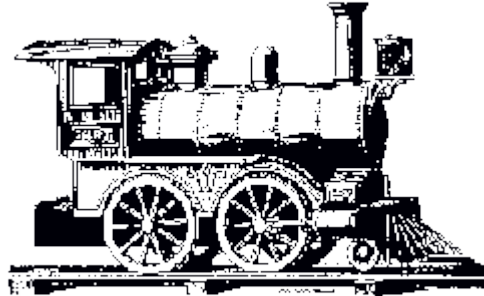

(Current member signature)

(Current member phone & e-mail)



POLK STATION RAIL Model Railroad Club Welcome to the Club!

Welcome to the Polk Station Rail model railroad club! If you have received this booklet, you almost certainly share our fascination with trains large and small, and either you have just joined us or you have expressed an interest in joining and have asked to learn more about the club. The purpose of the booklet is to introduce you briefly to the club, including what you can expect from the club and what it expects from you as a member.

HISTORY

Polk Station Rail was established in 1993 in Dallas, Oregon. In December 2005, the club's headquarters and layout were relocated to their present location at the Grange hall in Rickreall, Oregon. Remodeling of the room to accommodate the layout took place in 2005 and 2006, and the rebuilding of the layout in its new location began in 2007. While the layout is operationally complete, scenery construction is ongoing and improvements are made as needs arise.

LAYOUT

The club's HO scale layout occupies a room of approximately 30' x 29' plus, under construction in the room next door, we are expanding to have a double level layout that is connected to layout in the first room. We are building a new staging yard and several sections of the expansion are looking for scenes and people like you to come in and help out with the construction!

The scenery on the layout is "freelance"—i.e., it does not represent any real locations or any specific prototype. It generally represents the era of the 1950s thru the '70's. Members run equipment of various

prototypes and eras, from steam-era to contemporary, depending on their individual interests. Trains are operated by Digital Command Control (see below.)

JOINING THE CLUB

Polk Station Rail welcomes new members, who may join the club at any level of expertise. Some may be relatively new to the hobby; others may have built and operated a home layout and may already have considerable skills in one or more aspects of the hobby. Whatever your skill level, as a new member you are likely to have a number of questions as part of “learning the ropes.” The member whose signature and contact information appear at the top of Page 1 of this booklet will answer any questions you have, or will refer you to another member who has expertise in a particular area. To join, submit a written application to the Board of Directors (you may detach and use the last page of this booklet), accompanied by a check for \$39.00, which includes an application fee of \$25.00 plus one month’s dues of \$14.00. One or more members of the Board of Directors will interview you and make a recommendation to the board and the general membership. In the event that the application is not accepted, all fees will be refunded.

BASIC PRINCIPLES

Polk Station Rail is a voluntary association of interested model railroaders. It is governed by a formal set of bylaws, which set forth its rules and procedures. But the Bylaws, and the relations among club members, are all governed by one basic principle: respect and consideration for the club collectively, for one’s fellow members individually, and for other groups and individuals who use facilities in the Rickreall Grange. When joining the club, you are joining a group that helps support the Grange and therefore in addition to club activities, you will participating in activities that supports the Grange and participate in many of their activities.

The relationship between the club and its members is one of mutual benefit. The club offers members the privilege of running trains on a layout that is far larger than most homes could accommodate. It offers modelers of any skill level, from beginning to advanced, the collective modeling savvy and experience of their fellow club members, many of whom have been in the hobby for a very long time. Members receive a discount on purchases at a hobby shop owned by one of the members. In return, members contribute their labor and materials to developing and improving the layout, bringing their own experience and ideas to the common effort. Details are provided in the following sections.

CLUB RESOURCES AND PRIVILEGES

Resources

Layout.

Control of trains on the layout is provided by a Digitrax® Digital Command Control (DCC) system. Unlike the older Direct Current (DC) systems still used on many layouts, in which power is sent to “blocks” of track and a transformer controls any engine occupying any given block one block (or at most two) at a time, DCC controls each engine separately wherever on the layout it may be by sending signals to a decoder installed in the engine. This provides much greater flexibility and allows more trains to be operated at the same time. Members control their own trains individually using a “walk-around” throttle which allows them to follow their train around the layout.

The club owns five Digitrax® throttles for members’ use (one DT400 and four DT1 utility throttles),

but most members find it preferable to purchase a throttle of their own to be sure there is always one available when they wish to run a train. Ask any member for advice on choosing a throttle.

Lockers.

Each member is entitled to the use of one of the lockers in the club office, if available. If all lockers are occupied, members wishing a locker will be assigned one when it becomes available.

Tools.

A variety of power saws and drills are available to club members for work on layout construction and repairs. There are also a limited number of hand tools (hammers, screwdrivers, etc.) This equipment is for use by any member for work on the club layout. It is recommended that members supply their own hand tools for most layout work and for work on their own engines and rolling stock. (See also "Personal tools" under "Members' individual resources" below.) We are asked to refrain from using saws and other power equipment, located in a large workshop on the ground floor, anytime there is Grange activity taking place in the adjacent rooms that would be disrupted by the noise.

Individual and collective model railroading expertise of your fellow members.

Among the club members there is a wealth of expertise in all aspects of the hobby. For example, individual members have particular strengths in electronics and layout troubleshooting; layout and scene design; scenery and building construction; assembly, painting and weathering of rolling stock; and locomotive troubleshooting.

Membership privileges

Running trains on the layout. The ultimate purpose of the club, and the reason most members join, is to enjoy the pleasure of running model trains on a club-sized layout. On run nights and during the club's open houses, all members are welcome to bring their own locomotives and rolling stock and run them on the layout. In the interest of smooth, maximally trouble-free operation, members are asked to make sure that equipment they run on the layout meets the following standards:

- a) The wheels of engines and rolling stock must be kept clean to minimize the accumulation of dirt and grime on track.
- b) Engines must be controlled by DCC decoders that are compatible with the layout power.
- c) Rolling stock must meet the standards established by the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA).
- d) Trains must be tested in one or more running sessions before being run during an open house.

Working on the layout If you are relatively new to the hobby, you may work on projects with more experienced members until you and the club are comfortable with your skill level. Once you feel confident enough to take on a project of your own, the first step is to talk to the section manager in charge of the area where you would be working. He or she will start you off. You will need to draw a plan of what you would like to do, including the cost and an estimate of how long the project will take to complete, and present your plan at the next business meeting for approval. Try to supply all the materials you will need, but if you need help with supplies, ask for it. If you will be building an industry, it's a good idea to have appropriate cars to service it. Once in place on the layout, scenery and buildings become the property of the club.

Building access. After six months' active participation in club activities and with board approval, members are eligible to receive a key code that gives access to the front door of the building as well as

the rooms used by the club. (See Bylaws II.7.A.2.)

Voting. All “Regular” members are entitled to vote in the annual election for club officers (president, vice president, secretary and treasurer), and on all club business. (See Bylaws Article III for details.) Voting and participation in club business meetings should be considered an obligation as well as a privilege.

Discounts on equipment. Members receive a 10% discount on items purchased for their own use at Tom Pryor’s Machine and Model Trains (except for sale, consignment or brass items). The discount is 25% on any buildings, scenery and other fixtures purchased by a member for the club layout.

Members’ individual resources

Trains, engines & rolling stock. Trains, engines and rolling stock run on the layout are the property of individual members or the club, and normally members will run their own equipment. Members may occasionally run trains owned by other members or borrow an engine or a car for use in a train of their own, but only with the permission of the owner. The borrowing member is responsible to the lending member for replacement of any equipment lost or damaged in the course of use by the borrower.

Personal Tools. Most tools for use in working on trains (e.g., miniature screwdrivers, modeling knives and other specialized tools) are owned by members individually. As with train equipment, members may borrow the occasional tool from another member, but only with the permission of the owner, and such tools must be cleaned if necessary and returned promptly after use. A member wishing to leave personal tools at the club between sessions must provide his or her own tool box or a rolling cart that fits under the layout.

CLUB MEETINGS

The club meets every Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m., as follows:

First Thursday every other Month: business meeting at 7:00 p.m., followed by work on the layout.

First Thursday of the month when a business meeting is not scheduled: Run trains.

Third Thursday of each month: run trains

Other Thursdays: work on layout; clean up as needed for upcoming running session or open house.

Most members usually stay until 9:00 or 10:00, depending on current club projects, personal schedules, etc.

First Weekend and Third Sundays we are currently open from about 10 or 11:00 AM until at least 2 or 3 PM.

OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

Dues

Monthly dues are currently \$14.00, which are generally paid at the first meeting of every month.

Participation

It is assumed that anyone who has been accepted for regular membership joins with a willingness to participate regularly in club activities. As described above, these activities include not only running trains on the layout but also participating in ongoing construction projects to develop and enhance the layout, participating in club open houses, attending business meetings, as well as participating in many Grange activities such as the monthly events. We are a relatively small club and depend on the

participation of all members, whenever possible, to make club projects and activities a success. For details on types of membership, please see Bylaws II.4 and II.5.E.

Rules and procedures

As previously mentioned, the specific rules and procedures by which the club governs itself are set forth in the Bylaws. By joining Polk Station Rail, you agree to abide by these rules and procedures. Every new member will receive a copy of the Bylaws upon acceptance for membership and will be asked to sign the master copy of the Bylaws to indicate acceptance of this responsibility.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

See the PSR website at <http://www.trainweb.org/psr/index.html>.

All Aboard!

Polk Station Rail Model Railroad Club

Membership Application

I wish to become a member of the Polk Station Rail Model Railroad Club.

I am interested on <u>working</u> on the following types of items (please rate what you believe to be your current skill level in area on a 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest) rating system: ☐ Layout scenery – Skill level: _____ ☐ Laying track and roadbed – Skill level: _____ ☐ Building construction – Skill level: _____ ☐ Bench work construction – Skill level: _____ ☐ Electrical (110) – Skill level: _____ ☐ Electronics (low voltage) – Skill level: _____ ☐ Painting [room] or [models] or [back drops] – Skill level: _____ ☐ Locomotive repair and car building – Skill level: _____	I am interested in <u>learning</u> the following types of items: ☐ Layout scenery – Skill level: _____ ☐ Laying track and roadbed – Skill level: _____ ☐ Building construction – Skill level: _____ ☐ Bench work construction – Skill level: _____ ☐ Electrical (110) – Skill level: _____ ☐ Electronics (low voltage) – Skill level: _____ ☐ Painting [room] or [models] or [back drops] – Skill level: _____ ☐ Locomotive repair and car building – Skill level: _____
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Please tell us a little about you in order to get to know you better:

Date: _____ *

Name: _____ *

Address: _____ *

(Street & apartment number if applicable)

_____ *

(City) _____ (State) _____ (zip code) _____

Phone (Home): _____ * Phone (mobile): _____ *

email: _____ *

Brief job or work history: _____

Skills that you have acquired from work, hobbies, or life experience (computer skill level, construction or wood working skills, have you worked with plaster and or paint(s), photography, etc.: _____

How long have you been in the hobby of Model

Railroading?: _____

Do you consider yourself to be a rivet counter or an easy going modeler who enjoys pretty, but not exact?: _____

Have you ever belonged to another Model train club?: _____

How did you hear about us?: _____

Why do you want to join our club?: _____

Do you have a layout at home?: _____

** required, unless you do not have. Unmarked fields are not required. Prior to being allowed to join officially, there will be an interview by 3 or more of the Board members.*

Membership is \$39.00 for the first month (payable with this application & includes payment for a name tag).

Monthly dues thereafter are \$14.00. If you are not granted membership status the \$39.00 will be returned upon notification.