



GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

MAIN LINE

JANUARY, 2009

Volume 18

Number 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Bill East

Following the elections at the end of last year, the results are in. For President we have Bill East; Vice President Bill Richardson; Treasurer, Bob Prehara; Secretary, Paul Boston; Board Members, Paul Saueling, Art Triant, John Pryor. As themes for the upcoming year, we will endeavor to improve the quality of our meetings and we need to focus on encouraging new members to expand our club.

We plan to set up the modules at our meetings, alternating every other month and starting in January with the S Gauge modules and in March with the O gauge modules. Both will be up and operating at the Open Swap Meet next month at the National Guard Armory on 52nd Street in Phoenix. The themes for our January meet will be displaying the trains and other goodies you received for Christmas this year. There will also be an auction in case anybody has something they would like to sell (or donate items to the club).

With the help and direction of Beth Stange, we expect to add to the enjoyment of the Kids Club. She has been wonderful in directing this project.

Please don't forget, dues for 2009 are due now!

The Board and I will strive to make this a good year for the Grand Canyon Model Railroaders.

Happy New Year!

CALENDAR

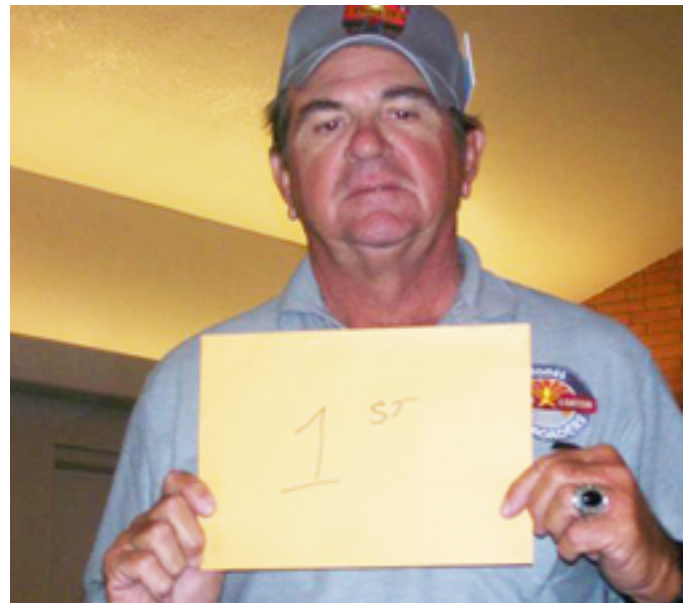
GCMR meets are held at 9:00am in the Parish Hall of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church at 1212 E Glendale Avenue in Phoenix, located on the north side of Glendale, just east of the traffic light at 12th St. It is easily reached off the Glendale Exit of either I-17

or SR 51. Go east from I-17 or west from SR 51 to 12th Street.

January 24 - GCMR Meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

February 28 - GCMR Public Swap Meet - 52nd Street Armory, Phoenix. 9am - 3pm. See the flyer in this issue.

March 28 - GCMR Meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church



Here is your winner of the 2008 Raffle:
Jim Bergero

OTHER TRAIN EVENTS

January 29-31 - O Scale West swap meet, layout tours Santa Clara, CA Hyatt Regency. Info: www.oscalewest.com

March 20 - 22 - Spring Cal Stewart Meet, Santa Clara, CA. Open to national members of TCA and TTOS only.

April 4- Joint GCMR - Desert Division - P&P Spring Picnic - Scottsdale Railroad Park starting at



+ Dave Brown will be producing plug sets for modules. He needs to know who needs them, so let him know. All modules must have plug sets. Sets cost about \$35.

+ John Pryor expressed his appreciation to the club for his experience over the last two years.

CHURCH'S CHRISTMAS TRAIN SHOW A GREAT SUCCESS!

On December 6th, the GCMR gathered in the Parish Hall of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church to share our love of trains with the community that allows us to use their facility for our monthly meetings. John Draftz spearheaded the

GCMR's effort by organizing the event. He had the church display the announcement of the event on their moving marquee along Glendale road, assured that curb signage would be available, signed up the participants, and did all the hundred little things that make this kind of event a success.

Looking for a winner!

about 9:00am, with the cooking starting at about 11:30am. in the Rotary Ramada. There is a beer permit, so canned beer is welcome. This is a potluck picnic with the clubs picking up the hot dogs, and chips. There will be fun and games for all. Hope everyone can come.

April 23 - 26 - Winslow Railroad Days, Winslow, AZ See the article, this issue.

May 2, 3 - Fullerton Railroad Days, Fullerton, CA Info: <http://www.scrmf.org/rrdays/>

June 28 - July 4 - TCA National Convention, Phoenix

BOARD - MEETING NOTES - NOVEMBER

+ Treasurer's Report: (In Round Numbers)
Savings \$ 1199' Checking \$ 700

+ Secretary's Report: Paul Boston, 49 Members Currently Active.

+ GCMR is in discussion about producing a club car. It would be a Lionel car. Discussion of what the text and logo should be, and how to proceed.

Motion by Tom Stange to allow the directors to pursue the club car and bring back the results to the membership in January without committing any club funds. Approved

+ Funds produced by club activities have been very limited. The annual raffle produced \$65 for the year.

+ Art Triant proposed that we have a development committee to design and produce some trackside device.

+ Beat the Heat bus rate for kids will be half that of adults.





A couple of your friendly hosts

Thanks also go to each of the members who set up their trains, talked to the public, provided snacks for our visitors, answered questions, and in general enjoyed sharing the Christmas spirit with kids of all ages. It was truly rewarding to be able to share our hobby with others and see the joy that trains bring.

Let's do it again next year! Thanks John!

HOLIDAY PARTY 2008

by Katie Elgar

The 2008 Holiday Party was once again a wonderful event. It was held Sunday, December 7, at the Marriott Hotel in Mesa. There was a fun "meet and greet time" before the lunch as well as time to look over the raffle prizes. The excellent buffet table was again well stocked, including chicken and a carving station for prime rib. The dessert table had excellent choices, too!



Lining up for the banquet goodies

Santa left gift bags for the young ones and the Lenox ornaments and antique cars for members were aplenty. GCMR President Bill East announced the winners of this year's election. Look elsewhere in the newsletter for details on that information.



Chris Allen displaying a centerpiece to be auctioned while Laurel decides whether to try to keep it at their table.

Jim and Kay Vokac, Desert Division members, made a wonderful donation to the event of retired Department 56 buildings, which were beautifully displayed in baskets. Peter Atonna once again was an excellent auctioneer for these and the Santa Claus centerpieces as well.



Wayne Ross caught some of the kids enjoying their goodies. The party was great fun for folks of all ages.

The 2009 Holiday Party is scheduled for Sunday, December 6, 2009 at the Marriott Hotel in Mesa. Mark the date in your 2009 calendar now so you don't miss out on this wonderful annual tradition!

DUES ARE DUE!

Don't forget to send in the dues form
in this issue!

Keep on 'trackin with the GCMR

HIGH CENTERED UPDATE

by Paul Boston

In a couple of articles we shared the problem of Gargraves uncoupling tracks having a high center rail that was shorting out engines by forcing the power pickup upward to contact the body and cause a short.

Well, that was at the P&P layout where the tracks are stuck down to the railbed using a black, sticky cork media used to insulate AC pipes. It works great at reducing track noise and we don't need screws, but the disadvantage is that removing the track without damage is next to impossible once the track has been in place for a while. That's what caused the P&P to resort to very elaborate, and, as it turns out, unnecessary wigglin-jigglin, pokin' and pryin'. It even stimulated Bill Rodgers to build a special router carrin' magnet wreckin' railcar. Man this hobby is FUN! Where else can you get an excuse to put a huge honkin' router on an itty bitty railcar and make smoke?

The reality is that if you have the uncoupling track in hand the fix is easy! Just turn it over and unsnap to electromagnet element, cut down whatever is too high and replace the magnet (you might have to use some glue, but at the P&P glue is our middle name). But how much fun is that? :-). No adventure, no plottin' and cogitatin', no waking up in the middle of the night with the perfect solution (that you can't remember clearly in the morning) to a problem with an easy, but inelegant, solution!

Thanks go to Peter Atonna for helping with the solution for our high center problem. Even Bill and I think we could spend our time better on other things, like animating an outhouse door, making prairie dogs pop up, rockin' a boat or making lights blink!

EL GARCES REBIRTH

The historic El Garces Harvey House hotel is now owned by the City of Needles. With the able



assistance of the Friends of El Garces, a \$10 million restoration project is moving forward. Alan Affeldt, who beautifully restored La Posada in Winslow, is the project manager. Anyone who's ever stayed in La Poasada knows that this is very good news indeed.

The official ground breaking ceremony for the rehabilitation project occurred on March 7, 2007. Work is currently underway to stabilize and to prepare for the construction of new guest rooms. Plans call for El Garces to include a State of California/Needles Visitor's Center, a transit center, museum and gift shop, first class hotel and fine dining restaurant.

The demolition, shear wall construction and column reinforcement, all being worked on concurrently, is nearly finished. Demolition of the upstairs walls is approximately 50 percent complete. Some walls will remain, but most exterior walls are being removed, and will be rebuilt closer to the edge of the building to allow for more interior space. A new first floor slab was being poured in October.

Daniel Lutzick, president of El Garces LLC said in May, "We're hoping to have rooms open by July of 2009. I'm hoping we're going to have the restaurant open at the same time. I think all of that's doable." For more information, go to the website for the Friends of El Garces at: www.elgarces.org.

BOSTON ANIMATIONS

You have seen the articles Paul ran about his animation projects at the P&P layout. Well he is now on U Tube and you can watch them live!

<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=fCDFBviPuEs&feature=channel>

<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=RwmuactNo2o&feature=channel>

<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=TI33gDMhN5c&feature=channel>

<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=AmljWRP6Zew&feature=channel>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TI33gDMhN5c>

WINNERS!

K-Line SP Work Caboose	Tom Stange
K-Line RDG Tank Car	Wayne Ross
Lionel LV Box Car	Ken Barnes
Lionel MD&W Box Car	Dallas Dixon
K-Line BMW M3	Bill Rodgers
K-Line Ford XLT 150	Ken Barnes
K-Line 78 VW Rabbit	Paul Boston

Mystery Raffle

2008 Christmas Car	Jim Bergero
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Annual Raffle

1st prize	
\$1200 Gift Certificate	Jim Bergero
2nd Prize	
TMCC or DCS System	Bill Rodgers
3rd Prize	
Williams Locomotive	Rod Johnson



The GCMR was well represented at the fall Cal Stewart meet. Our S gauge module made the the trip and was on display in the public area. Crowds were large as the show coincided with other activities at the Pasadena Convention Center. Bill East shot these photos of the crew: Left to right: Bill Richardson, Paul Saeugling, Bill East, John Pryor, Bill Fairbanks



AGGRESSIVE PROMOTION
RIGHT TIME OF YEAR!
GREAT LOCATION
UNIQUE ARRANGEMENT OF TABLES
"WORLD'S GREATEST HOBBY"
WWW.MEMBERS.COX.NET/GCMRR

Swap Meet & Operating Trains

THE GRAND CANYON
MODEL RAILROADERS
Announces
**THE MID-WINTER
MODEL RAILROADING MEET**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2009
9 AM to 3 PM**

at the

52nd Street Armory

1335 N 52nd. Street, Phoenix, AZ (Next to Papago Park)

A Family Affair for young and old alike, this event will feature a sales hall for vendors of all model railroad scales. There will be continuous How-To demonstrations that address modeling from the ground up. Modular layouts in several scales will be running.

Hall is **scheduled** to be available to vendors at **6:00 AM 2/28/2009**.
(The prompt arrival of the security guard to open the building is **scheduled**, but his timely arrival can't be guaranteed!)
Visit us on the web: www.members.cox.net/gcmrr

Live How-To Demonstrations

To reserve your space complete and mail this form by Feb 1, 2009

Rates 1-3 tables \$23.00 each
4+ tables \$18.00 each
Day of the event \$25.00/ table

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ St _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

Fees:
Tables ____ x@ \$23 = ____
Tables ____ x@ \$18 = ____

(one free admission with each table)

TOTAL Enclosed _____

I hereby agree to be bound by the rules governing the GCMR Mid-Winter Meet in regards to buying, selling, ethics, and behavior. I further agree that in case of a dispute, the Meet Chairman, or and impartial referee appointed by the Meet Chairman shall arbitrate the matter and render a binding decision. I shall, upon the direction of the Meet Chairman, in the case of a disputed sale, refund the buyers money.

Signed _____ Date _____

Make checks payable to "Grand Canyon Model Railroaders"
Mail registration to : John Pryor, 102 N Sierra Circle, Casa Grande, AZ 85222
For additional information call John Pryor 602-799-8570 /
Paul Boston 480-314-3373 / Dave Brown 480-423-8725

For Official Use Only

Reg # _____ Date Received _____

Check # _____ Amount _____



GCMR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE

It is that time of the year again. Dues are Due. GCMR annual dues are \$35. Please renew by filling out this form and mailing it or bringing it to the next club meeting. Club dues are delinquent after the last day of February. By the way, PLEASE PRINT.

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____

City _____ State/ZIP _____

Telephone _____ Cell phone _____

Email _____

Would you like to receive your monthly newsletter by email? Yes _____ No _____

Would you be interested in holding a layout or collection open house? Yes _____ No _____

How could you volunteer your time to help our club? _____

AREAS OF INTEREST

Please circle your areas of interest. You may circle as many as you wish.

ERA	GAUGE		MANUFACTURER		PERIPHERALS
A - Prewar	D - 0/027	J - OO	N - American Flyer	T - Williams	1. - Figures
B - Postwar	E - Scale	K - N	O - Lionel	U - K Line	2 - Toys
C - Modern	F - Standard	L - Z	P - Marx	V - Kusan	3 - Paper, Books
	G - LGB, G	M - Other	Q - Ives	W - Other	4 - Buildings
	H - S, Flyer		R - Dorfan		5 - Railroadania
	I - HO		S - MTH		6 - Other
LAYOUT?	Y - Yes	N - No			

After completion, please return this form with your check made payable to GCMR to:

Paul Boston, Secretary GCMR
14320 Thoroughbred Trail
Scottsdale, AZ 85259

GCMR MAIN LINE
Peter Atonna, Editor
25375 N. Feather Mountain Rd.
Paulden, AZ 86334



Here are your outgoing 2008 GCMR Officers who served us all well during the trying times of the past year.