



# GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

## MAIN LINE

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER, 2010

Volume 19

Number 11

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Bill East

We had all our trains at the Scottsdale Railroad Park, the trailer, the "O" gauge module and the "S" gauge module. On October 16, we had the trailer and the "S" gauge module at the Adobe Mountain Railroad for their train show. On October 23, the "S" gauge module was at our meeting. As you can see, train season has started and it was a very successful month of running trains.

In November, we will have our meeting on the SECOND Saturday of the month. We will hold our annual trolley drag race, so bring in your trolleys and get some free monthly raffle tickets. The other big event at this month's meeting will be the drawing for our yearly raffle. Have you got yours yet? This will be the last meeting to buy them.

Then we will be at Pasadena at the Cal-Stewart meet and following we will be running at the Southwest Train Show, formerly the Turkey Meet. We will have the trailer and both "O" gauge and "S" gauge modules there. If you want to run trains, that will be a good time to get in some running.

December has four events close together, two on one weekend to tell the truth. Saturday, December 4th we will have our open house at the Lutheran Church where we meet. If you want to participate, please call John Dratz. We will setup from 8 AM to 10 AM. The doors are open from 10am and till 2pm. I hope that we have as good or better turn out this year as last. The next day, Sunday, is our Christmas party in Mesa at the same location as the Turkey Meet earlier. Please see the flyer in this issue for reservations.

On December 9th and 10th we will be running trains again at Adobe Mountain Railroad park from 5 PM till 8:30 PM. On December 11th the trailer will be run at Affair With Trains between 10 AM and 4 PM.

Sam McElwee said he would have a selection of engines there to choose from as the second prize in

our annual drawing, and Bill Richardson will bring in the third prize.

A panel has been set up to look for people to run for office. This is an important job. This club can only grow if everyone helps out, not only in running trains but also in running the club. New blood with fresh ideas will make this a club to which everyone wants to belong. So if its been a while since you ran for an office, now is the time to do it!

Happy Training days!

### 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.*

**November 13** - GCMR meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

**December 4** - GCMR Open House at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

**January 22** - GCMR meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

**February 19** - GCMR Mid Winter Open Meet

### OTHER TRAIN EVENTS

**November 6** - Gadsden Pacific Toy Train Meet, Tucson.

**November 6** - In the Heat swap meet, Phoenix, North Phoenix Baptist Church. 9am - 1pm

**November 20, 21** - Cal Stewart meet, Pasadena, CA  
Info: [www.ttos-sw.org/cal-stewart\\_rules.htm](http://www.ttos-sw.org/cal-stewart_rules.htm)

**November 27, 28** - Turkey Meet, Mesa, AZ,

**December 5** - Desert Division Holiday Party. All GCMR members are invited. See registration form in this issue.

## MEETING NOTES

### Old Business

+ The weekend we had scheduled the Mid Winter Meet is unavailable. Weekends before and after are available. Discussion followed and it was decided that it will be held on February 19, 2011.

+ Sam McElwee reported on a "Getting on the Train" program that invites groups to show their portable layouts at their dinner on Nov 19, 2010 at the Baptist Church on Bethany Home and Central. Would GCMR like to participate? Discussion of conflicting events ruled out the GCMR participation but others may wish to participate. Contact Sam if you are interested.

+ Sam McElwee indicated that the mother of a former member, George Glas, has passed away. She often attended the club meeting with George. Sam will bring a sympathy card at the next GCMR meeting

### New Business

+ On Saturday, December 11th, the trailer will be at An Affair With Trains from 9 to 5 for a GCMR membership drive and as a thank-you for their donations to GCMR. The trailer will be in the parking lot outside the store.



**Wayne Ross and his new Peter Witt trolley**

+ John Draftz suggests that since the trailer will be at the Adobe Mountain Park on the previous Thursday that it be stored at Adobe and transported only a short distance to the AAWT facility.

+ New officers are to be nominated for the 2011 year. John Draftz volunteered to operate as the nominating committee. A slate of candidates will be presented at the November meeting. Paul Boston will prepare the ballots and mail them to the membership.

### Show and Tell

+ Wayne Ross showed his new Williams by Bachman Peter Witt trolley. He noted that Sam McElwee is the local vendor for Williams.

## RAILFAIR 2010

by Paul Boston

October 9 and 10 was a great couple of days for model railroading. The days were warm, but not real hot and the crowds were just about right. More than 9,000 people visited the McCormick Stillman Railroad Park over the two days and the GCMR Trailer and modules were in a prime location to attract visitors, and come they did!

The Park had been in a real rush over the previous couple of weeks to get things ready for our guests. The parking lot was being repaved. The paving company, delayed by the rain, went the extra mile to open an as yet unfinished section and put in temporary paving to open the east entrance. Things seemed a little crowded but the lot actually contained 30 more parking spaces than last year. When it's finished it will be 60 more than last year.

Many of the grass areas had newly laid sod and the weekend gave it a real workout. Some displays had their size reduced due to soggy ground, but the GCMR area was in pretty good shape.

Getting members to man the trailer and modules is getting to be a concern since the TCA and P&P clubs share their most active members, so it was a long day without much of a break for folks manning the modules and trailer.

### **Board of Directors**

President:	BILL EAST	602-374-3255	Treasurer	BOB PREHARA	602-841-9552
Vice Pres:	BILL RICHARDSON	623-582-5672	Past Pres:	JOHN PRYOR	602-799-8570
Secretary	PAUL BOSTON	480-314-3373	Board Member:	GLENN SABER	602-956-6696
				DAVE BROWN	480-423-8725

Editor: PETER ATONNA 928-636-4228 [mjatonna@gmail.com](mailto:mjatonna@gmail.com)

In addition to the outdoor layouts, P&P had to man their module setup, clubroom, and the new building's O gauge layout. As with the GCMR, members of the TCA and P&P put in long hours in each of these venues. Fortunately members of all clubs moved about, pitching in so others could visit throughout the Park.



**President Bill with his hand on the “big bucks”**

The crown jewel of the 2010 Rail Fair was the unveiling of the new Model Railroad Building. The 10,000 square foot building will house three equal size layout areas featuring O, N, and HO gauges. For the “soft” opening, the O gauge club had one loop of track running. The N gauge group had set up some of their portable modules and the HO displayed rolling stock and fielded questions about the technique they are using to build their layout benchwork.

EagleWings Iron Craft supplied both a G and O gauge overhead system for the lobby area. Two G gauge trains circled the entire lobby while three O gauge trains looped back and forth using the now familiar “magic of three rail” technique that you have seen at the GCMR Mid Winter Meets. It is just on a larger loop with 30+ foot straights. Wonderful!

The new P&P layout had one track running three trains most of the two days. It was amazing to see a layout that two weeks before did not exist, now in the building and running trains all day long. The P&P guys tried to find out how fast a train the new track would tolerate, so they stripped it down to one seven car passenger train headed by an ABA diesel. Speed started out at 60 scale miles per hour and it seemed a leisurely pace around such a large loop (160+ feet) and it took 1 minute 15 seconds to run the loop. The

top speed was 120 scale MPH and did the loop in 31 seconds! Now we don't plan to run at that speed but the consist seemed rock solid on every turn for the 25 or 30 loops we ran. The only reason we didn't go faster was the DCS controller topped out at 120! Why do such a stupid thing? Because the Atlas 21 Century track and our track laying techniques were new to us and we really needed to find out if it was as good as it seemed. It is!

The new building is not open yet, hence the “soft” opening. The builder is completing the details and the building will be tested to see if it meets “Green” building standards. The real opening is yet to be announced, but the clubs should be able to continue construction of their layouts by mid-November. Of course, once the P&P has access you will probably be allowed to visit as layout construction progresses.

For further information and another slant on Rail Fair you might want to go to the P&P web site blog area <http://pandpr.com/newpandpr/Blog/Blog.html> and the layout building area [http://pandpr.com/newpandpr/Layout\\_Building/Layout\\_Building.html](http://pandpr.com/newpandpr/Layout_Building/Layout_Building.html).



**The crowds were great at the GCMR layout**

### WINNERS!

Lionel G N Boxcar	Ralph Treichel
K-Line Texas Tank Car	Wayne Ross
Weaver Benny Parsons	
Box Car	Bill East
Lionel SUNX Tank car	Bob Prehara
Mystery Raffle	
4 Pack KLine Ore Cars	Bob Prehara
\$50 Drawing	Bill East

# A RAILFAIR GALLERY

with some photos from a great weekend by Dave Brown, Wayne Ross and Eric Hadder of the Grand Canyon Chapter of the NRHS



All ages can enjoy the GCMR trailer layout



The NRHS was a first timer at Railfair, but where was the layout's owner?



A neat layout, but whose is it?

Marty and Bill enjoying the GCMR S gauge modular layout



The spectacular Eagle Wings lift bridge at the new P&P layout



Dave Brown looking over progress at the P&P layout



Only one train was enough to bring joy to the onlookers



# 2010 HOLIDAY PARTY

**Sunday, December 5, 2009**

**Phoenix Marriott Mesa  
200 N. Centennial Way  
Mesa, AZ 85201**

**4:00 PM: Meet and Greet  
(cash bar available)**

**Santa will be there to see  
the children under 12  
5:00 PM: Dinner**

**Fellowship, Food, Favors, Raffles,  
Auctions and Fun!**

**Chair: Ralph & Sally Treichel  
Reservation deadline:  
November 30, 2009**



-----Cut here and send with check-----

**Make check payable to Desert Division TCA and send this form and check to  
Ralph Treichel  
16802 N. 1st Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85023**

**Adults: \$26.00**

**Children 12 and under: \$15.00  
Children 2 and under: Free**

**Please print names of persons attending, giving ages of children 12 and under.**

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\_\_\_\_\_ # Adults @ \$26.00 ea

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\_\_\_\_\_ # children 12 and under: \$15.00 ea

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**Total enclosed**

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**Please indicate if you will need handicapped seating.  
Thank you!**

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



This year's Railfair was a real success, with a first peak at the new P&P layout, many clubs exhibiting their layouts and of course tons of kids getting a kick out just being around all these trains!