

The Passing Track

January – February 2015

Newsletter of the Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club

PO Box 1362—Medford, OR 97501

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

The 2014 Holiday Railroad Show

This year's Holiday Railroad Show, held at the Medford Armory (weekend after Thanksgiving) was a big success. Over 4,000 visitors celebrated the start of the Christmas holiday season by attending the Rogue Valley Railroad Show. This year's show was held on November 29 and 30, 2014, inside the National Guard Armory in Medford, Oregon. This was the 37th running of the show.

The club displayed its modular layout. This year's configuration included several modules which had not been displayed in recent years. The club's 'hands-on' special kid's layout was a popular attraction. Both big and little 'kids' liked the opportunity to run a train! A dedicated crew kept the trains running the entire weekend. I wonder how many scale miles the trains ran during the show?



Larry explains the Mt. Pitt module to the public, but never tells them why the trolley never stops at the station



The yard is always a busy place



Long trains get attention



Our younger members keep the trains rolling



Kids Layout drew quite a crowd



And then it is over and we have to pack it up and put it away in less time than it took to set up

A special thanks to the members who helped set up, run and pack up. It was a very busy and tiring time but well worth it. All proceeds from the show go directly to support the five railroad clubs at the City of Medford Railroad Park— uniquely the only railroad park in the USA operated by five different railroad clubs providing for free Sunday summer outings and train rides.

Also, a special thanks to those members who were on the show committee which planned, organized and managed the show. A job well done!!

Holiday Christmas Party

The christmas party was held at Elmers Restaurant in Medford. Over 20 people attended. A good time was had by all. The white elephant gift exchange included some 'interesting' times, as usual. I'm sure we have not seen the last of some of them.



RVMRC Passing Track





Training Sessions

The training sessions will start again in the upcoming weeks. The topics to be covered include:

- The right glue for the job.
- How to program a DCC decoder
- The basics of scenery and tree making
- Ways to model at little or no cost, i.e. cheaply
- Plus many more

For this program to be a success, we need a people to commit to coming to a session. If there is no interest, then the session will be canceled. If there is a conflict, then it might be postponed. The program is open to all members; but its focus is on our younger or members that would benefit from a refresher. Members are asked to respond if they are interested in attending a session. They should email me (Ron Harten, at sprucerr@earthlink.net). We would schedule the sessions for the first Saturday morning of the month, unless it falls on a major holiday or major event.

Mystery Caboose Trucks

Last issue of the Passing Track contained an article on the Caboosees at the Red Caboose Motel in Strasburg, PA. Here is my best guess at the identification of the trucks under the Caboosees. If you have a different identification (I'm no expert in this area), send me an email with a description of the correct id, and we will set the record straight in a future issue. Next issue we will look at the caboose heritage question.



1 [Barber-Bettendorf roller bearing]



2 [Andrews with coil not leaf springs]



3 [ASF Double Truss]



4 [?? See below]



5 [Andrews]



6 [Barber S-2]



7 [AAR standard Bettendorf]



8 [PRR 2D-F8]

Truck 4 has me stumped. It has a nearly circular interface between the side frame and bolster assembly which should make identification easy. A detailed look at the original photo has the wording "Patented Taylor UT485" across the top of the casting. Any candidates??



Lettering at top of side frame of Truck 4.

FYI

This year's National Model Railroad Association's Convention will be held in Portland August 23-29. It is very likely that the club will be on display the day or two before and after the convention so that people driving to/from the convention can stop and inspect our fine layout. Unfortunately, we are a bit too far from Portland to be on a convention layout tour.

Elections will be coming up in the spring. We need candidates for the officers. People who are interested in serving please talk to one of the board members. We need some new faces since many of the current board members have served for many years and could use a break.

RAILROAD TIME CARDS 2015

Jan 24-25 - The Great Train Expo. Portland Expo Center. Large train and toy marketplaces, operating layouts and displays, workshops and demonstrations. Info: - www.greattrainexpo.com

Jan 29 – Feb 1 - Annual Willamette Cascade Model Railroad Show at the Valley River Center with additional friends, HO-scale, N-scale, Lionel, G-scale railroads running and Operation Lifesaver Trailer with free educational materials, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Thurs., Fri., Sat. and Sun. 11 AM to 7 PM. Info:- Lee Temple, 541-954-4917 or ttandt@ram-mail.com

Feb 7 – Annual Northwest Modelers Train Show and Swap Meet, West Valley Community Campus Hall, 266 SE Washington St., Willamina, Ore. Sat. 9:30 AM – 3 PM. Info: Tom Pryor 503-606-0398 or pry626@juno.com

Feb 14 - Spokane Portland & Seattle Railway Historical Society Railroad Swap Meet, Holiday Inn - Portland Airport Conference Center, 8439 NE Columbia Blvd., Portland, Ore. Open 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Info: Jerry Pickell, ickell5141@msn.com or 360-735-0516. <http://www.spsrhs.org/>

Mar 14 – Willamette Model Railroad Club Swap Meet, Kleiver Armory, 1000 NE 33rd Drive, Portland, Ore. 9 AM to 3 PM. Info: wmrswapmeet@yahoo.com

Apr 18 – 19 - Willamette Cascade Model Railroad Club Swap Meet & Train Show, Lane Events Center, 796 W 13th Ave., Eugene, Ore. Sat 10 AM – 5 PM, Sun 10 AM – 3 PM. Info: Lee Temple 541-954-4917 ttandt@ram-mail.com.

May 2-3 - Rickreall Grange Model Train Swap Meet & Show Sat/Sun 9 AM-3 PM. Rickreall Grange Hall at 280 Main Street [Hwy 99W] Rickreall, Ore. Operating HO Layout, Great Food, Free parking, Fun for All! Tables available. Info: Tom 503-606-0398 pry626@onlinenw.com

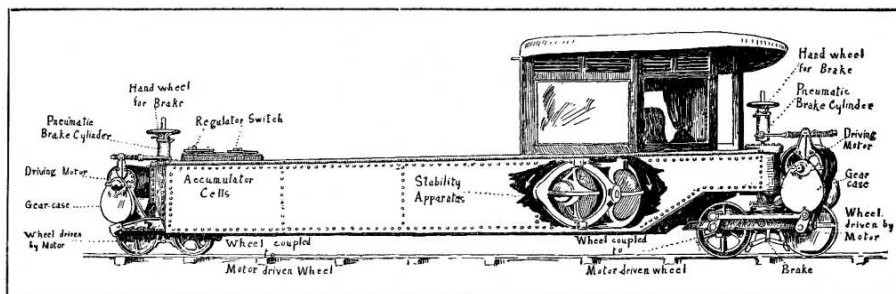
May-June – Spring NMRA-PNR 1st Division Mini-Meet – Coos Bay area and In the planning stage - Date TBA.



Aug 23 - 29, 2015 – 2015 NMRA National Convention, Portland, Oregon. Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, Portland, Ore. 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.

Oct 7 -11 – Southern Pacific Historical & Technical Society Annual Convention “150 Years of Southern Pacific” in Sacramento, Calif. Details coming. Mark your calendars for October 7-11.



THE FULL MACHINERY OF THE GYRO-CAR

Editor: Ron Harten
Email – sprucerr@earthlink.net