

The Passing Track

November 2004

Newsletter of the Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club

PO Box 1362—Medford, OR 97501

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

November-December Key Dates

All events at the Clubhouse unless otherwise noted

Move Modules and Setup for RR Show:

Friday November 26

8:30 AM at Clubhouse; lunch provided at Armory

Rogue Valley Railroad Show:

Saturday/Sunday, November 27-28

New Layout Work Sessions:

Saturday, December 4, 11, 18

0930 AM to 4:00 PM

Thursday Work Sessions:

December 2, 9, 16

7:00-9:00 PM

Board Meeting:

Wednesday, December 8

7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

RR Club Christmas Dinner

Saturday, December 11

5:00-8:00 PM

At Gerritsma's in Central Point

What's Inside...

- Railroad Show Information and Work Schedule
- November Board Meeting Notes
- Christmas Dinner/Party Information
- Meet Andy Anderson

Club Lands \$500 PNR-NMRA Grant

Kudos to Brad Fawcett for nicely articulating the Club's needs toward completion of the new layout. His writing skills netted the Club a \$500 grant from the Pacific Northwest Region of the NMRA for the permanent layout. The PNR annually provides approximately grants to Clubs around the region. This is the second time the Rogue Valley Club has been selected as a recipient. In 2002, the club also received a nice grant from PNR.

It's Showtime!

The Rogue Valley Railroad Show is upon us this Thanksgiving weekend. You may have noticed the signs all around the valley, as well as the huge banner in

downtown Medford. The show sets up on Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, and is open to the public on Saturday, November 27 from 10 am to 5 pm, and on Sunday from 11 am to 4 pm. The show is THE money maker of the year for our Club, and it is important everyone participate, whether you are fulfilling your assigned jobs, running trains on the Club's modular display, or just spreading good will and cheer amongst the show visitors. This is our collective opportunity to share the enthusiasm and enjoyment of model railroading with future modelers, as well as putting on "a really good shuw" (as Ed Sullivan

used to say). The work schedule is summarized below. Remember, you can switch jobs with fellow Club members if you both agree to do so. Also, we need roamers and substitutes in case someone does not show up or is unable to perform their assigned task. Just let Bruce McGarvey, E. Don Petit, or Brad Fawcett know you are available to fill in where needed. If you don't get an assignment, then simply enjoy the show. Brad Fawcett, show organizer, says the floor is full this year with some new displays and some old favorites returning. Lots of very nice raffles, too.

Friday, November 26, 2004

8:30 am	All Club Members	Meet at the Clubhouse to load up modules and associated equipment for transport to the Armory.
9:00-11:00 am	Don Terrell Ray Kornell Jay Mudge Marilyn Kornell John Wilson	Overseeing Setup of Vendor Tables Overseeing Setup of Vendor Tables Vendor and Exhibitor Registration Desk Setup Christmas Decorations and Ticket Tables Setup Christmas Decorations and Ticket Tables
11:00-1:00 pm	Wil Cleveland	Transport and setup Public HO Layout (w/Jerry Hellinga)
12:00 noon bread)	All	Lunch (John Wilson providing chili and John Gerritsma providing corn
1:00-3:00 pm	John Wilson	Vendor and Exhibitor Registration Desk
3:00-5:00 pm	Ray Kornell Marilyn Kornell	Clean and ensure supplies in place for Men's Bathroom Clean and ensure supplies in place for Women's Bathroom

Saturday, November 27, 2004

9:30-11:30 am	Cris Fawcett Andy Anderson John Gerritsma Dennis Sinclair Marilyn Kornell	Raffle Tickets Public HO Operator Public HO Operator Women's Bathroom/Cleanup
11:30-1:30 pm	John Gerritsma John Wilson Ray Kornell	Raffle Audio/Video/Literature Public HO Operator

Saturday, November 27 (continued)

1:30-3:30 pm	Ray Kornell Bob Griffith Andy Anderson Carol Page John Gerritsma	Raffle Security Announcer Best in Show Ballots Best in Show Ballots
3:30-5:30 pm	Dennis Sinclair Jay Mudge John Gerritsma Ray Kornell	Tickets Security Men's Bathroom Best in Show Ballots

Sunday, November 28

10:30-12:30 pm	Michael Lieb Andy Anderson Dennis Sinclair Jay Mudge	Raffle Tickets Security Men's Bathroom
12:30-2:30 pm	Don Terrell Bob Griffith John Gerritsma Jay Mudge Doug Howard	Tickets Security Public HO Operator Women's Bathroom Crafts Corner/Clinic
2:30-4:30 pm	Cris Fawcett John Gerritsma Dennis Sinclair	Raffle Tickets Public HO Operator
4:30-6:30 pm	All Club Members John Gerritsma Don Terrell Jay Mudge Wil Cleveland	Tear Down and Transport Modules Back to Clubhouse Outside Cleanup Auditorium Sweep and Mop Auditorium Sweep and Mop Return Public HO Layout to Storage (w Hellinga)

November Board Meeting Minutes

The RVMRC Board met on November 10, 2004. Three board officers and 5 members were present. *(It should be noted that items of interest voted on by the board always includes votes by both the board officers and members present. Therefore, your attendance is always encouraged should you want a voice in the administrative and policy issues of the Club).* Leftover paint from the Clubhouse painting project was sold to the Live Steamers, who will use it for several of the small buildings around their operation. Live Steamers gave us a donation

towards the maintenance of the Clubhouse. Rain gutters need to be cleaned. We are still having problems with birds pecking holes in the attic vent screens. Jim has inventoried many of the books recently donated by Tom Smith. Bruce is assisting in the task. They hope to have the complete list ready for publishing in the January *Passing Track*. The Club has also received more books from the estate of Marvin Curtis. We need more bookshelf space. Richard Clark of Grants Pass was accepted as a new associate member. In exchange for their donation to the show raffle, Walthers Inc. has again requested a copy of the club's mailing list. If anyone

objects to having their address included, please let Bruce know ASAP! Bruce received some Railroad-motif clothing from George Majors, and will share with board determine its disposition. (*Thanks, Brad, for the notes--ed*).

Meet Andy Anderson

If anyone needs an example of why anyone with a heart for model railroading can find a reason to be in our Club, one needs to look no further than Andy Anderson. A long time railroad enthusiast, Andy has had a recent number of medical setbacks, which would have ended participation in the Club for most people. But, Andy has been determined to contribute *any* which way he can. Not more than a year or so after joining, Andy lost the sight of his left eye. He was simply hosing of his driveway when a vein burst. Forty-five minutes later, Andy had vision remaining in only one eye. More recently, Andy has had a bout with back problems. After x-rays, the doctors discovered 3 discs that were bulging and causing Andy a great deal of pain. The gang at Medford's "Back-to-Back" pain control has gotten Andy to where he can now stand up straight, though Andy is limited to lifting less than 20 pounds. In the last few months, Andy has been through a number of medical tests to find out why he has lost some of his "steam" (he thought perhaps there was a stuck popoff valve in his boiler!). Thankfully, doctors have not found any other serious health issues. And what does Andy regret about his medical malaise...not being able to participate in Club activities as much as he wanted to. During his "inactivity", Andy has often brought the Saturday work crew donuts or hamburger lunches; has helped during the public run sessions; has done some of the light duty maintenance like track cleaning; and has generally shared his gift of gab with both club members and publics alike. On behalf of the Park Clubs, Andy wrote a terrific letter to the editor of the *Medford Tribune* (see below). He followed that effort with another terrific letter just this week (see excerpts below).



Andy has recently written the Club a letter. He says: "Thanks so much to all of you who signed the VERY NICE get well card I received a few days ago. As most of you know, I've missed a lot of the club's meetings of which I feel badly about. I've always wanted to do the best I could to be a productive member of our club over the last 4 years...The best I can help out this year [at the RR show] is to sell tickets and be an announcer. Thanks to Brad's help last year, I hope I can be a better announcer than I was last year...To any of you who have 30 minutes, or so, come over to my home to help in the design of my garage layout, if possible." Hopefully, we can give Andy the boost he needs to build his layout!

Andy grew up in New England, had an uncle who was trainmaster for the NYC, joined the Air Force in 1953, became a jet engine mechanic and pilot, and promptly resigned his Air Force commission to find better paying work to support his wife and 5 children. After 45 years in the car sales and management business, Andy finally found the space to build a layout. He has an enclosed, carpeted, heated/air conditioned garage, a lot of pre-made benchwork, and a plan, but would really like some advice from the Club on his layout design. His interest lies in steam and early diesel, with most of the rolling stock being Northern and Southern Pacific. Andy will be taking his east coast rolling stock to the Railroad Show.

Railroaders Say Thanks

(Letter to the MT Editor by Andy Anderson)

On behalf of the members of the five different clubs at the Medford Railroad Park, we would like to thank the public for its attendance and generous donations! The response to our "open house/run days" has been far in excess of what we expected. We are open on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., April through October, and we encourage all of you, young and old alike to come down and spend a Sunday with us and enjoy what we're doing here at the park. All of us are pleased to answer any questions you may have regarding what we're doing now and our future plans. I don't want to forget to thank the ladies who run the concession stand and donate their time to see that we have hot dogs and cold pop! We hope to see you all again soon! —

R. "Andy" Anderson, proud member of the "H.O." model RR Club

Disgusted by vandalism

As I opened my paper a few days ago, I was disgusted and frankly mad as hell to read that once again the Railroad Park had been vandalized. I just don't understand why someone would want to do such a despicable thing. As a member of the "H.O." Model Railroad Club, I know first-hand the months and hours that they have spent creating the wonderful outdoor

railroad. All of us that belong to the five different clubs at the park work together to make the park a "star attraction" for all to see and enjoy how much fun it is to build model railroads regardless of size and scale... We'd love for all

of you to come to the Armory Nov. 27 and 28 for our annual railroad show. There will be door prizes, drawings, good food and trains of all sizes running for your enjoyment. — **R. Andy Anderson, Medford**

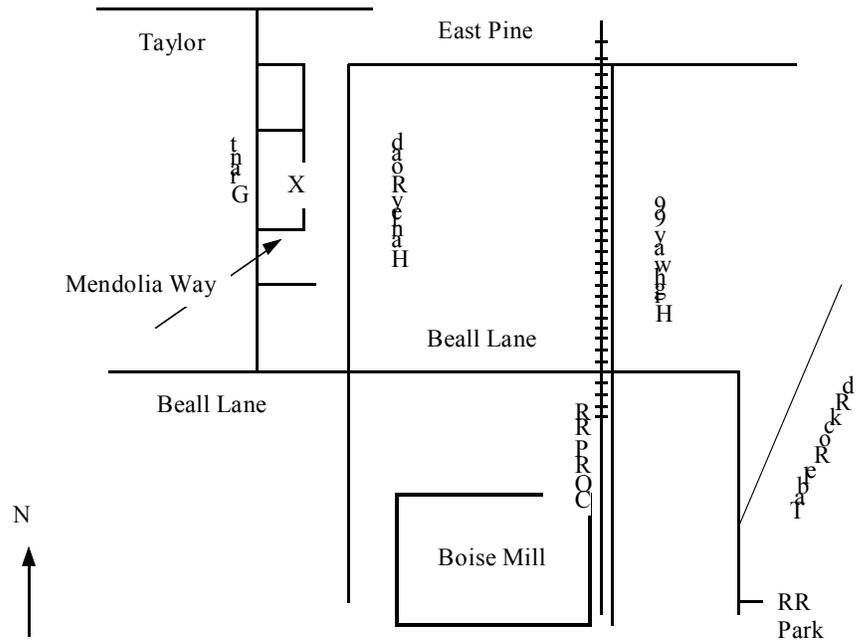


Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club Christmas Dinner

Date: Saturday, December 11, 2004 5:00-8:00 PM

Place: At the home of John and Cathy Gerritsma

789 Mendolia Way, Central Point 664-1139



Last Names A-J = Vegetable/Salad

Last Names K-Z = Bread/Dessert

HAM & TURKEY, DRINKS PROVIDED

Call 664-1139 if you need an idea how many are attending.

Bring a wrapped white elephant gift AND several pieces of RR "stuff" to hang as ornaments on a small (3 foot) Christmas Tree (like track, building parts, loco parts, old tools, etc.).

Evening includes fun, music, and prizes.

The more the merrier...RSVP 664-1139 Please come even if you have not or are unable to RSVP

Sorry, my layout isn't up yet, but we can sure talk about it!

RAILROAD TIME CARDS 2004 - 2005

Nov 27-28 – Rogue Valley Railroad Show & Swap Meet, Medford Armory, Medford, Ore. Sat 10-5, Sun 11-4. Info: Brad Fawcett 541-535-7952, bfawcett@mind.net or <http://rvmrc.railfan.net/>

Dec 4 – WOMRR & WVMRR Club Railroad Show & Swap Meet, Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall, Ore. Sat 10 AM –3 PM. Info: Judy MacInnes 503-581-6071, macinnej@open.org, www.open.org/wvmrc

2005

Feb 5 – SP&SR Hist. Soc. Railroad Swap Meet, Holiday Inn- Portland Airport Convention Center, 10 AM –3 PM. Info: Bruce Barney 503-257-8855, bcbarney@msn.com

Feb 26 – WMRR Club 20th Annual Swap Meet, Camp Withycombe Armory, Clackmas, Ore. 10 AM –3 PM.

Apr 8-10 – WCMRR Club 17th Annual Railroad Show & Swap Meet, Lane County Fairgrounds, Eugene, Ore. Sat 10 AM – 5 PM, Sun 10 AM – 4 PM. Info: Lee Temple, 541-688-0167, ttandt@ram-mail.com

Listings include events within a day's drive from the Rogue Valley. If you know of shows not listed here, or sometime in the future, please let me know so we can share that with our readers. Contact Bruce at iwccr@charter.net or 541-779-8145. 11/15/2004bhm.

25 years ago this month - **The Passing Track November 1979:**

"Club was meeting at the Train Gallery, 1951 Redwood Avenue, with a clinic "Scratch Building from the Prototype" by Paul Kohl. Ron Steffani's LED installation in a caboose was done without a switch...wanted to see how long batteries would last...still burning after three months.

The GREAT ANNUAL AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW will be held November 24th after Thanksgiving at Red Cross Building in Medford...open to public, door prizes, model displays, live steam rides (across the street in Hawthorne Park), artifacts, FREE Admission to the public. The purpose of the show is to promote National Model Railroad Month...which is November."

Ed note; "Do not take life too seriously; you will never get out of it alive."

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