

NEWSLETTER

See our Web page at http://www.rcgrs.com/

November 2010

Notes from President Jeff Lange

What a busy couple of months this has been since last summer's National Garden Railroad Convention in Tacoma ended back in August. With all of our club-related events, it was hard to keep track of them all! The trip to Tom Miller's ride-on railroad in Schollls, Oregon in September was fantastic, and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves again this year. His outdoor layout was busy hauling passengers around the large property, and in-between runs, we all enjoyed touring his magnificent museum-quality indoor F-scale layout. I caught myself looking for every new little detail that had been added since last year, along with others in our group doing the same. Lunch outside on his picnic grounds completed the beautiful day. Let's hope we are fortunate enough to be able to do this again next year, if Tom is open to hosting our club once again.

The operating sessions seemed like they were every other week. I hope you were able to take in at least a few of them. I was fortunate enough to make it over to Bill Derville's, and what fun we all had building and breaking apart large consists to go from place to place. Bill had worked very hard setting out different cars at all types of locations, and it was fun work getting them all moved from A to B to C and back again. We worked in teams late into the evening, and all of those present really seemed to enjoy themselves. I learned a lot about how these sessions are choreographed from Bill. Another good one that I was able to attend was over at Allan Warrior's in early October, again in teams, with large consist-building, shuffling of cars, and hauling of long trains. All of his towns light up so nicely after dark, and it was a pleasure being a part of this great operating session. Dinner at both sessions kept everyone from going hungry, and great socializing takes place at the outdoor dinners. I was truly sorry to have missed both Nick's and Gary's operating sessions, along with the Mod SIG groups efforts over at Steve Cogswell's home. As you know, I had been fairly busy finishing up the construction on my own layout, just in time to host the open house on October 16th. The track laying crew that came over on September 25th helped out tremendously, and without them, my layout would not have been ready for the Halloween event. (See the October newsletter for more details)

The trip to Klamath Falls/Crater Lake/Train Mountain on October 8 – 10 was a huge success, thanks in no small part to Carolyn Rose's excellent travelagent skills. For those who were able to go, I know that I speak for all of us in that it was a wonderful and very entertaining trip. It was fun to have a former club member, Gordon Pisle, who greeted our bus, and acted as our tour guide when we arrived at Train Mountain. We also had a chance to visit with former club members Sharon and Dennis Ediger while touring the grounds. They had both owned and worked at the former Cobbler Train shop in Camas, Washington before retiring and closing their store recently.

Train Mountain simply has to been seen to understand the magnitude of what they have accomplished, and they are not done building. There may be as much as 40 miles of 7.5 inch track laid down already. I heard it takes about 6 or 7 hours by train to see the entire route that is in place. If you have a chance to go to Klamath Falls in the near future, do not hesitate to make a trip over to see this fabulous railroad.

We also discussed as a group about more clubsponsored trips in the near future, and one is possibly aboard the dinner train at the Mt. Hood Railroad in Hood River, Oregon. Don't forget to RSVP to Jan Zweerts if you plan on going to any of his movie nights over at the Fanno Creek Brew Pub in Tigard, Oregon. I try never to miss one. They are always a lot of fun, and the menu is reasonably priced, along with great service.

I hope everyone is making plans to attend the November banquet in Canby and that you are working on your models for the model display that Greg puts together. Let's see who can surprise the rest of us this year with your best work and clever creations again in this great annual event.

My best to all of you for the approaching Holiday Season.— Sincerely, Jeff

Lakeview and Boulder Railroad

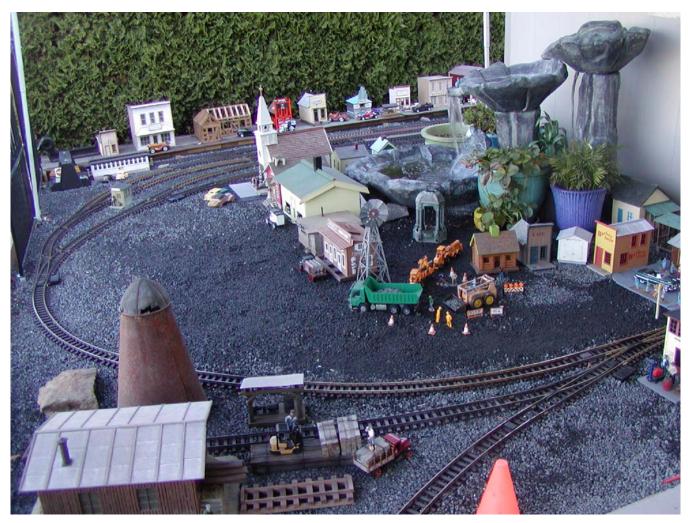
Jeff and Dianne Lange were the open house hosts on October 16th. By working late into the night, the track was all connected so that the radically rebuilt railroad was operable. Jeff hopes that this will be the last time this railroad will be rebuilt. Jeff says, "This is my third and final rebuild on the Lake View and Boulder Railroad. The first one was completed in 1995, and was toured by the entire Rose City club on Saturday, September 25, 1995. The second one was rebuilt and completed in 1999, and again, toured by the entire club, plus it was on the summer garden railroad tour once. The third one I started rebuilding in 2008, but was delayed for 18 months by the rebuilding of my retaining wall twice, so I actually completed the third layout you currently see on September 25, 2010, the 15th anniversary to the day of the completion of my first layout."



Dianne and Jeff Lange



An older "boy" and his toys. Steve Cogswell packs up his beautiful Napa Valley passenger train after a run on the large inner loop of the Lake View and Boulder Railroad.



After negotiating a steep grade across the driveway entrance, the tracks loop through a small town and

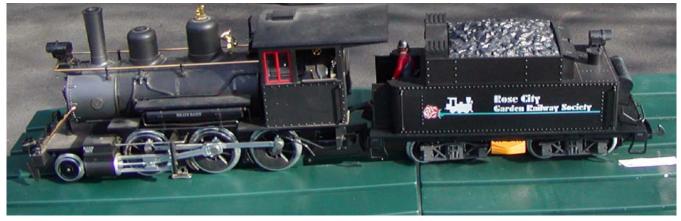
then across the upper part of the driveway to continue through the backyard right-of-ways.



Both loops follow the periphery of the yard. The outer loop follows a serpentine path with a 3%

grade over bridges and trestles to the highest point of the property and then descends to the relative flat that follows the infamous fence across the back yard. The inner loop runs generally parallel to the

outer loop but does not climb to the acme of the yard.



New RCGRS Mogul to be used for RCGRS displays. Note the lettering on the tender.

Unofficial Minutes of the Third Quarterly Meeting

The quarterly meeting of RCGRS was called to order by President Jeff Lange at 2:05 p.m..

Secretary, Kathryn Warrior read the minutes of the second quarterly meeting. Bill Derville moved that the minutes be accepted as read and distributed via email. Motion seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Cogswell reported Summer Tour proceeds of \$1327.82, income of \$2,454.58, expenses of \$1537.31 and net profit of \$917.27. Steve also reported that the club is nearly out of ballast so more needs to be picked up.

Yardmasters Report – Greg Martin reported the trailer is now registered. An inventory of club property has been taken.

Vice President's Report/Intro of New Members-Nick Kelsey stated there were no new members present. Nick asked about interest in a class on using Yahoo Groups at the banquet. A class will be scheduled.

Committee Reports:

Summer Tour Chair Report – Bill Derville had no report and announced that the first meeting will be in January 2011. The tour will be Father's day weekend of 2011. Penny Walker reported a request for a permanent sign advertising the tour from some of the stores that sell the tour books. OPSIG Report – Nick Kelsey reported a great session at Gary Lee's in the sunshine (7 trains ran). The last session is scheduled for next Friday at Nick's and then off for the winter. This second season has been a lot of fun and has had more breakage. Nick expressed thanks to the club for support of OPSIG.

MODSIG Report – Greg Martin reported that they have decided on a track plan with 2 main lines, 2 bridges plus the one Mike Greenwood built and 2 external yards with peninsula fashion. A sub group to research bridge was established Jan Zweerts reported a lift bridge with 2 tracks is in the works. Subgroups for modeling, landscaping, public contact and operations are being established. Christina Brittain is contact for landscaping subgroup which has a purpose of getting garden back into display at the show at the Expo center in February. Dennis & Carolyn Rose plus Dave & Margaret Kooken are also part of this sub group.

Operations-Darrel Dunham will organize scheduling of volunteers for show.

Greg is still looking for volunteers for public contact with materials at table and promoting the club among the people attending (Larry Blair volunteered).

A volunteer is still needed to coordinate members who would want to have their models on display which would interface with the garden & landscaping group. It was suggested that we include information to members that security is provided for show overnight.

They have had 2 work sessions since the last meeting. They have a work session coming up on October 23rd at Steve Cogswell's (the clubhouse) from 10 to 3. They will be laying track on yard and approaches. The Great Train Expo will be February 19th and 20th. Plans are to have a main lay out, including the layout from Mike Greenwood and Thomas will be running. There will also be information table with membership information, photo albums of layouts.

Greg feels that the MODSIG group is at a crossroads and could use the help and support from the club on this work. Please submit questions and ideas via email to Greg

Banquet – Nick Kelsey, Steve Cogswell, Greg Martin: The 2010 RCGRS Banquet will be held at Canby Adult Center. The same caterer as last year will be provided at the same price which includes meal, snacks, drinks for \$23 per person. The committee is working on clinics. Raffle-pictures of items are inside. This year a change has been made to the raffle: a person can get 2 wins and if get a 3rd one can trade or pass. This year instead of a model contest there will be a model display inviting members to come show off what you've done. Please tell Nick and Greg what you are bringing. This display will be in the pool room making more room in dining room. We will also have use of computer room for a class on using the yahoo group.

Klamath Falls Trip – Carolyn Rose announced that she is passing a card around for Gordon Pisle to thank him for tour at Train Mountain. Carolyn reported on plans for trip to Glacier National Park August 5th through August 8th. Carolyn has information available for people interested in the trip. Cost for one person under 62 is \$700/ 2 people cheaper.

Jeff Lange recognized Gordon Pisle for providing tours at Train Mountain for the group.

New Business: Bill Dippert moved that a locomotive number of 1990 (the date club was established) be added to the club engine. Motion seconded and approved.

Bill Derville, Gary Lee, and Penny Walker need help with building display at Al's Garden Center next Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. or so. This will be the 3rd year in a row that club has provided a holiday display at Al's Garden Center. This is a way of promoting the club.

Jan Zweerts: Movie night is a continuation of activity established last winter. Movie nights have been scheduled for October 23rd and November 6th. Kontrol, Hungarian with English sub titles, the Titfield Thunderbolt. Sign-up sheets have been put out inside with attendance limited to 30 people.

Dave Kooken provided an update on Bob Kumamoto's donation of train items to the club. Originally it was intended to have these items at the annual auction, but there were so many items offered at this year's auction that the officers decided this inventory will be added as prizes at the banquet.

The Annual RCGRS Business Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 15th at the Columbia Gorge Model Layout.

Jeff thanked all for coming and thanked all who helped rebuild his layout for the 3rd time. Jeff announced that they have decided to stay open until 8 p.m.. Rex and Carla Ploederer are driving up from Salem and will be here about 5 p.m..

Jan Zweerts announced annual Christmas ships on December 10th, 7 p.m. Rae will provide chili and hot cider.

Darrell Dunham moved that the meeting adjourn. Motion seconded and approved.

Kathryn Warrior, Secretary

RCGRS Goes On A Rail Trip

All Aboard! Nineteen members and friends boarded the Amtrak "Coast Starlight" for a threeday weekend trip to Klamath Falls, Oregon. Arriving in Klamath Falls on Friday evening, we were ferried to our hotel for a short night in preparation for an 8:30 a.m. bus trip to Crater Lake.



We gather at Union Station



Carolyn verifies the head count to the attendant

It was a beautiful and brisk day with the fall colors and the clouds drifting by obscuring the lake at times. We ate lunch at the lodge and departed for Train Mountain.

Gordon Pisle and other volunteers at Train Mountain (near Chiloquin, OR) met us at the gate and



The conductor gives us our seat assignments

transferred us to waiting trains. These trains run on 7.5-inch gauge track and are large enough for passengers. After riding some considerable distance, we arrived at the area where a large G-scale development is in process. Former RCGRS members Dennis and Sharon Ediger have moved to the Train Mountain area after retiring from Camas, WA and



Rest stop on the way to Crater Lake

are two of the principals involved in building the new G-scale railroad.



Allan and Kathryn enjoy a quiet moment at the rim



Note the "chair car" next to the locomotive



Some of the many buildings along the R-O-W



A G-scale unit train on the trestle and passes the lake and threads its way though the forest. The railway is track powered at this time by a motor generator unit.

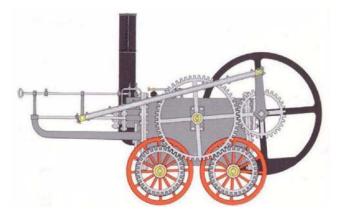
The Train Mountain Railroad Museum is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of our railroad heritage. It is located in Southern Oregon on over 2000 acres of Ponderosa Pine forest in Klamath County. Train Mountain currently has more than 70,000 feet (14 miles) of $7^{1}/_{2}$ gauge mainline track and is approaching 40 miles total trackage, which includes yards, sidings, and connector tracks. In the 2004 Guinness World RecordsTM recognized Train Mountain as the "Longest Miniature Hobby Railroad". Amtrak was on time early Sunday morning and we arrived back in Portland late in the afternoon. The fall scenery seen during the trip was an additional benefit.



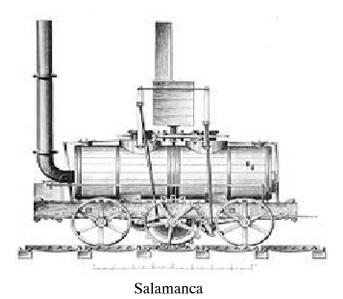
Fresh out of the RELCO shops at Albia, Iowa for BNS, this beautifully rebuilt rotary snow plow paused at Creston, Iowa on October 23, 2010 on its way west to deal with the winter snows.

First Steam locomotives

The first full scale working railway steam locomotive was built by Richard Trevithick in the United Kingdom and, on 21 February 1804, the world's first railway journey took place as Trevithick's unnamed steam locomotive hauled a train along the tramway of the Penydarren ironworks, near Merthyr Tydfil in south Wales. Accompanied with Andrew Vivian, it ran with mixed success. Then followed the successful twin cylinder locomotive Salamanca by Matthew Murray for the edge railed rack and pinion Middleton Railway in 1812.



Trevithick's unnamed steam locomotive



Salamanca was the first commercially successful steam locomotive, built in 1812 by Matthew Murray of Holbeck, for the edge railed Middleton Railway between Middleton and Leeds. It was the first to have two cylinders.

Salamanca was the first rack and pinion locomotive, using John Blenkinsop's patented design for rack propulsion. A single rack ran outside the narrow gauge tracks and was engaged by a large cog wheel on the left side of the locomotive. The cog wheel was driven by twin cylinders embedded into the top of the centre-flue boiler. The class was described as having two 8"x20" cylinders, driving the wheels through cranks. The piston crossheads worked in guides, rather than being controlled by parallel motion like the majority of early locomotives. The engines saw up to twenty years of service.

Four such locomotives were built for the railway. Salamanca was destroyed six years later, when its boiler exploded. According to George Stephenson, giving evidence to a committee of Parliament, the driver had tampered with the boiler safety valve.

Railroad Movie Saturday Night November 6, 2010

There Will Always be an England!

Time: 6 p.m. Preshow; 7 p.m. Feature Presentation Preshow: Parade of Preserved British Diesel Locomotives Feature Presentation: **The Titfield Thunderbolt** 85 min.

Location: Fanno Creek Brew Pub 12562 SW Main St. Tigard.

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. This location is on the south end of Main St. Tigard just off 99W and should be easy to find for most club members. Seating is limited to 28–30 members due sightlines in the backroom. Please RSVP to Jan Zweerts via the Yahoo club web site or leave a message at 503–247–7531.

Movie Review By Sirin (London, UK):

The Ealing comedies are much beloved, especially by those who remember the 1940s and 1950s in England with a wistful nostalgia — a simpler, more innocent age of fair isle sweaters, kindly vicars and steam trains.

The **Titfield Thunderbolt** captures all of these themes in a delightful, broad comedy that centres around the attempts of the villagers of Titfield to run their own branch railway service, under threat of closure from British Railways (a nice precursor of Dr. Beeching). Local vicar and railway enthusiast Sam Weech and squire Gordon Chesterfield secure backing from bibulous local financier Walter Valentine, on the grounds that train bars are not restricted by normal licensing hours, thus enabling Walter to drink in the morning.

All the village launches into the madcap scheme, as the railway is pitted against rival bus owners. They survive numerous ordeals and sabotages, but tragedy strikes on the eve of their inspection from British Railways when the bus owners finally manage to derail their train beyond repair. No matter, drifter ex railwayman Dan comes to the rescue, tracking down the Titfield Thunderbolt and hijacking it from its display in the museum. His own home (a dilapidated railway carriage) is hastily called into service as a replacement passenger car.

So the villagers are all set to meet the inspectors – will they succeed? The comedy continues to the

end, full of innocent enthusiasm, railway mad vicars and goodwill from the local community.

Titfield Thunderbolt is a wonderful British classic and should not be missed; the preshow features 50 English diesels, ranging from ugly brawny to powerfully cute that they will enchant the viewer or cause more brew to be drunk.

Once again please RSVP to Jan Zweerts via the Yahoo club web site or leave a message at 503–247–7531.

Schedules & 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.

November 6, 2010, Saturday, 6:00 p.m.: Movie Night— See the description above.

November 13, 2010, Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.: Annual RCGRS Luncheon/Banquet; Canby Adult Center 1250 S. Ivy St. Canby, OR Same caterer as last year.

Clinics, Workshops, Lunch, Model Show and Raffle. Changes from last year: Model Show: (not a contest). Bring your latest creations and show them off.

December 10, 2010, Friday Evening: Jan and Rae Zweerts open house and viewing of the Christmas ships. Rae will provide vegetarian, regular, and hot

chilli.. Beverages, including beer and wine, and finger-foods from guests are welcome.

Jan & Rae Zweerts 1859 N. Jantzen Avenue, Row O, Slip 9 (Last House), Portland, OR, Phone: 503–247–7531. 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.

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