



The Passing Track

July 2013

Newsletter of the Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club

PO Box 1362—Medford, OR 97501

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

Election Results

Elections were held at the June General Meeting. The elected board members are:

PRESIDENT -	Bruce Kelly
VICE PRESIDENT	Dave Spakousky
SECRETARY	John Gerritsma
TREASURER	Jerry Hellinga

The two 'at large' members of the board are: Richard Stark and Ron Harten.

What's New?

Many visitors to the layout comment that it is almost done and what will we do when it is completed? Truth is that it will never be 'done'. We explain to them that we are continually improving areas of the layout and several sections have been 'done' three times or more. The mountain logging area at summit is a prime example. Bruce Kelly is on his second round of improvements in that area. White City is getting new industries, sidings and places to spot cars. The White City switcher job during ops sessions is going to get a lot busier. The piping at Medco was rerouted. The hillside at Kerby is getting improvements. The area between Summit and Butte Falls was also updated with more trees and improved ground cover. There is also a new expanse of scenery between Butte Falls and the tunnel to Summit. It is somewhat hidden, sitting on top of Siskiyou Yard; but if you peek around the corner at Butte Falls you get a visual treat with the train snaking its way through a cut before entering the tunnel (which has a detailed interior, reportedly done by scale size miners). Butte Falls is also getting a major upgrade with a new station and industries. A road/photo shoot trip to Butte Falls by several RVMRC members a

few months ago, provided the material for the new 'Master Plan'. And that is not all. Bridges have been upgraded, industries are being added or upgraded from 'mockups' to detailed models. And of course we continue to add more trees. If you haven't been to the club in a while come on down and look around. There is lots of new stuff to look at. Plan on spending some time, since the new work has a lot more attention to detail and you really have to look at it carefully to appreciate the efforts of our scenery / model masters.

The Butte Falls Station

The Butte Falls urban renewal plan called for a new station. The existing two story station was not correct for Butte Falls which had had a single story building. The station is no longer there so where do you go to find a plan or drawing for the structure? The stations on the P&E were of similar design and followed the general layout of SP stations of the era. I could not find any drawings of the P&E stations, BUT there are photos of the Eagle Point and Butte Falls stations in the book, "Railroading in Southern Oregon" by Bert and Margie Webber, published by Ye Galleon Press.



Butte Falls Station (from "Railroading in Southern Oregon" by Bert and Margie Webber, published by Ye Galleon Press)



Eagle Point Station (from "Railroading in Southern Oregon" by Bert and Margie Webber, published by Ye Galleon Press)

The Butte Falls station photo is an end shot which shows the general layout but is not suitable for determining dimensions (except of the one end of the station). The photo of the Eagle Point station is a straight on shot which is perfect for working up a drawing. Seems the original P&E

builders used standard Grandt Line windows and doors for the structure. It was then possible to scale the photo (based on the window and door dimensions) and develop a drawing for the structure. Only the front and freight end of the station are visible. The rear and passenger end were extrapolated, using an SP plan as a guide for symmetries on the unseen views. The Eagle Point station has a much longer freight section than the Butte Falls station. Using the foreshortened view of the Butte Falls station, it is possible to estimate the length of the Butte Falls freight section. The final length of the building was also affected by the 'planning boards' allocation of 7 inches in length for the station. As it turns out this is just long enough to fit the estimated length of 56' for the station. The width of the station is considerably narrower than the real station due to the planning boards' width allocation of 3 inches. The pitch of the roof had to be adjusted (steepened) to retain the visual effect of the massive roof. The number of panes in the window was reduced (12 to 8) to provide a more open look. A cardstock mockup was made and placed on the layout to see if looked good and fit in place. (Drawing can be zoomed for more detail)



After a couple of weeks with the cardstock station in place on the layout, the comments were collected and the final drawings were finalized. Just as I was going to purchase the wood needed to make the station, new member Joe D'Amato approached me and asked if I would like him to put the design into a laser cutting machine to which he had access. A couple of days later I was handed a handful of thin wood sheets with the building design cut into them. They were a work of art. After carefully separating the pieces and test fitting them, I painted them the P&E company colors (green & yellow). Real wood shingles were used on the roof. The station was then assembled and details added such as the ladder to the roof, etc. The station is now in place on the layout awaiting final integration into the scenery.

General Meetings

There have been discussions about the attendance at the general meetings. In general there has been very little attendance. It was pointed out that this is in part due to the fact that there is little or no program to attract attendance. So the discussion drifted to what kind of subjects would be suitable for these meetings and who could we get to present them?? Clearly a slate of world class modelers, operators, etc. would be nice but is not going to happen. So what could we come up with locally? One suggestion is that members bring in a favorite model (scenery, structure, car or locomotive) and give a little talk about the background / history of the original (if applicable) and then explain why it is a favorite. This could lead to some interesting stories. If you have suggestions for possible topics and presenters please contact one of the board members.

FYI

Testors announced that they are going to drop the Floquil and Polly S lines of paint. So dig out your old paint mixing formulae.

From now until July 31, Timberline Scenery are offering you a 40% discount on everything!!! Visit their website at www.timberlinescenery.com and upon checkout, put in the code **Hot40** or call Jim toll free at 800-326-0321 or his toll free cell phone 866-326-0321.(Offer expires July 31, 2013)

The RVMR Club has purchased some 1,400+ trees from Timberline Scenery

Southern Oregon Chapter Medco #4 Fundraising Campaign

Restoration on Medco #4, the last Willamette geared locomotive in Oregon, is 80% complete. We need another \$50,000 to complete the restoration.



In order to keep the project going we need to raise at least \$20,000 this year. One of our members will match all private donations received by November 1, 2013.

EVERY DOLLAR DONATED WILL RESULT IN 2 DOLLARS TO THE PROJECT

Also one of our members has offered \$1,000 if 50 individuals donate \$20 or more before November 1, 2013.

Please make your tax deductible donation by check to "SOC NRHS" and send to the address below or donate on line at soc-nrhs.org



Southern Oregon Chapter – NRHS
P.O. Box 622
Medford, OR 97501

Thank you, Allen Dobney, Chapter President

RAILROAD TIME CARDS 2013

July 2, 2013 marks one hundred years since the birth of John Allen, the creator of the world-famous Gorre and Daphetid Railroad. On the morning of July 2nd, Model Railroaders everywhere are asked to salute John Allen, the Wizard of Monterey. Make a few flapjacks with strawberry JAM and pour yourself a cup of coffee or tea... Raise your mug in a salute. Why jam? JAM = John Allen Memorial. Strawberry jam would be most appropriate as that is the main field crop in the Monterey/Carmel area, where John lived. While you're at it, consider spending at least a few minutes that day taking another look at those fabulous photos John made of his amazing model railroad!

July 12 – *“Delivery by Rail: Rogue Valley Food and Farms”* – Margery Winter. Second Friday Ashland Historic Railroad Museum program at the Ashland Public Library’s Gresham Room.

Program starts at 6:30 pm.

July 14 - 20 - NMRA National Convention and National Train Show - "Peachtree Express", Cobb Galleria Centre, Atlanta, GA. Info:- www.nmra2013.org

Aug 9 – *“The Magic Spark: The Telegraph and Early Railroading”* – Allen Dobney. Second Friday Ashland Historic Railroad Museum program at the Ashland Public Library’s Gresham Room.

Program starts at 6:30 pm.

Sep 21 - 22 – 18th Annual Open House, Eastern Cascades Model Railroad Club and Central Oregon Area Live Steamers, Bend, Ore. 10 am – 4 pm. HO scale layout plus ride the outdoor railroad. Info: 541-317-1545 or <http://www.ecmrr.org/default.aspx>

Sep 28 – 29 – The Gears Show 2013, Rail Heritage Center, 2250 ES Water Ave, Portland, Ore. The Pacific Northwest’s Premier gas and steam show featuring working models and displays of incredible craftsmanship! Info: www.oregongears.org

Oct 5 - 1st Division PNR Mini-Meet, hosted by Gene Neville and the Corvallis Society of Model Engineers at Prince of Peace Community Church, 7234 NE Arnold Ave., Adair Village, Ore. Meet starting at 9 AM, clinics, model contest, door prizes and layout tours. For more details, check in on 1st Division web site at <http://pnr.nmra.org/1div/>

Nov 30 – Dec 1 – 36th Annual Rogue Valley Railroad Show, Medford Armory, 1701 So. Pacific Hwy, Medford, Ore. Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. Model railroad displays, exhibits, swap meet, door prizes and raffles. Proceeds benefit the Medford Railroad Park. Info: Bruce iwcrr@charter.net or 541-890-8145 and Bill 541-821-5547.

Looking ahead:

Mar 2014 - 1st Division PNR Mini-Meet, hosted by Nick Lehrbach and his Roseburg Crew. Details coming.

Aug 23 - 29, 2015 – 2015 NMRA National Convention, Portland, Oregon. Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Portland. More info at <http://www.nmra2015portland.org/>

Aug 28 – 30, 2015 - National Train Show, held in conjunction with the convention, at the Portland Expo Center.

(07/08/2013 July PT)