

Telegraph

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October 2015

Newsletter of the Central Iowa Garden Railway Society

October 18, 2015 CIGRS Meeting Highlights

John Olson, stand-in secretary reporting

Hosted by: **Ron Mash** and **Janet Moser**, Minburn, IA

President Godfroy

opened the meeting at 1:30 and asked **Ron** to share the latest regarding the **R& J Railroad**. **Ron** gave a little history and told us he got started back in 1997 and now has grown the layout to roughly 400' of rail with the upper loop being the most recent addition which has been operational about 5 years now. The only part of the railroad that is not elevated is the initial loop. He got wise in his younger years.

Ron also said the layout really comes alive at night since all the buildings are lighted.

One tradition that is long standing is to run trains on New Year's Day. Depending on the snow cover and his motivation to keep the

track clear on the lower level, he can run on both the upper and lower loops even with frigid temps. He also says he lets Mother Nature take charge of weathering his rolling stock. She does it best. No question.

Thanks to **Ron** and **Janet** for their hospitality on a delightful sunny afternoon.

Guest

Next Joe asked if there were any guest among the group and there were none until a short time later, **Robert Dubansky** arrived and introduced himself. He is from Cumming area south of the metro and is just getting started in G Scale.

Treasurer's Report

No transactions last month. No changes to report.

Christmas Stroll in Albia

Joe also mentioned he had brochures for the **Christmas Stroll in Albia**, where long time member **Richard Burkman** and **Ron Honeke** set up a



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magnificent layout in the lobby of the Bank that **Catherine** works in, which is located right on the square. It is a great event and encouraged people to take brochure. If you were unable to attend, follow this link to learn more about this fun family event. http://www.iowasourc.com/2013/11/fe_albia-victorian-stroll.html

No New Business

Old Business—Club Survey

Ole handed out hardcopies of the survey and collected those that were complete and he will tabulate the responses and will report and discuss them at the November meeting.

November Meeting

The November CIGRS Meeting will be at the Ankeny School Services Facility, 2017 SE Oak Dr., Ankeny, IA 50021.

Check the website for a map and directions. The meeting will begin at 1:30 but the doors will be open by 12:45 for those who wish to grab a hot cup of coffee and visit before the meeting. Enter through the door on the south side of the building. **Ole** suggested folks bring a sweet treat to share if you are so inclined.

Show and Tell

Janet piped in and said she had a show and tell us about the wagons **Ron** scratch built that were sitting on the tables. One was a buckboard and the other was an Amish enclosed wagon. Very strong work **Ron**.

Member news

Joe said **Bill Joy** reported that **Connie** was on the mend from her hip surgery, but was still dealing with some pain when turning and such.

November Elections

Joe reiterated that he would not be running for President this year and en-



couraged folks to throw their hats in the pool for one position or another. You all know how tight these elections are in November. Emotions can run very high. Be there to vote if you aren't going to consider running for a leadership role. Every vote counts. Remember you have to live with who you vote for at least a year.

More show and tell

Potter's made a trip to the Grand Canyon Railroad and it was a trip to remember.

Ron also has a Caboose Whistle hooked up with gas and it was very cool. A great tool for those in the caboose to signal the engineer all were aboard and let's roll.

Larry Nelson brought a sample of the piers he made for his walk across bridges. They were way cool too. **Julie** announced she was going to really retire come December 1st just so she could make sure **Larry** is running trains by next spring and she also plans to put together several buildings to add to the layout over the winter too. So she is going to really

hold **Larry** accountable for getting weeds pulled and oh yes, did we mention, run trains. Gotta give ya the berries **Larry!** Your backyard is awesome.

Shellenbergs announced their garden railroad layout is no longer. But, a beautiful flat grassland has been cultivated in its place and **Marilyn** and **Richard** love the transition. I think ????

Mike Kidman spoke about **Marty Cozad's** Annual gathering and change **Marty** is making to ride on trains from his G Scale Dynasty. He said **Marty** said he now has completed about 5 scale miles of rail for the ride on railroad. **Mike** said **Marty** was focused on building the ride on railroad for his grandkids. Rightttt!! While **Kidman's** were in Nebraska City, **Marty's** wife, **Carrie**, asked Mike to take some aerial footage of their railroad with his Quadcopter loaded with a camera and when all was said and done **Marty's** response was... now I can see what needs to be done with my G scale layout. So, he's not done

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with his G Scale days just yet. To see any of **Mike's** aerial footage of **Marty's** railroad and others as well go to **Mike Kidman** on UTUBE.

Dick Shellenberg remember when years ago **Marty's** folks lived in Corning and visited **Shellenberg's** garden railroad and then called their son, **Marty** and said there is another idiot that loves trains like you do. And the rest is history as they say.

Mike, also, showed us a couple of samples of Scratch Built portals and a small trackside storage shed made by club member **John Carl**, who moved to an island west of the state of Washington. **John** has many items that are sold exclusively through Reindeer Pass Railroad, a world-wide G scale train business right here in Central Iowa. You can go on ReindeerPass.com to see all the items **John Carl** has built for your enjoyment. He is truly a master modeler and produce most anything you can dream up.

Show and Sell

Lou Miner had 3 Piko

coaches that he was going to paint in a particular road scheme but he found coaches already painted in that theme so he put these beauties up on the chopping block. I believe **Gene Pritchard** got the deal he couldn't refuse.

On a final note **Godfroy's** brought a bushel of pears from their very own pear tree for all to enjoy.

Ole



Save the date:

Trainfest—Milwaukee (West Allis), WI November 14th & 15th

trainfest.com

Victorian Stroll in Albia, IA Saturday December 5th

albiachamber.org/victorian-stroll

The Great Train Expo Council Bluffs January 2nd & 3rd 2016

Iowa Flower, Lawn & Garden Show. March 18-20, 2016

Large Scale Train Show, York, PA March 25th & 26th

2015 CIGRS Meeting Hosts

November 22—2017 SE OAK DR, Ankeny, IA. 50021

Remember this meeting will be for the election of officers.

December No Meeting

OCTOBER

Birthdays

Renee Kidman 10-1
 David Elbe 10-6
 Denis Biechler 10-12
 Bryan Anderson 10-27

NOVEMBER

Birthdays

Paul Schaefer 11-1
 Dick Isard 11-14
 Julie Nelson 11-16
 Cindi Hancock 11-17

Anniversaries

Dick & Marilyn Shellenberg 10-1
 Karl & Nancy Swessinger 10-13



Central Iowa Garden Railway Society

Key Contacts for 2015

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November 15

Meeting starts at 1:30

Ankeny School Services Facility

2017 SE OAK DR, Ankeny,
IA. 50021



The Central Iowa Garden Railway Society has regular monthly meeting at which we discuss one another's current project, 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 locomotive, includes electric operation, batter-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.

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