



# GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

## MAIN LINE

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER, 2016

Volume 25

Number 11

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Dave Brown

Well, it all comes down to the November meeting. The winner of the annual raffle will be named at that meeting. There will still be raffle tickets for sale before the drawing, and there is still time to get yours. So buy more tickets, support your club! For show and tell, holiday trains are the theme. Show off your Christmas tree trains with the club.

Train runs continue. We ran trains in Mesa for the Pioneer Park event. I was unable to go because I worked 20 hours the day and night before. I would like to thank all those that showed up and helped. The next possible run will be at TCA's swap meet in December. If we do this run, we will be using the O-gauge and S-gauge modules. This will be discussed at the November meeting. The TCA trailer won't be there.

During December, there are weekend runs out at Adobe Mountain Railroad Park on Friday and Saturday nights on the first three weekends. If you want to run, sign up at the November meeting.

Thanks to Jack Eaton we have people for officers positions for next year. The electronic ballots will go out soon, and for those who don't do the computer, a paper ballot will be mailed out. I know that we just ended a long National President campaign season, but this one is very low profile. But don't forget to vote!

The Christmas party is being organized. Sign up and come out to the party. This will be the last event of the year, but 2017 is just around the corner.

Happy Holidays, and keep those trains running.

### 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 19** - GCMR meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

**November 19, 20** - Cal Stewart meet. LA County Fairgrounds, Pomona, CA. Note the new location

**November 26** - Turkey Auction - Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church. Catalog online at [tcadd.org](http://tcadd.org).

**December 4** - Christmas Party, GCMR, P&P and TCA all welcome. Registration form in this issue.

**December 10** - Desert Division Swap Meet - El Zaribah Shrine Auditorium, Phoenix. Seller's registration form in this issue.

**January 21** - Desert Division Auction - Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church. Catalog posted online at [tcadd.org](http://tcadd.org) about six weeks ahead of the date.

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

**February 4, 5** - World's Greatest Hobby Show, Phoenix Convention Center  
**February 18** - GCMR Winter Cactus Swap Meet - North Phoenix Baptist Church

## MEETING NOTES

by Bill Richardson

### OLD BUSINESS:

The mobile trailer work party occurred on Saturday October 15 at Adobe Mountain Railroad Park. Another ZW transformer was replaced with an MTH Z4000. In addition, new locking electrical connectors for the accessories were installed. There was some discussion about adding cards to each button to identify which accessory it controls. This has not yet occurred.

There was discussion about upgrading the "O" and "S" gauge modules. Bill Richardson thought some of the "S" gauge track and the connectors that hold the modules together need repair. The "O" gauge legs need a better design. There was talk about adding skirting to the modules to improve the appearance. With all that needs to be done, we may put together a module committee to address these issues. With all the upcoming club events, President Dave Brown thinks January 2017 would be the best time to schedule a module work party.

November 5th is the "Rods, Rails, and Steel Wheels Car Show" at Pioneer Park in Mesa from 10:00 AM till 3:00 PM. We will be providing a sign up sheet at the October General Membership meeting.

No word yet from TCA on whether we are running our modules or their mobile trailer at their swap meet on December 10th.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Treasurer Glenn Saber gave the treasurer's report. The report specified the amounts in the checking account and the PayPal account. He also stated that our \$750 deposit fee to the North Phoenix Baptist Church for the February 2017 Winter Cactus swap meet has been paid. Two Insurance bills for the trailer were also paid. The report was accepted by the membership present.

Secretary Bill Richardson gave the secretary's report. Motion was made to accept previous month's Membership Meeting minutes as published. Motion passed.

We had a guest visitor at our meeting, Vince Hunter. Vince is mainly an "O" gauge guy. We had two new members at the meeting: Vic Worthington who is mainly HO and HO<sub>N3</sub>, and Dana Price from Mesa who is mainly HO and "O". In addition Rod Johnson is back in town and made the meeting.

Today's meeting is our annual Pizza Meet. Pizza and drinks were provided after the meeting.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Dave Brown informed the membership that the trailer work party did occur on October 15th at Adobe Mountain Railroad Park. The five rail track and the O-31 MTH track are now powered by an MTH DSC Z4000. So now there are two Z4000s on the mobile trailer. All the accessory electrical

### Board of Directors

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Secretary: BILL RICHARDSON 623-582-5672

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Board Member: JANET MATTERN 602-569-0568  
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connectors were replaced. There is one leg on the mobile trailer that is impossible to turn for adjustment. John Draftz is soaking it with penetrating oil to see if he can loosen it up.

John Draftz informed the membership that the GCMR Board has decided that its time to improve the modules. The "S" gauge could use snap connectors and track. The "O" gauge is too heavy with the folding legs. John mentioned forming a committee to think about what needs to be done and how to do it. Dave Brown mentioned adding skirting. Glenn Saber talked about creating a new framework for the "O" gauge and possibly the "S" too. The committee will need to provide direction.

Bill Lazenby is the nominating committee for the GCMR officers and board members. Bill reported that Dave Brown, Jack Eaton, Glenn Saber, and Bill Richardson have accepted nominations for GCMR club officers. Also George Bean, Janet Mattern, and John Draftz have accepted nominations for Board Members. Please submit nominations for anybody you would like to see running our club to Bill.

The "Rails, Rods, and Steel Wheels Car Show" is at Pioneer Park in Mesa on November 5th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. This event is a fundraiser for the Save Our Train effort in Mesa. There is a sign up sheet available at this meeting.

Dave Brown reported to the membership that there is no word yet from TCA on whether we are running our modules or their mobile trailer at their swap meet on December 10th.

Members were reminded that we are planning to run the mobile trailer at Adobe Mountain Railroad Park the three weekends before Christmas from 5:30 - 8:00 PM. Fridays and Saturdays, December 2nd & 3rd, December 9th and 10th, and December 16th and 17th. Sign up sheet was available at the meeting. It was noted that this event draws a lot of people and to try to make it out there at

least once. Show up when you can and bring a train to run.

A reminder, The Annual Christmas Party will be December 4th this year at the Mesa Marriott Hotel starting at 4:00 PM. The gift policy has changed this year to a TCA member only gift.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Vic Worthington spoke to the membership about the Buckeye Air Fair in Buckeye in February. An exact date has not been set yet. This is a public event probably similar to the Falcon Field open house where we could display our mobile layout and promote our club on the far west side. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

The next Winter Cactus Meet will be Saturday February 18, 2017. As of now approximately 15% of the table are sold. John Draftz has sent letters to multiple vendors for raffle prizes.

The next Mini Meet will be Saturday April 22, 2017. John Draftz commented about how good our Mini Meets have been.

Roger Bourque spoke about his "G" scale Train Layout Open House on November 19th, from 12:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. Roger's address is 15197 N. 138 Lane, Surprise. Donations for St. Vincent De Paul Thanksgiving Food Drive will be accepted (Monetary or anything to supplement a Thanksgiving Meal. No frozen or refrigerated foods). Come one come all.

## **RAILFAIR REPORT**

by John Draftz

The 2016 edition of Scottsdale's Railfair saw temperatures in the 90's but both Saturday and Sunday attendance was still over 1000. As usual, the GCMR displays were a major draw. A common description by visitors is "Amazing!" The GCMR has a lot to be proud of with our mobile layout and the modules. A special thanks to the following who set everything up Friday afternoon:

John Draftz, Jack Eaton, Bill Richardson and non-member Loren Tomlinson. Additional thanks to the following who ran trains Saturday and/or Sunday: Dave Brown, John Draftz, Bill East, Jack Eaton, Richard Fortmeyer, Terry Haas, Lynn McClelland, Bill Richardson and non-members Sam Foote, Russ Mosser, and Loren Tomlinson.

Here are some photos from the weekend.



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## ARIZONA RAILWAY MUSEUM MAY BE COMING CLOSER

WILLIAMS, Ariz. — The Arizona State Railroad Museum is partnering with Facilities Development Services Group in hopes of acquiring the needed funds to build the Arizona State Railroad Museum in Williams, about 30 miles west of Flagstaff, Ariz.

The two organizations will work under contract to find low-cost financing and creative fundraising methods, Williams News reports. Current plans call for a non-profit foundation as the owner-borrower, which will give the museum access to low cost financing for the museum.



The project calls for a 25-acre museum near Interstate 40 and alongside the Grand Canyon Railway right-of-way. The site would feature a children's interactive railroad program, the museum, an amphitheater, and worker housing. A financial group representative says the museum would cost between \$23 and \$25 million.

The financial group is outlining a revenue stream to encourage investors and that could construction could begin in 2017. The museum would like to open in the spring of 2018.

Facilities Development Services Group is a company that administers planning, programming, feasibility, design and construction services using private funding.

## ON THE ROAD AGAIN

by Dave Brown

This month's picture is back again in Globe. As one drives on the US60 into Globe, you go up hill and cross the valley on the bridge, look down at the Pepsi plant and you will see an old rusted burro crane with an old tank car. Both are very rusted, and are a very good study in rusting cars.



## MYSTERY SOLVED

by Peter Atonna

As you may remember from last month's newsletter, I did an article on my fascination with the layout drawings published by Lionel before and for a few years after the war. I noted that I suspected that they were designed and drawn by Bob Sherman, a prolific illustrator for Lionel. It has been documented that he did the magnificent drawings of the sets in the early postwar catalogs. But as he never signed his work, I only had my suspicions that he was also the creator of these imaginary layout drawings.

Well, as I have been recently going back over my collection of Model Builder Magazines, the next month following last month's article and layout drawing was another Sherman drawing. But this was not featuring a layout but the construction of a control panel. But look at the layout drawing above

## WINNERS !

Vic Worthington - Lionel 6-29918 Toy Fair Fast Track 2003 boxcar

Bill East - Lionel 6-9450 Great Northern cattle car

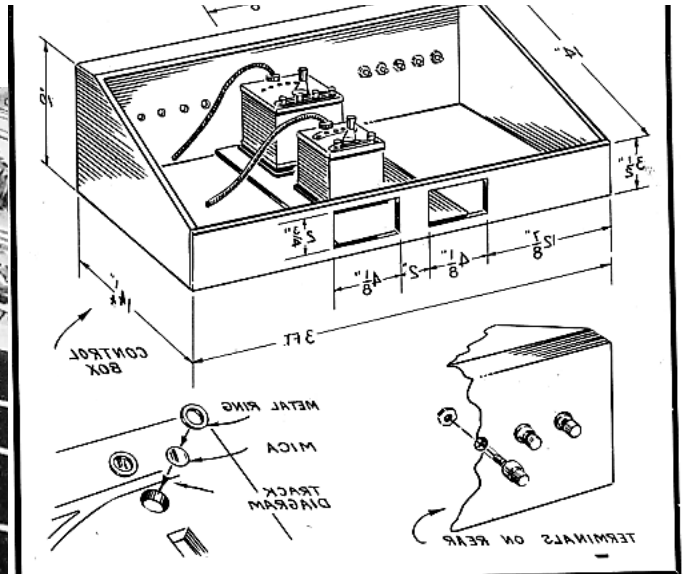
Rod Johnson - Lionel 6-16392 Wabash gondola

Bill Richardson - Lionel 6-12818 animated freight station

Dana Price - Lionel 6-9783 B&O boxcar

Mystery Raffle prize winner was John Draftz - American Flyer flood light tower.

Monthly 1K raffle winner was Dave Brown - who won 3 more tickets for the 1K raffle



the panel,  
classic  
Sherman.  
And  
whose  
byline is  
on the  
article but  
"Robert Sherman"!

## A CONTROL BOX AND TRACK INDICATOR

By Robert Sherman

**I**S your model railroad controlled at an operating point cluttered with a maze of controls, wires and gadgets? Do wrecks ever result when you can't remember which push button works which switch? If so, you need a control box, with a train location indicator—an important bit of equipment which will help you...





Dana Price

Bill Richardson

And here is a piece of the next page to illustrate the classic, and beautifully drawn graphics done in those days. I cannot confirm that these were also done by Sherman, but whoever did them shows a level of skill that now has been all but replaced by computer drawn plans.

Vic Worthington

**2016 CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Sunday, December 4, 2016

Mesa Marriott  
200 N. Centennial Way  
Mesa, AZ 85201

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

5:00 PM: Dinner

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

Reservation deadline: November 30, 2016



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

Make check payable to Desert Division TCA and send this form and check to:

Angelo Lautazi  
6109 E Sonoran Trl  
Scottsdale AZ 85266

Adults: \$28.00  
Children 12 and under: \$18.00 Children age 2  
and under: Free

Guests are welcome. (same cost as members)

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Adults @ \$28.00 \_\_\_\_\_

# children 12 and under: \$18.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Please Indicate Club Membership

Desert Division TCA \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Canyon MR \_\_\_\_\_

Paradise&Pacific \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you!

The Ballroom will be set with tables of eight.

Please Note: Only members of the Desert Division will receive a member's gift and a spouse's gift.

All guests, regardless of club affiliation, will be able to purchase any extra gifts at the party.

Holiday Committee: Barbara and Angelo Lautazi and Shirley and Fred Hunter

**Peter Atonna, Editor**  
**25375 N. Feather Mountain Rd.**





# RUNNING OF THE TRAINS

NOVEMBER 19 12:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

15197 N 138 Lane

Surprise, Az

Donations for St. Vincent De Paul Thanksgiving

Food Drive will be accepted. (Monetary or

anything to supplement a Thanksgiving Meal. No

frozen or refrigerated foods.)





**For TCA members, a trip to the York semi annual swap meet is an event that must be experienced. But part of the delight of this train meet is that it is located in the heart of nearby innumerable railroad related venues. Your Editor and Mary Jane took our Amtrak trip there last month. A tradition is the lunch train on the Strasburg Railroad. Here is our locomotive ready to go around the train for another trip.**