

# NEWSLETTER

Public Website: [www.rcgrs.com](http://www.rcgrs.com)

## Rose City Garden Railroad Society March 2016

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### RCGRS Business Meeting and Auction

This year, a large silent auction was held in conjunction with our annual business meeting. A roomful of many items were up for bid as members sought to streamline their equipment holdings more in line with their current railroad activities or buy the item "that is just what I need".



Items for bid



Items for bid



The bidding begins



Items for bid



President Bill Derville





Module SIG Co-Chair, Dave Stratton & Rick Bartko



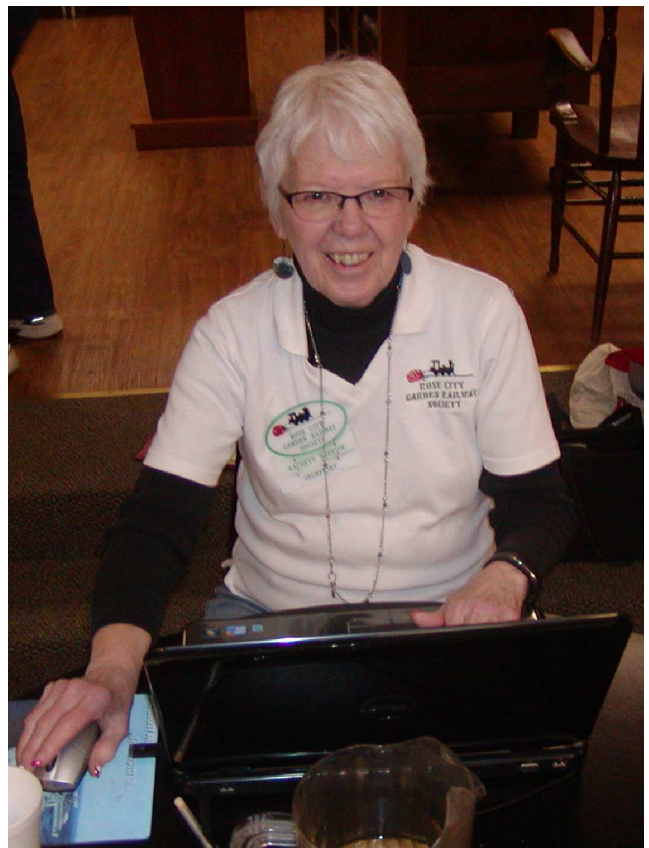
Education Chair; Rusty Baumberger



Larry Blair & Alan Olson

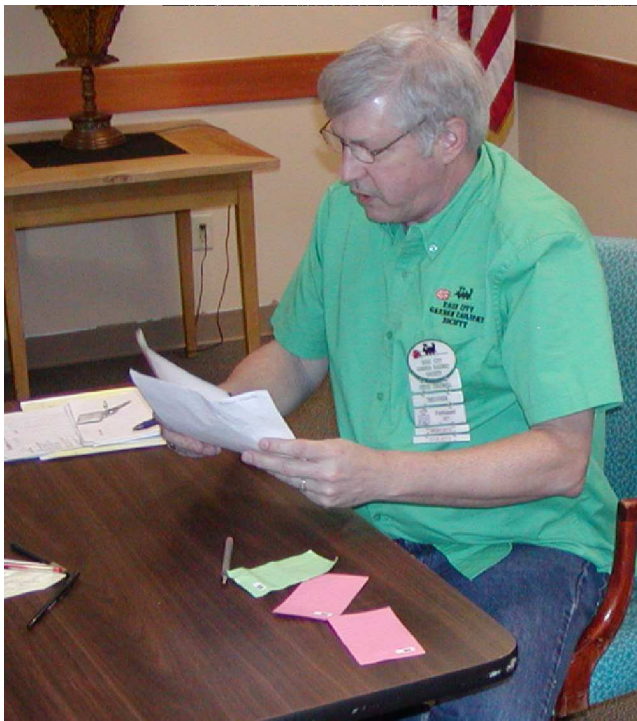


Assistant Webmaster, Don Erikstrup



Secretary, Kathryn Warrior prepares to keep the minutes of the annual meeting.





Treasurer, Steve Cogswell



Op-SIG Chair, Jan Zweerts & Larry Blair

## President's Column

My thanks to everyone who attended the annual meeting this year which included another large auction. A lot of people went home with some great deals. My thanks to Carolyn and Dennis Rose for putting on the silent auction again this year. As people decide to get out of the hobby, it represents a great way to dispose of their equipment and an even greater way for our club members to fill out their rolling stock roster, buildings, and perhaps even add an engine or two. The majority of material came from a non-member, but lots of you put in

items you no longer needed and turned it into a little cash. We sold more than \$2,000 and the club made \$182 on the transactions. The venue seems to work well for us, so we will reserve the Odd Fellows Hall for next January.

For those of you who missed the meeting, we approved a motion to go forward with action to incorporate the club which will necessitate new bylaws. We are also putting together a business plan to host the 2019 National Garden Railway Convention. There will be a special business meeting that will be held at our house following a potluck and running trains on Saturday May 14th. We need a majority of the club to either attend or send in a proxy vote on the bylaws, so watch for more information on that in late April

Early registration for the national garden railway convention in the Bay Area ends April 1st. Early registration is \$125 for a family now, but goes up to \$145 after April 1<sup>st</sup>. Individual registration is \$85 rising to \$100. This will be a great convention, and the last one that is currently scheduled to be on the West Coast. It start on July 4th and runs through July 11th with Sacramento layouts open after the convention from July 11 through July 13<sup>th</sup>.

There will be 60 layouts on tour during the convention including my all-time favorite layout by master model railroader Jack Verduci who has built a large sawmill with full interior detail including overhead belts to drive the machinery that actually work. His is a layout built for operations like many of ours. Jack's layout however features 100% live steam locomotives and covers his entire back yard, side yard, and part of the front yard. There is a long logging branch line that leads to the town of Port where goods are shipped from the docks on ships. (Well you have to use your imagination here a little, but the water is there).

If you have never experienced a national garden railway convention before, this is a great opportunity to do so and learn what is involved in putting one on. I am sure several other club members are planning on attending, and we would love some more club company, so join us if you can. Registra-

tion and complete information on all activities is available on the Internet at **ngrc2106.org**

Don't forget to sign up for an open house if you would like to host an open house. E-mail Randy Fischer at [mqrmfisher@msn.com](mailto:mqrmfisher@msn.com) to schedule an open house. We try to do one on the Saturday of each month from April through December. We still have April, June, September, and October open. My special thanks to Randi for taking on the club calendar from Tom Gaps who handled the job for many years.

## **RCGRS Business Meeting Minutes Odd Fellows Hall, Milwaukee, OR January 30, 2016**

Bill Derville, president, called the RCGRS business meeting to order at 1:49 pm.

The minutes of the August 15, 2015 business meeting at the home of Bill and Brenda Derville were approved as distributed in the September 2015 RCGRS Newsletter.

Financial Report – Steve Cogswell, Treasurer, reported we have about \$7700 in bank—\$1000 in track inventory for sale, \$40 in ballast for sale, 50# bags for \$10. \$1765 dues, summer tour \$3358. Total income \$4988 and total expenses \$2439 for a net profit of \$2510. The financial report was distributed by email to members prior to the meeting.

Budget proposal for 2016 is basically the same as 2015 except Summer Tour estimate is \$1500, dues \$1500, banquet loss of \$500 as club subsidizes the meal. The club can expect a net profit of about \$1500.

Ed Foley moved to approve the financial report and proposed budget. Motion seconded and carried.

Membership report—Bill reported a current membership of 101 paid members.

Prior to the election of officers, Bill reported on club accomplishments of last two years.

- Establishment of track committee
- Two articles about RCGRS were published in Garden Railroad Magazine
- RCGRS auctions as part of annual meeting
- Started West Coast network of clubs exchanging newsletters

Bill also led a discussion of Family Membership and the number of votes per family membership. The consensus is that it should be 1 vote per paid membership, so if more than 1 person in a family has a paid membership each of them would have a vote. However, it was pointed out that the current bylaws state each member has one vote and at last year's meeting it was decided everyone in the family is a member. Therefore, at this meeting all persons are eligible to vote.

Election of officers was conducted by past President and Nominating Committee, Greg Martin. The following slate of officers was presented and elected by acclamation. Jan Zweerts moved to elect the slate of officers for 2016–2018 by acclamation. Motion seconded and carried.

President—Bill Derville  
Vice President—Darrel Dunham  
Secretary—Kathryn Warrior  
Treasurer—Steve Cogswell  
Yardmaster—Greg Martin

### **Committee Reports:**

Mod-SIG – Dave Stratton and Rick Bartko, co-chairs reported the

- Set up and tear down went well.
- Need more people to run trains.
- A place to work on modules is needed.

They thanked all for their help, especially, Jan Zweerts with the layout plan. There was a discussion at the Great American Train Show about how to improve the modules.

They reported the trailer needs to have the brakes inspected. A  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton pickup is needed to pull the trailer to a facility for inspection.

A discussion of whether the GAT Show is a club activity or a Mod-SIG activity followed.

Jan Zweerts proposed the GAT Show should be a structured club activity and a sign-up sheet for people provided well in advance of the event.

Rick Bartko stated that the purpose of the Mod-SIG group is to maintain and see that modules are in good order and to build and maintain the modules.

Alan Olson pointed out that our club purpose is to promote the hobby and this event is a good way to do this. He suggested that we have membership forms there so people can join. Applications will be held until payment has been received.

In summary, it was agreed that Mod-SIG role is the building and maintenance of the modules and that the GAT show is a club activity where we need to show that we are proud of what we are doing. A straw vote showed majority of members present want the GAT Show to be a club activity and want all members to participate. There are many ways to participate: set up-take down, bridge operation, greeters, and train operators. Bill will work with the Mod-SIG committee to organize volunteers much as we do for the summer tour.

Track Committee — Don Erikstrup reported there hasn't been a lot of activity. He received track from Dave Kookan which has been added to the inventory. Currently the track committee has \$900 to \$1000 worth of track in inventory. Sandy and Hal have been helping out as committee members.

For next business meeting, Don Erikstrup suggested the membership consider combining the track committee with the yardmaster duties or expanding yardmaster duties to include track. He also suggested thinking about having chair of track committee be an elected position with a term.

Summer Tour — Bill Derville, chair, reported the club will have one this year and anticipate an income of \$1500 from the tour. The estimated income was reduced because this past year we had exceptional publicity and record attendance.

Clinics – Rusty Baumberger reported clinics are scheduled in conjunction with movie nights at Max's Fanno Creek Pub in Tigard. These clinics will start promptly at 4:30 pm. The next clinic, "Making Roofs," is scheduled for Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> with presenter, Gary Lee. At the March clinic, Jan Zweerts will show/teach participants how to use air pistons to throw switches. Next clinics after that will be at Fall Social. Rusty reported there is lot of club interest in battery conversion clinics. Gary Lee volunteered that he has room at his shop at his place to get together for work sessions. He will be adding a couple of design/build sessions this spring. No clinics are scheduled for summer as we have the Summer Tour and Op-SIG operating sessions.

OP-SIG — Jan Zweerts, chair, reported that John Stiger is interested in hosting an operating session on his layout. Jan invited anyone interested in having an OP-SIG session on their layout to send him an email and he will come out and discuss with you. [jmzweerts@gmail.com](mailto:jmzweerts@gmail.com)

Movie Czar — Jan Zweerts provided the movie schedule for the next 3 months. February, LaBattaille du Rail, March, The Grey Fox, April, The Flim Flam Man

Fall Social — Alan Olson, chair, would like to be able to better accommodate dietary needs. He is soliciting positive or negative input about meal selections. He pointed out that the current venue, the Canby Senior Center, is the best place for the money and has rooms for clinics and the large hall for the meal. Alan will be negotiating with food service regarding food perhaps offering to pay \$10 for those who need to bring their own meal due to dietary issues. The Senior Center policy is that this a fund raiser for them so people have not been allowed to bring their own meal.

Mollala Train Park, Shady Dell project– Rick Bartko discussed the membership benefits of belonging to Mollala Train Park Pacific Northwest Live Steamers. Membership entitles one to go down and ride and within a few months run a G-scale railroad which they will be building. They have a 28 bay round house. There will be some work parties for

the building and installation of the G-scale railroad. The first phase will include 550 feet of double track and they want to have an ops layout over the course of time. They want to have G-scale up and running by May. Watch for more information.

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Live Auction of engines–Our new auctioneer, Jan Zweerts, urged bidding on these items:

- LGB Mogel–Denver & Rio Grand sold for \$230
- Pair of UP U25 B Aristocraft diesel engines sold for \$275

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

Bill asked about interest in a proposed Amtrak, Talgo Train trip to Centralia trip which would be coordinated by Carolyn Rose. The trip would be from Portland to Centralia where travelers would get off, have lunch, explore Centralia, and catch late afternoon train to come home. About 20 people are interested.

Reorganization to incorporate RCGR—Bill explained that incorporation provides legal protection for our members, particularly if the incident resulting in a suit does not arise at the member's home, but it does not protect people from being sued. If an incident happens at someone's home, the home owner and the club would likely be sued. But when the club is named, it does not bring each of the members into the suit, only the club and its assets when the club is named. Without incorporation,

each member is included in the suit when the club is named in the suit. The club would remain a 501c7, social club. Cost is about \$100 per year for registration with the State of Oregon as a 501c7 organization. Restructuring would require the by-laws be rewritten. Shannon Pratt moved and it was seconded to authorize the expenditure of up to \$1000 for legal advice regarding incorporation of the club.

2019 National Convention in Portland — Bill presented rationale for hosting convention that we have outstanding layouts and other things in the area of interest to railroad hobbyists. Financially, he has commitment from 5 members who are willing to put up \$20,000 for front end deposits. Bill Derville has volunteered to chair the convention committee. He suggested that the next step is to have a steering committee (Bill Derville, Chair, Gary Lee, Steve Cogswell, Tom Gaps, Darrel Dunham) put together a business plan for hosting the 2019 National Garden Railway Convention and to bring the plan back to the club for approval at a special business meeting in May. If the business proposal is approved, then the club would make a bid at the 2016 convention in Santa Clara for RCGRS to host 2019. Bill suggested we host several operating sessions on Tuesday evening where convention attendees could either participate or watch an ops session to expose garden railroaders to a new aspect of the hobby they have not experienced. Doug Watson moved and it was seconded that the steering committee put together a business proposal for hosting the 2019 Garden Railway Convention which will be presented to the membership at a special meeting in May.

Other new business — Nick Kelsey announced he is resigning the webmaster position February 15th. Don Erikstrup volunteered to work with TJ Meyer to fill the webmaster position.

Jonette Lee reminded the group that a publicity person is needed for the summer tour. She has prepared a notebook that tells what needs to be done which she will pass on to the new volunteer.

Tom Gaps moved and it was seconded that the business meeting adjourn. Motion carried. Following adjournment, silent auction bidders were to go pay for and collect the item(s) they purchased. Thanks to Dennis and Carolyn Rose for setting up the auction and to all who helped meeting and potluck set-up and clean-up.

— Kathryn Warrior, Secretary

## Schedules & Timetables

It is our Society's policy to attempt to have an event or open house on every second Saturday or Sunday of the month. Other and additional dates during a month are also available and encouraged. Anyone interested in having an Open House or sponsoring an event, please contact **Tom Gaps 503-659-8893, @comcast.net**

### Pre-Registration for Events

**How to register for "Open Houses", BnB, Movie Nights and Other Club Events:** To help the person hosting an event and to know how much food etc. to prepare, it is important for each of us to use the club Website member section to register for the event we are planning to attend. It is challenging to keep track of individual Emails from 20 to 30 people. **Please register for events you are planning to attend.**

### To Register:

Go to the club website: [www.rcgrs.com](http://www.rcgrs.com).

On the home page, click on "member pages" which is located under the logo.

This takes you to the "member pages." The first bullet under the Membership Application Form is "Members Only Content." Click on the blue phrase, "Page Access."

Clicking on "Page Access" takes you to the log-in to access these pages. You will need to log-in with your email and password to continue.

You will now be on the member page that allows you to see the upcoming scheduled events and to register for an event. Each event has a button, "Register" which will take you to the page to register. By registering here, the host can see how many are coming as well as who is coming. In addition, you will receive a reminder of the event.

**March 1, 2016, 9:30 am:** BnB Breakfast (east) at Elmer's, 10001 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland. Breakfast and Bull Session.

**March 17, 2016 9:30 am:** BnB Breakfast (west) at Elmer's, located at 1250 NW Waterhouse Ave. in Beaverton..

**March 26, 2016, Saturday, 4:00 pm to 9:30 pm:** Fanno Creek Brew Pub  
Clinic @ 4:00 pm & Short subject @ 4:00 pm  
Feature @ 6:00 pm. The Grey Fox.

**April 5, 2016, 9:30 am:** BnB Breakfast (east) at Elmer's, 10001 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland. Breakfast and Bull Session.

**April 21, 2016 9:30 am:** BnB Breakfast (west) at Elmer's, located at 1250 NW Waterhouse Ave. in Beaverton..

**May 14, 2016, Saturday, Noon to 5:00 pm:** Open House / Pot Luck / Special Meeting at Bill & Brenda's home, 930 NW 170th PL; Beaverton, OR 97006.

**June 18, 2016, Saturday, 10:00 am - 5 pm:** "Railroads In The Garden Summer Tour," Bill Derville, Chairman. Most members are needed to help at the railroads open for the tour.



### **RCGRS Officers and Staff**

**President, Bill Derville**

503-645-1771, bill@derville4.com

**Vice President, Darrel Dunham**

360-225-5158 (H), 253-222-8367 (C)

dwdunham@msn.com

**Secretary, Kathryn Warrior**

503-648-8112, kathryn.warrior56@gmail.com

**Treasurer, Steve Cogswell**

503-501-8630, steven.r.cogswell@gmail.com

**Yardmaster; Greg Martin**

503-848-9091, granet@frontier.com

**Annual Garden RR Tour Chair, Bill Derville**

503-645-1771, bill@derville4.com

**Open House Chair**

**and maintaining calendar entries, Randi Fisher**

503-799-9161, mqrmfisher@msn.com

**Education Chair; Rusty Baumberger**

503-512-7857, rbaumberge@aol.com

**Module SIG Co-Chair, Dave Stratton**

503-654-2469, destrat@hevanet.com

**Module SIG Co-Chair, Darrel Dunham,**

360-225-5158 or 253-222-8367 (c)

dwdunham@msn.com

**Live Steam SIG Chair: Ron Bacon**

503-628-2300, mbacon@onlinenw.com

**Op-SIG Chair: Jan Zweerts**

503-247-7531, mzwerts@Gmail.com

**Newsletter Editor, Allan R. Warrior**

503-648-8112, allanr.warrior@gmail.com

**Webmaster, TJ Meyer**

503-572-5248, tjs93two@comcast.net

**Assistant Webmaster, Don Erikstrup,**

720-244-7522, donalderikstrup@icloud.com