



## The Passing Track

October 2011

Newsletter of the Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club

PO Box 1362—Medford, OR 97501

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

### **P&E to be Featured in *Great Model Railroads!***

The Club received word that Kalmbach Publishing (*Model Railroad Magazine*) is planning to feature the P&E in next year's publication of the "Great Model Railroads". Bruce Petty, who is a noted photographer and author of both prototype and model railroading, paid the club a visit at the last Sunday open house. He was given the grand tour by Larry Tuttle and was heard to say that the P&E was the most wonderful layout he has ever seen, the compliment owing to the realism with which the Club has captured the historical, geographical, and operational features of the "real" P&E. Subsequently, he contacted Andy Sperandio of *Model Railroader Magazine* and responded back to Larry that Andy wants the Club layout in the *Great Model Railroads* publication. Since 2007, Kalmbach Publishing has produced an annual magazine that features 10-11 of the best model railroads around. Bruce Petty will be the photographer and author and would also like to feature the liftout in the helix for a sidebar story. He will start his photography in the spring.

### **2011-2012 Construction Plan Finalized**

Perhaps a premonition of great things to come, the Club discussed and finalized high priority construction items for the fall/winter/spring construction season. Larry Tuttle, while waiting for visitors during last Sunday's open house and [sort of] paying attention to his train circumventing the P&E, grabbed a clipboard and noted the part to mostly completed scenes that were just screaming "finish me". His premise...with some additional work, we can "complete" some scenes and add much more WOW to the layout, especially at locales that are highly visible and well visited by the open house crowd. The Board discussed and accepted the concept of prioritizing construction work where completion of that work will make a huge difference. Now, that the Club's layout will be featured in *Great Model Railroads*, such a strategy is undeniably a strategic piece of wisdom. This does not mean, however, that members are refrained from working in other areas of the layout. It simply

means, the Club's resources and efforts will be concentrated on high priority scenes...for now. The more we can concentrate our work efforts, the greater the accomplishment and scenery we can offer for publication and for our visitor enjoyment.

Among the higher priority items: Pelican Yard, Lake Ewauna and environs, McNeil Creek drainage (between Butte Falls and Derby), east of Summit (to the first tunnel), the logging branch, Highway 99 crossing to Crater Yard, the signal system, fascia and paint, resistor wheel sets, and website upgrades. The next issue of the Passing Track will have a detailed list of work items. Whenever one's skills or desires compliment the list, it is hoped that club member will avail themselves to that work item. As always, coordination and consultation with others will insure that scenery work is consistent with the overall standards and expectations that have been set.

## **HELP!! Railroad Park Open House October 23, Klamath Show October 20-23, and Wilson School Benefit November 11-12**

A trio of events involving the Club is in need of member participation. Thursday, October 20, is loading time for the Klamath RR Show beginning at 6:30 PM at the Club house. The show gang will leave Friday morning and return Sunday evening, where unloading help is needed. Please contact John Gerritsma at 541-664-1139 if you can help load or unload.

Sunday, October 23 is our final open house for the year. With a number of Club members being in Klamath Falls, it is likely we will be running short on operators at the Clubhouse. Please help if you can. Engines, rolling stock and throttles are available at the Clubhouse [no excuses for not helping].

Third, on November 11-12, the Club is participating in a fund raising craft fair event at Wilson Elementary School for the benefit of the school. The Club will bring the kid's layout to display the various "crafts" involved in model railroading, promote both the park and the railroad show, and provide a tree building or kit building demonstration (or anything else someone wants to demonstrate). The craft show runs from about 9 am to 6 pm Friday and Saturday and any help during those time periods would be appreciated. Contact Bruce McGarvey at 541-779-8145.

## **Board of Directors Meeting October 12, 2011**

Seven members and four board members were present. The board had circulated an agenda prior to the meeting via email. A slot-max issue was experienced at the last open house, but resolved quickly with the computer. The rest of the day ran without issue. The vendor's balcony at the railroad show has been sold out, and the floor is 1/2 full (about 17 tables left). Sign up for club work slots at the sign-up sheet in the Clubhouse. Jay will need some help with the Club sales tables since his dependable co-worker will not be there. It is likely the program (general membership meeting) will be cancelled this month. Brad Manning (family membership), former member, and David Ross (Associate Membership) from Pound Ridge, New York were accepted as the club's newest two members. Dick reported that the average attendance at the Railroad Park this year was 1,360 persons per run day. That is just short of 20,000 visitors for the season! The Board approved additional expenditures for suitcase connectors, crossing signal/gate supplies, and building kits. Jerry Hellinga expects to receive the first bid on a new roof.

# PNR Mini-Meet Recap

Bruce McGarvey

The fall mini-meet (Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>) was most successful, thanks to members of the Willamette Cascade Model Railroad Club who sponsored the event under the direction of Lee Temple, President. The event was “kicked-off” by Lee with a number of clinics starting at 9 AM after the intake of coffee and donuts.

A number of interesting clinics included a slide show on the SP&S RR; the making of resin castings and mold making by Jeff Johnson; the history of HO scale model railroading going back to early days of Varney, Athearn, M. Dale Newton (came to the Rogue Valley in 1943 with the Red Ball line of models), Penn Line, Globe Models, etc. researched and presented by Nick Lehrbach; and Fred Miranda showed us an easy and neat way to mount vehicles on the layout. The afternoon provided opportunities to visit a number of layouts in the local area.



A model contest is also a part of the mini-meet with entries in the categories of: locos, rolling stock, photos, structures and miscellaneous items. Attendees vote on the best of the best in each category.

Bruce McGarvey took a couple of buildings he had recently completed and received a blue ribbon for two Campbell Scale Models, the track side shed as kit built and a modified shed with “tin roof”.



The meet provided an opportunity to meet old friends, share ideals and have a great time. The next 1<sup>st</sup> Division mini-meet will be in Bend, Oregon, the first of October, 2012, in conjunction with the Eastern Cascades Model Railroad Club’s open house weekend.

## November 2011 Calendar of Events

**The final run session is Sunday, October 23!**

**General Construction/New Layout**  
Saturdays  
Generally From 10:00 AM to 4 PM

**Board Meeting**  
2nd Wednesday of each month  
November 9  
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

**Operations Session**  
2nd Saturday of Each Month  
Saturday, November 12  
10 am to 3 pm

**General Membership Meeting**  
Cancelled For November

## RAILROAD TIME CARDS 2011

**Oct 22-23** – 4<sup>th</sup> 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** – 35<sup>th</sup> International Railfair, Placer County Fairgrounds, 800 All American City Blvd, Roseville, Calif. Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. Info: [www.internationalrailfair.com](http://www.internationalrailfair.com)

**Nov 26-27** – 34<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:iwccr@charter.net)

**Dec 3** – Willamette Valley Model Railroad Swap Meet, Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall, Ore. Sat. 10 am – 3 pm. Info: Judy 503 -581-6071 or [macinnej@msn.com](mailto:macinnej@msn.com)

**Dec 9** – *How Bakersfield Oil Transformed Ashland Railroad* – 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** – World's Greatest Hobby on Tour Train Show, Oregon Convention Center, Portland, Ore. Info: <http://www.wghshow.com/shows/2012/portland.html>

**March** – Klamath County Museum Train Show, Klamath Falls, Ore. Date TBA

**Apr 21-22** – 24th Annual Model Railroad Swap Meet & Train Show, Willamette Cascade Model RR Club, Lane County Fairgrounds, Eugene, Ore. Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4. Info: Lee & Diane Temple, 541-954-4917 or 541-225-7394, [ttanddt@ram-mail.com](mailto:ttanddt@ram-mail.com)

**May 2-5**- Siskiyou Summit 2012, Joint PNR/PCR Convention, Red Lion Hotel, Medford, Ore. Info: <http://www.pcrnmra.org/conv2012/>

**Jun 27-Jul 1** –N-scale Convention, Red Lion Hotel, Medford, Ore. Info: <http://www.nationalscaleconvention.com/>

**Jul 7-11** – GNHS Convention, Klamath Falls, Ore. Info: <http://www.gnrhs.org/conventions.htm>

### *Oxymorons*

1. Is it good if a vacuum really sucks?
2. Why is the third hand on the watch called the second hand?
3. If a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would we ever know?

(10/14/2011)