Walk is a field day held on the football field at Flowing Wells High School for special needs children and youth. The walk provides FWHS student with the opportunity to spend a fun morning as a partner to one of the participants with special needs as they participate in games and activities.



The day is designed to make us realize that we are much more alike than different. It is also a fund raiser for the American Cancer Society, local chapter, in memory of Richard Frontain who had special needs and lost his battle with cancer. The smiles and excitement shown by the children made it a very rewarding experience. The children who were not able to participate in many of the field activities could still come by and either watch others run the trains or run the trains themselves, making it a fun day for everyone.



Our participation was coordinated by Rick Wood with Ruth Taylor, Byron Skinner, Glenn Mitchell, and Janet Mitchell representing TGRS.

DOINGS DOWN AT THE DEPOT

By Ken Karrels

The depot now has an outdoor layout, thanks to TGRS! Now, children of all ages are enjoying the 80ft point to point that allows a Thomas the Tank Engine, or Piko Mogul to run parallel to Engine 1673. Rick Gast is the Chief Engineer.



Following is an **abbreviated** version of the ABTO Roundabout trip report. For the full version, check the TGRS web site under 'Wanderings': [ABTO Roundabout](#)

ABTO Round-a-bout

By Dick Izen

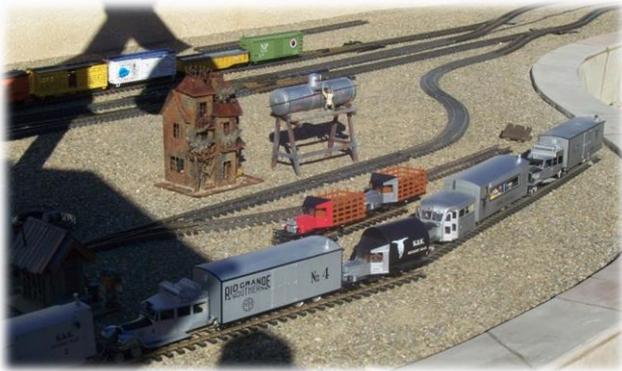


On November 7 several club members drove up to Phoenix to visit six layouts opened to us by members of the Arizona Big Train Operators (ABTO) club. All of the layouts were interesting in one way or another and the ABTOers were very gracious hosts.

Diesels seem to be supplanting steam engines in the garden. Only two of the layouts were primarily operating steam engines although another one had a live steam special interest group (sig) that demonstrated four G gauge live steam locomotives for us.

Ken and Kris Hawkins, Surprise, AZ

Of great interest was the extensive collection of 'Galloping Geese' of D&RGW fame, displayed on a siding



The Hawkins also took on the task of feeding their hungry visitors a wholesome breakfast, for which we were all very grateful.

Terry and Carolyn Fields, South Phoenix

We visited the Fields' very large layout based primarily on the Santa Fe. It featured a model of Kingman Az., quite a bit of hand laid track in three or four loops and a simply spectacular long 'steel' bridge which he scratch built from aluminum strips and girders.



John and Pat Meyers

This was an especially important stop as the ABTO people had set up tables of cars, figures, and

accessories for sale. What model railroader doesn't need more?

While we were there we saw four different live steamers.



Two cylinder shay with scratch built superstructure running on inner loop

In addition to the live steam the Meyers hosted ABTO's barbecue lunch for us and I don't think any of us left hungry.

Gary and Nancy Alberti

The Alberti's have packed four loops of track between the rear of their home and the rear fence where 'Disney' is the theme.



The Albertis' also have an extensive N gauge layout built indoors, with street lights, lighted buildings, and some model skyscrapers.

Kal and Barbara Miller

Our fifth stop was the Miller's extensive layout featuring two long loops and many scenic features.



Overall view of the long side of the layout. Note the full size ore cars and the dense bamboo backdrop wall.

Vince Simpson & Carolyn Triquart, Casa Grande

Vince, our host, also runs VES, a hobby supplier, and had a display of their many buildings and flats arranged as we entered



Eastbound passenger train

After a full day we headed back to Tucson, tired but happy after a good day of viewing model trains. Next year will be our turn to set up a roundabout and entertain ABTO. I hope you all consider participating

EAGLE MOUNTAIN RAILROAD

By Claudia Nelson

Last month's general meeting was held at Gary and Peggy Martin's house after their annual open house. I don't know the final attendance numbers, but it was still buzzing when we got there around 2:45pm. Gary's layout was fantastic, as you would expect, with great landscaping and lots of details for children of all ages.



Not being as knowledgeable about the trains as many other of our members, I focused on the scenery and tableaus.



For instance, *Izen's Ice House* was very clever, as was *Conrad's Mine*.

Then, there was *Eagle Airways Flying Service* with a Quonset hut hanger and biplane just visible inside.



After the open house, Peggy and Gary hosted the group with a delicious Mexican meal and cupcakes made by their granddaughters.

And a wonderful time was had by all...

**SOUTHERN ARIZONA
TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM
PRESENTS**

**11TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY EXPRESS
WITH SANTA**



At the Historic Train Depot

- Talk with **Santa**
- Join in Singing Holiday Music
- Write a letter to Santa at the North Pole:
With the Tucson Postal History Museum Elves' help
- Look at the museum's bilingual exhibits, new live action
- View the Randy Hill exhibits of Railroad China and Silverware
- Listen to a reading of the *Polar Express*
- Photo with Santa in front of Locomotive 1673 **(the star of the movie "Oklahoma")**
- Climb into the cab of steam Locomotive 1673
- Receive Goodies from AMTRAK
- View the Railroad art exhibits and train layout in the Amtrak Lobby

DATE: Saturday, December 19, 2015
TIME: Noon – 4:00pm
ADDRESS: 414 N. Toole, Tucson 85701
PHONE: 520-623-2223

PLENTY of FREE Parking around the Depot

www.TucsonHistoricDepot.org

TGRS General Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2015

Meeting was called to order by President Glenn Mitchell. Glenn thanked Gary and Peggy Martin for opening their home for the meeting and dinner they were providing.

Minutes were approved as posted.

Ruth Taylor reported on deposit of \$24,063. (Note a complete report is on file)

Vice President Willis Fagg gave a quick review of past events. Light the night and Richie's Walk went well. The club had a good turnout for the ABTO Tour. The Swap Meet this weekend also went well. Up and coming events are Luminaria Nights at the Botanical Gardens December 4, 5, 6 and 11, 12, 13: Christmas Party December 5th at the Golden Corral: large layout display at the VA, set up on December 26th, trains run 28th, 29th, and 30th, tear down on the 31st; The home show is January 8th - 10th; swap meet is 8th and 9th (an overlap); The Fair 14th-24th.

Newsletter - Claudia Nelson announced the deadline for December is November 23rd.

Committee Reports

A. Membership - Ruth reported 73 members, two new members today:

Jerry and Louise Wilson

Fred and Celia Black (former members rejoining)

B. It was announced that the website has been pretty active.

C. Bruce Lynn is holding a clinic this Monday on tenders at 6:30. He has worked hard preparing for these clinics.

D. Social Luncheon at the Red Garter November 19th. No luncheon in December.

Old Business

A. 2016 Rails in the Garden - Janet Mitchell says things are on schedule. There are nine layouts so far. She is talking about trying to get QR codes on signs, if not for this year, for next year.

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Public Layout Status

A. Tucson Botanical Garden - Gary Martin could use more help for tear down and set up otherwise he has enough help.

B. Transportation Museum - The new point to point layout is in and operational. More to come.

Review recent club activities -

A. Ruth showed off the pens the club has purchased. They are \$5 each.

Meeting was adjourned in favor of food and socializing.

Respectfully submitted

Pat Somerhalder, Secretary

SIDETRACKED

By Claudia Nelson

The earliest known train songs date to two years before the first public railway began operating in the United States. "The Carrollton March", copyrighted July 1, 1828, was composed by [Arthur Clifton](#) to commemorate the groundbreaking of the [Baltimore & Ohio Railroad](#).

[The Carrollton March](#) as performed by the Carrollton Wind Symphony.

Calendar

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 14, 2016

Board Meeting – Mitchell

January 16, 2016

General Meeting – Averill

January 21, 2016

Social Luncheon – Red Garter Saloon

February 11, 2016

Board Meeting – Averill

February 20, 2016

General Meeting – RCW

March 5-6, 2016

Rails in the Garden

March 10, 2016

Board Meeting – TBD

March 19, 2016

General Meeting – Coburn (date TBD)

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