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After the hectic pace of the Triennial it was sure nice to have a quiet meet. The August 2006 Meet was very quiet but so much got accomplished. The locals and the regulars were still trying to get some of their energy back after the Triennial when a strange thing happened. Guests started to arrive, some for their first visit to Train Mountain who, because of scheduling conflicts, just couldn't make it to the Triennial. Seeing the look in their eyes was all the motivation needed to perk up the gang and, well, let's just say it was a very fun meet.

**Get ready** for the last Work Week of 2006. Come and help on a couple of exciting projects. We need to get some of the preliminary work done in preparation of laying Aspen Grove Loop next year. We also need to do some tune up and check up on all the sidings and spurs for use during the upcoming Operation Meet.

Calling all cars, calling all cars! You know I love doing these lead-ins, you folks have no idea what I'm talking about or even worse where the heck I'm goin! Well Calling all cars is a call from Joel Slagg our Operations Meet leader. Seems he's going to out-do last year's event, but in order to do that he needs some help from us. Read his article in this issue.

Now we all know Train Mountain is set in this beautiful Oregon forested land. We also know that in order to protect this gem we need to exercise extreme caution with anything flammable. Some of our models actually burn stuff to make them run. Some burn gasoline, some propane, some coal, some oil and some even actually burn wood. Combining fire with dry forest sounds like a combination that most sane people probably would avoid. We, of course, are that crazy group that takes miniature trains and go for rides in those woods. We are also that not-so-crazy group that knows how to help prevent such problems. We know we need spark arrestors for our steam engines (yes they are required at Train Mountain this time of year). We know we need to have a small fire-fighting shovel in our tool or riding car (no its not required yet at Train

Mountain but it's a real good idea). We have our radios on at all times and listen for the FIRST call for fire assistance. We also carry extra water on our train if there is space. Fire is a problem nobody wants to have at Train Mountain, so PLEASE be careful, remember ONLY YOU can help prevent the problem. We are already at Fire IV which is the highest rate from the Forest Service and we have a couple more months of fire season left.

To contact The Mountain Gazette:
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Russ Wood, Editor

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Ross Perrin - General Manager Train Mountain Joel Slagg - Operations Meet Russ Wood - Photos Carol and Peg - The Gazette

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# FROM THE MANAGER The latest information

So much is going on, where do I start? The August Meet was fun and small which was just right for the first meet after the Triennial. Lots of fun had by all running a seemingly empty railroad, great dinners and potlucks, lots of chatting and idea exchanges going on as well. Track gauges were built, repairs to cars and equipment were made, thistles were removed and track repairs made as well.

The weather has forced the hand of the fire folks to move us to Industrial Level IV, which means all operations in the woods have come to a halt without special

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permits etc. So our work in the woods is over for the time being. Still doing some handwork out there though, since it is hard to keep Texas Bob and Billie out of their woods.

Art and Charlie are finishing up the switch machines they have been building and are ready for testing in the field along with switch work for a siding out at the end of Elizabeth Loop and track work at Debra's Corner, just to mention a couple of their projects. Texas Bob and Billie are doing woods clean up and helping out wherever they are needed. Frank is, of course, weed eating and digging and hauling something all the time. Along with Peg, who does daily mail runs, assembles and mails the Gazette and helps with other projects in the office, since her retirement Carolyn Steuer has become quite valuable in the office and in helping Jeanne paint. Hugo is working hard in the switch shop on points and continuing his work on his book about switches and track. While Hugo is on one end of the place in the switch shop, Jeanne is out cruising the villages looking for derelict buildings that need her skills to make them look new again. She seems to keep going on these buildings like the Energizer Bunny. Hugo is also preparing to build some track to start the Aspen Grove Loop.

Jeff Phillips has returned and is busy at track repairs; sadly he has told me this would be his last trip to Train Mountain for his normal long summer stay but he hopes to come down for a meet here and there. Due to other obligations and interests in his life, he will be devoting more time to a life closer to home. Thank you Jeff, for all the hard work and excellent service over the years; it will be difficult to find another trackman as skilled as you.

Donations to Train Mountain seem to have become a much more common thing, so common I have been asked to publish a wish list of items needed for work crews and other activities around the mountain, I hope to start this list with the next edition. I want to thank all those who donate to the cause; large or small, it all helps us progress and is very much appreciated. In particular this edition I want to thank Bill Jarvis and Dave Middleton for plants and shrubs used in the area south of the steam pump, Bill Jarvis for drill bits and grinder accessories for the shops; 3 drill bit indexes full of bits from Al Taylor and Alma Weber, Bill Farmer and Michael Wegerif for parts and pieces that make our wireless internet work and their time to put it together, Joe Simon for parts used in Youngstown's new sound system, Dennis and Mort Ediger for a big battery charger and gasket punch set for the shop, Ray Rossing for a 71/2" gauge track repair stool. Jim Lane for a Nevada flag for the Hall of Flags, Mike Raypholtz for

lots and lots of wonderful Iris plants to be used all over in the gardens, Will Landon for a step ladder for Central Station, Ken Young for a Wales flag for the Hall of Flags, David Grounds for a load of ballast rock used on the Cooperstown Bypass (thanks Little AI), and Pete Pedigo for a donation to the General fund. I hope I haven't missed anything or anyone. Thanks again.

As time goes on people that touch my life in so many ways pass on; sad as it is, we must continue on our paths. Bill Farmer was one such person and I will miss him and his creative work. Bill had a relatively short but hard battle with cancer and was driven by a desire to keep things working during the Triennial and help where he could, which he did with great dedication and desire. His tireless efforts were a huge help. He was also the one responsible for getting us started on a wireless internet system on Train Mountain. Thanks for all you have meant to us and all you have done for us; you will be missed.

On this subject I would like to include a short note from Allan Witcombe:

"The Triennial was made more of a pleasure for those of us who spent time working with Bill Farmer and it's hard to believe he will no longer be striding purposefully through the Back Shop with more electronic projects clutched in his hand - and his acknowledging smile as I always greet him as 'Sir William'!

We all knew and respected Bill as a quiet, dedicated member of our fraternity and he was often chasing those darned micro-volts well after the rest of us were whooping it up in the back-shop at 'beer-thirty'.

Knowing that when we have one of those mysterious 'signaling' breakdowns, the call for 'Bill Farmer' will not be heard by him - or then again perhaps it will. Thank you Sir William.

Respectfully ......Allan E. Witcombe"

Talk to you soon:

Ross Perrin, (GM)- tmrrgm@trainmountain.org

# OPERATIONS MEET Calling All Cars! - Joel Slagg

My, how time flies. We're less than two months away from the second Train Mountain Operations Meet Seems like only yesterday we had a whole year to plan the next one. But time is getting short and we're starting to get serious about planning this year's version. If you were there last year, you know how much fun it is to operate Train Mountain like a real railroad. If you weren't, well, come and find out!

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We'll have new, updated timetables to reflect some changes in the physical layout at Train Mountain. e're going to push back the starting time of the morning passenger trains by half an hour or so - it's just too cold at 9:00 AM in October. We'll also have several new locations to switch. Spurs have been added at New Isom, Cucamonga, Rio Grande, and in front of the vendor building on the Central Station Bypass track. We'll invent some industries to be served at all of these.

One problem last year was a shortage of freight cars. We only had eighty usable cars, which is not many for a railroad the size of Train Mountain. The car shortage is likely to be even more bothersome this time, with additional industries on line. Quentin generously makes a lot of cars available from the Train Mountain roster, but a high percentage of them are flat cars and gondolas. We could really use more variety in the car fleet for the Operations Meet. Boxcars would be especially useful - we only had five last year. We also need hoppers, both open and covered, tank cars, stock cars, and intermodal cars. Of course, any cars we use must conform to Train Mountain standards regarding safety

chains, trucks, and couplers. Metal cars are preferable to wood because the cars will be spending a few nights outside and wooden cars might be damaged if a heavy dew forms overnight.

If you can help round out our roster by letting us use some of your freight cars for a few days, please contact Joel Slagg via e-mail at slagg@cableone.net, or via telephone at (208) 343-1208. We'll make every effort to treat your cars gently!

Joel Slagg

# NEXT WORK WEEK (SEPTEMBER MEET 2006) What do we do next!

The last work week of 2006 is upon us. Lets keep up the good work and continue on. We have a couple of projects that really need your help. We are starting the preliminary work on building the Aspen Loop. We also need to tune up all the sidings and spurs for the upcoming Operations Meet. . . . But please remember to plan enough time to have some fun while you are here!

## Possible Fourth Work Week Projects

Sept 2nd - Sept 7th, 2006

Six Acre Siding - 2 people 1 week Lay track and ballast.

**Aspen Grove Loop Prep -** Clean up and track panel construction

Lots of things need to happen before actual track laying begins

Spur Turnouts - Several people 1 week

Inspect and repair all turnouts leading to spur tracks in preparation for the 2006 Operations Meet.

And of course there is the always popular, rake pine needles and pine cones fun and games!

Meet	ork Week Train Meet		
Sept 2006	Sat Sept 2-Thurs Sept 7	Fri Sept 8-	Sun Sept 10
Operations 2006	2nd Annual Operations Meet Fri Oct 6- Mon O No Work Week		Mon Oct 9
Polar Bear 2007	No Work Week	Fri Jan 12-	Mon Jan 15
Narrow Gauge	Sun April 22 –Thurs April 26	Fri April 27	Sun April 29
June 2007	Sat, May 26-Thurs May 31	Fri June 1-	Sun June 3
July 2007	Sat, Jun 30-Thurs July 5	Fri July 6-	Sun July 8
August 2007	Sat, July 28-Thurs Aug 2	Fri Aug 3-	Sun Aug 5
September 2007	Sat, Sept 1-Thurs Sept 6	Fri Sept 7-	Sun Sept 9
Operations 2007	3rd Annual Operations Meet No Work Week	Fri Oct 5-	Mon Oct 8

You do know that you are welcome anytime to come to Train Mountain and volunteer to help, you don't have to wait for a meet, just come on up and check in with Ross to see what needs to be done.

## September 9th Banquet Menu:

Your choice of Tri-Tip or Grilled Chicken Roasted Red and Yellow Potatoes, Spinach Salad, Corn on the Cob, rolls, beverage and Cheese Cake for dessert. You are welcome to bring a beverage of your choice for your group if you wish.

# PHOTO GALLERY—TRIENNIAL Ya' shouda been der!



Now don't get excited, this really is a picture from the Triennial. Seems for the third year in a row a member of Train Mountan has won the quilt raffle put on by the Chiloquilters. This year it was won by Ron Young and Caroline Jones and presented here by Chiloquilter and Train Mountain member Louise Balf.



Some of interesting things at the triennial are all the innovative new products on display. The steam locomotive shown here is actually battery powered!



Spark arrestors were used during the Triennial and here is a good example. Unless you want to spend some of your valuable Train Mountain time building one, you might want to build yours at home and bring it with you.



In case you hadn't heard the big boys dumped a train just south of Chiloquin at Modoc Point. 35 cars rolled off the track and created quite a mess.



The previous picture was the middle of the errant train while the picture above was caused by a couple of helpers at the rear that helped a little to much.



I don't know about the adults but the kids sure were having a good time running trains at the Triennial (and they did a great job of it too!).



Here's Bert and a couple of his wonderful 'toys', the track sweeper and the monster Bush Whacker! I like em!

## **SEPTEMBER MEET of 2006 SCHEDULE—The who, the what and the where!**

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY
Sat, Sept 2nd	9:00 AM	Begin Work Week, which runs through Thursday, Sept 7th at 4:00 PM
Sat, Sept 2nd	6:00 PM	Recognition Dinner for all volunteers who arrive early for Work Week. Location
Sun, Sept 3rd	10:00 AM	Klamath and Western, Public Rides
Mon, Sept 4th	10:00 AM	Klamath and Western, Public Rides
Mon, Sept 4th	6:00 pm	Recognition Dinner for all volunteers Hosts Tom and Fred Vertel-SEE NOTES.
Tue, Sept 5th	6:00 pm	Recognition Dinner for all volunteers who have worked at least one day during
Thu, Sept 7th	1:00 to	Chiloquilters. Sewers / Crafters will meet in Central Station, show and tell, be-
Thu, Sept 7th	6:00 PM	Recognition Dinner for all volunteers Host Bert Newberry-SEE NOTES.
Fri, Sept 8th	9:00 AM	Fourth 2006 Train Meet begins, which runs through Sunday. Company Store
Fri, Sept 8th	6:00 pm	Recognition Dinner for all members Hosts Russ and Linda Wood—SEE
Sat, Sept 9th	6:00 PM	Train Mountain Banquet, held at Central Station, tickets available from
Sun, Sept 10th	4:00 PM	Fourth 2006 Meet ends.

#### **SPECIAL NOTES FOR SOME SPECIAL EVENTS:**

If you have not been a volunteer or an attendee at Train Mountain, here's an opportunity to come a day or two early, get to know the Train Mountain Experience firsthand, and finish with some great fun and the camaraderie of new friends.

Tom and Fred Vertel will be hosting a dinner for Work Week volunteers. The dinner will be 6:00 Monday evening. All members are requested, if possible, to arrive at their house by TRAIN! If you do not wish to bring your train, you may ride the special trains that will be departing Central Station at 5:00 pm. You can drive your vehicle to their house but parking is limited. Directions are available at the Office

The Kincaid dinner for all volunteers who work during the work week will be held at their home at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept 5th. Directions are available at the Train Mountain Main Office.

**Quilters of Chiloquin** will hold a special Thursday Sewing Social at each of the Train Mountain work weeks. They will meet in the Central Station from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. This is not just for quilters, this is for all kinds of sewing, needlework, crafts, etc,. Whatever project you are working on, please bring it for show and tell.

**Bert Newberry** will be hosting a 'cook it yourself' hot dog/hamburger barbecue at his home, a very short drive from Train Mountain. Directions available at the office.

Russ and Linda Wood will be hosting their regular Pizza and Beer dinner at their home Friday night Sept 6th at 6:00 p.m.. Directions are available at the Office.

Please Help the Hosts and Hostesses by signing up for those dinners you wish to attend. These nice folks need to know how many are coming! Sign up in the Central Station Office as soon as you arrive.

AN INFORMAL MEMORIAL CEREMONY in memory of Bill Farmer will be held on Bill's property adjacent to Train Mountain on Sunday, September 3 at 2:00 p.m. by Bill's sister, Pat Ward, and friend, John Anderson. Those who wish to attend are welcome to do so.



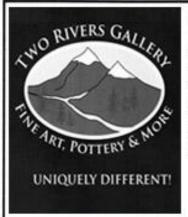
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We think you'll enjoy it so much you 'll want to make it a regular stop whenever you are in our area.

#### **OPEN EVERYDAY**

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