



TIMETABLE

APRIL 2024

**April General Meeting at
John Carmichael & Phil Pappas
(Cholla Patch RR)**

925 E Foothills Dr

Run trains at 10am, meeting at 11am

Please bring chairs

March Meeting at Charlie Weesner's



RITG Recap

Layout visits **3666**
(up slightly from last year)

Donations

Cash: \$2123.62

Checks (Food Bank): \$320.00

How did you hear about RITG?

AZ Star Article

Marana/Oracle Style Article

KGUN9 Video

Repeat Visitor

Raffle Winners



*Mike and Bea
Mueller
Winners of the
RITG raffle.*

The winners of the Thomas set. Their grown son in Hawaii has a G Scale layout which is rather small since land is at a premium on the island. He has 4 children who are all involved in running the trains on their layout.

A nice addition for under the Xmas tree!



Welcome

New Members

Phil Biggs

Russell & Nancy Dionne

Gene Grzywacz

Jeffrey Jenkins

James Mastrangalo

Bob McLean

Rob Norwood

Roger O'Dell

Walter Parsons

Kristin Quigley

Grace Rodroquez

Patti Schmalzel

Pierce Simpson

Ron Sweet

New Honorary Members

Chuck Haight
Jane Dorgan



**DON'T
FORGET!**

- **April 1 to 17 - Ongoing Fair Setup**
- **April 10 - BOD Meeting (Nelson)**
- **April 13 - General Meeting (Carmichael / Pappas)**
- **April 18-28 - Pima County Fair**
- **April 29 - Fair Teardown**
- **May 8 - BOD Meeting (Nelson)**
- **May 11 - General Meeting & Elections (Tucson Botanical Gardens)**
- **May 22 - Social Luncheon (Red Garter)**

OFFICERS

President: Glenn Mitchell
president@tucsongrs.org

Vice-President: John Fennema
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Secretary: Charlie Weesner
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Treasurer: Margaret Torres Nelson
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Editor: Claudia Nelson
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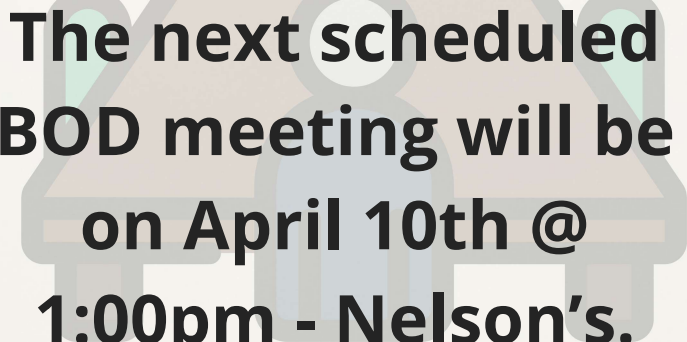
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The next scheduled
BOD meeting will be
on April 10th @
1:00pm - Nelson's.

2023-2024 Spring Meetings

Train Ticket

Apr 13 - Carmichael / Pappas

Trains 10:00

Meeting 11:00

**May 11 - Tucson Botanical Gardens
BOD ELECTIONS**

Trains 10:00

Meeting 11:00

We  our
Volunteers

Pima County Fair

Thursday, April 18 – Sunday, April 28

Open Board Position

Vice-President

Thanks to all the members who have over
the years supported our layouts at the
Tucson Botanical Gardens.

Here's our last run!

Pima County Fair Setup





Links of Interest

The April issue of **The Garden Whistle** from the Christchurch Garden Railway Group and features news from various G scale Groups in New Zealand.

The spring issue of **The Micro Model Dispatch** for the micro layout enthusiast. It contains information about all scales.

The spring issue from **The Garden Railway Specialists** out of the UK and are the UK's largest G-scale dealer. Thomas Preisner has done a lot of business with them and highly recommends them.

SIDE TRACKED

Connecting with Our Community



From a Facebook post at the 2023 PC Fair

We took the kids to the Pima County Fair on Sunday.

As they were enjoying the indoor barn activity, a man walked up to me and, pointing to one of the boys, said, "I would love a yarmulka like that." Are you Jewish?

"No," he said. "I'm Catholic." So why do you want a yarmulka? I asked, intrigued.

He said his name is Bob and he volunteers with the Tucson Garden Railway Society.

Recently, he underwent surgery to remove skin cancer from the top of his skull. "I now have this ugly patch on my head," Bob said. "I wear a hat to hide it, but it's getting hot. Also, I was raised not to wear a hat indoors."

He went on with his story. "When I visited Jerusalem a few years ago, I bought yarmulkas for the 2 sons of my Jewish friend in Phoenix.

After my surgery, I thought a yarmulka would be the perfect thing to cover the scar on my head."

"Well, what do you know? I have an extra yarmulka handy," I said. I handed him a yarmulka. Bob thanked me profusely and immediately put it on his head.

But I am the one who should be thanking him for a couple of reasons. First of all, there is now a good man walking around town advertising Chabad Tucson.

But more importantly, he helped me perform a Mitzvah mentioned in this week's Torah reading of Kedoshim. Scripture instructs, "You shall not stand by [the shedding of] your fellow's blood" (Leviticus 19:16).

Jewish commentary teaches that this isn't only about helping someone physically but also protecting their dignity. Bob said that by having a yarmulka now, he could comfortably go about his day without being self-conscious about his appearance.

It was a blessing to be able to help.

Good Shabbos,
Rabbi Yehuda Ceitlin
Chabad Tucson

Addendum from Bob:

I wore the yarmulka until I was in a cafe in Las Vegas NM where one of the employees greeted me very solemnly. I felt as I was presenting myself as something I was not. After leaving the cafe I put the yarmulka in my pocket.

By the way, this was a trip to Las Vegas by Amtrak, Winslow to Las Vegas.

TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY

General Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2024

Weesner Layout

26 club members signed the attendance sheet, no guests

New member Ron Norwood attended this meeting.

February minutes were approved.

Club treasurer report – Margaret Torres Nelson

- Moved accounts to Vantage West since BofA started charging a fee for the account.
- All Acct Balance \$ 16,918
- Net was slightly positive for the month, but still negative for the year.

Vice President report – John Fennema

•Rails in the Garden

- 3666 layout-visits counted. Up slightly from last year.
- We collected \$2123.62 and \$320 in checks written to Community Food Bank
- Raffle winner is Mike Meuller – his 3rd year visiting RITG. Says his son has a garden layout in Hawaii.
- Most people, when asked, mention hearing about the tour from the TV news report.

•County fair

- Mar 30 to setup modules. Hope to hide the racks behind the curtains rather than putting them back in the trailers.
- Waiting to hear from Tom Fagan about how many scouts plan to participate.
- Saturday to set up modules and get trains running. John plans to paint and repair before we place buildings. Current plan is for the building placement to start Monday.
- We expect to shift the placements this year with the circus moving to the north-west corner and Nogales moving – to be determined where. Intermodal will go where the spa has been in previous years.
- Ann is organizing the scavenger hunt.
- A “shift” is 3½ hours, either 2:30-6 or 5:30-9. The “work” is running trains and talking to people about the layout, about the club, and about trains. We need names by March 25th to get passes from the fair.
- Tear-down slated for April 29th

Newsletter report – Claudia is producing a very good newsletter of club-related information.

Membership

- 71 families total, 13 added from Rails in the Garden sign-ups
- Two members proposed for honorary were approved by the members
 - Chuck Haight
 - Jane Dorgan

Website

- back to TGRS general information
- working to have a sign-up electronic from the website so we don't have to interpret handwriting from

General Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Public displays report

- We are taking out the TBG layout next Wednesday, March 20.
- May 11 meeting at TBG is the day before they open their new railroad exhibit so we get a chance to preview it.

Social Activities – Ann Winter

- Monthly lunch at The Depot, Mar 27th at 11:15
- Xerocraft tour – 5 showed up (vs 14 expected, but it was raining and cold)
- Working on a venue for the Christmas party

Old business

- Elections for officers and board will be held at May meeting. Need to announce our slate of candidates at the April meeting.
 - Revised the scope of Vice President by re-forming committees for Rails in the Garden planning and Pima County Fair.
 - Willis has stepped up to be president.
 - Still looking to recruit someone as Vice President/Coordinator.

New business

- An email from Banner UMC tells us that they are renovating the area where we had a train display. We pulled all the equipment some time back, but the rail is still there. Glenn and Willis hoping to arrange a meeting to see what they are planning.
- A request for “virtual meeting” options has been brought forward. Those who object suggest that to get acceptable production value requires people and equipment dedicated to capturing the meeting. Those who support the idea say that every-day equipment can capture the meeting with little or no effort.

Meetings

- March 27th 11:15 – social lunch at The Depot
- March 30, April 1 – setup modular @ Pima County Fair
- April 10 – board meeting @ Nelson’s
- April 13 – General meeting @ Pappas/Charmichael
- April 18-28 – Pima County Fair



**Thanks to John Fennema,
Charlie Weesner, Bob Conrad,
Jerry Tulino, and Thomas
Preisner for their contributions.**

**The Timetable is published monthly by the Tucson Garden
Railway Society and features news, photos, and articles
from club members in Southern Arizona.**

Editor: Claudia Nelson, Email: editor@tucsongrs.org

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. Membership dues are \$30.00 per year and include up to two name badges. New members joining July thru December will be charged \$30.00. Members joining January thru June will be charged \$15.00. Additional name badges cost \$1.00 per badge. If you are interested in TGRS please contact one of the officers at the e-mails listed above. 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. Membership application link is below:

[TGRS Membership Application](#)