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NEXT MEETING

Next regular meeting will be held Thursday, September 18th.  
There will be no regular meeting during August.

HISTORY MAKING TRIP OVER VALLEY & SILETZ RAILROAD, SUNDAY AUGUST 31:

The last passenger train over the Valley & Siletz will leave Independence for the 80-mile trip to Valsetz and return, Sunday, August 31st

The trip, sponsored by the Central Coast Railway Club, San Jose, Cal. will bring about 100 members to the Willamette Valley just to ride over the V&S. Members of the Pacific Northwest Chapter are cooperating for its success. We have invited residents of the Willamette Valley to join in the excursion inasmuch as considerable expense is involved in operating a passenger train over a line with no equipment of its own.

Fares have been set at \$10 for the round trip from Independence, leaving the V&S depot at the foot of Boatlanding Street, at 9:30 A.M. Each ticket includes a delicious fried chicken dinner at Valsetz, prepared by the local restaurant. Equipment will consist of two coaches and two gondolas with benches. Frequent stops will be made enroute for picture taking. All requests for tickets or further information should be addressed to W. R. Grande, 3904 S. E. 39th Ave., Apt. 2, Portland 2, Oregon, together with a self-addressed stamped envelope (4¢ postage). Tickets will also be available from Nelson Hickok, 335 Jerris Ave., S.E., Salem, Dick Buicke, 1212 S. Ferry St., Albany or Vic's Hobby Shop, 1730 N. 40th Ave., Portland. Tickets must be purchased by August 25th and no refunds will be made after that date. The trip over the Valley & Siletz is spectacular and scenic and most inspiring and picturesque. Leaving Independence the train swings westward through low rolling hills, passing typical early day rural scenes and several of the few remaining covered bridges remaining in Oregon. Little stations which haven't seen a passenger for years will be passed, bearing name boards faded beyond recognition. Leaving Hoskins, where operations of the railroad are centered, the railroad follows the Luckiamute River more closely until a three percent grade is encountered. Twisting, turning, crossing and recrossing the river, the rails struggle through terrain that no road traverses. Heavy foliage brushes the sides of the equipment in numerous places, with alder, fir and ferns predominating. In places no sunlight reaches the ground as is evident by the thick layer of moss on everything, as this is Oregon's wettest area. Shortly before arriving at Valsetz the line tips over the summit of the Coast Range and follows an easy grade to the shores of Valsetz Lake, man-made to support the logging industry.

A complete history of the Valley & Siletz Railroad has been prepared by Ed. Culp for the Western Railroader and will be available for purchase on the train. Ed. is a member of the Pacific Northwest Chapter, and a top authority on the history of Oregon railroads.