

The Passing Track

September 2011

Newsletter of the Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club

PO Box 1362—Medford, OR 97501

Home page is <http://rvmrc.net>

Club Name Tags

Is it time to order club member name tags? How about ball caps, shirts or jackets? The board would like some feedback from members as to their interest in the various club identification ware. Name tags would be \$8-10 each, while ball caps are generally less than \$20 and shirts and jackets generally more than \$20. Please let a board member or other club member know how you feel about 1) obtaining name tags for around \$10 each, and 2) other clothing items. Another idea that was suggested is to raise our club dues by an amount to cover a basic name tag and shirt and/or ball cap for each new member. The logistics of the latter should be considered when thinking and commenting on that proposal. While the Board has not scheduled a vote on the matter, the Board is in a fact finding mode, so please voice your thoughts.

The question of shirts was discussed at the August Board Meeting. Bruce McGarvey brought in a catalog from the Silkscreen Factory. The catalog is from 2007 and it is unknown if they are still in business. Several club members have shown interest in purchasing shirts and club should probably buy some extra to cover possible sales to the public when a new order is compiled. Lori will check into prices and availability. If the Silkscreen Factory is no longer in business, the Club will check to see what Buffalo on Crater Lake Highway has to offer. It was determined to keep the current yellow on dark green.

Board of Directors Meeting August 14, 2011

Eight members and four board members were present. The board had circulated an agenda prior to the meeting via email. There were no additional items added to the agenda.

The current roof is 15+ years and is reaching its limit. It is time to begin planning to replace it. Larry and Dave S. will begin planning process for replacement with a metal roof. How to get the old roof off? Jerry has a dump trailer- not to exceed 3000 pounds. Larry pointed out that we could install a new composite roof over the existing but metal will be long term cost effective. Jerry suggested we have a roofer give us a estimate to cover total cost including tear off, installing the new roof and haul off of the tear off. If we go with comp we should consider using architectural (a 30 year roof) rather than standard 3 tab. Bruce and Dana used to supply tools for installation. Question was asked if we need additional insurance coverage in the event of injuries. Consensus was we did not.

Bruce Kelly is assembling a Start Up/ Shut Down guide to assist and train members on starting up the DCC and signal system and shutting down same. Program will be on a PDF file when finished. Will be placed on web site and a copy will be available at the clubhouse (*as the photo indicates, the step-by-step instruction booklet is available on the Club's operation's board--ed.*).



No ideas were brought to the floor for programs. We need feedback from members as to what they want to do and learn.

There are still 17 members yet to renew. One member has temporarily moved from the valley and plans to renew once they return. (*At the September Board Meeting, the Board suggested that a pay as you go plan would be acceptable so the Club does not lose its members. This has been done in the past on an case by case basis, but the Board recognized the tough times we are in. Please contact Jerry Hellings if a pay as you go membership is possible for you--ed.*)

Still missing several issues of Model Railroader from 2007. We will continue to sell on Sundays through the Historical Society. At least we will add a little to the club income.

We are going to begin using Wahl oil to lubricate the rails. It was suggested that we assign oiling duties to one person to prevent over oiling and unnecessary slippage by the locomotives.

E Don has yet to check remaining Inter Mountain wheel sets as he has been concentrating on other areas. E Don reported that truck screws seem to be coming loose at a higher than normal rate. Suggestion that he use a drop of Elmer's glue to keep the screws set. E Don and Dave S. have looked into replacing the curve between N Pacific Highway and the Bear Creek crossing (*completed in September--ed.*).

The Park Committee is working on a plan, in case of an emergency or an accident, for getting safety vehicles in and out of the park along with writing up incident reports.

Op sessions- Stay with Saturday or move to an open Sunday. After some discussion it was decided that we keep the current format and have special Sunday runs to accommodate visitors and clubs from outside the valley. Bruce Kelly will be involved in the next draw as he would like to document and possibly put together a booklet on why and how the draw is done.

May 2012 Siskiyou Summit Convention on the 1st week of May. Bruce McGarvey needs to confirm. Early registration before Nov 1st is 45.00 for NMRA members and 55.00 after Nov 1st. You will need to be a NMRA member to attend. There is a 6 month temporary membership available for a modest cost. Op sessions will be Thursday and Friday evenings starting around 6 pm. Possible guests will be advised to visit the web site to view a map of the layout and read operating procedures. Visitors may not want to stay for the full session. We should stand by crews and be available to complete the runs as needed. It was pointed out that cross links on the website do seem to be working. Larry will see what can be done. May have to construct new links,

Fall shows (Klamath Falls and Medford Armory) are rapidly approaching. Bruce McGarvey has repaired one of the throttles. "Big Bertha" may need some additional attention. One had a broken speed control. A sign-up sheet for both shows will be posted at the clubhouse. We need to arrange for transportation. Dave S will communicate with the K Falls group as to space available. We will decide later who is going to drive.

It was pointed out that we may have enough donated model railroad items to cover much of the cost of a new roof. Suggestions to liquidate the donations not to be used by the Club include a chance for members to purchase first, then sell at swap meets (Medford RR Show and Eugene in spring) or through e-bay. Inventory before making final decision.

On Sunday, August 3, George Booth will be hosting an op session on his ever growing layout. Dave S encouraged all members to attend a session to see what George has done and what his goals are.

After a short discussion a motion to divest of a "Z" scale locomotive per discussions with Loren Snyder was made by Bruce McGarvey and seconded by Larry Tuttle. No further discussions a vote was called for with the motion passing unanimously.

Larry Tuttle reported that his camera is missing. It is a Fuji file 10K in a small case. Brought it in for the op session and now it is missing. Please keep an eye out as you work your way around the clubhouse.

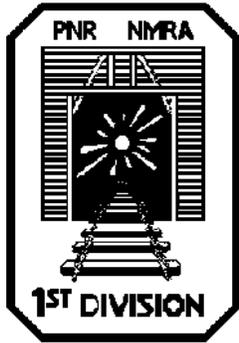
The New Kid's Layout



Lori Harter works with a young engineer while Dave Spakousky allows some older engineers to catch up on their skills. A group effort led by Dave Spakousky constructed the layout which is now available for kids of all ages to run trains during the Sunday public run sessions. Needless to say, the youngsters love running trains.



PNR/NMRA Mini Meet



PNR/NMRA 1st Division Fall Mini-Meet, Saturday, October 8th.
Doors open at 8 AM and clinics begin at 9. The day's activities include clinics, popular model contest in a variety of categories, lots of model railroad talk and fellowship, mixed with layout tours and drawings for prizes. Lunch is provided at no cost to attendees. Meet is open to all model railroaders and membership in the NMRA is not required.

Jim Dougall is one of the newly elected members to the 1st Division Board of Directors.

The Fall Mini-Meet is being sponsored by the Willamette Cascade Model Railroad Club and to be held at the Emerald People's Utility District HQ, 33733 Seavey Loop Road, Eugene, Oregon.

Google Map link:

<http://maps.google.com/maps?q=33733+Seavey+Loop+Road,+Eugene,+OR&hl=en&ll=44.014299,-123.022671&spn=0.010123,0.025642&sll=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=45.063105,105.029297&vpsrc=6&t=m&z=16>.

More information available thru Lee Temple 541-954-4917 or ttandt@ram-mail.com

October 2011 Calendar of Events

**Please sign up for engineer and conductor assignments upon arrival. By coming before the session starts, you have time to setup/acquire throttles, radios, and motive equipment, if needed, as well as become familiar with the assignment. Operations session begins promptly at 10:30.

General Construction/New Layout

Saturdays

Generally From 10:00 AM to 4 PM

Board Meeting

2nd Wednesday of each month

September 14

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Operations Session**

2nd Saturday of Each Month

Saturday, October 8

10 am to 3 pm

General Membership Meeting

4th Wednesday of each month

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Sunday Park Public Sessions

Medford Railroad Park

1100 AM to 3 PM

2nd and 4th Sunday

Final Run Session for 2011 is October 23

RAILROAD TIME CARDS 2011

Oct 8 - PNR/NMRA 1st Division Fall Mini-Meet – Meet at the Emerald People's Utility District Corp HQ, 33733 Seavey Loop Road, Eugene, Ore. Doors open at 8am, clinics start at 9am. Clinics, layout tours, popular model contest, and more. Info: <http://pnr.nmra.org/1div/> and Lee Temple 541-225-7394 ttandt@ram-mail.com

Oct 8-9 - Eastern Cascades Model RR and Central Oregon Live Steamers Open House, Bend, Ore. HO club and 1½ inch railroads on 5 forested acres. Info: <http://www.ecmrr.org/default.aspx> or 541-317-1545.

Oct 14 – *Tragedy at the Tunnel: The DeAutremont Train Robbery* – Scott Mangold. Second Friday at the Ashland Historic Railroad Museum, 258 A Street, Suite 7 (upstairs), Ashland, Ore. Program starts at 6:30 pm.

Oct 22-23 – 4th Annual Model Railroad Show & Sales Event, Klamath Rails Model RR Club, Klamath County Fairgrounds, Klamath Falls, Ore. Sat 9-5, Sun 9-4. Info: Steve Hart 541-892-2550, Joe Brick 541-883-3071.

Nov 11 – *Guardians of the Western Gate* – Sergeant, Michael Morgan. Second Friday at the Ashland Historic Railroad Museum, 258 A Street, Suite 7 (upstairs), Ashland, Ore. Program starts at 6:30 pm.

Nov 12-13 – 35th International Railfair, Placer County Fairgrounds, 800 All American City Blvd, Roseville, Calif. Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. Info: www.internationalrailfair.com

Nov 26-27 – 34th Annual Rogue Valley Railroad Show, Medford Armory, 1701 S. Pacific Hwy, Medford, Ore. Info: Brad at 541-535-7952, Bruce 541-890-8145 or iwccr@charter.net

Dec 9 – *Now Bakersfield Oil Transformed Ashland Railroading* – Larry Mullaly. Second Friday at the Ashland Historic Railroad Museum, 258 A Street, Suite 7 (upstairs), Ashland, Ore. Program starts at 6:30 pm.

Looking ahead to 2012, mark your calendars for the following events:

Feb 25-26 – Great American Train Show, Portland, Ore.

March – Klamath County Museum Train Show, Klamath Falls, Ore.

May 2-5- Siskiyou Summit 2012, Joint PNR/PCR Convention, Medford, Ore.

Jun 25-30 –N-scale Convention, Medford, Ore.

Jul 7-12 – GNHS Convention, Klamath Falls, Ore.

Quotes Appearing in Books and Newspapers:

"On which side of the platform is my train?" asked a stranger in a Jersey City depot the other day.

"Well, my friend," replied a gentleman, passing, "if you take the left you'll be right; if you take the right you'll be left." -- *Weekly Mountaineer*, The Dales, Oregon, January 6, 1877

(09/19/2011)