



# GRAND CANYON MODEL RAILROADERS

## MAIN LINE

OCTOBER, 2022  
Volume 31      Number 10

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Dave Brown

Well, it all comes down to this. October is our last meeting of the year. The annual 3-2-1 drawing happens after our drag races. Remember that the winner of the drag race gets three annual tickets to go into the bucket before the drawing. Now for the bad news. The calendar is not good for me this year, our meeting is the day after my 22nd wedding anniversary so I won't be there. John Draftz will be the master of ceremonies. Sorry about that.

John will also announce the slate of candidates for offices at this meeting, as well as discussing changes to next years schedule. The first change is moving the summer cactus meet from July to September, this will mean moving our September Mini meet.

The reason for moving the Cactus meet is to try to get it in a somewhat cooler month, so just swapping the dates won't work because that would put the mini meet in July. The idea is to make July just a regular meeting and put the last mini meet on the third Saturday of November.

Right now we have no meeting in November so as not to step on Cal Stewart's meet. But it is no longer a two day big meet, just a normal one day meet. Also this puts our meet between TCA's two events without stepping on them. John will discuss this at the meeting.

As I said before October this year is our last meeting, however there are several train runs coming up that we need to cover. The first Saturday in November is the ASU west run. This is a new event and I'm looking forward to see how it goes.

The next weekend is also somewhat of a new event at an old location. We will be at the Arizona State Railroad Museum in Chandler. Last year because of covid they didn't do this event in February, and did it in November to a great success. So now they are going to have this event twice a year, first in February and then again in November.

We will also be running for three weekends, Friday and Saturday nights at AMRS at Adobe Mountain railroad park. We need people to run at these events because while the swap meets are fun, part of what we do is also run trains for the public. The same people seem to turn out at these events and we need an all hands on deck for those two months to fulfill our other part of being in the club and run trains.

So please, you don't have to be at all the events, but do come out to a couple of them and help.

### CALENDAR

GCMR meets are held at 9:00am in the Parish Hall of Our Saviors 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 22** - GCMR meet - Our Saviors Lutheran Church. Drag races, 1-2-3 drawing

**November 12** - Turkey Auction - Desert Division. Info, catalog at: [tcadd.org](http://tcadd.org)

**November 12** - GCMR run at Arizona Railroad Museum, Chandler

**November 26** - Desert Division swap meet, Shriners Auditorium, Phoenix

## TERRY'S S GAUGE LAYOUT UPDATE

by Terry Gibbs

I've been working on the S gauge layout. I painted some roads and then wired all the track and switches. I'm using the switches to control the blocks so I can have two trains on each loop. I had to cut some of the roadbed to make smaller sections. Once the track was all down and connected, I nailed it down with small nails.



The trains run well. I ran the trains for a while, and then decided I didn't want the large log and coal loaders. One of the steam locos hit the Guilford people-mover station and I don't like the looks of the New Haven cars so I took that off too. This opened the layout up a bit and makes it look cleaner.

Then I got out all the plastic toy cars and trucks I've been saving. The Renwal trucks were too big and didn't look good. So I took those off, and put some smaller Ideal cars and some newer Dimestore Dreams cars on the layout. The first two pictures show this.



More recently, I taped off areas for concrete parking lots in front of the diner and beside the Union station. I painted the diner parking lot, then added some light gray to the paint so the lot by the station would be a different shade. This latex paint is really easy to use and is so cheap I can just throw out anything I mix that isn't needed. Photos 3 thru 7 show this. When I put the track down, I made a small stand for the transformer and ran the wires. The stand allows the trains to miss the transformer, and has the control buttons beside and below it. There's even enough room for a bottle of smoke







have to wash it if it got rained on - so when there are clouds I don't paint. I can't wire the S gauge accessories up until the 00 is well established above because most flyer accessories have wires rather than binding posts.



fluid. I'll add a back plate to close the box up in the future. Photos 8 and 9 show the stand.

The white posts in the photos are for a 00 layout that goes over this layout. I've been cutting and painting wood in the garage when the weather permits. I am too lazy to put the top up on the convertible so it can sit in the rain - I'd also



There's a video of the four trains running and some switching with the 0-8-0 at:  
<https://youtu.be/5rGAYFOQnaQ>

## A TALE OF THREE STATIONS

by Peter Atonna

Layouts evolve over time. Mine is no exception. The current one is the third theme and of course is dramatically different from versions one and two. But all have featured Mary Jane's and my home town, Douglas, AZ.

In our youth, it was a major town (for Arizona). Douglas featured one of the world's largest copper smelters, an agricultural district, a Mexico port of entry and at that time, a MAJOR railroad presence. A centerpiece of that was a beautiful station built by the Southern Pacific's predecessor in Southern Arizona, the El Paso and Southwestern.

Two, almost identical stations were built, one in Douglas the other in Tucson. Fortunately, both have survived.

Early iterations of the layout included many Lionel buildings and accessories. So, the first version featured a beautiful prewar Lionel station as the Douglas station - which just happened to be based on Grand Central Terminal, not Douglas, Az.



Later, while at the York train show, we passed the booth for TW TrainworX, a builder of custom layouts and buildings. They were displaying

their latest station, based on the historic one that was the Santa Fe Albuquerque station. Mary Jane thought it was great, so we ordered one, but with the name "Douglas" rather than Albuquerque on it.



That station was there for many years until I finished the Douglas landmark hotel, the Gadsden, which is also still there and in operation. So, it was now finally time to replace the Albuquerque version of the Douglas station with a model of the real one.



Here is how it came to be.

Since I could find no plans for the station, I used photos to draw a basic plan. Fortunately, I had not only one from my youth, but a good series I took during its rededication as the Douglas police station. The were used to estimate window and door size, location, trip, details, etc. As to construction, I usually use styrene sheets to build building models. However, the. size of this building, 30" wide for the main structure, suggested I use a "stiffer" material. So, I decided to use foam core. It comes in nice long sheets and I had experimented with it earlier with a small "Safeway" store for Douglas.

What looks like a basic rectangular building, if you look closely, is quite complex with the main doors inset, lots of decorative "add-ons" and trim. I didn't even notice until looking at a blow up of one of my photos was that the guy wires holding the deck were actually "chain" not wires. Mary Jane donated a couple of unused pieces of jewelry so the model now is "supported" by real "chain".



Here is a sequence of construction photos.





And all is now done, strip LED lighting is installed and passengers going to and from Douglas now have their own station.



# TCA DESERT DIVISION ANNUAL MODEL & TOY TRAIN SWAP MEET

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 26, 2022**  
9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon



## **EL ZARIBAH SHRINERS AUDITORIUM** 552 N. 40th St. Phoenix, AZ 85008

40th St. and Fillmore St.  
Exit 2 Loop 202 or McDowell Rd via Hohokam Expressway 143

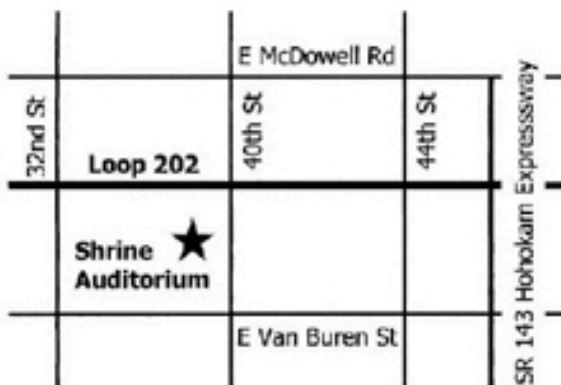
### **TRAIN MEET HOURS**

**SAT, November 26, 2022**  
9:00 AM - 12:00 noon

**Admission \$5**

**Children Under 16 Free w/ adult**

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Table Top Auction  
Free with Show Admission



- Admission \$5/person - Children under 16 Free w/ adult
- 12,000 Sq. Ft of Toy Trains - All Scales and manufacturers - old and new
- Free Parking on site for your convenience
- It's all about the trains! - Over 120 tables loaded with bargains just in time for the season or your holiday gift giving
- End of show seller auction - free with admission
- Multi-scale Test Track - test your purchases on site before you buy
- Have a Train to Sell? Multiple Vendors on site will BUY your train TODAY!
- Hourly Door Prizes - Raffle Prizes - Fun for the Whole Family
- Easy access from Loop 202 - or - Hohokam Expressway 143