



# TIMETABLE

JULY 2024



**No General Meeting until September**

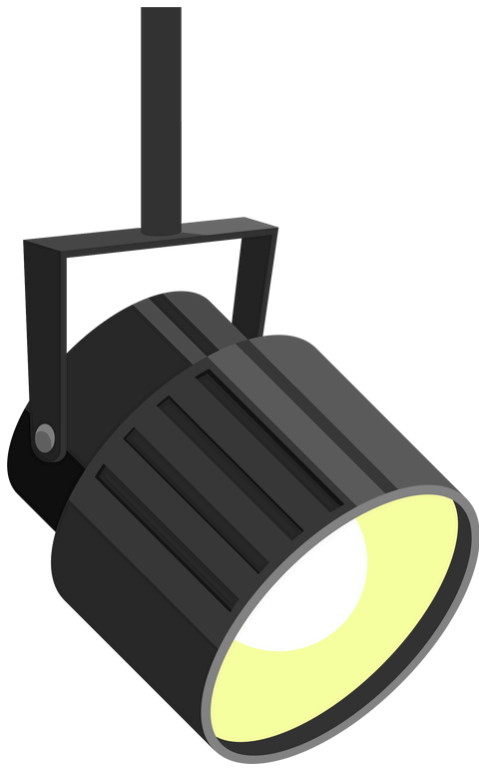
**BUT, if you get the chance, check out the  
2024 schedule for the Big Boy No. 4014  
as it travels west from Cheyenne,  
Wyoming. The trip starts June 30th and  
ends on July 26th.**

**UP Steam Schedule**

The background is an abstract composition of glowing orange and blue lines and dots, creating a sense of depth and movement. The lines are of varying thickness and intersect to form a complex network. The dots are small, colorful spheres scattered throughout the scene.

*Don't forget*

- **July 24 - Social Luncheon  
(Red Garter)**
- **August 28 - Social  
Luncheon (The Depot)**



# Member Spotlight

**Please let me know if a member has made a  
contribution we can feature**

**Jim Miller**



## Links of Interest

**Garden Railway Whistle** New Zealand

<http://www.tucsongrs.org/Uploads/Garden%20Whistle%20-%20July%202024.pdf>

**Florida Garden Railway Society**

<https://www.fgrs.org/>

The **Big Train Operator Club** is a group of enthusiasts, hobbyists, and collectors who devote much of their time and energy to Large-Scale trains.

Cat and train videos, thanks Jerry

[https://www.youtube.com/@daiorama\\_cats](https://www.youtube.com/@daiorama_cats)

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**May June Garden Railroading News**

<https://tucsongrs.org/GRNews/2024-05-06.pdf>

**The club gave the old Childrens Layout to Mason and Connor, locomotive and 2 cars, but they purchased the transformers. They are still in the planning stage for a garden railroad but at least we have found good use of the old layout.**

**Their mother gave me permission for their pictures to be used.**



## **Some of you know that I enjoy trainspotting**

(also called railfanning) meaning I like to see trains in 1:1 scale.

G-Scale is my favourite scale now for 26 years, but since I retired 4 years ago I try to do as much trainspotting as possible.

I learnt some time ago that many railroad enthusiasts don't necessarily like the smaller scales and vice versa.

It is surprising but that's how it is.

Having grown up in Hamburg/Germany I used to ride passenger trains, streetcars/people movers, subways etc. regularly.

It is not only watching locomotives and cars (or consists as they are called), but also everything else which comes with it i.e. the infrastructure and also the scenery (most important).

I do enjoy history and it gives me pleasure seeing old stations, track embedded in a street and anything to do with former or current railroad use.

In this part of Arizona that we live in there are no operational steam locomotives, one needs to drive a bit to see a real working steam locomotive.

The only operational 3 foot narrow gauge railroad in all of Arizona is the tourist train in Goldfield (there was a wildfire in Goldfield last week which was VERY close indeed to Goldfield but luckily everything survived).

Even passenger trains (AMTRAK) in southern Arizona are thin on the ground compared to freight trains which consist of diesel locomotives and a variety of freight cars.

I am always surprised when I am waiting for a consist to see how little noise a huge consist makes when it runs slowly.

I have to admit that experiencing a diesel locomotive or several locomotives running fairly close by gives me a thrill.

Of course I keep my distance and never do anything foolish.

Respect for these mighty locomotives and knowing that they are unable to stop on a dime goes a long way.

There was a time when one was able to basically freely access locomotives, railroad stations and maintenance facilities but 9/11 changed all that.

Now it is sometimes very hard to take pictures and not be intercepted by security or even police.

I make sure I always have some train magazines in my car to back up my story that all I am doing is taking pictures.

I am also pretty sure that some people have been suspicious of my story because of my accent.

However, as long as one is on a public street taking pictures of a train or railroad property is perfectly legal.

The beautiful thing about trainspotting is that it is free !

All it takes is some gasoline and money for food and drink (optional).

When I have seen what I set out to see, I come back home happy but there is always the chance that I may have just missed the train or that it did not run for a variety of reasons.

One has to be philosophical about it.

At the very least I got out of the house and hopefully saw some pretty scenery.

For instance I enjoy driving up to Miami and Globe to see the Arizona Eastern Railroad and the glorious scenery.

The tracks they run on in Globe and Miami used to be Southern Pacific and its predecessor from long ago.

They are also not CTR - continuous welded rail, it is comfortable hearing the clackety clack which has disappeared from the large Class 1 railroads.

For instance imagine my delight when sometime in 2022 or early 2023 I found (after some research) the original SP station for Miami which is located on a side street off Route 60 and it still is in very good shape.

It is not nearly as pretty as the SP station in Globe, but it is important that it still exists. It is owned privately now and fenced in, but it has had a good paint job and even a sign that reads Southern Pacific.  
What a gem !

The track it is on is no longer running all the way to the station and it will never see a working train again, but it gives me joy when I am thinking about the passengers of yesteryear and how they travelled to and from Miami and how they appreciated the railroad. Not having been in Southern Arizona long I am still learning the ropes and am always grateful to the people who have been here a while to recommend to me a good vantage point or the history of the railroad I want to see.

A halfway decent camera is important, I used to take pictures with my smartphone but a camera can take many more pictures in the same time than a smartphone can and the quality is better. Taking pictures in the summer can be a challenge due to the heat but that does not stop me. Also an early start is preferable but not always possible or advisable because the railroads serve companies, and they work Mondays to Fridays 8-5 for the most part..  
I found that trainspotting is best from Mondays to Fridays for the aforesaid reasons.

To summarize trainspotting is for me seeing huge (but also quite small locos sometimes) and short or long consists or even just locos sometimes, being out and about and enjoying myself, all for little money, not to mention sometimes truly spectacular scenery and also meeting new people as well as learning new things.

Every now and then I am able to team up with a friend which automatically raises the fun factor.  
What's not to like ?

I feel it is important not to dawdle but to go and see what you want to, in today's fast moving world changes can happen quickly, or there can be a wildfire or some other calamity and what you had planned to visit may no longer exist.

Thomas Preisner

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The next scheduled  
BOD meeting will be  
on Sep 18th @  
1:00pm - Nelson's.

## 2024-2025 Fall Meetings

### Train Ticket

Sep 21 - Cap Pearson

Oct 19 - Koehler

Nov 16 - Fennema

### ⇒ Train Ticket

Trains 10:00

Meeting 11:00

Trains 10:00

Meeting 11:00

Trains 10:00

Meeting 11:00



**John Fennema, Thomas Preisner  
for the photo of Copper Basin  
RR # 502.**

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

**Editor: Jim Miller, Email: [editor@tucsongrs.org](mailto: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](#)**