

The Great Train Expo

By Greg Martin, MODSIG Chair

Well we did it. The show that we envisioned became a reality. This was due to the dedication of a united Club that forged out a direction and stayed on task until completion. We were the focal point of the show that was made obvious by the attention that we received by the public and the media. RCGRS did make history as predicted. I want to thank everyone that was involved in the many aspects of this project. This needed everyone to make it happen and everyone showed up and made it happen. We are a Club that is passionate about the hobby and will do what it takes to share it in the best possible way.

Last year to dare the clock we had that last minute accomplishment that resulted in a triple arched bridge by Mike Greenwood. This year's last minute accomplishment is the addition of a Train Ferry by the master of all things that float, Jan Zweertz. This is a great way for our rolling stock to make the trip from the yards to the storage tables, or take the extended cruise around "Carnival Point" and under the new bridge. Thank you Jan for this fine addition. One of the most important factors in our success is that we had a place for the MODSIG build sessions. The MODSIG crew is very grateful for the use of Steve Cogswell's barn to get the job done. Where would we be otherwise? Thank you Steve!!!



MOD SIG "set-up" crew in front of the new vertical lift bridge

We thank Christina Brittain for developing and organizing the EAGER group that brought the display to a whole new level of inspiration to showcase

the hobby of garden railroading. This even motivated Janet and myself to jump in and try our hand in some of the scenery. But I can't leave this subject

unless I acknowledge the accomplishment of Bill Dippert's mad scientist approach to spearheading the application of scenery to the non-assigned areas of the display. Thank you Bill.



Steve Cogswell and Greg Martin prepare the layout for the show.

The doctor is in, by that we mean John Stiger aka "Bridge Guy" has done a tremendous job in coordinating the bridge project, recruiting Emeric Bakacs for bridge design, WW Metal Fab for the fabrication, and rounding out the process with the "Bridge Crew" that worked diligently into the night at Constructavision to have the bridge ready for the show. We now have a bridge that can be seen from space and will be talked about for years to come. And they deserve all our thanks for this important contribution.



Vertical lift bridge in operation

In addition we need to thank Larry Blair for taking on the "public contact" and as always being the top notch recruiter that he is. Darrel Dunham for scheduling and keeping the trains running both days. We

had a great assortment of locomotives and rolling stock riding the high brass. Gary Lee for a great display showcasing the trestle, water tanks, turntable, etc. from his annual clinics, and the encore appearance of his FIRST PLACE award winning locomotive.



Samples from Gary Lee's model clinics

Bill Dippert for putting together the scale comparison display. Jeff Lange for the video display giving up to the minute video coverage of the show and previous club events. Merlene Bacon and Jean Dippert for cutting and sewing up endless yards of skirting that surrounded the entire display. The new tower with the club logo furthered the professionalism of our display and for this we thank Nick Kelsey for his design and craftsmanship. And also to Nick for the kids display being a success by taking on the responsibility of setting it up and keeping Thomas and Percy on the move.



Dave and Margaret Kookan keep "Thomas" and "Percy" on track; a very popular display among the young children.

These are just the highlights, the list could go on. But if you could shrink yourself down to size and walk the mainline around the display you could see the huge number of hours spent in developing the

concept and the details as the scenery changed. You can still see these scenes anytime as pictures of the display have been uploaded to the Yahoo Group site.

As we were wrapping up the loading of our display I was presented with a sign that was signed by all those that helped out at the show. I want you to know that this gesture along with the sentiments meant a lot to me. Thanks for getting me all choked up, I'm embarrassed. Later that evening I was look-

ing at the signatures and thinking about how each one played a part in the success we all shared. To work towards stopping this bad habit of long Emails, I will wrap this up with my own sentiment.

Our club has so much to be grateful for with the resources, unity and friendship that we share. I am proud of what we have accomplished, and the many goals we have reached together to make the show a success.



The "tear-down" crew



A pizza celebration of a MOD SIG display well done

Editor's Note: Many members took on the responsibility to design and provide scenery for one or more of the modules. It is not possible to show this layout in this newsletter in all of its glory and detail. It is hoped that a better archive can be produced in remembrance of this successful event. The following pictures show samples of the wonderful scenery on the modules along the right-of-way.



A corner module scene by Richard Parker



Scenery by Carolyn Rose



Two modules by Ron and Merlene Bacon



Scenery modules by Christina Brittain



Module with a log retaining wall by Greg Martin



Bill Dippert's corner module





Some beautiful trains on display



Triple arch two-track bridge



A display showing some the various scales within G-scale and various locomotives



Lift bridge in lowered position

Railroad Movie Saturday Night Jan Zweerts

The movie for the March film offering has been made by Presidential decree and will be that all time favorite of hard core rail fans, **Emperor of the North**.

The following review is from “Leonard Maltin’s Movie & Video Guide”:

Emperor of the North (1973) 89 min.

Cast: Robert Aldrich. Lee Marvin, Ernest Borgnine, Keith Carradine, Charles Tyner, Harry Caesar, Malcolm Atterbury, Simon Oakland, Matt Clark, Elisha Cook.

Unusual, exciting (and heavily symbolic) action film set during the Depression. Sadistic conductor Borgnine will kill any tramp who tries to cop a ride on his train; legendary hobo Marvin announces he

will be the first to succeed. Beautifully filmed in Oregon (Cottage Grove) by Joseph Biroc. Taut script by Christopher Knopf and typically muscular Aldrich direction make this a unique entertainment. The movie was initially released as “Emperor of the North Pole”.

A few historical notes from Jan: The term “Emperor of the North Pole” was used by hobos to indicate something that was not of great worth. Tramps and hobos rode many freight trains and were regularly shook down by train crews for 25 cents to a dollar a division (100 miles mostly).

Hobo jungles aka Hoovervilles were always a part of railroad town geography and still exist today. There was a fairly rigid code of conduct among the hobos and tramps that is still known today as boxcar etiquette. The movie uses examples of this code though out the film. A few books that deal with hobos and riding the rails are “Beggars of Life— A Hobo Autobiography” by Jim Tully c. 1924, “Hopping Freight Trains in America“ by Duffy Littlejohn c. 1993, and a more modern local writer D. C. Jesse Burkhart wrote “Travelogue From an Unruly Youth” c. 2007, Rolling Dreams Press, White Salmon, Washington. There are many more books available just browse the RR books shelves at Powell’s or your local library.

This event takes place at the Fanno Creek Brew Pub 12562 SW Main St., Tigard. They have recently upgraded the backroom with an attachment to the big screen to allow more people a better viewing angle. I think 40 or so members will be able to watch comfortably.

The Fanno Creek Pub has good food & drink at reasonable prices and will put in a dedicated server for groups bigger then 10 and with of course no outside food or drink.

Please RSVP to Jan Zweerts via the Yahoo club web site or phone and leave a message at 503-247-7531. The next RR Movie Nite is March 26, 2011; mark your calendars now!

Jan & Rae near the
Oregon Slough Bridge
MP 8.8 BNSF Fallbridge Div.

March Model Clinic

Gary Lee is conducting a clinic/workshop for Saturday March 12th 9:00 to 4:30 with no host lunch. The follow up day will be on Sunday the 13th with starting time to be a collective decision by all for Sunday. Gary has a plan for a Rio Grande prototype 10’ X 18’ handcar shed. The kit will feature board by board construction with removable roof. Full interior framing detail. There is one small window, one man door, and one sliding door for the handcar bay. This project will be a good study in framed construction and the fabrication windows and doors. Gary currently has enough shake material for roofing but would also like to offer corrugated metal as well.

The clinic will be held at Constructavision, 4025 N. Williams, Portland

The kit is \$75.00 in 3 scales, 1:24, 1:20.3, 1:29.

There is room for 12-14 participants @ the workshop. Reservations are being accepted NOW and **PAYMENT IS DUE BEFORE THE START OF THE CLINIC.** Send checks payable to Gary Lee at 34140 SE Hurlburt Rd Corbett, OR 97019

Late Note: As of Saturday, February 26th, there are 14 people registered and the clinic is full unless there is a cancellation.

Schedules & Timetables for 2011

Make sure you check the calendar on our Website at <http://www.rcgrs.com/> for the most up-to-date schedules and timetables.

It is our Society's policy to attempt to have an event or open house on every second Saturday of the month. Other and additional dates during a month are also available and encouraged. Anyone interested in having an Open House or sponsoring an event, please contact **Tom Gaps 503-659-8893, tgaps@comcast.net**

March 12-13, 9:00a.m. Saturday, Sunday-time to be announced: Clinic: Rio Grande prototype 10' X 18' handcar shed. Pre-registration required for up to 14 members. Cost-\$75.00. See the March model clinic announcement in this newsletter.

March 26 Railroad Movie Saturday Night: Time: 6 p.m. preshow 7 p.m. main event "Emperor of the North". Fanno Creek Brew Pub, 12562 SW Main St, Tigard

April 9, Woodland, WA: Quarterly meeting and auction. Darrel Dunham is host.

May: Westhafer's in The Dalles for a track laying party and get together was decided.

June 11, 2011, Saturday: Tom and Betty Gaps open house.

June 18, 2011 Saturday: "Railroads In The Garden Summer Tour" 2011. Bill Derville, Chairman

June 21 - 25: 2011 NGR Convention in Overland Park, Kansas

July: Bill and Brenda Derville open house (quarterly meeting)

August 6 - 9: Glacier National Park Trip

August 13, Saturday: Bill and Jean Dippert open house.

September 10, Saturday: (quarterly meeting) Jeff and Dianne Lange open house.

October 8, Saturday: Ron and Merlene Bacon open House.

November 12, Saturday: Annual RCGRS Luncheon

December Christmas ships?

RCGRS Officers and Staff

President, Jeff Lange

360-696-0799, jeffdlange@comcast.net

Vice President, Nick Kelsey

503-266-1110, kelsey.nick@gmail.com

Secretary, Kathryn Warrior

503-648-8112, kathryn.warrior56@gmail.com

Treasurer, Steve Cogswell

503-342-6128, scogswell@tkw.com

Yardmaster, Greg Martin

503-848-9091, granet@frontier.com

Annual Garden RR Tour Chair, Bill Derville

503-645-1771 bderville@generaltool.com

Club Store Chair, Margaret Kooken

360-695-0389, dmkooken@pacifier.com

Open House & Education Chair, Tom Gaps:

503-659-8893, tgaps@comcast.net

Module SIG Chair, Greg Martin

503-848-9091, granet@frontier.com

Newsletter Editor, Allan R. Warrior

503-648-8112 arwarrior@frontier.com

Webmaster, Joe Eckardt

503-466-3963, joe@eckardt.us

Immediate Past President: Gary Lee

503-695-2550, garylee@constructavision.com