



GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

MAIN LINE

OCTOBER, 2020

Volume 29

Number 10

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Dave Brown

In a normal year, I would be talking about how great Railfair was, an another train run somewhere was and announcing the next train run. We would all be excited about the beginning of train season, and looking forward to Christmas parties and Christmas lights running.

But this is 2020, the year that wasn't. We still have offices to fill on the Board and I hope everyone thinks hard about getting on the Board. This is OUR club, not my club, and everyone need to take their turn at help running the club. If you have ideas on directions that we should go, speak up!

I have my ideas on what to do but we need to hear from all of you in the club. So run for an office if you want to lead the club. I would be more than willing to step aside and try new things.

With that said, first I hope 2021 will be a year that is, but in October, it looks like it might be a slow start. The three club picnic is set for March, but who knows what Covid will be doing by then.

So I'm thinking back into our history. Many years ago, President George Bean started the module project for one reason. Not due to the lack of something to run trains on, we've had the trailer since the early '90s. He started them to give us something to do as a club.

We stumbled and bumbled and did get something that worked. It was heavy and hard to get together, but once up it ran rather well. Later it was dismantled with the intention of replacing it with the LCCA system. I think it's time to put this into action. Many members don't have the room for an "O" gauge layout at home but this would give you a chance to make a piece of one and learn how to lay track, wire, and do landscaping on a 2 foot by 4 foot module.

This I think would be something we could do as a club. Let me know what you think about this.

For our October meeting the theme will be Orange and Black engines. So look though your collection for Halloween colored engines and cars, or Halloween theme cars. Don't forget that the annual raffle will be drawn that day. Hope to see you all there.

CALENDAR

GCMR meets are held at 9:00am in the Parish Hall of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church at 1212 East 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 24 - GCMR meet - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church - Theme: Orange and Black Engines

November 7 - Desert Division fall auction - Paradise Valley United Methodist Church. Info: tcadd.org

MEETING NOTES

by Bill Richardson

This meeting evolved into a combined BOD and general membership meeting with a total of 11 members present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bill Richardson gave the Secretary's Report noting 41 club members. Glenn Saber gave the Treasurer's Report noting the amounts of money available in our bank accounts and the minimal amount of interest we are receiving.

OLD BUSINESS:

John Zaval and John Draftz have been looking at the GCMR by-laws to consider changing the terms of office for all GCMR BOD members from one calendar year to two calendar years.

A motion was made and passed to change the wording in ARTICLE III., SECTION D, PARAGRAPH 1, to reflect two year terms. This change will be voted on by the GCMR membership.

Katie Elgar has declined a position on the GCMR nominating committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

The three club picnic at McCormick Stillman RailRoad Park is scheduled for April 17, 2021.

TCA Desert Division President, Chris Allen, informed the GCMR membership that the TCA

is still planning a "Park N Swap" style outdoor train meet in November. The location, date, and time are still all pending. Chris will keep us informed when things are official.

The TCA auction is still scheduled for November 7th at the Paradise Valley United Methodist Church on Lincoln Drive.

John Zaval reminded everyone that the mobile trailer may require some maintenance before we use it next time. We are hoping that the critter proofing we attempted actually worked.

John Draftz talked some about improving storage for the trailers.

There was some discussion about "O" gauge modules and using the LCCA standard.

GCMR HISTORY CONTINUES

by John Draftz

January **2002**, SCC Christmas party report made.

Meet the Member on Don Locke.
Scenery report made.

February, members were asked to bring trains to the open house.
Annual raffle to have three prizes: K-Line GS-4 Freedom Train set; K-Line Western Exposition set, & KLine Magma Arizona Copper set.

March Meet the Member, Frank Nickerson.
Members invited to Sun City club.
New editor wanted.
Open house report made.
Meet the Member on Katie Elgar.

Board of Directors

President:	DAVE BROWN	480-650-5336
Vice Pres:	DANA PRICE	602-909-0657
Secretary:	BILL RICHARDSON	623-582-5672
Treasurer:	GLENN SABER	602-956-6696

Board Members:	
JOHN ZAVAL	602-980-5444
JANET MATTERN	602-569-0568

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

Trailer display dates printed.

May, handcar race report made.
Trailer maintenance report made.
Dues increase proposed.

June, members support \$15 dues.
Hot dogs n' apple pie in June.
Beat the Heat in August.
Meet the Member Tom Stange.

July, dues to be \$11.
Report on toy trains buildings made.
Meet the Member Glenn Saber.
Glenn is new editor.

August, convention report made.
September auction cancelled.
Report on modeling roads made.
Meet the Member Phil Monahan.

September, trailer at Tucson GATS.
We have 176 members.
John Bahne is club operator of the month.
Glenn gave a reflections report.
Peter gave a making trees report.

October, Meet the Member Steve Palmer.

November, annual prize winners noted.
K-Line Hudson w/5 passenger cars next year's
1st prize.
K-Line camera car demonstrated.
Meet the Member Peter Atonna.
Trailer use report made.

January **2003**, annual raffle 2nd prize is
Hellgate bridge; 3rd prize is Magma Arizona
Copper set.
"What did Santa bring" is January theme.
Holiday party report made.
Club operator of the year is Frank Birney.
Club member of the year is George Bean.
Club honorary life membership given to Frank
Koenig.
Meet the Member Gordon Wilson.
Trailer to be at Tucson GATS.

February, Meet the Member Fred Hunter.
Kit bashing is February theme.

March, Joint picnic at McCormick.
Meet the Member Bill Schulte.
Trailer at Phoenix GATS.

April, picnic report made.
Trolley is April theme.
Meet the Member Ralph Treichel.
Verde Canyon railroad trip planned.

May, trolley race report made.
Tinplate Tracker modules presented.
Meet the Member Chris Allen.

June, Trailer update report made; center levels
added.
We have 105 members.
Meet the Member Angelo Lautazi.
Trailer at Baptist church, Railfair, and Turkey
meet.

July, commercially licensed items is July theme.
Hobby insurance article printed.
Editor and photographer needed.
Meet the Member Ken Barnes,

August, Circus trains is September theme.
Operating trains wanted at meetings.
Ralph Treichel is new open house coordinator.
Meet the Member Bob Dennison.

September, winning temperature was 92.
Multi-gauge module meeting planned.
Meet the Member Rolland LaHaie.

October, convention report made.
Cal Stewart meet noted.
Holiday party in December.

November, annual prize winners noted.

January **2004**, monthly prize of value offered.
Club operator of the year is George Glas.
Club member of the year is John Draftz.
Club honorary life membership given to Bob
Dennison.
Holiday party report made.
SCC Christmas party report made.
Trailer at Loma Linda school.

February, \$100 mystery box started.
4x8 Festival of Lights layout planned.

Review of MTH operating reefer car made.
Peter explained the purpose of a newsletter.

March, parts needed for new layout listed.
Need for permanent home noted.
Meet the Member Jerry Caulkins.
Trailer at Train-O-Rama, Adobe, and Phoenix
GATS.

April, joint picnic report made.
Tom & Beth Stange featured in CTT.
Layout electronics article printed.
Toy trains in education article printed.

May, trolley races next month.
Construction on Christmas layout started.
Gadsden Pacific and Beat the Heat meets
noted.
MTH battery help article printed.

June, Minibus planned for August Prescott trip.
Visit to Bill Schulte noted.
Noted that items were taken at last meeting.

July, Larger bus available for Prescott.
Mystery prize winner can auction item and keep
money.
Christmas layout to be at festival.

August, Christmas layout to be auctioned at
Festival.

September, conflict between November meeting
and Turkey meet noted.
Beat the Heat report made.

October, unsold annual raffle tickets short of
break even will get club name and, if drawn,
club wins item.

November meeting to be second weekend.
Changes to bylaws needed.
Joint holiday party in December noted.

November-December, Christmas layout engines
missing.
Gadsden Pacific bus trip planned.
Bylaws rewritten.
Christmas layout not at Festival thus no raffle.
Club golf shirts and mugs available.

Possible permanent location at Adobe
considered.

Annual raffle prize winners noted.
Traveling freight car idea presented.
Club operator of the year is Bill East.
Club member of the year is Paul Boston.

January **2005**, trailer at Tucson GATS.
Bus trip planned to Tucson swap meet.
Dues increase planned – mall and GATS
income reduced.
Three small layouts noted.

February, annual raffle 1st prize is \$1200 gift
certificate, 2nd prize is SP Daylight engine &
caboose, 3rd prize is TMCC set.
Member profile George Bean..
Dues now \$35.

March, trailer at Adobe.
Annual joint picnic in April.
Passenger car spacing article printed.

April, O-gauge sample module at the meeting.
New O- & S-gauge modules to be made.

May, SCC no longer open on weekends thus
need a new location.
TTOM summer show in June.
90 members in club.

June, now meeting at Italian American club
Beat the Heat details noted and bus scheduled.
Members asked about e-mail newsletter.

July, death of Bill Schulte and Millard Smith
noted.

August, George moving to DC.
National convention report made.
National needs educational documentation for
C-5 status.
Club February major swap meet planned.
Members requested to do demonstrations.
Schulte memorial plaque put on trailer.
Trailer needs maintenance.
Grand Canyon Railfair Days noted.
UP new paint schemes described.

September, Dave is now president, Bill East
elected VP.

Wiring harnesses being made for modules.
Trailer maintenance date set.
Trailer at Railfair – money made to be used for picnic Ramada.
New modules described..
Street art project in Maine described.

October, new larger meeting location sought.
Race track planned.
Trailer at Railfair and Adobe.
Some golf shirts still available.
Turkey meet in November, Tucson meet in January.
Trailer update completed.
Joint holiday brunch in December.

November-December, Railfair and Adobe reports made.
Trailer at Turkey meet.
O-gauge Railroading now on CD.

January **2006**, club has 69 members.
Tucson bus trip planned for January.
New location still sought.
Trailer set up to be demonstrated.
Christmas brunch report made.
Club member of the year John Pryor.
Club honorary life membership given to Frank Birney.

February, major swap meet planned. 73 tables sold.
Joint picnic in March.
5-rail track added to trailer.

March, Our Savior's Lutheran Church at 12th St & Glendale is now location.

May, Guard Armory for next year's swap meet.
Needles station restoration article printed.
Beat the Heat meet in August.

June, K-Line shut down, Lionel now owns.
"If I Owned Lionel" article printed.

July, Prescott bus a go.
Trailer work party in October.

August, winning temp was 94.
O & S gauge modules at Railfair along with trailer.

September-October Trolley races in October.
Club expenses and lost revenue discussion presented.

November-December, 100 tables at February swap meet.
January bus trip to Tucson planned.
Trolley race report made.
S-gauge modules to be at Cal Stewart.
Trailer called The Bill Schulte Memorial Trailer.

CLUB PRESIDENTS

Continuing the theme of our club's history, John thought you might also be interested in the officers who have served the club over the years.

Honorary Lifetime Members: Peter

Atonna, Frank Birney, Bob Dennison,
Frank Keoning, Nick Ladd, Bill
Schulte, Tom Stange

'72: Pres - Cliff Williams; VP – Bernie Davis, Sec-Trea – Tom Stange, BoD: John Balian, Ken Scharman

'73: Pres – Cliff Williams, VP – Bernie Davis, Sec-Trea – John Catalano, BoD: John Balian, Ken Scharman

'74: Pres – Ken Scharman, VP – Tom Stang, Sec-Trea – Nancy Catalano, BoD: John Catalano, Bob Guildig

'75: Pres – John Catalano, VP – Gerry Kickert, Sec – Nancy Catalano, Trea – Paul Schmidt, BoD: Ken Scharman, Cliff Williams

'76: Pres – Ken Scharman, VP – Cliff Williams, Sec – Ron James, Trea – Paul Schmidt, BoD: Dave Arthur

'77: Pres – John Woods, VP – John Hammons, Sec – Phil Hill, Trea – Fred Goulden, BoD: Nick Grippe, Ken Scharman

'78: Pres – John Woods, VP – Peter Atonna, Sec – Craig Harding, Tres –

- Mike Piechota and later Greg Hooker,
BoD – Tom Cutrona, Nick Grippe
- '79: Pres – Peter Atonna, VP – Craig
Harding, Sec – Phil Hill, Trea – Greg
Hooker, BoD – Tom Cutrona, Tom King
- '80: Pres – Peter Atonna, VP – Miles
Butler, Sec – Phil Hill, Trea – Doug
Haertl, BoD – Tom Cutrona, Dan Klein
- '81: Pres – Tom Stange, VP – Tom
Cutrona, Sec – Chuck Bitter, Trea –
Doug Haertl, BoD – Peter Atonna,
Steve Varsesak
- '82: Pres – Tom Stange, VP – Tom
Cutrona, Sec – Chuck Bitter, Trea –
Doug Haertl, BoD – Jim Bella, J.W.
Steele
- '83: Pres – Jim Hippel, VP – Tom
Cutrona, Sec – Bill Kruger, Trea – Tony
Griskowitz, BoD – Tom Stange, Bill
Tufo
- '84: Pres – Phil Hill, VP – Doug Haertl,
Sec – Steve Bienstock, Trea – Bob
Kruse, BoD – Jim Hippel, Bill Tufo
- '85: Pres – Sam Taylor, VP – Bob
Dennison, Sec – Bill Tufo, Trea – John
Hammons, BoD – Tom Cutrona, Phil
Hill
- '86: Pres – Sam Taylor, VP – Bob
Dennison, Sec – Bill Tufo, Trea –
Richard Gayle, BoD – Tom Cutrona,
Phil Hill
- '87: Pres – Bill Roehr, VP – Bill Tufo,
Sec – Sam Taylor, Trea – Richard
Gayle, BoD – Hal Bittner, Bob
Dennison
- '88: Pres – Bob Dennison, VP – Bob
Fox, Sec – Richard Gayle, Trea – Bill
Tufo, BoD – Kim Petterson, Sam
Taylor.
- '89: Pres – Kim Petterson, VP - ?, Sec –
Roland LaHaie, Trea – Frank Koenig,
BoD – ?
- '90: Pres - Keith Martyn, VP – Matt
Steiner, Sec – Rolland LaHaie/ Frank
Mareska, Trea – Frank Koenig, BoD –
Terry Gibbs
- '91: Pres – Brandt Blasier, VP – Millard
Smith, Sec – Frank Mareska, Trea –
Bill Schulte, BoD – Bill Mack
- '92: Pres – Peter Atonna, VP – John
Draftz, Sec – Frank Mareska, Trea –
Bill Schulte, BoD – Dave Brown
- '93: Pres – Peter Atonna, VP – Bill
Schulte, Sec – Ron Hallman, Trea –
Rick Stein, BoD – Dave Brown, Ira
McNear
- '94: Pres – Peter Atonna, VP – Bill
Schulte, Sec – Dave Brown, Trea –
Rick Stein, BoD – Dale Downey
Koenig, Ira McNear
- '95: Pres – Dan Palaschak, VP – Bill
Schulte, Sec – Dale Downey Koenig,
Trea – Rick Stein, BoD – Peter Atonna,
Ira McNear
- '96: Pres - Dan Palaschak, VP – Bill
Schulte, Sec – Dale Downey Koenig,
Trea –Rick Stein, BoD – Peter Atonna,
Ira McNear
- '97: Pres – Dan Palaschak, VP – Bill
Schulte, Sec - Dale Downey Koenig,
Trea - Ira McNear, BoD – Dave Brown,
Ron Hallman
- '98: Pres – Bill Schulte, VP – Ron
Hallman, Sec – Dave Prechtel, Trea –
Gary Kukowski, BoD – Bill Bahle, Dave
Brown
- '99: Pres – Bill Schulte, VP – Glenn
Saber, Sec – Jim Poor, Trea – Gary
Kukowski, BoD – Bob Dennison, Dave
Prechtel
- '00: Pres – Phil Monahan. VP – Glenn
Saber, Sec – Jim Poor, Trea – Sam
McElwee, BoD – Dave Prechtel, Bill
Schulte
- '01: Pres – Glenn Saber. VP – Dave
Prechtel, Sec – Rolland LaHaie, Trea –
Sam McElwee, BoD – Ken Barnes,
Phil Monahan
- '02: Pres – Glenn Saber, VP – Ralph
Treichel, Sec – Rolland LaHaie, Trea –
Sam MxElwee, BoD – Paul Anstatt,
Ken Barnes, Don Locke

I've tried many hobbies in my life.

Tried fishing. Spent a lot of money on new poles and tackle. Caught few fish. Quit.

Tried tennis. Spent a lot of money on rackets, tennis balls, and clothes.

Developed tennis elbow. Quit.

Tried golfing. Spent a lot of money on clubs, bag, fees, and boxes of golf balls.

Lost most of the golf balls. Quit.

Tried gardening. Spent a lot of money on seed, fertilizer, and tools. What I planted died. Quit.

Just think of all the trains I could have bought.

'03: Pres – Glenn Saber, VP – Ralph Treichel, Sec – Rolland LaHaie, Trea – Bob Prehara, BoD – Ken Narnes, Bill East, Don Locke

'04: Pres – George Bean/ Dave Brown, VP – Dave Brown, Sec – Rod Johnson, Trea – Bob Prehara, BoD – Ken Barnes, Glenn Saber, Ralph Treichel

'05: Pres – Dave Brown, VP – John Pryor, Sec – Rod Johnson, Trea – Bob Prehara, BoD – Ken Barnes, Bill East, Ralph Treichel

'06: Pres – John Pryor, VP - Bill East, Sec – Rod Johnson/Paul Boston, Trea – Bob Prehara, BoD – Ken Barnes, Paul Boston, Dave Brown/Wayne Ross

TRAIN REPAIR HINTS

by Keith Olmanni

Over the weekend I re-powered a friend's Lionel HO Hustler that was gear driven. Most operators are unhappy with both the gear driven and band driven on these motorized units. There are a couple of different methods of accomplishing this. This was my first go around and I'm pleased with how it turned out. I will share the next method as soon as it's completed.

I began by

1. Disassembling the motor, removing both worm gears, armature and commutator from the armature shaft.
2. I milled down both motor ends and ground down both curved magnet side braces.
3. I then turned a piece of nylon stock to fit inside the motor to hold it to its' original form.
4. I made a sleeve the length of the armature and commutator, and affixed it to the armature shaft to eliminate any end play.
5. I reassembled the motor ends and sides, less the magnet and portions. I cut away and secured it together with 4 screws.
6. Then I pressed both worm gears and an aluminum pulley I turned, back onto the armature shaft. This half gutted motor has now become the platform for the new can motor and also continues its' original mesh with the axle gears.
7. I siliconed a can motor with a flywheel on one end and a small plastic pulley I turned, on the other end.
8. I installed a drive band, drilled and tapped the side frames, and wired the motor to them. Two extra wires were brought forward for a headlight.
9. The available inside hood height for this conversion was .935 and I squeaked in at .925.

TERRY BUILDS A LAYOUT

by Terry Gibbs

Progress continues on my O gauge floor layout. The track is back down, but only the outer loop is permanently wired. The other two are just on lockons. I'm going around each circle of track and connecting feeders to the track, installing blocks, and adding insulated outside rails where needed for the streets and signals.

Here's a youtube video of the layout running on all three loops.

<https://youtu.be/XHlzvuo26Xk>

Here's some pictures of the layout as of October



The west end of the layout with the ladder to the passenger yard, the end of the mountain, the Schoenhut village and the backside of the transformers. You will see a difficult to find prewar 027 Lionel 1022 tunnel.



This is the south side of the layout. The inner and outer lines just go through here. The middle line has passing sidings. My goal is to put trains on the sidings and use relays to run them in opposite directions. With the mountain blocking views from the north, you'll see trains running back and forth, but not the parking sidings.

At this point, I'm not sure I can get trains to run automatically. The switch machines just aren't reliable enough. The youngest of those switches is 78 years old. Those are the best switches I have mated to the best motors.



The southeast corner of the layout has a road crossing and gives way to the marsh with the bridges. To wire the trains and track near the edge and back to the diner is quite simple. I just stick some wire through a hole and reach under and grab it. For the areas farther back from the end, I have a 40 inch long copper rod I tape the wires onto. This is a learning experience. When I jam the stiff rod though the layout, it snags on the carpet. Last night I realized a small bit of Masonite slid under the hole would help.

These pictures show the bridges and the marsh area. I have a few dozen wonderful weeping willow trees to stick in here. Once I get the face board on, I'll pour the Woodland Scenics water into the marsh and plant the trees.



good. I have another bridge with a light somewhere.

In the last picture with the bags of water you can see I already cracked the side of the marsh. That's the only area of the whole layout where I didn't color the plaster.

This happened because I was using old bags of layout material and the crap failed to set. I scraped the mold-a-scene off and then used whatever the bag was and got even worse results.

In my frustration at having to redo it again, I forgot to add pigment to the plaster. I cracked the marsh when I lifted the side of the layout to stuff a wire under the water area. You can see the 153 block signals at the bridge approaches. I'm wiring them up to relays. The trip wires go from one side of the marsh to the other. If you watch the video you can hear the relay clicking and buzzing when the City of Portland comes out of the bridge. That's an old 1950s era telephone relay. I ordered a box of new, and



The piers for the bridges were the result of a lot of time spent trying to figure out something that would look good that I could make with what I had.

I ended up cutting a 1/4 inch slice off a 4 by 4, and then using the slice as the base. It looks

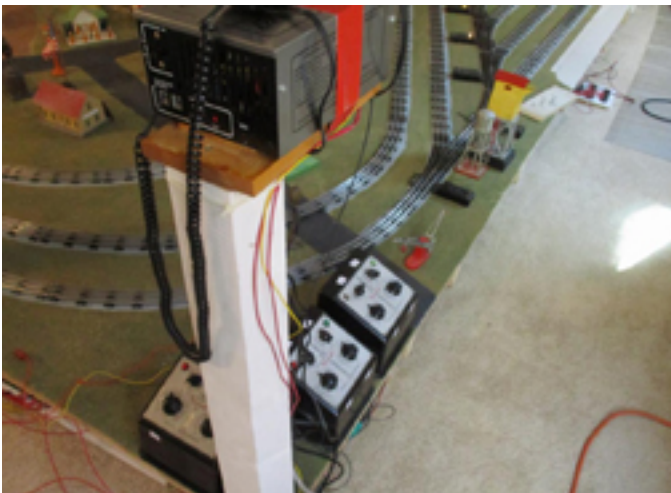
hopefully, quieter relays after listening to it click for a while.

The northeast corner of the layout has the ends of the freight yard, and otherwise is bare. I'll add trees and some cows or something later. Post-it notes tell me where the insulating pins go. I'm not planning on using the blocks when running

trains. I wired the entire layout so there are 12-15 foot blocks so if there is a short in the layout later I can isolate it to a specific area.

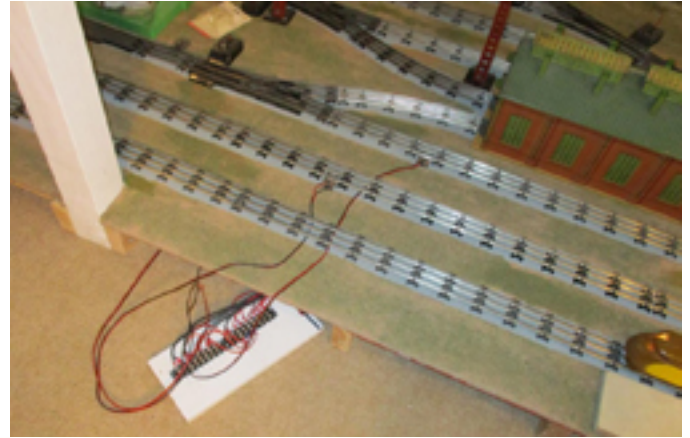


Here's the operating accessories. The inner and outer loops are hooked to an MRC transformer with a hand held controller. I'll wire the accessories so the controllers are at the front edge of the layout. This way I can run the switcher up and dump the car, then run around and refill the cars.



Here's the power supplies. The MRC transformer on the post will be hidden in the framing of the standard gauge layout. The three Z transformers are already connected to feeders under the layout.

Two of the big knobs on the single Z are used



for the middle loop of track. The other knobs each do a specific area.

This shows the terminal strips under the layout. The back wires are for the freight yard switches, and the red/black wires are for the track. When I just solder wires to the track, I can do the permanent feeders quickly. Making track sections with insulated rails takes longer.

It's coming together.

THE RACES ARE BACK!

An added feature to the September meeting was the setting up of the drag race track where members could match their engines to see which was fastest.

The first task was assembling the five track sections and then making the proper transformer connections (race 1). After that it was "start your engines" (race 2). The winner of each heat was then matched with the winner of another heat until it came down to the final "winner take all" heat (race 3 & 4).

When the dust settled and the electricity stopped, Dave Brown's engine was the fastest.

There's rumor that the National Hot Rod Association will be meeting with Dave to learn if his "performance enhancement" features can have applicability with their equipment.



RACE 1



DAVE'S "FLASH" TO THE FINISH LINE!



RACE 2



ROCKET POWERED?



Glenn Saber



Chris Allen



Ralph Treichel

WINNERS!

Monthly Raffle prize winners were:

Glenn Saber - MTH 30-1073 crossing gate

Chris Allen - American Flyer 4-9207 B&O hopper

John Draftz - Lionel 6-17882 B&O Boxcar

Bill Richardson - Lionel 6-19978 RRC Boxcar

The Mystery Raffle prize winner was:

Ralph Treichel - Lionel 6-49809 water tower

The Monthly 3-2-1 Raffle prize winner was:

John Kendig - who won 3 more tickets to the 3-2-1 annual raffle.



John Kendig