



THE ABTO GAZETTE

January, 2022

Volume 29

Number 1

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Visit at: www.azbigtrains.org



Brian & Jeanne Soncrant's Railroad

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President's Message January Gazette

As 2021 comes to a close, we are welcoming the New Year of 2022. This last year seems to have gone by very fast with a lot of ups and downs. ABTO lost a couple of good members due to illness. I was hoping to see the end of the Covid pandemic but that was not in the cards.

The Cardon Childrens' Medical Center layout has been up and running, bringing the children and staff some much needed smiles. Our current group of new volunteers will, hopefully, soon be able to go in and work on the trains. Gone are the simple days of the public being able to view the magnificent train layout that ABTO built.

We had another great Christmas dinner party in December with good friends and our ABTO family. Thomas Preisner demonstrated his GN-15 trains and talked about this smaller style that could be added to our G-scale layouts. The gift exchange went very well and most everyone had a great time.

Prior to the dinner, we held an auction to help Colleen Rose eliminate some of Russell's many train items. Shipping everything back to Canada is simply not an option. Russell wanted his fellow ABTO members to be able to share his large collection of G-scale items. We will have another batch of items at the January 15th meeting.

Christmas Open Houses were open to the public this year with a decent amount of people coming out for this event. The rain before and during the event plagued us like in years past. For the most part, everyone survived the two weekends without too much trouble.

Club renewals have been going very well this year and we all appreciate the prompt payments. In 2021, we welcomed 12 new members to our large group. Our family of G-scale train enthusiasts has really turned into a great organization.

We are welcoming Vince Simpson to our ABTO Board as Vice President. Vince brings years of train experience and knowledge to us. Please welcome Vince when you see him at events. His vast knowledge is a huge plus to our programs.

Terry and Carolyn Fields will be hosting January's membership meeting. Their layout is very large and absolutely amazing. Check out all the detailing that has been built into the railroad. We will, also, have 61 item auction immediately following the meeting on their patio. Please remember that the proceeds go to Colleen Rose to help with expenses. An auction list will be emailed out to ABTO members a few days prior to our meeting on the 15th.

Happy New Year,
Darrell Woolfolk
ABTO President
480-818-1715



TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday,	Jan.	15	9:00am	ABTO Board Meeting location TBD
Saturday,	Jan.	15	10am-view	ABTO Membership Meeting & Auction @ Fields Residence
Saturday,	Jan.	15`	10:30am	ABTO Membership Meeting Begins
Saturday,	Jan.	15	11:30am	Auction begins at Field's Residence
Sunday,	Feb.	13	Noon	ABTO Board Meeting at Ginny Morris Residence
Saturday	Feb.	19	TBA	ABTO Membership Meeting @ Kelly & Cheryl Snow
Sunday,	March	13	Noon	ABTO Board Meeting at Ginny Morris Residence
Saturday	March	19	TBA	ABTO Membership Meeting @ John & Boots Gordon

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Items Auctioned at December Auction



ABTO TREASURER'S REPORT

December 29, 2021

PREVIOUS INCOME (2021 YTD)		\$ 1,880.91
INCOME:	\$	-
Dues Income:		
New Member includes Name Tags	\$	98.00
Renewals - 2022	\$	576.25
Name Tag - NEW		
	\$	674.25
Other Income		
COH Donation	\$	96.00
Misc Sales	\$	42.00
Sale of Metal Wheels	\$	-
Sale of Tie-strips - 1 Euro & 1 USA	\$	90.00
2021 Holiday Dinner	\$	91.25
December Auction Sales	\$	3,342.04
Misc. Income - Stop Payment CHK# 3688	\$	1,260.00
Misc. Income - Cash Drawer Deposit	\$	340.00
Total Checkbook Income	\$	5,261.29
INVESTMENT INCOME:		
Edward Jones - Change in Value N/A	\$	-
Total Investment Income	\$	-
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 5,935.54
EXPENSES:		
Name Tags - New Officers & Members	\$	64.86
General Ad. Fee - Stop Payment CHK #3688	\$	31.00
General Ad. Fee - Ink - Secretary's Printer	\$	43.00
General Administration - CC Processing Fees	\$	64.13
Auction Expense - Cash Drawer Cash	\$	340.00
Modules Sig Expense - Insurance - Large Trailer	\$	21.00
Holiday Party - Food and Beverage	\$	1,560.00
Auction Expense - Space Rental	\$	38.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	2,161.99
THIS MONTH'S NET INCOME		\$ 3,773.55
NET INCOME (2021 YTD) **		\$ 5,654.46

NOTES

DECEMBER 2021 EDWARD JONES STATEMENT NOT AVAILABLE ON THIS DATE

Welcome New and Returning Members

Keith & Lyndsey Davidson	Dennis & Liz Sirrine
1304 W. Holstein Trail	5564 S. Warren
San Tan Valley, AZ 85143	Mesa, AZ 85212
Cell 480-737-9980	Cell 480-620-9459

Mike & Lynn L. McClure Temenski
 3461 E. Indigo Circle
 Mesa, AZ 85213-3276
 Cell 480-399-8218

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ABTO Membership Meeting & Auction

January 15, 2021

Terry and Carolyn Fields

19020 N. 12th Place

Phoenix, AZ 85024

Home: 623-581-0420

SCHEDULE: 10:00am—Welcome and View Railroad

10:30am—Meeting Begins

11:30am—Auction Begins

1:30pm—Auction Ends

**There will be 60-65 items from the
Russ Rose Estate**

Water will be furnished

No need to bring chairs-chairs will be available

**Metal Wheels and USA Ties will be available for
purchase.**

2022 Membership Meetings

February 19-Kelly & Cheryl Snow

March 19-John & Boots Gordon

April ??-Auction & BBQ

May 21-Hosts Needed

June 18-Hosts Needed

July 16-Hosts Needed

August 20-Hosts Needed

September 17-Hosts Needed

October 15-Ken & Kris Hawkins

November 19-Steve & Judy Lewis

December 4-Christmas Dinner



Past Member

Ennis Thompson Train Layout



2020/2021 Officers/Board of Directors

President: Darrell Woolfolk
480-818-1715-cell
dpwoolfolk@yahoo.com

Vice President: Vince Simpson
772-485-7005

Secretary: Ginny Morris
610-256-1121-cell
putterm@cox.net

Treasurer: Steve Lewis
605-660-6911-cell
srlewis47@cox.net

Directors at Large

Mark Lycan 253-279-0295

James Riddle 480-440-1331

Don Sorenson 480-684-4652

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GN15 ARTICLE by THOMAS PREISNER

I have been into G-Scale for over 20 years.

We all know G-Scale and that it runs on 45MM Track.

Without going into too many details, G-Scale originally started in 1968 by E. P. Lehmann, Germany under their brand-name of LGB. They modeled their trains after an Austrian narrow gauge line, which was 3 foot gauge and prototypically was 1:22:5.

GN15 became popular in the late mid 1990's in the US, it stands for **G=G-Scale, N= Narrow Gauge, 15= 15 inch gauge track (381 MM) or 1.25 feet.** In the G-Scale world this means these **model** trains run on HO or OO track, but the scale is 1:22:5 (sometimes 1:24).

Essentially GN15 trains are filed railroad trains, such as those used in quarries, mines, etc.

In the US, Carl Arendt wrote his iconic books and the 2 books are readily available on the internet and a great read! Unfortunately, Carl has since passed.

Carl Arendt's small layout scrapbook

52 micro layouts you can build: model railroading in extremely small spaces

So why do I like GN15 so much? Because I can use my G-Scale cars, figures, buildings, etc. and use them to build a GN15 layout, but use a lot less space than with regular G-Scale! Also the cost is a lot cheaper than any G-Scale rolling stock. HO or OO track is readily available, and the motor blocks used for GN 15 locos are usually from established companies like Hornby (to name but one), and cheap. Today there are 3 countries where GN15 is made for sale, either as a kit or built which are: UK, Germany & USA. The widest selection to be found is in the **UK.** **Here are some manufacturers I know:**

Pepper7-Pepper7-Home (weebly.com)

Smallbrook Studio-built a variety of locos and cars-most easily found on ebayUKwww.ebay.co.uk

Narrow Minded Railroads-Martin Rich-builds freelance locos and cars-find him on ebay UK or

Trainshop.Co.UK-offers a variety of rolling stock.

GN15-Upstairs Downstairs (trainshop.co.uk)

Manufacturers in the USA

Ozark Miniatures-**GN15-ozark miniatures**-look under, other fun stuff, and you will find a G-Scale section consisting of track, cars and 2 locos (without power blocks).

Shapeways Miniatures-**GN15 Trains-Shapeways Miniatures** offers kits of locos and cars.

Manufacturers in Germany

DeskTop Locomotive Works-dtlw.org-they offer a variety of locos, cars and trucks.

Note that 1 British Pound will cost you USD 1.33 currently.

The rate of exchange for the Euro used in Germany is currently: 1 Euro-USD 1.13.

So buying in the UK and/or Germany will cost you more, but then the models-especially in the UK-can be had anywhere from 10-40 pounds. BIG difference cost-wise to any regular G-Scale locomotive or car.

Try it and you be hooked!

tpreisner11@gmail.com

Sad news to let everyone know that Stan Cedarleaf passed away as noted on GScale.net

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Auction Photos taken by Don Sorenson



HAPPY
New Year

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Christmas Dinner Photos taken by Don Sorenson



HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Christmas Dinner Photos taken by Don Sorenson





Arizona Big Train Operators
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Unit I
Gilbert, AZ 85234



ARIZONA BIG TRAIN OPERATORS



OBJECTIVES

Membership in Arizona Big Train Operators (ABTO) is open to anyone with an interest in gardening and the creation & operation of large scale model railways. At our meetings, items of mutual interest associated with the hobby are discussed and demonstrated. Meetings are typically held at member's homes, where they have the opportunity to showcase their railway creations. General meetings are usually held on the third Saturday of the month.

ABTO BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings will be held on Sunday prior to the general meeting of each 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 MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The renewal fee is \$30.00 per year. This entitles you to attend all meetings and events and to receive the monthly newsletter. Each name badge will be an additional \$8.

Members are encouraged to contribute articles, letters, illustrations and/or photographs related to garden railroading for inclusion in the news-letter and/or posting on the club web site.

Members who have hobby-related items for sale or trade may submit an advertisement for publication and/or posting at no charge. Please limit each ad to a maximum of four lines. Accompanying photos will be considered for publication as space allows.