



GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

MAIN LINE

MAY, 2015

Volume 24

Number 5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Draftz

Our May meeting will be the 23rd (Memorial Day weekend). The BoD will meet at 7:30am with the regular meeting starting at 10am with trains running in between. The theme is: Memorial Day - Space/ Military Trains/Hardware. If you have military/ space trains to run, that would be great. Remember, there's no gauge restriction so bring whatever appeals to you.

The multi-club picnic was Saturday, April 18th, at the McCormick RR Park Aste Ramada in Scottsdale. A "Back Shop" tour of the 15" gauge was available as well as inside layout tours of all three layouts in the Model Railroad Building. A good turnout was had. If anyone left hungry, it was self-inflicted. Special thanks to Jack Eaton for selling the red raffle tickets that netted the club over \$70 and to Dwane Turner and Bill Richardson for selling mystery prize tickets that netted us over \$100. Thanks also to P&P for hosting the picnic and to TCA for handling most of the food. Next year's picnic should be the first Saturday in April.

Our spring mini-meet was April 25th from 9-11 and was, by most standards, a success. Twenty seven free sale tables were available for our members on a first come first served basis. Some members able to get a second table. The meet was free to the public. Special thanks to Janet Mattern for coordinating the mini-meet. She has also agreed to serve as the coordinator for the fall mini-meet in September. Members wanting to reserve a seller's table should contact her (602-569-0568 or tjmattern@cox.net).

Our Summer Cactus Meet will be held Saturday, July 25th, at the North Phoenix Baptist Church center (Bethany Home & Central). We already have almost 50 tables of the estimated 150 tables "sold" for the meet. See our www.gcmrr.org site for details and the table reservation form. Many of the previous tasks have gone away such as table and chair set-up and tear down and food service at lunch. The various remaining tasks have been defined along with approximate timelines so those tasks aren't that demanding. The primary job of the meet chair is to coordinate the various tasks to ensure our glitches are kept to a minimum. Glenn Saber has agreed to serve as the coordinator/chair for our first ever Summer Cactus Meet. Please help him as you are able when he needs it.

The mobile layout will be at Williams Saturday, June 20th (Father's Day weekend). The hotel has given us two rooms for those wanting to go up Friday and run on Saturday. One room is already spoken for. If you are interested in the other, please contact me as soon as possible (602-942-3457 or jzdraftz@cox.net). Special thanks to Bill Richardson for his work in repairing the track. Both trailers still need some work done on them. George Bean (623-975-3823 or geowbean@verizon.net) is coordinating work on the mobile and Dave Brown (480-650-5336 or eaglefour@juno.com) is coordinating the module. Please contact them to learn where you can help.

The members decided that our spring and fall picnic-potlucks would be best held the third Sunday afternoon in March and October starting about 5pm. We'll need to identify a location for the fall event. Any suggestions?

A special thanks to Herb Andreen for hosting an open house to his impressive O-gauge layout on May 3rd. Well done Herb (and to those who helped).

As a reminder, our Annual 1K Raffle is: first prize - \$500 cash, second prize - a K-Line ABA diesel set, and third prize - \$100 cash. Tickets are \$10 each, three for \$25, or 10 for \$50. Contact Barbara or Glenn to get yours.

See you the 23rd. Plan to bring things to help celebrate Memorial Day.

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 23 - GCMR meeting, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

May 29, 30 - GPM swap meet, Tucson. See flyer this issue

June 20 - Train Day, Williams

June 27 - GCMR meeting, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

July 25 - GCMR Summer Cactus Swap Meet, North Phoenix Baptist Church

August 15 - Beat the Heat Swap Meet, Prescott Article on the new location next month

August 22 - GCMR meeting, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

September 19 - Desert Division G and HO gauge all day auction.

MEETING NOTES

by Barbara Turner

Announcements

- There will be a layout tour at Herb Andreen's house on May 3rd for both GCMR and Paradise & Pacific members.

- The mobile layout will at Williams on June 20th for the Williams Train Day.

- The Summer Cactus Meet is set for July 25th at North Phoenix Baptist Church.

- The Fall Mini-Meet is scheduled for September 26. Janet Mattern has volunteered to be the coordinator

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46am and set to reconvene after the mini-meet.

The meeting reconvened at 11:24am.

Old Business

- John Draftz reported that the multi-club picnic was a great success. \$105 was made from the mystery box raffle and \$73.63 was realized from the red ticket raffle.

New Business

- Jack Eaton wanted to formally thank Bill Richardson for the work he did on the mobile layout.

- Janet Mattern was thanked for coordinating the April mini-meet.

- Jack Eaton reported that there were no changes to the status of prizes for the Summer Cactus Meet from last month's meeting.

Board of Directors

President: JOHN DRAFTZ 602-942-3457
Vice Pres: GEORGE BEAN 623-975-3823
Secretary: BARBARA TURNER 602-430-6306

Treasurer: GLENN SABER 602-956-6696
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ROD JOHNSON 602-625-4168
BILL RICHARDSON 623-582-5672

Editor: Peter Atonna 928-636-4228 mjatonna@gmail.com - Website: www.gcmrr.org

- John Draftz reported that 25% of the tables are sold for the Summer Cactus Meet.

- Glenn Saber volunteered to be the coordinator the Summer Cactus Meet.

- The date for the fall potluck will be October 18th. A location is yet to be determined.

- Glenn Saber asked the membership to think about how to monitor attendance at the Cactus Meets to try to find out where people come from and how they hear about the meet.

- The June meeting theme is the hot dogs and apple pie meet.

MIKE NELSON

by Peter Atonna

Many GCMR members are aware, but for those of you who may not have heard, we lost Mike Nelson a few months ago. Living in Prescott, he owned a hobby store and clock repair shop for several years.

But we most knew Mike for his magnificent skills in our hobby. He was a master modeler in O scale and in addition to his trains, he built superb buildings and scenery in the three homes/layouts he occupied here in the Prescott area. Also, many of you may have also known Mike for his hospitality in hosting open houses following the Beat the Heat meets.

At this time, Mike's widow, Joyce, would like to dispose of his trains, buildings and layouts. As noted, most of his trains are O scale and more recently On30. His layout was partially sceniced and consisted of On30 modular sections incorporated into his O scale trains. Joyce is making this all available, whether you are interested in any of the trains, sections of - or all of - his layout, and his buildings and railroad structures.

If you are interested, please call her to make arrangements to see what you may be interested in.

Joyce's phone is: 928-925-9741 and they live in Dewey, off SR 69 between Cordes Junction and Prescott.

WILLIAMS TRAIN DAY

As John notes in his President's Message, we will be bringing the trailer again this year to the Williams Train Day on June 20, Father's Day Weekend. Not only the four layout "handlers", but all members are invited to spend the day, or weekend in Williams.

The train day format is similar to previous years and is again highlighted by trips on the Cataract Creek Rambler, an hour long trip in an historic Harriman coach (no longer being used on the regular day trains by the way) and pulled by GCR steamer #4960. In addition a tour of the GCR locomotive/car shop is also available. You get there by train! The Cataract Creek Rambler makes a special stop to let you off and will pick you up on the return trip.

The Polar room will be filled with model train layouts while outside, railroad locomotives and equipment will be on display. You are welcome to come into the NRHS's Santa Fe caboose and visit the Winslow Harvey Girls and their Santa Fe china and memorabilia displays in the Max Bigert observation car. Exhibits are open 9am to 5pm on Saturday and the last Rambler run will be at 6pm.

The railroad has produced a neat video on the day. You can watch it at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hBIWuhiFDzg>

STOP THE PRESSES: BEAT THE HEAT HAS A NEW VENUE!

by Peter Atonna

Yes, the "powers that be" here at our Prescott club have decided to find a newer, more modern and convenient location for the Beat the Heat meet. We are all nostalgic for the old Prescott Armory, but now there will be a hall with air conditioning, a direct entry and exit for sellers and visitors and lots of parking. Kind of puts nostalgia in its place, doesn't it.

The new location is at the Liberty Traditional Elementary School in Prescott Valley. It is easily assessable off SR 69. We will publish

a map to the school in the July issue of the Main Line.

Meet chairman, Dick Gage notes: "The show is in the school gym which is located off the road to the left of the school's classrooms. There are two entrances on each end of the building, right by the driveway. There are no steps or ramps to negotiate. It is air conditioned and parking is right there under solar panels for protection. It should be vendor and customer friendly. Moving in and out should be a cinch for the vendors. All the new amenities should end up making this one of our best shows."

Each year we have been selling out sales tables so you will have a great selection of trains. Admission is \$5 with kids under 12 free with an adult. The show starts at 9am and runs to 1pm. Table reservations are close to selling out, so if you are looking to sell, please get your reservation in ASAP. They are \$30 each and that includes your admission and one helper and must be paid in advance. Dealer setup is 7 - 9am. If you have questions, call Dick Gage at 802-272-1352 or email to: yttoaz@cablone.net.

To help you plan, here are some of the weekend's activities around the Prescott area.

Shopping - Downtown Prescott has one of the finest antique and arts districts in the state. The district lines Cortez and Marina Streets.

Museums - Next to the old Activity Center is the Smoki Museum, while downtown is Sharlott Hall Museum and just north of town is the Phippen Art Museum

Train Rides - Both the Grand Canyon Railway and the Verde Canyon Railroad are less than two hours from Prescott for a great Sunday activity.

Outdoor activities - The Prescott area is a jumping off point for camping and fishing in the Bradshaw Mountains, bike riding on many of the area highways and hiking in Thumb Butte, Granite Mountain or the Peavine Rails to Trails. Lynx and Watson Lakes are great picnic locations.

Mortimer's Farm - Mortimer Nursery Farms located at the intersection of SR69 and SR169, will have a crop of corn and other goodies ready for you.

Open Houses - The Prescott area is home to a number of home layouts and we are happy to share some of the best with our visitors. Six fellows have generously opened their layouts and collections for your enjoyment. Time for visiting starts at 2pm, after the meet. There will be maps available at the meet registration table. Be sure to pick one up on your way in.

Marlin Benson - Three rooms filled with O gauge trains and displays. His high rail layout occupies two rooms. A Large Scale loop lines the walls and a Christmas themed layout are included in one train room.

Warren Webster - An outdoor Large Scale layout, with multiple loops and spectacular wooden bridges in a delightful outdoor setting.

Scott Hicks - A garden layout in the large back yard of his historic home in downtown Prescott.

Donn Pease - A large HO gauge layout depicting the Southern Pacific in the Tucson area. Trains are running and scenery is under way. Be sure to note his spectacular scenic backdrop.

Richie Scanapico - An outdoor Large Scale layout surrounding two sides of his house in addition to a display of spectacular large scale military trains.

Mark Ziven - A fully sceniced O gauge high rail layout with an open pit scene and massive industrial scene.

We hope you plan to spend the weekend in Prescott. If you would like a nearby motel for your stay, here are some suggestions (the area code is 928):

If you would like to stay at a nearby motel in Prescott Valley there are:

+ Arizona Inn - 7875 E. Hwy 69 1-877-709-7784

+ Hampton Inn & Suites - 2901 N Glassford Hill Rd 772-1800

+ Comfort Suites, - 2601 N Crownpointe Drive 771-2100

If you would like to stay in downtown Prescott:

+ Hotel St. Michael - 205 W. Gurley 776-1999

+ Hotel Vendome - 230 S. Cortez 776-0900

+ Hassayampa Inn - 122 E. Gurley 778-9434

+ Marriott SpringHill Suits - Depot Square, Sheldon Street and Cortez 776-0998.

K LINE VS ATLAS ZYPHER

(Many folks have been buying the new Atlas California Zephyr passenger cars. Atlas has set a high bar with the detail incorporated in them, but has also taken heat on the slow release of individual cars. Following is an interesting comparison between the new Atlas cars and the previous standard for scale length cars, those from K Line. This was started by “Chugman” on the OGR Forum - Ed)

First, they are both beautiful cars and each has its strong points. The K-Line cars really look good to me with the real metal. It's hard to replicate metal with plastic. I do not like the way that K-Line has blended the real metal sides with the very shiny plastic ends and doors. The plastic is so shiny that it does not look realistic to me. The farther you stand back, the better the K-Line's look due to the real metal sides. When you get closer, the added details and realism of the Atlas cars are much more impressive to me.

K-Line has figures in their car and Atlas does not. The shape of the dome and the glass looks much better on the Atlas car. All the trouble Atlas went through to get it right paid off in my view.

Underbody details are much better on the Atlas. Overall details are better on the Atlas as is fidelity to the real cars such as window and door placements and sizes.

Light is excellent on the Atlas with LED's, lighted drumhead and red strobe light. My K-Line car has these too, but they were added by us. Atlas car has the choice of using track power or batteries or they

can be switched off completely. The K-Line car is showing its age in the lighting department. Both cars roll very smoothly and look great on the rails.

You can't go wrong with a train of either of these beauties, but after running both I am really sold on the new Atlas cars.

(Alan Arnold then posted another good observation that applies to plastic vs metal cars)

In my mind, when running the train, the K-line finish looks more like the real thing. One has to remember that the K-line cars for the most part were generic so window, dome, etc. details may not be specific to a particular prototype. I agree that the chromed ends, domes, etc. on the K-line cars are too shiny but if one is willing to remove and give them a light spray of dull coat, when reapplied, they look great. Heck, one could probably carefully tape out the chromed pieces and spray directly...?? Plastic cars painted to look like metal in my eye look like painted plastic. Bottom line, the current line of passenger cars that we have available from GGD, Atlas, etc. are fantastic models but for me, I sure wish we could get a more metal-like finish on the stainless versions...



Atlas on the left, K Line on the right

K Line on the left, Atlas on the right

New Location - New Location - New Location



PRESCOTT'S (in Prescott Valley)

BEAT THE HEAT

MODEL TRAINS & OLD BOYS' TOYS

Saturday, August 15, 2015, 9 AM—1 PM

At the Liberty Traditional School

3300 N. Lake Valley Rd, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

Presented By:

The Central Arizona Model RR Club

Adults \$5.00—Children 12 and under Free

Contact: Larry Gauthier 928-632-4180 CAMMRC Treasurer

Dick Gage © 802-272-1352 Event Chairman

Table Reservations \$30.00 per table in advance

Table Sales are Subject to Availability

1 Free Admission with Each Table

Dealer Setup Time 7-9 AM — No Early Public Admission

The CAMRRC is Not Responsible for Lost or Stolen Items

.....

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

of tables _____ @ \$30ea (limit 4 tables per seller) _____

Helper's name _____ @ \$4 ea _____

Helper's name _____ @ \$4 ea _____

Lunch reservation (sandwich, chips, soda) _____ @ \$7ea _____

Special request _____ Total enclosed _____

Make check to: CAMRRC and mail to: Larry Gaither, PO Box 1105

Mayer, AZ 86333-1105

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

THE CACTUS SUMMER MEET

SATURDAY, JULY 25th, 2015

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

(\$1.00 off cards available - large Farmers Market at same time!)



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
"High Noon" Races and Demolition**
Presented by your pal Casey Cactus and the
GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILRODERS



To reserve your space and required admission name badges, submit this form by July 18, 2015

No refunds after July 18, 2015.

Set-up opens at 6:00 AM

Please print form legibly.



Name	
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
Make check payable to: "Grand Canyon Model Railroaders" Mail to: John Draftz, 1507 W Willow Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85029 or Credit cards accepted via PayPal - Visit www.gcmrr.org Email: info@gcmrr.org Info: John Draftz 602-942-3457; George Bean 602-319-5496	

\$25 per 8' banquet table

(Bring a table cover, if desired)

How many tables? _____

Amount enclosed? \$ _____

Request? _____

Will you participate in the auction?

Seller? _____ Buyer? _____

Admission Name Badges

1 or 2 tables = 2 badges max.

Badge Name _____

Badge Name _____

3 or more tables = 4 badges max.

Badge Name _____

Badge Name _____

More badges available at \$5.00 each

THE MAIN LINE

Peter Atonna, Editor

25375 N. Feather Mountain Rd.

Paulden, AZ 86334



One advantage your editor has of living in Northern Arizona and being a railfan as well as a modeler is that I can belong to the Grand Canyon Chapter of the NRHS. Our chapter owns this ex-Santa Fe caboose. Every couple of years, the Grand Canyon Railway offers to take us on a “private train” to the Grand Canyon and back. Here we are last month at a stop so some members can switch from the Harriman to the caboose and a couple of lucky ones get a cab ride in the GCR diesel. You will be able to tour this caboose during Williams Train Day (shameless plug!)