

NEWSLETTER

Our First Open House!!



Our first “Open House,” held at the Greenbee layout on the weekend of April 30 - May 1, was a complete success! We had newspaper coverage, the public came out and some of our sponsors were able to attend as well.

Many of our visitors were there for their first time and expressed sheer excitement at what our club has put together. Thomas the Tank Engine was a big hit with the young engineers. They enjoyed chasing Thomas around

the layout in order to get a glimpse of his eye movement. The adults enjoyed the detailed work.

Christine Moore, of High Desert Hobbies, expressed appreciation for their billboard and its prominent placement off of the upper loop main line.

As a club, we should feel proud of what we’ve achieved and the public appreciation of our achievement.

GLEN SETTLE & LNWR
Scheduled for the weekend of July 30 & 31, 2011
in Quartz Hill

LNWRR OPEN HOUSE WORK PARTY!!



Speaking of achievement, if it wasn't for a work party in mid-April and the efforts of Greenbee Nursery, the layout wouldn't have shown as well as it did for the Open House.

Take a look at the work being done by various club members. In the top left photo, Phil is busy placing and securing the people throughout the town of Greenbee. Phil also placed a new gas station within the city limits.



Not only did Eileen help motivate Jerry to keep him on task (middle left photo), she worked tirelessly on the DG compactment around the layout.



Once again Sara provides the necessary stone cutting needed for the second half of the main viaduct bridge (middle left photo).



In the photo on the bottom left, we have Phil, Kyoshi and Christian sharing a joke and/or an old train story (model train, that is) while taking a moment to relax.



In the top right photo, Gerald is doing the necessary repair work on the trestle leading into the west siding of the staging yard.



In the two middle right photos, Nancy and Doug tackle the back breaking task of stone placement on the viaduct 2nd half.



In the bottom right photo, Christian is placing the base for the side road leaving the town of Greenbee. He's using a mixture of glue with the Volcanic rock dust he carefully sifted earlier--all under the watchful eye of Pat, who is envisioning himself as the "Jolly

Green Giant" over Greenville (a.k.a., Greenbee).

THE **ENTIRE** LNWRR MODULAR DEBUTS @ "THUNDER ON THE LOT" AFTER 6 YEAR HIATUS



Persuing an idea offered by Fred Conrad at the April monthly meeting, we found ourselves bringing our modular to the "Thunder on the Lot" event on June 11 & 12, 2011.

The event is a fund raiser for various A.V. children's charities. Having the trains running there seemed like a natural fit, as many families are drawn to this event.

Constructing the entire modular was **a lot** of work, as seen in these photos. For those of us that are new to the club and haven't seen this modular up in its entirety, seeing the finished product was very impressive. The



overall layout measures roughly 35' x 70,' which is larger than the Greenbee layout, according to Christian.

There is a 15' trestle section that is missing due to an incident that occurred during the last outing back in 2005. The details of that incident are somewhat vague and the parties involved will remain innocent of any wrongdoing. Who knows,

with the possibility of more events involving the modular in sight, we might find that the trestle makes a dramatic comeback.

As you can see, the modular is just that---a group of modules that



are collapsable to the smallest form. This makes for relatively easy transport via the services of Fred & Diane Conrad. As we schedule more events with the modular, perhaps other club members will offer their services.

The overall process to take part in this event took 5 days. This included an extra day to clean and rearrange the storage unit where the modular is kept. This was done in order to facilitate easier removal and return of the modular.

As you can see, the club was



provided an indoor, climate-controlled environment for the layout. Considering the heat and wind possibilities in the greater A.V. area, this was greatly appreciated. Being indoors was



the club's main stipulation in providing our services to this event. The event coordinators were more than happy to oblige us, for they truly wanted to see us there. To make the deal even sweeter, their only request was that we cover the insurance charge of a mere \$25.00.



THUNDER ON THE LOT (CONT.)

After seeing the entire modular back up and operational, it is quite apparent that there are many opportunities for club members to make this modular even more grand. In our upcoming meetings, please be prepared to offer any assistance in scenery creation to be used on the modular.

additional outings for the club and our modular are quite real. Key details will have to be ironed out, but the prospects of these events is exciting none the less.

One of these key people was Officer Robbie of the Sheriff's department. His initial request



The modular was set up and made operational by Friday, June 10. There was a minor delay that day in that a purchase was necessary to replace missing rail clamps. These rail clamps are the method of choice for joining all rails together at each modular junction. After a quick run to Tehachapi and a lunch break, folks were back at the task of bringing the modular to life.

During the two day "Thunder on the Lot" event, numerous comments were made about the scenery around the modular. Particularly popular (due to the

was to have a working layout during the Safety Expo at the Palmdale Mall. A compromise was worked out, and Thomas attended the event with a tabletop display (see story below).

The overall experience at "Thunder on the Lot" was very positive. Folks remembered the club from past days at the old fairgrounds and stated that they were very happy to see the layout once again.

The process was finished in relatively short order, which is a testament to the enthusiasm of the club participants for their hobby and this type of club outing.

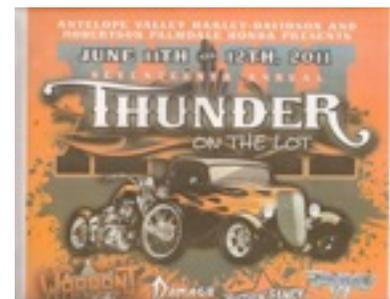


interests of event attendees) was the section done by Artie and Nancy, which featured hot rods and Harley Davidson motorcycles.

Therese Garcia, a key coordinator of the event, was so pleased with our presence that she asked the club to participate next year. On behalf of the club, Thomas accepted the offer.

Many folks stopped by to admire the layout, and they expressed fond childhood memories of playing with their own train sets. The various stories told by these individuals were quite endearing.

We also had **key** people stop by to inquire about whether our layout could be available for other future events. The possibilities of



A great big THANK YOU is given to all those that were able to assist in this endeavor.

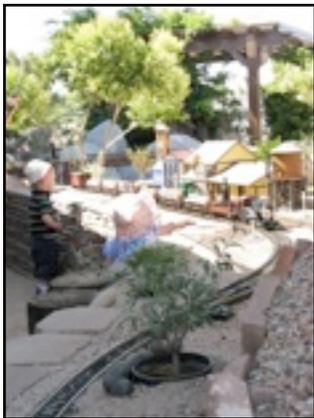
NEW LNWR RECruits



Wednesday June 15, 2011

Joe Minichello and Thomas McNesby entertained five 2 year-olds (and their moms) at our Greenbee Nursery layout for a show-n-tell session.

The young visitors were just the right height to be able to look



straight down main street while standing tall. No need to stoop or get down on bended knee.

The children and their moms



enjoyed themselves so much that

they extended their proposed 20 minute stay to about 60 minutes.



The 2 year-olds kept their moms on their toes as they scurried around the layout. The children enjoyed following the trains around the mountains and over the bridges. All in all, the kids were well behaved.

The only incident was when Joe failed to monitor his train. Sure enough, Joe's engine de-coupled, traversed the layout and



ran smack into the caboose. At that point, the engine derailed and began to smoke (and not from the smoke stack).

Joe will be performing another engine rewire before we see this particular engine at GB again.

At right, Club President Thomas McNesby poses with local royalty at the Safety Expo in June.

PALMDALE MALL EVENT



Saturday June 18, 2011

On behalf of the LNWR Club, President Thomas McNesby hosted a table at the Sheriff and Firefighters Safety Expo, held at the main entrance of the Palmdale Mall.



Many people came by the club table to discuss such topics as the Greenbee layout and rail safety.

Many of the visitors were unaware of the GB layout, and they sounded excited about taking their families to see it soon.



Contributions & Contacts by LNWR!



While at the “Thunder on the Lot” event, contribution jars were positioned at three corners of the modular. A flyer was attached to the jars that read:

“AV CHILDREN’S CHARITIES - All contributions go directly to the Children’s

Charities of the Antelope Valley.” Our club was able to donate \$86.00, which was given to Therese Garcia @ Robertson’s Palmdale Honda on June 14, 2011.

A key contact was made while at the Safety Expo. Officer Robbie introduced our club to the Marketing Director of the Palmdale Mall. She asked our club to participate in their Christmas Holiday event! They would like us to provide some type of working train display. Details will be worked out starting in August, 2011.



Calendar

July 10, 2011

Next LNWR Club meeting

July 30 & 31, 2011

Glen Settle fundraising event

August 14, 2011

LNWR Club meeting

September 11, 2011

LNWR Club meeting

September 24, 2011

The Arnold’s Open House

October 9, 2011

LNWR Club meeting

Fun Facts of Railroading!



MODEL RAILROADING CLUBS IN AMERICA:

There are 341 model railroading clubs listed with “RailsUSA = rail site directory.” Sadly, LNWR is not included on that list along with our fellow train enthusiasts. “Family Garden Trains” provides a listing of all known Garden Railroad Clubs from around the world. Sadly, LNWR is not on that list, either. Maybe we should change that. Let’s talk about it!

SPARKS, Nev. (AP) — A Nevada trucking company under scrutiny for a fiery crash with an Amtrak train that left at least six dead has been cited repeatedly by state authorities for crashes, unsafe driving and operating a truck with tires so bald the vehicle had to be taken off the road.

A driver working for John Davis Trucking Co. of Battle Mountain smashed through crossing gates and into two double-decker cars of an Amtrak train Friday, killing the driver and five people on the train.

Federal records reviews by The Associated Press on Sunday show the Nevada Department of Public Safety cited the company for two crashes in the last two years, including one in February 2010 that injured a person in Washoe County.

In a January inspection, authorities found tires on one company tractor-trailer so bald they deemed the rig an imminent hazard to public safety.

Meanwhile, Nevada Highway Patrol Trooper Chuck Allen said Sunday that officials for the Churchill County Coroner Office continued to sift through the rubble of two rail cars gutted by the fire that burned extremely hot. He said they have asked at least one forensic anthropologist to assist them late Sunday or Monday.

"I think it was so hot that they want to make sure they are not missing anything," Allen told AP. "They want to figure out if there are any more bodies and if so, how many. They want to rule out the possibility that yes there are more or that no, there are not."

Investigators also continued on Sunday to look over the scene for any clues as to why the truck driver plowed through the railroad crossing on Friday. It's expected to take up to a year to pinpoint the cause of the crash.

"Just from handling or being on the scene of so many accidents, there are so many alternatives to consider," Allen said.

"Not necessary just drugs or alcohol, but fatigue, driver inattention. Did he have a CB (citizen band radio)? Was he talking to his buddies behind him? If so, was he looking in the side view mirror and not looking at the road ahead?" he said. "I don't think we'll ever know for sure."

Two truck drivers and a train engineer watched helplessly as a semitrailer skidded the length of a football field before it smashed through crossing gates and into the train before noon on Friday.

The drivers were part of a three-truck convoy that saw the gates come down and the warning lights go off as the California Zephyr approached, National Transportation Safety Board member Earl Weener said Saturday.