

Inside This Edition

November CIGRS Meeting

2013 Year in Review

Spotlight Article See page 9

January 19th CIGRS Mtg at the Hotel Pattee

2013 CIGRS YEAR IN REVIEW

Looking Back on 2013

The first meeting of the New Year was held at the West Des Moines Police Station. President John Myers welcomed everyone and then called on Howard Hoy to give a treasurer's report. Howard reported that the club was in good financial order and reminded members that annual dues, according to the newly adopted by-laws, are being collected in January. Secretary Jay Nugent presented the proposed 2013 budget that was completed by the Executive Board. Howard Hoy motioned and Sheri Godfroy seconded that the budget be adopted. Motion passed. The committee chairs reported on the up-coming swap meet to be held

in April, the Garden Railroad Tour to be held in July and the display for the Flower and Garden Show to be held in March at the Iowa State Fair Grounds in Des Moines. President Myers passed out a sign-up sheet for members to sign up to host a monthly club meeting. For Show and Tell, Ben Hancock showed off his hand built coal dumping ramp that he has designed and Karla Gunzenhauser brought her Gazebo style Band Stand complete with German Band. Fred Loveridge presented a clinic on building structures that will withstand the weather. A good start for 2013.

Continued on page 2

Upcoming Events

- **Master Gardeners & CIGRS Holiday Project open November 23rd through January 4, 2014**
- **January 19th meeting at the Hotel Pattee, Perry, IA**
- **February meeting in Redfield, IA at the Legion Hall.**

Special Thanks from the Editor

To Ron Mash, Janet Moser, Julie & Larry Nelson, Louis Minor, Karla Gunzenhauser, Cheri & Jay Nugent, Howard Hoy, Bill Joy, Joe Godfroy, Renee and Mike Kidman, Ben Hancock, Gene Pritchard, Gordon & Kathy Cox and Sam Mora, Doug Doggett, Ron Hohneke, Rick Isard, Amy Renes, Nancy Fusco, Steve Evans, John Carl, Ron Huntimer, John Myers for their numerous contributions to the Telegraph in 2013



**Year in Review
Continued from page**

1

In February, CIGRS members met at the American Legion Hall in Redfield. The location for the meeting met with club member's approval because there was plenty of room to set up three loops of track in order to run trains. Numerous new toys and old standbys, even the Weiner Mobile, made a few laps. The business meeting included discussing the final plans for the Flower and Garden Show layout. New building kits were passed out to club members in order to get them put together in time for the show. Rob Renes and Louis Miner are planning for a larger layout this year that will better represent how G Scale trains will enhance and fit into a garden setting. The meeting concluded with a presentation on G Scale Live Steam Engines by the Cedar Valley Garden Railway Society. It was a good day for meeting old friends and running trains.

It's March and the big event for CIGRS is the Flower and Garden Show at the Iowa State Fair Grounds. In the fall of 2012, club members voted to have Rob Renes and his Gandy Dancers: Lou Miner, Doug Doggett, Gordon Cox, Steve Evans, Richard Burkman, Mike Kidman and Larry Nelson construct a more realistic garden setting at the 2013 show in order to feature our G Scale trains. The team worked to put in place the well-detailed layout with multiple loops, a tunnel, buildings and additional structures to highlight the display. Numerous club members volunteered to help out the weekend of the show. The railroad was a huge success with many attendees stopping by to view the trains pick up literature about the club and inquire about the upcoming Central Iowa Garden Railroad tour to be held in July.

The new layout brought rave reviews from the show organizers as well, so when all was said and done an "Award of Excellence" was bestowed on the display for quality of workmanship and theme. Super job folks!

April found CIGRS members back in Redfield at the American Legion Hall for the Great Mid-Western Swap Meet. Thanks to Joe and Sheri Godfroy, the club was able to secure the hall for the meet. President Myers started the meeting at 11:30 and promised to keep it short so attendees could get on to negotiating some good deals. The meet drew a number of club member vendors but also vendors from other areas of the state. Good purchases were made and everyone had a good time talking trains, chomping down on the donuts and cookies and topping them off with a cup of coffee. Thanks to all who helped make the meet happen.

Come May and it was time to move outside to enjoy some railroading. Howard and Kay Hoy hosted club members at their home in Boone. Howard's Rio Grande and Western nicely detailed railroad was a big hit. Howard says his railroad represents the narrow gauge lines that used to operate in Colorado and New Mexico. His K-27 and C-19 steam engines look just right as they negotiate the long stretches of track and pass by the various scenes, to include hand built structures, in the back yard. President Myers called the meeting together at 1:30. After introductions, committee reports followed to include reminders about the summer tour and a conversation the club is having with the Master Gardeners about setting up a layout at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens for the Christmas Season Open Houses. All club members enjoyed the treats set up by Kay and having fun running trains on Howard's railroad.

Year in Review
Continued from page
2

The June meeting was held at the home of Ron Mash and Janet Moser in rural Minburn. Ten year old Grant Boes was quick to point out that Ron's line "is the most interesting" in that it not only doubles back under itself, but crosses over itself three different times winding around the central mountain and water feature to form the over-under pike. The inner loop was started in 1997. Ron started the constructing: the outer loop in 2010. President Myers was five minutes late getting the meeting started due to everyone wanting to visit, but once started all went smoothly. John Myers talked more about the project at the Botanical Gardens for December, Bill Joy informed the club that he had been asked if CIGRS could set up the modular for the Perry Transportation Celebration event on August 24th and Jay Nugent asked for additional volunteers to work at various sites for the Garden Railroad Tour in July. Show and Tell included Larry Nelson's large Engine House that he built out of metal, Karla Gunzenhauser's base plate for a corner store and Ron Mash's semi-trucks that he constructed out of wood. It was a warm day so the Ice Cold Lemonade that Janet set out hit the spot.

The July meeting was held at the home of Larry and Julie Nelson in rural Cedar Rapids. Larry had his trains running on his extensive layout that covers nearly the entire back yard. If you like boulders, a steep incline with a water fall, river and numerous "long" metal bridges, then this is the place to enjoy outdoor railroading. President Myers got the meeting stated right on time and after introductions, moved on to committee reports. First up was the report on the Garden Railroad Tour that was held earlier in the month.



This year the club had voted to contribute all profit, after expenses, to Make-A-Wish Iowa. CIGRS was able to cut a check to Make-A-Wish for \$825.38. The tour went well and attendees were quick to praise how the signs helped get them from site to site. Thanks to all who opened up their layouts. Show and Tell became a battle of the Train Horns. John "Ole" Olsen brought a Nathan Air Horn from a Rock Island NW2 to demonstrate. One blast and Larry Nelson went searching for his 3 Chime Horn and the battle began. Big sounds for sure. You can't have a meeting at Nelsons' without plenty of food. Julie did a great job organizing the meal and no one left hungry.

Paul and Karla Gunzenhauser hosted **the August meeting** at their home in Humeston. The Flatland Railway is located in Karla and Paul's back yard. As the name implies, there are few grade issues to deal with, so trains can travel throughout the layout with ease. Karla is a master modeler while Paul's expertise is picking the right wood and getting it ready for the most recent project Karla has in mind. Many of their scratch built structures are on display either on the outdoor line, or on their layout in the basement. They also have a number of plants to include: Lilies of the Valley, Iris and Hostas that they brought from the neighboring town of Garden Grove. President Myers started the meeting at 1:33 with introductions followed by committee reports. A Thank You note from Make-A-Wish Iowa was read by President Myers expressing their thanks for the donation from the summer Garden Railroad Tour.

Continued on page 4

Year in Review
Continued from page
3

Bill Joy noted that the Celebration in Perry on August 24th has a new name. It is now “Planes, Trains and Automobiles”. CIGRS will set up the modular for this event on the south side of the Library Museum. The club also received news from the Flower and Garden Show organizers that next year CIGRS will be given triple the space we had this year. Looks like more track will need to be purchased. Club members enjoyed a tour of the restored Humeston Depot that Paul and Karla have put so much time and work in to maintain and seeing some of the restoration projects on Main Street. A good time had by all.

Dick, Lavonne and Rick Isard hosted **the September meeting** at Dick and Lavonne’s home in Cedar Rapids. Once club members arrived, they were treated to an extensive series of loops and scenes on this well maintained railroad complete with a Control Center/Workshop built to resemble a caboose. Prior to the meeting, Lavonne ordered the train bell in the yard to be rung as a signal that lunch was to be served. And what a spread it was. No one could go home hungry after all the offerings that were made available by all that brought dishes to share. President Myers was unable to attend the meeting, so Vice President Mike Kidman called the meeting to order. Once underway, numerous business items came to the floor to include the purchase of additional track for the club modular, discussion as to trading in our present trailer and purchasing a new one. Other issues raised included adding sound to a couple boxcars to run behind the club engines or members engines that do not have sound on the club modular. Rick Isard then volunteered to donate an engine, complete with sound along with a controller equipped with battery power, to the club at no cost.



The M & M Train...
What a Sweet Ride!

Thanks to the Isard’s for their generous offer. At this point the discussion was brought back to the sound cars. John Olsen said he would take on the project and install sound in two cars, one for diesel and one for steam. Next Rob Renes brought up that the layout for the 2014 Flower and Garden Show would be three times larger and that additional track and rail clamps would be needed. A motion was offered and club members agreed to set a budget for Rob to figure out what was needed and get it ordered.

The final outdoor meeting of the year was held in October at Mike and Renee Kidman’s Tree Farm. The farm was established in 1987 as a Christmas Tree Farm. After a few years they decided to start a gift shop and Renee took Mike along to Market to shop for items to put in the Gift Shop. Mike spotted the LGB Shop of Trains and that’s how they started selling trains along with the trees and gift shop items. They started with LGB, then added USA, Aristo, etc. etc. About the same time they started their outdoor layout that wrapped itself around two landscape ponds. Since then the railroad has tripled in size and the ponds have been replaced with two waterfalls and a running stream to carry water down to a holding tank to be re-circulated back to the waterfalls. When they started the railroad, they had two reindeer at the farm, Jingles and Mistletoe, hence the name Reindeer Pass RR. John Myers started the business meeting at 1:30. The President noted that the club is ready to go with the holiday layout at the Des Moines Botanical Gardens and that volunteers are needed to help set up the three main loops as well as volunteer to run trains starting the last weekend in November up to the end of December.

**Year in Review
Continued from page**

4

President Myers also noted that the Election of Officers for 2014 would be held at the November meeting, so get your nominations in. All enjoyed the fall day at the farm, the treats, and had fun visiting and running trains.

The final meeting of the year was held at the new Public Library in Perry. A number of club members took time to have lunch across the street at the Hotel Pattee. The hotel was recently purchased by Jay Hartz. He and his staff have been very busy getting this Perry landmark back up and running. By all reports, the food was delicious and the hotel looked wonderful. The meeting was called to order by John Myers at 1:30. Immediately after introductions President Myers got down to business with a detailed report on how much the new trailer would cost, what it would entail to equip it properly to carry all the modular equipment and how much we could expect for trade of our present trailer. After much discussion, the club voted to go ahead and purchase a new trailer. Joe Hartz had indicated that he would like to stop by at our meeting and was able to get away for about fifteen minutes to get acquainted. He talked about the work that went into getting the hotel opened once again. He offered to let our club have our meetings in one of the meeting rooms at the hotel at no charge. Club members were very pleased to hear that this might be a good option and expressed their appreciation. Once Jay left to go back to the hotel the club voted to take up his offer and have our January meeting at the Hotel Pattee. President Myers then continued with the agenda. He read a note from the Perry Planes, Trains and Automobiles committee thanking the club for setting up the modular display for their August event. Next he informed the club that we would be setting up trains for the Holiday display at



More Special Visitors at the GDMBG

the Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens on Tuesday, November 19th. He also passed out a sign-up sheet to secure volunteers to run trains each weekend of the Holiday display. President Myers then opened up the floor for election of officers to serve for 2014. A motion came from the floor to retain all present officers if they were willing to serve. Upon hearing that all would serve another year, there was a unanimous vote to retain the present officers for 2014. Continuing on with the agenda, Jay Nugent indicated that he had served five years as Chair of the Garden Railroad Tour and would like to step back some and let another club member have the opportunity. It was decided to bring up the tour and find a new chair at the January meeting. For Show and Tell, Cheri Nugent showed off the M&M train that Larry and Julie Nelson gave her to celebrate her recovery from surgery in early October. Rn Huntimer brought his Bachman Rail Truck with Phoenix sound to share with club members. Ole Olsen brought in the sound cars that will be used on the modular. Ole has installed Phoenix sound in both cars, one with diesel and one with steam sounds. To close the meeting, Howard Hoy presented a program on lubricating engines that proved to be very informative.

***So another year comes to close for CIGRS.
We wish all a Merry Christmas and a Happy
New Year.***

Submitted by: **Jay Nugent**, Secretary

Howard Hoy is getting into his Lubrication Workshop. Thanks Howard. Man, is that a nice looking locomotive. :-)

Ron Huntimer tells us about his latest project. PHX sound and all... Nicely done Ron.



Show & Sell



Joe's deals are hard to beat.

Can you believe it... Larry Nelson is a woodworker too. We most certainly have a multi-talented membership in the CIGRS. Well done Larry! How is that bathroom coming?



A Saturday at the Greater DM Botanical Garden



Mary Howell-Williams from the Master Gardeners visits with Cheri and Jay Nugent

Toot– Toot! Here comes Thomas!



**Ande & Joe Vocelka brought their New Bright Holiday Express to run while they were volunteering at the Show House at the GDMBG
What a beauty! All the animations were dazzling.**



All Photos by Ole Olsen



**I'm thinking this bridge is some of Doug Dougett's handy work... isn't it amazing what can be done with leftover tile from a project.
Great addition Doug.**

Anyone needing a club name badge

Contact Howard Hoy by email at: howardandkayhoy@mchsi.com or by phone at: (515)236-4267 to discuss.

The cost for each badge is \$10 which includes shipping. To place an order please send a check to cover the number of name badges you wish to purchase to Howard Hoy, 615 So. Marshall St., Boone, IA 50036. Please include the correct spelling of your names as you want them to appear on the name badge along with the city you call home.

Important Dates in

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

Birthdays

Paul Schaefer	11-1
Richard Burkman	11-4
Dick Isard	11-14
Julie Nelson	11-16
Cindi Hancock	11-17
Suzanne Lundy	11-24
Mary Haila	11-30
Amy Renes	11-30
Ethel Herrig	12-1
Peter Paeth	12-7
Karl Swessinger	12-13
Susan Tinder	12-15
Ethel Herrig	12-21
Dave Dunn	12-27
Connie Burgett	12-28
Marilyn Magnuson	12-31

Anniversaries

Richard & Catherine Burkman
12-16



LOTS TO SEE AT THE GDMBG :-)





"Once upon a time at the drawing board"...

In his own words by, JOE GODFROY

Between my two careers in Law Enforcement, I drew cartoons for a living. The fact that I only did that for six years pretty much tells the tale.

Drawing cartoons is fun, but not very profitable unless you are syndicated, and then it is the luck of the draw..ing.

I stopped in 1990 when I became the Evidence Tech. for West DSM PD and began making regular house payments again.

I didn't really draw much, with one exception, until I did the cartoons for the club members who hosted the first Garden Railroad Tour which were presented to the "tour pioneers" at a later CIGRS event.

Sometimes I'd like to continue that series (FIRSTS IN RAILROAD HISTORY).

Joe said, from time to time when the drawing spirit moves him to create a "toon", he will pass them along for all of us to enjoy. **Thanks for sharing your gifts with us Joe.**



CIGRS Meeting January 19th

at the Hotel Pattee

1112 Willis Ave, Perry, IA 50220.

The Hotel is directly across the street from the

Perry Library

one block west of Second Street

(the main street north and south through town)

Club Meeting begins at 1:30 PM



Come for Brunch before the CIGRS meeting and meet Jay Hartz, New Owner and his team. **He's a train guy** too! Imagine that.

The food and the service is outstanding.



**For directions to
the Hotel Pattee go to:
www.hotelpattee.com**

The Central Iowa Garden Railway Society has regular monthly meetings at which we discuss one another's current projects, hobby news, and the latest products on the market.

Programs are presented at some meetings, either by one of our members, or by someone brought in from outside the organization. The programs generally cover some element of the hobby, from the history of local and other Railroads, to rolling stock to track work, to locomotives, includes electric operation, battery-powered and trains that actually run on live

steam. Most of our members have, or hope to have, gauge G, or gauge 1 railways in their gardens or back yards.

Meetings are generally held on the third Sunday of each month. Specific dates and times, as well as program topics, are announced in the CIGRS Telegraph. Club members are encouraged to involve themselves in any of a variety of functions, including special model railway exhibitions that are staged in the area.

For more information, contact:

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**We're on the web:
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