

Model trains in several scales fill Armory

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

The Armory was buzzing with activity over the weekend as the Willamette Cascade Model Railroad Club hosted a model train show. The club was formed in 1978 in Eugene and hosted its first show in 1979 at the Valley River Center.

A train show has been in the works in Cottage Grove since the Chamber of Commerce's Executive Director, Travis Palmer, approached the club.

President of the Railroad Club Lee Temple says that Palmer contacted the club after catching wind that they did a model train show in Drain.

"Travis thought it was a great idea and said we absolutely have to do a show in Cottage Grove," Temple said.

This year, the club featured four different tracks, including a Thomas the Tank Engine set owned by club member Roger Fegles. Two other tracks that were featured were G-scale tracks, making the model scaled



photo by Sam Wright
Roger Fegles (left) discusses the G-Scale model train set he was operating during the model train show. The set is contributed to by all members of the model railroad club.

between 1:29 and 1:32. G-Scale model trains are typically larger and more durable and therefore can withstand being displayed outdoors.

The main attraction was the modular set which is an HO-scale set (1:87). The modular parts are owned both by individual members and the railroad club. The model is a great representation of Oregon railways, with trains such as Amtrak models as well as timber and mining cars. The accurate depiction is a strong goal of the club, because

having a great-looking set isn't the sole purpose of the Club.

"We don't want to talk just about model trains," Temple said. "We aim to educate people on railroads, especially the Transcontinental Railroad that helped shaped Oregon and the West." Among the model trains were educational booths that held magazines and literature about historical railroads and model trains.

With their educational goal, the WCMRC operates as a Non-Profit organization out of Eu-

gene and Springfield.

The club is open to any and all who are interested in model trains. Its newest member, Ron Judd, joined about four months ago after he became interested in model trains while shopping in Springfield.

"They just caught my eye and I became really interested," Judd said. The model trains seem to have that effect on a lot of people, as community members poured in Friday, Saturday and Sunday to inspect the model sets.



courtesy photo
The Reveleers — Steve Whaley, Larry Plummer and Darryl Wetzell, rocked teen dances in the early 60s, and a reformed lineup will play Bohemia Park next Wednesday.

Reveleers ready to rumble at Bohemia Pk.

BY JON STINNETT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Over 50 years ago, a power trio became one of Cottage Grove's earliest rock bands, churning out the tunes of Bill Haley and the Comets, the Sonics, the Kingsmen and other pioneer bands for appreciative young crowds even before the Beatles became a household name.

Steve Whaley and Darryl Wetzell have been through much since those early rocking years, but the duo — two-thirds of the Reveleers, along with departed drummer Larry Plummer — say they're still on the same wavelength of rock and roll, hot rods and riffs that drew the group together in decades past.

On Wednesday, Aug. 24 beginning at 6:30 p.m., Whaley and Wetzell will reunite the Reveleers for "The Reveleers Rumble" as part of the Chamber of Commerce's Concerts in the Park series at Bohemia Park. And they'll have a hand-picked group of friends, seven in all, to fill out their sound.

The event won't be the first Reveleers reunion; Whaley and Wetzell performed together at a class reunion in 2005, then got the band together for the first concert in Bohemia Park back in 2014.

"We swore that was going to be our last one," Whaley said of the 2014 show. "But we were inundated — it seemed like every time we turned around, somebody was asking us if we were going to do it again."

Last fall, Whaley approached Wetzell about another show, mainly because "we still both love it so much." However, Whaley's upcoming surgery to give a kidney to his sister, Connie, threw the gig in doubt. (The Reveleers Rumble will be dedicating their set next week to Connie, in addition to Plummer, their departed drummer.)

"There's a different group of players with us this time," Whaley said. "The sound will be a little more streamlined, more up-tempo. This show is about us being able to give back to the people that have supported us all these years and listened to us way back then."

"There are a lot of old songs that have been updated; it's going to be really cool," Wetzell said. "We were a little part of history at that time, and our camaraderie has always been there."

Roa gets 35 years

Cottage Grove's Carlos Roa received a prison sentence last week that could have the 39-year old behind bars until he is a senior citizen.

On Tuesday, Aug. 9, Roa was sentenced by Judge Curtis Conover to serve the full 35-year sentence possible following his conviction the week prior on charges including attempted murder.

Roa was convicted of trying to kill Lane County Sheriff's Deputy Todd Olson and other law enforcement personnel during an encounter outside a home near Cottage Grove Reservoir on the evening of Sept. 25, 2015. Roa had testified that he blacked out during the incident and came to several hours later, after an intensive

search, claiming that he did not remember firing an AK-47 several times at police. He was wounded in the right buttock during the encounter by Deputy Richard Glessner, while Olson was shot in the groin area.

Roa's lawyer, Mike Flinn, argued that Roa had not intended to kill anyone, according to the Eugene Register-Guard. Flinn had instead asked for a 15-year sentence.



Carlos Roa

Council approves flood code

At its Monday, Aug. 8 meeting, the Cottage Grove City Council unanimously approved an ordinance to establish a new City code for flood damage prevention. Community Development Director Howard Schesser told the Council that the new code will bring the City into complianace with state and federal standards, adding that it does not change mapping of the local flood plain by the Federal Emergency Management Association. City Planner Amanda Ferguson has said that the City's new code has been updated in an effort to ensure that Cottage Grove be included in FEMA's community rating system, which provides federal flood insurance for those structures required to carry it.

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