

January 2014

The Manifest



I want to thank everyone from not only the Historical Society, but also the Garden Railway, Live Steamers, and Rogue Valley Model Railroad club for their kind thoughts, cards, etc. at the passing of my beloved Stretch. He is well known and loved by many of you and will be greatly missed. Thank you all for attending his service, and/or celebration of life.

A special thank you to Larry Tuttle for all of his assistance before and after Stretch's passing. If anyone would like a copy of the DVD Larry put together, please let me know and I will get you one. I will get back into the swing of things as quickly as possible and thank you all for your patience while I work through my grief.

Moving forward with the New Year -- Our Board Meeting/General Meeting was well attended; we did have a quorum and elected officers. We discussed our strategic plan and a lot of good input and ideas were discussed and offered. Please see the minutes, which are incorporated into this newsletter for further information as to the strategic plan and the election.

Just a reminder, if you have not paid your dues, please do so as soon as you can.

**36th Annual Rogue Valley Railroad Show –
Thanksgiving Weekend, Medford OR**

Over 3,900 visitors celebrated the start of the Christmas holiday season by attending the Rogue Valley Railroad Show, a tradition celebrating 36 years of enjoying the

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railroad hobby. This year's show was held November 30th and December 1st, 2013, inside the National Guard Armory in Medford, Oregon.



Twenty-two exhibitors highlighted everything including operating model railroads of all scales, historical railroad artifacts, full-size railroad equipment and the railroad's Operation Life Saver trailer. If there was a particular size of model train you liked, it could be found operating somewhere on the exhibition floor.

All five of the railroad clubs making up the City of Medford Railroad Park had exhibits at the show. They are the Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club (RVMRC), the Medford Garden Railroaders, the Southern Oregon Chapter - National Railroad Historical Society, the Morse Telegraph Club, and the Southern Oregon Live Steamers.

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The Rogue Valley Model Railroad Club operated a large HO-scale layout that represented railroad operations here in the Rogue Valley plus a smaller layout designed here especially for kids of all ages to operate. The fast moving G-scale layout of the Medford Garden Railroaders, complete with RC helicopters, entertained many. Members of the Morse Telegraph Club were on hand to transmit free messages for any visitor between their two telegraph stations. The Southern Oregon Chapter-NRHS had a photo display explaining the rich history of railroads in the Rogue Valley. In addition to "Thomas", the Southern Oregon Live Steamers displayed two large locomotives that operate at the Railroad Park. The smaller gauges of model railroad were well represented at the show. Vince Moscaritolo's LEGO Train City layout provided lots of fast train action. Visitors also had two places to operate model trains for themselves. Our show's public HO-scale layout (RVMRC) was often the first time many of the children were able to operate a model train. For the more daring visitor they could try their skills by efficiently switching trains on Art McKee's O-scale "Switching Puzzle" layout. This year's Peoples' Choice award winner was the White City Model Railroad Club, with their scenic N-scale layout. The RVMRC

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received a second place and the LEGO layout was third – all well-deserved awards!

Other exhibitors this year were the Ashland Historic Railroad Museum, the Jacksonville Museum Quilters, Richard Houston's Sleepy Hollow Railway (18" narrow gauge),



Syd Stoner's full-size Fairmont MT14 motorcar, and the Lower McKenzie Modular Railroad from Springfield, Oregon, also crowd favorites. "Thomas" was ever present with Alvin Havel's operating G-scale layout. Matt Bruff and son, Jacob's, operating N-scale layout built on a hollow core door shows how one can have fun in a small space.

The Rogue Valley Genealogy Library exhibit addressed the migration of early settlers across the nation and methods to find our railroad employees' retirement records through the Railroad Retirement Board and other resources. Family history stories were common topics for all.

Author Scott Mangold was on hand with his newly released book "Tragedy at Southern Oregon Tunnel 13: DeAutremonts Hold Up the Southern Pacific", with pen in hand to autograph your book.

The Rogue Valley is special in that it has three internationally known and respected model railroad

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manufacturing plants here: KADEE Quality Products (White City), Micro-Trains Lines (Talent), and Campbell Scale Models (Central Point), all featuring displays of their popular products – all made in the USA.

Another popular feature of each year's show are the many vendors (30) selling everything from railroad T-shirts, books, model trains, videos, model railroad tools, to display cases, and so on.

Hourly door prizes are awarded to visitors, and our very popular raffle drawings featured over 40 items as prizes. Our raffle is special in that you get to choose the prizes you would hope to win.

All proceeds from our annual Rogue Valley Railroad Show go directly to support the five railroad clubs at the City of Medford Railroad Park— uniquely the only railroad park in the U.S. operated by five different railroad clubs providing for a free Sunday outing and train rides.

**Minutes Southern Oregon Chapter—NRHS
Membership & Board of Directors Regular
Meeting, January 14, 2014, 7:00 PM**

1. Board Meeting Call to Order – President Bruce Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM
2. Roll Call: Bruce Kelly, Ric Walch, Larry Tuttle, Jerry Hellinga, and E. Don Pettit were present. 6 other members were also present.
3. Consent of the Agenda: Larry Tuttle moved to consent to the Agenda. Ric Walch seconded the motion which passed unanimously. .
4. Approval of November 12, 2013 Regular Board Meeting Minutes – Larry Tuttle moved to approve. Ric Walch seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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5. Treasurer's Report – No Treasurer's Report on account of the Treasurer being tied up with boiler work on the Medco 4.

6. Standing Committees & Projects:

a. Medco 4 Restoration – Jerry Hellinga was in and out of the meeting as he oversaw the filling of the Medco 4 boiler with water for a hydrostatic test. .

b. Concession Stand – Nothing new.

c. Newsletter – The January Newsletter will be going out in soon.

d. Web Site Updates – Nothing new.

e. Butte Falls Tourist RR Opportunity – Ric Walch reported that follow-up letters have been sent to the two timber companies who declined to consider granting easements. Ric is trying for a face-to-face meeting with their representatives and a “show and tell” of the Chapter's equipment and accomplishments.

f. Fence move & Track Extension Project – Waiting for the excavation contractor to spread out the piles of rock for the base.

g. Sale of surplus / Duplicate Material – Larry Tuttle said he was willing to list books and other materials on eBay if another member could provide him with a list of items to sell and a starting price for the listing.

h. Railroad Park – Nothing new.

7. Old Business: No Old Business to consider

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8. New Business:

a. Strategic Plan Review – Larry Tuttle led a spirited discussion about various points in the Chapter's Strategic Plan. Several items were crossed off as having been accomplished, a few were dropped as being impractical to accomplish in the foreseeable future and some were moved back and forth between goals for 2014 and projects for later. E. Don Pettit moved to accept the changes to the Strategic Plan for 2014. Ric Walch seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Secretary's note: The updated 2014 Strategic Plan has been posted on the [Chapter's Web Site](http://www.soc-nrhs.org/chapter/2014StratPlan.htm):

< <http://www.soc-nrhs.org/chapter/2014StratPlan.htm>>

9. Good of the Order :

a. Jerry Hellinga reported that the boiler work on the Medco 4 was complete. However, there were issues getting enough water to fill the boiler on account of most water at the Railroad Park being turned off for the winter. Therefore, the hydro static test has been delayed for a few days.

10. Adjournment: Larry Tuttle moved to adjourn; Ric Walch seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM

Larry Tuttle, Secretary

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday February 11, 2014 at 7:00 PM

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**Southern Oregon Chapter NRHS Membership
Meeting – January 14, 2014 , 7:00 PM**

1. Membership Meeting Call to Order: President Bruce Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM
2. Roll Call: Ten members and one guest were present.
3. Old Business:
 - Election of Officers for 2014. Officers nominated for 2014 were read:
 - Bruce Kelly for President.
 - Ric Walch for Vice-President.
 - Larry Tuttle for Secretary.
 - Jerry Hellinga for Treasurer.
 - E. Don Pettit for National Director.

The floor was opened for additional nominations. No additional nominations were made. Dan Wilkinson moved to close the nominations. Allen Dobney seconded the motion which passed unanimously. There being no contested positions, Jerry Hellinga moved to elect the above nominated individuals to their respective offices. Larry Tuttle seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

4. New Business:
 - a. New Membership Application: Jerry Hellinga presented a membership application for Bob Viale. Jerry moved that we accept this application. Larry Tuttle seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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5. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM.

Larry Tuttle, Secretary

Next General Meeting: February 11, 2014 at 7:00 P.M.

**Strategic Plan – 2014 and Beyond
Southern Oregon Chapter/NRHS, Medford,
Oregon**

EXCURSION RAILROAD -- Build and operate a steam powered excursion railroad in Jackson County, Oregon using locomotives and other equipment once used in Southern Oregon.

- **IN THE YEAR 2014:**
 - Continue to explore opportunities for short and long term location
 - Ongoing development of community support

- **IN THE FOLLOWING YEARS:**
 - Develop and implement a training program for train crews
 - Acquire and develop a facility area of 5 acres or more, adjacent to live rail
 - Build 3 or more miles of track
 - Construct a two stall engine house
 - Equip a machine shop
 - Erect a car shop building
 - Acquire and equip additional passenger cars for operation
 - Build a restoration shop
 - Build a depot

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- Construct crew quarters

LOCOMOTIVE & CAR RESTORATION -- Equipment which is on display now and/or to be restored for use on the excursion railroad and interpretive display at the Medford Railroad Park

➤ **IN THE YEAR 2014:**

- Continue progress on the rebuild of our Willamette Locomotive, the Medco 4:
- Mount boiler on chassis
- Mount and overhaul engine
- Continue fund raising for the remaining work
- Work on sub-assemblies
- Repaint the CB&Q Caboose

➤ **In the following years**

- Inventory and catalog Baldwin parts
- Refurbish one of our roller bearing equipped cars for excursion train service
- Restore OC&E caboose
- Restore GN caboose
- Repair Dining Car Roof
- Small tool purchase (maintenance and construction)
- Build or acquire a second motor car trailer

PARK PRESENCE AND DEVELOPMENT -- Maintain and improve our contributions to the public experience at the Medford Railroad Park

➤ **In the year 2014:**

- Change displays and improve library in Mack Walch Museum and Archives Building
- Increase track
- Motor car track
- Turnouts

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- Storage and work tracks
- Develop blacksmith shop display
- Continue improvements to area, notably interpretive signs
- Replace part of concession stand roof
- Cleanup and organize area and equipment
- **In the following years:**
- Improve grounds

MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES -- Interpretive displays of historic documents and smaller items from Southern Oregon's and Northern California's railroad history

- **In the year 2014:**
 - Catalog archival materials

LARGE STATIC DISPLAYS -- Equipment and buildings on display to the public

- **In the year 2014:**
 - Refinish stairs (especially railings) on the CB&Q and 1107 cabooses and on the flanger
 - Paint underframe and complete remaining details on Flanger
 -
- **In the following years:**
 - Erect Wig wag crossing signal
 - Finish remaining details on 1107 caboose

ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES

- **In the year 2014:**
 - Increase active membership
 - Recruit and train additional docents for staffing of our exhibits at the Railroad Park.
 - Continue fund raising
 - Increase active membership

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- **In the following years:**
- Continue to develop community support
 - Dispose of (sell/trade) surplus property
 - Investigate for acquisition: Local equipment
 - Signal parts – Inventory -- keep and organize or dispose
 - Develop a complete inventory of our acquisitions, including value and location.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING ENTERTAINMENT

If you have any videos, or other items you would like to share with us for our entertainment portion of the meeting, please email me at (c-manley@charter.net) or call me at 541-890-7639 with the details and I will put you on the schedule.

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

As always, we need articles for the newsletter. If you have something you would like to see included in an upcoming newsletter, please send your submission to c-manley@charter.net or call 541-890 -7639. Thanks, Chris

CHAPTER OFFICERS

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UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

If you know of any other events that should be added to our newsletter, please email, (c-manley@charter.net), or call, (541-890-7639), with the details.
