

Party Town & Farmdale Railroad

A beautiful Halloween theme was displayed at Shannon Pratt's Party Town & Farmdale Railroad on October 14, 2006. This Märklin only 1:32 scale railroad takes on a completely different display

in accordance with each season. In December 2005, the railroad honored the Christmas season. This year the theme was Halloween. The sounds, lights and operations are all electronically controlled.



A big Halloween celebration is underway in Party Town. The Halloween annual parade threads its way through the streets. The town is well decorated with appropriate miniature Halloween figures. The animated Ferris Wheel and amusement park rides are in full operation.



Party Town: The celebration is in full swing with an active Ferris Wheel, Pumpkin Ride, and music in the gazebo. The parade is passing in the street. Other party goers in the open air car are waiting for the train to leave the station.



Party Town station and engine house.



Farmdale also celebrates Halloween. Beautiful miniature decorations adorn the town.

2006 Annual Ghost Train Event

Allan and Kathryn Warrior's Burlington and Missouri River Railroad (BMRR) was the site of this year's Ghost Train Event. Members and guests are invited each year to decorate a car, locomotive, or train in a Halloween theme so that a ghostly and Halloween train can be assembled and run to celebrate the season.

The buildings and streets of the towns on the

BMRR are illuminated with miniature lights. The timing of the open house was set so that the candles and lights of the Ghost Train could be run at dusk in conjunction with the lighted railroad.

There are definite signs of railroad expansions as new trackage was in evidence in the front yard. The new electric control panel is also suggestive of things to come. Most of the switches in the Creston switch yard are now remotely controlled.



The beginnings of the Ghost Train The train eventually grew long enough that a GP30 had to be added as a helper engine.



A daylight run of some of the Ghost Train cars. There are additional cars yet to be added.



Jeff Lange's car on arrival



Halloween riders on a straw bale



Jeff Lange's car after an extended night run



Dave Kookan surveys the cemetery behind the house while Karen and Ken Shipman and Allan Warrior discuss an issue.



Mike Keffeler, Jan Zweerts, and Bud Quinn enjoy liquid refreshment



Two of the neighborhood boys came and helped set up the railroad and then ran trains for the day. Allan checks out Nick's operation.

An Impressive Structure



One of the highest and longest trestles in Oregon. This **Portland & Western/Willamette & Pacific Railroad** trestle crosses over NW Dick Road about two miles north of Hillsboro, Oregon. This trestle is approximately 150 feet tall and 1,200 feet long.

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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 Britain**.

November 11, 2006, Saturday, 4:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. RCGRS Annual Banquet. The location is at the Masonic Lodge, 4600 SW Watson, Beaverton, Oregon (corner of 4th and Watson) and just SW of Tammie's Hobby Shop.

The dinner is \$20 per person and includes a four-course dinner, work shops, and a door prize ticket. Your reservation was due October 24th.

Schedule:

4:00 p.m.	Doors open and social time.
5:00 – 6:45 p.m.	Workshops
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Dinner
8:00 – 10:00 p.m.	Raffles

December 8, 2006, Friday, 6:30 to 10:00 p.m.: Jan & Rae Zweerts are hosting an open house. Their houseboat is at Jantzen Beach, The Christmas ships will be sailing past their house that same evening. Jan's European railroad which is on a floating deck next to the houseboat will be in operation.

Hot Cider and Chili will be served, finger food is welcomed. An RSVP will help them know how much chili to make.

Address: 1859 N. Jantzen Ave. Portland 97217 (503-247-7531 or cell phone 503-705-3840).

Directions: Take I-5 to Jantzen Beach exit. Park between Home Depot and the Burlington Coat Factory. Walk from the parking lot south to the pedestrian gate down ramp #4. The pedestrian gate is open 6 to 10 p.m. Tell the security guard "Zweerts Party". Then walk west to Row O and proceed down Row O to the last home on the walkway. Watch for "Z" train signs.

Warnings: The ramp is grated and is steep (10% slope), wear non-slip shoes. Put your keys away before you leave land (the river won't give them back). The G-Scale trains have the right of way. Jan would appreciate it if you would use the steps to get over the catenary.

Jan is looking for 2-4 members who would like to run throttles from inside out of the rain, in order to run interesting routes and prevent crashes. I still need to finish wiring and may need to borrow an LGB EPL switch throw box. E-mail me at janzweerts@aol.com or phone 503-705-3840.

Editor's Note: The deadline for the December newsletter is November 30, 2006. The December newsletter will be issued after December 1st because the editor will be in England for Thanksgiving week.