



NEWSLETTER

See our Web page at <http://www.rcgrs.com/>
April 2007

Notes from the President Darrel Dunham

The annual "Railroads in the Garden" Summer Tour is scheduled for Saturday, June 16th. ALL members need to become involved in this project because it is our main source of funds to operate the club and pay the bills. We will only have a one day show this year with 9 layouts open. Members are needed to help at the layouts that are on the tour. We normally need 3-4 members at each layout to aid the hosts. Hosts are normally talking to the visitors; other members are needed to help in keeping the trains running, checking and/or selling tour books, and asking visitors to sign the registration book. If we can get enough people to volunteer, we can have two shifts and thereby giving everyone a break. Please Help. Call Bill Derville, 503-645-1771 or bderville@generaltool.com

Some very good activities for our members have occurred so far this year. We were involved in the Worlds Greatest Hobby Show in February. A big thanks to Jeff Lange for being the Chairperson for the event. Also I want to thank Christina Brittain for her tireless effort to get members involved in setting up, scheduled the running of trains during the show and taking down the modules.

In March we had two events. The first was the tour of the roundhouse where the SP Daylight 4449 and the SP&S 700 steamers are kept. We were also given a train ride from North Milwaukee to OMSI and return. The second was last weekend when we were given the treat of seeing a large indoor layout being created by Larry Staver. He has created a warehouse size layout in G-scale. Penny Walker arranged the visit after seeing a notice of it in the paper. Larry opens his layout to the public on the first Friday of each month between 5:30 and 9 p.m.

Do not forget to check for our upcoming events in the newsletter or our Website. We still have a couple of dates still open for our Monthly Event on the 2nd weekend of each month. Check out the schedule at the end of the Newsletter for details.

It seems that we have lost some of our new members that joined just last year. We need a volunteer to come forward and be our Membership Chairman. I would like this person to set up a program to assign a current member to be a Mentor for all new members for the first year. Maybe these new members do not have the whatever to reach out and ask for help if they need it. The Mentor will contact them and invite them to our functions, answer or get answers for the new member. The object is to get more members involved and by showing some club interest in them, maybe we can reverse this action of losing new members. Please contact me at 253-222-8367 or dwdunham@msn.com or any of the club officers if you are interested in getting involved.

We have several other members that have not renewed their membership for 2007. This will be the last newsletter for anyone without their dues paid. We are sorry that you have chosen not to renew, we will miss you as a Member of the RCGRS. I would like to understand why you chose to not continue. Please let me know so we may be able to make changes to the club in order to make it better for all our members. If you would, contact any officer and express your thoughts. Thank you.

Anyone wanting to purchase Club Shirts should order them from Margaret Kooken at dmkooken@pacifier.com or 360-695-0389. We have two different men's and women's shirts as well as club hats this year. (See the clothing notice from Margaret in this newsletter.)

Darrel

Oregon Pacific Railroad Railfan Trip

Our member, Bob Beveridge, arranged for a railfan trip on the Oregon Pacific Railroad on Saturday, March 10, 2007. Many of our members and friends took advantage of this ride as the train made its way along the scenic East Portland Branch right-of-way from the rail yard at Ochoco Street to OMSI

and return. A light lunch was served on board to those passengers who had made reservations.

The train was pushed/pulled by the railroad's newest locomotive, a beautifully refurbished EMD SW1200. There were three cabooses on the train for those that wanted the experience of riding in a caboose. Most of the passengers opted for the more comfortable and congenial coach.



SW1200 locomotive and first caboose now ready for the railfan trip



Coach and second caboose



The coach passengers are ready for the trip



Christina Brittain and Bud Quinn consider a ride in the last caboose

The Oregon Pacific Railroad is a family owned and operated railroad located in the Greater Portland Metro Area. This short line consists of two primary divisions, the East Portland Branch and the Molalla

Branch. Although primarily a freight railroad, the Oregon Pacific is famous for its friendly attitude toward rail fans and has hosted a number of rail fan and community oriented events, including steam train rides.



Kellen enjoys his ride in the cupola

The Oregon Pacific Railroad is owned by Richard “Dick” Samuels and is operated primarily by him and his family. He has owned and operated this railroad since 1987 when he first organized it to take over the Portland Traction Company Railroad in East Portland. Mr. Samuels later purchased the Southern Pacific Molalla Branch in 1993 and the two divisions now comprise the Oregon Pacific Railroad.

Mr. Samuels was able to revive these two railroads with a sincere dedication to customer service and that continues to this day. There’s no doubt that the Oregon Pacific Railroad will be here for many years to come serving customers near the two branch lines.

Soon a new era of the Oregon Pacific Railroad may emerge as Mr. Samuels and his family look to eventually open Portland’s first railroad and transporta-

tion museum near Oaks Park. This community oriented project is still in the very early stages of development, so stay tuned. More information is available on the OPR web page at <http://www.brian894x4.com/OregonPacificRR-history.html> (no dash after RR)

The Roundhouse for the 4449 and the 700

Following the OPR railfan trip, people were invited to tour the facilities where the 4449 and 700 steam locomotives are kept. The first order of the day was a safety talk to encourage the visitors to keep from injury while touring a place where large machines and work activity was occurring. One of our tour and safety guides was Harvey Rosener. He is responsible for much of the electrical work on the locomotives and is often referred to as the “Semi-Conductor.”



“Semi-Conductor” Harvey Rosener stands in front of the 84-inch drivers of the 4449.

Open House at the Larry Staver Large Indoor Layout

Larry Staver owns and has refurbished the former 160 x 100' Northwest Marine and Ironworks warehouse. After seeing an article in the "Portland Tribune", Penny Walker arranged a tour of Larry Staver's large enterprise. Larry has started building a large G-scale railroad in the building and expects to eventually connect to a large outdoor layout to be built on the adjacent lot. There is currently a 400-ft folded dog bone loop with at least three train make-up areas and adjacent passing sidings. The railroad is for steam power and battery power locomotives only. There is no track power. Live steam operating sessions are often available to Larry's friends.



Host Larry Staver discusses his railroad with President Darrel Dunham

Larry makes everything for his railroad. The rail is rolled steel strips purchased in 12-ft. sections and butt welded using a mortise and tendon interlocking design. The track ties are cedar which are precut in jigs in his track manufacturing shop. The finished visual effect is such that it takes a close observation to realize the track is not typical railroad configuration. The rail switches are also made by

Larry and are more prototypical in their long sweeping turnouts.

Larry builds for stout! The track bed is set at table height and supported by 4 x 4 wood trusses. The track bed is custom cut steel "pans" that hold the track and gravel ballast. There is enough room for a parallel track if desired later.

A well-equipped woodworking shop is used to supply the wooden structures. There is also a well-equipped machine shop that can handle both large and small projects.

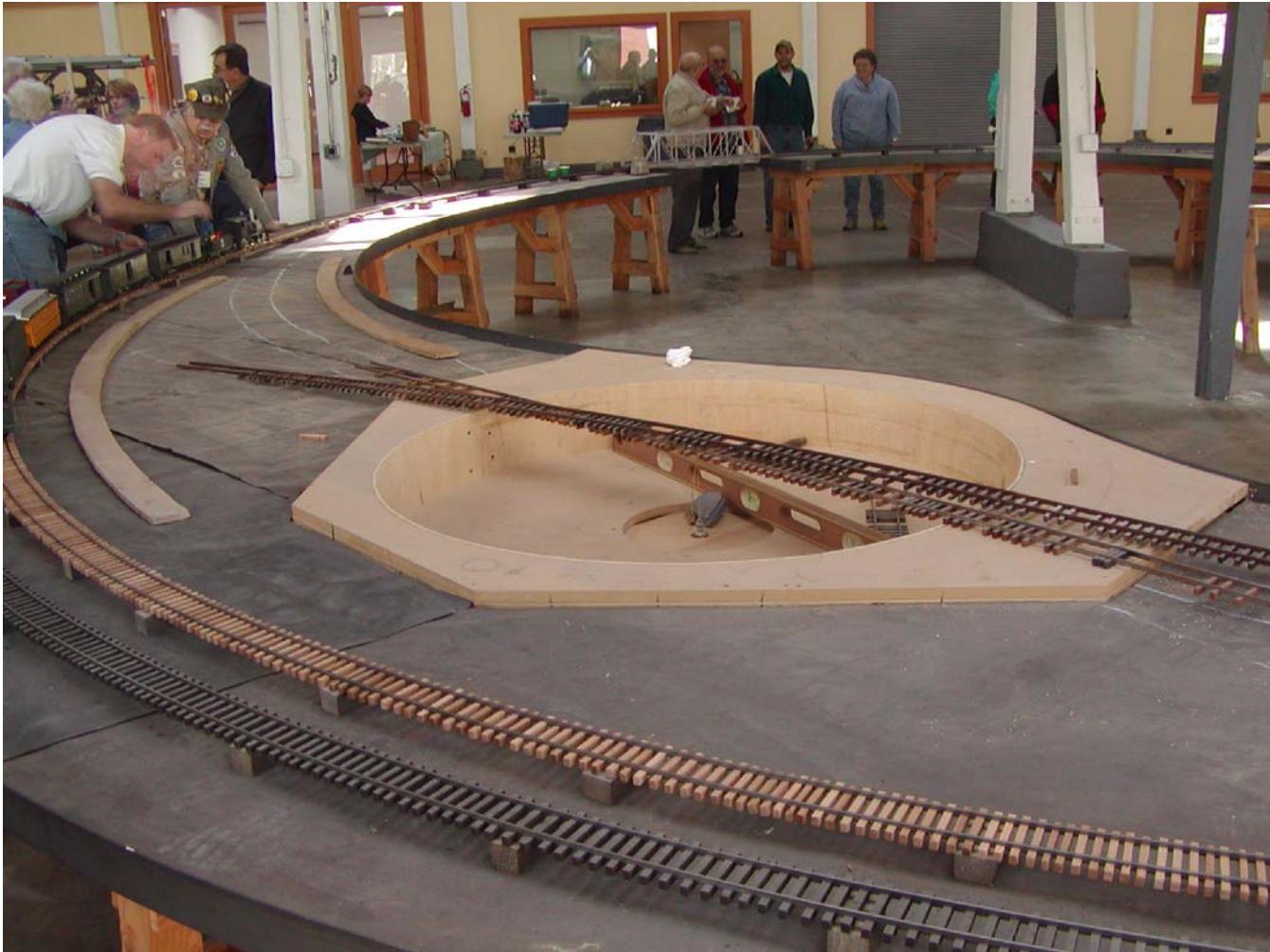


There were a number of various steamers in the shop in stages of assembly or repair.

Some members brought their live steamers to run on this new railroad. Joe Eckert was able to run his "new-out-of-the-box" 2-6-0 for the first time. Mike Greenwood had his "Climax" running well and pulling his log train. Dennis Rose brought his new passenger train. Jeff Lange prepared to pull his early era passenger train.



Jeff Lange prepares his passenger train for operation.



A turntable in progress. Also shown is the construction of the road bed. Gravel ballast has not yet been added to this section of the road bed.



Joe Eckert prepares his new 2-6-0 steamer for its first run.



Mike Greenwood checks on Joe Eckert's progress as Mike's "Climax" steams by.



Those must be “old growth” logs being pulled by Mike Greenwood’s “Climax”



Carolyn and Dennis Rose prepare their 2-6-0 for operation as “Tim” looks on.



Mike Greenwood makes a repair while Dennis Peoples and Jerry Clark watch Barbara Clark learn about a remote control.

RCGRS Clothing From Margaret Kooken

At the Annual Meeting in January, RCGRS members decided on a new shirt design and started placing their orders. Most have been delivered.

We would like to share with you some of the information gained in searching for a reliable, on-going

source of shirts, or other types of apparel suitable for our club logo.

Most members ordered either shirts with green piping, or stone washed denim, or both. Some ordered entirely different colors and styles, and some ordered caps.

The source of supply is a “mom and pop” operation, run by long-time residents, in Orchards, WA, named ”Designs of all Kinds.” Though they have dozens of one-of-a-kind samples on display, most ordering is done through their catalog.

They have our logo embroidery programmed into their computer, and probably could put it on most anything you would want, for a small charge. If you purchase the garment from their catalog, there is no charge for adding the club logo.

Oregon residents pay no sales tax. Anything ordered through our club treasurer pays no sales tax.

If you want a two week turnaround for your order, you will have to pay the shipping charges unless you order \$300 worth. If it is a small order, and you are in no hurry, they can sometimes include it in another shipment so you don’t have to pay for shipping. For example, our hats were ordered that way. For \$10, we received a nice cap, complete with club logo.

If you wish to look at the extensive catalog, see Margaret or Dave at their open house on April 15. Though it is a walk-in, their business address is not easy to find the first time you go there. If you want to drive there, ask Margaret or Dave for directions.

Their web site is www.designsofallkinds.com or you can e-mail Mike Hertz at mike@designsofallkinds.com

Editor’s Note: The deadline for the May 2007 newsletter is April 25th, 2007.

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Schedules & Timetables

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

Anyone interested in having an Open House or sponsoring an event, please contact **Christina Brittain**. The following events so far for 2007 are listed below.

April 15, 2007, Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.: Open house at Dave and Margaret Kooken's, 7542 Carolina Lane, Vancouver, WA 98664; 360-695-0389 or dmkooken@pacifier.com. The Kookens will serve dessert, bread and coffee. Pot Luck: A to G main dish, H to M side dish, N to T salad, V to Z snacks.

Directions to the Kooken's:

From I-5 go east on Highway 14 or from 205 go west on Hwy. 14 to exit #4. Go north on Lieser Road (up a hill) to a 4-way stop.

Turn left at the stop onto McArthur. Immediately get in the right lane. Turn right in just one block onto Miami Way. Go to the end of Miami Way.

May 12, 2007, Saturday: Open house at Ron and Marlene Bacon's, 31262 SW Laurelview Road, Hillsboro, OR 97123; 503-628-2300 or mbacon@centrificata.com. A Board meeting is scheduled before the open house time and a quarterly meeting is scheduled after the meal.

May 26, 2007, Saturday: Open house at Dennis and Carolyn Rose's, 18325 SW Jaylee St., Hillsboro, OR 97007; 503-649-4904. Hot dishes or salads are welcome. Dessert will be supplied.

11:00 a.m. – Alaska Group update

Noon – Social time

1:00 p.m. – Lunch

June 16, 2007, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.: "Railroads In The Garden" RCGRS Summer Tour.

July 7-8, 2007: Open

July 15, 2007, Sunday: Open house at Gary & Jonette Lee's. 34140 SE Hurlburt Road; Corbett, OR 97019; 503-695-2550 or gary@constructavision.com.

August 4, 2007, Saturday, 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.: Open house at Ron Dunham, 5044 NE Alberta Court, Portland, OR 97218, 503-287-9803. Hamburgers and hotdogs supplied. Beverages and side dishes appreciated.

August 12, 2007, Sunday: Open house at Quinn Mountain (Bud Quinn & Christina Brittain), 812 Canyon Creek Road, Washougal, WA 98671; 360-837-3711. Main meat dish and beverages supplied. A-C Bread; D-H Side Dish; I-O Salad, P-Z Dessert. A Board meeting is scheduled before the open house time and a quarterly meeting is scheduled after the meal.

September 8, 2007, Saturday: Open house at Mike and Terri Greenwood's. 7007 N. Borthwick; Portland, OR 97219; 503-225-9373.

October 2007: Open (Halloween theme)

November 2007: Annual RCGRS Banquet

December 2007: Tentatively Jan and Rae Zweerts.