



# The Tucson Garden Railway Society

## TIMETABLE

Send Articles, Photos, Announcements to:  
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454 E. Cedarvale Rd., Tucson, AZ 85704

March 1, 2017

**Volunteers still needed for  
RITG...please call or email Willis!**

### TGRS General Meeting Saturday, March 18, 2016

**Where:** Barry & Gina Blackwell  
[4042 E. Cooper St. 85711](#)  
(520) 322-5033

**When:** 9:00am trains running  
10:00am general meeting  
11:00am clinic

Trains will be running before the meeting. After the meeting, Gary Martin will do a brief clinic on replacing gears in engines.

**Directions:** You may have to make a U-turn to get to Cooper from Alvernon. From the West side, take Broadway to Alvernon, turn right (South) and the second left will be Cooper Street. Follow about a block and a half to 4042.

From the East side, take Broadway to Irving Drive and turn left (South) on Irving. The first cross street is Cooper, Turn right (West) to the address.

#### **The Railroad (circa 2005)**

The Rock Bottom Railroad is a multi-year work (4 year in 2005) in progress. There are about 300 feet of main line with a 40-foot mining loop and an 80-foot point to point trolley line. The layout includes a waterfall, a stream and a 12-foot double track tunnel shared by the main and trolley lines.

The name, Rock Bottom, describes both the terrain and the financial condition of the railroad. The builder is a lover of puns and has incorporated several into the layout.

### SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

#### Dwarf Car Museum & Lunch

Thursday, March 16, 2017

*By Chuck Cook*

On the heels of our fun trip to Port of Tucson, we will be taking another road trip in place of our usual social lunch. But, of course, it will include having lunch! This time we will be going to the [Dwarf Car Museum](#) in Maricopa, AZ, (just west of Casa Grande). We will meet at [iHOP](#) at Cortaro and I-10 at 8am and form some car pools. It is about a 1.5-hour drive to the museum. There is no admission, but let's plan on making a donation of at least \$5 per person. We will spend about 1 hour touring the museum and then back track to Picaccho Peak for lunch at the Dairy Queen (it is a full serve DQ with sandwiches, burgers and great onion rings). If you don't like DQ food, there is a Subway just north of there, which is owned by the same folks, so you can probably bring your sub in to DQ. I expect our return to our starting point to be about 1-1:30pm. Please send me an RSVP by **March 13<sup>th</sup>**.



*Comparison of dwarf car to standard car and AF jet (Jerry T)*

## Port of Tucson Tour

*By Claudia Nelson*

On Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> about 20 TGRS members took a guided tour (arranged by Chuck Cook) of the Port of Tucson which is located off Kolb between I-10 and Valencia. Our tour guide was Mike Levin, Executive VP, Marketing, and son of the founder.



Mike explained the port is a full service inland port, rail yard and intermodal facility linking California and Texas. The Port of Tucson is Arizona and Sonora Mexico's International Inland port, served by rail from the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles up to 5 days per week.

By shipping international containers by rail to Southern Arizona and reducing short-distance transfers, the Port of Tucson reduces the cost of international freight to the region



They own 3 engines for moving stock and 10 miles of their own track, as well as container forklifts for ease of loading and off-loading containers from rail cars and truck tractors.



After the tour, Dennis Mahar arranged a group lunch at [Cattletown Steakhouse and Saloon](#), and you can see we were welcomed with our name on the marquee...a nice time!



## TGRS and the Ronald McDonald House

[Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Arizona](#), a non-profit, 501(c)(3), provides comfort and support to families and children facing serious illness or injury. The Ronald McDonald House provides a "Home Away from Home" for families who must travel to Tucson for medical care. Our 24,000-square foot house has all the comforts of home with 28 bedrooms and private bathrooms, 4 kitchens, a reading room, great room, playroom and outdoor play area. The House serves over 600 families per year from communities throughout Southern Arizona, as well as the surrounding region. Our families are from all walks of life, seeking treatment for illnesses such as cancer, birth defects, pre-maturity, organ transplants and life-threatening trauma.

## Ronald McDonald (cont'd)

TGRS is proud to be a six-time participant in the Ronald McDonald House Chef-for-a-Day program. We have volunteered to prepare lunch on Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> from 12pm until 1pm with cleanup expected to be finished by 2pm.

There is no way to know how many people will be staying at RMH on that day or how much time they will have to enjoy lunch. RMH requests that we prepare enough food for 30 people with all preparation done onsite. We make everything available and welcome anyone who can spend a few minutes with us.

Lunch is served buffet-style with everything arranged on the counter. This year we have decided to serve a "taco bar" lunch. All of the TGRS volunteers are welcome to enjoy lunch with the residents. Anything "leftover" when we are ready to clean up and leave is left in the refrigerators for anyone to eat when they can. Containers will be provided to store the leftovers in so everyone can take their equipment home with them.

To learn more about the Ronald McDonald House Charities you can go to their web page at <http://rmhctucson.org/>. A signup sheet will be available at the March monthly meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Jerry Tulino ([webmaster@tucsongrs.org](mailto:webmaster@tucsongrs.org)).

## Minutes of General Meeting

Saturday, February 11, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Glenn Mitchell. Glenn thanked RCW for hosting the meeting. He introduced new member Ed Butchart.



Minutes of the January meeting were approved as read. Jerry Tulino requested a clarification regarding the wording about the Ronald McDonald House Luncheon. We will be providing lunch for the people staying there.

Treasurer Ruth Taylor Reported that the checking account balance as of 2/9/17 was \$7593 and the savings account balance was \$17,246, for a total on deposit of \$24,839. There were no receipts from 1/12/17 and expenses were \$497, for a total of (\$497.) Year to date recap: receipts \$1,822, expenses \$2,375, for a total net revenue of (\$553.)

Vice President's report: Fair setup will begin on April 6 with modules and track only. April 7 will be for populating the layout with buildings, figures, and other decorative items. We will begin teardown after closing of the fair on April 30 by removing all buildings, figures, and other decorations. Final teardown of the modules will depend upon when 4H will vacate the building so we can get our trailers in. We still need many more volunteers to sign up to work shifts at the fair. Willis needs signups by the first week in March so he can have tickets to distribute at the March meeting.

**Events:** We will be providing lunch at Ronald McDonald House on May 10 from 10am to 2pm. Menu will be a taco bar.

Vail Pride Day February 18

RITG March 3-4

## General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

ABTO March 11

Pima County Fair April 20-30. Set-up starting April 6

Ronald McDonald House Lunch May 10, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Swap Meet June 2-3

Summer Christmas at Diamond Children's Hospital June 26

Clinics: Gary will put on a clinic on replacing gears in engines at the March meeting.

Mentor Program: Another new member asked for a mentor. Gary will work with him.

Social Activities: We had a good tour of the Port of Tucson. It is a privately owned enterprise that provides rail-to-truck-to-rail operations. The next social luncheon will be February 22 at the Red Garter. The March social will be on the 22nd at Tiny's. Note, they take cash only.

### Old Business:

Rails in the Garden still needs volunteers.

BoD elections will be held at the May meeting. The slate of officers needs to be ready for the April meeting. The board consists of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor and four members at large. If you are interested, let a board member know. The new officers take over on July 1 for a term of for 2 years.

ABTO tour: We will have 5 layouts open and lunch will be held at the Rodeo Parade Museum.

Public Layouts: The train room has been repainted at the Tucson Children's Museum and we provided a display showing the different scales of model trains. The transportation Museum would possibly like to extend the point-to-point track. Additional scenery has been added to the Rodeo Parade Museum layout.

### Other Old Business:

Ron Koehler noted that many of the couplers on the children's layout need to be replaced. We will work on that when we set up at the fair.

Ken Karrels announced the upcoming schedule at the [Transportation Museum](#):

March 11 Second Saturday at 6:15 pm

March 18 Silver Spike Festival 9:30 am

April 8 Second Saturday at 6:15 pm

May 13 Second Saturday at 6:15 pm

June 10 Second Saturday at 6:15 pm

### Meeting Schedule:

March 18 at 10:00 am at the Blackwell's. BoD Meeting March 9 at 1:00 pm at the Mitchell's. May 20 at 10:00 am at the Murphy's (lunch following). BoD meeting May 11 at 1:00 pm at the Mitchell's. June meeting at the Mahar's. Date and time TBD. BoD meeting June 8 at 1:00 pm at the Mitchell's

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted  
*Dottie Fagg*  
Interim Secretary

## Sidetracked

by Claudia Nelson



*The West Highland Line train passing the Glenfinnan Viaduct*

The Hogwarts Express Train used in the Harry Potter movies is an actual train that runs even today in Scotland, the [West Highland Line Train](#). The line winds through gorgeous settings, including highland valleys and beside lochs.

# Trivia Corner

*Courtesy of Jerry Wilson*

**HOSTLER:** A fireman who operates light engines in designated enginehouse territory and works under the direction of the enginehouse foreman.

## Calendar

**Saturday-Sunday, March 4-5, 2017**

Rails in the Garden Tour

**Thursday, March 9, 2017**

BOD Meeting – Mitchell

**Saturday, March 11, 2017**

ABTO Tour of Tucson Layouts

**Saturday, March 18, 2017**

General Meeting – Blackwell

**Thursday, March 22, 2017**

DCM Tour–Casa Grande, AZ

**Thursday - Saturday, April 6-8, 2017**

Pima County Fair - Setup

**Thursday - Sunday, April 20-30, 2017**

Pima County Fair

**Monday, May 1, 2017**

Pima County Fair – Load Out

**Wednesday, May 10, 2017**

Ronald McDonald House - Lunch

**Thursday, May 11, 2017**

BOD Meeting – Mitchell

**Saturday, May 20, 2017**

General Meeting – **Murphy (BOD elections and Lunch provided)**

**Thursday, June 8, 2017**

BOD Meeting – Mitchell

**Monday, June 26, 2017**

Christmas at Diamond Children's

**Saturday, June (TBD), 2017**

General Meeting – Mahar

## TGRS Officers and Board of Directors

**President:** Glenn Mitchell- [president@tucsongrs.org](mailto:president@tucsongrs.org)

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

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

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

**Editor:** Claudia Nelson - [editor@tucsongrs.org](mailto:editor@tucsongrs.org)

**At Large Board Members:**

**Dennis Mahar** - [memberatlarge1@tucsongrs.org](mailto:memberatlarge1@tucsongrs.org)

**Billy Joplin** - [memberatlarge2@tucsongrs.org](mailto:memberatlarge2@tucsongrs.org)

**Bob Averill** - [memberatlarge3@tucsongrs.org](mailto:memberatlarge3@tucsongrs.org)

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

**TGRS Website:** [TucsonGRS.org](http://TucsonGRS.org)

**Contact:** [webmaster@tucsongrs.org](mailto:webmaster@tucsongrs.org)

## [TGRS Membership Application](#)

The Tucson Garden Railway Society is a 501(c)(3) 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