

## **The Passing Track**

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2016

Newsletter of the Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club

PO Box 1362—Medford, OR 97501

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

### **- Railroad Show -**

Summer is over and Autumn has arrived. The open houses are almost over and soon the hoiidays will be upon us. That means it will be time for the annual Railroad Show! This year will be different!! Due to renovations at the Armory, the show will be held at the Jackson County EXPO (Fair Grounds) in Central Point. There will be more exhibit space and parking will not be an issue. This also means a whole new set up and a new set of problems to work out. We can use all the help we can get (set up, operations, tear down) There is a signup sheet at the club for the tasks to be manned at the show by club members. So come by and sign up fr a couype of slots (jobs). This show is the largest source of funds for the club, so your help is needed.

### **- New Members -**

We would like to welcome 2 new members to the club since July 2016 - Aron Heine and Raymond Greene. We look forward to seeing you at the club house.

### **- Work on the Layout –**

The signalling system for the layout is still inoperable. The ban on using the layout during the middle of the week has been lifted. There could still be times when they are testing and troubleshooting activities will limit operations; however, this should not happen very often.

### **- Still More Improvements at Eagle Point -**

Eagle Point is really jumping. Not only do we have a new propane facility, a new trailer park, auto repair shop and new roads, Ed's Oasis and the train station can be added to the list. Dave and

Paul Hendrickson are really leaving their mark. Both structures are based on the real structures with some compression to fit them into the available space. Both were scratch built. The detail on Ed's Oasis is really fine. The main problem is that the front of the establishment, which has a lot of interesting detail, faces the rear of the layout. We'll have to find a way to sneak a mirror into the scene so we can view it. Not that the rest of of the building has a lack of details. The complexity of the roofing is really neat. It consists of simple roofing elements; however, they are combined in a clever way which draws the eye to it, This is topped off with a realistic weathering job. The station is similar to the one in Butte Falls, just like the prototypes. A thank you to Joe DAmato for producing the laser-cut parts. The interesting differences between the two staations are the platform with grass in the cracks and the parking lot, complete with cracks and potholes. You have to get up close to really appreciate the modeling effort. Wonder what is next on their agenda?



Eagle Junction developing very rapidly



Eagle Point is becoming a real interesting spot to visit





The Train Station and Ed's Oasis are recent additions to Eagle Point



The front of Ed's is full of detail and looks neat.  
Unfortunately, it faces away from the isle and can't be seen without a mirror (or a camera).



The rear of Ed's Oasis. Note the interesting roof line and weathering

### **- Members' Home Layouts & Models -**

Many members have finely detailed locomotives and rolling stock. Some of these show up at Sunday open houses where a few of the members can enjoy the fine details which bring the models much closer to the prototype. Similarly, some have layouts at home. Members are encouraged to submit brief descriptions of their models and/or layout with pictures so the other members can enjoy their efforts. We will put them in Passing Track for other members to enjoy.

If you are interested or have questions, send me an email or give me a call (editor: Ron Harten 541-899-1005, email- [sprucerr@Hughes.net](mailto:sprucerr@Hughes.net)).

### **- Shortline Tales –**

This is the second half of the article written by club member, Joe DAmato, It is the first of a set of articles on short lines in Oregon. Many of the lines are excellent candidates for a model railroad. They are small enough that all the major features could be modeled.

**'A railroad you should know. The City of Prineville Railroad (part 2 of 2) by Joe DAmato**

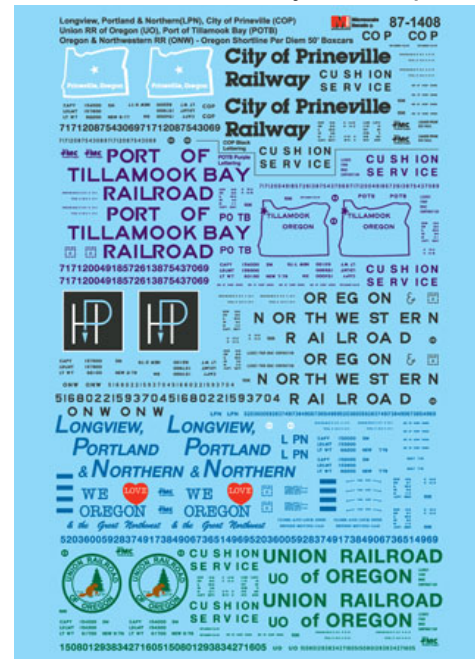
The railroad also owns an eastern style mid copula caboose it uses along with some excursion flats and a coach for public runs and a few pieces of old MOW equipment, most likely flats from UP or SP. The excursion equipment is pulled by a three truck shay marked in the Mt. Emily Lumber Company. They did have at one point a Bay Window caboose which now has a Burger King logo on the side and is available for birthday parties. An unusual fate for a caboose I guess. A quick search turned up a few other styles of caboose that were used depending on the time period you model, so there are options.

Decals are available in the Micro Scale line...specifically 87-1408 and also MC 4293 and also in N scale which will help with the loco's.

Motive power is a bit more problematic. I am not aware of any released in the last 20 years pre marked for the railroad. Of all the schemes out there, the COP is easier than most. Currently the railroad has a pair of GP-20's, an SW 1500 and a GP9...MLW,SP and GN respectively. A full historic roster is difficult to come by, but if you model COP in the mid to late 1980's you can use a pair of Alco S units until newer motive power made its way to the line. Both Atlas and Bachmann make S-2's which for me is close enough. I don't have an exact match, but it's a lot like the orange used for Corp loco's, possibly a bit more intense. If you are into weathering I would start with PFE Reefer Orange and add a bit of red. If you have one of the Atlas or Athearn boxcars you can color match that?

The GP-20's retained the same basic scheme of their Milwaukee heritage until repainted in a bolder orange. Again you are on your own when it comes to paint and markings. Painting the SW 1500 will be more difficult than the other locos because the lettering is white on a black field. The others had black lettering (except the S-1's). If you have access to a drawing program and a laser printer you could print out black stripes, paint the background white and apply decals over that with knock outs for the lettering. This is an old model makers trick and it's surprisingly effective. Here are a few samples, many more are available on line. Otherwise you can print out the name and logo in black for the other engines and should come up with a nice finish.

Given our club layout mirrors just about any local in Oregon, a consist of COP GP's pulling brightly colored boxcars and chip hoppers would fit in just fine. A fair number of old SP/UP/ATSF/BN boxcars see their way onto the line as well and we have plenty of those laying around the club. Building a nice consist would be simple. It's an interesting railroad and I've only scratched the surface here with the background and modeling possibilities. One could do a standalone switching layout of the facilities in and around Prineville and offer plenty switching options. The landscape is flat and dry and the structures on the modern side and stand-ins could be used. The engine house and crew quarters are located within the confines of a lumber yard so you can't get much more immediate that that.





Next month I will talk about modeling some of the industries' there, some sample track plans for switching layouts and how some of the facilities would fit nicely with our modular show layout. That will be followed by another Oregon Short line worthy of note.



A GP 9 on the City Prineville Railroad

**- FYI -**

**Reminder:**

Ops Session 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month (Check during months of Nov & Dec.)

General and Board Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM

This year's holiday train show will be held at the Expo / Fair grounds in Central Point instead of the Armory in Medford. It takes place on the weekend after Thanksgiving, November 25-27. Friday is setup and it is not open to the public. The show is open on Saturday and Sunday.

Tear down is Sunday afternoon. Plan on helping out at the show. It is the club's biggest fund raiser

The holiday dinner, which is normally held on the 1st or 2<sup>nd</sup> week-end before Christmas, needs to be finalized. It will most likely be at Elmers in Medford. I'll send out a note when the details are finalized.

Editor's Note: My email address has changed. The new address is [Sprucerr@Hughes.net](mailto:Sprucerr@Hughes.net) This issue of Passing Track and future issues will be coming from that address so please adjust your spam filters so the next passing track won't be considered spam.

### - Railroad Time Cards -

**Nov 6 – Polk Station Rail Swap Meet & Show**, Sunday 9 AM – 4 PM, 280 Main St (Hwy 99), Rickreall, Ore. Info: contact Steve [sjmcnamara@peoplepc.com](mailto:sjmcnamara@peoplepc.com) or 503-857-2180



**Nov 26-27 – Rogue Valley Railroad Show**, Jackson County EXPO, 1 Peninger Road, Central Point, Ore. Note: NEW location. Model railroad displays, exhibits, swap meet, door prizes, raffles and more. Saturday 10 – 5 and Sunday 10 – 4. Info: RVRR Show, PO Box 8065, Medford OR 97501 or Bruce [iwccr@charter.net](mailto:iwccr@charter.net), 541-779-8145

**Dec 3 – Railroad Show and Swap Meet** by the Willamette Valley Model Railroad, Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall, Ore. 9:30 – 2:30. Info: Judy 503-581-6071 or [macinnej@msn.com](mailto:macinnej@msn.com) and check out <http://wvmrm.webs.com/>

*I don't know where Bruce gets these; but they are good for a chuckle.*

**Railroad Prohibitions:** *At one time, these were (and sometimes still are) actual laws or railroad rules.*

- *In Seattle, Washington, women who sit on men's laps on trains without placing a pillow between them would face an automatic six-month jail term.*
- *In Wisconsin it was once illegal to kiss on a train.*
- *A Gary, Indiana ordinance once prohibited anyone from attending a movie house, theater, or riding on a public streetcar within four hours of eating garlic.*

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