



GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

MAIN LINE

OCTOBER, 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by John Draftz

Our annual fall mini-meet was September 28th. A special thanks to Janet Mattern and Dana Price for coordinating it. We had a few empty tables, thus we were missing sellers due to other events. Also, the crowd wasn't as plentiful as we wanted. Nevertheless, it was a success. The challenge for the spring mini-meet is to get more public to attend. Let any board members know your ideas.

Our October meeting, Saturday the 26th, will be the annual pizza meeting. The theme is beverage cars (beer, wine, soda pop, etc). What do you have that's interesting?

The drawing for our Annual 3-2-1 Raffle will be at our October meeting. First prize is \$300 cash, second prize is \$200 cash, and third prize is \$100 cash. Tickets will be available at the meeting and are \$10 each, three for \$25, or 10 for \$50.

Elections are coming up in a month. The club is functioning well thus individual time demands and responsibilities are not burdensome so consider serving as an officer or board member or simply volunteering in some way. Contact Bill Lazenby (602-558-9222 or blcycle@msn.com) or Katie Elgar (602-679-1342 or kttrains@aol.com) if you're willing to help.

Since October is our last meeting in the calendar year, included elsewhere in the newsletter is the membership

renewal form. If possible, please get your renewal in before January.

We recently lost a member with the death of Bill East but we gained a new member with Bob Anderson. Bill's name will be added to the plaque on the mobile layout in recognition of his commitment to operating trains.

Scottsdale's Railfair is October 12 & 13. The mobile layout will be on display both Saturday and Sunday from 10-5 and should be well received. A special thanks to all who can be there to run trains and otherwise share the hobby with the public.

The mobile layout will also be on display at the Westchester Senior Living facility in Tempe on October 19th from 8:30 to noon and should be well received. Another special thanks to all who can be there to run trains.

The next public venue will be at the AMRS area at Adobe from 5:30-8 pm each day during the Adobe evening lights events on December 6-7, 13-14, & 20-21. A couple of people each evening can handle the running. The live steamers have thousands of people showing up for rides thus there's the chance to get new members for GCMR. Again, contact Rod Johnson (602 625 4168 or crodrjohnson@hotmail.com) to let him know if you can help out.

The Paradise Valley United Methodist Church: has asked us to again run trains at their Christmas party on Saturday morning, December 14th, from 10am till noon with our set

upstarting about 8. Rod Johnson (602 625 4168 or crodjohanson@hotmail.com) is coordinating the staffing. There is a possibility that our modules can be set up and operating. If so, it takes about 4-6 people to make the set up go quickly. Another possibility is the use of the TCA mobile layout. More details later.

The annual GCMR/PnP/TCA party should be in December More details to follow.

See you October 26h. Bring your beverage car. Also consider bringing an operating layout to set up and run at the meeting. Table tops are available or the floor.

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.

October 26 - GCMR meet - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church - annual raffle drawing

Theme: pizza meet - beverage cars

October 26 - Adobe Mountain show - Adobe Mountain Railroad Park

November 8, 9 - Gadsden Pacific show - Tucson Expo Center

November 16 - ARHS Swap Meet - Glendale Christian Church

November - No regular GCMR meeting

November 23 - Desert Division Turkey Auction - Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

November 30 - Desert Division Turkey Meet - El Zariba Shrine, Phoenix

December 8 - TCA, joint club Christmas Party

BILL EAST

Most GCMR members probably know by now that the Grand Canyon Model Railroaders have lost a great friend and supporter. To start, Chris Allen has sent us a beautiful story about Bill that he wanted to share with you.

Rather than talk about the first time I met Bill East, I'd rather share a favorite memory of Bill. Bill was a member of Grand Canyon TTOS where our paths crossed for the first few years. Bill was more of an operator than a collector, and he operated American Flyer. Desert Division's modules ran Standard Gauge and O gauge exclusively however the modules from the 90's were in poor shape. After much indecision we transitioned to 4'x8' tables that we custom laid track at every show. Gone was the Standard Gauge loop and yellow Thomas the Tank G gauge track appeared to take its place. Many of us were two decades younger and the Division had a very active Kid's Club. I was the Division Module Chairman at the time and Bill stopped by our module one afternoon at Rail Fair

Board of Directors

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

and asked why we didn't have an S Gauge loop on the layout. It was a good question and one I didn't have a good answer for. I mentioned I could only run what was donated to the club and I had never seen anyone donate American Flyer. He kinda chuckled out loud and told me that's why he had just joined TCA. Someone told him that if he wanted to buy American Flyer, join Desert Division because they sold it real cheap just to move it off their tables. The next day Bill appeared with a small loop of Flyer track and we made room on the layout for it to run all day. Although Bill was running trains at the TTOS layout, that little loop of track worked its magic and at the next auction Bill found some competition for some Flyer track and trains. After the auction was over he came up to me and in a good-natured way asked why I was bidding against him on some of the American Flyer items. I replied that after I watched his train run at Rail Fair I decided to buy a few American Flyer items to run on the module in the future. That smile on Bill's got a little brighter and before he turned and walked away said, "Yup, good reason."



BILL EAST REMEMBERED

by Dave Brown

This has been a hard summer for me, my good friend, Bill East passed away after nine month or so long decline. During this decline I started to try to remember when Bill became part of my life. Looking at the TCA roster, I found that Bill joined TCA in 2001, when I looked for old TTOS rosters, I found no mention of him in 1996. So I figured that around 2000 he joined our groups.

You must remember back at that time, both clubs were much larger, and when new people joined, you might not notice them because they were with other people, and Bill ran those funny "S" gauge trains that was missing a rail. About this time was also the time I was getting to know my future wife's family and planning a wedding.

The first train trade I made with Bill came a some swap meet when I had bought several "S" gauge junker tank cars with frames but no trucks. Bill knew that I ran "O" gauge trains, and wondered why I had bought those cars. I explained to him that I was scratch building some flat cars to make into tank cars which is what the Pacific Coast did when oil was discovered in the area. Bill then told me if all I needed was the tanks, he had several junkers that would work and would trade for the ones I had. That was OK with me so I gave him the tank cars that I had, and at the next meeting I got "S" gauge tanks for my trains. From there the friendship

started. If I won an "S" gauge car, it would be Bill's, and visa versa with "O" gauge cars. One time he won an "O" gauge car with auto on it, he took the auto and gave me the flat car.

When Bill became President of the club, we would have the board meeting at his home on the north side of South Mountain. I would get his President's message in writing, then I would type it up on the computer and sent it on to Peter.

All of a sudden we stopped seeing Bill at the meeting. I found out later that he had given up driving due to age. About the same time I move from Scottsdale to south Phoenix, just a few miles from his home. So I started to take him to all the train club meeting. We also teamed up on run days at Paradise and Pacific. When I started doing this, I found that Bill and I had another like in common, Long John Silvers. Back then the one at Southern and Rural was our hangout.

After it closed, it was 19th Ave and Bell (we tried the combo LJS and Taco Bell combo but it didn't work out) Yes it was a long way from TCA meeting up to LJS on Bell but what the heck, it was fun, and after a cold night running out at Adobe Mountain for their Christmas Lights, a bowl of broccoli cheese soup sure hit the spot.

Bill was always ready to run trains, and we went to many different places to do so. We went to Williams for a Grand Canyon run. I cornered all the other people running and asked them to help me watch Bill at this high altitude. I planned to watch him like a hawk, and just wanted the added help of the others. The big thing for Bill on this run was the ride on the creeper, a short train ride out a few miles and then back. But it was powered by a steam engine, the best thing of all. Bill was all smiles for the whole ride. The LA area for the Cal Stewart meet where he found a car he has been looking for to add to his tank cars, a Hooker chemical tank car. Of course we teased him about going to LA to buy a hooker. He would just smile. I had lots of fun picking on him.

We would go to a swap meet and I would tell him not to pass up on any New York Central Diesels! TO which he would just say "NOOOOOO!" Or on the way to LJS I would say "Hay Bill there's a McDonald's!" He would just say "You know where were going."

Bill's last time at the Paradise and Pacific was in February. He was more tired than normal, but just as enthusiastic as always. At the end of the day though, he wanted to go home and forgo our normal run to LJS. Some time after that his daughter April texted me that Bill had gone to the hospital and then later on to a nursing home.

So after the June GCMR meeting Bill "THE GIMP" Richardson and I took a few train videos up and we watch them with Bill. In response to messages to all the clubs, Paradise and Pacific people Ron Smith Rick Fortmeyer and Bill Lazenby built a small portable "S" gauge layout on a 3 foot by 6 foot door did the detail work and took it over to Bill's Nursing home so that Bill again could run some trains. With that tight of curves, we needed small steam engines provided by Bill Richardson along with some tank cars and a caboose.

I would like to thank Ron Smith , Rick Fortmeyer, Mike Ragsdale , Dallas Dixon, Dana Price, Bill Richardson and Gary Bedford for all the help and being there so Bill could see train friends and run trains again. The layout was on display at the service for Bill, and will also be out at Railfair. I will really miss Bill. The drives to the club meetings will be much more lonely with out Bills smile, and where will I get anyone to pick on about The New York Central or worse the Penn Central?



MEETING NOTES

by Bill Richardson and John Draftz

September GCMR General Membership Meeting:

Meeting was called to order at 8:15 AM by President John Draftz. 19 regular members and three guests were in attendance.

New member Bob Anderson was introduced to the membership along with guests Roxanna McElwee, Trishia Richardson, and Sally Treichel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

No secretary's report was given at this short meeting. A motion to approve the July meeting minutes as printed in August Mainline was made, seconded, and approved

Glenn Saber gave the Treasurer's Report noting the amounts of money available in our bank accounts. Report received as presented.

Our October membership meeting will be the regular fourth Saturday, October 26th.

Herb Andreen is holding an open house from 10-4 today. All are invited.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bill East's name will be added to the plaque on the mobile layout.

The post office mailed newsletters seem to be working OK for those without internet only.

NEW BUSINESS:

The mobile layout will be operating at Railfair on Saturday & Sunday, October 12-13, from 9-5 both days. People always show up early so we want to be ready to go at about 9:00 AM. The layout will be taken to the park on Friday afternoon between 3:00 & 4:00 PM. Members were asked to let Rod Johnson know of their availability.

If you are interested, the Live Steamers host a \$15.00 Famous Barbeque dinner out

at the park Saturday night. Contact Bill Lazenby for tickets.

The mobile layout will be operating at the Westchester Senior Living facility in Tempe on Saturday, October 19th, from 8:30 to noon.

The Adobe Mountain Holiday Lights display will be held Friday and Saturday nights the three weekends before Xmas. GCMR IS planning to participate again this year. A lot of people go to this, and its a good places to find some new members!

The Paradise Valley United Methodist Church is having their Christmas party Saturday, December 14th from 10-noon. We may or may not be able to take modules since the mobile layout will be operating at Adobe. It was suggested that the TCA mobile layout might be available. No action was taken at this time.

MOUNTAINS ON THE HORIZON

by Peter Atonna

I look at my layout and say,"is there any project left to start?" Then I remember, in every video I've shot, when a train is passing the west wall of the basement, there is nothing there - other than windows and my railroad paintings.

A couple of years ago, I did plant telephone poles and strung wire. But in a way, that simply called more attention to the blank wall behind. Then, this spring, I came up with an idea. Why not take a panorama photo of the mountains



that surround our Big Chino Valley? I had experimented with panorama photos with my iPhone 8Plus camera and was extremely

So, I had him print five sets of images onto a 4x8 sheet of foam core and the remaining part of the image on a 4x4 sheet



impressed. So, on a clear morning when the sun would be illuminating the mountains, I drove west on Big Chino Road to get a closer shot of the mountains. There is a tall range to the west, the Juniper mountains, that rise to well over 7000 feet and make a great panorama. But shooting them made me aware that I was not close enough to get a detailed image. So, before turning for home, I looked to the north and saw the Big Black Mesa, an earthquake fault uplift, running for about 20 miles directly north of me.

They are “always there” so I never thought of them as a subject. But from where I was, I got several locations for great panorama shots. Here it is. I then went to Photoshop Elements and resized it so that the top of the highest mountain image was 9” high. That was so, when the sky was trimmed out, the tallest image would not interfere with either the bottom of the windows or the picture frames.

When done, this image was 9 inches high by 11 feet long! And this wall is almost 50 feet long, I would need five prints to run the entire length.

I then went to Tom’s Print Shop in Chino Valley to see if he could print five strips of my photo. Now Tom is a genius. Not only did he print our newsletter until we went totally digital, but he printed my layout control panel diagrams onto an aluminum material that makes them look very “professional”

So, asking Wendy at the print shop if they could print five of these which I would spray fix to foam core board, she said, we can not only do that, but Tom has a process where we can print images directly onto foam core.

At home I took an Xactro knife and trimmed off the sky portions and then painted the edge of the foam core the same blue as the wall. It took a day to do each section, but after the five days, that entire side of the layout now has a backdrop of real mountains in the near distance. If you don’t believe they are real, just look out the windows!



WITHER CAL STEWART

Over many years, the Cal Stewart meet in Pasadena was a “must attend” for many from both clubs, GCMR and the Desert Division. It was not only a great meet, but featured many operating layouts and an auction. And it was located in Pasadena which hosted great cultural sites, dining and shopping. Sadly, the meet had to be moved and over the last several years landing in three different locations and suffered declining attendance.. And finally, its host, the TTOS Southwestern Division, pulled the plug on the meet.

But all is not lost. The club hosts major monthly meets at the Arcadia Masonic Center in



Arcadia, which is just east of Pasadena. And their meets are really large. So if you want to try a trip to the coast to take in a Cal Stewart like meet, consider going to one of their meets. Later this year, there are meets on November 3 and December 1st. The December meet is special as they give out free passes at the commercial train meets for the four Open House Meets we host each year, every three months. The free pass stubs are put in a can for a drawing for a train car or accessory. Mike Marple from Lompoc brings ten tables of repair parts at these meets. This is one of a set of special meets which also usually have a larger number of sellers and buyers than for the other meets.

If you would like more information, their website is: TTOS-SW.org



At the mini-meet

Model Train Swap Meet Saturday November 16th, 2019



Vendor Tables \$25.00 each

To sign up, send stamped envelope
and check or money order to:

ARHS, P.O. Box 5816, Glendale, AZ.
85312-5816

For More Info, Call:

Craig Faris OR DeWayne Koltin
623-340-3529 623-308-1574

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TOY TRAIN SWAP MEET
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30, 2019
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Formerly known as the Turkey Meet**



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TRAIN MEET HOURS

Saturday, November 30, 2019

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Admission \$5

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Table Top Auction

VENDOR SETUP 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

TABLE REGISTRRTION – PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

NAME _____

TCA# _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Email for table confirmation _____

I hereby agree to be bound by the rules of the TCA & the Desert Division Train Meet in regards to buying, selling, ethics, and behavior. I further agree that in the case of a dispute, the meet chairman, or an impartial referee appointed by the Meet Chairman shall arbitrate the matter and render a binding decision. I shall upon the direction of the Meet Chairman, in the case of a disputed sale, refund a buyer's money.

Signed X _____ Date _____

Make check payable to: Desert Division TCA

Mail Table Registration to: Beth Stange, 8619 E. Chaparral Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85250
More info: Chris Allen 480-820-9559

\$25 per 8' table

(Bring table cover if desired)

Tables @ \$25 each _____

Special Requests? _____

**YOUR TABLE REGISTRATION
INCLUDES ONE FREE HELPER
NAME BADGE IF NEEDED**

Helper Name _____

Extra Table Helper Badges are \$5 each
Special Requests? - Contact Meet Chairman

NO MAIL REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER NOVEMBER 18, 2019