

Ron Dunham's Railway

A nice summer afternoon was in store for members and guests crowding into Ron Dunham's small backyard for his open house. The potluck was successful, food plentiful, and Ron's nephew barbecued the hamburgers.

Because of Ron's physical limitations, his railway is built waist high across his back yard. The track design is basically a "folded dog bone" with several switch sidings. A village sits at one end of the "turn around" and a series of tunnels are at the other end of the dog bone. The tunnels have side opening pan-

els in case the track must be accessed because of a derailment.



The village at one end of the "dogbone".



The turnaround at the other end of the “dogbone”.



A wayside village



Where is the rest of the train?



Hoping for a large fish in a small pond



Guests at this lodge must be careful exiting the door because it is a long step down from the mountain

Quinn Mountain by Jeff Lange

The open house was wonderful. About 35 or so folks attended. The weather was cooler, and slightly overcast, which was perfect. Bud Quinn and Christina Britain have certainly worked very hard on their outdoor railroad, and many lovely small plants were displayed very nicely, amidst a small waterfall and running creek. Bud's newest expansion travels into the new covered area, and then returns to the mainline out front. Their new addition of a covered eating area was very nice. The potluck was served about 1:30 p.m. and trains ran throughout the afternoon.



Hosts Bud Quinn and Christina Brittain (behind Bud) talk to some of their guests



The Disney Train belonging to Terri Greenwood was very charming, and Mike had to rescue it after a small collision, with no damage.



Ooops!



Ron Bacon's large engine made the rounds, as did Jan Zweertz's European train, along with Mike and Terri Greenwood's 'Goofy Express', complete with battery power, Airwire controller, and sound, cleverly installed in the smokestack by Mike.



Barbara and Jerry Clark's BNSF U-25B made an impression, pulling a large freight train round and round, with great Sierra sound installed. The locomotive is passing one of the water features on the railway.



Rex Ploederer, Mike Greenwood, Dennis Rose, Gary Lee, and Bud Quinn hold their locomotives as they stand behind the new Traeger grill. The Traeger grill company wanted a picture of their unique barbecue made to look like a steam engine. They are out of Lebanon, Oregon, and the winning photograph was to get a large supply of free wood pellets to use with their product, hence the pictures of the gang behind the grill.

Tom Miller's Very Large Scale Railroad

We have once again been generously invited to visit Tom Miller's outdoor riding railroad. The date is **Saturday, September 29th beginning at 10 a.m.** This is a great outdoor railroad that our club has enjoyed visiting annually for the past 3 years. Tom has 2 miles of track on his 10 acre property. A ride behind one of his live steam engines takes about 20 minutes and includes a trip over a 100 foot long and 3 story high trestle, and a tunnel as long as a football field.

Tom is also building a world class indoor F-scale (1.20:1) that captures the flavor and in some cases actual scenes on the Cumbers and Toltek Railroad under steam power. This is rapidly becoming one of the finest indoor railroads anyone has ever seen. He also has a great model ship collection.

Tom asks that no children under 16 years old attend this event. He also asks that no one come on the property before 10:00 a.m. We all look forward to a great morning. Feel free to bring a sandwich as he has a picnic area. There will be no food or drink at this event other than what you bring. The event should conclude around lunch time or shortly thereafter. Hope you can all attend.

--Bill Derville 503-499-6483

Railroad Trivia

Submitted by Steven J. Levine and Jonathan Harris

Until recent decades, the toilets in the passenger cars dumped directly onto the tracks. Hence, there was an admonition not to use the toilets when the train was stopped at the station.

Antonin Dvorak, a Czech composer, who coincidentally was a huge railfan, was in the US from 1892 to 1895, serving as director of the National Conservatory of Music in New York City (this is when he composed his famous "New World Symphony").

Dvorak's being here was a really big deal, as he was enormously famous and admired. His annual salary

of \$15,000 was huge for the time. Awestruck students and other musicians came from all over to visit him. They would go to his office to talk to the Great Man about their compositions, but (so the story goes) Dvorak would never let them get started until he had thoroughly pummeled them for information about every locomotive they had seen or ridden behind on their way there. The following ditty was set to music by Dvorak (a piano piece called "Humoresque"):

Passengers will please refrain
From flushing toilet while the train
Is in the station. Baby, that means you!

We encourage constipation
While the train is in the station,
But as soon as it goes, you can too.

Another version went:

Passengers will please refrain,
from flushing toilets while the train,
is sitting in the station, I love you.

If upon the pot you sit,
you must remember not to s##t,
while sitting in the station, I love you.

Pacific Crossings Model Railroad Club Presents: A Fall Tour of Garden Railroads

Please join us for a tour of seven outdoor Garden Railroads in the Salem area. Each railroad is different and vary in size from small, backyard layouts to a more elaborate display that covers both the front and back yard. All are enhanced by the inclusion of real miniature trees, shrubs, and ground cover. Garden railroads are the fastest growing facet of the model train hobby and this is your chance for you and your family to view these fascinating displays.

Half of the proceeds from this event are being donated to the Salem Mission Mill Museum. The remaining half will be used by the Club for community displays in the Salem area.

Saturday, September 22, 2007, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Cost: \$10 per family for Tour Booklets. These

booklets can be purchased at the following locations: Mission Mill Museum, 2336 Baxter Rd. SE, Salem,

OR – Tammies Hobbies (Beaverton)

Or by calling: (503) 463-7364, (503) 375-8446

Note from Rex Ploederer: I wish anyone who wants a Salem tour book would buy it from me. I told our Salem Club I would personally sell 52 books to cover the printing costs. They were afraid to stick their necks out for the event so I said I could cover the printing expense and the Club would at least break even. Well, I've sold 13 books so far; I'm 25% there.

E-mail: rploederer@premierconnections.com

Phone: 503-375-8446

Notes from the President

Darrel Dunham

It sure seems like summer is going by too fast. After spending two months going to and from Alaska, one can understand how that might be. Now I am home and in the process of laying track. It has been too long not to have these trains running.

It looks like this month is going to be a busy month for activities for the club. Starting with August 9th, there is an Open House at the Greenwood's. Two weeks later, though not official club outings, but still related to our members and G-scale trains, Friday, Saturday & Sunday (21st, 22nd, 23rd) is Staver's Steam-Up and on the same Saturday, the 22nd, the Salem club is having a Tour of Railroads. The following weekend, the 29th there is a visit to Tom Miller's Live Steam & F-scale layout. All of these outings are all worth the time to go to. Hope to see you there.

Mark your calendars for December 15-16, 2007 for the Great Train Expo at the Clark County Fairgrounds. We have been approved for setting up our module layout at that show. Setup will be Friday 12/14. There is some work to be done on the modules for this show. If you are interested in working

on the modules to get them ready, contact David Kookan, dmkookan@pacifier.com or 360-695-0389 for time and place for the activity.

We are once again looking for volunteers. Elections are coming in November. A list of candidates needs to be in the October newsletter. All Officers, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasure and Yardmaster are all open this year. New Officers will be announced in December and take over the controls at our General Meeting in January.

Right now we need members to canvas the membership for candidates to run for these offices. Anyone interested in helping the club should call Dennis Peoples at 503-997-7049, or contact him at dennispeoples6@comcast.net. Thanks for volunteering!

RCGRS Officers and Staff

President, Darrel Dunham.

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Membership Chair, Dennis Peoples

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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**.

September 9, 2007, Sunday, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.: Open house and pot luck at Mike and Terri Greenwood's. 7007 N. Borthwick; Portland, OR 97219; 503-225-9373. I am all battery power; no track power available. I encourage all battery and live steam locos to attend, I will also be letting everyone run my engines to experience battery/RC control for themselves.

A-E Side Dish,
F-M Salad,
N-S Dessert,
T-Z Main Dish.

Saturday, September 22, 2007, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Pacific Crossings Model Railroad Club Presents: **A Fall Tour of Garden Railroads**. See the article in the body of this newsletter.

Saturday, September 29th beginning at 10 a.m. Tom Miller has again invited RCGRS to visit his 1-1/2 inch scale railroad in Scholls, OR. The railroad features 12,000 feet of track, a 30 foot tall by 400 foot long trestle with a Howe truss center span, and a long tunnel. The estate is beautiful. This railroad is not normally open to visitors, so this invitation is a real treat. Tom's address is 18055 SW Seiffert Rd, Sherwood, OR. Bring your own picnic.

How to get there: Take the OR-210/Scholls Ferry Rd. near Washington Square toward the southwest. (approx. 7 miles). At the flashing yellow light where OR-210/Scholls Ferry Rd. meets River Road, turn LEFT toward Scholls. Go past the store at the intersection of OR-219 and OR-210/Scholls Ferry Rd. for approx. 0.09 miles. Turn LEFT onto SW Seiffert Rd. (0.70 miles).

October 6, 2007, Saturday, starting at 10:00 a.m.: Track laying party at Barbara and Jerry Clark's house. 4802 NE 32nd Court, Vancouver WA 98663, 360-737-0176

Members can bring salad or desserts - The hosts will provide main course and beverages.

Come to build track and learn about it in the process. Bring track benders, gloves, hand-trowels for digging trench, knee pads, rail clamp tool. Clark's will have rail and ties together with area staked/ marked for the track laying. There will not be track power to the area of track being laid.

How to get there: From I-5 North; go right (East) onto 39th Street Exit; and cross 15th Street (3-way stop) to merge onto SR 500. Go left (North) onto St. Johns, left (West) onto NE 49th Street; left (South) onto Work Street for parking. Parking is very limited, at our home and parking is not allowed on 32nd Court, so if you will park on Work Street (just West of 32nd Court) and walk up to 32nd Court if able. The house is not visible from the street (NE 49th Street).

October 13, or 14, 2007 (final date to be announced), 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.: Open house at Steve & Mimi Cogswell's, 17520 S Holly Lane, Oregon City, OR 97045, 503-650-4682
Scogswell@tkw.com

November 2, 2007, Saturday, Noon to 4:00 p.m.: **Halloween** open house at Bill & Jean Dippert's. 2650 NW Robinia Lane, Portland OR 97229, 503-646-9783, bandjdippert@zcloud.net

A-E Main Dish,
F-M Side Dish,
N-S Salad,
T-Z Dessert.

Bring your Halloween decorated car or train. The railroad is track powered.

November 2007: Annual RCGRS Banquet

December 14, 2007, Friday: Jan and Rae Zweerts.

Editor's Note: The deadline for the October 2007 newsletter is September 25th, 2007.