



Upcoming Meets:

April 5 11AM
 Gary and Jane
 Olmstead
 2444 Lexington Dr
 Ventura CA
 (805) 648-1770
 Please bring:
 A-G Salads
 H-O Desserts
 P-Z Appetizers

April 26 11 AM
 Don and Linda
 Morgan
 Please bring:
 A-G Desserts
 H-O Appetizers
 P-Z Salads

Upcoming Meets:

May 17 – Raymond
 May 24 - Hahn
 June – Waterman
 July – Sal Mele
 August - Sylvester

April 2008

Lots of meets this month:

Gary and Jane Olmstead's Meet April 5:

Back when it seemed like it would never stop raining, I got inspired to create an indoor meet. This meet would not have trains, but would be how-to-do it clinics only. We've talked about meets like this, so I thought I'd give it a try.

Naturally, since then, the rain has stopped, and spring seems to be here at last. So if the weather's nice, there will be trains running, but the real purpose is still the clinics.

The plan is to have three clinics; the first at 11:30, the second at 1 PM and the third at 2PM. You're probably wondering what the clinics will be about and who will be giving them. It won't be me, as the only thing I can talk about is writing a bulletin, and who would be interested in that?

Instead, Sylvia Eldridge will talk about plant selection and the way she trims them so they look even better than they do in real life.

Mary DeBievre will show us how she makes her beautiful little metal buildings.

Rochelle Hahn will talk about how she converts bird houses into cabins.

If it is sunny, you'll find that my layout is pretty much as it was last year: steep grades, tight curves, maybe a bit more scenery. Or maybe not.

Don and Linda Morgan's meet is described on page 2.

The 1:32 Group Meet:

The 1:32 Group is branching out from holding every meet at the Siegel's, so it's even more important that you call Gary Raymond a couple weeks in advance if you want to attend.

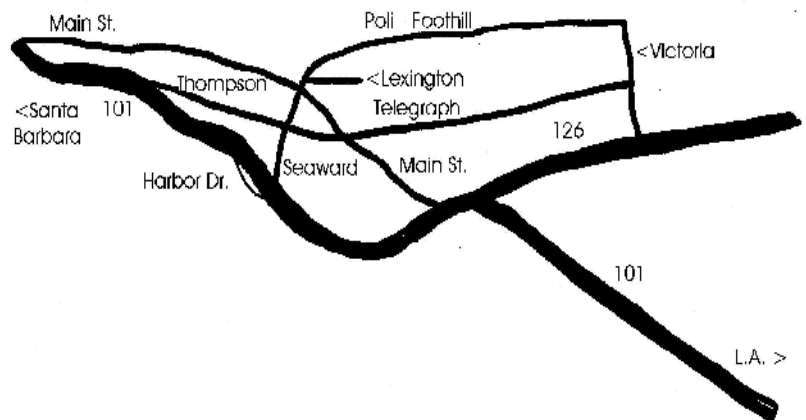
Meetings are still scheduled for the 3rd Sat. of each month for the rest of 2008. Please contact Gary Raymond for meet locations and times. Anyone interested in running 1:32 trains is welcome. Gary's number is (805) 492-5858.

Directions from the East:

101 to Seaward Exit
 Off and Right at Seaward
 Cross Main St (about 1 mile)
 Right Lexington (one block)
 to 2444

Directions from the West:

101 to Seaward Exit
 Left on Harbor Blvd
 Left on Seaward
 Cross Main St (about 1 mile)
 Right on Lexington (one block)
 to 2444



Don and Linda Morgan's Meet April 26:

This time we will be meeting at the spacious and gracious home of Don and Linda Morgan in beautiful Santa Ynez. This meet is always one of the most popular in the club. And with good reason, too. Don and Linda have everything it takes for a terrific meet. And yet, somehow, they manage to make it better every time.

Don is still in the process of adding the extension behind the caboose. The track is ready, but construction is still under way. I'm not completely sure what that means, so you'll just have to go and find out. There will be limited parking in the back for loading and unloading larger locomotives. You will have to drive across a pasture to get to the gate.

For those who haven't been before, Don stores his cars and engines in a building that looks like a caboose. But it's much nicer inside and out than any real caboose ever was. It also serves to display his extensive collection of railroad lanterns. There is even room left over to display some of Linda's teddy bear collection. They also have a koi pond near the house.

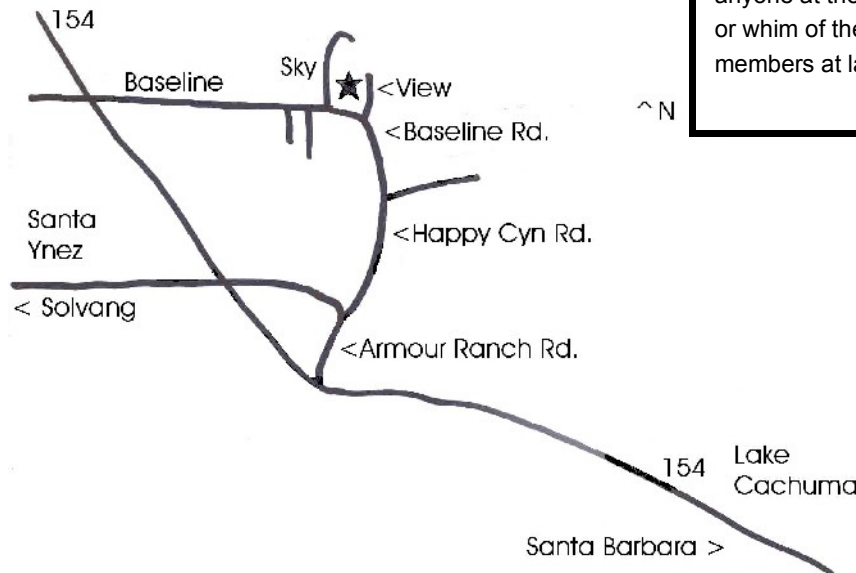
If you haven't been before, you might want to check a real map, and not rely entirely on the one below. In particular, make a note of the streets past the correct turn on all the roads after San Marcos Pass Rd. The turn for Baseline Rd is on a curve; and I always go past it. Also, View Rd is not especially well marked.

RAIN CANCELS!!



Directions:
West 101
Off at State St exit
Follow signs for Hwy 154
Continue on Calle Real
Right San Marcos Pass Rd
continue 22 miles (pass Lake Cachuma) to:
Right on Armour Ranch Rd
1,3 miles to:
Right on Happy Cyn Rd
then 1.1 miles to:
Left on Baseline Rd
then 1.1 miles to
Right on View Rd to end.

1905 is on the left side, way back from the road.



Newsletter:
Gary Olmstead
(805) 648-1770
2444 Lexington Dr.
Ventura CA 93003
garyolmstead AT
earthlink DOT net

1:32 Newsletter:
Bruce Kuebler

Membership:
Bruce Kuebler
pbkuebler AT
sbcglobal DOT net

Ads:
Gary Olmstead

Web site:
www.gcgrs.com

Webmaster:
De Eldridge
de AT ie-formula.com

Please put "GCGRS"
in the subject line of
any correspondence.

Meets: Beaver
(805) 967-2552
The Gold Coast
Garden Railroad
Newsletter is published
monthly. Membership
in our society is open to
anyone at the pleasure
or whim of the
members at large.

Mike and Sharon's Meet:

The weather man left the furnace running; it was hot. Most of us were driven under shade for at least part of the afternoon.

If you like K-27s, this was the place to be. Damon DeCrow and Ed Davis both brought their #455, while John Lyans brought his #453. Damon and John ran the double header with the passenger cars, while Ed ran his box car with sound card. This set up is unusual because the speaker is in the tender. John and Damon also brought the passenger cars that they were pulling.

Beaver brought the work train. The weathering on all the cars was

impressive. These cars have seen a lot of service.

Rex Davis ran his Bachmann Anniversary 10-Wheeler and train.

I've forgotten who brought the Pickering 44 tonner and log cars; but if you send me your name, I will mention it next month.

Bill Fraser brought Beavers his LGB Mogul in the Bee paint scheme but lettered for Bill's Stumphill. Once upon a time, I awarded this engine to Beaver, and Bill has never let me forget it. In my defense, it's an unusual engine for Bill's roster, but Beaver has shelves filled with similar engines.

Gary Raymond brought his kit bashed LGB diesel and a string of 1:32 cars. He lowered the cab of the loco, and generally Americanized it.

I brought my 4-2-4 CP Huntington. It doesn't get run very often, but gets a lot of attention whenever I do.

Old Charlie put in an appearance. He was pretty quiet; and spent the day in the church yard in quiet contemplation.

The two bright red LGB Christmas trains are Mike's.

Thanks to Mike and Sharon for putting on another great meet. We wish them well in their upcoming change of careers and scenery.





Meet Schedule

Beaver is working on the schedule for 2009. He has several months still available. They are February, November, and December. If you are interested, please call Beaver at (805) 967-2552, or send me an email at the address on page 2.

He would also like to have more meets every month, and especially meets by more people. As close as I can tell, our 68 members have about 36 layouts between them, so we have plenty of opportunities for meets at new places.

The Salverson's Make Their Mark

You know that I almost never write about food here, but our newest members, Paul and Jill Salverson, brought the most incredible dessert to Mike and Sharon's meet. It was called Mississippi Mud Pie, and if you tried it, you won't have any trouble remembering Paul and Jill. I would tell what is in it, but I'm guessing nothing in it is on your diet, and if I told you, you couldn't have any next time. So just remember that when it comes to dessert, what you don't know won't hurt you. At least, not the first time.

By the way, Paul and Jill would both like to express their appreciation to everyone who took the time to welcome them to our group. They both felt right at home.

Here is just how "right at home" they feel: Paul wrote to say "I'm really excited about [Don and Linda's April meet] as Bob [Woodward] will be bringing his Challenger (my favorite), and [Georges Arseneault] with his Big Boy."

I had no idea that Bob and Georges were bringing anything to Don and Linda's, so I guess Paul has gotten up to speed in record time. Better watch out, Paul; around here, people who are that informed about the doings of the club sometimes find themselves editing the bulletin.

Another Opportunity to Talk Trains. Or Recipes.

A question has come up regarding whether we had considered having an on-line mailing list or chat group. We have never discussed it, but there have been several times lately when it would have been very handy.

I did a bit of research, and found that we can set up a Yahoo! Group for free. We can make the membership open to anybody, or limit it to just paid up club members, or whatever criteria we want.

I was looking at some other groups to get an idea of how many messages we could expect. I see that there is a "One-20point3" group already. They have 1100 members, and generate anywhere from a couple dozen to a couple hundred messages a month. So, we would probably settle out to a few messages a month up to a few

messages a day; depending on whether someone had a topic of general interest.

One thing that we would be able to do is that everyone could post pictures as well as messages. In fact, this could replace our web site. It wouldn't replace the printed bulletin because about a fifth of our members don't have computers.

I think this could be particularly useful for those of us who would like to encourage or create interest in a particular facet of garden railroading. It would be a less formal way to reach people than going through the bulletin. The problem with depending on the bulletin is that the lead time can be over a month, so it requires planning ahead. A list would provide nearly instant gratification.

I would like to get your opinion on whether you think this would be a useful feature for our group.

A REAL Man's Locomotive

Are you tired of the itty-bitty equipment we have to put up with? Do you want a real man's engine? Well, have I got a deal for you. For the measly pittance of \$56K, plus shipping, you can have a 2 ½ inch scale, 7 ¼ inch gauge K36.



This beauty measures 15 feet long, 3 feet high, two feet wide, and weighs in at 3000 pounds. It's such a strong puller that it doesn't develop an audible "chuff" until it is hauling at least 30 passengers. The K36 was widely considered to be the best narrow gauge engine, and here is your chance to own a truly unforgettable model.

More pictures here:

<http://www.stationroadsteam.co.uk/archive/2056/index.htm>

although it is actually for sale here:

<http://www.prestonservices.co.uk/miniatures.htm>

The actual price is GBP27500, which as of mid March was \$55695. Plus shipping of course. But that includes four passenger cars, and some test track.

GCGRS Membership Application Form

Membership in the Gold Coast Garden Railway Society is open to anyone who is interested in outdoor model railroading. Dues are \$20 per year. New members, please add \$6 for each name tag that you want to have. Membership runs from January to December. Make checks payable to "Bruce Kuebler". You can put GCGRS on the memo line.

Bring this application to any meet, or mail it to:

Bruce Kuebler
10908 Encino Dr
Oak View CA 93022-9238

First Name _____ Spouse/Partner/Other(SPO): _____

Last Name: _____ SPO Last Name, if different: _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ email address: _____

Status of your layout (check one): ___ Someday, ___ Serious planning stage, ___ Construction, ___ Barely operational, ___ Marginally OK ___ Not good enough for a meet, ___ Pretty good, if you don't look too closely

Would you like some advice/help from someone in the club? ___ Yes ___ No

If Yes, what would you like help with first?

If you have an operating layout, tell us a bit about it.

The name of your railroad: _____

The sharpest curve is _____ feet radius. The steepest grade is _____%

Gold Coast Garden Railway Society
2444 Lexington Dr
Ventura CA 93003-1515