

O Scale 2015 Progress

We began 2015 with our winter projects which included installing two new sidings at the PowerHouse, and our other big track project is the block 7L (aka block 7 Loop) addition which will allow the Midway division to loop trains. This over 100ft double track, with four custom built turnouts, links block 7 to block 5, and will greatly add to our operation possibilities and keep more trains running for our guests. Since the block 7L covers part of the Departure yard, new infra red motion detectors have been installed to help operators place and monitor trains. Later work involves splitting block 7L and the 5Main, 5Siding with detectors and signals to allow additional storage and traffic control.

For OSCI, an 8amp NCE booster was added to the OSCI DCC signal and layout control system. The primary reason was to eliminate voltage drops on the long DCC bus lines (some over 130ft one way. Signals were added to the new Midway loop block and the last of the Zenith Division main line signals were installed in Nov. The signal control system under OSCI is now stable and reliable and all the prior analog signal control wiring has been removed.

Work continues on Mt. Heller with new rock castings, ground cover and foliage. The lower section visible to the walkway is nearly complete. Coloring is has been applied to the Diablo Canyon area, but much work remains on the upper area.

In January, several of the O Scalers attended the Craneway train show in Richmond where we sold over \$900 in donated train equipment. Later, in February we attended the O Scale West show and sold over \$1200 of donations. In April, we attended the Westside Reunion, Sonora, CA. and sold \$337 of O Scale donations, mostly excess library books, and On3 surplus.

A new building and street lighting system is being planned for the Pt. Richmond city area. Several police and fire vehicles now have headlights and flashing warning lights added. There is also a police arrest scene.

A demo digital camera system is being installed to improve our video surveillance of the layout. This promises to provide a more easily configurable and expandable system with better picture quality.

Month by Month

These are sent to the EBMES secretary

John Fagan,

Most of the O scalers are at OSW Friday and Sat.

Here's a copy of our Jan progress.

Remind members to have isles clear for OSW visitors on Sat and Sunday.

Jeff Rowe

O Scale progress for Jan 2015:

- Several of us (**Francis, Brown, Heller, Ambrose, Engel, Rowe**) attended the Craneway Great Train show. We sold over \$900 of our Lionel donations.
- We began work on two of our Winter projects:
 - The PowerHouse siding project: **John Engle, Jeff Rowe**, worked on PowerHouse siding prep work, scenery tear down and track sub base installation. **Rowe** built and installed two #6 turnouts. **Josh Carpoff** laid out the siding ties and **Rowe** spiked in siding rails. Finally, **Josh** did scenery rebuilt prep work. Sidings and turnouts now powered and ready for use.
 - Our other big track project is the block 7L (aka block 7 Loop) addition which will allow the Midway division to loop trains. This over 100ft double track, four turnout addition, linking block 7 to block 5, will greatly add to our operation possibilities and keep more trains running for our guests. So far we have built about 90% of the track base supports over the Departure yard. Working on the project so far: **Mark Francis, Bob Brown, John Engel, Josh Carpoff, Jeff Rowe**.
- An 8amp NCE booster was added to the OSCI DCC signal and layout control system. The primary reason was to eliminate voltage drops on the long DCC bus lines (some over 130ft one way) (**Rowe**).

O Scale progress for Feb 2015:

Jim Ambrose built a custom ice plant for Midway panel area. Very nice.

O Scale progress for March 2015:

Several O Scalers attended the March BBQ and cleanup: **Jim Ambrose, Bob & Zoe Brown, John Engel, Mark Francis, Rob & Vicki Fassano, Andy Olson, Jeff Rowe.** Besides outside cleanup work, we also started cleanup of the layout area and track cleaning.

- We continue work on two of our Winter projects:
 - The PowerHouse siding project: **John Engle, Mark Francis** completed scenery work around the sidings. **John, Mark, Josh Carpoft** did the ballast work.
 - Our other big track project is the block 7L (aka block 7 Loop) addition which will allow the Midway division to loop trains. **Jeff Rowe** custom built and installed two turnouts to branch onto the 7L main track. **Bob Brown, Jeff Rowe** installed over 100ft of track to complete the main 7L block.
 - **Jeff Rowe** extended the Midway panel and added the 7L tracks and turnouts.
 - **Jeff Rowe** updated the OSCI panel diagrams and added signals and logic for the 7L tracks and turnouts.
 - **Jeff Heller** continues as usual on adding foliage to Mt Heller.
 - **Mark Francis** built a nice retaining wall near the Diablo Canyon bridge.
 - **Jim Ambrose** installed a custom built ice house building front to conceal the Midway Panel.

O Scale progress for April 2015:

- We continue work on two of our Winter projects:
 - The PowerHouse sidings now completed. **Mark Francis, John Engle, Josh Carpoft, Jeff Rowe.**
 - **Mark Francis, Jeff Rowe** pulled the 7L main track feed cables from Midway Panel.
 - **Bob Brown** helped pull turnout and detector cables from Midway Panel.
 - **Rowe** wired feeds, wired turnout motors, block detector to Midway Panel.
 - Block 7L tested for operation, **Rowe**, 24Apr2015.
 - **Mark Francis** donated two UP GDP-35 engines to O Scale.
 - We moved the Departure monitor to a better, unobstructed viewing area. **Brown, Francis, Rowe.**

Mark Francis, Jeff Rowe attended the Westside Reunion, Sonora, Ca on Sat. We sold \$337 on Sat. of O Scale donations, mostly excess library books, On3 stuff.

- **Rob Fassano** worked on Departure video cameras.

O Scale progress for May 2015:

- Layout ran well entire month. OSCI JMRI signals operated flawlessly also with auto start and shutdown via Departure panel.
- Block 7L operational. Additional turnout safety sections to be added. **Rowe**
- The long investigated lake bridge speed slowdown problem resolved. Several rail bonds (wire connections between rails) were broken. **Rowe.**
- **Rob Fassano** continues work on Departure lead video cameras.
- **Mark Francis** added donated structures from **Mike Coustier** (HO) to Eureka Yard and Pt. Richmond.

○ Scale progress for June 2015:

- Block 7L operational. Added block detectors. **Rowe**
- 20 infra red detectors installed in Departure yard blocks for train location. These needed for better train detection and parking due to Block 7L structure which obscured yard view. **Rowe.**
- **Jeff Heller** worked on 7L east tunnel portal and scenery repair.
- **Jeff Heller** repaired loose ties on lake bridge.
- **Rob Fassano** continues work on Departure lead video cameras.
- **Mark Francis** added a new bridge on west end of Zenith block 13.

○ Scale progress for July 2015:

- Block 7L operational. Added infra red motion detectors. **Rowe**
- **Jeff Heller** worked on 7L east tunnel portal adding scenery support meshwork, aided by **Josh Carpoif.**
- **Josh Carpoif** and **Mark Francis** working on Pt. Richmond structure lighting.
- **Mark Francis** and **John Engel** participated in Parks day camp visit to club on July 8th.
- **Rowe, Brown, Engel, Francis** installed insulation over both bathrooms.

○ Scale progress for Aug 2015:

- Removing redundant signal wiring from old ISS system. **Rowe**
- Connected block 7L block and turnout sensors to OSCI. **Rowe**
- Replaced Midway panel and turnout power, also building light power supply. **Rowe**
- **Jeff Heller** worked on Midway block 7 east tunnel area adding scenery mesh and closing a large open area.
- **Jim McDaniel, Bob Brown, John Engel** worked on Mt Heller rock castings fill in.
- **Eric Cisneros** is working on a road payment in the Pt. Richmond area.

- **John Engel** worked on one of two Kaiser Hospital Lionel layouts he has been taking care of for the last couple years:
- Several O Scalers, **Brown, Engel, Carpoﬀ, Rowe** have been helping Mark Francis catalog the library books. **Josh Carpoﬀ** provided a bar code scanner.

Mr.Engel,

Thank you so much for coming by and repairing our train. Dr. Bergstrom was ready to pay you, but you would not take a dime.

We so appreciate the service you provide, and our patients are going to be so happy.

Thank you again... again... and again!

Ginger M. Hyde

Ginger M. Hyde | Customer Service | Cashier Receptionist
 Pediatric Hematology, Oncology | Sub - Specialty Clinic
 Kaiser Permanente | 3505 Broadway, 14th Floor | Oakland, CA | 94611
 Clinic Tele: (510) 752 - 6592 | After Hours Page: (510) 752 - 1666

O Scale progress for Sept 2015:

- Finished removing redundant signal wiring from old ISS system. **Rowe**
- Split blocks 7L Main, 5Siding, 5Main into two sections each and added detectors for each of the new sections. Updated OSCI. **Rowe**
- Redid and simplified block 7L, 5M, 5S wiring at Midway Panel. **Rowe**
- **Jeff Heller, Jim McDaniel, Bob Brown, John Engel** worked on Mt Heller rock castings fill in. **Heller** started applying coloring.
- **Eric Cisneros** continues working on a road payment in the Pt. Richmond area.
- **Mark Francis**, with aid of **Bob Brown, John Engel, Josh Carpoﬀ**, continues book catalog work in library.

O Scale progress for October 2015 EBMES Minutes:

- Added signals for the Midway block 7LM turnout. **Rowe**
- Added signals for block 7L and block 5 midpoints. (Rowe)
- **Jeff Heller**, with others, continues with rock coloring on Mt Heller.
- **Jim Ambrose** built a batch of pine trees for Mt. Heller.
- Eric Cisneros applied coloring to his road project in Pt. Richmond and is training on layout operations.
- **Mark Francis** with aid of **Bob Brown, John Engel, Josh Carpoﬀ**, finished first phase of book catalog work in library.
- **Eric Cisneros** nominated as Trial Member. Congratulation Eric!
- Added flashing lights and headlights to Pr. Richmond emergency vehicles and installed a crime scene arrest action.(**Rowe**)

- **John Engel** helping Kaiser Hospital with their Christmas train setup.
- **Josh Carpo** setup internet access for the POS system.

O Scale progress for November 2015 EBMES Minutes:

- Added signals for the Zenith east lead turnout. **Rowe**
- **Jeff Heller**, with others, continues with rock coloring on Mt Heller.
- **Josh Carpo** setting up a demo digital camera system.

O Scale progress for December 2015 EBMES Minutes:

- We had a great run season this year with very few layout track or electrical problems. Thanks to all our crew members for helping out on layout maintenance and operations!
-
- Other progress for Dec:
- Added signals for the Zenith west end of block 14 and west lead turnouts. **Rowe**
- **Jeff Heller**, with others, continues with rock coloring on Mt Heller.
- **Josh Carpo** working on demo digital camera system.
- **Rowe** added headlights and various flashing lights to some of the Pt. Richmond police and fire vehicles.

Summary for 2013 Zephyr:

O Scale Summer - Fall 2012 - Spring 2013 Progress

During Summer and Fall months of 2012, the O Scale group completed work in several areas. Water has been added to the Pt. Richmond harbor area, along with surface details. Overall, it looks very realistic and greatly adds to the Pt. Richmond city scene. The Midway turntable drive system was rebuilt using a belt drive and relay controller, plus an automatic polarity control. This will provide for much more reliable and maintainable operations.

Additional block detectors were added to Midway so OSCI can auto dispatch and run trains from Departure to Midway and return. Relay polarity reversers for Midway and Arrival reverse loops were installed so OSCI can reverse trains.

A new power supply for added to the Interurban line and wiring of the Churchill yard area is underway. It is planned to replace the Churchill yard turnout motors to those we use on the SFW.

During our Winter 2013 break, we concentrated on installing rock castings on one section of the south mountain. This work continues through the springtime. We also entertained the O Scale West visitors in February.

Push button control of the Zenith panel was completed and work has started interfacing the panel to OSCI. When completed, all turnouts and routes of the entire layout will be controllable by OSCI. Push button control of the diesel yard turnouts was added to the main Midway Engine terminal control board so both yards can be operated from one panel.

On the Eureka and Empire On3 layout, additional scenery and trackwork in the Eureka yard area has been completed. Several new buildings have been added and details added to others. A spur track and rock crusher plant were also installed. The engine yard has a new fuel oil track and service area.

--Jeff Rowe, O Scale TrainMaster