



The Willow Creek Gazette

Inside this issue:

Heavens Roundhouse	2
Run Day at the WKV	3
The Junior Program	4
More of the Junior Program	5
Station Platform Up-Date	5
The Back Shop	6
Donation of Stuff	6

Since 1975

Spring 2008

2007 Annual Meeting *By Frank Lertora*

The 2007 Annual Meeting was held at the Railroad, on September 1, 2007. Many members were in attendance and a quorum was met. Two positions were up and two people ran both were approved by a vote.

They were Scott Johnson and Mark Adelblue. After the business meeting, the railroad was open for the running of trains.

Several families camped at the railroad for the weekend. Everyone

seemed to have a great time.

Having the meeting during the Labor Day weekend was a success.



Heaven's Roundhouse: Bev Johnson

On March 8, 2008, WCRR lost a very dear person, **Beverly Johnson**. We knew her as Bev. The newer members may not have had the chance to meet her.

She was the wife of Garry, the mother of Scott and Jeremy, and the grandmother of Damien, Trevor, Nate, and Aiden.

She was probably the biggest supporter of the railroad. She would come to the railroad with Garry and put in many hours working in the flower-beds.

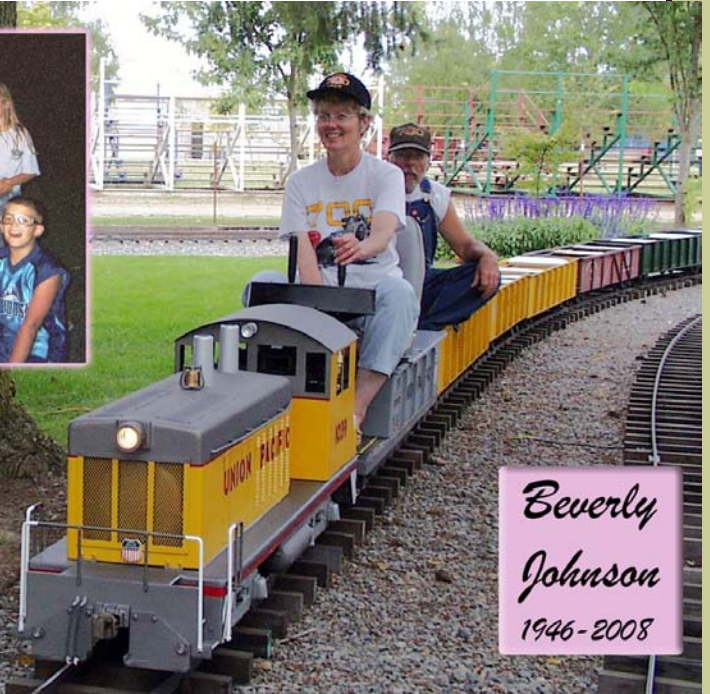
She loved watching the kids of Willow Creek play and operate the trains. She has seen families grow at Willow Creek.

The memory of Bev, like the flowers she loved, will always be part of Willow Creek, Railroad.

The following was emailed by Garry:

If it weren't for Bev's constant encouragement and help, Willow Creek RR would not be what it is today. As many of you know, she not only put up with me for 46 years, she has fought the effects of Multiple Sclerosis. She first had signs of the disease in the mid to late 70's but was not diagnosed until 1996. She put every effort into kicking it, but it wasn't meant to be..... As hard as it is to say, we know it was for the best and she is in good hands now.

For those who wish help beat this disease, please



*Beverly Johnson
1946-2008*

send a donation to the National MS Society in Bev's name.

*In true Bev fashion, "plan, plan, plan". The boys and I have decided to pull off the best ever **Celebration of Life** at the park in mid June. Please don't send me flowers, wait and plant them at the park on that day. More to come on this but please try and keep this time frame open. We need lots of train's, food, people and good memories.*

POPS

*Well the date has been set for the Celebration of Life, mark your calendars, Saturday, **June 14, 2008**. We want to make this a mini-steam-up, the more the merrier. This will be a weekend event.*

More to come, as the planning continues.



Run Day at the WKV *By Frank Lertora*

WCRR was invited for a run day on the Willamette Kings Valley Railroad that took place on September 8, 2007.

Alan Shifley has created a great railroad with full signal protection.

Alan lead a discussion with the Junior members (and adults) about the workings of his railroad signals.

There were so many trains running on the railroad every signal block was occupied, we had to get a "Presidential Override" from Alan to get trains moving again.

Thank you, Alan, for giving us the opportunity to come and run at the WKV.



The Junior Program *By Ernie Hellman*

The Junior Program is off to a great start this year. Mike Baker has come on board to help out with the junior program.

We had our first field trip to the Evergreen Air Museum. There were 11 Junior Members and about 19 adults that participated in this event.

We watched a movie (the fighter pilot) in the IMAX theater. Then we ate lunch in the museum café. After lunch, we had a guided tour and learned about the air craft on display.

Our tour guide told us about some of the problems and situations that were encountered by aviators of the past. We all had a great time.

There are more field trips planned. The next one is to the P&W yard in Albany.

Amtrak has invited us down to the Union Station in Portland, for a tour of the station, the Coast Starlight, and the Talgo trains.

Rail System has invited us for a tour of their facilities and a ride

on their large scale train. The Oregon Zoo and also a G scale lay out are some of the other things we have lined up.

I want to say thank you to Mike Baker, he has done a great job on contacting these organizations for us. I also want thank the rest of the junior staff.

If you have any ideas or comments feel free to call or email me, Ernie.
thehellmantrain2@molalla.net



More of the Junior Program *By Ernie Hellman*

The WCRR Junior Member Program started out the New Year with a bang. In January, we had a meeting at the park, which also included some cleanup of winter debris. Then in February, we had our first field trip of the year to the Evergreen Air Museum, in McMinnville.

Don't forget our junior meetings are held the second Saturday of each month. We are always looking for help with the program and for new ideas for activities.

Don't be shy; we would love to hear from you. We are looking forward to seeing you and having a great year! Be sure to watch for a Junior Member page on the website soon.

Also, Tara Baker, created these "I Rode Willow Creek Railroad" stickers. Hopefully we will see everyone at Steam-up wearing one this Summer.



Station Platform Up-Date *By Scott Johnson*

I'm happy to report that we got the ok, and are in the process of getting the building permit so that construction can finally start on the Station Platform Cover.

Some more site prep was completed last weekend which included removing some of the fencing and full size railroad ties that were in the way of digging the post holes.

A very good price on all the lumber was reached (including delivery) when we are ready for it. United Rentals will be helping with the 36" auger that will be needed to dig the eight holes for the posts, and Tom Kneelend will once again help make sure we get the best deal

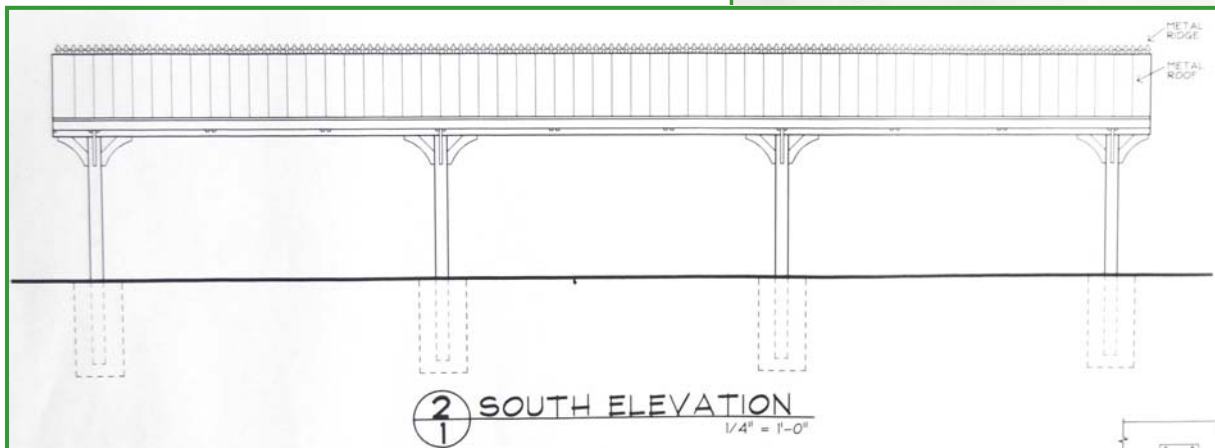
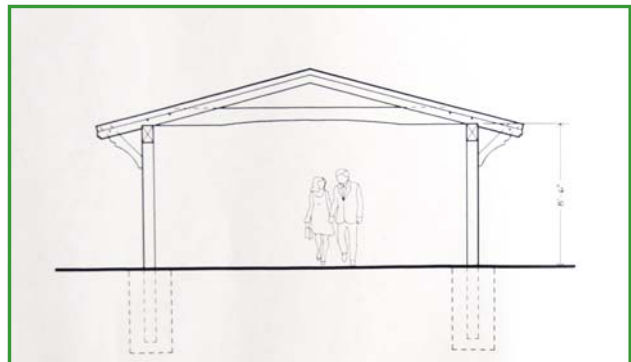
on the concrete. Once the posts get set in place, the tracks that were removed can be put back in place to allow for all track access through the station during the rest of the construction.

E-mail updates will be going out to keep everybody up to date on how the project is going. The goal is still to have this completed before Steam-Up, if not sooner.

The other three parts of this project will be to install the water columns for the steam locomotives, replace all the wood ties with the new Trex ties in the station area, and install the new electric switch motors/signals/controls for en-

tering the station.

Thank you to everyone that has made a donation towards the project. We have raised almost half of the estimated cost of building the cover. However it's still not too late to make a tax-deductible donation dedicated to the Platform Cover. This will be another HUGE first class improvement to our park.



"The Back Shop"

Here is what members have been working on:



Matt Cowart making his first test run on the Goose he is building.



Mark Adelblue is rebuilding the running gear on his Mogul.

Donations of Stuff

Recently, WCRR has received a few donations of miscellaneous items. These donations are the kind that can be summed up with, "WOW".

Randall Priest secured a donation of Trex "boards" from his employer, Agri-Plas, in Brooks. Three loads were hauled by Scott and Trevor Johnson and Bethany Priest. The total donation was 3,732 lineal feet of 2x6 and 256 lineal feet of 1x6.

It appears that WCRR is out of the wood railroad tie business.

But just think of the other projects we can build with this donation.

Thank you Randall, for hunting down this haul.

After the rumors about the Trex came out, Basil Pascoe, purchased a 12 inch Sliding Compound Miter Saw. He donated the saw to WCRR and I hear he is ready to start making ties.

Thank you Bas.

We just received two loads of bark dust from Joe Day, and Mike Baker hauled it.

The last item comes to us from Ernie Hellman. His neighbor, Derek Eide, from Molalla, Oregon, donated a 60 gallon, 220 volt, up-right air compressor.

Ernie please tell Derek thank you.

This just shows there are people out there willing to donate, just keep your eyes peeled and don't be afraid to ask.

