



The Side Rod

The link that keeps all the wheels turning

WINTER 1998

Over-the-Hill Live Steam Club

36951 S. Chiloquin Rd. Chiloquin, OR. 97624

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"The Side Rod" Is the official newsletter of the "Over-the-Hill Live Steam Club". "The Side Rod" will be published quarterly, to arrive in March, June, September and December.

Summer arrived and dried the ground and we were able to move it around and make road-bed for track....

That is how the Fall Newsletter started. Then went on to tell us what we hoped to get accomplished. So, what did happen?

During the Fall meet and work week (Sept 4 - 13, '98) we were able to get some track on the ground. As we had expected we were able to lay new track from Train Mountains "main" to the Over-the-Hill "Right-of-way" to access the track and switch shops. This will make it much easier to get finished track panels and switches moved away from the "shops" and to the location needed or to a storage area.

This track laying started with one crew and as soon as we were able to branch toward Over-the-Hill we started two crews (one continued on Train Mountain track). After laying 15 or so track panels we

reached the original Over-the-Hill "right-of-way" put in a switch and started a third crew (this crew worked "backwards" to the Pena skyway bridge and Robnet Alley storage building). When that part was completed they worked on the "exit track" (exit from O-t-H to TM) that branches off of the track they had just laid.

Meanwhile the second crew continued laying track through the "town" area and down into the "new" canyon and under the Pena bridge.

At the beginning of the canyon we installed a switch that will be used to bypass problems with track, trains or change the "normal" route. We started a fourth crew working from there toward the Over-the-Hill loading station.

After finishing this first loop through the "Station" we started the second loop that will become the station bypass and lead to the Pena Skyway and bridge.

During the Meet we were able to take rides on the NEW track but slow order was in effect as ballast work was not very far along. Also, the exit track did not go anywhere important and any train going to Over-the-Hill had to back out the same way they got in.

What will happen in 1999? If the weather is dryer than last year we will get much more done this spring than last year. We will get the Pena skyway track in as soon as we can and complete ballast work on track laid last Sept. This will give us enough track to open for public running. We hope to have our first open to the public run on or about Memorial Day 1999. With co-operation of the weather and your help - WE CAN DO IT!!!!

The tunnel loop will be ready for final grading after the Spring meet and ready for track during the Full moon meets mid summer. If bodies are willing and able we can have the tunnel loop ready for the Fall meet. The tunnel loop includes access to TM track at Blue Caboose loop, for both up (TM station) and down hill (Bottleneck or Serpentine).

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

The next board meeting will be held during Train Mountain's Spring meet.

Saturday June 5, 1999 at 10:00 A.M. The location of the meeting will be posted at Train Mountain and Over-the-Hill.

WORK WEEK and MEET:

Train Mountain Spring work week is May 29 to June 3, 1999 and the meet is June 4, 5 and 6, 1999.

DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES

You got that right. It's that time of year again. I have included a renewal "Application" form with this newsletter. Please fill it in and send it and your check to the Treasurer at the 36951 S. Chiloquin address that is at the top of the form.

NEWSLETTER:

As editor I have to dream up all the BS you read on these pages. I want your help. If you have info to share with others, an idea of something you wish me to write about or wish to be a guest editor with or with out credit, I want you to sent that info to me for publication in a future issue of the 'Side Rod'.

Bill Shepherd
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Let's get some variety in these pages.

Get involved with YOUR club and help make it one of the best operated 1/8 scale railroads around.

See you at the track,

