

<http://www.portlandmodelengineers.org>

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For The Beginner #40 by Wes Ramsey

Well, it's time for the 3rd Annual Tri-Club Picnic. We've rented the Antique Powerland in Brooks for the event. It's scheduled for Saturday, June 9th starting at 11:00am. Lunch is provided as are free rides on the trolley. Family and friends are very welcome. Tickets are \$3 for those 7yrs and over. Please let Greg Dermer know if you will be attending.

Western Antique Power, Inc.
3995 Brooklake Road NE
Brooks, OR 97303

Location: 1/4 mile west off of Exit 263 on I-5 (about 8 miles north of Salem). Take I-5 to Exit 263. Go west 2 blocks on Brooklake Rd and you will see it on the north side of the road. More info at: <http://www.antiquepowerland.com/>

Back by popular demand, the picnic will also feature a swap meet in the parking lot. Bring your treasures and swap them for someone else's junk. This was a big success last year.

Remember to bring your metal-related projects -- complete or not. And remember that there will be some new faces there so even if the Portland members have seen your project, consider bringing it anyway to show the out-of-towners.

CORRECTION: I mistakenly listed May 9th as the day for last month's meeting in the print version of the newsletter. I'm very sorry that slipped through.

I would like to do something different this month. Several people have asked me if they could use this material for other things: school class, other groups, etc. I have no problem with this. Just remember most of this material is coming from the text book I used in my classroom. Some of the material is just about copied right out of the book. There are laws about using copyrighted material. I asked one of the authors if I could use this material and he said as long as I didn't sell it I could use the book as a reference and for ideas. Most of my stuff is right out of the school text book.

I started to convert my Jet Post Mill to CNC a few months ago and some of you asked me to tell you how it turned out and how much it cost. I have been looking at all of the CNC ads I could find for something that would fit my budget.

Several people said to just go out and buy some stepper motors and a controller and do it. If you don't know a stepper motor from a starter motor, this can cost a lot of time and money. What size? What kind? How do they wire up? What if they short out? These are just a few of the things going through my mind as I listen to some of the smarter people at this stuff than me. There are some very helpful people in our group that can get you started but I am not one of them. I can show you some of the things I did that didn't work as I just didn't know what to do or how to do it. I did find a great source for the electronics at a good price \$759.00 for the whole package. Homeshopcnc is a great place to go and they stand behind their products. Look them up on the net and see if it is the way you want to go.

Next month I will continue on with this and let you know some of the things I did that didn't work and some that did.

If your membership expired (as shown by 2006 on your address label) renew by sending a check for \$12 to:
PME Membership Renewal, c/o Carl Petterson, 1631 SW Pendleton St., Portland, OR 97239

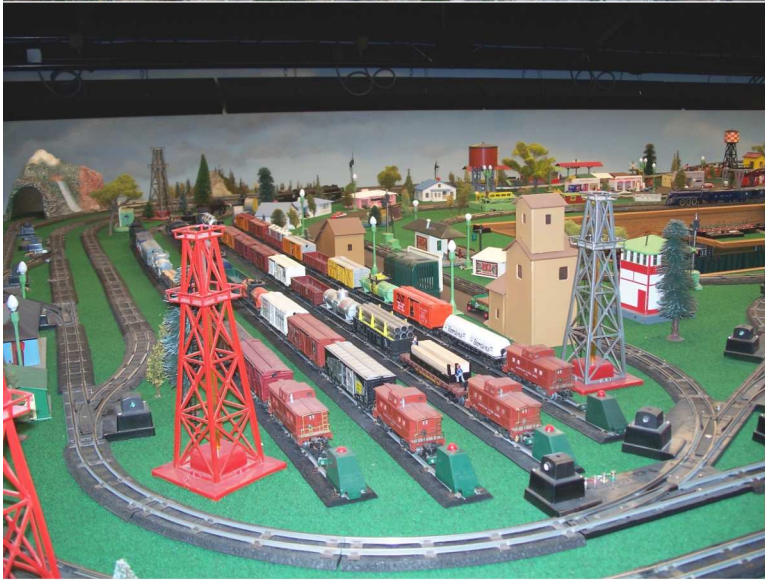


Tom Miller hosted the last meeting at his shop and outdoor railroad. He has a collection of steam engines and models. The railroad is 7" gauge and some 27000 ties were used to lay the track that circles the property. Here (facing camera) he is showing one of the engines to Grant Carson and Hans Stangier.



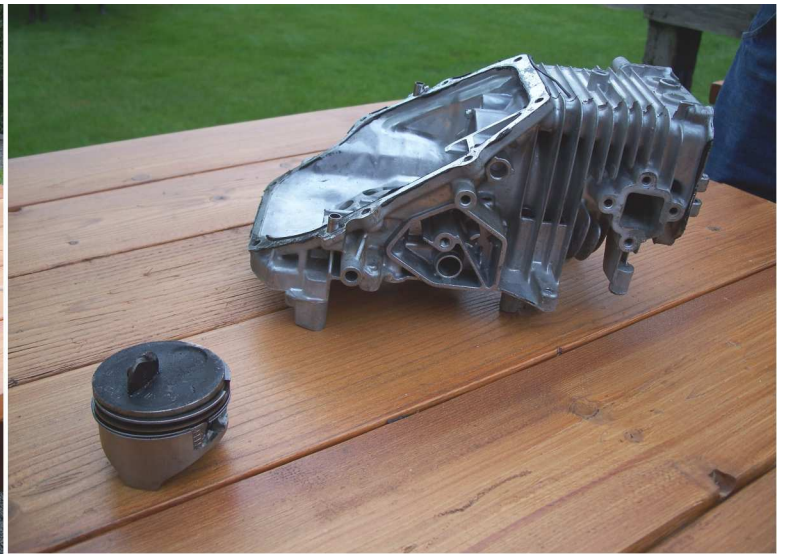


Tom is also building an indoor railroad on the G scale. He uses pictures of real existing structures that he likes to model. Some of these examples can be seen above. The room is computer-controlled so that the lighting can be included in a presentation of the trains. Thanks to Tom for hosting and letting us enjoy his layouts.





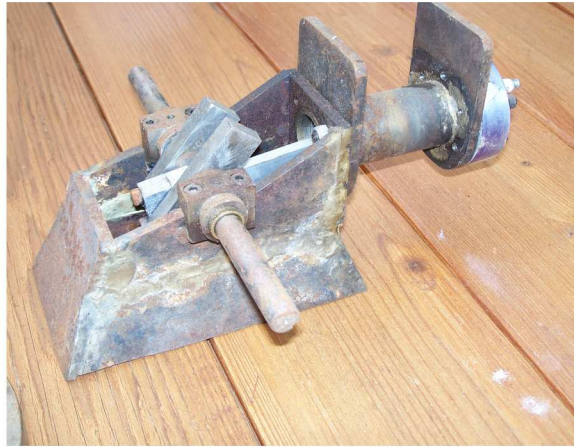
Justin Johnson showed how to easily get started with flying model planes... for target practice. As long as the engine isn't hit, the boards can be replaced and reflowed.



This disassembled lawn mower engine shows a very serious problem: the extra part on the cylinder head. They run so hot that when the rod broke the valve pushed right through the head.



Bud Statton gave a progress report on his flamethrower reproduction. He's gotten the screw threads core done for the handle and ready to recast.



A one cylinder engine that looks like it was welded up from scrap pieces and a couple of flywheels that some polishing should shine right up.



Finally, below, some shots of the trestle that carries Tom's train across the creek to the other side of the property.

