

## GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

# **MAIN LINE** SEPTEMBER, 2013 Volume 22 Number 9

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Draftz

The theme for our September meeting is "pizza meet: beverage cars (beer, wine, soda pop, etc)".

Our first public display of the season will be coming up in October with Railfair in Scottsdale the 12<sup>th</sup> & 13th. We'll have the mobile layout and both the Oand S-gauge modules in operation. The plan is to have the mobile layout in position but unopened that Friday evening with the modules arriving early Saturday morning. That means we'll need bodies to help with the setup Saturday starting about 8am.

Based on last year's event, Railfair is a 2-day event from 10-5 each day. That's seven hours a day. If each day were broken up into two shifts (10-1:30 and 1:30-5), members would only need to commit to one of the four shifts. Naturally, members can be there all day if they want. As long as we have all four shifts covered, we haven't burdened any one member and we've made a good impression on the city park staff as well as the general public. Please contact Jack Eaton (623-249-7297 or jeaton9@cox.net) and let him know when and how you can help.

To extend the previous paragraph, in order for the GCMR to effectively meet our external commitments, we need each member to look at what we're trying to do and when and to then volunteer to help as you are able. No one is being asked to go above and beyond and sell your soul to the GCMR, but the club does need all its members to help as they are able. Even volunteering at one event helps us take toy trains to the public. Please contact Jack to

let him know how you can assist your club.

Elections for the four officers and three BoD members will be coming up soon. The nominating committee is Dave Brown (480-650-5336 or <u>eaglefour@juno.com</u>) and Bill Lazenby (602-558-9222 or <u>bicycle@msn.com</u>). If you would be willing to serve, please let either of them know. Nominations must be received by the secretary (Bill) by the October meeting with voting done in November. If all goes well, we'll be using the electronic balloting. For those that need it, we'll still have snail mail ballots available. More later.

September is when we have the drag races. So if you have a speedy O-gauge item that's willing to take on all challenges, plan to bring it and receive its laurels. The winner gets six, free, red raffle tickets. A free ticket last month was one of the winners.

Our presence at Adobe has had another "bump in the road" compliments of the Army Corp of Engineers. At this point, the full impact it not yet known. A 700 sq. ft. building with a patio cover is still probable. The main issue being how and when to make it happen. More details at the meeting.

With our annual raffle prizes now a choice between the prize and money, there's incentive for others outside of GCMR to get involved. The drawing is scheduled for November (just two months away) thus buying ticket now is an opportune time to buy. If you can contact other organizations to find out if they're interested, we can make arrangements to get tickets to them. The more of their money we get, the better. Let Glenn know what you've done so he can make tickets available. See you at the meeting. Bring your appetite and a dragster.

## **MEETING NOTES**

#### Secretary's Report

+ Secretary Bill Lazenby gave a brief overview of the previous meeting minutes followed by approval of the minutes as published in the Main Line.

#### Treasurer's Report

+ Glenn stated the Beat the Heat bus trip was a huge success with 42 riders.

+ Motion made by Dave Brown to accept the Treasurer's report as stated.

#### Show and Tell

+ Bill Richardson brought in an HO gauge pink hopper car he purchased at Beat the Heat swap meet

+ Dave Brown brought a Weaver Shamrock tank car he purchased a few years ago. He stated no other explanation was needed if you have been involved with any local train club this past decade.

+ John Draftz brought in a Milwaukee Rd HO hopper car he received from his neighbor

#### Old Business

+ Railfair at McCormick/Stillman Park: October 12 & 13. Both mobile unit and modulars will be there. All members are asked to run trains those days.

+ Mobile unit will be at Pioneer Park in Mesa on Saturday November 2 from 9am to 1pm. Set up at the club. Members are needed to set and run trains.

+ Dave Brown gave an update on the bus trip to Prescott. Everything went very well with only two cancellations. Everyone had a great time and after the swap meet the bus was able to visit four home layouts.

+ Dave also discusses the upcoming Cal Stewart train show which will be on November 22 through 24 at the Ontario Convention Center in Ontario, California. Any members up for a road trip please contact Dave.

+ The modular trailer is in need of repair: floor, outside bodywork and paint. In addition, remounting the spare tire, etc. Any suggestions/recommendations from the membership?

+ National Train Day. The Chandler museum is changing its date to March 2014 instead of May. Williams will have a two-day event in June around Father's day More info to follow.

#### New Business

+ John Draftz is trying to contact David Jerry to try to coordinate dates for up coming swap meets so they don't interfere with GCMR meetings, etc.

+ President John Draftz meet with the Directors of Sahuaro Central to discuss our intentions of building a 1600 square foot building at their location near the signal bridge. During the meeting it was leaned that any building over 700 SF will need a sprinkler system installed.

+ Treasurer Glenn Saber did some research and we can get a 700 sf building from Home depot for about \$5,000. Glenn is checking other sources as well.

+ John also learned at this meeting that there are plans to build a 15 inch gauge train in the same area . We can move our location a little northwest of the signal bridge with no problem

#### **Board of Directors**

President: Vice Pres: Secretary: JOHN DRAFTZ JACK EATON BILL LAZENBY 602-942-3457 623-249-7297 602-558-9333(c) Treasurer: GLENN SABER Board Member: WAYNE ROSS GEORGE BEAN ROD JOHNSON

602-956-6696 602-953-9709 623-975-3823 602-625-4168

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

+ We then discussed assorted fees from the Maricopa Flood Control District and the City of Phoenix. John has been in contact with staff from the Flood Control District and he was informed of the various fees and assessments, which could reach \$1,000. This does not include building permits or construction costs.

Additional insurance costs will be added, as we will need a two million dollar policy. More information with a cost break down will be discussed at future meetings.

### **BEAT THE HEAT TRIP**

by Dave Brown

It was time to leave the heat of the valley and go to the cool part of the state and by the way go to the "Beat the Heat" train meet. There were 44 people signed up for the bus, and 42 that did the ride. By 8:00 am, the bus had been to all four stops, and we were on the way to Prescott. On the way up, we watched the movie "Unstoppable".

Once at the swap meet, those who wanted to go to the meet got off, leaving a few to use the bus for the next three hours. The selling and buying was at a good pace through out the day. Peter Atonna was there as well as Paradise and Pacific of the railroad park in Scottsdale. Towards the end of the meet, a nice shower came through, this cooled things off for a while.

By 12:30 the bus had returned. Normally, the bus would head for Peter's house for the start of the layout tours, but this time a stop was in order at the Memorial for the 19 Prescott Hot Shot fire fighters that died earlier that month. For those that didn't get a chance to see this memorial, the artifacts were mounted on the fence around the perimeter of the hot shot's base.

Even with the extra time at the memorial, we still made it to Paulden before Peter. One of the changes that has been completed this year is the On30 loop that Peter has installed where the standard gauge loop was located. As always, a person could get lost in all the details on Peter's layout. From the house of ill repute, to the Martian mine to mooning Amtrak, Peter's layout is always a treat to see. Don Pease's layout was next in line on the layout tour. This HO layout is a work in progress involving different cities along the Southern Pacific in Southern Arizona. When completed, this will be quite a layout, even in its current under construction condition this will be a great layout to watch over the years as themes develop.

Our next layout stop was a return visit to Marlin Benson. Many parts are complete, while others Marlin is still working on. The Christmas part is complete including snow (To us in Phoenix, snow is that white stuff that's cold and beautiful.) Marlin had lots of refreshments and lots to see.

Our last visit was a Stan Cedarleaf's G gauge layout in the Prescott Country club area. In spite of some rain and lighting, many people enjoyed this layout as well.

That was our last visit for the year. If you missed the bus trip this year, plan on it for next year.

#### Here are some of Dave's Beat the Heat bus trip photos



The first stop was at the spontaneous memorial in Prescott that memorializes the nineteen fallen Yarnell Hill firefighters



As the Atonna's will attest, life is not all about selling trains!



The Black Cat saloon is the main watering hole at the new town of Red Lake on the Atonna's narrow gauge line.



Amtrak mooners may move around, but are never gone from the Seligman and Paulden Lines



The group's next stop was at the HO layout of Donn Pease. Donn is modeling the Southern Pacific east of Tucson. He has a wonderful backdrop in and many future buildings are shown by photos as can be seen on the bottom left of this shot.



Here are Donn's yards

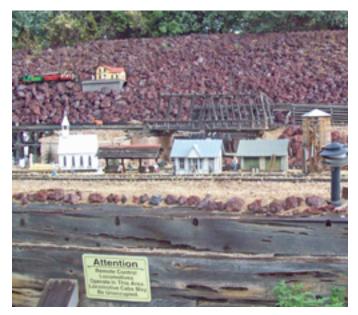


Then it was on to the traditional stop at Marlin Benson's with a train room full of long trains running and shelves full of trains



An addition this year was a Christmas layout featuring the Polar Express and several animations





The last stop was at Stan Cedarleaf's outdoor Large Scale layout. Stan's layout is always a his as he combines beautiful long runs with a great sense of humor in his trains and displays



Stan even provides comfortable viewing areas. Of course you have to climb to get to it.

## SEE DEM SEDUM

by Peter Atonna

If you are into landscaping on your layout as I am, you have probably seen articles about using natural materials for making trees and shrubs. One of the classic items is dried Sedum flowers. Well, a couple of years ago when I was wondering how to fill all those forests on the under construction On30 loop on my layout. Then Sedum came to mind and I decided to experiment with them. First I had to see if they grew in our climate, so checked with Watters Nursery in Prescott. Yes, they do well, they said. They even carried the variety most articles favor, Autumn Gold. So, I bought a couple of plants.

Skip forward a year and late last summer, they not only were happy growing in my back yard flower bed, but had flowered profusely. Following the advice, when the blossoms faded, I cut stalks off and



put them into a paper grocery bag to dry out. (Hint, the six months drying period in most articles is not needed in Arizona! Mine were quite dry in a month)



Finally this last spring I was at the point of having areas on the hillsides needing some trees. Sedum trees are pretty distinct looking and make good stand area to give it a solid appearance. The only caution as with all dried florals, they are delicate.



When done, I spray paint a wood color onto the tree and then use the traditional dusting of mixed greens flocking to coat the flower head portion - using hair spray as my adhesive.



alone trees. Since this area was covered mainly with evergreen trees, I left some spots near buildings and on an isolated hillside for my Sedum groves. On Eastern themed layouts, I have seen Sedum used as deciduous forests, clumping them together.

The dried flowers are quite easy to turn into trees. Their scale is such that one stalk could make an HO tree, but in O scale, my close up trees consisted of several stalks superglued together to form the shape I wanted. I then wrap florists tape around the trunk I was quite pleased with how they turned out, both in the close up location as well as the hillside grove. But right now, this year's crop is in full flower and in a month will need cutting. Got to find some new locations - or have a big flower sale!

## STREET RUNNING IN PHOENIX

by Dave Brown

One of the favorite scenes for real train pictures is street running. This group is of the same general area, just several years apart. This is the area in Phoenix along 11<sup>th</sup> avenue north of the I-17 freeway. The

first group was taken in 2004 and this was real street running. Note that the train runs right down the middle of the road in an area where both trains and cars can runs in the very same area. In the second group, curbing has been added to keep trains and cars from running into each other. This group was taken just this month. Still, in either case, how freaky would it be to be driving so close to a real train?









## GCMR LAYOUT TRAILER ON DISPLAY

by George Bean

Glen Saber, Dave Brown, Bill Lazenby and George Bean had the trailer at a neighborhood carnival hosted by the New Hope Church. They put controllers in the hands of kids and watched the fun!







#### WINNERS!

- Lionel Deep Rock Tank car Bill Richardson
- Lionel Cotton Belt Box car Ken Barnes
- Lionel Gondola car Frank Barney
- MTH RK-Amtrak mail car Bill Lazenby
- Mystery Prize RMT-Budd car Glenn Saber

\$ 25.00

Bob Dennison

## VISITORS TO ROD JOHNSON IN UTAH

by Rod Johnson

Here are a couple of shots of George and Delores Bean who passed through here on their way to Yakima, Washington. George enjoyed running some trains here in Sandy, UT before they left on the following day. Running trains is always a good time for all. Any GCMR folks that might pass this way in the summer let me know and enjoy a traveling break moving some rolling stock. See you all in October.



Happiness is cash in hand!





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SPOUSE GUE I hereby agree to be bound by the rules of the TCA Desert Divi and behavior. I further agree, that in the case of a dispute, the by the Meet Chairman shall arbitrate the matter and render a	ision Turkey Meet in regards to buy e meet chairman, or an impartial re	ying, selling, ethics	TOTAL Eliciosed 3

Signed X	Date		
Ν	Nake check payable to: Desert Division TCA	Reg#	Date Rcvd
Mail Registration to			
NO MAIL RE	EGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED AFTER NOVEMBER 16, 2012	Chk#	Chk Amt

## GADSDEN-PACIFIC TOY TRAIN OPERATING MUSEUM SERIES OF TRAIN MEETS FOR TUCSON & SOUTHERN ARIZONIA

## VENDOR TABLE INFORMATION

## DATE: NOVEMBER 8 - 9, 2013 & JANUARY 10-11, 2014

LOCATION: TUCSON EXPO CENTER SOUTH HALL, 3750 E. IRVINGTON ROAD JUST OFF I-10 exit 264 (IRVINGTON & PALO VERDE)

SET UP TIME: SET UP FRIDAY FROM 11:00 AM UNTIL 2:00 PM. OR SATURDAY FROM 7:00 AM UNTIL 9:00 AM. OVERNIGHT SECURITY FOR VENDORS

TWO DAY SHOW: UP TO TEN HOURS OF SALES OVER TWO DAYS: FRIDAY FROM 2:00 PM UNTIL 7:00 PM & SATURDAY FROM 9:00 AM UNTIL 2:00 PM

EIGHT FOOT TABLES: YES, WE WILL HAVE EIGHT FOOT TABLES! ELECTRIC - OUTLETS AVAILABLE ON PRE-REQUEST.

CLEAN FACILITIES, GOOD LIGHTING & REASONABLY PRICED SNACK BAR, NEARBY RESTAURANTS AND MOTELS

PRE-REGISTRATION TABLES: \$35.00 EACH.

LIMITED HELPER PASSES WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE TABLE PRICE

TABLES ARE LIMITED

Buy three tables get fourth table free!



CONTACT: Dave Hoverstock, Meet Chairman PO Box 17746 Tucson, AZ 85731 <u>TrainShow@gpdToyTrainMuseum.com</u>

(520) 909-0722 or (520) 298-5442

Make Checks Payable to: GPD TTOM

	Gadsden-Pacific Fall Meet November 8-9, 2013					
EVENT TABLE REGISTRATION FORM						
Name		Mailing Ad-	Mailing Address:			
Email Addr	ess	City	State	Zip		
Phone	Check Number Enclosed \$		Number Tal	Number Tables Ordered		
Special Inst	tructions					

PRE-REGISTRATION TABLES: \$35,00 EACH IF PAYMENT RECEIVED TEN BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO EVENT. LAST MINUTE REGISTRATION \$40.00 PER TABLE. LIMITED HELPER PASSES WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE TABLE PRICE. Buy three tables get fourth table free!

Make Checks Payable to: GPD TTOM

Mail to: Dave Hoverstock, Meet Chairman PO Box 17746 Tucson, AZ 85731 (520) 909-0722 or (520) 298-5442 <u>TrainShow@gpdToyTrainMuseum.com</u>

#### **Reminder, this month's meeting:**

**September 28** - GCMR meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church - S-ga modules Theme: pizza meet - beverage cars (beer, wine, soda pop, etc) drag races THE MAIN LINE Peter Atonna, Editor 25375 N. Feather Mountain Rd. Paulden, AZ 86334



It is probably a cliche to say "a good time was had by all" but that seems to be the story of the annual bus trip to Prescott for the Beat the Heat Meet. Dave Brown has organized this trip for some time and between the swap meet and home layout visits, this does seem to be a great way to spend a Saturday. Here the bus gang poses in from of the Atonna home, waiting for Peter and Mary Jane to arrive from the swap meet and open the doors to their world of trains in the basement. (Yes, the bus usually beats them there!)