



## The Passing Track

July-August 2006

Newsletter of the Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club

PO Box 1362—Medford, OR 97501

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

### September Calendar of Events

*All events in the Clubhouse at the Railroad Park unless otherwise noted.*

#### General Construction/New Layout Saturdays

Generally From 10:00 AM to 3 PM  
Ops Session—3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday

#### Construction/Cleanup Sessions: Thursdays

7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

#### Public Run Sessions: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays

10:30 AM to 3:00 PM

#### Board Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month

7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

#### General Membership Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month

7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

### Permanent Layout

There is a saying that sometimes you have to go backwards to move forward. Such is the case with the permanent layout. A number of adjustments are taking place that has caused the removal of existing roughed-in scenery base, particularly in the vicinity of Derby. This should not be interpreted as bad work by others that is being corrected. The overall verdict is that many of the mountains being built are too steep or too big to properly fit into the scenery. In many places not enough room was left for trackside ditches or clearances (*must be when you have N-scalers forgetting they are now working in HO*). A significant stretch between Eagle Point and White City is being redone, including adjustment of the track alignment, to better accommodate some desired scenery. Still, progress is being made. If you have any doubts, just look at the narrow gauge logging line being crafted by Art McKee in the Cascade summit area. Unfortunately, rework in the Derby area also resulted in damage to the bridge, there. In the meantime, work sessions continue to plug away at the permanent layout, operating sessions are

being held on occasion, and structures are being built. If one measures progress by the amount of work that is occurring, then progress is good. However, it can be quite upsetting for one to see a large amount of invested time and effort ripped out for a "redo". But, keeping the redo effort in perspective means the layout will be better in the long run.

## August Board Meeting Notes

The Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club Board of Directors met on August 9, 2006 for the monthly board meeting. There were three officers and three members present. Jim Dougall reported for Bruce McGarvey on the treasurer's report. The Club continues on a trend where income is exceeding expenditures for the year, but it is noted that the annual dues were due and paid by most members on June 1. There are six members that are delinquent in paying their dues. Jay reports that the August general membership meeting will be a DVD, volume 4 of the "Dream, Plan, Build" series. Jay Mudge and Jim Dougall are planning a Club operating session on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, and are planning to start around 1 pm.

Jim reported that Bruce McGarvey began installing metal flashing at the base of the walls of the storage shed last Saturday (August 5). The work was temporarily suspended due to yellow jackets in the walls of the storage shed. A suitable material, such as foam, will be used to seal the openings around the top of the shed walls.

Wil Cleveland did an outstanding job of repairing and repainting a Walthers "Medusa Cement Company" plant for the modular layout. Bob Griffith had recently donated this item to the Club. It is a great addition!

Jay will schedule Saturday DCC clinics this fall. There will probably be some "hands-on" work. The dates and times will be announced later. Jay also reported that he has not found a DCC "booster" for the modular layout, yet. He is planning to only purchase one at this time, unless he can find a suitable booster at a

bargain price. In that case, he may purchase two. The topic of a Coast trip was broached to visit the layouts of modelers in and around Crescent City. The Club will revisit this topic at the next Board meeting on September 13.

## July Board Meeting Cancelled

There was no July Board meeting held on July 12, as there were not enough members present to have a quorum.

## November Show Planning Begins

Jim Dougall said he is planning to have the "draft" job assignment schedule for the November 2006 Railroad Show ready for passing out to the five Railroad Park user groups immediately after the Labor Day Holiday weekend.

## Improved E-Passing Track

The Passing Track is being printed with a new font (Arial) with the hopes of reducing conversion problems with some of the older PC's out there. Hopefully, your electronic copy will come out cleaner. You are always encourage to submit stories and or photos for use in the *Passing Track*. While we don't pay you for publication rights (sorry, you'll have to keep your day job), you will have the satisfaction that you shared something worthy with your fellow modelers. See John Gerritsma, *PT* editor.

## Annual Labor Day Picnic

The Southern Oregon Live Steamers will host their annual Labor Day picnic at the Railroad Park, Saturday evening, September 2. Dinner will begin at 6 p.m. and members of the RVMR Club and their families are invited. Soft drinks will be provided. Bring a potluck dish: A-H, bring hot dishes; I-P, bring salads; and R-Z are assigned desserts.

## Foam, Redo and Realign

What does the Club's voracious appetite for foam, recycling autos, and 78-year-old Bruce Carpenter have in common? Answer: the supply of 4-inch thick foam now being used in various portions of the Club's layout. The *Medford Mail Tribune* recently ran a story of Bruce's effort to build a home whose structural components are made from steel, the steel having been recycled from old automobiles. The insulation in the home is foam, and the left over pieces are perfect for the Club's foam scenery construction. So, Bruce is leaving an unexpected legacy at the RVMRC by us using the leftover foam for our construction efforts.

Top: Looking toward Derby. Note the realignment of track through Eagle Point and the removal of recent base scenery (a rather steep mountain) to allow for a more gentle rolling scene as reflected by existing conditions in real life.

Below: Jim Dougall makes a few more adjustments on the track above Eagle Point. At the point his legs intersect with the layout will be the new track alignment.



## RAILROAD TIME CARDS 2006

Sep 23 – West Side Train Show and Swap Meet, National Guard Armory, Forest Grove, Ore.  
Sat. 10 – 4. Info: Ken Jackson 503-357-8753 or [westsidetrainshow@comcast.net](mailto:westsidetrainshow@comcast.net)

Oct 14-15 – 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Open House, Eastern Cascades Model RR Club & Central Oregon Live Steamers,  
10 am – 4 pm, 21520 Modoc Lane, Bend, Ore. Info: 541-317-1545

Oct 28 – First Annual All Brass Model Train Show, Shilo Inn Airport Convention Center, Portland, Ore.  
Info: Heather Clark, 541-401-1548

Nov 11-12 – 30<sup>th</sup> Northern California Model Railroad Show, Placer County Fairgrounds, Roseville, Calif.  
Sat 10-5, Sun 11-4. Info: <http://www.internationalrailfair.com/>

**Nov. 25-26 – 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Rogue Valley Railroad Show**, Medford Armory, Medford, Ore. Sat 10 – 5  
and Sun 11 - 4. Info: Brad Fawcett 541-535-7952, [bfawcett@mind.net](mailto:bfawcett@mind.net)

Dec. 2 – Railroad Show and Swap Meet, Polk Cty Fairgrounds, Rickreall, Ore. 10am-3pm. Info: Judy MacInnes  
503-581-6071 or [macinnej@open.org](mailto:macinnej@open.org), [www.open.org/wvmrc](http://www.open.org/wvmrc)

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Feb 17-18 – World's Greatest Hobby on Tour, Portland Metro Expo Center, Portland, Ore. Sat 10-6,  
Sun 10-5. Info: <http://www.wghshow.com>

Apr 14-15 – 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Model Railroad Show & Swap Meet, Lane County Fairgrounds, Eugene, Ore.  
Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. Info: Lee & Diane at 541-954-4917, [tandt@ram-mail.com](mailto:tandt@ram-mail.com)

If you know of shows not listed here please let me know so we can share that information with our readers.  
Contact Bruce at [iwrr@charter.net](mailto:iwrr@charter.net) or 541-890-8145. 08/13/2006bhm.

*Thought for the month: "Humor is not a trick, not jokes. Humor is a presences in the world – like grace  
– and shines on everybody." Garrison Keillor*

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