



# GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

## MAIN LINE

MAY, 2014

Volume 23

Number 5

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by John Draftz

Our May meeting will be the 24<sup>th</sup>. It's also Memorial Day weekend in case that's a factor. We'll start running trains around 8:30am with the meeting starting at 10. The theme is Memorial Day: Space/Military Trains/Hardware. Bring something to help remember the day.

We had a work party at Adobe on April 26<sup>th</sup> in lieu of our regular meeting that saw significant improvements made to the module trailer. There are still several tasks yet to be done at a later date. See a separate write-up elsewhere in this issue.

The joint GCMR/P&P/TCA picnic on April 5<sup>th</sup> was a success. See a separate write-up elsewhere.

The "Beat the Heat Meet" will be coming up and the bus is reserved. Please contact Dave Brown (480-650-5336 or [eaglefour@juno.com](mailto:eaglefour@juno.com)) for more details.

We need a swap meet chairperson and one or more assistants for the 2015 February swap meet. This is our major revenue generator. The various tasks are documented along with a timeline so it should mainly consist of coordinating the volunteers in addition to reserving tables, chairs, etc. If you would be willing to serve in this area, please contact anyone on the board of directors. Having a chairperson by June would be nice.

The 2014 directory has been published. Please contact Barbara Turner (602-430-6306 or [anubat@aol.com](mailto:anubat@aol.com)) if you haven't received your copy.

Our creating a permanent presence at Adobe is progressing. Details will be presented at the May meeting.

Our next venue is the Arizona Train Days display at Williams on Saturday and Sunday, June 14 & 15 (Father's Day weekend) where we'll be displaying the mobile layout. We're still waiting for details and will get them to you as we learn them. Jack Eaton (623-249-7297 or [jeaton9@cox.net](mailto:jeaton9@cox.net)) is coordinating.

Having individual members bring in trains to run at meetings in lieu of trying to set up either the O-gauge or S-gauge modules seems to be working. Jack is coordinating this approach. If you're willing to bring an oval of track and a train to run on it, please let Jack know. It can be any gauge.

Our June 28<sup>th</sup> theme will be: Hot Dogs and Apple Pie; Flag Day; Red, White, and Blue trains; patriotic trains, cars, etc., item(s) w/flag(s)

See you May 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:30.

### 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.*

**May 17** - Valley of the Sun S Gaugers meeting, Glendale. For info: <http://sgaugers.com>

**May 24** - GCMR meeting Our Saviour's Lutheran Church -individual modules Theme: Memorial Day; Space/Military Trains/Hardware

**May 30, 31** Tucson - GPM Train Show - Info: TrainShow@gpdToyTrainMuseum.com

**June 14, 15** Williams Train Day

**June 28** - GCMR meeting, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church - individual modules Theme: Hot Dogs and Apple Pie; Flag Day; Red, White, and Blue trains; patriotic trains, cars, etc., item(s) w/flag(s)

**July 26** - GCMR meeting, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church – individual modules Theme: skill at kit bashing, scratch building and repainting AKA what do you have that's unusual?

**August 16** - Beat the Heat Swap Meet, Prescott GCMR Bus Trip

## MOBILE TRAILER WORK PARTY

by John Draftz

The rain held off long enough for significant work to be done on the module trailer. Present at the "party" were George Bean, Dave Brown, John Draftz, Bill East, Jack Eaton, Larry Melvin, Bill Richardson and Dwane & Barbara Turner.

Projects accomplished consisted of resealing the fiberglass end caps, installing a new skylight cap, bumping out the front corner metal dent, filling in the floor holes, and re-attaching the door chain. There are still a few items remaining, e.g., moving the spare tire to the hitch.

A number of items previously stored in the trailer have been moved to the storage unit to include both folding canopies, the test track, a pair of folding table legs, the swap meet raffle containers, and an O-

gauge oval mounted on plywood. The racetrack panels will be there soon. The reduced load should help with fuel economy and give us more space in the trailer.

## OPEN BOARD MEETING: APRIL 26

The GCMR Board of Directors met with the AMRS Board of Directors Saturday morning to discuss the relationship between the two groups and to identify various options for working together. The near future goal is to have a 700 sq. ft. multi-gauge GCMR layout building located in the ARMS-MLS Adobe complex. A couple of different sites were identified but nothing has been researched in detail. Agencies such as the City of Phoenix and the Flood Control District will still need to advise us on potential restrictions/considerations. A tentative date of September 2015 was identified as a target date for having the building operational. More details will be available at the May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting (Memorial Day weekend).

## 2014 RAILROAD PARK PICNIC

This year's edition of the multi-club picnic at the Scottsdale Railroad park proved not only popular but offered a great time for attendees. Following are some photos from John Drafts of GCMR members enjoying the event.

### Board of Directors

President: JOHN DRAFTZ 602-942-3457  
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Secretary: BARBARA TURNER 602-430-6306

Treasurer: GLENN SABER 602-956-6696  
Board Member: DAVE BROWN 480-650-5336  
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## TWO LAYOUT VISITS

I had the opportunity to visit Peter Atonna and his great layout the day after Penny and I rode the Verde Valley line out of Clarkdale. (If you've never done that, you're really missing a scenic treat.) These photos should entice you by all means to not miss your chance in August to get on the bus. The narrow gauge detail - On30 - is exquisite, and I love the downtown shot of Rock Springs, AZ; plus of course there is much much more---- get on board. Rod Johnson





Moving on to Herb Andreen's great layout, a group of GCMRers spent some time enjoying the progress on the layout.



Bill East



Dave Brown and Barbara Turner



## A YORK STORY

by Peter Atonna

With next month being Mary Jane and my 50th anniversary, like many folks reaching that milestone, we decided to do something special. Since with us it is only horses and trains, we decided to combine a trip to a national carriage competition in North Carolina with the spring York. The dates were two weeks apart and it also gave us time to do some touring in the Carolina's and Pennsylvania. And since travel by us is by Amtrak, we were able to do the long distance part all by train.

Here is a brief report on the trip's railroading highlights. Leaving from our usual Middle of the Forest station in Williams, two days and a night brought us to our layover in Chicago. We typically have a couple hours in the station before boarding the Capitol Limited, so I planned to take photos from the famous Roosevelt Road overpass. Fortunately, the weather was good for a Chicago springtime - in the 50's and windy. As advertised, views of trains from there are as spectacular as can be.





series of HO gauge dioramas depicting original towns along the railroad from Charleston through Aiken. Each is spectacularly well done and has a short train that actually traverses the entire set of scenes. (If you purchase Model Railroader's "Great Model Railroads" annual, this layout was featured in last year's edition)

Next it was back on Amtrak northbound, through Washington DC to the BWI airport station and on to Pennsylvania and York. Following a couple of days touring, we enjoyed the traditional York week activities - bandit meets on Tuesday, then on Wednesday, lunch on the Strasburg Railroad and the Pennsylvania Railroad Museum and finishing the day with the TCA museum presentations. Thursday evening we visited a delightful layout in Harrisburg by Cesar Buono who we met on the OGR chat line.



Boarding our next train, a night and a day later we arrived in Southern Pines, NC. I will not bore you with tales of the carriage competition, but following the event, our second stop was in Aiken, SC where they have restored their train station into a local museum. On the second floor, they have built a

Following that, what all wait for - opening of York itself. And as you have now heard, the world did spin on its axis. Early Friday morning we heard an announcement that photos are now allowed in the halls! It is amazing how many cameras were busy by mid morning - and not just from cell phones. You've probably seen many photos by now, and I've included a few of mine to share.



Many have said this before, York is a great experience, no matter how much you buy - or don't buy. This visit was pretty slim, one of two postwar items was found, but I'm still looking for a Great Northern EP-5. But, when you visit during the Beat the Heat meet, you may see that my Martians now have some visitors. It was interesting that all three



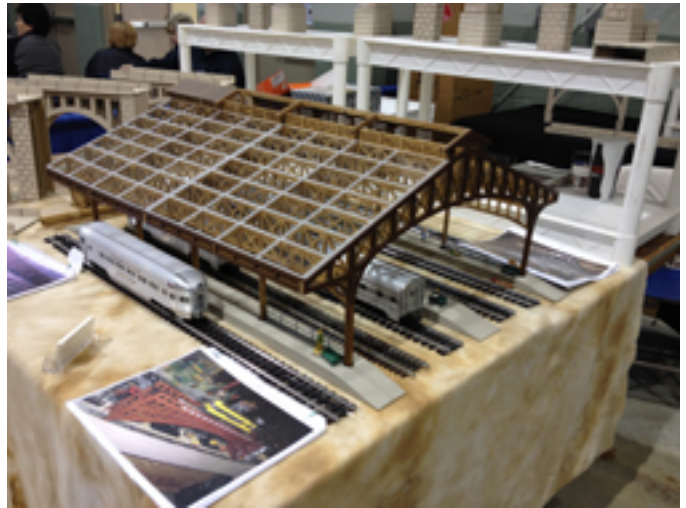
major manufacturers had slimmed down their display layouts, and each was offering clinics. MTH and Atlas had curtained off areas with seating, but Lionel just had folks gather around their layout, disappointing. I was also hoping to see the new Big Boy on display and demonstrated. But other than the Lionel video, it was nowhere to be seen.

By Saturday morning, it was time to reverse routes and head home. The trip started at the BWI station, where we returned our rental car and took Amtrak to Washington. One delight of traveling on the Eastern Corridor is that they have LOTS of trains. So, in the half hour wait for our train, we got to watch three go

by, including an Acela. At Washington Union Station, we went up to my favorite train watching spot on the upper garage level and again marveled at the world of high density passenger rail facilities. Then it was on to the Capitol Limited to Chicago - arriving four hours late due to really intense freight traffic in Pennsylvania and the Chicago area. But with a normal six hour layover and more normal outside Chicago weather (bad), it made the wait inside Union Station much shorter. Finally, we boarded the Southwest Chief and an evening and a day later we made an almost right on time arrival at Williams and home.



**Peter in Heaven - RR Museum of Pennsylvania**



**Bridge Boss is bringing back their beautiful train shed. Really tempting.**



**The not so exciting Lionel display layout. Nothing like the scenediced beauties of the past.**



**One of the custom builder's displays. There is some beautiful craftsmanship out there, if you are willing to pay the price. Personally, these just give me "ideas"**



# TUCSON ARIZONA TOY TRAIN SHOW

Gadsden-Pacific Summer Meet **MAY 30-31, 2014**  
**EVENT TABLE REGISTRATION FORM**

Name		Mailing Address:	
Email Address	City	State	Zip
Phone	Check Number	Number Tables Ordered	
	Enclosed \$		
Special Instructions:		Helper:	

- - - - - Cut Registration Form Here - - - - -

**PRE-REGISTRATION TABLES: \$35.00 EACH. IF PAYMENT RECEIVED TEN BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO EVENT. LAST MINUTE REGISTRATION \$40.00 PER TABLE.**

**LIMITED HELPER PASSES WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE TABLE PRICE**

**When filling out Event Table Registration Form use the name you like to be called and fill in your helper pass name if needed on special instructions line.**

**TABLES ARE LIMITED**

**Buy three tables get fourth table free!**

**LOCATION: TUCSON AZ. - TUCSON EXPO CENTER SOUTH HALL, 3750 E. IRVINGTON ROAD JUST OFF I-10 exit 264 (IRVINGTON & PALO VERDE)**

**SET UP TIME: SET UP FRIDAY FROM 11:00 AM UNTIL 2:00 PM. OR SATURDAY FROM 7:00 AM UNTIL 9:00 AM. OVERNIGHT SECURITY FOR VENDORS**

**TWO DAY SHOW: UP TO TEN HOURS OF SALES OVER TWO DAYS:  
FRIDAY FROM 2:00 PM UNTIL 7:00 PM & SATURDAY FROM 9:00 AM UNTIL 2:00 PM**

**EIGHT FOOT TABLES: YES, WE WILL HAVE EIGHT FOOT TABLES! ELECTRIC - OUTLET AVAILABLE ON PRE-REQUEST.**

**CLEAN FACILITIES, GOOD LIGHTING & REASONABLY PRICED SNACK BAR, NEARBY RESTAURANTS AND MOTELS.**

**Make Checks Payable to: GPD TTOM**

**Mail to:**

**Dave Hoverstock, Meet Chairman**

**PO Box 17746**

**Tucson, AZ 85731 (520) 909-0722 or (520) 298-5442**

**E-mail: [TrainShow@gpdToyTrainMuseum.com](mailto:TrainShow@gpdToyTrainMuseum.com)**

**FUTURE SHOWS: NOVEMBER 14-15, 2014 JANUARY 9-10, 2015**

## **The Main Line**

**Peter Atonna, Editor**

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**Chicago's Roosevelt Road overpass is one of the country's most famous train watching spots. Looking north, you see commuter and long distance trains entering and leaving Union Station. Looking south, you see both the Amtrak and Metra yards and servicing facilities. Your editor finally visited this spot during his and his wife's anniversary trip. Read about it in this issue.**