



ABTO Dues are due!

FEBRUARY IS THE LAST MONTH FOR ABTO DUES.

Checks can be made out to ABTO and mailed to Don Halver, treasurer.

Please get payments in by February 28.

Thanks for your attention to this detail.

See details on the last page of this newsletter.

Lets have fun running trains!



Module Dates

March 9-11 Ostrich Festival

Three days set up for the city of Chandler. Weather permitting, attendance will be over 100,000 people

March 24 Adobe Mountain Open House and Exhibitor Sales

One day set up, show, and tear down of the modules at Adobe Mt RR Park. This will be a long day with extra help needed.

June 2-3 The Big Train Show, Ontario, California

The Big Train Show (formerly The Queen May Show).

This is a premier show out of town. Go to California on Friday and set up, conduct show for two days and tear down on Sunday after noon at 5:00. It's a good time staying in CA at least two nights.

Rich Hull will reserve rooms for you at the Marriott Hotel for \$82.00 plus tax per room, per night. Call him ASAP.

Remember, this show is in Ontario, CA from now on and is "inside".

October 13-14 McCormick Stillman Railfair at the Park in Scottsdale.

Good two day show with setup Friday before the show.

October 20-21 Botanical Gardens "Pumpkin Patch Festival"

Another great show with plenty of spectators. Set up on Friday before the main show on Saturday and Sunday.

November 24 Turkey Meet at The Civic Center in Mesa.

Jerry McKenzie's Jerry's Trains for Children are our only set up here.

One day multi gauge show with a few modules for the public to view.

The Module Committee voted down the modules at Christmas for the Botanical Gardens.

If you would like to help out at these events, please call:

Ennis Thompson, or Jim Kangas

E-mails will be sent to you for module meetings if you'd like to attend.

**ABTO
Committee Heads**

Activities

Glenn Sampson

Jim Kangas

Modules

Ennis Thompson

Jim Kangas

Phoenix Children's Hospital

Jerry McKenzie

Banner Desert Hospital

Bob Clark

Web Site

Mike Lewandowski
fun2rr@msn.com

Other Positions

2008 Convention/Club

Correspondence

Mike Lewandowski
conv_secretaryaz@msn.com

Raffles and prizes and Librarian

Glenn Sampson

Photo Archivist

Jack Slinkard

Club Interaction Facilitator

Bob Rauperstrauch

Publicity

looking for a volunteer for this position

Meeting Host Coordinator

Jim Kangas - East Side

John Meyers - West Side

Shirt, Badge, & Vest Coordinator

Jim Snyder

August 2007 ABTO Colorado Railroad Excursion!

A refreshing Eight Day, Seven Night motor coach trip touring Colorado and the Rockies during the late August Arizona heat. Starting Sunday, August 26, 2007, and ending Sunday, September 2, 2007, the day before Labor Day.



Hotels!

Two Nights at the Best Western Rio Grande Inn, Durango, CO
400 East Second Avenue, 2 ½ blocks from the train station.
One night at the Lake Dillon Lodge, Lake Dillon, CO.
One night at the Best Western Skyway Inn, Manitou Springs, CO.
One night at the Best Western Royal Gorge, Canon City, CO.
One night at the Best Western Alamosa Inn, Alamosa, CO.
One night at the Best Western Inn and Suites, Farmington, NM

Train Trips included!

Durango and Silverton Railroad est. 1881
Georgetown Loop, (Colorado Central RR) route est. 1884
The Manitou and Pikes Peak Cog Railway est. 1891
The Royal Gorge Railway, (Santa Fe/ D&RGW) route est. 1880
The Cumbres and Toltec Railway, est. 1880.

Other

Six breakfasts and one lunch included.
Cost Approx.
Seven hundred and sixty three dollars per person!
Based on double occupancy.
All rooms are two people two beds.



\$200.00 per person payable to ABTO.

**February 28, is the last day to sign up
We have 27 signed up—need 42 so get on the train!**

**Don't miss out on a great time
And it's a great deal!**

**Sign up sheet at the February meeting or
Call Jim Kangas _____ or email jkangasat@cox.net**

April 1 is Picnic in the Park!

It won't be long until Spring will be here and with that comes another fun ABTO event!



Date: Sunday, April 1, 2007

Time: 11:30 - Lunch: 12:00

**Place: McCormick Stillman RR Park
Scottsdale Rd. and Indian Bend Rd. - Scottsdale, AZ**

Cost: \$5.00 - 12 and under, free

**One train ticket for each person attending
Bring Potluck to go with Hamburgers/Hotdogs
Drinks Provided**

**Sing up and pay at the March meeting or
call Jim Kangas:**

Paradise and Pacific Ramadas
SE corner of the Park

*New **ABTO** Members*

*We'd like to present ABTO's newest members.
 Please make them feel welcome next time you meet them.
 Please add these names to your roster.*

Karen Lenzen

Phoenix, AZ 85024

Roger Borque

Phoenix, AZ 85018E-mail

Robert & Arlee Johnson

Mesa, AZ 85204

Tim & Bonnie Georgvich

Chandler, AZ 85226

Walt & Carolyn Pries

Sun Lakes, AZ 85284

BULLETIN BOARD

Jannis Gennevios
 Train Mural Painter
 480-964-1596

Banner Desert Hospital

The Hospital staff is aware that there is much needed work to be done on the track. They will schedule a meeting to OK this project when they get time. Meantime, call Bob Clark at 480-834-7067 if you are interested in helping out. It takes daily maintenance, so your time is appreciated. Thanks Jim Kangas, Gerry Pfeiffer, and Dick Melling for taking over on Thursdays for Bob Clark.

What's Cooking !

Recipes

Send your favorites to the editor!

This is your last chance -

Welcome new members!

There's a lot going on with the ABTO membership so if you like to run trains, there's always something to do. And it's not just the trains - it's a great way to make friends too.

Modules are a portable train setup that ABTO displays at different events where you can help run trains and promote the hobby. Call Ennis Thompson 602-527-0402 or Jim Kangas, 480-659-1756.

Activities are members who plan the special events like picnics and train trips. Call Jim Kangas. 480-658-1756

Phoenix Children's Hospital is where ABTO has a train atrium that brings joy to a lot of very sick kids. Call Jerry McKenzie 520-466-5938 to help out as there is always daily maintenance.

Banner Desert Hospital is where we help maintain another train atrium and there is also daily maintenance. Call Bob Clark, 480-834-7067

Did we mention the train trips, day trips, outings, & picnics?

*If you have some spare time, come join the fun!
 It's as simple as a phone call.
 You can always call an ABTO board member
 for more information.*

We are always looking for new faces to have fun running trains and the social hour at breakfast and lunch is a good time to share ideas, solve train problems, and get to know other members too.

See you there!

Rails in the Garden Tour

Sat, March 3 & Sun, March 4, 2007
10:00am - 4:00pm Visit 8 Garden Railroads in the Tucson area

Tickets are \$5.00 or \$10.00 for family

Door prize ticket included with purchase.

Descriptions of railways and maps to locations will come with your tickets.

**For more information go to <http://tucsongrs.org>
 Or call: 520-409-3269**



About The Newsletter

As I have said before, it is your newsletter. Send pictures, comments, articles of train related material to me. The newsletter is as good as what YOU help to make it.

Sandy - Newsletter Editor,



Auction time!

MARCH MEETING BRING YOUR DONATED ITEMS AND HAVE A GREAT TIME.

Like last year, it doesn't matter how old, used, or valued the items are, one man's junk was another man's treasure!

You never know what you'll go home with!

Don't miss this fun event!

SUMMARY OF UNOFFICIAL BOARD MINUTES

February 3, 2007

Board members present were: Bob, Glenn, Don & Gerry.
Guests were: Tony Vacek, Jim Kangas, Sandy rauperstrauch
No minutes from Roy due to surgery.

Treasurer's report for '06 and Jan read by Don Halver & approved. ABTO has 41 paid members and 7 new members.

Old Business:

Activities - Jim Kangas: Durango Trip has @ 27 people
Need 42 or trip will be cancelled.

April Picnic: 24 people have signed up.

Onterio: call Rich Hull to reserve room. If working the modules, send name to Ennis.

Modules - Ennis Thompson: Tabled

Phx. Children's Hospital - Glenn has called Dan Hoag to build platform for east end.

Banner Desert Hospital - Bob Clark Still waiting for meeting to be scheduled with Cheryl. Dick M, Gerry P, and Jim K filling in on Thursday for Bob.

Convention - Bob will work on a schedule for working the booth in Las Vegas.

Newsletter - Sandy: Will be scaling back the newsletter due to convention duties and lack of member participation.

Raffles - Glenn Sampson: Glenn is looking for bigger raffle prizes.

New Business:

Picnic Budget established at \$600

March Bd meeting to be held at San Marcos March 31, at 8:30, prior to convention meeting at 10:00.

Convention

The quarterly planning meeting was held Jan 27. All committees are finalizing plans in their areas. Due to my work load for this convention, the newsletter might be condensed, so keep sending any interesting train related photos or articles.

Sandy

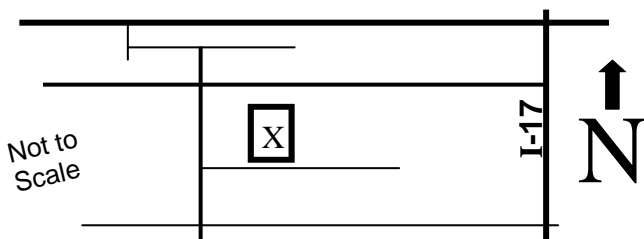


General ABTO Meeting
Saturday, February 17
5:00PM—whatever!

Glenn and Katy Sampson

Chili and drinks will be provided.
Please bring a Pot Luck item.

A Swap and Sale table will be set up so, bring any items you wish to sell.



Directions:

From: I-17, exit Greenway Rd—drive west to 43rd Ave.

From the 101, there are no exits on 43rd Ave.

the bridge then left on the frontage road (Beardsley).

Coming from the east on 101:
Exit 51st Ave., stay on the frontage road, then follow the instructions above.

Arizona Big Train

ABTO OBJECTIVES

Membership in Arizona Big Train Operators is open to anyone with an interest in gardening and creating, constructing, and operating large scale model railways. At our meetings, items of mutual interest associated with the hobby are discussed and demonstrated.

Our members represent a wide variety of interests ranging from gardening, collecting trains, and model building, to operating trains in the garden railroad environment.

Meetings are typically held at member's homes, where they have the opportunity to showcase their railway creations.

Meetings are usually held on the 3rd Saturday of the month.

ABTO MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership fee is \$35 per family, per year, and entitles you to one vote per family membership.

Membership entitles you to attend all meetings and events and receive the monthly ABTO newsletters and one name badge. Additional badges may be purchased for \$7.00 each.

ABTO BOARD MEETING INFORMATION

Board meetings are usually held on the first Saturday of the month.

Board meetings are open to members who are current on their dues and have an item for the agenda. **If you plan to attend, call a board member to confirm location, time and date.**

ABTO NEWS CONTRIBUTIONS

Members are encouraged to contribute articles, letters, illustrations or photographs related to garden railroading to include in the newsletter. Items may be used at a later date.

ABTO Members who have hobby related items for sale or trade may submit an advertisement for publication at no charge using four lines; Name, Item, Phone # and Email.

Submissions must be in to the editor by the 1st Saturday of the month by US Mail or Email using WORD.

ABTO will also accept business card sized advertisements for \$10.00 a month. **Advertisements must be submitted with payment, (check to ABTO) to the newsletter editor by U.S. mail, by the first Saturday of the month. Editor reserves the right to decline ads.**



ABTO Newsletter Editor

To:

**Next meeting, Saturday, February 17
Glenn & Katy Sampson, Phoenix, Arizona**