



# NEWSLETTER

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

## September 2004

### RCGRS Members Needed

The Columbia Gorge Model Railroad Club has requested our members to help them operate their railroad during their annual November–December public show. Please volunteer and attend the training sessions as needed. They need us! The training schedule is shown below.

#### Columbia Gorge Model Railroad Club

##### Planned 2004 Training/Operating Sessions

- Tues, Sept. 7, 7 p.m.:** Training Ops Session
- Sat, Sept. 18, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.:** Ops Session, fast clock, work rules applied
- Sat, Sept. 28, 7 p.m.:** GBM
- Sat, Oct. 2, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.:** Show rehearsal
- Tues., Oct. 5, 7 p.m.:** Modified Show Ops with darktime running
- Sat., Oct 9, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.:** Show rehearsal
- Sat., Oct 16, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.:** Show rehearsal
- Sat., Oct 23, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.:** Show rehearsal and layout readiness test
- Sat., Oct. 30, 9 a.m.–?? p.m.:** Final Layout Clean Up for Show
- Tues., Nov. 2, 7 p.m.:** Show Dress Rehearsal/Operator Readiness Test
- Sat., Nov. 6:** First Day of Show!

### Notes From President Dennis

What a beautiful day Saturday, August 21st was. Chuck Weber's open house was as wonderful and beautiful as ever. Three trains were running continuously, Jeff was running his live steam, Darrel's Challenger was running the upper loop and pulling a heavy load. The people were visiting, the sun was shining, and it was another beautiful day in a miniature paradise.

Chuck's garage was full of tables stacked with pot-luck food and several full tables of items to be auc-

tioned. Joe Chesney's table was full of USA and LGB box cars, flat cars, passenger cars, combines and baggage cars, steam engines, buildings and building kits, remote control models, track and a beautiful 2–ft hand built Howe Truss bridge on triple bents standing at least 20 inches tall. Dennis Rose's table had 2 steam engines one of which had been weathered by Carolyn all were furnished with Dennis' wooden carrying cases, numerous railroad cars, and track accessories. Jerry Chapman had a plethora of railroad memorabilia, plus trucks, cars, people and so on.

The club sponsored Bar–B–Que started around 2:30 p.m. and the 25 or so members had their fill. Those brownies sure were good!

After the Bar–B–Que we had a short business meeting (see minutes) followed by the laugh–a–minute auction, I believe everything was sold. The rain held off and began sprinkling during clean up.

I am sure that most of you are aware that Glenda Bockel is closing her Oregon Grape and Boom–Town Railroad. It will be sad to see such a beautiful garden railroad go. We will be able to see it living on other garden railroads as she has scheduled a silent auction for her buildings from 1–3 p.m. on Saturday September 18, 2004 and it will be open to everyone.

Check our club calendar for upcoming events. There are fun things planned for September, open houses, track–laying party, and we have been invited to visit Tom Miller's world of 1–1/2–inch riding railroad.

The Columbia Gorge Model Railroad club has a schedule for training us to help run their layout during the November annual open house. See elsewhere in this newsletter for details. This should be a fun event for all of us and help us show appreciation for their support of the Rose City Garden

Railway Society. I hope to see you at their sheduled Tuesday 7:00 p.m. training days.

Welcome to new members Nick and Sue Kelsey of Canby. —Dennis

We have finally put an old issue to bed. Marion and Burt, in their travels, discovered a company in The Dalles that had what turned out to be a perfect trailer for our needs. It is a 2004 model and marked down to make room for the newer models. The inside of the box dimensions are 14-ft long by 7-ft high and wide. There is a skylight and one overhead light, side door with step, and the rear door folds down to make a ramp for wheeling things in or out. Purchase price was \$4,844.00 plus title, licensing and a towing receiver.



## The 20th Annual Garden Railway Convention

by Jeff Lange (Charter Member)

The 20th Annual Garden Railway Convention was held in Denver, Colorado, August 12–15th, 2004. Over 1700 people attended this Convention, from as far away as Australia and Germany. This was my first convention that I've been able to attend, and I thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it!

There were over 47 complete Garden Railways on tour during the week, and numerous workshops such as weathering, setting up your railroad for the first time, water features, steam power in the garden, rail clamps, radio control DCC & Automatic Controls, and information on how to set up 1-inch scale garden railroads.

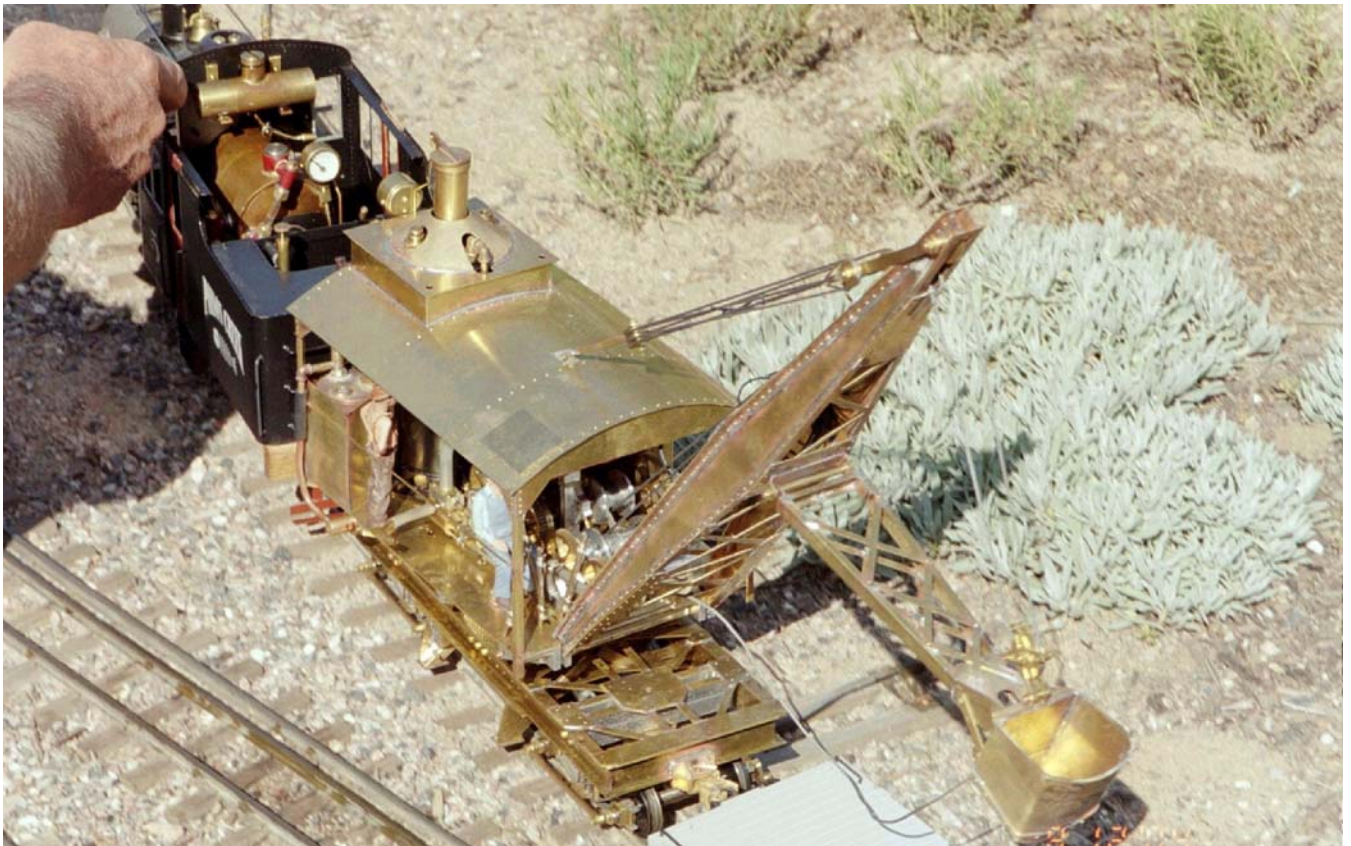
The Convention Car this year is a single dome USA Trains tank car. I will have mine available to see at my open house on Saturday, October 16th, 2004. There also is a convention video/DVD, and I will play mine for anyone interested at my open house. There was a convention store, door prizes, an ice cream social at the Forney Museum, a barbecue at the Colorado Railroad Museum, a Saturday Banquet, with slide show history of the Denver area, a swap meet, a Sunday Farewell Breakfast, and then on to other tours. The Northern Colorado Garden Railway tours were open on Sunday, and the Durango Garden Railway tours were open the following Wednesday through Saturday.

I know several of our group went on to ride the Georgetown Loop railroad, along with several others. I went to Canyon City and road on the Royal Gorge Route Railroad, which follows the Arkansas River upsteam for about 20 miles. After my return, I drove up to and across the highest suspension bridge in the world, at over 1063 feet above the Arkansas River Canyon. Then, I went on to ride the Durango–Silverton Railroad, and the Cumbres & Toltec Railroad. I didn't make it to the Cog Railroad at Pikes Peak this year, as I ran short on time.





Tom Speer's Hard Rock & Dynamite Railroad



Steam Powered Shovel and Steam Powered Heisler in the Ogden Botanical Railway, Owned by Marc and Barbara Horovitz, in Denver, Colorado



I will have my pictures of the convention available at my open house, and hope to have some CD digital pictures available soon for the September Newsletter. If they turn out, I will send my favorite pictures to be printed in the newsletter. My two personal favorite garden layouts were Marc & Barb Horovitz's "The Ogden Botanical Railway" with all live steam operating, and the "Hard Rock & Dynamite Railroad" built by Tom Speer. Both have been featured in the Garden Railways Magazine in the past, along with other periodicals and TV shows.

On Saturday, I had the pleasure of joining Bill and Brenda Derville in their rental car as we used their GPS system to find all the layouts without having to resort to using a map. This was a very interesting use of technology, and I highly recommend that anyone requests this system if they are going to be renting a car for any future conventions.

I brought back some copies of the registration and itinerary for next year's convention in Chicago in late July, 2005. I gave them to Dennis Rose, so if

you are thinking of attending that convention, please contact him.

Let's see how many folks from our club we can get for next year in Chicago, and really push to see an even larger group of representatives from our club at the 2006 Garden Railway Convention in San Francisco, California! This one will be spectacular!

I hope to see many of you at the club activities planned for this fall. —Jeff

## Open House at the Bay City Railroad

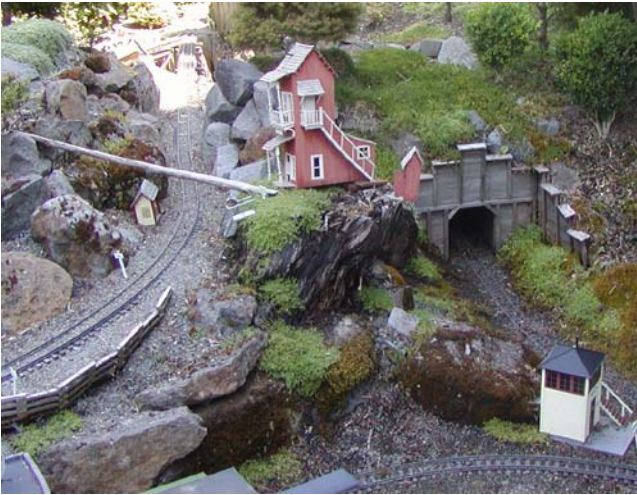
It was a beautiful day at the Oregon coast to visit Glen & Judy Wadley's railroad. Glen has built a large railroad around a complex water feature. An upper pond cascades through a short stream to the larger fish pond. The basic design of the railroad is a "figure 8", but since the railroad loops through a tunnel and various cuts and valleys, the design is not readily apparent. The food was great and the Wadley's were gracious hosts. We thank them for sharing their house and railroad with us.



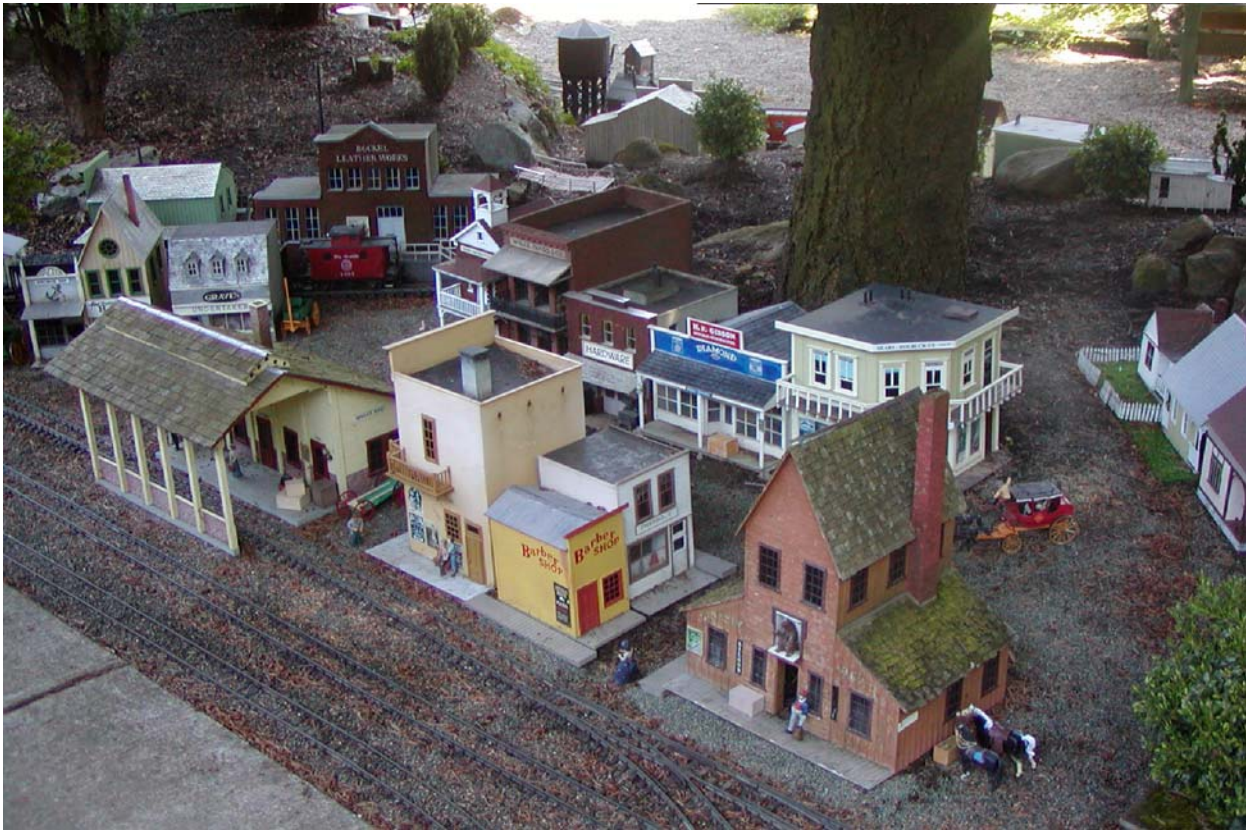
Penny Walker's Locomotive Traverses The Great Fish Pond At The Wadley's Railroad.



**Picture Memories of Glenda Bockel's Oregon Grape and Boomtown Railroad**







**Notes From Quarterly Business Meeting of 21 August 2004**  
**By Dennis Rose**

Place: Chuck Weber's House

Last meeting's minutes were read and accepted as read.

Treasurer's report: The balance as of Jan. 1, was \$7394.05. After paying the insurance and buying ballast we have a balance of \$7224.45. We have about \$200.00 in outstanding checks that need to be

taken care of. The treasurer's report was accepted as read.

Old business: Columbia Gorge Railroad Open House: Ken Shipman said we can keep the \$50.00 for next year's Summer Tour. They are getting ready for the November open house. They will need about 50 people to man the layout during the show. Ken passed out sheets with times we can go training which will be required for anyone wanting to help out. We can work any of the 8 open house days. The open house hours are 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The crew needs to be there by 9:00 a.m. Tuesday's at 7:00 p.m. are the regular meeting times. November 2nd will be a full dress rehearsal. A pen-light flashlight will be necessary during the dark periods.

Trailer: We need to get a size requirement from Gary Lee. A trailer builder in Vancouver at 78th and Andrason might be a possibility. We might need a 12' to 16' box. This needs to be completed by the next banquet.

Mt. Rainier Railroad: Those who went had a great time. The train ride was awesome.

New Business:

Jerry Chapman has sold his house and moved. He now is an Aristocraft dealer and has taken several orders for the new live steam Mikado at a cost of \$1500.00. Three road names and an undecorated engine will be available. The sample engine ran very well. It is designed for the novice and will be available in January or March, 2005. The engine has a plastic body, but is well insulated. Information about it can be found on Large Scale On Line.

Wadley's open house in Bay City is on the 28th of August.

A visitation to Tom Miller's large scale railroad is scheduled for September 25th.

The Halloween car train will be October 16th from noon till dusk at Jeff Lange's house.

## **Schedules & Timetables**

**Be sure to check the RCGRS Website for any updates or changes.** <http://www.rcgrs.com>

Anyone interested in having an Open House, please contact Darrel Dunham, 503-697-4738  
ddunham100@aol.com

**NOTE:** Member Jan Zweerts is committed to the Lewis & Clark Explorer Train on weekends and can not attend most club functions. Jan would like to attend an operating session in mid-week if he is available. He can be called at 503-247-7531.

**September 12, Sunday, 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.:** A track laying party at Richard & Penny Walker, 12040 SW Douglas St., Portland, OR 503-464-6671. Another great time to help out fellow members with their layout. Bring your trains. The goal is to be able to run a train before we leave. Penny will also be having a BBQ with rhubarb pie.

**September 18, Saturday, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.:** The Oregon Grape and Boom Town Railroad is for sale. Glenda Bockel, 16103 Lake Forest Blvd., Lake Oswego, OR. 503-636-1740

All track, engines, rolling stock and 150 plus structures (all scratch built.) will be sold. A silent auction for all structures is planned.

250 ft. + LGB track \$2.00 per 5 ft lengths (\$100.00 for all)

31 non electric turnouts LGB large radius, \$25.00 ea. (\$600 for all).

50 cars, KD couplers and metal wheels

LGB Mogul Keithco w/ OTT sound Battery OP

Bachmann Shay Kiethco w/Phoenix sound Battery OP

Assorted figures, animals, wagons (scratch built) and accessories (Crates, barrels, etc.)

**September 18, Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.:** Forest Grove Train Show. 60 vendors are expected to have tables at this show. Admission is \$3.00 for adults and no charge for children under 12 years. The show will be held at the Forest Grove Armory about 1/2-mile south of Forest Grove. Take Highway 47 south from Forest Grove for 1/2-mile and turn left at the sign. Follow the signs to the armory.

**September 25, Saturday, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.:** Tom Miller has 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. **Because of liability and insurance problems, this visit is restricted to adults only.** Tom's address is 18055 Sw Seiffert Rd Sherwood, OR.

**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 Sholls. 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). The Miller residence is toward the top of the hill.

**October 9, Saturday, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.:** Allan & Kathryn Warrior will have an open house that will start later than many operating RR functions. Allan is installing lights in his buildings and has a work-in progress toward a "Night Scenes" operating railroad. The track design is a single loop folded dog bone and operates on track power in four blocks. Your electric, steam, or battery powered engines are welcome.

Address: 3358 SE Roanoke Ct. N. Hillsboro, OR, 503-648-8112

**October 18, 2003, Saturday Noon - 6:00 p.m.:** The traditional annual Ghost Train Event at Jeff Lange's house. Plan now to decorate a car or locomotive (or train) with a ghoulish delight. Make sure your design will pass through a typical bridge or tunnel. Jeff only has couplers for Kadee or hook-and-loop if you want to include your entry as part of the ghost train.

Address: 5220 N.W. Cherry Street; Vancouver, WA. 360-696-0799. Jeff asks that attendees (A-J) bring a dessert, (K-R) main dish, and (S-Z) salad.

Take I-5 north to Vancouver and take exit #2, 39th Street. Turn left (west) on 39th Street and go through three stop lights until you come to Lincoln Avenue (you will pass a small market on the left called "Goodies"). Turn Right (north) onto Lincoln Avenue and go 14 blocks north to 53rd Street. Turn left (west) onto 53rd Street and go to Cherry Street. 5220 NW Cherry Street is directly in front of you at the stop sign.

Park diagonally in front of the split rail fence by one of the small flags or across the street next to the vacant lot on Cherry Street. A few cars can park in the circular drive way so that your car is facing north, but please do not block the entrance to the double garage. Additional parking is on the north side of the property on 53rd Street, next to the double gate, outside of the large arborvitae hedge. Handicap access is through the open double gate and driveway on the north side of the property.

**November 12, 2004:** National Take Your Train To Work Day???

**November 13, 2004:** RCGRS Annual Banquet  
**RCGRS Officers (2004)**

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