



RCW night Run 17 Feb 25

TIMETABLE



The next scheduled BOD meeting
will be on Mar 12th at 1pm
@ Nelsons'

RITG March 8 - 9

General Meeting
Mar 15th, trains run at 10am
Charlie Weesner's
11330 E Concho Circle, Tucson, AZ
Bring Chairs

Don't forget

Garden Railways 2025 Convention

<https://www.ngrc2025.org/event-details/national-garden-railway-convention>

**June 18 - 22 2025
In Sacramento, CA**

Rails in the Garden Layouts

March 8th & 9th

At the moment, I've got Jennfier on-board for another year of displaying our layout.

My understanding is

**Koehler
Charmichael/Pappas
Fagg
Weesner
Fennema
Rincon West**

**Tucson Wagon and History Museum (Rodeo Parade Museum)
Transportation Museum
Gadsden Pacific
Oracle Community Gardens**

TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2025
NELSON RESIDENCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
WILLIS FAGG JOHN FENNEMA
WALLY GADZICK CHARLIE WEESNER
CLAUDIA NELSON JERRY TULINO
JIM MILLER

WILLIS CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 1:03 PM WITH 7 BOARD MEMBERS. WE APPROVED MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY BOARD MEETING.

TREASURER'S REPORT SUMMARY – CLAUDIA NELSON FOR MARGARET (ABSENT)
JANUARY EXPENSES FOR THE STORAGE UNIT RENTAL AND EMAIL LIST PROMOTING RITG.

VP REPORT – CLAUDIA NELSON

HISTORY RELIVED SHOWCASE – CLAUDIA REPORTS NOT THAT MANY PEOPLE, BUT THE GENERAL MANAGER OF OLD TUCSON ASKED ABOUT HAVING US SET UP A DISPLAY THERE. WE'VE BEEN WORKING WITH SUMMER WILSON-HAWKING, ATTRACTIONS SUPERVISOR, AT OLD TUCSON. WE'VE TALKED ABOUT SETTING UP A VERY SMALL, INDOOR LAYOUT BEHIND THE TICKET COUNTER OF THE SP AMADO DEPOT THAT THEY'VE TRANSPORTED TO OLD TUCSON. THIS EXHIBIT WOULD BE PART OF A POSTER-BOARD DISPLAY OF RAIL HISTORY FROM SOUTHERN ARIZONA AND WOULD BE "OPEN" THROUGH MOTHER'S DAY. WE HAVE EQUIPMENT, TRACK, AND A THROTTLE LEFT OVER FROM THE BOTANICAL GARDENS DISPLAY, AND CLAUDIA AND JOHN ARE LOOKING AT SETTING UP BUILDING FLATS AND A COUPLE SMALL STRUCTURES.

2025 RAILS IN THE GARDEN

- ADDING ORACLE COMMUNITY GARDEN TO LIST OF DISPLAYS. PLACING THIS ON THE MAP WILL MAKE THE MAP LESS USEFUL BECAUSE OF THE DISTANCE TO ORACLE – SO ADD A SEPARATE SHEET LISTING THE ADDRESS TO HAND OUT AT THE OTHER OPEN HOUSES.
- JOHN WILL BE HANDING OUT PACKETS AND SIGNAGE AT THE MEETING SATURDAY.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP – NOTHING SPECIAL
WEBSITE

- NOW DEVOTED TO RITG, 450 VISITS THIS MONTH, ABOUT THE SAME AS A YEAR AGO
- EMAIL TO LIST – 50.3% OPENED IT, 13.3% CLICKED THE LINK TO SEE THE WEBSITE. STATISTICS ARE QUITE CONSISTENT OVER THE PAST 3 YEARS.
- EMAIL LIST TO COMCAST – FOR NOW, JERRY IS JUST RE-SENDING THOSE EMAILS TO GET AROUND THEIR BLOCK.

MAINTENANCE/DISPLAYS

- THOMAS PREISNER HAS OFFERED \$200 FOR THE SHAY – THE BOARD APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.
- RON KOEHLER EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE BACHMANN CONNIE. THE BOARD HAS APPROVED A SALE PRICE OF \$100 AS-IS. CHARLIE WILL PRESENT THIS TO RON.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

- JOHN WILL SEND A "REQUEST FOR COMMENT" TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ABOUT THE LUNCHEONS.
- OLD BUSINESS

BUSINESS CARD STICKERS – GUESSING 10 AT EACH SITE. GREETER WILL HAND THESE OUT ON THE BASIS OF CONVERSATION AT EACH RITG LOCATION.

RAFFLE AT PCF – GREETER CIRCLES ONE ITEM FROM SCAVENGER HUNT. PERSON WRITES THE LOCATION THEY FOUND THE ITEM, THEIR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER ON THE BACK OF THE SHEET. DROPPED INTO A RAFFLE BUCKET. WILLIS IS GETTING INFO ABOUT STARTER SET(S) FROM UPLAND TRAINS.

NEW BUSINESS

OLD TUCSON -DISCUSSED ABOVE.

LIST OF CONTACTS TO BE UPDATED

- **PEGGY MARTIN FOR "EDUCATION" – TAKEN OFF THE LIST**
- **VALERIE GOLEMBIESKI FOR "HISTORY" - TAKEN OFF THE LIST**
- **CHARLIE WEESNER FOR "MAINTENANCE" – ADDED TO THE LIST**
- **KEN KARRELS FOR "PUBLICITY" – TAKEN OFF THE LIST**
- **BRING THIS UP ON SATURDAY ASKING FOR PEOPLE TO STEP UP.**

EMAIL FROM THOMAS ABOUT MARKETING THE CLUB. CLAUDIA HAS DRAFTED A RESPONSE TELLING HIM TO RECRUIT "AMBASSADORS."

MINI TIME MACHINE MUSEUM HAS AN AREA IN WHICH THEY WOULD PLACE A DISPLAY RELATED TO MODEL TRAINS. WILLIS IS LOOKING TO FORWARD A MADELINE COOK DISPLAY AND WILL BRAINSTORM WITH THEM ABOUT A CONNECTION.

GOLEMBIESKI COLLECTION – WILLIS HAS ASKED FOR A LIST OF EQUIPMENT.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

FEB 15 CLUB MEETING AT RINCON WEST– TRAINS

AT 11 AM, MEETING AT NOON

MAR 12 BOARD MEETING @ NELSON'S 1PM

MAR 15 CLUB MEETING AT WEESNER'S.

For your information

The cactus swap meet is one of the larger swap meets in Phoenix.

I met several members of the Sun City West G-Scale club there.

One of them had a LGB F7 ABA + 6 modern passenger cars set for sale.

I do not know whether he sold it or not, but I have his name and number.

He wants \$ 800 for the set which is a very good deal.

Is this something for the next club newsletter ?

He is not a TGRS member, but this deal could be of interest to some of our members.

Let me know.

If interested ask Thomas for picture

**Thanks
Thomas**

TUCSON GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY
General Meeting Minutes February 15, 2025
Rincon County West RV Park

- 22 club members and 1 visitor in attendance.
- Called to order at 12:01 PM with thanks to Chuck, Sally, and Debbie for hosting.
-
- January minutes were approved by the attendees.
-
- Club treasurer report – delivered by Claudia Nelson for Margaret Torres Nelson. Balance of \$17,596
- across checking, savings, and a CD. Expenses in January for liability insurance and web access to
- email RITG information to visitors who signed up.
-
- Vice President report: Claudia Nelson Tucson Wagon and History Museum – had a good time and
- was approached by General Manager from Old Tucson about partnering with them on a layout.
-
- Rails in the Garden: John handed out host bags and we have volunteers for most sites. Koehlers
- could use another volunteer on Sunday and need a volunteer for the Tucson Wagon and History
- Museum on Sunday.
-
- Newsletter report: Jim Miller is always looking for stories. Ron Koehler will write an article for an
- upcoming newsletter.
-
- Membership: No report.
- Website: RITG information on the home page.
-
- Public displays report: No report.
-
- Social Activities: John sent out an email about the monthly social luncheon and would like
- feedback on whether or not to continue as well as location suggestions.
-
- Old business: Each RITG host packet will have 10 RITG cards with a sticker on the back of each card
- stating that you get a free year's membership if you show up to a meeting. At the meeting, we will
- ask the prospect to fill out the on-line application web page. The host and/or volunteers will be
- responsible for screening prospective members before giving out cards.
-
- Pima County Fair: We will raffle off a starter set, but won't need tickets. Anyone wanting to have a
- raffle entry will need to do the scavenger hunt. The volunteer will circle one of the entries before
- the hunt and the visitor will need to write on the back of the sheet where the item was found,
- along with their first name and phone number. We will only take fully completed entries.
-
- New business: Old Tucson: John, Charlie, Claudia & David visited Old Tucson to look at the site for
- a potential layout. The park has an original Southern Pacific ticket office that they would like us to
- put a layout behind the ticket counter. We have a design and are awaiting their 'go ahead' to
- install. Pima County Fair: We will unload the trailers on March 29th
- , with the help of the scouts. John will make sure the trailers are ready for us on the 28th
- . The fair runs from April 17th – 27th
- . Claudia will publish Signup Genius requests after RITG.

Ted Golembiewski has passed away and Valerie wants to get rid of his train 'stuff'. Willis (and another member) will visit her and make an inventory of what she has. We'll publish the list and any member interested can contact her directly.

We have some committee chairmen vacancies available: Education, Mentorship, Historian, and Publicity. Anyone interested is urged to apply.

Willis was approached by Wes Weslowski about a potential display in the Mini Time Machine Museum. The display is for the 90th anniversary of NMRA. Willis will meet with the group to brainstorm ideas.

Meetings Mar 12, 1PM TGRS board meeting at the Nelson's house
Mar 15, 10 AM @ Weesner's - monthly meeting

All Gauges Tucson Model Train Swap Meet

Sunday, November 9th, 2025 | 10:00 am–2:00 pm
at the
Gadsden Pacific Division Toy Train Operating Museum
3975 N. Miller Ave, Tucson



Free Admission!

Come check out 70+ tables of
trains, toys, and collectibles.

The GPD Museum will be open
during this time with *free admission!*



Check out our website at www.gadsdenpacific.org
For more information or table reservations,
please email dmillerrr1@gmail.com
or call Dennis (702) 813-7038

**G-Scale clubs in Sun City West and Surprise
By Thomas Preisner**

We came to the greater Phoenix Metro area in November 2021 from New Jersey, and I have known since October 2022 that there was more than 1 G-Scale club than ABTO - Arizona Big Train Operators in the greater Phoenix area.

There is a club each in Surprise and Sun City West, in the far west of Phoenix, physically they are only a few minutes drive away from each other.

Sun City West also has HO and N club layouts, but in a different location from the G-Scale layout.

There is also a large and beautiful indoor HO club layout in Sun City (they have a small N-Gauge layout as well).

In Sun City West and Surprise one needs to live in the respective town to be a member of the G-Scale club, not so in Sun City.

The club layout in Surprise was built in 2003, the one in Sun City West in 2011.

In February I went with my friends Klaus, Randy and James 2 times to visit the G-Scale layouts in Surprise and Sun City West, they are each 80 miles away from our house in Gold Canyon.

I was very impressed by both layouts which are lovingly cared for, large and beautiful. Both layouts are located on the grounds of a municipal recreation center (and so are the indoor N & HO layouts in Sun City and Sun City West).

What stuck in my mind is that there is a Jim Miller ! in Surprise, their president is a lady by the name of Margaret.

In Sun City West I remember talking to Terry Taylor who is a club officer, and to Kathy Funk whose husband is also a member there but I spoke to many more people at both clubs.

I was welcomed by all the people I met, and introduced myself as a member of TGRS. Interestingly, no one at both clubs had ever heard of ABTO...

The land for both club layouts is located on the grounds of the respective recreation center and owned by the city.

Sun City West is almost completely run on battery power, whereas Surprise runs on track power.

Since both layouts are very large, really long trains can be run.

What impressed me is that the layout in Sun City West has something like an outdoor kitchen area where food can be prepared!

We had a great time at both places and are sure to visit there again (guests are welcome).

If you visit the 2 club layouts do stop by at the Maple & Rye restaurant in Surprise for a great meal with excellent service, very reasonable prices and a very nice view of a golf course!

The restaurant is only a 2-minute drive away from the layout.

I also want to mention that the club in Surprise has a for sale, club website, anyone at TGRS is welcome to list G-Scale items!

<https://grandgaragesales.com/main1A.php?cat1=All>

The webmaster is Wayne and his email is wherivel@cox.net

The contact information for both clubs is as follows:

Surprise

www.GrandCentralRailroad.info

Sun City West:

<https://railroad.scwclubs.com/>

Do visit these 2 club layouts, you will not regret it !

There is yet another added bonus: the BNSF track from Phoenix to Wickenburg runs alongside Route 60/Grand Avenue.

With any luck one might be able to see a train in 1:1 scale !



Sun City West



Surprise, AZ

Railroad Books

shop.whiteriverproductions.com

OFFICERS

President: Willis Fagg

president@tucsongrs.org

Vice-President: Claudia Nelson

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**The next scheduled
BOD meeting will be
on March 12, 2025
@ Nelsons'**

2024-2025 Fall Meetings

Train Ticket

⇒ Train Ticket

March 12 BOD meeting at Claudia's

March 15 general meeting at Charlie Weesners





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

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](#)