



GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

MAIN LINE

JULY, 2016

Volume 25

Number 7

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Dave Brown

Well, it's here, the second summer cactus meet. This is an all hands on deck call. We will need help at the door, for security, running trains on the modules and selling raffle tickets. Remember this is one of our largest money makers of the year, so we need everyone to pitch in. Set up starts at 6:00 am so get there early.

The following weekend Mike Wolf of MTH will be at Arizona Train Depot. So if you want to talk to Mike, maybe ask some questions, or have a car or engine you would like to see, here's a chance to talk to the big kahuna himself.

The second Saturday in August is the "Beat the Heat" meet and bus trip. The price is \$30 for GCMR members and their guests, with an optional \$7 sack lunch. This year's tours will include Peter Atonna's layout as well as Marlin Benson's layout. There will be at least one new layout on the tour this time and as many others as we can sneak in.

That's a lot for the summer time, and just around the corner, is the beginning of train season with Railfair out at the Scottsdale Railroad Park, then all that follows that. So there's a lot to do and lots of train running for everyone. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone out and enjoying the train hobby.

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.

July 23 - GCMR Summer Swap Meet, North Phoenix Baptist Church

July 30 - Mike Wolf visits Arizona Train Depot. Steve Palmer says "we're open 10am to 5:30, so come to meet Mike and we'll have things on special too."

August 13 - Beat the Heat Swap Meet, Prescott

August 27 - GCMR meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

September 24 - GCMR fall Mini-Meet - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

MEETING NOTES

by Bill Richardson

June Board Of Directors Meeting

Old Business:

John Draftz reported that as of June 25th Table Sales for the July Cactus Summer meet are at approximately 56% or roughly 84 tables.



Bill Richardson

John Draftz also suggested that we just write the club name on badges for the clubs which order large numbers of tables. Once those club badges are gone any additional badges will need to be purchased. The vendor form specifies how many badges a vendor is entitled to based on the number of tables purchased.

Glenn Saber reported that the mobile layout trailer was brought back to B&M Bumper to get the axle realigned. It appears the manufacturer(Rockwell) did a poor job clocking the axle equally on both sides causing the wheels to ride too much on edge. B&M agreed and is requesting a new axle from the manufacturer. B&M will install the

replacement when it arrives. They estimate three weeks.

Because the new wheels are now 14" as opposed to the old wheels which were 12", the spare tire will no longer fit under the trailer cover. We will probably have to make a new place for the spare tire.

New Business:

With the recent passing of Tony Saulina there is a vacancy on the GCMR Board of Directors. We will be looking for a member to fill this void.

Glenn Saber renewed our GCMR corporate filing status and set us up for future auto reminders by giving the corporation commission our email address. Barbra Turner is our new statutory agent and must turn in a form with her signature and her contact info. The statutory agent signature cannot be done online.

June General Membership Meeting

Announcements:

No membership meeting in July as we have the July Cactus Summer meet instead.

Treasurer Glenn Saber gave the treasurer's report. The report specified the amounts in the checking and PayPal accounts and was accepted by the membership present.

Secretary Bill Richardson gave the secretary's report. Motion was made to accept previous

Board of Directors

President: DAVE BROWN 480-650-5336
Vice Pres: BARBARA TURNER 602-430-6306
Secretary: BILL RICHARDSON 623-582-5672

Treasurer: GLENN SABER 602-956-6696
Board Member: JANET MATTERN 602-569-0568
JOHN DRAFTZ 602-942-3457
JACK EATON 602-321-4809

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month's Membership Meeting minutes as published. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Glenn Saber informed the membership that the trailer axle was installed by B&M Bumper not AZ Axle Products. We got a much better price from B&M Bumper. We got two axles, three rims, three tires, lugs, and labor for about \$798. Unfortunately, the axle manufacturer (Rockwell) did a poor job of clocking the axles equally, so B&M Bumper has agreed to contact Rockwell and replace the axles. Bill Richardson and Glenn have already returned the mobile layout trailer to B&M. They are anticipating a three week turn around. One other trailer issue will be finding a new spot for the spare tire, because it will no longer fit under the cover.

Dave Brown pulled the GCMR mobile layout trailer to Williams for Train Day and Bill Richardson guided it back to Phoenix. Several club members made the event: Dave Brown, Jack Eaton, Rich Fortmeyer, Lynn McClelland, Bill Richardson, Glenn Saber, and Peter Atonna. There were even two

additional GCMR guests: Sam Foote and Larry Messing. The weather was perfect and a good time was had by all.

John Draftz reported to the membership that 84/150 tables, approximately 56%, have been sold for the July Cactus Summer meet at the North Phoenix Baptist Church. John will be broadcasting a courtesy message to all vendors with the "Want List". The doors will open at 6:00 AM for three hours of vendor setup on Saturday. Some coffee and doughnuts will be provided. We will need some security at the hall outside door. Our setup will be Friday afternoon. The module trailer will arrive between 3:00 and 4:00 PM. We are planning to set up the "S" and "O" gauge modules. Help if you can. We need to get our coupons and flyers out to all the hobby stores.

Jack Eaton reported as of now he has five raffle prizes for the Cactus Summer meet: a Coyotes hockey puck, two train rides, a symphony ticket, and an Arizona Cardinals football.

New Business:

"Beat the Heat" meet is coming up on August 13th. Get your bus reservations in to Dave Brown.

New Member Lin Sinclair was introduced to the membership. She is mostly interested in "HO" and "N".

For those who didn't know, the membership was informed of the recent passing of Tony Saulina.

Jack Eaton volunteered to fill the vacant board position.

Show and Tell:

The theme was Red, White, and Blue.

- + Janet Mattern brought her Lionel Operation Eagle Justice army train set.
- + Glenn Saber brought his "O" gauge 6428 mail boxcar, and his "G" gauge Bachmann Brothers canvas tent car.
- + John Draftz brought Freedom Train pennant, and O4O 1776 "HO" and a



Glenn Saber

Mantua Tyco 1776. He also brought his K-Line "O" gauge Preamble Express with the square end observation.



Janet Mattern

CACTUS MEET UPDATE

By John Draftz

We have about 95 tables sold (about 2/3 of 150 available or 3/4 of last summer's 130) thus we still have tables available at this point. I will be sending out an courtesy reminder to previous sellers and will include with it the want list I've been given.

We will start the set up of the hall Friday afternoon (the 22nd) about 4pm to include both the O- and S-gauge modules.

The Saturday time line is as follows.

- 5:30-6:00 = set out road signs and prepare the hall
- 6:00-9:00 = registration and seller set up
- 9:00-1:00 = swap meet
- 1:00-? = post-meet auction
- ? - ?? = clean up, pack up

We need members available during these times to help as needed. Please contact Glenn (602-956-6695) to let him know how you can help.

THE HILTON HOTEL

by Peter Atonna

The Hilton Hotel

I thought I would share the story of my construction of the first mid rise building on my layout. As many others seem to be doing, two years ago I decided that I had carried my ideas for my fifteen year old layout as far as I could and tore it down to rebuild it with a new "theme". The original layout was based on Northern Arizona with grasslands, hills and mountains. What drove the change? It was the idea that I also really liked big city railroading. Changing trains in Chicago and looking back toward Union Station and with the Chicago skyline in the background or visiting the hallowed halls of Grand Central Terminal during last year's TCA convention convinced me that I wanted that atmosphere on my new layout.

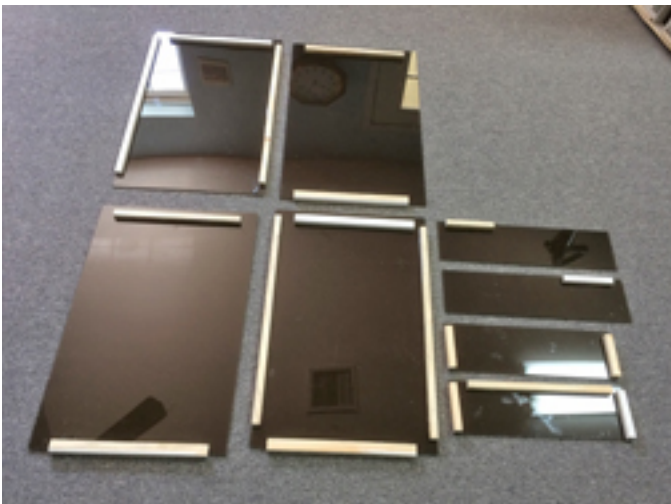
So, down came most everything. The peninsula greeting you as you enter the train room used to feature Hell Canyon with the Mule Mountains in the background (yes, Hell Canyon and the bridge are real, just seven miles north of me while the Mule mountains are also real, housing the Bisbee copper mining boom town of the 1880's). It is being replaced by a big city terminal and downtown buildings.

My new "downtown" is anchored by Chicago Union Station, made by TW Trainworx and a holdover from the old layout, as well as several other buildings saved from the old layout. But in addition to new buildings there remain four building plots reserved for major new structures.

I decided that the first of these would be the plot next to Union Station for which a hotel seemed a natural. Why a Hilton Hotel? It just seemed a name synonymous with hotels. And for the construction, I decided to use the tried and true technique of constructing a plexiglas box onto which exterior cladding is added. Alan Arnold, on the OGR Forum, has long been my inspiration for his high rises. I had



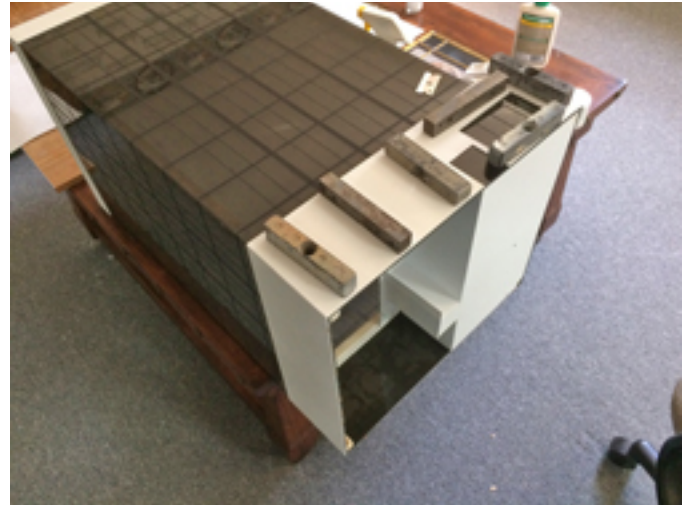
one question I needed to have answered. So an email to Alan asked how he masks the interior of his high rises so the interior lights do not show directly. He answered with two great ideas. First, line the inside of the plexiglas with plain old wax paper and then use bubble wrap to surround the lights. Since I planed to use strip LED's attached to a mailing tube, this should work well.



Amazon provided a plexiglas dealer for the smoked material I would use but who would also cut the pieces for you. So, I had one 2x4' sheet cut into four 13" wide by 24" pieces for the tower and the next into 4" wide pieces for the base floor. Corner, roof and floor reinforcements were cut and glued onto the plexiglas with epoxy and the box and room then glued together.

Once the basic structure was dried, black striping tape was used to simulate the window minions and panels. I then used .040 styrene for the exterior skin

for the concrete framework of the building. These were scored at 1" intervals to simulate concrete panels used in real construction. Also, it would not be practical to cut a large sheet with all the openings needed, so I cut vertical and horizontal panels and all were glued onto the plexiglas with Titebond glue.



This building would be right at the edge of the table and quite visible, so an interior was needed for the lobby portion. Again styrene was used to scratch build all the walls, floor, ceiling and furniture while I went online to find carpeting and wall coverings which were printed and then glued to the walls and floor.



Interior lighting was the strip LED's noted earlier, stuck onto a mailing tube and surrounded by a cylinder of bubble wrap. A full wave bridge rectifier provided the DC current for the LED's and the AC for the lobby bulbs.



The hotel needed a "Hilton" sign. I have bought some of Andre's River Leaf Models laser cut buildings and have been really impressed with his work and ability to do custom projects. So, I sent him a photo of a Hilton sign and back came this



beautiful laser cut sign which is added to three sides of the building.

On the main entrance side, I had a small pedestrian plaza area. For planters, I cut slices of PVC plastic pipe, painted them and filled them with pink foam. Dried sedum flowers make great urban trees and my scenic supply cabinet furnished the flower material.

A Hilton Hotel is now providing first class accommodations to the travelers heading next door to Union Station.

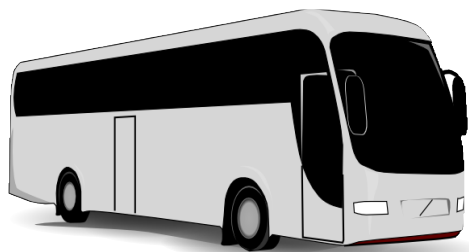
WINNERS!

The Monthly Raffle prize winners:

Bob Dennison - Highway Signal Light
 Dwane Turner - Lighted Bumper
 Bill Lazenby - K-Line Union Pacific Caboose
 Dave Brown - American Flyer "S" gauge car
 Bill Richardson - Lionel 6-19478 "O" gauge IND Culvert Gondola

The Mystery Raffle prize winner was Bill East (what again ???) - MTH Dispatch Board

The monthly 1K raffle winner was Bill East (what again ???) - who won 3 more tickets for the 1K raffle.



IT'S TIME AGAIN FOR THE ANNUAL

BEAT THE HEAT

SWAP MEET & LAYOUT BUS TOUR

IN COOL PRESCOTT VALLEY, AZ

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2016

LET THE GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS DO THE DRIVING
COMFORTABLE DELUXE MOTORCOACH WITH ON-BOARD FACILITIES

SAVE ON GAS, PARKING AND STRESSFUL DRIVING

ON-BOARD TRAIN VIDEOS AND BOTTLED WATER

ON-BOARD STORAGE FOR YOUR SWAP MEET ACQUISITIONS

BUS TOUR INCLUDES A VISIT TO SEVERAL TRAIN LAYOUTS

OPTIONAL BROWN BAG LUNCH WITH BEVERAGE AT SWAP

(swap meet entrance fees are not included)

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Pickup Location: _____

Arizona Mills at 6:30 AM _____

Paradise Valley Mall at 7:00 AM _____

Metrocenter Mall at 7:30 AM _____

Carefree Highway at 7:45 AM _____

Number of adult GCMR club members: _____ at \$30 each = \$ _____

Number of adult Non-GCMR members: _____ at \$35 each = \$ _____

Number of children under 14: _____ at \$15 each = \$ _____

Number of lunches (OPTIONAL): _____ at \$7 each = \$ _____

Total: **Make checks payable to "GCMR"** \$ _____

(no refunds after August 6, 2016)

Mail this form and check to:

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THE MAIN LINE

Peter Atonna, Editor

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In a bit of obvious self promotion, your Editor has an article in this issue about construction of the first mid rise building in the rebuild of his layout to an urban theme. Come to the Beat the Heat meet on the GCMR bus for a visit.

