

Trak-Writes

Thanks!

The Sun N Sand Model Railroad Club would like to thank George Morris for his outstanding leadership as Project Manager during design and construction of the new club layout.

Meeting location

The November 10 business meeting is at Coco's Restaurant, on Scottsdale Road, just north of Camelback. Business and board meetings will be held at Coco's until further notice.



Board of directors

- Bob Nuss, President
- Bob Hoddy, Vice-president
- Steve Gendler, Secretary
- Richard Sauerbrun, Treasurer
- Greg Adamson
- Tony Pietsch
- Jim Elliot
- Skip Spittle

Meeting location

The November business meeting is at Coco's Restaurant, on Scottsdale Road, just north of Camelback.

GETTING TO DRUMBEAT

For meetings at Bob Nuss' store:

Drumbeat Indian Arts, Inc.
4143 North 16th Street
Phoenix Arizona 85016

(16th Street and Indian School)

RAFFLE

Dale Holder
Tropicana Refrigerated Box Car

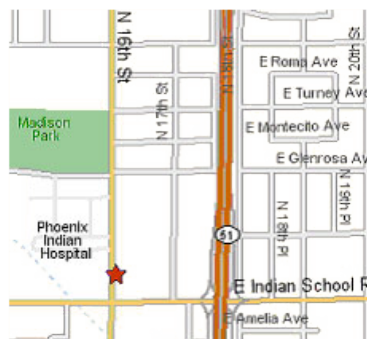
Richard Sauerbrun
Southern RR Box Car

Dale Holder
ATSF plug door Box Car

ELECTRONIC EDITION

Trak-Writes is published both as a hard-copy (print) edition and electronically. The electronic edition is an Adobe Acrobat (PDF) file delivered via email.

If you are receiving the print edition and would prefer the electronic version, please send an email to editor@sun-n-sand.org.



Website access

The process of giving club members access to the Sun N Sand web site continues.

Here's how you get member access to the site:

- ▶ I need your email ID. That means that your email ID has been added to the roster.
- ▶ A "user name" is generated. I've adopted the policy of using first initial plus last name. (So I'm "bschindler" and George Morris is "gmorris".)

- ▶ The site sends an invite message containing a special link.
- ▶ You click the link (or paste it into your browser). That takes you to a web page where you set your password.
- ▶ Once your password is set, you can then login to the site.

If you have any problems or questions about this process, please send me an email and I'll do my best to help.

-Bill Schindler
editor@sun-n-sand.org

November 9

Work session, Park 7:00pm

November 10

General meeting, Coco's, 7:00pm

November 13

PSR AZ Division meet in Tucson

November 14

Sunday run, noon-4:00pm
Work session, Drumbeat, noon

November 16

Work session, Drumbeat, 7:00pm

November 21

Sunday run, noon-4:00pm
Work session, Drumbeat, noon

November 25

Happy Thanksgiving!

November 28

Sunday run, noon-4:00pm
Work session, Drumbeat, noon

November 30

Work session, Park 7:00pm

December 5

Sunday run, noon-4:00pm
Work session, Drumbeat, noon

December 8

General meeting, Coco's, 7:00pm
Holiday Lights begin

December 12

Sunday run, noon-4:00pm
Work session, Drumbeat, noon

December 19

Sunday run, noon-4:00pm
Work session, Drumbeat, noon

CALENDAR

Trak-Writes

www.sun-n-sand.org
Bill Schindler, Editor
editor@sun-n-sand.org

Business meeting minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Nuss, October 13, 2010, 7:15pm at Coco's in Scottsdale.

Members Present: Bob Hoddy, Steve Gendler, Leo Von Kallen, Bob Nuss, Skip Spittle, David Brown, Richard Sauerbrun, Richard and Mary Garner, Tony Pietsch, Bob Laity, James Elliott, George and Maryanna Morris, Ron Reid, and Scott Switzer.

Guests: Bob Lorenzo and Dale Holder

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our guests for the evening are both applicants for membership. Dale Holder is a former member and Bob Lorenzo has completed his membership as of this meeting.

The business meeting minutes for September 8 were approved on a motion by Bob Hoddy and a second by Richard Sauerbrun.

The board meeting minutes for September 22 were approved on a motion by Scott Switzer and a second by Jim Elliott.

Until further notice, the meetings will be held at Coco's with business meetings on the second Wednesday and board meetings on the fourth Wednesday at 7pm.

Tony Pietsch has graciously donated a small video camera to the club.

The run schedule was circulated with a reminder that we will be operating the current N-Trak layout for the public, as far as we know, through Holiday Lights in December. We are on winter operating hours (noon to 4pm) and guests are welcome to run as long as there is a member present.

There will be a model railroad swap meet November 6 at the Baptist Church in Phoenix. Jim Johnson is coordinating our table at the meet.

Members should contact him for information or items they want included.

The NMRA, PSR region, Arizona Division fall meet will be held in Tucson on November 13. A copy of the flyer was circulated for members to get information on the schedule and location.

At RailFair, Maryanna Morris received a donation of N-scale track and rolling stock from Mike Zaporavski of Peoria. Our secretary will send a "thank you" letter on the club's behalf.

RailFair was quite successful with a large turnout and numerous displays. The new building was popular with both Sun N Sand and the Lionel Club having operating layouts during the soft opening. We had a considerable number of visitors to our Ntrak layout but donations were sparse.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report: Richard Sauerbrun distributed a year-to-date report for the current fiscal year covering July 1 to September 30. The report indicated that our net income exceeded total expenses for the period and that the club is on a solid economic footing.

Richard also distributed a balance sheet, covering the month of September, accounting for all club assets and liabilities. The club has funds in the bank to meet liabilities. Our assets include an inventory of club cars available for sale. Our new layout represents an investment of \$12,450 at this point, which is within budget.

The treasurer's report was approved on a motion by Scott Switzer and a second by Bob Laity.

Building Report: Scott Switzer, our representative to the park regarding the new building, provided the latest update having come from a meeting this afternoon. The temporary chiller, used during Railfair, has been disconnected in preparation for installation of the permanent air conditioning system. The consensus is that it will be at least two weeks, maybe longer, before the building is ready. None of the clubs are allowed entry until a certificate of occupancy is issued.

The RailFair "soft opening" was based on a temporary certificate of occupancy. Approximately 4,000 visitors went through the building during RailFair. One suggestion coming from RailFair was that benches be installed on the upper level. Park officials also observed first hand what the club concerns were relating to the height of the glass. Scott believes both issues will be addressed before the dedication.

The official dedication of the building will be in January. The HO club has committed to having trains operating by January and is working diligently toward that goal. George Morris asked what the park expected from us. And Scott pointed out that the C-layout has to be operational at the very least. Regarding scenery and work on the C-layout, the park will not remove the glass for access due to the expense, difficulty, and weight of the glass. We will need to adjust accordingly.

Layout Progress Report: George Morris reported that the C-layout is in the new building, in sections, except for four end sections which are still at the Drumbeat Facility. The reason is that a mine is being built on one end and a logging operation on

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Board meeting minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Nuss, October 27, 2010, 7:20pm at Coco's Restaurant.

Members Present: Richard Sauerbrun, Tony Pietsch, Skip Spittle, Steve Gendler, Bob Nuss, and Greg Adamson.

Members Absent: Bob Hoddy, Jim Elliott

Guests: George Morris

MEMBERSHIP ISSUES

Richard Sauerbrun reported that there were four regular members at least three months behind on their dues and four associate members who have failed to pay their dues for this year. All had been contacted by phone or letters. One of the regular members, Brian Heap, did submit a letter of resignation and returned his key. On a motion by Bob Nuss, and a second by Greg Adamson, two of the three delinquent members will be called and advised that dues arrangements must be made within 30 days if they want to continue their membership. On a motion by Richard and second by Greg, the third delinquent member will be handled by the board as a special circumstance. All four of the associate members will be changed to "inactive" on a motion by Richard Sauerbrun and a second by Greg Adamson.

Applicant Dale Holder will have completed all requirements for membership at the next business meeting and will be presented to the membership for approval.

CLUB BUSINESS ISSUES

Richard Sauerbrun provided a review of the club budget through October 27th which indicated that revenue exceeds expenses.

Bob Nuss reported on an e-mail from the park director indicating that current plans call for the building

dedication to be in January. There is some uncertainty regarding exactly when we will be given access to the new building but it appears to be sometime between the middle and end of November. If the key cards are not ready, or the security system is not functional, we face the prospect of not being able to access the building in the evenings since there will be no staff members present. Access would only be during the hours their staff is on duty.

The issue of a project manager for the new layout was discussed at length. Since George Morris resigned from that duty on October 13, no one has stepped forward to volunteer. Therefore, the responsibly defaults to the President. Richard Sauerbrun suggested guidelines to help the manager including: ① a list of tasks that have to be completed; ② placing those tasks in order that they need to be done; ③ setting of priorities; ④ scheduling and estimating the time to complete the tasks as well as the best persons qualified; and ⑤ putting the plan in writing.

In his resignation letter, George Morris recommended that the board prepare a work plan for the project manager to follow. The board agreed that the top priority was to get the two lines on the new layout operational by the January building dedication (provided we had access to the building). The tasks to be completed include:

- ▶ Get the scenery done on the edges of the layout starting with the 32' end.
- ▶ Test the electrical circuits, leads, and connections to ensure they are functional.
- ▶ Ballast the track before moving the modules into place.

- ▶ Ensure that the outer line is DCC compatible and the inner line DC compatible, including blocks, so that multiple trains can run simultaneously.
- ▶ Complete training of specified club members in the layout's electrical connections so that testing can occur while George is in Connecticut during November. Richard volunteered to be trained at the work session on October 31.
- ▶ Move the new layout's end modules currently at the Drumbeat facility to the new building at the park.

The board drew up the following work schedule which the Secretary was directed to send out immediately to all members on the internet list:

- ▶ Saturday, October 30, noon to 5 at Drumbeat for layout construction.
- ▶ Sunday, October 31, noon to 5 at Drumbeat for electrical testing.
- ▶ Tuesday, November 2, 7pm-9pm at Drumbeat for layout construction.
- ▶ Saturday November 6, noon to 5 at Drumbeat for layout construction.
- ▶ Sunday, November 7, noon to 5 at Drumbeat for clean up and moving materials out of suite 7.
- ▶ Saturday, November 13, no work session, AZ Division meet in Tucson.
- ▶ Sunday, November 14, noon to 5 at Drumbeat for layout construction.

The board discussed the upcoming Holiday Lights beginning December 8. It was determined that we need to get the schedule ready and have it filled out at the November club meeting.

On a motion by Tony Pietsch, and a second by Greg Adamson, the meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.

—submitted by Steve Gendler
Secretary

Business meeting minutes, continued from page 3

the other. George outlined a number of priorities which will have to be completed including shell scenery and track ballasting on the C-layout as well as refurbishing of the Ntrak modules which will be located within the C-layout.

George Morris submitted his resignation as the project manager with a recommendation that the board come up with a work plan, for membership approval, to complete the priorities he outlined. He will still be working on the layout to ensure that the electrical is completed so the layout is operational.

There will still be some expenses relating to rolling stock, engines, electrical and scenery for the new layout.

Steve Gendler volunteered to put together a “crew” (aka the “fun with foam gang”) to build approximately 150’ of foam transition pieces that will fit between the C-layout and the lip below the glass so that scenery can cover the gap when the layout is installed.

CLUB BUSINESS

Bob Nuss asked if anyone was interested in taking over the role of project manager on the new layout. If so, please get in touch with him. In the meantime, work sessions will still be on Sunday afternoon and Tuesday evenings using the priorities George outlined as a guide. George Morris was given a round of applause from the membership for his dedication,

contributions, and leadership in bringing the new layout from a concept to reality.

Bob Lorenzo, an applicant for regular membership, has completed all requirements to join the club. He was highly recommended by all members who have had an opportunity to view his abilities. On a motion by Bob Hoddy, and a second by Bob Laity, Bob Lorenzo was unanimously approved for membership.

On a motion by Scott Switzer, and a second by Bob Laity, the meeting adjourned at 8:10pm

*—submitted by Steve Gendler
Secretary*

Help wanted

Wanted: Engineers to operate on the Sun N Sand Model Railroad Sundays from noon to 4:00pm.

Experience the fun and excitement that goes with the adoring public as they marvel at your equipment and

operating skills. Be part of the team that helps “pay the freight” for your clubroom at the park. All that is required is your name on the run schedule to begin this adventure; so be sure and sign up today.

Notices and announcements

Business meeting location

The business meeting is now held at Coco's Restaurant, on Scottsdale Road, just north of Camelback.

Mailing address

If you are sending your dues check via postal mail, send it to the following address:

Sun N Sand Model RR Club
c/o McCormick Stillman Railroad Park
7301 E Indian Bend Rd
Scottsdale, AZ 85250-4513



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Scottsdale AZ 85254-3714