



The Tucson Garden Railway Society

TIMETABLE

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

June 1, 2017

2017-18 Dues Due July 1st

Please send (\$30) check to:
RUTH TAYLOR
4081 S. TARANTULA HAWK PLACE
TUCSON, AZ 85735

TGRS General Meeting **Saturday, June 17, 2017**

Where: Dennis & Carolyn Mahar
[6219 E. Diablo Sunrise Rd.](#)
[Tucson, AZ 85756](#)
760-519-2207

When: 9:00 am trains running
10:00 am general meeting
11:00 am run trains again

Directions:

From west/downtown area- Take I-10 east. Exit 269 (Wilmot Rd). Turn right on Wilmot. Turn right on Diablo Sunrise RD. 4th house on right.

From east of Wilmot rd. Take I-10 west to exit 269 (Wilmot rd) Turn left on Wilmot. Go under I-10. Turn right on Diablo Sunrise Rd.

From north midtown area- Take Alvernon Rd. south to Valencia Rd. Turn left on Valencia Rd. Turn right on Wilmot Rd. Turn right on Diablo Sunrise Rd.

FLATHEAD JUNCTION R/R

Flathead Junction was founded in August 2016. Population is very few. Elevation is six inches from ground level. The town was named after Henry Ford's first V-8 engine, the Ford Flathead.

Flathead Junction has two main loops, three sidings on the main lines and two sidings in the railroad yard/station. There is about 250 feet of track. There is a water feature and tunnel. The railroad is battery powered using a system from Reed's Hobby Shop in La Mesa, California (about 20 years old). Most of the vehicles are early Fords and Chryslers, Dodge and Plymouth vehicles from 1909 to 1970. Buildings are mostly kits from Pola and Piko. Hope you enjoy my railroad as it is just getting started.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

By Chuck Cook

The next luncheon is Thursday June 15th. The place is [The Red Garter Saloon](#), located at 3143 E. Speedway just east of Country Club. The food is always great, the service excellent (it's getting like Cheers...the waitress knows us and our drinks by name), and the conversation varied and fun. AND, it is time to get back to playing some pool. Be there at 11:00 for pool (no rules, loose scorekeeping and lots of fun), or 11:45 for lunch. Call Chuck Cook at 977-7673 with any questions.

Ronald McDonald House Luncheon Photos

By Peggy Martin



TGRS General Meeting Minutes Saturday, May 20, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Glenn Mitchell. Glenn thanked the Murphys for hosting the meeting.



Minutes of the March meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer Ruth Taylor reported that the checking account balance as of 5/20/17 was \$7,124 and the savings account balance was \$17,254, for a total on deposit of \$24,378. Receipts from 3/19/17 were \$204 and expenses were \$1,222, for a total draw on cash of (\$1,018.) Year to date recap: receipts \$5,002, expenses \$6,016, for a total net revenue of (\$1,015.)

Vice President's report: A total of 38 members participated in the fair, down from the usual 42-45. We received a thank you letter from the fair commission. The fair next year will be April 19-29.

Meeting Schedule:

General meeting June 17 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mahars. BOD June 15, 2:00 p.m. at the Mitchells

General meeting November 11 at 4:00 p.m. at the Martins. BOD November 9, 2:00 p.m. at the Mitchells

Annual Christmas luncheon December 2, 12:00 p.m. at the Golden Corral.

General meeting March 17, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mitchells. BOD March 15, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Mitchells.

Diane Temple volunteered to host the September 23rd meeting. Date to be confirmed.

Jack Forgues volunteered to host the October 21st meeting. Date to be confirmed.

Events:

Swap Meet June 2-3

Summer Christmas at Diamond Children's Hospital
June 26

Light the Night Walk October 21.

Committee Reports:

Membership: We now have 67 current members

Social Activities: Third Thursday of the month at the
Red Garter

Old Business:

Public Layout status: Gary will set up a work party
for maintenance of the layout at the Botanical
Gardens.

Board of Directors Election:

The officers were elected by acclamation.

President: Glenn Mitchell

Vice President: Dennis Mahar

Secretary: Pat Somerhalder

Treasurer: Ruth Taylor

Newsletter Editor: Claudia Nelson

Four people were elected for the at-large positions.

Bob Averill

Gina Blackwell

Jack Forgues

David Nelson

A reception will be held at the Mini Time Machine
Museum on June 8th from 5-7 p.m. for the opening of
the showing of Bob Murphy's buildings.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Dottie Fagg

Interim Secretary

CRITTERLAND JUNCTION RAILROAD

By Ruth Taylor

Chuck Taylor, a member for over 10 years, died
from ongoing medical problems on Saturday,
April 1, 2017.

Chuck and Ruth joined TGRS in January 2006 at
the Home Show display set-up there. Since that
time, he has spent many enjoyable hours
participating in our many club activities
including volunteering at our modular layouts,

swap meets, helping to install layouts at the
Tucson Children's Museum and the Diamond
Children's Center, and pulling the club trailers
to events on occasion.

Chuck was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois,
working as a Teamster mainly hauling and
delivering commercial acid products over a
four-state area for PVS Chemical. Chuck
married Ruth in 1985, helping her raise her
youngest child, Aaron.

Chuck started his love for G-scale when Aaron
was a toddler as he watched this kid playing
with an LGB starter set which he though was
not age-appropriate.

Ruth, a career railroad employee, assured him
that the train was sturdy enough to play
with. Naturally, a starter set was just not
enough and the train collection grew.

His interest grew with visits to Kalamazoo Too
Trains in Michigan located near one of their
favorite camping spots. He would set up his
purchases in the campground for all to watch
the train running - it was a big hit with the
kids. After attending the Annual Convention in
Chicago he built an inside track around the
ceiling of his home workroom.

Chuck retired early at age 62 because of health
problems. He and Ruth moved to Tucson in
December 2005 and moved into their new
home in March 2006.

Chuck never finished his outdoor layout, due to
never ending health complications and
procedures since relocating to Tucson, but he
never lost his interest in TGRS and his
unfinished layout. He spent many hours over
the years constructing buildings, train cars, and
embellishments for his future layout.

Ruth would agree that it was time well spent in
his well-equipped hobby building. Some of his
favorite memories were of traveling here in the
US and abroad with Rich Hull on his Rail Fan
trips along with other members to ABTO and
TGRS. He never imagined train travel in so
many places and countries.

TEN TRAIN RIDES IN FIFTEEN DAYS

by Phyllis Dirksen

Recently 23 rail fans from Arizona and Colorado made a whirlwind tour of central European countries for rail trips, behind the scenes spaces, city tours and points of interest. Participants from TGRS included Bob & Sue Averill, Bob & Jackie Conrad, Gary & Peggy Martin and Phyllis Dirksen



Our leaders were Rich Hull from the ABTO Garden Railroad group who has arranged 8 earlier similar trips and Berhard Steiner owner of [Custom Travel Network, Inc. in Rancho Santa Margarita, CA](#) who also happens to be somewhat of a rail fan.

RAIL TRIPS

We flew from Phoenix, April 19 to Philadelphia, changed planes and continued to Frankfurt, Germany. There the rail station is part of the airport complex and we boarded an ICE Unit ([Intercity Experimental Train Set](#)) which whisked us at over 100 mph to Hamburg. Immediately after our hotel check in we visited [Miniature Wunderland](#) (largest HO model train layout in the world).

Our second rail trip was on the Brocken, Railway. Beginning at [Drei Ammen Hohne, Germany station](#) we boarded restored vintage coaches to be pulled by steam locomotive on narrow gauge track through the Hartz

Mountain range. After circling the summit three times in the National Park we reached Brocken, the site of conflicting military operations during WWII. We lunched and visited a small museum. The tower of a Soviet Listening post is still present. This was a round trip visit.

The third rail adventure was the [Znin-Wenecja-Biskupin-Gasawa](#) line which is a restored tourist train which once visited small communities in the the area near Posnan, Poland for local service.



The line took us to the [Wenecja, Poland museum](#) which displays equipment and appropriate rolling stock of by-gone years. The signals, crossing gates, turntable and like were all hand operated and were operated by members of our group. Of special note was the mail car and the milk car (which put one in mind of a child sized railroad). More later about the castle ruins in the area.

Rail trip #4 was the [Railjet](#) from Vienna, Austria to Innsbruck, Austria. Railjets are high-speed consists of seven coaches with electric locomotives at either end operated by Austrian Federal Railways and Czech Railways. Maximum speed was 140 mph offered a smooth ride but made photos of the stunning terrain a challenge. First class service of

food and beverage was provided in seat or in a dining car.

Rail trip #5 and #6 occurred on the same day. Until this date, weather had been overcast and chilly. First was a round trip ride on the [Zillertal Steam Railway](#) from Jenbach, Austria to Myrhofen, Austria and return. After a visit to the Achenessebahn Depot and maintenance facility we rode the Achensee steam cogwheel railway for the first train of the new tourist season.



Tucson crew at Zillertal Steam Railway at Jenbach, Austria



Zillertal Steam Railway at Jenbach, Austria (Steam Up)

Rail trip #7 was from Interlaken, Austria to Feldkirch, Austria via the Arlberg Pass line by Railjet. This area is the winter sports capital of Europe. The rail line passes through the continental watershed, between the Rhine and the Danube. This rail trip included passing through a nine-mile tunnel.

Rail trip #8 was the round trip [Grindelwald, & Kleine Scheidegg Cogwheel train](#) to the Jungfrau Summit. I had encountered a central cogwheel set up but this line had cog rails inside each rail. We encountered real winter weather again. The summit “The Top of Europe” of the Jungfrau hosts, ski run services, viewing areas, restaurants, gift shops, a gallery of ice sculptures and more.

Rail trip #9, the [Zweisimmen and Montreux \(MOB Line\)](#) was interrupted by a short change to motor coach because of repair construction in the narrow valley as there is not enough room to divert on other rails. The MOB is one of the oldest electric trains in Europe and deals with some of the steepest grades. The Golden Pass travels through vineyard country. After the run we were transferred to a shuttle train to reach the auto free city of Zermatt, Switzerland.

A shuttle from our hotel area in Zermatt took us to Rail trip #10. It was the [Glacier Express](#) to Chur, Switzerland. We traveled by first class Panorama Car through the Alps on the “slowest express train in the world”. The Glacier Express is famous for steep mountain passes, viaducts, river views, alpine meadows, castles, bridges and villages. This trip ended in a motor coach ride to Zurich, Switzerland which was our departure point, back to the USA after a great round of train travel.

There are other adventures on the trip which will be reported in a later publication.

Sidetracked

by Claudia Nelson



A NS train. Credit: Wikimedia Commons, Ad Meskens

As of the first of January, all public transport trains in the [Netherlands](#) are being powered by renewable energy, namely from wind power.

Trivia Corner

Courtesy of Jerry Wilson

CORNERED: A term used when a car has been struck by another car because it was not in the clear.

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

Calendar

Thursday, June 15, 2017

BOD Meeting – Mitchell

Saturday, June 17, 2017

General Meeting - Mahar

Monday, June 26, 2017

Christmas at Diamond Children's

Thursday, September 21, 2017

BOD Meeting – Mitchell

Saturday, September 23, 2017

General Meeting - TBD

Thursday, October 19, 2017

BOD Meeting – Mitchell

Saturday, October 21, 2017

General Meeting - TBD

Light The Night Walk-Lymphoma
Leukemia Society

Thursday, November 9, 2017

BOD Meeting – Mitchell

Saturday, November 11, 2017

General Meeting - Martin

Saturday, December 2, 2017

General Meeting & Holiday
Luncheon – Golden Corral

Thursday, March 15, 2018

BOD Meeting – Mitchell

Saturday, March 17, 2017

General Meeting - Mitchell

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