

# O Scale 2022 Progress

## Month by Month

These are sent to the EBMES secretary

### Jan 2022:

We had a O Scale meet on Jan 8th:

Jeff Rowe voted as 2022 TrainMaster. Thank you for your continued support!

We reviewed our budget and plans for the Winter work time.

[Minutes are here.](#)

We had a work day on Jan 22:

- **Jeff Rowe** worked on the Oakland, Antioch&Eastern Interurban line main power panel volt and amp meter. They had been dislodged last year, so now being mounted on the control panel. Plan is to get panel operational and check out the entire system.
- Also scoped out a place to put a train east facing IP cam at the Departure west lead so we can better see trains waiting to leave.
- **Jim MacDaniel** joined us to work on the ON3 line; he vacuumed the Eureka yard tracks and began work on track cleaning and turnout point adjustments. Some of the commercial turnout points need to be beveled to prevent wheel strikes and derails. Jim plans to clean all the track up to Empire and Palisade and check out train operations.
- **John Engel** worked on one of Josh's Daylight E8 engines. In process of check out found a dead spot at the Arrival block 6 turnout. Part of problem is lack of power pick ups on the E8 and part due to uneven track before the turnout. Also found a rail joint which needed a jumper wire. Mike was working on that.
- **Jeff Heller, Mark Francis** and I looked at the Zenith mine . It was decided to build some rock work around the lower building. Mark and I set in some plastic mesh to get started. We'll plaster it in next time.
- **Mike Leahy** worked on cleanup and the work platform at Zenith mine.
- **Jeff Heller** also had some of his co-workers in for an in-depth tour of the layout. Just when they were at the Arrival panel and ready to see the OSCI computer setup and panel displays, the main PC crashed! Either the power supply or video board failed. It's at home for check out. But I think it time for a newer (used ) PC with

more onboard DVI and HDMI ports so an extra video board is not needed. Will investigate on Ebay.

- **Trial members: Armando Vargas**—off for a while due to work and care of family with Corona.

## **Feb 2022:**

We had a work day on Feb 12th.

- At club: **Josh Carpoﬀ, John Engel, Mark Francis, Jeff Heller, Mike Leahy, Jim McDaniel, Jeff Rowe**
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- **Jim McDaniel** has finished cleaning the On3 Eureka yard tracks and is working his way up to Empire. He began test running an engine in the Eureka yard. We will need to further test the electrical control of the railroad. Jim is also adding track fencing along the tracks crossing aisle ways to prevent derails to floor below.
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- **Jeff R** worked on the OSCI PC. Seems to be a serial input problem preventing JMRI to control signals. Still investigating. Also worked some on the Interurban panel. Problem is now solved.
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- **Jeff H, Mark Francis and Jeff R** did some plaster work at the Zenith Mine. Next time we can add some rock castings and finish off placement of the lower mine building.
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- **John Engel** worked on Josh's E8 and Daylight engine gearboxes. Cleaned all of them and re-lubed. Now running much better.
- We talked a little about replacing the ladder-stairs to the north upper level (Zenith ) with actual stairs, but decided to just improve the ladder-stairs. **Mike Leahy** worked on additional grab irons and will also reduce ladder tread heights. This should make it a little easiter and safer to use.
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- **Mike and Josh** also working on shelving for Josh's storage areas.
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- Following work time, we all departed for 'Kao Sarn' Thai restaurant to celebrate Feb birthdays for **Mark Francis -12Feb (83)** and **Jeff Rowe 20Feb(80)**. Not present **Marty Campbell- 27Feb.**
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- **Other work after 12th:**
- **Jeff Rowe** obtained a new 43" 4K monitor for Departure which can display both the IP Cams and the older analoge cameras.
  - **Mike Leahy** helped with installation .
  - **Mike Leahy** also built new shelving for Josh Carpoﬀ's storage area.
  - **Josh Carpoﬀ** purchased our last G scale donations.

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- **Jeff Heller** and **Mark Francis** continue work on the Zenith mine. **Jeff Rowe** helped with rock castings.
- **Jim MacDaniel** continues to work on the ON3 line. Now checking track power.

### Mar 2022:

- At club for on clean up day O scale: **Jim Ambrose, Josh Carpoﬀ, John Engels, Jeff Heller, Jim McDaniel, Andy Olson, Jeff Rowe.**
  - **Jim Ambrose** worked with **Jim McDaniel** on On3.
  - **Jim Ambrose** also cleaned mainlines next to walk way. **John Engel** cleaned Arrival yard tracks; **Jeff Heller** worked on Departure yard tracks and turnout points. **Rowe** cleaned Midway yard and 27,28 tracks. Also worked on the OA&E panel power. We probably need a new power supply since both the AristoCraft and old RMC units are problematic.
  - **Andy Olsen** worked outside. **Josh Carpoﬀ** was helping down stairs. I also cleaned the plaster debris at Zenith so the walk way is usable. We just need to color the new rock work and complete the top section for the lower mine building.
- Other work during March:
  - **Jeff Rowe** and **Mike Leahy** installed a new 43” 4K monitor for Departure which can display both the IP Cams and the older analog cameras.
  - **Jeff Heller** and **Mark Francis** continue work on the Zenith mine. **Jeff Rowe** helped with rock castings.
  - **Jim MacDaniel** continues to work on the ON3 line. Now add plastic track fence over the walkway lines to prevent falls to floor.
  - **Jeff Rowe** added from dismantled home layout, a station - Midway East- and a freight house at Midway east lead area.

### **O Scale Progress for Apr 2022**

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- **Mark Francis** and **Jeff Heller** continue working one the Zenith Mine project.
- We have started cleaning layout. **John Engel, Mike Leahy** are working on the Arrival and Departure yard tracks.
- **Mark Francis** is working on a test water scene to demo how Mod Podge water material might be used.

### **O Scale Progress for May 2022**

- Layout continues to run well.
- **Jeff Rowe** and **Mike Leahy** installed a wall mount with tilt for the new 43” 4K monitor for Departure.

- **Jeff Rowe** and **Mark Francis** continue work on the Zenith mine. Added base color for the rock castings and upper area. Also adding foliage and trees.
- **Jim MacDaniel** continues to work on the ON3 line. Finished adding plastic track fence over the walkway lines to prevent falls to floor.
- **Jeff Rowe** added from dismantled home layout, a station - Midway East- and a freight house at Midway east lead area. Also a Mill and Lumber building for Pt. Richmond. All have lighting.
- **Jeff Rowe** repaired the Arrival 5-6 turnout circuit in the East Route board. Also updated some of the IP cameras and the IP\_Cam app.
- **Mike Leah, Mark Francis, Andy Olson, Josh Carpoﬀ and Rowe** attended O Scale West. We sold most of our O and On3 donations.

## O Scale Progress for June 2022

- We had our summer scale meeting. Attending members: **Josh Carpoﬀ, John Engel, Mark Francis, Jeff Heller, Mike Leahy, Jeff Rowe(TM)**. Guests: **Everton DeAbreu**
- See minutes at the O Scale web site: [Minutes June 2022](#)
- **Rowe, Jeff Heller** and **Mark Francis** finish work on the Zenith mine.
  - **Mike Leahy** removed the stair platform used for the mine work.
  - **Mike** continues with general cleanup.
  - **Jeff Heller** adding tunnel light shields
  - **Jeff Rowe** added a new view for the IP Cam App. It's called corner view- where the upper left 2/3 of screen is for an enlarged image from one camera window on the right side or bottom windows. Click one of those images and it replaces the enlarged image, click again to return, or click any other image to place it in the corner. Also added some right click options: record- to record this cam, info-to show camera info like frames per second, resolution etc.
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## O Scale Progress for July 2022

- **Jeff Rowe** working on IP Cam latency. Raspberry RPi4(1.5GHz) network cache at club needs minimum 800ms (4/5 sec), at home 200ms(1/5sec). Makes a difference in syncing train position between what viewer sees and actual location. Work around is to slow train so cam catches up. Found 2.8GHz laptop OK at 300ms. Overclocked Raspberry by 30% also helps.
- **Mike** continues with general cleanup.
- **Jeff Heller** adding tunnel light shields.
- **Jeff Heller** placed an advertisement in the Narrow Gauge Gazette for On3.
- **Ewerthon DeAbreu** working on OA&E overhead damage at the Powerhouse

## O Scale Progress for Aug 2022

- **Jeff Rowe** updated the main O Scale PC with a Nvidia NVS 510 video card. It outputs to 4 x Display Ports and can extend each of those to an additional 4 displays with MST (multi stream transport) cards. Now displaying the O Scale JMRI layout panels on 4 monitors.
- Also tested the IP Train Cam and output to the OS\_IP Cam App.
- Working on the OA&E power supply
- **Mike** continues with general cleanup. Added a new central storage area for our turnout track parts and motors. Also lubed one of the freight trains.
- **Ewerthon DeAbreu** working on OA&E overhead damage. Also cleaned and tested the Pt. Richmond trolley tracks. Hw found a nice older 3-rail trolley in our storage and will attempt to convert it to two rail.

## O Scale Progress for Sept 2022

- **Jeff Rowe** repaired two engines: the frozen front truck on the Oscale Weaver U25B SFW 2505 and remounted the missing front truck idler gear on Oscale Atlas Dash 38 SF 7428. Also my SP SD35, SP U25- 6721, and short in SP SD40-8856.
- Jeff Rowe tested MST (multi stream transport) on the O Scale PC to repeat one of the monitors to monitor over Arrival Panel.
- The OA&E power supply now working.
- Added another IP cam for Long Tunnel south end.
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- **Mike Leahy** continues with general cleanup and engine repairs.
- **Ewerthon DeAbreu** working on OA&E overhead damage at the Powerhouse
- We investigated replacing the Bowser motor and mechanism in the Corgi PCC LA streetcar on the Pt. Richmond line. Q-Car Co quoted \$350. But they warned that their in-truck motors could only run 2hrs before needing lube and cooling. We need to run trolley 5hr ea. Sunday. We will continue looking for other options on Ebay and TrainZ.com.

## O Scale Progress for Oct 2022`

The layout continues running well on Sundays.

- **Jeff Rowe** testing a Odroid small PC (SoC-system on chip) to replace the RPi4 for the 4K Departure monitor. The Odroid benchmarks show it 2+ times faster than the RPi4. However, support software for video decoding (ffmpeg, vlc) not up to date.
- **Mike Leahy** continues with general cleanup and engine repairs.
- **Ewerthon DeAbreu** working on OA&E overhead damage at the Powerhouse
- **Rowe** found gears for the Bowser motor and mechanism in the Corgi PCC LA streetcar on the Pt. Richmond line. Also moved the Skyway crossover camera for a better view.
- **Rowe** added a MST (multi stream transport) adapter on the O Scale PC to repeat one of the monitors to another monitor over Arrival Panel.
- **Rob Fassano** used a monitor (**Jeff Heller** donated) for showing analog video camera output above the Departure panel area.

## O Scale Progress for Nov 2022

The layout continues running well on Sundays.

- **Jeff Rowe** added an IP camera cover the Departure west lead towards south so operators can see trains better. Also improvements to the OS Cam App.
- Jeff Rowe replaced the gears in the Corgi Bowser PCC trolley for Pt. Richmond trolley line. Gears are available from NWSL. These, along with available Canon DC motors effectively means we can keep the trolley in business indefinitely.
- **Trial members: Armando Vargas**—attended several times for layout training.

## O Scale Progress for Dec 2022

We had a good year with our layout operations and work projects. Thanks to everyone who has contributed with our on-going projects and especially to all who came in to run trains on Sundays during the year and the last couple of Sat's in December.

Special thanks to Mike Leahy for 21 Sundays and 17+ Sat's he was at club!

I'll update web site with further progress and yearly pictures in Jan 2023.

Happy New Year! -jr.

- **Jeff Rowe** added an IP camera cover the Arrival west lead towards south so operators can see trains better. Also improvements to the OS Cam App.
- Work on resolving block 5 cab selection from Arrival panel. Defective wire on toggle possible issue. Also check relay board at Midway panel.
- Testing rebuilt Corgi Bowser trolley found some electrical dead spots on turnouts (Pt. Richmond).
- **Mike Leahy** replaced sw 5XE turnout motor leading to block 5 siding or main tracks.
- **Rowe** added an Azatrax in-track infra red detector for turnout 7Le block 7 into Midway east yard lead. Idea is to avoid cross track infra red detector damage from track cleaning or other physical contact.
- **Bus/Work meeting on Jan 14, 2023.**