



The Mountain GAZETTE

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To Quote little Annie, OH MY GOODNESS! What a meet! Now I know that the thought of going to an 'Operations Meet' sounds like it may not be your 'cup of tea', but..... Just ask any of the 90 or so folks that just participated in the Second Annual Train Mountain Operations Meet if it was any fun! Many of them came to participate in their first experience at an operations meet of any kind. They may have been unsure if they would like the meet or maybe even be able to do any of the things one might be expected of them during a meet of this kind. What they quickly discovered was that the meet was fun, entertaining, educational, and a great way to learn about Train Mountain. My thanks goes out to those that helped out to make this happen. This is especially true of Joel Slagg for being the Meet Chairman. Please read my report on the meet in this issue.

Well the 2006 season is winding down and when you look back at all the wonderful meets we had this year all of must agree it was some hum-dinger of a year! It started with the Polar Bear, next the Kitsap Krew festival, followed by the June Meet, then the wonderful Triennial, the always fun 4th of July 'Let's Blow Something Up' fun and frolic, the August Meet, the September Meet and the recent Operation Meet. WOW! Most clubs struggle with an annual meet or maybe even a spring and fall meet but wow, look at what we've done. Congrats to all and especially to Quentin and Sharon for letting us use their playground for us to play in!

Of course for those of you that are a little closer than others we still have the always fun Halloween party on Oct. 28th, costumes required. Next will be the office Christmas party, locals and members welcome.

The 2007 season starts off with the Polar Bear Meet, the First Annual Narrow Gauge Meet (details to follow later this year but all members are welcome not just NG types, and the wonderful season starter with the Kitsap Krew showing us how to work and play together. Can't wait.

The trees are beautiful this time of year and the new track at Aspen Loop is not only a wonderful piece of engineering but the scenery will just take your breath away! The aspens around Douglas Loop are wonderful but are much smaller than those on the new track-age. Very large trees, with track running directly through the grove is a most wonderful train ride. Art and Charlie Bill are doing a great job of adding to the track work done by the September Meet crews. They build track panels one day in the Trackshop and install them the next day out on the loop, about 15 or so panels a day, 150 feet of new mainline track for Train Mountain every other day. Just terrific.

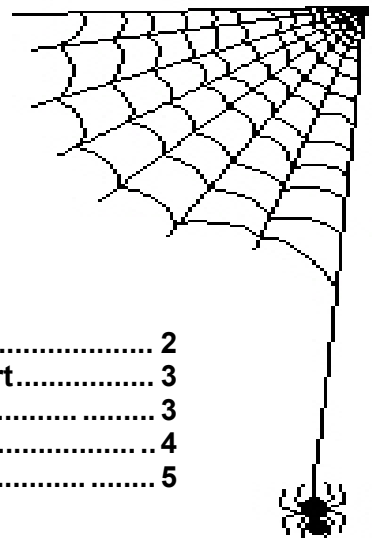
Cheryl has survived her first meet and she still had her smile going at the end so I think we didn't drive her to crazy. She was able to help all that needed it and also run the office during the meet, good job Cheryl!

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FROM THE MANAGER

The latest information

Fall is in the air! How did I know? The mosquitoes are gone, I see frost some mornings, and the Aspen trees are just plain gorgeous (not to mention all the outside projects popping up wanting to be worked on!). Fire danger is now moderate with no Industrial Precaution Level listing so we are able to get back in the woods to work.

Those of you that attended the Operations Meet were able to see the turning leaves and experience the crisp air in the morning but also experience the best ever operating session at Train Mountain. With over 120 cars in use and lots of locations for deliveries and pick-ups it was great fun. One of the big differences I saw this year was the time involved by the trains and crews; last year after a few hours of switching I saw you back at Central again, but this year when you went out, and I didn't see you for many hours. I even heard (on the radio) trains stopping in sidings for breaks during their operations movements. We had a great turn out and over 90 folks for dinner Saturday night.

I want to thank Joel Slagg and Russ Wood for their tireless efforts in putting the meet together and orchestrating the daily events. The time and money they put into this meet were definitely above and beyond the call of duty. Without these two the meet would not have worked! Of course many folks became involved as they arrived and all of your efforts are appreciated by all of us. Thank you to all. Also, a big thanks to those that loaned your equipment for the event, both locos and cars. Thanks for a great event!

Joel and Russ have passed on the reign of "Chairman of the Operations Meet" to Jim Armstrong; Jim was in training the past two years and is ready to tackle the job. As many of you know Jim has a support group he brings with him (daughter Julie, grandsons Derek and Dawson) so he already has a head start on staffing. I am sure Russ and Joel won't back away too easily either, but there will be a need for more folks to staff many positions, if you have a desire to work on this let us know. Thanks Jim, I look forward to it.

A special thank you to Marie Weaver for putting on a great breakfast but more so because she is kind of like the "den mother" when she is here and is always there for us. Whether it's a sandwich, an aspirin for an injury or headache, floors that need cleaning, or the less mundane task of keeping Dennis in line, she is on it! Thanks Marie.

Another writing of this article brings still another sad note. I have just learned that Art Miller has passed

away. Art was a dedicated member of Train Mountain and Klamath & Western Railroads; his efforts were great and greatly appreciated. Art would spend much of his time here during summer stays with Paul in the track shop building the track we run on today. Art would also spend time at the K&W track running his equipment, working on the track, as well as working with the public. Fortunately Art made it to the 2006 Triennial for one day. We will miss you Art. Thanks for the memories.

Aspen Grove Loop is now well over 2000 feet long thanks to Art and Charlie. I know some of you could not resist and snuck out on the rails to check it out, (BAD PEOPLE) but wasn't it great? This is going to be one of the nicest runs ever. The ever-energetic pair (Art and Charlie) will have to slow down soon so we can get in and finish the logging and dirt work needed on the return side of the loop. Thanks guys!

Peggy (Charlie's wife) has been busy as always putting together the Gazette for mailing and helping out in general with mail runs, preparations for our Banquets and producing the badges for the last meet. Thanks Peg. We have a new face around (maybe not -- I think it is Jerry Balf). Jerry and Louise have been out of town for a long time working on some property they have and have finally come home. Good to have you back.

We all hear about the quitting time mad rush out the door-- well it sure happened after this meet! I went home one evening and when I came back to the office the next day, the place was empty! I even went down and shut off the phone booth light and locked the shower up! After the meets it always seems so quiet and lonely around here. It always leads to a little depression, we enjoy having you all around (that's why we are here) and I am glad you enjoy being here. We look forward to the annual Halloween Party, Christmas Party and Backshop Christmas Party, then on to the Polar Bear meet and hopefully at the first sign of nice weather, Kitsap Krew Week and the first ever Narrow Gauge Meet here at Train Mountain. Sounds like a great time to me.

As you may know our staff has reduced to 3 for now, Cheryl, Richard and myself. Yes, Sarah as moved on to a job at the local Jeld-Wen plant where her husband also works (Good Luck Sarah). Right now it is only 2 though, Cheryl and myself, Richard decided he should go on vacation during the Operations Meet so he went out and hyper-extended his ankle! He is mending well and threatens to come back to work in his slippers so he can get light duty in the office! I am glad he was not injured too bad and will recover quickly.

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On the donation front, Joel Slagg has made a much-needed donation to the general fund, which I intend to turn into ballast rock (or stone in Charlie's case) for Aspen Grove Loop. Thanks so much Joel! I have also begun the Wish List; look for it in this edition of the Gazette.

Happy Halloween to everyone and I will talk to you soon;

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

WISH LIST FOR THE SPRING

- 1.. Crossing brooms.
- 2.. Cheap tape measures - 8' or 12'.
- 3.. Duct tape.
- 4.. Dry graphite spray for switches.
- 5.. 1/2" EMT, couplers, male adapters for remote switch machines
- 6.. Leaf rakes.

More to come!!!

OPERATIONS MEET

A Giant Thank You! - Russ Wood

Joel worked on this years meet all during the year with a very concentrated effort starting after the Triennial (which he played a major part in also). He has designed a marvelous system that is fun for the novice and very challenging for the expert. He has designed all of the tables, charts, waybills, and systems to make it possible to allow the meet to be even bigger next year.

Thanks to Quentin and Steve Panzik this years event had over 130 cars to use. We were able to place 85 of those cars out on the layout at various locations throughout the system. Train Mountain is big enough to place all of these cars on spurs, not sidings. The remaining cars were left in main yard to start off the festivities.

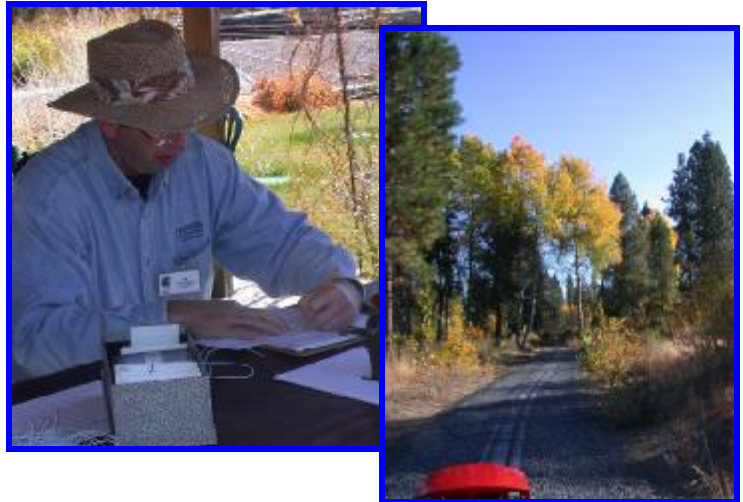
The meet was scheduled to run from Friday through Monday. Joel and others started arriving on the Tuesday before the meet so that all the waybills and holders could be placed on the cars. Of course we had to locate those cars so that the waybills could be placed on the correct cars. Once the waybills were placed we started to move some of the cars out on to the layout. At this time though the weather decided to play a hand in our timetable - it rained! We left Quentin's wooden cars in the barn but that didn't help the waybills hanging on the side of the cars, they were a little on the soggy side. Fortunately with our low humidity

and the return of the warm sunshine they made it though the meet just fine.

This year we had several steamers, lots of diesels, and a great bunch of operators, conductors, and friends having a great time at train Mountain.

For next year we can still use more box cars. We also can use more industries, I.E. buildings. If you want to build a building please contact Jim, Russ, or Train Mountain for what we need.

As Ross announced in his column the new chairman of the next Operation Meet will be Jim Armstrong. He will need lots of help, the same kind of help you folks have already given Joel and I on our past Operations events. The Operations Meet is now way to big to be done by a single person or a couple of people. So look for requests from Jim and some of co-chairs for some help.



Next years chairman Jim, learning the ropes at this years meet, and the view of the aspens was breath taking!

Meet	Work Week	Train Meet
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	Operations Meet No Work Week	Fri Oct 5- Mon Oct 8



Operations Meet Photos - 2006



Mornings are always fun and crowded. It's the only time we are all gathered together at the same spot.



First comes the paperwork, then a little train ride, and then we spot some cars, then

One of the special trains was the log train. They not only ran the log train (double headed) they picked up over 300 actual logs from along the right of way.



Even though we didn't have as many trains running as a normal Train Mountain meet we still had lots of action to see and hear. Since we were all switching cars we frequently met up at the more popular sidings and spurs. A by product of all this fun was of course all of the smiles on the passing crews, what a grand time!

Operations Meet Photos - 2006 (cont.)



The dispatcher was very busy keeping track of the fun!



Safety cables had to be connected to move a train.



We even had a great demonstration fo rerailing a large locomotive during the meet.



The theme of the day was picking up and spotting cars at all the spurs on Train Mountain, Great Fun!



Did I mention we had some steamers at this meet! There was big ones, little ones, and some in between.



The large crowd at the Saturday Banquet shows how well attended this meet really was . Good meet, good food, good friends!



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