

The Oregonian

Volume 1, Issue 1

April 2, 1952

Oregon Coast Railroad Announces New Station

Hoyt Street Passengers No Longer Wait On Tracks

Mathew A. Thompson, President of the Oregon Coast Railroad, announced today with Great Acclaim the opening of a new passenger station serving Hoyt Street.

Mr. Acclaim, once again demonstrating his reputation for ponderously stating the obvious, noted that "With this new station, people at Hoyt Street can get on the train and can get off the train."

Miss Ora Vandervort, an 80-year resident of the area, was asked if the new station would make it easier to catch the train. "Heck, no," she said. "These trains are so slow a blind snake with arthritis could catch them. But now I won't be stepping in tobacco juice. Those railroad boys spit a lot."



When asked if the new station would help Oregon Coast Trains operate on schedule, President Thompson said he didn't think so. He noted this was just a new station, not a miracle, so customers shouldn't expect much change.

Some residents expressed surprise at the condition of the station. Even though the station is brand new, the paint is faded, the roof shingles have weathered to gray, and the station floor is worn. Several commented that it was as if the Railroad intentionally built old buildings.

It's a mystery.

Oregon Coast Scenic Railroad



1/1 Tourist Railroad in Garibaldi, Oregon

Oregon Coast Railroad



1/87 Model Railroad in Gainesville, Virginia

The Oregon Coast Railroad in Virginia



Photo by Paul Dolkos, courtesy of *Model Railroader*

The Challenge –
Make the
OCRR
Believable

Mat Thompson
Gainesville, VA

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Sure, it's your railroad



Who else would want it?

Why Model Oregon in Virginia?



Why Oregon Coast Railroad?

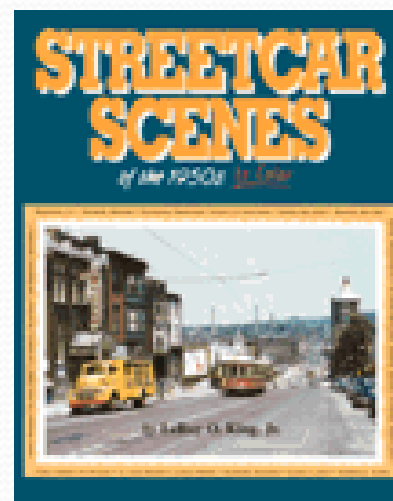
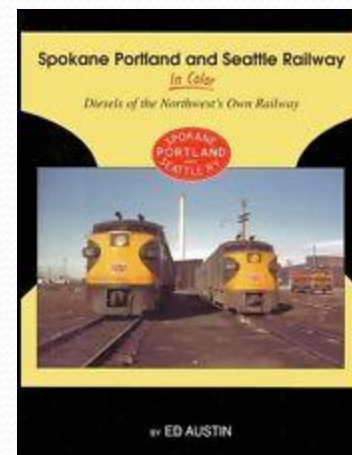
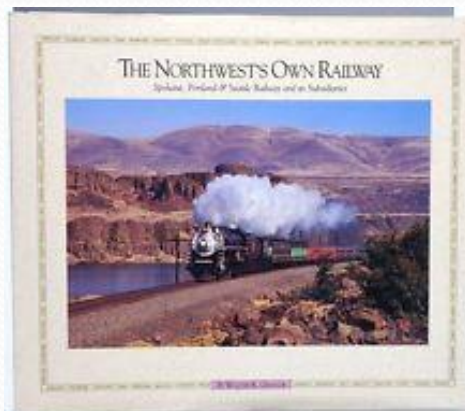
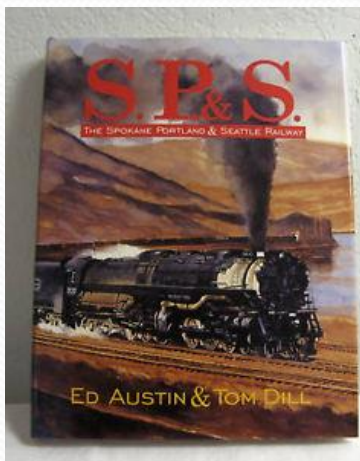


Why Not Spokane Portland & Seattle?



The Challenge – Make the OCRR Believable

Prototype References



The Challenge – Make the OCRR Believable

Locate On Map & Set
Time – Fall 1956

Focus for Decisions

- Traffic Type & Volume
- Engines & Cars
- Terrain
- Sense of Place
- Industries
- Structures & Vehicles



The Challenge – Make the OCRR Believable

Shortline Common Carrier with Log & Lumber Traffic



The Challenge – Make the OCRR Believable

Engines - Family Look and Function Appropriate



The Challenge – Make the OCRR Believable

Cabooses - Family Look



The Challenge – Make the OCRR Believable

Cars – Types and Time Period

YES



Hmmm...



NO



The Challenge – Make the OCRR Believable

The Perils of Research



SHPX 3337 leased to Hooker Tacoma, built 11-50, carries liquid chlorine

The Challenge – Make the OCRR Believable

Car Distribution



Road Name Distribution

Railroad	# of Cars	% of cars	Total %
OCRR	78	41%	41%
NP	22	12%	53%
SP&S	13	7%	60%
SP	10	5%	65%
Western Roads	44	24%	89%
Tank Cars	9	4%	93%
Eastern Roads	14	7%	100%

The Challenge – Make the OCRR Believable

Trees, Bushes and Ground Cover



Structure Kits – A Balancing Act

The Good

- Lots of them
- Quality products
- Easily available
- Complete package
- Learn as you build



Structure Kits – A Balancing Act



The not so good

- Common
- Often not rail worthy
- Wrong materials
- Make bad choices easy

Structure Kits – A Balancing Act



Choose thoughtfully - Kitbash, Multi-building industries
Different purpose, paint scheme & signs

The Challenge – Make the OCRR Believable

Railworthy Industries



Swift Packing House

The Challenge – Make the OCRR Believable

Railworthy Industries



Astoria Harbor and Tillamook Lumber Mill

The Challenge – Make the OCRR Believable

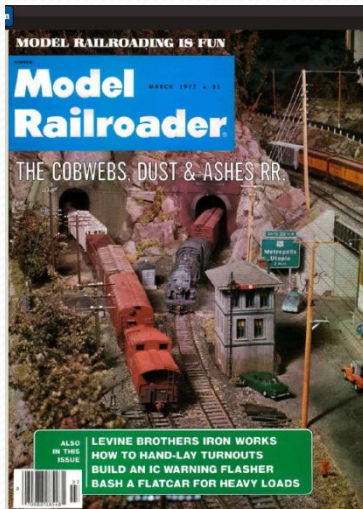
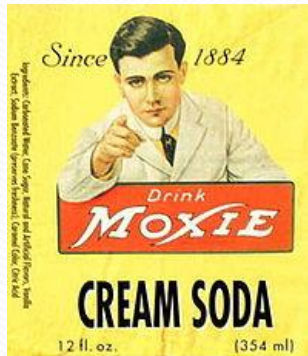
Railworthy Industries



Tillamook Cheese and Christopher Paper Mill

The Challenge – Make the OCRR Believable

Vehicles and Signs



Lessons Learned

- Learn from the masters but keep your vision



Lessons Learned

- Location & Era – decide early - save \$ and time



Lessons Learned

- If it doesn't work today, it won't work tomorrow



Lessons Learned

- I built it, I can build it again



Lessons Learned

- Improvements can be incremental



June 2012
Paul Dolkos Photograph
Great Model Railroads 2014



July 2015

Lessons Learned

- Details matter



How Operating Helps

- Prototypical realism – modeling realism
- Learn from others – your layout and theirs
- Prototype basis for decisions - track arrangements, engines, cars, industries, and terrain
- Encourages progress – you are hosting next Saturday



Questions?

