



# GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

## MAIN LINE

APRIL, 2013  
Volume 22 Number 4

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Draftz

The club's next public event will be Mother's Day Saturday (May 11<sup>th</sup>) for National Train Day. We'll have the mobile layout up at Williams and the modules at Chandler's Arizona Railway Museum. If you can help, even for only part of the time, it makes the job of others easier. There will be a sign-up sheet at the meeting.

The theme for our April meeting is "Potpourri AKA bring whatever you like". What do you have that you would like to tell everyone about? Perhaps it's something special to you. Maybe it's a smokin' deal you found. These themes are a way for each of us to share the hobby with the other members.

The club policy book (CPB) was approved at the March meeting. The CPB is a working document we use to help with club decisions without having to make changes to the by-laws. Please contact the secretary, Bill Lazenby (602-493-9222 or [blcycle@msn.com](mailto:blcycle@msn.com)), if you need a copy.

The TCA Desert Division recently decided to "cancel" the Turkey Meet on Thanksgiving Saturday and inaugurate a new meet the first weekend in December. That said, the club voted to begin holding our November meeting the fourth Saturday in November. This year the meeting will be the 23<sup>rd</sup> with Thanksgiving the following week. The hall at Our Savior's is already reserved. This change has

several benefits for us. First, we can use November as the membership renewal month. Second, the annual raffle drawing will be done in November thus giving us an extra month to have tickets sold.

Our annual raffle is another revenue generator albeit on a smaller scale than the swap meet and is also intended as a fun event for members. The first prize is a \$1000 credit for Roy's Train World or \$800 in cash. Second prize is a \$500 credit at An Affair with Trains or \$400 in cash. Third prize is \$100 in cash. This should make the raffle attractive to other train clubs and even non-train clubs. The more money we get from their pockets, the less that has to come from ours. Tickets are \$10 each or three for \$25. If you can, take tickets (Glenn has them) to other groups that are willing to invite you to see if their members would be interested in buying any. If ticket selling isn't your thing, consider getting contact information from other groups (railroad/train groups are primary candidates) so that we can send them flyers. Remember, you need not be present to win so out-of-town/out-of-state groups are also worth considering. We simply need to get the word out. How can you help?

The BoD decided to provide donuts for the regular meetings. There will be a "free will" donation cup available to those who want to help offset the cost. The beverage (coffee, juice, etc) will be on a BYO basis. We'll see how this goes and adjust the format as needed.

Our mobile layout is unique and an attraction. To help preserve it, we are pursuing having a form fitted, durable cover made to protect it when it's exposed to the elements. As we get more info, we'll pass it on.

On Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, the BoD (minus Rod) met at the Adobe Dam Recreation Area (aka Adobe) to look at potential locations where the GCMR can have a more or less permanent presence. There are three dominant railroad locations in the Valley. One is Scottsdale's railroad park and the home of the P&P. Another is the Arizona Railway Museum in Chandler and the third is Adobe. And while Scottsdale is perhaps more visitor friendly, Adobe has its share of visitors. The steamers give rides to almost 15,000 people during the Sep-May run season. That's almost 15,000 potential GCMR members! Our challenge as a club is to make our club known to that 15,000 and invite them to join us.

The BoD is still in the planning phase but we're looking at the idea of a "pole barn" cover located near the entrance to the steamers' station by the west side of the parking lot. The cover would provide additional protection to both trailers as well as initially giving us a hard surface on which to open the mobile layout Sunday afternoons similar to what we did earlier at the museum. As time goes on and funds become available, we can enhance the cover to give us other capabilities. At this point, we expect to continue to meet at Our Savior's due to its central location. What the BoD now needs from the membership is your thoughts. What do you see the future of the GCMR as being?

## 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.*

**April 19 - 21** Winslow Railroad Days

**April 27** - GCMR meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Theme: Potpourri AKA bring whatever you like

**May 11** - National Train Day, Williams and Chandler

**May 25** - GCMR meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church S-ga modules Theme: Memorial Day; Space/Military Trains/Hardware

**June 22** - GCMR meeting - Our Saviour's Lutheran Church - O-ga modules Theme: Hot Dogs and Apple Pie; Flag Day; Red, White, and Blue trains; patriotic trains, cars, etc., item(s) w/flag(s)

**July 27** - In the Heat swap meet, Phoenix. Info: choochoophx@gmail.com

**August 17** - Beat the Heat swap meet, Prescott

## A FAMILY HEIRLOOM REDISCOVERED

by Bob Dennison

The wife and I had the sad need to travel to Buffalo, NY to attend our sister in law's funeral in March. One evening in the living room of my brother Tom's home, I noticed a very worn and tattered coal shovel by the stairwell. I asked my brother about it. He said he had set it out for me.

Now it's been many years since I needed or used a coal shovel. Apparently Tom had salvaged it from the sale of our folk's home in Ohio.

After a closer look at it, I remembered a dent in it where I shot it with a .22 rifle. The handle has a

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silver right hand twist and the edge is worn about 1 1/4" deep on the right side from many years of use by a right handed folks.

The shovel is stamped "No3 H&Co. 1927". I think the H&C refers to the Humbolt and Company, but the best and most interesting part of the stamping is the "NYC R.R." marking on the metal portion of the handle. (Editor's note: There is still a Humbolt Company who celebrated their 100th Anniversary in 2009 and which now makes materials testing equipment. But they still carry a couple of shovels in their line!)

My father worked on the New York Central for many years and may have had a fault or two, but dishonesty was not one. So, I know somewhere in a forgotten file, there is a "moonlight requisition" for a No. 3 coal shovel removed from the head end of his work train!

### DAVE'S SWAP MEET PHOTOS

*Dave Brown took a few photos during this year's Swap Meet. Here they are so you can relive a very successful event - Ed.*



The hall was a sell-out, so no end of goodies for our visitors



As usual, trains have no end of fascination for kids of all ages



One of the top quality sellers and her husband



Bill East making sure the display layouts ran well all day.



The hall stayed full almost to closing time

## GEORGE'S M10000 PROJECT

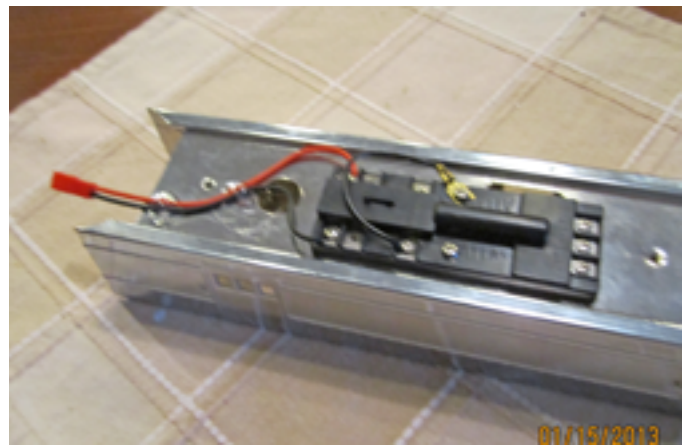
by George Bean

The M10003 has taken a back burner do to some other projects that had to be completed. Can you say MGTD. But, having completed the TD, it was time to return to the train. I had a good time trying to get the lights into the coaches. When we were in Yakima about two years ago Delores found a string of LED light that would be perfect for the cars.



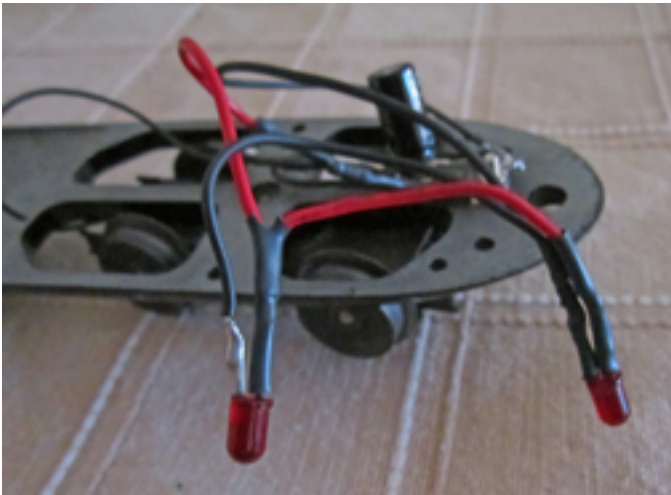
However I should have known that she would not let me cut them up to use in the train. So I had to turn to plan "B". I found a string of LEDs at Christmas that would work for what I needed so I hot glued them into the roof of each car.

The intent was to use a voltage regulator and pick up the track voltage in the observation car and string them down to the engine, where I would put a control relay and use the control from the TMCC to turn them on and off. That proved to be somewhat of a problem, I could not find a small relay that would work. I had used an Atlas snap switch on the layout for controlling turn outs. I knew that the control for the snap switch was track voltage and the control from the TMCC to the coupler knuckles were both the same. The problem was did I have room for the snap switch in the engine? As it turned out I had room just under the roof and above the control board.

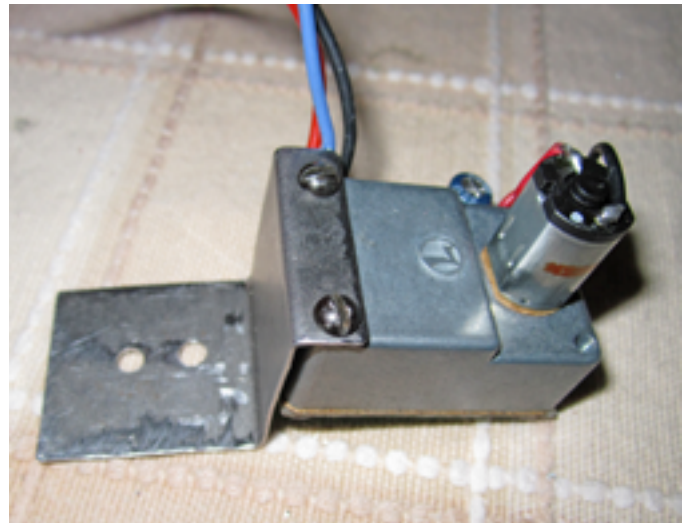


After some thought I realized the voltage regulator could not be located in the observation car but had to be moved to the engine next to the snap switch.

I still need a voltage regulator in the observation car to run the tail lights so I just removed the car lights from it and left the regulator there.



It was already mounted and the tail lights worked great. After looking at the amount of light I put in the cars I think I will remove about half of them.



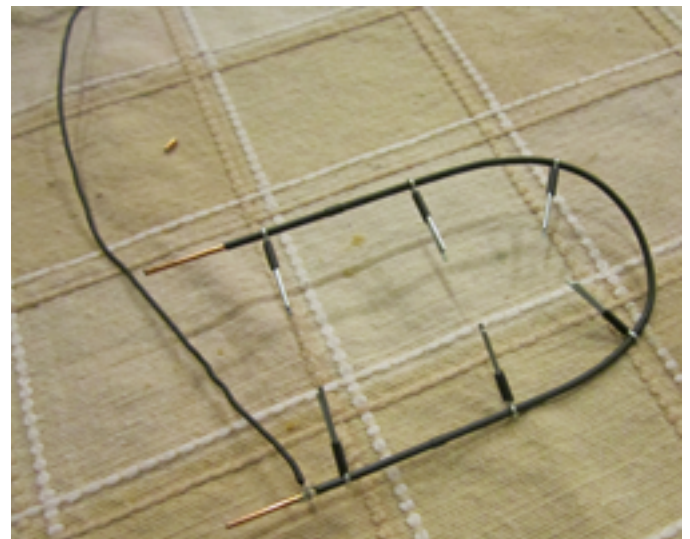
I used one of the holes in the top casting. I had to enlarge the hole and make a mounting plated then I had to drill and tap the casting for the mount. It was a close fit next to the motor but it all seems to fit. (Photo) I'm down to the assembly of the engine and installing the decals, which should be complete next month.



Last on the list was the antenna. This was a problem due to the fact the complete engine is metal so I had to isolate it from the cab. I think I did a good job and it gives the engine character.

The head light will run off of the TMCC.

Some time ago I bought a broken switcher form Dave Brown. During the repairs I noticed that the smoke unit should work for this project. So when I was ordering parts to repair that engine I ordered a smoke unit also.



I hope to be able to have it for the April meet.



## RECENT EVENTS

by Rod Johnson

Attached are a couple of shots from recent travels and our layout at the church. The first is the Copper Mine scene on the Gadsden-Pacific O gauge layout in Tucson. Quite the place to see if folks have never been there.

The second is a Dad with his son and daughter watching the trains on our mobile layout at the Methodist Church Easter Saturday Festival in Paradise Valley.

## EARLY PHOTOS

If you are like me, you are fascinated by photos from the turn of the century - 19th to 20th, that is. It was the era of great cities blooming, railroads at their height of dominance of transportation, the transformation of industry and so forth. Here is a wonderful website of really high qualities from a cross section of the country during these times that I hope you enjoy:

<http://nethugs.com/interesting/america-1870-1920/>



## MEETING NOTES

### Show and Tell

- + Ralph Treichel showed his wooden Easter train
- + Sam McElwee received from his nephew a Union Pacific 150 year commemorative coin that the UP gave to each of their 40,000 employees.
- + John Draftz brought in a K-Line auto carrier that K-Line made using the old Marx castings.
- + Paul Boston showed a 1940 Lionel Book that had several track plans and idea's that could still be used to this date. Paul also showed some LED lights he is working on lightening the world up.
- + Dave Brown showed off some small castings of O gauge buildings from [www.rustyrail.com](http://www.rustyrail.com)



Dave also had some interior shelves from

[www.Modeltechstudios.com](http://www.Modeltechstudios.com)

+ Dave is also working on LED Lights that are small but very bright.

### Old Business

+ President Draftz discussed the Club Policy Book that was published in the MAIN LINE. Motion was made by Dave Brown to approve the CPB, seconded by George Bean. Members present approved CPB as written.

+ Rod Johnson is working on a refund policy that will be reviewed and voted on at a later date.

+ Annual Raffle Drawing. The winners will be drawn at this year's November monthly meeting. The prizes will be: 1st: \$1,000 Roy's Train World certificate or \$800 cash, 2nd: \$500 An Affair with Trains certificate or \$400 cash, 3rd: \$100 cash.

**TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!**

+ Mobile Unit cover. VP Eaton is getting a second bid on the cost of covering the unit from the elements. More info next month.

+ Goals The Board working on goals. All members are asked to contact board members with their thoughts and ideas

### New Business

+ Paradise & Pacific RR will be borrowing the mobile unit this Saturday, March 30 to run trains at the Paradise Valley United Methodist Church.

+ GCMR will not be running at Falcon Field today as we are having our monthly meeting..

+ President Draftz gave the club an overview of the Adobe Mountain swap meet that was held. They had sold all of their tables and there is no room for the mobile unit to run trains.

+ GCMR/P&P/TCA three clubs picnic was held at McCormick/Stillman Park. All members present had a great time in spite of the cold and rain.

+ The Scottsdale HO club will be hosting a regional NMRA conference in September, 2015 and they have asked for our involvement. They will contact us later.

+ The GCMR Board will be visiting the Adobe Mountain Train Park on Tuesday, April 2 to review possible locations for a permanent home for the club.

+ National Train Day, May 11 Dave Brown will be taking the mobile unit to Williams. The O & S Modulars will be at the Chandler RR Museum. Members are needed for set-up/dismantle.

## **2013 MEMBERSHIP LIST**

Your new membership list is included with this issue. If you are getting your newsletter by email, it is included in the email as separate attachments. I've also sent it in three formats: pdf, Microsoft Word (sorry, but I was not able to format this in the same fashion as the pdf) and Apple Pages. I am trying something new in sending it by email and also with Windows and Mac formats in addition to pdf. In that way, if you would like to make changes for new members during the year, you can do so on your personal copy.

Sorry, you folks who get your newsletter by hard copy. I am afraid there is no way to update your membership list other than with a "pencil".

As the renewals are coming in slowly this year and there are a half dozen members who have not gotten theirs in yet, the board has asked me to include all of last year's members on the list till after the April meeting so they can get this newsletter.

## **MORE CUMBRES AND TOLTEC**

Here is another of Dave Brown's neat shots from the C&T RR. He notes that This is a consolidation that's over 110 years old. This was it's first test run after being overhauled in Chama.



## **THE MAIN LINE**

**Peter Atonna, Editor**

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**Here one of Dave Brown's great shots of the Cumbres and Toltec during his trip there in 2008. He notes that this one is at the water stop at the summit. Note the section house in the background.**