



# GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

## MAIN LINE

JANUARY, 2016

Volume 25

Number 3

**Remember: No meeting this month!**

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Dave Brown

A lot has happened since the last newsletter. So let's start with the February meeting. Late last year, I was tasked with recognizing members for their work in the club.

Members were called on to make suggestions and there were many responses. They broke down into three categories: runner of the year, volunteer of the year, and member of the year. The first is self explanatory. The runner of the year was Bill East. He is ready to run trains any time, any where, and that's the description of runner of the year.

Volunteer of the year is a person that's in the background, however if they didn't do what they do, we would very much miss their efforts. There were two people that fell into this category, one was Glenn Saber. He keeps us on track financially and second his work on the Cactus Meet keeps that event going. The next person is Peter Atonna for all his hard work on the newsletters. Thank you to you both.

For members of the year I looked to those who have helped the most on our outreach projects, our trailers for running trains. These people have by themselves, together or have organized work parties for the trailers. From time to time they have towed them



**Bill East**



**Glenn Saber**

here, there and anywhere. Our members of the year are: Bill Richardson, George Bean, and John Draftz. Thank you one and all!



**Peter Atonna**



**Bill Richardson**

April will be our mini meet. We will have a short meeting either before or after the swap meet just to keep everyone up to date on happenings. The tables are free, the public gets in free, and we will have a raffle for a gift certificate to Hobby Lobby. Contact Janet Mattern for tables. Any unused tables will be open to Paradise and Pacific members to use, so get your reservation in early.



**George Bean**

The first Saturday of March was the Winter Cactus Meet. According to Glenn Saber all went well. Attendance was a little lower than last year's summer meet, but we did OK.

Because this year's meet was held on the first week in March, there will be no meeting on the fourth Saturday of March.

We did have planned to take the "O" and "S" gauge modules to the Falcon Field run, however those people wanted us to set up on Friday instead of Saturday because they didn't want the door jammed. Rolling in the modules would only have blocked the doors for a few seconds, so it was decided to skip it this year.



**John Draftz**

## **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.*

**March:** No formal March club meeting

**April 2** - Joint Club's Picnic - Scottsdale Railroad Park - more information this issue

**April 23** - GCMR meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. Spring Mini-Meet

**May 28** - GCMR meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

**June 3, 4** Gadsden Pacific Summer Swap Meet, Tucson, flyer next issue

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

**August 13** - Beat the Heat Swap Meet, Prescott

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

## MEETING NOTES

by Bill Richardson

President Brown noted that we will not have our modules at the Falcon Field event this month.

President Dave Brown recognized several members of the GCMR for their service and contributions to the club. He presented the following plaques.

- Operator of the Year: Bill East
- Volunteer of the Year: Glenn Saber and Peter Atonna
- Member of the Year: George Bean, Bill Richardson, and John Draftz

Dallas Dixon also thanked the past President and past Officers for all their hard work and dedication to the GCMR club.

## Old Business

+ Swap meet:

Setup for the "O" and "S" gauge modules will be on Friday March 4th from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Bill Richardson will bring/return the module trailer. The Church staff will setup the tables and chairs and provide the PA system.

This year's Cactus Winter Meet is at North Phoenix Baptist Church on Saturday March 5th from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Doors open for vendors at 6:00 AM. Some Donuts and Coffee will be provided for vendors, but no other food or drink will be provided. Table sales are currently at 125 tables sold. We will have additional directional signs this year. John Draftz and Jack Eaton will setup and take down the signs on Saturday. Tony Ford will be in charge of the loading/unloading Door security on Saturday. Janet Mattern, Rod Johnson, and Glenn Saber will start pre-sale tickets at 8:30 AM. Janet Mattern and Bill Richardson will sell Raffle tickets.

We all need to distribute more of the Cactus Winter Meet advertisement business cards. We will need to bring and distribute vendor forms for the upcoming July Cactus Summer Meet.

Following are the seven raffle prizes:

- 1) 2 tickets for the Grand Canyon Railroad
- 2) 2 tickets for the Grand Canyon Railroad
- 3) 1 signed Arizona Cardinal Football
- 4) 1 Phoenix Symphony
- 5) 1 stay at LaPosada Hotel in Winslow
- 6) 1 Lionel saw mill accessory
- 7) 1 MTH oil derrick accessory

## Board of Directors

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+ There was further discussion on the GCMR club becoming a 501 C3 organization. Again Pro's and Con's were discussed. Dallas Dixon expressed some concerns about swap meets and if they meet the criteria. John Draftz pointed out that the IRS has no problem with an organization raising money for a future goal. Chris Allen pointed out concerns about appraising property. Chris will provide the GCMR with TCA's experiences with accepting large donations. GCMR will wait before moving forward on this.

+ John Draftz, reported the latest news from the Children's Museum of Phoenix. He noted that a model railroad club is not exactly what they are looking for. So as of now it does not appear that we will be finding a permanent location there.

+ Due to some perceived problems by the folks at Falcon Field about us getting our "O" and "S" gauge modules into the building early enough on Saturday, March 26th to avoid congestion, we will NOT be participating in the Falcon Field Airport Open House this year.

#### New Business:

+ There will be some work parties scheduled for the trailers and the modules coming up soon.

+ We need to get more members running trains.

+ The first Saturday in April, the second, is the three club picnic (TCADD, GCMR, P&P) at the Stillman Ramada (by the tunnel) in the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park. This picnic in reality is now probably a six club picnic. Burgers, hot dogs, and chicken will be provided. Soda and water will also be provided. You may bring a dessert or side dish to share if you want. The picnic will run from about 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM give or take a little. After the picnic Herb Andreen will host an open house for those who wish to see his large "O" gauge layout. Herb's layout was part of the tours for the recent NMRA Convention in town.

+ It was reminded that we have planned a Mini Meet for the 4th Saturday in April, trek 23rd, which runs from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM.

+ Dallas Dixon remarked about how he likes how well all the clubs are working together.

#### Show and Tell:

+ John Draftz - B unit Preamble Express

## **SWAP MEET SUMMARY**

by Glenn Saber

Our net profit is \$3,020.09. This was not bad, but it also was not our best. Profit would have been \$342.09 higher without deductions for the six new Train Swap Meet signs which will be used over and over. We also bought a box of Avery name tag labels that will spread out over a few more swap meets.

General Admission was 365 people. This was less than last summer's Cactus Swap Meet which had 380. This number is also nowhere near the Armory's 600 average. Admission is pure profit as table rentals cover the costs of the event.

At the Armory, I had a solid line of people at the door for almost 1.5 hours. At this winter's Cactus, the solid line was done in 45 minutes. What's wrong? Where are the people? How do we get more people?

We sold 136 sales tables - the most ever. Trishia Richardson (Bill's wife) helped almost the entire day at the ticketing table with me. Janet Mattern and Bill Richardson did a great job selling Fantastic Raffle tickets. For only seven prizes, they sold 480 tickets - way above typical. John Draftz did all the table sales, vendor sign-in, much of the public address announcing, coffee and donut prep. Table set up and tear down is the responsibility of the Church and they did a marvelous job following our layout plan exactly.

Finally, I found out that Terry Gibb's [azmodeltrains.com](http://azmodeltrains.com) web site is a MAJOR player - and help. More coupons were printed from that web site than our own - 54 verses 44. In the final weeks

prior to the show, his Cactus link failed and we received many complaints from people not being able to print our coupon - all from [azmodeltrains.com](http://azmodeltrains.com) - not from [gcmrr.com](http://gcmrr.com)!

## WHAT'S UP DOCK?

by Dave Brown

What do you do when a building on your layout has a door but no loading dock? Well, you could just drive up to the door or you could scratch build a loading dock.

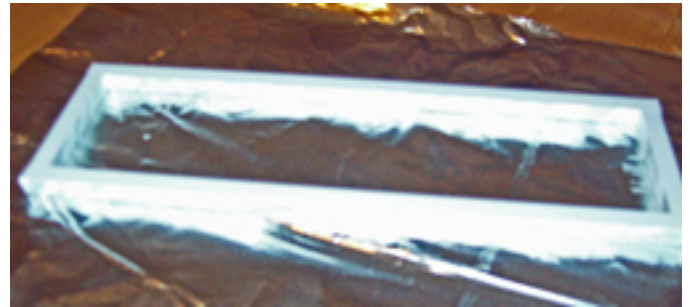


The loading dock that I was going to build was going to be a 10 foot by 32 foot in "O" scale feet. So a quick run to the local hobby shop to buy some scale styrene plastic. This being a simple build, I only needed two sizes of material. The first was .250" x .250" stock. These will be the 1 foot by 1 foot main frame. The other material was .020" x .250" stock for the deck of the loading

dock. This is 1 inch by 1 foot stock in "O" scale.

The first step is to cut the .250" X .250". I used my band saw, but a Zonna saw will just as well. I cut 2 each 8 inch sticks, 2 each 2 inch sticks, and 13 each .250 inch legs for the dock to stand on.

So, it's time to assemble the main frame of the loading dock. The 8 inch pieces sit on the out side of the 2 inch pieces; this will give you the 32 by 10 foot dock as the plan called for. But remember the diagonals from one corner the opposite corner must be the same for the dock to be square.



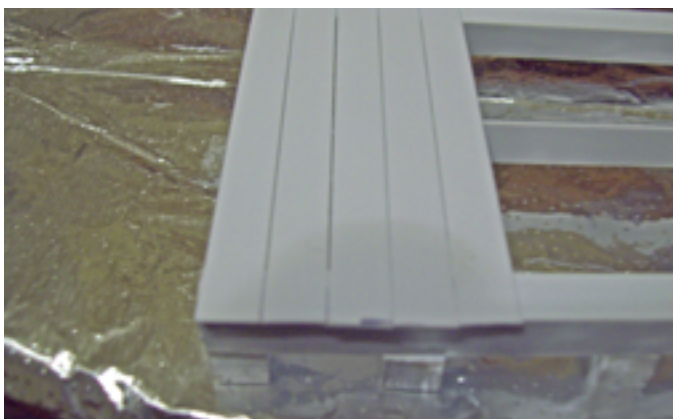
Next, it's time for the legs. In the front, there will be 9 legs, one on each side and two across the back. You only need two across the back because this side will face the building and no one will see this side. On the front, the legs will be 23/32 of an inch apart, that is 1/32 short of 3/4 of an inch. Face the cut edge toward the outside of the dock so that the good 1/4 inch is good for measuring between legs, and the height is also the good 1/4 inch. This will make sure that the loading dock sits level.



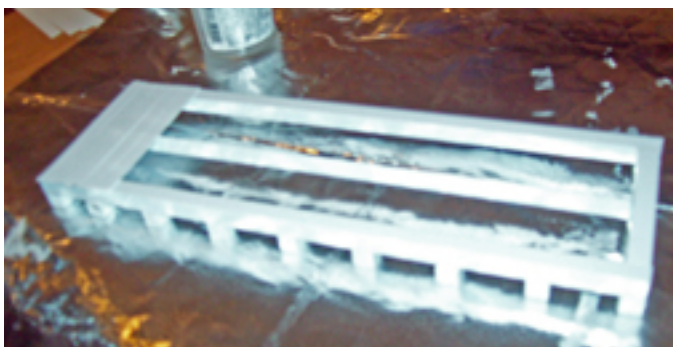


The next step is to cut the stock for the deck. This is where the .020" X .250" material is going to be used. This stuff is thin enough to cut with a pair of scissors. Make each plank 2 ½ inches long. Cut 31 planks.

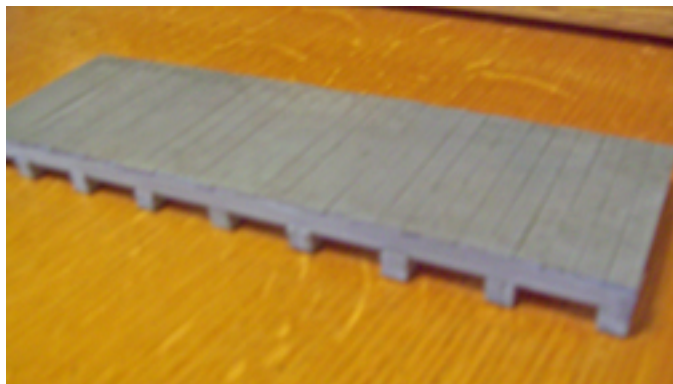
Next glue the planks in place. Note that I put just a little space between each plank. If you place the planks without this space, it will look like just one solid top. I prefer seeing the individual planks, but it's your call.



You will also note in the next picture, that I put a single thin plank on edge half ways between the two long main frame pieces. This is to just make it a little stronger in the middle.



With the deck done, now it's time to paint. I also use "aging solution" to make it look like it's been in use. Next time I will show the finishing of the loading area.



## WINNERS !

**Bob Dennison - Lionel 6-29937 Toy Fair Boxcar**  
**Ralph Treichel - Lionel 6-9407 U.P. Stock Car**  
**Chris Allen - Lionel 9726 Erie Lackawanna Boxcar**  
**John Draftz - AF No. 580-1 Lamp Set**  
**Jack Eaton - Sandflex Hand Block Track Cleaner**  
**Glen Saber - 3 misc. vehicles UPS, Forklift, and Ice Cream**

**The Mystery Raffle prize winner was Dave Brown.**  
**+K-Line K-2625-10 Circus Hand Car & trailer.**

**The monthly 1K raffle winner was Bill Richardson**  
**who won 3 more tickets for the 1K raffle.**

## SWAP MEET THANKS!

**John Draftz: Meet Coordinator**

**Dave Brown was running trains on the O-gauge modules and Bill East monitored S-gauge trains. Jack Eaton helped with signs and module set-up and tear down. Tony Saulina worked north door security for the vendors and Delores Bean helped at the registration table. Obviously, Glenn served as meet coordinator and handled money. And last, but not least, a member from near Prescott named Peter ran the post-meet auction**

**"ONE OF ARIZONA'S LARGEST  
MODEL RAILROAD SWAP MEETS"**

# THE CACTUS SUMMER MEET

**SATURDAY, JULY 23rd, 2016**

**9 AM - 1 PM     \$6/PERSON \$11/FAMILY**

(\$1.00 off cards and coupons available - next to large Farmers Market!)



## NORTH PHOENIX BAPTIST CHURCH

### FELLOWSHIP CENTER

5757 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85012

**Aggressive Promotion, All Scales,**

**Great Location, Train Layouts,**

**Test Track, Food Available, Raffles**

**Free Parking, "End-O-Swap" Auction**

Presented by your pal Casey Cactus and the  
**GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS**

To reserve your space and required admission name  
badges, submit this form by July 16, 2016

No refunds after July 16, 2016.

Set-up opens at 6:00 AM     Please print form legibly.



Name _____		<b>\$25 per 8' banquet table</b> (Bring a table cover, if desired)  How many tables? _____  Amount enclosed? \$ _____  Request? _____  Will you participate in the auction? Seller? _____ Buyer? _____
Address _____		
City _____	State _____ Zip _____	
Phone _____	Email _____	
Buying, selling, ethics and behavior: In case of dispute, the Meet Chairperson and/or impartial referee appointed by the Meet Chairperson shall arbitrate the dispute and render a timely decision and I hereby agree to be bound by such decision. I will not pack until 1:00 PM. Not responsible for lost or stolen articles.		
Signature _____ Date _____		<b>Admission Name Badges</b> <b>1 or 2 tables = 2 badges max.</b>  Badge Name _____ Badge Name _____ <b>3 or more tables = 4 badges max.</b> Badge Name _____ Badge Name _____
Make check payable to: <b>"Grand Canyon Model Railroaders"</b> Mail to: John Draftz, 1507 W Willow Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85029 or Credit cards accepted via PayPal - Visit <a href="http://www.gcmrr.org">www.gcmrr.org</a> Email: <a href="mailto:info@gcmrr.org">info@gcmrr.org</a>		
Info: John Draftz 602-942-3457; Glenn Saber 602-956-6695		
		<b>More badges available at \$5.00 each</b>

## **THE MAIN LINE**

**Peter Atonna, Editor**

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**Paulden, AZ 86334**



**The Winter Cactus Swap Meet is now history. Here is a shot by John Draftz of the record number of sellers at the North Phoenix Baptist Church's hall. Read the evaluation of the swap meet in this month's newsletter. And copy the seller's table registration form inside to get an early jump on reserving your table for the Summer Meet.**