

# telegraph

Volume 11, Issue 5

May 2014

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## ***Railroading at waist level is really fun!***

The May CIGRS meeting was held at the home of Richard and Beth Potter in Pleasant Hill. It was a beautiful day for being outside and running trains. Prior to the meeting, members had a chance to look over Richard's and Beth's elevated pike. The layout has been designed so that it is waist high throughout, so no bending over is necessary. Richard has built a number of large 4x8 boxes that resemble gondola cars. These boxes are set in an end-to-end pattern at about 8 feet intervals with supports for the track that serve to connect each box in order form the large oval track plan complete with a few turnouts and sidings. Richard says he started by laying track right on the ground, but discovered his knees were not up to it, so he decided to elevate the entire pike. The name of the railroad is the Southern Canadian RR in honor to their daughter and grandchildren who live in Canada. But some

might be inclined to call it the Harry Potter RR because of the large castle on the West end of the pike that reminds viewers of the Harry Potter movies. Well, their last name is Potter! After viewing the trains, Beth called us all to have a scrumptious lunch to include pulled pork sandwiches along with many side dishes as well as deserts. No one should have gone home hungry!

### **Business Meeting**

President Myers called the meeting together at 1:30 and asked that everyone be sure to sign in. He then asked if any new members or guest were in attendance. The Potter's next door neighbor, David Barnes, introduced himself and said he had been following the progress made on the railroad since the beginning of construction.

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### **Upcoming Events**

- ***CIGRS Meeting June 22nd hosted by Barbara and John Kilmer, Ft. Dodge***
- ***CIGRS Garden RR Tour Saturday, June 28th***
- ***CIGRS Meeting July 20th hosted by Pat and Ole Olsen, Des Moines***
- ***August & September meetings still open for hosting.***
- ***October CIGRS Meeting will be hosted by Ron Huntimer***

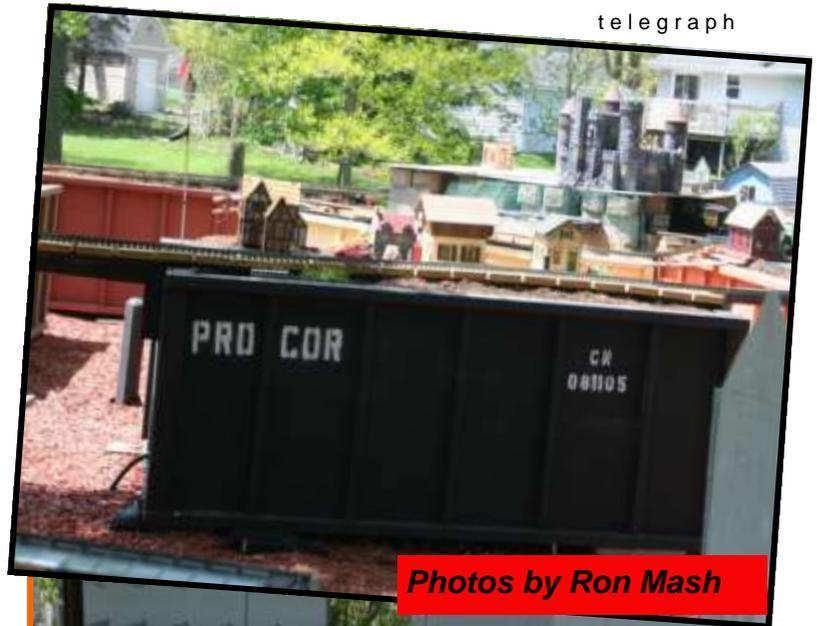
### **Special Thanks**

**To Beth & Richard Potter for hosting our first 2014 Outdoor CIGRS Meeting**

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## Reports

Club Treasurer, Howard Hoy, presenting a well detailed report on the club's expenditures since the March meeting. Even after purchasing the new trailer and covering the expense for the Flower and Garden Show, the club is in good financial shape. Gordon Cox talked about the upcoming Garden Railroad Tour that will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend in June. He passed around a sign-up sheet to secure volunteers to help at one of the six layouts on the tour. John Myers said he has sent out a series of emails from the lists of email addresses that have been collected from attendees in previous years. Renee Kidman mentioned that a PR release for the newspapers would be helpful to promote the tour as well. John Myers talked about the club web site and said he had just added a "How To" section. The first installment to this new section will be by Karla Gunzenhauser on how to make shake shingles. Jay Nugent talked about the National Garden Railroad Convention that was held in Tampa, Florida. Attendance was not nearly as high as in previous years, but there were some interesting railroads on the tours and the trip to Disney World to go behind the scene to see the trains being prepared for the day was a big draw. Jay said there were fewer exhibitors than in past conventions, but was pleased to say that the Kidman booth was not only the largest, but attracted the most attention.



**Photos by Ron Mash**



## Show and Tell

Cheri Nugent showed off the large M&M character that Marilyn Kirkpatrick had given her. When you squeeze it, it plays "Jingle Bells". Cheri says it will be a perfect addition to her M&M theme train, especially at Christmas time. Howard Hoy showed off his 1:20 scale passenger car that he has constructed out of styrene. It is modeled after the cars that were used in Southern Colorado in the late 1800's. Great job Howard. Karla Gunzenhauser brought a Whirly-Gig that she constructed. It has been a "dream" of hers to build some of these. This one shows a man cranking an old Model A Ford. The propeller drives a rod that makes the man crank the car. Very neat Karla, we look forward to seeing what comes next.

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**Show and Sell**

Mike Kidman showed off a hand-made track sweeper (built by his friend Al) that can be attached to a flat car in order to clean leaves, etc, off the tracks. It looks like it will do the job. He plans to make a few of these available to sell. Mike also talked about a product that resembles stone walls and can be used on buildings or retaining walls and portals for tunnels. The product is being manufactured in a plant in Florida that is owned by club member Walt Smith. Mike also talked about a exclusive run of Chicago & Northwestern open hoppers that Piko is building for them. There will be 4 separate numbers, so CNW enthusiast can run a string of cars! Renee brought a few trees that were being sold for \$14.

**Door Prizes & Announcements**

Twenty-nine people signed up for door prizes. Thanks to everyone who brought in items. The next meeting will be at the home of John and Barbara Kilmer in Fort Dodge. Look for directions in the newsletter.

Submitted by: Jay Nugent, Secretary



*Photos by Ole Olsen*





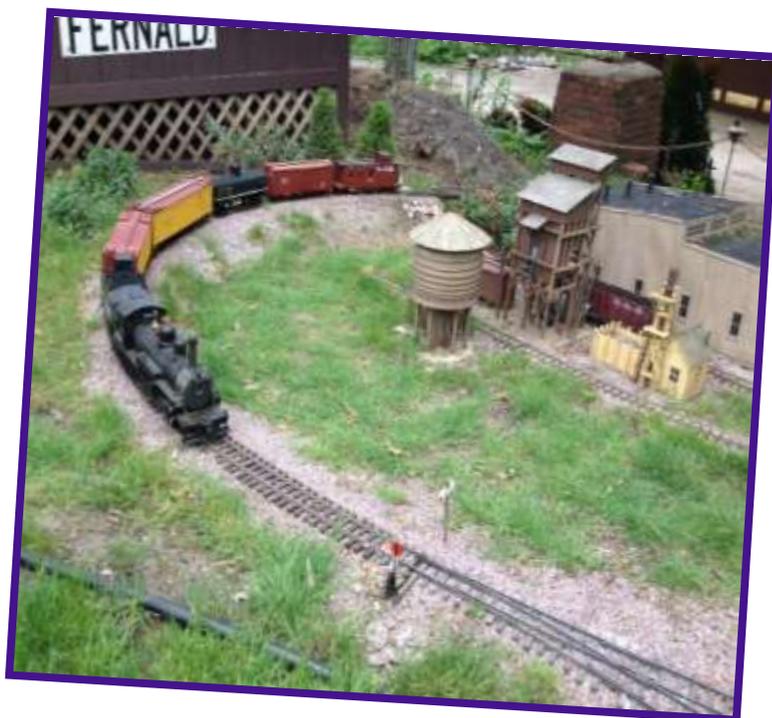
By the Band Man

This month's Spotlight column features Howard and Kay Hoy of Boone, Iowa. Howard and Kay's **Boone and Rio Grande Western RR** is a continuous loop layout that harkens back to the 1930's and 1940's. It follows the Denver and Rio Grande Western prototype narrow gauge railroad that operated in Colorado and New Mexico.

Howard had always had an interest in trains. As a child Howard dabbled in Lionel 027 and later in HO scale. He had been thinking about getting into G Scale for a number of years. In 2009, he bought a Bachman K-27 and some track from Kidman's and he was on his way to planning a layout that would fit the terrain of their back yard. The railroad stretches across the lot that highlight's long runs for Howard's three K-27's and a good looking C19. Howard has scratch built most of the buildings: two depots, an engine shed, mines, a produce warehouse, and various other structures that bring the pike to life. The long runs are well ballasted and have prototypical rural crossings where appropriate for area farmers and ranchers to cross the tracks.

Of course no layout is complete without meticulous manicuring and this is where Kay's hand in the operations shows up as chief landscaper. Howard and Kay joined CIGRS in 2010 and he is currently Treasurer of the club. They have hosted club meetings and were one of the featured layouts on the 2013 Central Iowa Garden Railroad Tour.

## Howard and Kay Hoy's Boone & Rio Grande Western Railroad



Howard was raised in Waterloo and Kay was raised in San Diego, California. They met in Des Moines in 1997. They are both retired. Kay retired in 2005 from Bankers Trust Co. and Howard in 2007 from the Internal Revenue Service. They both keep busy with numerous activities and projects, and of course running trains.



Photos by Ron Mash

**Important Dates  
and Observances  
In May & June 2014**

<b>Birthdays</b>	
Nancy Fusco (Website Guru)	5-8
Barbara Deats	5-19
Marilyn Kirkpatrick	5-19
Cheryl Evans	5-19
Grant Boes	5-20
Andee Vocelka	5-24
Jim Magnuson	6-7
Rob Renes	6-9
Sandra Bickel	6-18
Ione Edlen	6-20
Sheri Godfroy	6-24
<b>Anniversaries</b>	
John & Barb Kilmer	5-2
Gordon & Kathy Cox	5-5
Dave & Elaine Dunn	5-13
Dick & LaVonne Isard	5-14
Jim & Marilyn Magnuson	5-18
Hillary & Lou Miner	5-22
Bill & Connie Joy	6-12
Jay & Cheri Nugent	6-16
Eric & Sandra Bickel	6-18
Paul & Karla Gunzenhauser	6-21
John & Pat Olsen	6-21
John & Lori Myers	6-28

**Central Iowa Garden Railway Society**

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**CIGRS Meeting June 22nd**

**at Barb & John Kilmer's in**

**Ft. Dodge , IA**

**Potluck will begin at Noon and the**

**Club Meeting will begin at 1:30 PM**

**For Directions ...**

go to: **[www.cigrs.net/](http://www.cigrs.net/)** and click on June Meeting under Upcoming events.



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.

***John's vision for his railroad and his challenge to CIGRS members...***

My railroad is based on early 60's the transition from steam to diesel, I guess you could call it a mountain railroad. Want to see how good your engine can pull a steep grade? Bring it and find out.

**POTLUCK DETAILS:** Kilmer's will provide sloppy joe sandwiches and drinks. Please plan to bring a salad, hot dish or something yummy for dessert. Don't forget your lawn chairs and flatware.

***Directions according to John...***

Follow U.S. 169 north through Fort Dodge to the 4 way stop sign (Ia. hwy 7 goes west, Starlight Best Western Motel on corner) turn right toward town. Go about 4 blocks to 11th St. N.W. There is no street sign. Modern Sound Engineering is on the corner, turn right, 4th house on the left. I have track power so if anyone would like to run an engine they are more than welcome.

Hope to see you all here!

**117 11th St NW, Ft. Dodge, IA 50501**

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**We're on the web:**

**[www.cigrs.net/](http://www.cigrs.net/)**