



## The Passing Track

April 2007

Newsletter of the Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club

PO Box 1362—Medford, OR 97501

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

### Klamath Museum Train Show

The Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club made their annual trek to Klamath Falls to take part in the Klamath County Museum Train Show. The following is a letter from Todd Kepple, the Klamath County Museums Manager.

*"This year's model railroad show at the Klamath County Museum proved to be another great success! We're so grateful that members of the Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club are willing to participate in the event and donate so much time and effort. We counted more than 600 visitors over the weekend. The event generated well over \$1,200 in admission revenue and nearly as much in gift shop sales. As always, your crew left the museum exhibit hall in great shape, with nary a trace of litter or debris left behind. And it was great to spend a little time at the Mongolian Grill getting to know some of your club members better. Thanks also for your suggestions on how to improve the event for visitors. We'll be looking forward to a bigger and better show next year."*





*Above: Klamath Rails Below: RVMRC*







*Our most cherished customers...*



*An eight-engine consist leads a freight out of Klamath Falls. One of the perks of being at the show is seeing the REAL show just a few steps outside the museum's back door.*

# Security, Clubhouse Rules, Operations, and Ethics

By John Gerritsma, *Passing Track Editor*

An unlocked door, a rash of broken and damaged structures, equipment, and electrical systems, and discomfort about how incidents are broached and discussed by the Club leads to a gentle reminder for everyone on some basic Clubhouse Rules and Ethics.

A recent incident resulted in one of the front doors being left unlocked. In fact, this is not the only incident where a door has been left unlocked or ajar. **It is your responsibility** to make sure the building is secure when you are the last one to leave. Check each door, as weather may also be a factor in doors not properly closing. While you are at it, please remember to turn off the coffee maker (if it is on), set the heat at the appropriate setting, and turn off the lights.

If you break something, fix it. If you don't know how, please ask for help. Each one of us has probably broken or damaged something by accident. **It is your responsibility** to make sure that what you break gets fixed. No one will think of you any less a person, unless you walk away from the responsibility of fixing it.

Do not take or use something that is not yours. **It is your responsibility** to ask the owner to borrow a tool, a piece of railroad stock, or anything else that does not belong to you. Many of our members store engines, cars, and tools at the Club.

Our Sunday open house is for our guests. Please treat them accordingly. **It is your responsibility** to help them understand and enjoy what they are seeing. Take a moment to explain some facet of the Club's layout, whether it is the scenery work, the train you are running, or some interesting tidbit of information about the Pacific and Eastern. A coach of one of the college basketball Sweet 16 teams in the recent "March Madness" eloquently stated that when you, as an individual, make everyone else on your team look good, then you will function as a team. Sundays are not about *you* running *your* trains. Sundays are about sharing the enjoyment of model railroading with our guests. A Club that functions as individuals soon does not function.

This layout is not a toy, but a model of what the Pacific and Eastern may have become. We aspire to replicate and operate as if the railroad were 87 times its size. This means, **it is your responsibility** to mentor the novice or younger members of our club by teaching them the appropriate rules, operation, and ethics, and to oversee our guests and family members who may not be aware of appropriate handling and operation of the layout.

Finally, when we share ideas or disclose issues or problems, **it is your responsibility** to use appropriate venues to do so. In this age of identity theft, internet security issues, and media that seems to look more for controversy as entertainment than to report the news, it is important to communicate delicate issues appropriately. Our monthly Board Meetings or General Membership meetings are two very appropriate venues to communicate issues of importance. A telephone call or face-to-face conversation works, too.

We are making incredible progress on the layout. In the not too distant future, we will be attracting more and more visitors and they will be staying longer. It is up to us to give them a visit they will cherish and remember. It is up to us to leave them with the yearning to come back and to keep coming back. Adhering to a few simple rules and ethical behavior will allow us to function as a Club and "deliver the goods" to our visitors. Oh yeah, we'll have one spectacular railroad for us, too.

## April Board Meeting

**The meeting was called to order** at 7:40 p.m. with four board members and five club members present. Bruce McGarvey's report indicates the Club is in good standing financially. Bruce reported a door was left unlocked. Kadee has donated several boxes of magazines to the Club. The donation filled quite a few holes in the library. We nearly have a complete set of *Narrow Gauge and Shortline Gazette*. Kadee included a nearly 6-year set of *RailModel Journal*. With the recent

additions to the library, Bruce queried the Board for interest in obtaining the remaining issues of *Mainline Modelers* from 2001 to the last publication in 2006. They are available from the publisher at this time for about \$2.50 each. Dave Spakousky will look into the details.

One new member was accepted (Bud Tippetts), and one membership application was declined due to the applicant not meeting the Club's minimum age requirement for a student (Club's bylaws state minimum age is 14). Everyone will be receiving their membership renewal notice shortly as annual memberships expire in June.

Dave Spakousky described a possible signaling system so we know where trains are in the hidden areas of the permanent layout. Dave will continue to develop his idea.

Jim Dougall expressed concerns that not enough knowledgeable Club staff are on hand for the Sunday public sessions, noting that it take a crew of about five to adequately staff the permanent layout, the modular layout, and greet the public. He will revamp the signup sheets to increase the number of work slots for Sundays.

**Jay Mudge will be holding a DCC session on train operations at the April General Membership meeting on Wednesday, April 25.**

Bruce McGarvey, Jim Dougall, and Art McKee are heading to Eugene to peddle the Club's wares at the Eugene Train Show and Swap Meet on the weekend of April 14 and 15.

Beryl McCullough accepted the Club's offer for two Atlas engines custom painted in CORP's RR colors by Jay Mudge.

The Club is nearly out of shirts. There are only three yellow ones and two green ones left. **If anyone has information** as to where "The Silkscreen Factory" is now located, please contact any of the Club Board members. We would like to get a new run of shirts made, but need to locate the shop where the last batch were done.

On **Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**, a **Central Point Elementary** school class is coming to visit the railroad park. Please contact Jim Dougall (541-779-8725) if you would like to help at the Clubhouse during the kids' visit. They will be here from about 11:30 am to 1:30 pm.

Finally, Board Member elections will be held at the May General Membership Meeting. If you would like to be considered for a post on the Board (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer), please contact E. Don at 541-601-4772.

## May Calendar of Events

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

### Sunday Public Run Sessions

Sunday, May 13 and May 27  
10:30 AM to 3:00 PM

### General Construction/New Layout Saturdays

Generally From 10:00 AM to 3 PM

### Construction/Cleanup Sessions: Thursdays

7:30 PM to 9:00 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

*DCC Operations-Jay Mudge*

# RAILROAD TIME CARDS 2007

May 4-6 – ESPEE In Oregon 2007, Klamath County Museum, 1451 Main Street, Klamath Falls, Ore. Tours, clinics, slide shows, SP#2579, etc. Details - check: <http://www.espeeinoregon.com> or Rod Loder 503-551-9611.

May 5-6 – Model Train Swap Meet, Rickreall Grange Hall, 280 Main St, Hwy 99W, Rickreall, Ore. 9am-3pm. Info: Tom Pryor 503-606-0398 [pry626@juno.com](mailto:pry626@juno.com)

June - 1<sup>st</sup> Div. PNR Mini-Meet at Corvallis Society of Model Engineers, Adair Village, Ore. Stay tuned for details when available.

Jul 22-28 – NMRA 2007 Convention - National Train Show. Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center, Detroit, Michigan. <http://www.nmra.org/2007/>

Jul 28-29 – 37<sup>th</sup> Edition Great Oregon Steam-Up, Antique Powerland, 7am-6pm. Info: 503-393-2424 [www.antiquepowerland.com](http://www.antiquepowerland.com)

Aug 8-12 - Treasure Valley Express, PNR Convention, Boise, Idaho. Info: Bruce McCosh 208-386-9629 or <http://pnr.nmra.org/3div/tve2007a.htm>

Sep 22 – West Side Train Show & Swap Meet, National Guard Armory, Forest Grove, Ore. 10am – 3pm. Info: Ken Jackson 503-357-8753, [westsidetrainshow@comcast.net](mailto:westsidetrainshow@comcast.net)

Oct – Fall 1<sup>st</sup> Div PNR Mini-Meet to be held in the Newport/Toledo area. Stay tuned for details when available

Thought for the month: The three most common expressions (or famous last words) in aviation are:

"Why is it doing that"

"Where are we?"

And "Oh S...!"

And finally: "Airspeed, altitude and brains. Two are always needed to successfully complete the flight."

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