



## The Passing Track

March 2014

Newsletter of the Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club

PO Box 1362—Medford, OR 97501

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

### Layout Improvements

The work on the layout continues. White City has new industries and sidings. It also has some electrical improvements (choke cables to blueline turnout assemblies) which will make it easier



The new truck terminal at White City



Dave's working on the hidden improvements in White City

to place cars at the industrial sidings for the 'height and arm length challenged' members of the club. The roads and crossings are being completed and crossing signals will be added to complete the picture.

Butte Falls has a totally new look. The buildings have been changed to better reflect the actual situation in Butte Falls. Considerable effort was spent to blend the foreground models into the back drop painting. John and Larry have done a great job fooling the eye. Look at the two photos below and try to find the point where the foreground model meets the backdrop.



Two views of a road blending into the background.

The mountain side at Derby / Canyon Junction has been 'rerocked' and reforested. The quarry at Derby has been totally redone. Work in Eagle Point has totally transformed the landscape, buildings and trestles. Right now it is covered with trays of trees ready to be planted. There will be pictures of the area in future issues of PT. Joe has brought in several new laser cut 'creations', including small houses and trailers which are being placed in Butte Falls and other locations.

After cleaning up for the operating session in February, they were back at it again. There were ten members working on the layout on the first Saturday in March. If you weren't working on the layout directly, you were put to work making trees. We ALWAYS need more trees. The special for last week was oak trees. They look great.





Paula & Ron have redone the quarry at Derby



Bruce, our Master tree planter at work near Canyon Jct



Jack and Blair are busy making trees



Dave - think you might need a little more foliage ?

## Operating Session

In the midst of the all the improvements chaos, we held an operating session! It was held on Feb. 16, 2014 with the members of the club in Eugene. They noticed a lot of new things on the layout. We even had a new Dispatcher!! Now that was a change. Bruce Kelly took over for Larry Tuttle. Other than a few lost trains, things went quite well. We even had people working different yards and trains than they normally do. Everyone had a lot of fun - even the dispatcher.

## FYI

The meeting schedule has been changed. We now have a general meeting at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of the month. The general meeting is followed by a board meeting. In February the general meetings program was on weathering railroad cars using artist's oil paint. The program for the March meeting will be a continuation of this topic.

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The fence has between the club house and the toilet building has been moved! This frees up an area to the left of the club house for a walkway between the club house and the live steamer's station area. This makes the club house a second entrance/exit to the park. It also provides a picnic area for the club.

## RAILROAD TIME CARDS 2014

**Mar 15** - Willamette Model Railroad Club's, Annual Model Railroad Swap Meet, Kliever Memorial Armory , 10000 NE 33rd Dr. (between Columbia & Marine Drive), Portland; Sat 9:30 am to 3 pm. Admission: Adults \$5.00, under 12 free. Info: Keith Kieres 503-723-7323, e-mail:

[wmrswapmeet@yahoo.com](mailto:wmrswapmeet@yahoo.com)

**Apr 5-6** – 26<sup>th</sup> Willamette Cascade Model Railroad Club Swap Meet & Train Show, Lane Events Center, Eugene, Ore. Sat 10 am – 5 pm, Sun 10 am – 3 pm. Info: Lee Temple 541-954-4917

[ttandt@ram-mail.com](mailto:ttandt@ram-mail.com)

**Apr 12** - 1<sup>st</sup> Division PNR Mini-Meet, Douglas County Library, 1409 Diamond Lake Blvd, Roseburg, hosted by Nick Lehrbach and his Roseburg Crew. Details forth coming. <http://pnr.nmra.org/1div/>

**May 3-4** – Model Train Swap Meet & Show, Rickreall Grange Hall, 280 Main Street “Hwy 99”, Rickreall, Ore.

Sat & Sun 9 am – 3 pm. Info: [pry626@juno.com](mailto:pry626@juno.com) or 503-606-0398.

**May 10** – **National Train Day** -- a holiday started by Amtrak in 2008 as a method to spread information to the general public about the advantages of rail travel and the history of trains in the United States. It is held each year on the Saturday closest to May 10, the anniversary of the pounding of the Golden Spike in Promontory, Utah, which marked the completion of the first transcontinental railroad. For current events, check the following web site: <http://nationaltrainday.com/s/>

**May 15-17** – ESPEE in Oregon Meet: Forest Grove, Ore. Train Excursion on the Tillamook branch, Prototype tours, Clinics, Swap meet, presentations and more. Check web site for details. <http://espee-in-oregon.com/>

**June** - First Division PNR Summer Mini-Meet, Eugene. More info later. <http://pnr.nmra.org/1div/>

**Jun 18-21** - PSX 2014 Pacific Northwest Region Convention, La Quinta Inn, Tacoma, Wash. Prototype tours: Tacoma Rail, Mt. Rainier Railroad, and Northwest Railway Museum at Snoqualmie. Many clinics to attend.

Info: <http://www.wnrr.net/PSX2014/> **NOT AN NMRA MEMBER?** You are still welcome to attend and learn more about NMRA. A limited time membership ("RAILPASS 6 month trial membership at \$10 ) is available for non-members to attend.

**Jul 13 – 20** – The 2014 NMRA National Convention. New Cleveland Convention Center , Cleveland, Ohio. Layout tours, clinics, op sessions, prototype tours, and more. Info: [www.2014cleveland.org](http://www.2014cleveland.org)

**LOOKING AHEAD:**

**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.



**HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?**

03/10/2014marptbhm