

The Tucson Garden Railway Society



Send Articles, Photos, Announcements to: Claudia Nelson: <u>ccgnelson@gmail.com</u>

July 1, 2018

TGRS Dues Payable July 1, 2018

(for the year July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 \$30.00 PER MEMBER OR FAMILY

Please make check payable to TGRS and send to:

RUTH TAYLOR TREASURER, TGRS 4081 S. TARANTULA HAWK PLACE TUCSON, AZ 85735

No Meeting until September.



This Photo by Unknown Author is

Have a great summer!

SOCIAL ACTIVITES UPDATE By Chuck Cook

We had a good turnout for our June lunch even after the social director forgot to send a reminder e-mail on time. No need to change our location so we will return to <u>The Red Garter Saloon</u>, located at 3143 E. Speedway just east of Country Club on Wednesday July 18th. 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.

> WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: CONRAD & SALLY JACUNSKI

> PAUL STEVENS & KATHLEEN GARZA

TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING June 9, 2018

Tucson Botanical Gardens

Thanks were given to the "Gardens" and Gary Martin for setting up the location and time. There were approximately 30 members present for the meeting.



The minutes of the May General Meeting were approved as published in the Newsletter.

The Treasurer's Report: Checking (as of o6/o9/18): Savings (as of o6/o9/18): Total on Deposit:	\$ 3,572 <u>17,288</u> \$20,860
Receipts (from 05/18/18) Expenses (from 05/18/18) Net Revenue:	\$ 279 <u>-357</u> \$ (79)
Year to Date Recap Receipts: Expenses Net Revenue:	\$ 4,715 <u>6,146</u> (1,431)

OLD BUSINESS: <u>Public Layout Status</u> – the only update to any layout was the Botanical Gardens. The cleanup of the Gardens organized by Gary took place on 6/07 and the results are great. Those who participated in the cleanup were thanked for their efforts.

The recently purchased <u>doodlebug</u> is currently stored at the Mitchells.

Ideas for the redesign of the Gardens layout are welcome. The layout was built for the 2008 National Convention and is starting to show its age. Please send any suggestions to Glenn Mitchell and/or Gary Martin. NEW BUSINESS: Members were reminded about the 2019 National Convention is to take place August 27-31 in Portland, OR. There should be lots of very nice layouts open.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Dennis Maher reminded everyone of the Christmas in June event at Diamond Children's Center, 4th floor, on Monday, June 25. Signup is with Willis Fagg who explained the event for the new members present. The setup time is at 8am and the event starts at 10am. Gary has agreed to drive the trailer.

September General Meeting needs a host. The Board of Directors (BOD) meeting will be 9/20, the location to be announced.

The October BOD will occur on 10/18 and the General Meeting on 10/20 at the Forgues'. October 20th is also the date for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Light the Night event at Park Place Mall. Last year a meal was provided for the workers. Setup is at 4:30pm and we will run until about 8pm. A signup sheet will be available at the September meeting.

There will be a swap meet on November 9 and 10. The November General Meeting will be 11/10 at the Martins'.

The Christmas party will be 12/01 at Noon, again at the Golden Corral, 6865 N. Thornydale Road. The voluntary gift exchange (train-related and \$20 maximum value) was explained.

Information on the VA hospital display dates, etc. is still pending.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT:

Pictures and stories (old and new) are encouraged and welcome.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: As reported by the treasurer, Ruth Taylor, we have 67 paid member families and 7 honorary/lifetime members.

Website: Jerry Tulino reported no problems but welcomes suggestions. There is plenty of storage space and the cost for the site is minimal.

Education: nothing new to report.

Cinics: There was some discussion about having presentations versus "hands on" clinics. Some clinics/presentations proposed were: locomotive

weathering with Gary; decals with Glenn; Styrofoam houses with Gary; making videos for the website; how to effectively and economically search for replacement parts on the web with Jack.

Maintenance: nothing new reported for club equipment.

Mentor Program: Gary stated that he would be willing to mentor new members. Just give him a call.

Social Activities: the next Social luncheon will be 6/20 at the Red Garter Saloon.



The Engineer who helped us earn this award

OTHER: Willis reported that the club had been awarded the **People's Choice Award** for our railroad display at the Pima County Fair. It was voted on by the schoolchildren attending the Fair. The bright red ribbon will be added to our club display board for future events.

Willis has also agreed to be the 2019 Election of Officers Nominating Committee Chair. He encouraged the new members to get involved. Growth is needed for the club to continue and we're counting on "new blood" to keep things going. There was some

discussion about appointing an assistant to the vice-president (VP) one year before the elections in order for him/her to learn what the VP's job entails.

The Board Meetings are open to all and new members are especially encouraged to attend.

It was proposed that ad hoc events be assigned an "Event Chairperson" to help lessen the load for the VP.

Gary encouraged members to attend the Beat the Heat swap meet in Prescott Valley on August 18.

Respectfully submitted, *Gina Blackwell*, Secretary

VISIT TO THE COLORADO MODEL TRAIN MUSEUM Greely, Colorado by Dottie Fagg

In April, 2018, Willis and I visited the Colorado Model Train Museum in Greely, Colorado. It is a fantastic HO display with 1,353 feet, or 20.5 scale miles, of mainline covering about 5,500 square feet. The trains run at a scale of 20 mph and it takes over an hour for a train to traverse the entire layout. The scenery includes mountains, rivers, different kinds of trees and shrubs, and many buildings. Check out their website at <u>http://www.cmrm.org</u> for more details.



A logging operation



A street scene



A forest fire, complete with smoke



An overview of some of the layout



Some more of the layout



A car getting a push into a gas station



Fire department putting out a fire



A great layout if you are ever in Greely, Colorado

Select Photos from Christmas in June at Diamond Children's Hospital by John Fennema





Flyer for Prescott Area Swap Meet August 10, 2018





--- VERY IMPORTANT ---

DO NOT use north bound Lake Valley Rd. Access the school from the North at E. Lakeshore Dr. & Lake Valley Rd. Turn South on Lake Valley Rd. to school 'PV Police will ticket people making Left or U-turns to the School'

About the Pocket Watch, a very interesting story.

Submitted by Dennis Mahar

If you were in the market for a watch in 1880, would you know where to get one? You would go to a store, right? Well, of course you could do that, but if you wanted one that was cheaper and a bit better than most of the store watches, you went to the train station!

Sound a bit funny? Well, for about 500 towns across the northern United States, that's where the best watches were found.



Why were the best watches found at the train station? The railroad company wasn't selling the watches, not at

all. The telegraph operator was. Most of the time the telegraph operator was located in the railroad station because the telegraph lines followed the railroad tracks from town to town. It was usually the shortest distance and the rightof-way had already been secured for the rail line.

Most of the station agents were also skilled telegraph operators and it was the primary way

they communicated with the railroad. They would know when trains left the previous station and when they were due at



their next station. And it was the telegraph operator who had the watches. As a matter of fact, they sold more of them than almost all the stores combined for a period of about 9 years.

This was all arranged by "Richard", who was a telegraph operator himself. He was on duty in the North Redwood, Minnesota train station one day when a load of watches arrived from the East. It was a huge crate of pocket watches. No one ever came to claim them. So, Richard sent a telegram to the manufacturer and asked them what they wanted to do with the watches. The manufacturer didn't want to pay the freight back, so they wired Richard to see if he could sell them. So, Richard did. He sent a wire to every agent in the system asking them if they wanted a cheap, but good, pocket watch. He sold the entire case in less than two days and at a handsome profit. That started it all.

He ordered more watches from the watch company and encouraged the telegraph operators to set up a display case in the station offering high quality watches for a cheap price to all the travelers. It worked! It didn't take long for the word to spread and, before long, people other than travelers came to the train station to buy watches. Richard became so busy that he had to hire a professional watchmaker to help him with the orders. That was Alvah. And the rest is history as they say. The business took off and soon expanded to many other lines of dry goods. Richard and Alvah left the train station and moved their company to Chicago -- and it's still there.



YES, IT'S A LITTLE KNOWN FACT that for a while in the 1880's, the biggest watch retailer in the country was at the train station. It all started with a telegraph operator: Richard Sears and partner Alvah Roebuck!

Bet You Didn't Know That! OK, maybe you did; I didn't! Now that's History.



The Old Engineer Sez: "THESE DAYS, I SPEND A LOT OF TIME THINKING ABOUT THE HEREAFTER......I GO SOMEWHERE TO GET SOMETHING, AND THEN WONDER WHAT I'M "HERE AFTER"."

Trivia Corner

Courtesy of Jerry Wilson

PRESIDENTIAL FUNERAL: The first presidential funeral train carried William the remains of Henry Harrison, in 1841. Harrison was in office for less than a month before dying from pneumonia, becoming the first U.S. President to die in office.



By Claudia Nelson



Stockholm's Central Station is one building reusing heat from passengers passing through

There is a Train station in Sweden (Stockholm's Central Station) that uses people's body heat to warm adjacent buildings.

Coming next month

A serialized memoir by John Fennema, "My Life as a Railroader"

...stay tuned!

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 Website: TucsonGRS.org Contact: webmaster@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

Saturday, August 18, 2018 "Beat the Heat" Train Show – Prescott Valley Thursday, September 20, 2018 **BOD** Meeting – Mitchell Thursday, October 18, 2018 **BOD Meeting – Mitchell** Saturday, October 20, 2018 General Meeting – Forgues Saturday, October 20, 2018 "Light the Night" Walk – Park Place Mall Friday-Saturday, November 9-10, 2018 Gadsen-Pacific Swap Meet Saturday, November 10, 2018 General Meeting & Open House -Martin Saturday, December 1, 2018 Holiday Luncheon & General Meeting -Golden Corral Wednesday-Friday, December 26-28, 2018 VA Hospital Xmas Display Thursday, January 17, 2019 **Board Meeting – Mitchell** Saturday, January 19, 2019 General Meeting – Gadsen-Pacific Toy Train Museum Thursday, February 21, 2019 Board Meeting – Mitchell Saturday, February 23, 2019 General Meeting – RCW Thursday, March 14, 2019 Board Meeting – Mitchell Saturday, March 16, 2019 General Meeting – Averill