

March 2012

World's Greatest Hobby 2012

The World's Greatest Hobby show came to Portland on February 25-26 at the Oregon Convention Center. Our RCGRS Yardmaster, Jan Zwerets, worked with many of our members of the OP-SIG to assemble the modules and create a fine looking

large scale indoor layout. About 30 members worked most of the day on Friday, February 24th setting up, connecting and leveling the modules. Several of the members adopted one or more of the modules to decorate them with scenery and buildings.



Tom Gaps was kept very busy answering questions and handing out fly-sheets advertising the RCGRS "Railroads In The Garden Summer Tour"



Bill Dippert waits for his train to exit the lift bridge. In the foreground is a lively operating amusement park between a village and a farm.

The results were quite pleasing to the large crowd of visitors that came and stayed awhile to observe the railroad operations. The RCGRS information booth was quite busy at all hours. A few new mem-

bers were signed up and a large list (several pages) was developed of people who wanted to be reminded of our "Summer Tour Of The Gardens" to be held on June 16th.



The lift bridge area was a popular place for for visitors to sit (chairs were provided) or stand and watch the railroad operations. Here Ron Bacon's live steamer moves past a village and approaches the lift bridge.



Ron Bacon gets his exercise as he controls his live steamer around the layout.

There were many questions from the audience regarding live steam models, i.e.:
Is that really a steam engine or is the water heated to steam by track power to give an effect?

How do you heat the boiler?
How do you control it?
How often do you have to give it fuel and water?

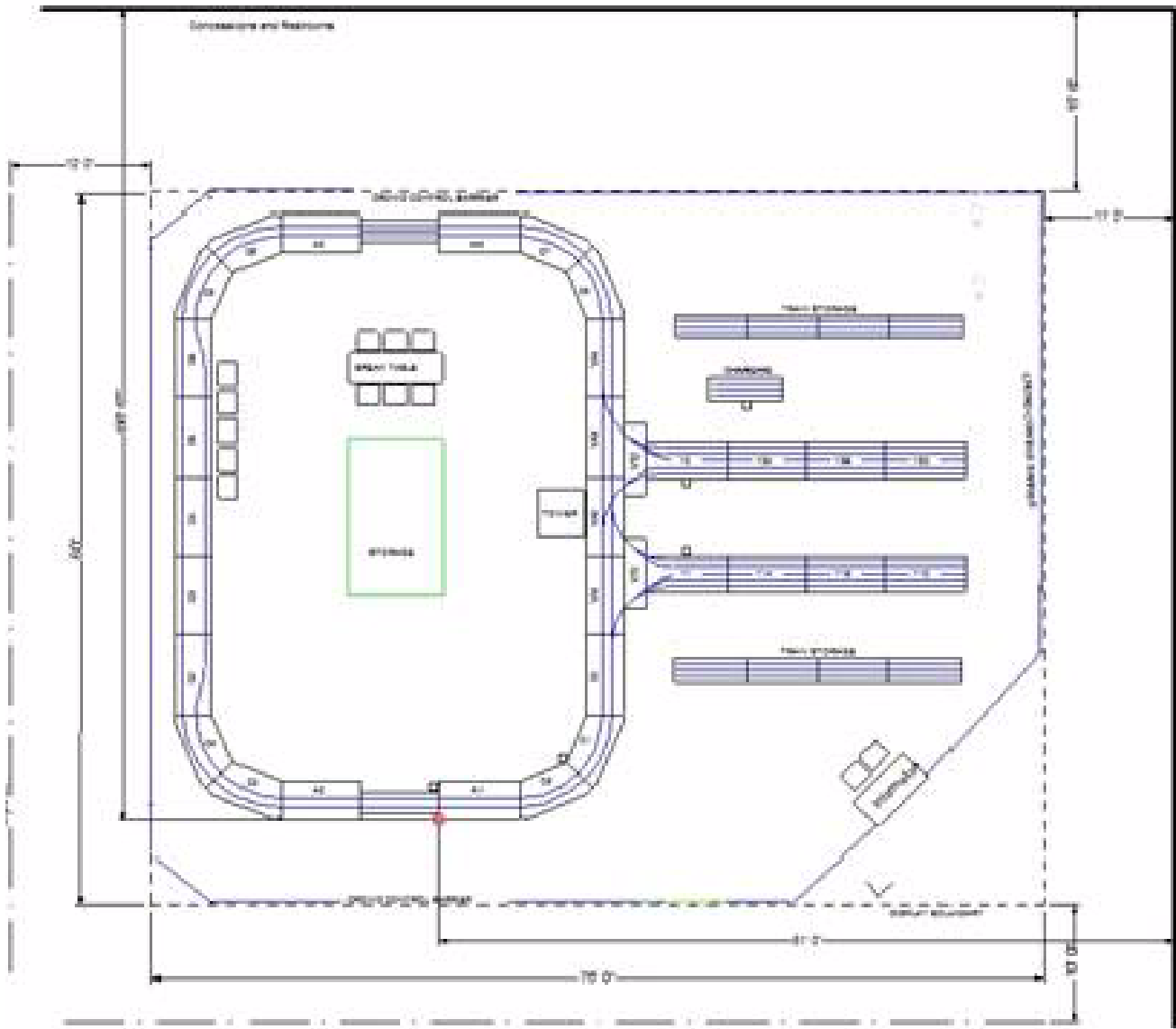


Bill Dippert's Rio Grande passenger train makes an extended run.



The camera lens isn't wide enough to capture this beautiful CP Rail passenger train with its seven cars. This train is a very heavy and nicely detailed USA Trains model. It requires a minimum of two locomotives and large radius track to run. It takes nearly seven amps of track power to operate this train.





RCGRS Layout Schematic for The World's Greatest Hobby Show 2012.



In charge of railroad operations during a morning shift: Dave Stratton, Doug Watson, Jan Zweerts, Jeff Lange and Bill Dippert.



Railroad operations during an afternoon shift; Dave Stratton, Doug Watson, and Alex English. Not shown, Bill Dippert

Schedules & Timetables

It is our Society's policy to attempt to have an event or open house on every second Saturday or Sunday 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 10, 2012, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.: Gary Lee Clinic. ConstructaVision at 4025 N. Williams Ave., Portland, OR 97227. This will be a one day clinic. The project will be a single scale loading platform with accessories.

This is a limited capacity clinic. Slots will be assigned on first-come-first-serve basis. Contact Gary Lee to sign up for a slot in the clinic.

March 24, 2012, Saturday, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.: Movie Night at the Fanno Creek Brew Pub, 12562 Southwest Main Street, Tigard, Oregon

March is President's Choice month. Movie will be either "Water for Elephants" or "Unstoppable". Please RSVP to jmzweerts@gmail.com or 503-705-3840 to confirm the number of people in your party.

Dinner will be Dutch Treat from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The Pub will have a staff member dedicated to our group to take food orders. The movie will start at 7:00 pm.

April 15, 2012, Sunday, 12:30 - 4:30: First Quarterly meeting at Dave and Margaret Kooker's House. 7542 Carolina Lane, Vancouver, WA 98664 Phone: 360-695-0389

12:30 Open House,
01:30 Lunch
02:30 Business Meeting
03:30 Play Trains - Weather Permitting (see note below)

Host will provide coffee, tea and water. Guests may bring another beverage of their own choice. Paper plates, plastic utensils, coffee cups and napkins provided by hosts. There are about 20 chairs; it is suggested that some guests will want to bring bring a chair if possible.

Club Members to bring
A-E Main Dish
F-M Side Dish or Salad
N-Z Desert

Railroad: Outer loop should be operational. Inner loop is likely to NOT be operational. Track power (up to 10 amps) is available on outer loop. Live steam on outer loop only. Battery on outer loop and if available, also on inner loop.

May 2012: Not Scheduled yet.

June 9, 2012, Saturday, Noon - 5:00 p.m.: Open house at Bill & Brenda Derville's Colorado & Southern RR.

930 NW 170th Place, Beaverton, OR 97006
Phone: 503-645-1771
Details TBA

June 16, 2012, Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.: "Railroads In The Garden Summer Tour," Bill Derville, Chairman. Volunteers are needed to help at the railroads open for the tour.

July 6 - 8, 2012: West Coast Regional Meet in San Diego, CA. San Diego Garden Railway Society.

July 14, 2012, Saturday, Noon - 5:00: Second quarterly business meeting and Open house at Steve Cogswell's. 17520 S Holly Lane, Oregon City, OR 97045. Phone: 503-501-8630
Details TBA

August 11, 2012, Saturday, Noon - 5:00: Open house at Tom and Betty Gap's Lone Pine & Western RR. 5922 SE Skyhigh Ct., Milwaukie, OR 97267, 503-659-8893.

Details TBA

August 15 - 19, 2012: 28th National Garden Railway Convention in Chicago, Illinois.

September 8, 2012, Saturday, Noon to 5:00 p.m.: Open House at Dennis & Carolyn Rose's Blueberry Mountain RR. 18325 SE Jaylee St., Beaverton, OR 97007

Phone: 503-649-4904

Details TBA

September 11-16: Colorado Trip: "6 trains in 6 days" For information, contact Carolyn Rose

October 2012: The October Open House will also be a quarterly business meeting and is generally the Halloween decoration event. To encourage maximum attendance at business meetings we would like to see the business meeting held at at some what central location to minimize the average travel distance for attending members.

November 2012: Annual Banquet is not scheduled yet.

December 2012: Not scheduled yet.

An Interesting Website

A very interesting website can be reached at www.trainelectronics.com. In particular, the "Articles" and "Projects" sections have some helpful hints, ideas, and projects. The "Lazy Susan Train" is certainly unusual where the train is relatively stationary and the scenery and track rotates.



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