

# O Scale 2018 Progress

We began 2018 with the Sacramento Train show. Sales of donated items at this two day event needed O Scale \$1000. In January, we started our winter projects with repair of a large section in the Diablo canyon area behind the S.F. bridge and then proceeded to overlay area with rock castings, using a total of 300 lb of plaster! This area now looks much better and provides another nice photo area. Following that, basic coloring was overlaid and work on installing trees around the south side of Mt. Heller is continuing.

We completed LED lighting for all the lower level yards and walkways, plus 110vac rewiring of the Departure, Arrival, Midway, Passenger yard, Pt. Richmond area, and Zenith panels to eliminate all plug strips. Along with this project, a new central 110v breaker panel was installed with new circuits for computers and future use.

At Departure, all new track base supports have been added for the block 5 and block 7 loop tracks. The grades have been precisely adjusted for smooth tracking. A new west yard lead remote control panel was added to allow engineers to set routes there in addition to the main Departure panel.

At Midway, supports have been added to the central yard base has been

At Zenith, the West stub yard has been ballasted and three new sidings and industrial buildings added. The yard will have its own remote panel with dual operation from the main panel.

For Pt. Richmond, LED building lighting continues. A new street has been added to allow downtown access to the passenger station. Also, a street from passenger station to backside has been added. Other street pavement has been added for the harbor areas and track crossings. Tracks ballasting is also underway. At the entrance to the passenger yard, two signal bridges for 11 signal heads were installed to protect the Pt. Richmond passenger yard inbound, outbound yard tracks

We refurbished the 11 car Milwaukee Road passenger train and its three unit E8 engines. All new Atlas trucks on cars. This historic club train now runs very nice and uses very little power on the layout.

Electrical work included new 12amp DC power supplies for the Arrival and Departure divisions. These will allow both Main and Local cabs can to operate simultaneously and provide backup power if needed.

At the Craneway show in Nov, O Scale net sales after table and tax expenses were \$985.

Overall, our layout continues running very well with few track or electrical problems. Most of our operational problems are occasional equipment related issues such broken couplers, malfunctioning trucks and dirty wheels or tracks.

Month by month progress and members responsible can be viewed at the O Scale Web Site.

## Month by Month

These are sent to the EBMES secretary

### O Scale progress for Jan 2018:

- **Dave Goslee, Rowe**, attended the Sacramento Great Train show. We sold over \$1000 of our Lionel donations. **Mark Francis, Jim Dox** were also there selling their items.
- We began work on our Winter projects:
  - **Josh, Bob, Andy, Jeff H** and I repaired a large section in the Diablo canyon area behind the S.F. bridge and then proceeded to overlay area with rock casting. **Jim Ambrose** brought in a couple collections of trees for the Mt. Heller area.
  - **Mary Campbell** repaired a loose turnout point on the Pt. Richmond double slip passenger leads so all four passenger station tracks should be reachable now.
  - **Mark Francis** did some work on the Zenith west stub yard including laying out two more tracks leading towards the turntable. **Rowe** built two turnouts for the project.
  - **Marty, Josh, Olson**, and I helped **Dave Illich** complete the last conduits and pulled wires in the saw table work area and towards the video/pc station. Most of the lights and outlets are ready.
  - **Dave, Mike Leahy** and **Rowe** help complete project on the 30th. Many thanks to all those who have helped with this project starting last spring, and especially to **Dave** for the many days of effort he has made!
- **Rowe** worked on Zenith dual cab Power supplies. Also, on the second Arrival power supply.
- **Mike Leahy** is adding additional supports for block 5 & 7L over the Departure yard.
- **John Engel and wife Inge** help refurbish a Lionel Train layout for Haas-Lilienthal House Museum in San Francisco. They were very thankful and plan to advise our museum.
-

## O Scale progress for Feb 2018:

Feb 8th:

- **John(&wife Inge), Leahy**, were in to receive a bldg donation. **Mark Francis** selected one we could use, others to be sold.
- **Leahy** helped **Illich** with meeting room LED lights (during all of Feb).
- **Rowe** spiked the two new Zenith stub yard turnouts. **Dave Illich** started cleanup of our 110 project. ( **Mark and Dave Goslee** also did some cleanup last Fri.).

Our Sat 10Feb workday:

- **Ambrose, Carpoft, Engel, Francis, Heller, Olson, Rowe**
- **Rowe** worked on the two new turnouts in Zenith stub yard.
- **Ambrose** brought (previously) in some smaller trees for the Mt. Heller upper level.
- **Mark, Josh, Andy, Rowe** put in a couple hours on rock castings for the Diablo canyon area. **Andy** helped with cleanup.
- **Mark Francis** worked on the Zenith stub yard industrial area.
- **John Engel and Jim Ambrose** worked on street track pavement in Pt. Richmond. Jim suggested using Sculptamold for this and it looks like a good idea.
- **Mike Leahy** is adding supports for the block 5 and 7 tracks over Departure yard.
- **Heller** tested the City of Nowhere UP E8's that **Marty Campbell** refurbished. They ran well and have new direction LED headlights.
- **Marty** now has the 12pr of Atlas Cal Zephyr passenger trucks (\$445) and will start installing on the cars soon.

Feb 23rd:

- **Josh, Francis, Rowe** continued rock castings at the Diablo canyon area. So far, in three work days we have spent  $3*2\text{hrs}*4\text{workers}=24$  hrs and 5 bags of plaster on this relatively small area. But it will look much better after finished.
- **Heller** installed a new tunnel portal there also.
- **Mark Francis** continues with work on the Zenith stub yard industrial area.
- **Josh** did some planning for the Pt. Richmond bldg light project.

**All the 110vac wiring overhaul** is now done. We have a new main breaker panel with room for new circuits if needed, plus it has a master on/off switch missing from the older panel. Several new circuits for computers, lighting and outlets have been installed and all strip plugs are removed except some new surge protected units for PC equipment. We wish to extend our appreciation to those who worked on this project and to **Dave Illich** for his expertise and guidance.

## O Scale progress for Mar 2018:

- **Dave Goslee, Josh Carpoﬀ, Mark Francis and Jeff Rowe** did some more plaster work at the block 7 tunnel area and surroundings. We add many rock castings and a couple stone wall castings to finish off. **Jeff Heller** reinstalled a tunnel portal, and **Rowe** added a new cantilever signal bridge on approach track to this area.
- **Mike Leahy** continues work on supports and wire management for the block 5 and 7L tracks over Departure yard.
- **Mark Francis** worked on enlarging the Zenith stub yard industry area. Two tracks are finished. **Mark** also refurbished some donated buildings for this area. We decided to add one more turnout and branch track.
- **Josh Carpoﬀ** brought in a train storage cabinet donated by **Jeff Heller**. It's in place beneath the Midway diesel yard.
- **Dave Goslee** and **Rowe** added some street pavement around the Pt. Richmond passenger station. We used foam board and it was easy to install. Later we can use joint compound to fill in and extend adjoining streets etc.
- **John Engel** and **Rowe** worked on street pavement around the front of town area.
- **Dave Goslee** worked on trolley track ballasting.
- **John Engel** did some maintenance work on a Lionel layout at one of the Oakland Kaiser Hospitals. He also donated a new engine to the layout. Many thanks **John** for doing work!

## O Scale progress for April 2018:

- We have a new trial member, **Jim Jones**, returning from a long leave of absent. He was as club at Emeryville, and here at Ptl Richmond during early period. He is busy learning how to operate the layout.
- **Rowe** finished work on a second Arrival panel 10a power supply.
- **Rowe** added additional signals on the block 7L east turnout. Also worked on some of our infra red detectors knocked out of alignment by various train crashes, etc.
- **Mike Leahy** continues work on supports and wire management for the block 5 and 7L tracks over Departure yard.
- **Mike Leahy** continues selling some of Jim Dox's 3-rail equipment on Ebay.
- **Jeff Heller** has started coloring of the new rock molds on east side of Mt. Heller in the Diablo canyon area.
- **John Engel, Mark Francis, and Rowe** worked on street pavement around the east harbor area.
- **Dave Goslee** worked on trolley track ballasting.
- **John Engel** helped **Larry Price** with a large 3-rail donation.
- **Andy Olson** repaired a Aristo Craft handheld unit which had damaged battery holders.
- **Marty Campbell** has refurbished the 11 car Milwaukee Road passenger train and it's 3 unit E8 engines. All new Atlas trucks on cars. This historic club train now runs very nice and uses very little power on the layout. Nice job Marty!
- Crews for April: **Buehler, Carpoff, Francis, Jones, Olson, Rowe, Engel, Trenkle, Brown, Leahy.**
- **John Engel** received a nice thank you from Kaiser Hospital for his help and support for our model train here in the Pediatric Oncology Clinic. The donated locomotive is working great, and the kids are enjoying the model train once again. I appreciate all the donated time as well. It means so much to all of us that the clinic is a place where patients come, not only to receive treatment for their diseases, but also where there are interesting and fun things to do during the visit. Your support has made that possible

Sincerely,  
Steven K. Bergstrom MD

**O Scale progress for May 2018:**

- Our trial member, **Jim Jones**, is busy learning how to operate the layout.
- Former member **Gene Chamberlin** made a nice donation to club, including two nice trolleys (now on display in Pt. Richmond), a SF Pacific engine, a AN SW7 switcher, two box cab electric engines, and many trolley parts (sold at OSW). **Mike Leahy** is going to repair the SF and AN engines. **Jim Jones** transported the donation to the club
- **Rowe** built two signal bridges for 11 signal heads to protect the Pt. Richmond passenger yard inbound, outbound yard tracks. Also, added 110v outlets for the Pt. Richmond yard to eliminate another plug strip.
- **Carpoff, Rowe** also added 110v service to Josh's work bench area to eliminated plug strips.
- **Mike Leahy** continues work on supports and wire management for the block 5 and 7L tracks over Departure yard.
- **Jeff Heller** continues coloring of the new rock molds on east side of Mt. Heller in the Diablo canyon area.
- **John Engel**, continues on street pavement around the east harbor area.
- **Dave Goslee, Mark Francis** worked on trolley track ballasting.
- **Mark Francis** continues with work on the Zenith stub yard industrial area.
- At OSW 25-26May: **Francis, Goslee, Olson, Jones, Rowe. Heller** joined in on Sat.

It was rather a slow show. Memorial day weekend probably diminished attendance numbers. Also maybe due to aging O Scale population? The show had S and O gauge sellers as usual, but this year the show expanded to include narrow gauge in any scale, (HO, O, S), and G scale. **Jim Trenkle, John Engel** covered the layout for OSW visitors on Sunday. Net sales after purchases was about \$270. O Scale progress for May 2018:

### O Scale progress for June 2018:

- We held out June O Scale meeting on the 29th. See web site for minutes.
- 
- Our trial member, **Jim Jones**, withdrew due to personal physical reasons.
- **Mike Leahy** continues to fix and sell donated equipment for O Scale.
- **John Engel** visited the Kaiser Hospital to take care of the Lionel Layout there.
- **Rowe** also added 110v service light service to Josh's work bench area to eliminated fix-it lamps.
- **Mike Leahy** continues work on supports and wire management for the block 5 and 7L tracks over Departure yard.
- **Jeff Heller** continues coloring of the new rock molds on east side of Mt. Heller in the Diablo canyon area.
- **John Engel**, continues on street pavement around the east harbor area.
- **Mark Francis** continues with work on the Zenith stub yard industrial area. **Rowe** has built a #6 turnout for the area.

### O Scale progress for Aug 2018:

- 
- **Carpoff ,Rowe, Engle** working on Pt. Richmond building lights.
- **Mike Leahy** finishing work on supports and wire management for the block 5 and 7L tracks over Departure yard.
- **John Engel, Rowe** continue on street pavement around the east harbor area. We are now working on street from town to station.
- **Mark Francis** continues with work on the Zenith stub yard adding ballast to tracks.
-

## O Scale progress for Sep 2018:

- **Carpoff ,Rowe, Engle** working on Pt. Richmond building lights. Light circuits also being extended to On3 area.
- **John Engel, Rowe** continue on street pavement around the east harbor area. We are now working on street from town to station.
- **Mark Francis** continues with work on the Zenith stub yard adding ballast to tracks.
- **Mike Leahy** added some steel hand rails in a few of our duck-unders.

## O Scale progress for Oct 2018:

- **Carpoff ,Rowe, Engle** working on Pt. Richmond building lights. Light circuits also being extended to On3 area.
- **John Engel, Rowe** continue on street pavement around the east harbor area. We are now working on street from town to station.
- **Dave Goslee** adding ballast to Pt. Richmond trolley tracks.
- **Illich, Rowe, Carpoff** working on walk way video monitor. **Rowe** has prepared a Raspberry Pi micro PC to display GSMRM news and historical pictures. It will also auto link to the O Scale camera train as needed.
- **Mark Francis** continues with work on the Zenith stub yard.
- **Mark Francis** continues work on cataloging library books.
- 
- **Mike Leahy, Jeff Rowe** re-graded the block 7L tracks over Departure to correctly flow in to the east crossing area.
- **Mike Leahy** added supports beneath north section of Midway yard. It was sagging up to 2". Mike also has added grab bars on some of our duck unders. Should help those older members with back problems!
- **Jeff Heller:** MIT, School of Architecture is celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. It is the oldest school of Architecture in the U.S. to my understanding. The school is giving Heller the Alumnae Life achievement award as part of the celebration.



## O Scale progress for Nov 2018:

- **Carpoff ,Rowe, Engle** working on Pt. Richmond building lights. Light circuits also being extended to On3 area.
- **John Engel, Rowe** continue on street pavement around the east harbor area. We are now working on street from town to station.
- **Dave Goslee** adding ballast to Pt. Richmond trolley tracks.
- **Rowe** mounted the walkway monitor and has prepared a Raspberry Pi micro PC to display GSMRM news and historical pictures. It will also auto link to the O Scale camera train as needed.
- **Mark Francis** continues work on cataloging library books.
- 
- **Mike Leahy** continues with wire management around the block 5,7 areas.
- **Rob Fassano** worked on analog video cameras.
- **Craneway Show:** We had a fairly good show at Craneway. First, thanks to **John Engel** for over 6 hrs prep work on Fri and for sorting and pricing the 3-rail donations. **Mike Leahy** also did some work on this. **Rowe** picked up the material at 6:30a Sat and set it up at he show. **Mark Francis, John** and **Rowe** manned the tables on Sat. **Mark, Mike** and **Rowe** took care of Sunday. Thanks to **Larry Price, Dave Roth, John Fagin** and other HO guys for show arrangements and table setup. Also, thanks to **Mark Francis** for his donation sales to O Scale and the library. O Scale net sales after table and tax expenses were \$985.
- 

## O Scale progress for Dec 2018:

- We concluded the year with good operations and few layout problems. Many thanks to the O Scale team for helping with layout projects and operations!
- We had our Dec Scale meeting. **Jeff Rowe** selected as 2019 Trainmaster. We discussed plans for the winter break period and determined our budget. Minutes are at [http://www.gsmrm.org/members/o\\_scale/OSDocuments/OScale\\_Business/Previous/Dec2018-minutes.pdf](http://www.gsmrm.org/members/o_scale/OSDocuments/OScale_Business/Previous/Dec2018-minutes.pdf)
- **Carpoff ,Rowe, Engle** working on Pt. Richmond building lights. Light circuits also being extended to On3 area.
- **John Engel, Rowe** continue on street pavement around the east harbor area. We are now working on street from town to station.
- **Dave Goslee** adding ballast to Pt. Richmond trolley tracks.
- **Mike Leahy** continues with track supports in back of layout.
- **Rob Fassano** is building a new DC power supply for the video cameras.
- **Rowe** is working on the Zenith West yard panel construction.