



Southwest Oregon Large Scale Trains
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ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED



The purpose of Southwest Oregon Large Scale Trains is to further the enjoyment of large scale model railroads and to promote good fellowship among individuals and families interested in the operation of railways both indoors and outdoors.

Vol. I No. 6

Frank Anderson-Editor

August 2005

From Our President:

Special Run Day & Meeting at the Park August 20, 2005!

Tony Johnson of the Southern Oregon Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society and his wife have invited members of their Butte Creek Baptist Church from Eagle Point for their annual church picnic to the Medford Railroad Park, Saturday August 20, 2005 beginning at 11:30 AM. All of the clubs are invited to participate in this fun filled event.

In the past they have held their picnics at Fish Lake and other places, but at a recent board meeting Tony suggested having it at Medford Railroad Park since our Railroad Park is family friendly and close by. This is the first time it will be held at the park and the best guess for attendance is between 100-150 members, but it may be more. Just about everyone at the church knows of Tony's involvement at the Railroad Park so he is going to try to get them to visit all of the club's displays and not just eat and ride the trains.

We can have a great time too and this is how...come at 9AM because it is a scheduled Saturday Work Party day or as soon as you can get there to cleanup our layout and play trains. By the way, did I mention Butte Creek Baptist Church has invited us over for lunch and the board made a decision to provide soft drinks for the event for SOLST during the day's activity. It is not necessary to bring anything other than yourself and trains to run. We will have a brief meeting to cover any needed business items after lunch.

Happy rails to you...Irene Zajac

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of Southwest Oregon Large Scale Trains will be August 20th at the Garden Railway at the Medford RR Park after lunch!

Sunday Run Days:

Jeremy Taylor is in charge of making up the calendar for the 'themed runs'. So contact Jeremy if you have any ideas on a theme.

Railroad Park Update

by Mike Miller, Gandydancer in Charge

We have 10 new Piko buildings kits on order for the town of SOLST. These will go with the beautiful station hand crafted by **Guy Jenkins**. **Jack Shaffer** researched the types of buildings, the best prices, and will be assembling the kits. Getting the layout ready for the new buildings will be the next work project. Most all of the repairs to the layout are done. The only problem has been some derailments in the curved tunnel. We have taken the track out and reballasted (who's idea was it to have a curved tunnel anyway?) but we are still having problems. We have kicked around a few ideas on how to fix the problem, but are always open to more solutions.

Run days have been operating fairly smoothly. We always can use more help (on one occasion only 3 people were there to do all the work). For helping in the Snow cone booth (remember this is how we make money for the club) contact **Irene Zajac** and for running and monitoring the layout contact **Jeremy Taylor**.

The Gandy Dancers Pit

By Chris Bray

I've been in this great hobby of ours as a model railroader for 32 years now, and I get quite a lot of "how do I..." questions. Several of the most asked are: "My loco ran great a year ago, why not now?" or... "It used to pull great now it hardly pulls at all!" and All together now... "What's wrong, & how do I fix it?" When I get the loco in question on the bench I usually find that it has "the grunge!" This is a minor illness which locomotives often have when associated with long storage times or extremely long running times without love, or adequate care.

Yes love. Ya gotta' love that shay or consolidation or you wouldn't have bought it now would ya? OK, so it's sat for a while or you've run it all year long and the oils and greases have dried or collected dirt. Either way this is not conducive to a good operating locomotive! It's not bad if you take care of it now. But over time if you don't do a little preventative maintenance, you will be replacing gears, axle bearings, or a motor. OK, now for the scary part...prepare your workspace. Go find a couple of big old towels that your wife will let you keep for this. The faded beach towel from the summer of '64' is a good bet! Spread this on the workbench and over any other projects sitting there. Fold the second towel and lay that in the middle. Get your new 4 pack of grease and oils you just purchased from the hobby shop. Got a screwdriver? Gently place your loco in a cradle (if you have one) upside down or put it on the bench on its side on the folded towel, if you don't. Be careful...detail parts can break off. Make sure you can get to the screws at the bottom of the gear cover plate. Look at the inside of the wheels (close to the frame) do you see any "black butter" or dirt build up? You might want to get a Q-tip and wipe it off. Ok, go ahead and remove the screws on the plate. When you pull the plate off, be cautious, a mysterious spring usually pops out from somewhere inside. Now

spend the next four hours trying to find what it went to in the gearbox. Don't be afraid of it, it's just a machine and parts can be replaced! (But aren't you glad you put out the towel?) Look at the wonderful design and crafting of gears and shafts! Where do we start?

Anywhere you like! I usually find the motor first and clean off the old grime with a Q-tip. Then reapply a fresh coat of grease on all the gears. Then I find where the axles go in to the bearings...STOP! Do NOT use WD-40! The paint on your loco does not sit well with it and it only lasts for a few hours! So use GREASE for the gears and heavy gear type oil for the bearings. (One tiny drop lasts for a good while!) Over oiling can be as bad (and messy!) as not oiling at all!

Whew...OK, put the cover plate back on. Remember that spring that popped out? Did you find where it went, and put it back in? OK screw the plate back on to the bottom of your loco. Take a deep breath the worst is done! Now diesel folks check the outside of your truck frames, see any sprung bearings? Aristo usually has one or two, lightly put light oil on these please, and you can rest here, us steam hoggers go on....

See that valve gear? It's gotta' have some oil too! It should be light oil as there isn't too much stress here. Just a tiny amount on all the pivot points should do. Congrats! You're on your way to your grease monkey certificate! Got oil? Bachmann, Lifelike, Aristo, & LGB all make good oils for those 'tea kettles' and rattle cans of ours. Some usually come in four packs for 20 bucks. Just ask other modelers what they like to use! We always like to share info!

Time for Beans!

Building the Medford Railroad Park Garden Railway

is now available on DVD! Jeremy Taylor converted the VHS video created by our own Norman Schumacher to DVD and will make anyone a copy. Your cost \$3 for DVD and cover. Give Jeremy a call or e-mail :

541-857-2949

jeremy.taylor@charter.net

Calendar of Events

Work Party Saturday before Run Sunday @ the Park 9AM until Noon

Aug...	14...	RR Park Run Day
Aug...	20...	Special Run & Meeting After Lunch
Aug...	28...	RR Park Run Day
Sep ...	11...	RR Park Run Day
Sep ...	16...	SOLST Regular Meeting RR Park 7:30 PM
Sep ...	25...	RR Park Run Day



We'll see you in the funny paper!
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