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## Willow Creek Board of Directors Meeting

Willow Creek Directors met on Sunday Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>. A motion was made and seconded to purchase Alan's New Holland tractor and accessories which he had loaned us last fall. The tractor is in lightly used condition and has already been used frequently. The weather Sunday started with showers, but it cleared enough to allow placing temporary siding on the new car barn to protect it this winter until permanent metal siding can be applied in the spring.



Scott, Mark & Alan apply building felt weather barrier



Mark, Alan & Frank apply temporary salvaged siding



Photo by Alan Shifley

## Tractor Purchased

After the sale of their King's Valley property the Shifley's no longer needed their tractor and implements. On loan to WCRR it proved useful.

- New Holland TC21D 4WD Tractor and implements including:
- Front Loader
  - Mid-Frame Finish Mower
  - 3-Point Mowing Deck
  - 3-Point Blade
  - 3-Point Counterweight Carrier and Hitch Receiver
  - Associated Bolts, Pins and Hardware

A tractor without implements: <http://www.tractorbluebook.com/Tractor-Blue-Book/New-Holland-Ford/TC21D-4WD-Hydro>

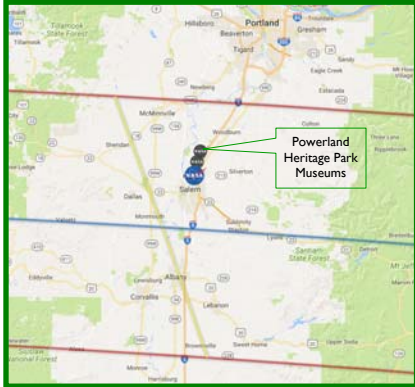
TC21D 4WD Hydro	1999	\$14,875.00	Engine Displacement: 61 Fuel: Diesel CAB: No	Make: Shibaura Transmission Speeds: Variable	No. of Cylinders: 3 Horsepower at Power Take Off: 16.0
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The tractor was purchased with implements for less than half the price of the tractor alone.

# Oregon Eclipse ~ Monday August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017

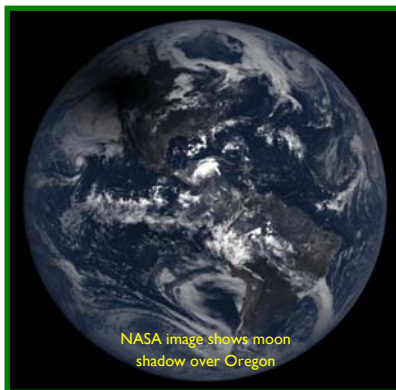
The great Oregon eclipse event has been anticipated for a long time. Powerland Heritage Park was designated as an official NASA viewing site.



The NASA map above shows Powerland in the path of totality. People came from all around Oregon and other states to camp under the trees and view the eclipse. Even takes passengers on a night run. Special night runs were made during the camp-out from 7 to 10 pm which gave the riders a different view of Willow Creek. The creek was illuminated by a spotlight which made the water shimmer. We heard many positive comments about the night runs.



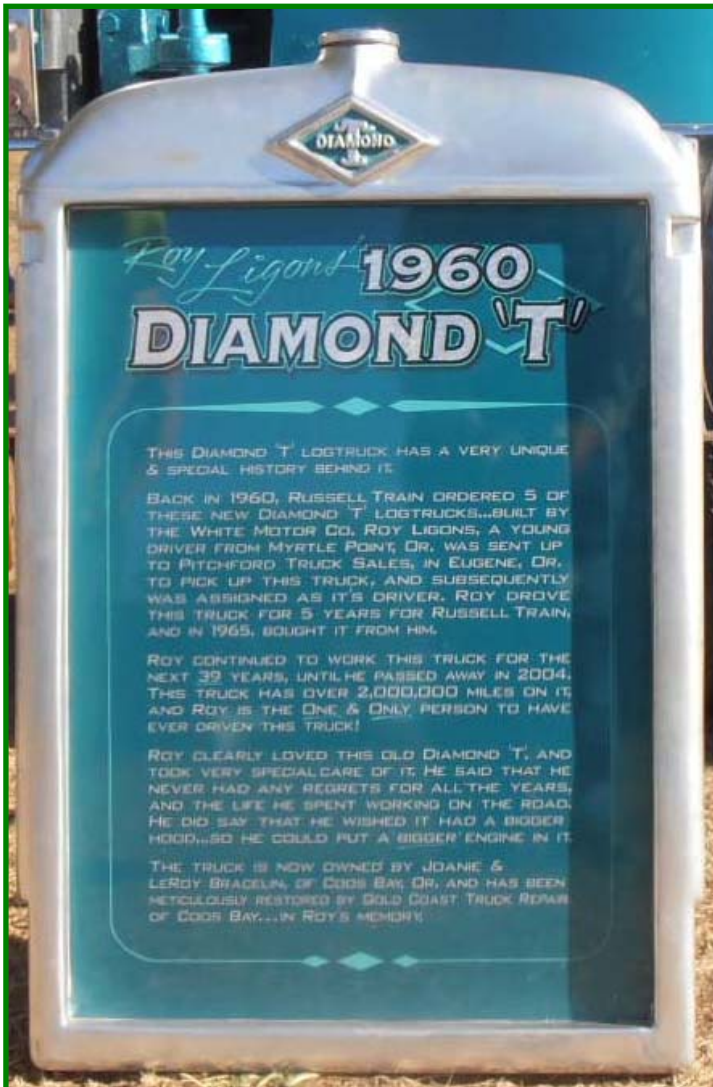
Members positioned themselves to view the eclipse on the east side of Willow Creek. This shot of the eclipse was taken from your editor's hay field in Polk County. (... didn't want to fight traffic ...) I tried to take many pictures but this was the only one that turned out.



The dire predictions of traffic jams did materialize in some areas. The ODOT Trip Check image shown above was taken after 2 pm; four hours after the eclipse. Several members planned to stay until Tuesday to avoid the traffic mess.

### PNW Truck Show 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary ~ August 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>

There were over 350 trucks on display. Many visitors also enjoyed riding at Willow Creek. It was not as busy as Steam-Up but many riders indicated that they enjoyed their trip.



Donations to Willow Creek



photo contributed by: Frank Lertora



photo: www.willowcreekrr.org

above is a GGI photo from the Willow Creek web site

The Piggott family is moving to Georgia....

Steve, shown here, has donated the GGI (which used to belong to his Dad, "Uncle Frank") to Willow Creek.

It needs a little TLC but it has always been a great addition and receives many looks when ever it is out on display.

Other items donated include a caboose, two gondola's, milling machine, lathe and many more tools.

Thank you Steve and Denise!



...thanks to Mark who sent the pictures of the donated items he, Scott and Darin traveled to pick up on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### Willow Creek Labor Day Weekend

Labor Day is the nominal close of our season. However much work remains and it will continue as weather permits. Your help is always appreciated.



Annual Business Meeting



Lunch followed the meeting



ICP being pressure washed in preparation for painting.

Metal siding cut to length donated by Adelblue family for covering Alan's car barn.



Evan cleared brush along APMA west property line.

## 2017 Annual Business Meeting

The Annual Membership Meeting was called to order at 10 am on Saturday September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Previous 2016 minutes were read and approved. The treasure's report was given and approved.

The following items were among those discussed:

### Old Business:

**Shifley Car Barn:** Initial set-up completed and tracks installed. Some additional track work is required. Weather-proof roofing and siding to be completed soon.

**ICP:** Cabinet work and lighting has been completed. Storage shelves have been added to the north side addition. Exterior painting and signage are ready to start.

**G-Scale Railroad:** Additional track and cars have been donated. Additional trackage is planned.

**New Roundhouse:** Vancouver Island Model Engineers donated a service station hoist for use on the turn-table installation. Phil has agreed to work on the hoist setup this winter. Another generous donation (\$2K) has been made to the roundhouse fund.

**Steam-Up:** Attendance and donations were slightly down from 2016.

**Security:** Keys and locks have been distributed. A few member key remain to be completed.

**Eclipse:** The event was a success. Donations added to our revenue.

**Cans & Bottles:** Bob Wolf was thanked for his efforts. The additional Oregon refund deposit boost added to our donations.

### New Business:

**Board of Directors:** Alan Shifley was elected to a 3 year term.

**Signal System:** Last signal bridges have been installed. A warning light at the impaired vision clearance at the new roundhouse has been installed. A crossing signal has been installed outside the south gate. Work is continuing on the crossover turnouts and signals. They are expected to be completed early next year.

**Open House:** Sunday September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Family Day:** (Formerly Smithsonian Day) This year was held in May as grand opening of Heritage Park.

**Gateway Project:** The APMA project is still on hold.

**Fall Cleanup:** Much work is anticipated. Your help would be appreciated.

Meeting Adjourned 12 pm and lunch followed.

### Painting the ICP! ~ September 9<sup>th</sup>



Thank you to Mark for braving the paint spray fumes. I didn't realize that an airless paint sprayer created such a fine overspray mist. The finish was an oil base opaque stain. Also thanx to Ernie and all others who put down the protective paper, took down the light fixtures and signal attachments. This allowed rapid painting progress.



KEEP US GROWING  
YOUR DONATION  
  
 DOLLARS AT WORK



### Roof in a Day!!! ~ September 10<sup>th</sup>



Chris & Jeff make an early start to put a roof on Alan's donated car barn. Materials are ready and set to go... 10 am

Rafters are in place... 12 pm



Stop for a break, then make eave vent blocks.. Roof sheathing goes up... 3 pm

Metal roofing fastened down... 5 pm



Job completed.... 6 pm

Thanks to our workers & helpers on this project.



### Oregon National Guard Construction Engineers Family Outing

Willow Creek Railroad was proud to welcome the Headquarters Company of the 1249th Engineer Battalion on Sunday September 10<sup>th</sup> for their annual picnic.

The 1249th construction engineers are combat ready engineer forces to provide general engineering to a heavy division.



The barbeque was fired up and food was prepared and enjoyed



The families enjoyed train rides... and food...



... and more food ... .. and more train rides.



Thank you Guard members for your service.



### Fall Clean-Up time again...

Again.... the summer shade gets its revenge. Garry would appreciate your assistance.



### New Facility Opened @ Willow Creek



Shown here are members and friends of Willow Creek Railroad enjoying the recently opened and improved section of our area. It has been reported that everyone enjoyed and commented positively on the improvements. We are not sure how many participated in the swimming opportunity.

### “Loving Cup” presented to life member



In view of his many contributions to our Willow Creek Railroad, this engraved, solid ceramic cup was presented with respect to our faithful member in appreciation of his many contributions to the betterment and enlightenment of the less endowed members of our organization. (...especially the engineering staff...) His imparted wisdom has enlightened us all and we are the better for it!!!



## Roy Anderson at Sacramento Valley Live Steamers

by Alan Shifley

Roy Anderson, our friend and Lifetime Willow Creek Member, recently reached a point of transition when he decided it was time to sell his 2-6-0 Mogul, Oregon Pacific #2.

There was to be one last run at the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers Fall Meet with three generations of Roy's family on hand for the event. Roy steamed up his engine one last time and made a few rounds of the track before handing over the throttle to the new owner.

It was a day with sadness of course, but no regrets, and a wonderful recognition of two memorable decades of Roy building and running his "2-Spot."



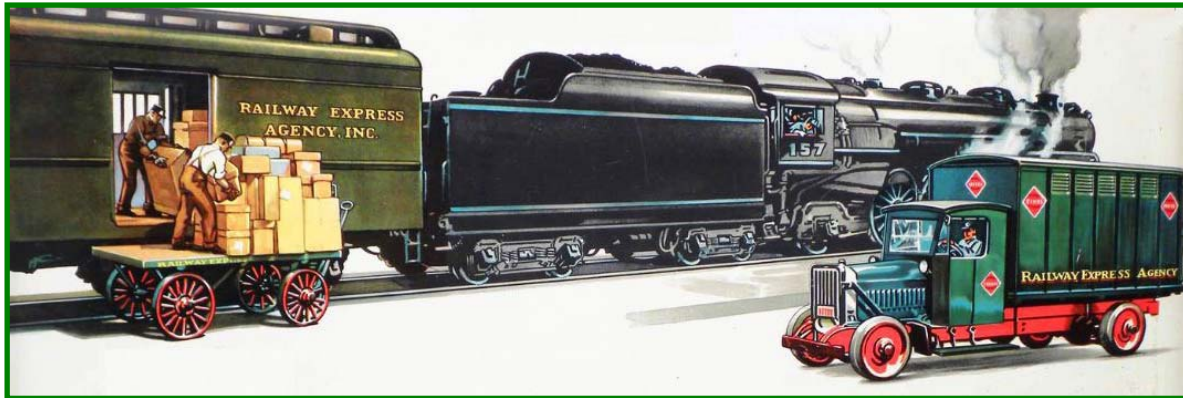
Roy and Family at Sacramento Valley Live Steamers



Roy on his last run with Oregon Pacific #2

In every aspect of life there are beginnings, transitions and endings. Our train hobby is not exempt from this. Beginnings are full of expectations and, most often, a lot of hard work to build what we envision. A piece of equipment or an entire railroad become an integral part of our life, even becoming part of who we are and what we are about. Transitions and endings are more difficult, but give us an appreciation for what we have been able to do, to have and share, and to enjoy.

## A Glimpse of History: Railway Express Agency



During World War I, the **United States Railway Administration (USRA)** nationalized the nation's railroads. Under the **USRA**, the four major and three minor express companies were consolidated as **American Railway Express, Inc. (ARE)**. In 1920, Congress passed the Transportation Act which was largely remembered for returning the railroads to private control. However, a less conspicuous aspect of this act also made American Railway Express a private corporation. The **ARE** tenure as an independent company was short-lived. With the "Roarin' 20's" witnessing unprecedented economic growth for the railroads they deemed it worthy to hold a stake in the express business. In 1928 a new company was formed known as **Railway Express Agency, Inc. (REA)** to acquire **ARE**. For any railroad wanting a stake in the new operation it had to purchase stock. In all, 86 Class I railroads bought a controlling interest in the new company.

**REA** ceased operations in 1975.



Early Style Hat badge



WW II poster  
note the early hat badge



Later Style Hat Badge



50 year service pin engraved on the back:  
VERNE SMITH  
1894 SEPTEMBER 1944