

# The Tucson Garden Railway Society



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

### October 1, 2017

### We still have some members who owe 2017-18 dues!

If you haven't yet paid, please send (\$30) check to: RUTH TAYLOR 4081 S. TARANTULA HAWK PLACE TUCSON, AZ 85735

## TGRS General Meeting Saturday, October 21, 2017

- Where: Jack & Rosalie Forgues 61786 E. Sandlewood Rd. Tucson, AZ 85739 520-818-9598
- When: 9:00 am trains running 10:00 am General meeting

#### **Directions:**

From N. Oracle Road (RT. 77) turn right onto Saddlebrooke Blvd. at the signal. Turn right onto Mountainview Blvd. Just after the tennis courts, turn right onto Clubhouse Drive. Follow Clubhouse Drive to Northwood Road, turn right onto Northwood Road and continue to Winding Trail Drive. Turn left onto Winding Trail Drive, continue to Sandlewood Road. Turn left onto Sandlewood Road and continue down the street to 61786 E. Sandlewood Road.

Folding chairs would be greatly appreciated.



#### **Quail Ridge Garden Railroad**

Our garden railroad came into existence in April of 2006 when we moved into our new home in SaddleBrooke. We decided that it would be easier to have an elevated railroad that would work with our landscaping plan. After two attempts at building the elevated railroad, we decided to add elevated pads and a new rock canyon to our existing landscape. Our track plan consists of two independent loops with a switchyard for each loop. The time period for our layout is the early 1950's to the late 1980's. We have approximately 800 feet of track and 28 switches. We run both steam and diesel locomotives on the Quail Ridge Railroad. The locomotives are electric powered with QSI sound /decoder boards installed. To create a more dramatic focal point for the Quail Ridge Railroad, we added a three story mine at the entrance to the railroad. The layout has several buildings which are either metal with plastic siding added or scratch built. But as time goes by we will be adding more structures to the layout. In other words, a garden railroad is always a work in progress. We hope you enjoy seeing our railroad.

#### SOCIAL ACTIVITIES By Chuck Cook

We had 20+ folks in September, and nary a bad word was said. Well, o.k., we did have trouble with a pool table. But the waitress fixed it quickly.



She also said how much she liked having our group there - so back we go.



The next luncheon is Thursday October 19th. The place is <u>The Red Garter Saloon</u>, located at 3143 E. Speedway just east of Country Club. The food is always great, the service excellent, and the conversation varied and fun. 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.



Wally & Julie Gazdzik Edward & Darlene Butchart Michael & Mary Jones & family Jim Bettes Diane Temple & Keoe Duvall

### By Plane, Boat and Train

By Chuck Cook

In August Debbie and I were privileged to cross one vacation off our bucket list. We got to cruise the inside passage of Alaska, take trains on a land package to Denali National Park, and fly back home from Fairbanks – all in the company of friends and family. The inside passage is fun, stunning if not cloudy, and has many small towns with interesting histories. The highlight of the cruise is when the very large cruise ship navigates up in to Glacier Bay National Park. Luckily the clouds and rain broke about half way in to the park, so we got to see all the glaciers in all their monstrous glory. The cruise ended in Seward, AK and we took a train along the scenic Kenai Peninsula. You can't beat those huge vista dome train cars to appreciate the green vastness of Alaska. That got us to Anchorage and the next day we boarded another vista dome train to Denali.



That was the highlight of sightseeing for the trip. Although a lot of the trip was shrouded in mist and rain, when it came to where you can see Denali and

her two sisters, we were blessed with clear sunshine to see all three peaks. A full view of Denali is said to be about a once a month occurrence for visitors, so we were very lucky. As the last RR in the U.S. to stop along the line to pick up or drop passengers and to have to manually move switches, the rules are little loose.





That allowed me to stand in the area between cars and high five somebody on the train passing the other direction. One of the pictures features a pile of ???

## The first one to e-mail me with what these are used for gets a free drink at the next club luncheon.



While in Denali the next day we took the wilderness tour in to the park itself where we sighted many moose, Dahl sheep, bear and one wolf. Having seen Denali the day before was doubly appreciated, as when we got to the view spot in the park where you can see all of Denali, only about the bottom quarter was not obscured by clouds. That night at 6pm we took a whitewater raft trip in 55-degree, rainy weather. It was a blast.



Thank goodness for Gortex suits with rubber collars, boots and cuffs. It was Debbie's first raft trip and now she is ready for more. If you can't see me in the picture, I am sitting right across from her and she is the third person back on the near side. Next on the bucket list – Lake Tahoe or Lake Louise.

#### TGRS GENERAL MEETING 23-SEP-2017

Vice President Dennis Mahar called the meeting to order and thanked Diane Temple for hosting the meeting and generously providing lunch afterwards.



Dennis asked if there were any new members at the meeting and there were: Mike and Mary Jones introduced themselves, as did Wally Gazdzick. We welcomed them all.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as published in the Newsletter.

Treasurer Ruth Taylor reported the following:

Checking (as of 9/21/2017) Savings (as of 9/21/2017) Total	\$3,841 <u>\$17,275</u> \$21,116
Receipts (as of 6/16/2017)	\$918
Expenses (as of 6/16/2017)	<u>(\$1,496)</u>
Net Revenues	(\$578)
YTD Recap (2016/17)	
Receipts	\$5,791
Expenses	<u>(\$9,109)</u>
Net Revenue	(\$3,318)
YTD Recap (2017/18)	
Receipts	\$271
Expenses	<u>(\$1,228)</u>
Net Revenue	(\$958)

Ruth mentioned that the taxes for the non-profit had been filed – nothing owed.

**Vice-President's Report** – Calendar of Upcoming Events on the Website has been updated through March, 2018. The events include:

10/19	Board of Directors (BOD) – Mitchells
10/21	General Meeting – Forgues

10/21 Light the Night event at Park Place Mall by LA Fitness: setup children's layout between 2 and 4pm, run trains from 4-8pm.

11/04 Open House – Carmichael-Pappas

- 11/09 BOD Mitchells
- 11/10-11 Gadsden-Pacific Swap Meet same info/setup instructions as last event: setup on Friday begins at 11am, trains run 1-6pm; Saturday trains run 9am to 2pm then teardown.
- 11/11 Martins' Open House and General Meeting
- 11/30 Clean up setup prep at Tucson Botanical Gardens (TBG) for Luminaria Nights
- 12/01-03 & 12/08-10 TBG Luminaria Nights 4:30-8pm
- 12/02 General Meeting and Holiday Party at Golden Corral
- 12/11 Teardown at TBG
- 12/26 Setup at Tucson VA

12/27-28 Run trains at VA

- 12/29 Run trains at VA until 2pm, then teardown
- 01/05-06 Gadsden-Pacific swap meet
- 01/18 BOD Mitchells
- 01/20 General Meeting Averills
- 03/03-04 Rails in the Garden (RITG)
- 03/15 BOD Mitchells
- 03/17 General Meeting Mitchells

<u>The Newsletter Editor's Report</u>: Need articles and topic suggestions. Jim Miller will write an article about a windmill farm and Diane Temple will send one in about Roadside America in Redding, PA.

#### **Committee Reports**

Membership: Jerry Tulino was absent but according to Ruth we have 68 members, 38 of which have paid and 23 as yet unpaid for the current fiscal year, and 7 honorary members.

<u>Website:</u> Jerry and Gary Martin are working on a new 'For Sale' section on the web site where people can have items they want to sell posted.

#### Education: Nothing new to report.

<u>Clinics</u>: Jack Forgues will hold a birdhouse modification clinic (see notice below). Jack had examples of one he had modified and a couple that Chuck Taylor had done. Very impressive! and Gary is willing to do another clinic with Styrofoam if enough members are interested. Plus, if anyone needs anything, Gary has promised to find an expert to hold a clinic.

Maintenance: At TBG there is continual maintenance to keep the trains running. The Conrads' are there at least every other week doing maintenance work at TBG, which is very much needed and appreciated. If anyone is interested in repairing one of the buildings, Gary will arrange making it available.

<u>Social Activities</u>: There was an impressive number at Thursday's social luncheon at the Red Garter. Next social luncheon will be on October 19<sup>th</sup> at the Red Garter (usual place). Chuck is looking for ideas for a road trip. Willis commented Esmond Station Regional Park is being developed, along with restoring the station. Willis will keep us apprised of the progress.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

RITG 2018 – Gary is getting sites, and currently has at least 8 identified. Dennis reported that the posters and flyers are done. We will need lots of volunteers over the weekend and Dennis will have sign-up sheets at the January meeting.

A notice about club regalia and pins will be in the next Newsletter to let new members know what's available.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Norm Ulmer would like to resign as Awards Chairman by the end of the year. The job entails keeping track of volunteer hours by fiscal year and making awards of badges and vests as appropriate. Anyone interested should talk to Norm.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Claudia Nelson, acting for Gina Blackwell, Secretary



Contact Dennis Mahar if you'd like to volunteer at Light the Night Walk on October 21, 2017.

### **TGRS CLINIC SCHEDULE FOR 2017**

Jack and Rosalie Forgues Residence

61786 E. Sandlewood Road SaddleBrooke, AZ.

Subject: Modifying Bird Houses for your Railroad Layout.

Presented by: Jack Forgues

Clinic Time: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

We have room for 4 people maximum for this clinic. Three people have already sign up.

Participants to supply their own birdhouse for the clinic for modification. You can purchase birdhouses at WalMart or Hobby Lobby.

The host will provide scrap material to make various windows, doors and walls. Paint and brushes will also be available at clinic.

<u>TGRS Members attending the clinic</u> Jack Forgues – Instructor 1. Michael Jones 2. Wally Gazdzik 3. Diana Temple 4. Contact: Jack Forgues at 818-9598 0r jr4gus@wbhsi.net.

If you have any questions or if you would like to sign up for the clinic.

## Trivia Corner

Courtesy of Jerry Wilson

**WEEDBURNER**: A flame thrower vehicle which rides on the trucks and is used to kill weeks along the truck right-of-way.

#### PRICE LIST FOR CLUB REGALIA PINS \$5.00 EACH \$1.50 EACH DECALS PATCHES \$2.00 EACH HATS \$12.00 EACH \$22.00 EACH SILK TOUGH SHIRTS (LIGHT IVORY COLOR) **DENIM SHIRTS** \$26.00 EACH (SHORT OR LONG SLEEVE) NOTE: Shirts are available in ladies' or men's sizes. (Size 2X and up are an additional \$3.00 per shirt)

(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



You are invited to the 14th annual Open House AT

Gary and Peggy Martin's EAGLE MOUNTAIN GARDEN RAILROAD

> Date: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2017 Place: 4625 E. Cerro de Aguila, Tucson AZ

•General Open House 10:00AM to 3:00PM Open free to general public.

•TGRS November Meeting will begin at 4.00pm

•Food and beverages will be served after 5:00PM for club members, their families, and other special guests.

If you plan to stay for the food and beverages, please RSVP by November 05<sup>th</sup> with numbers who plan to attend.

520 299-7428 or pgmartin5@hotmail.com

## Sidetracked

by Claudia Nelson



Brunel's magnificent terminus at Paddington

#### British Rail "Ghost Trains"

Many 'Ghost Trains' run on the British Rail Network. These trains, often unadvertised, run extremely rarely, at obscure times, through bizarre routes, purely to keep the line officially open whilst discouraging passenger use. Ghost train hunters roam the country searching for them. The Old Engineer Sez: " IT is hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere."

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

President: Glenn Mitchell- president@tucsongrs.org V-President: Dennis Mahar - vicepresident@tucsongrs.org Secretary: Gina Blackwell- secretary@tucsongrs.org Treasurer: Ruth Taylor - treasurer@tucsongrs.org Editor: Claudia Nelson - editor@tucsongrs.org At Large Board Members: Bob Averill - memberatlarge1@tucsongrs.org John Fennema - memberatlarge2@tucsongrs.org Jack Forgues - memberatlarge3@tucsongrs.org David Nelson - memberatlarge4@tucsongrs.org

#### **TGRS Membership Application**

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

#### Calendar

Thursday, October 19, 2017 **BOD** Meeting – Mitchell Saturday, October 21, 2017 **General Meeting - Forgues** Light the Night Walk-Lymphoma Leukemia Society Saturday, November 4, 2017 Open House – Carmichael/Pappas Thursday, November 9, 2017 **BOD** Meeting – Mitchell Friday-Saturday, November 10-11, 2017 Gadsen Pacific Swap Meet Saturday, November 11, 2017 General Meeting - Martin Friday-Sunday, December 1-3, 2017 Luminaria Nights - TBG Saturday, December 2, 2017 General Meeting & Holiday Luncheon – Golden Corral Friday-Sunday, December 8-10, 2017 Luminaria Nights - TBG Tuesday-Friday, December 26-29, 2017 VA Hospital Christmas Display Friday-Saturday, January 5-6, 2018 Gadsen Pacific Swap Meet Thursday, January 18, 2018 **BOD** Meeting – Mitchell Saturday, January 20, 2018 General Meeting – Averill Saturday-Sunday, March 3-4, 2018 Rails in the Garden Tour Thursday, March 15, 2018 **BOD** Meeting – Mitchell Saturday, March 17, 2018 General Meeting – Mitchell