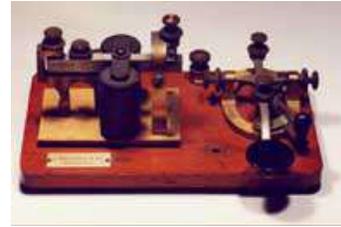


# The Telegraph

A Visit to the San Juan Valley  
Railway

**CIGRS**

Dateline: September 2019



## CIGRS Meeting

*Held August 21, 2019*

Minutes of CIGRS August 19, 2019  
by: Karla Gunzenhauser

President **Ron Huntimer** opened the meeting at 2:09.

Treasurer's report was given by **Howard Hoy**. **Ben Hancock** has been paid for the modular cart for the corners, and for two carts for straight modular panels.

The *Des Moines Botanical Center* has been having conversations with CIGRS members, **Lewis Minor**, **Mike Kidman**, **Mark Hertzog**, and **Ron Huntimer**. They are advising the center on a train layout.

*Reiman Gardens* were very happy to have been on the June CIGRS tour of trains. They invited the club to come to a Thursday evening open house sometime. *Reiman Gardens* wonders when CIGRS members could come and do some maintenance.

Kansas City had their first Garden Railway tour this year.

**John Olson** moved that we rent the *Merle Hay Mall* space for another six months. **Howard Hoy** seconded, and the motion passed.

**John Olson** reported three modular sections are remaining. A get-together will be needed to get the modular's to the mall.

**Susan Lyon** has donated several things to the club. They will be used as seen fit by members.

**Steve Hudson**, from Indianola, needs to have a work day.

**Mike Kidman** has acquired two new collections. He may donate some of the pieces to the modular group.

**Ole** would like to see some member driven projects.

The September meeting will be at **The Kidman's** on September 15th.

The October meeting will be hosted by **James and Paula Atkinson** in Nevada.

**Ron Huntimer** suggested we take photos of railroad related items that we may see during our travels, and bring them to a designated meeting.

**Barb and Phil Deats** would like to see CIGRS members create a layout for the Thomas the Tank Engine Days at The *Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad* depot.

**Howard Hoy** talked about his layout in the back yard. It is obvious he has spent a lot of time on it. He has about 1400 feet of track, and several towns and yards.

The **Susan Lyon** church building was sold to **Marilyn Shellenberg**.

Door prizes were awarded from the garage.

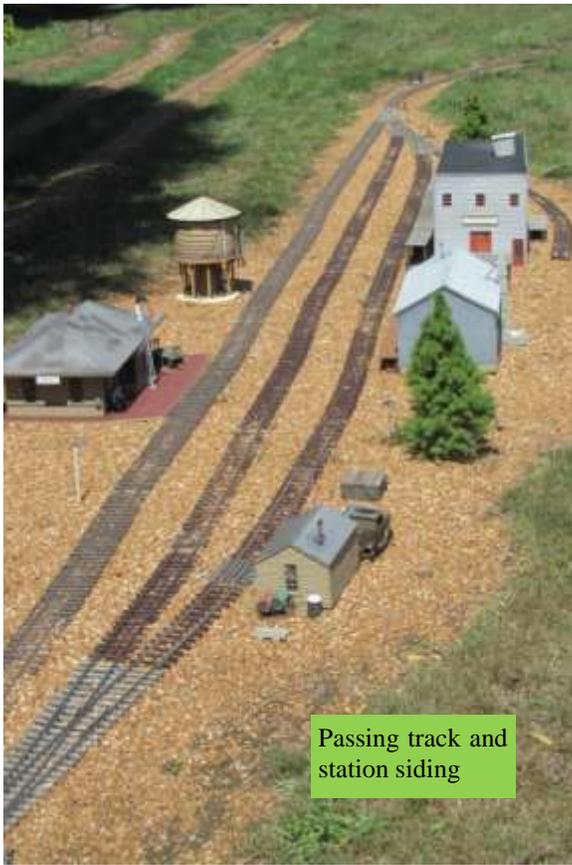
**Below: CIGRS members enjoy the beautiful weather on August 19th in Howard Hoy's Side yard**



# San Juan Valley Railway Layout Photos

By: Karla Gunzenhauser

CENTRAL IOWA  
GARDEN RAILWAY  
SOCIETY



Passing track and station siding



President Ron Huntimer in charge



Homemade cattle car by Karla Gunzenhauser on spur near Cattle pens.



Freight Station & Coal Tower



That's a Challenging Big Boy...

# More Howard Hoy Layout Photos

Photos By: Karla Gunzenhauser

Smallest of Details A locked trackside box of some sort.



## Winter's a Coming



## Home Made Track Cleaning Car!

Text & Photos Provided By: Bob King

Chief Engineer: King's Crossing Railroad

### Recipe:

- El Cheapo G-Scale Gondola
- Stone from Rock pile in back yard
- Emory cloth from under the Kitchen Sink
- Brillo paper from workshop stash
- Rubber bands from USPS Junkmail.
- Paint sticks from Sherwin Williams.
- Car siding from back yard project.

Combine as pictured, drag behind standard locomotive.

Works like a charm!

**Cost to Build:** \$0

**Value:** *Priceless!!!*



# Collections!

Text By: Peter J. Paeth

Like many of you I have come to the twilight of my years on this earth and with it comes contemplation of what comes next. What do I do with my "stuff". For you see I am a collector of sorts. What I mean by that is that I am a collector of collections. Although my wife would call it by a different name... but hoarders are just collector's of collections that have gone awry.

When I got into G gauge trains so many years ago I contemplated starting another collection of large toy trains. Where would I store them, how to display them, move them back and forth between the layout and their permanent homes. I told myself that I would concentrate on early years of trains. Back when trains consisted of a single engine and just a few cars, like a baggage car, passenger car, mail car, combine, and maybe a caboose. I also told myself that I would only buy "high end" manufacturer cars so that my limited resources would tend to limit my "collection"

## *It did not work...*

Railroads are capital intensive operations. Owning one means one must own lots of capital. What good railroad does not have maintenance of way equipment. Freight cars of every kind, flat bed, box car, hopper, low boy flatcar, and you know steam engines were replaced by early diesels which are a must if we are to represent the railroad we have selected. Not just one railroad either, because we must represent all of the railroads that have come and gone, *CB & Q, Burlington Northern, Rock Island, The Crandic, Iowa Interstate, Durango to Silverton, Chama to Toltec, Boone & Scenic Valley, White Pass*, and don't even get me started on the specialty trains, NASA, Pearl Harbor, Military, Coast Guard, and even holidays.

What do you mean they have a set of engines commemorating the Transcontinental Railroad. I must have them!!!

I recently sold one of my "collections" at a garage sale. Not trains mind you another collection all together. Sold the whole blooming thing for the price of several pizzas. It felt good at first. This collection had been with me since early childhood. It was disused and no longer displayed proudly. It had been sitting in a pile for better than 30 years. Traveling with me from home to home never far away and only occasionally out of its permanent container. But then a month later I felt a twinge.... hey, I have one of those I can share with my old friends that I just reconnected with and then I remembered, it's gone. An old friend that has gone.

Yes, I have a collection of friends as well. Folks with likeminded thoughts, shared loves of toy trains and other hobbies or passions. I recently connected with friends from long ago, back in the day when I had just turned a teenager. Drum Corps friends. It has been great talking with them and sharing my collections and recollections of those days with them. It has also been a reminder that friends do not last forever. Some of them are gone now as well..

**Fred Loveridge, Richard Shellenberg, Richard Jones, Bill Callaghan, Chuck Ohnesorg, Steve Breeden, Jim Jemming;** all names from my friends collection that are no longer part of that collection. But I still have friends that know these missing friends so all is not lost. Life goes on.

I saw **Marshal Childs** the other day in a restaurant in Des Moines. He did not remember me, nor did we speak but I remembered him. I still count him as a friend. As I do all of you who are reading this now.

Stay well, my friends, and keep collecting!

Em... **Mr. Kidman**, I think I will be at the September meeting, I have some purchases to make...



CENTRAL IOWA  
GARDEN RAILWAY  
SOCIETY



# Karla's Scratch Building Corner : The Little Depot

Article by: Karla Gunzenhauser

Before I started the depot I have been showing on Facebook, I made a little depot. The little depot was used in back areas of the Canadian Pacific RR. It was made using my other style of building, the post and siding style. I will include some pictures from that project so you can see the different ways of building that I employ.

I worked on the roof for the little depot today. I used a hand saw to cut the lengths. I used an angle finder to make the correct angles for the triangles. Then just measured the angles right from the building. Then to make the triangle pieces to go under the roof, I started to use the saber saw--not good. Tried the miter saw--not good. Used the little table saw and that worked fine. Cut one half of the thickness, then the other. Glued the triangles onto one roof piece. Discovered I had put the glue on the good side, so had to use another board. This one is not as long, so the overhand will be shorter. Then glued one board to the triangles. The odd picture is me using the miter saw to cut "sleepers" (railroad ties) that will go under the building to keep it out of the mud.

Only one board got glued to the building today. It was a long siding board and it needed five clamps to hold it. When the siding boards go on either side of the windows, they will be shorter, and I can do more of them at one time.

End walls are ready for assembly - Pic 1.

This morning I framed the side walls, w/lots of clamps- pic 2  
This evening I put all of the floor on - pic-3

The flooring was the easy part. Getting a frame all square and straight and getting all the clamps on pieces with slippery glue was the hard part.



Pic 1 - End Walls



Framework in Process



Pic 3: Framework & flooring complete



Pic 2. A Crapload of Clamps...

# Puzzle Page

Courtesy of: Sheri Godfroy

**New Recurring Feature for the Telegraph!** Many thanks to **Sheri** for providing our newsletter with a many of these word find puzzles for this and upcoming issues of our newsletter. Let her know how you did with these!

## Rails in America

BOXCAR CASEY JONES COACH COAL CREW DEPOT ENGINE FREIGHT GANDY DANCER GOLDEN SPIKE HANDCAR HOBO	IRON HORSE JOHN HENRY PULLMAN RAILS SIGNAL SMOKE STEAM STEEL SWITCH UNION PACIFIC WHISTLE YARD	E T W H R A C D N A H S L K N H A E C R E W B H E O A J I C I F I C A P N O I N U S O T P L S G B O U O W X O O R I H C S L T D N L I T N C T J H G N E N L L I L E S T E A M Y I N H R E S E M L A M H C R N E G A E W D D A E I R O N H O R S E L N A L N R S T B K H O F A A B O R H O E M A O S E S W I T C H I Y G A N D Y D A N C E R A H
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**See related story on  
Page 7, Trivia Story**



Above: **Sandra** and her **Aunt Mary**.

At Left: The locomotive #1225 is one of 39 2-8-4 or Berkshire type Steam Locomotives ordered by the Pere Marquette Railroad, built in October of 1941.

# CIGRS Historical Re-collection

Text Courtesy of: Karla Gunzenhauser

## Earliest known communication about CIGRS club

After some consulting with **Bob Lewis**, and after a questionnaire had been sent to folks who had shown interest in Bob's G scale store, **George Hagele** wrote the following.

Dear Fellow Garden Railroader, 3-9-98

I'm happy to report that the letter of inquiry brought 48 responses. The Central Iowa Garden Railway Society is off and running.

Our first meeting will be March 29th 1:00 at Trains and Moor 6565 University Ave. Des Moines 515-271-5181.

**Bob (Lewis)** is good enough to allow us to use his store for our first "formal" meeting. He has even offered door prizes to sweeten the deal. Be sure to bring the spouse or sweetheart.

**George H. Hagele**

## Trivia Story: Word Origins

Courtesy of: Conductor/Tour Guide at the Steam Railroading Institute  
Owosso, MI

My wife and I visited Michigan recently to see my wife's, Aunt Mary. Sandra's dad's younger sister. While there, we visited a tourist railroad site similar to the *Boone & Scenic Valley RR* called the *Steam Railroading Institute*. This railroad's claim to fame is that their steam engine was the model for the steam engine digitalized for the movie "*The Polar Express*". The Institute actually has a "North Pole Express" excursion every year.

Although no trains were running the day we were there we did get a guided tour of the round house where the engine was undergoing some routine maintenance. We also toured several passenger cars in the yard next to the station. We even got to see the man that the movie studio digitalized for the "engineer" for the same movie.

Our guide was real knowledgeable and told us this little tale of some word origins that came about due to railroads in the early days of American railroading. He told us that back in the old days before cell phones, RR crews were given lanterns and told to place them outside the city dwellings they were in so that the RR could send runners to collect the crews for a train that was scheduled to leave. Most of these lanterns had red lenses as that is what they had on hand. The RR crews left their red lanterns on the porches of the buildings where they were currently located.... and now you know how "Red Light Districts" got their name...

# SEPTEMBER

## Birthdays

Connie Biechler	9-7
Michael Kidman	9-9
Gene Pritchard	9-12
Eric Kamp	9-20
Joe Vocelka	9-20

## Anniversaries

Gene & Donna Pritchard	9-9
Peter & Sandra Paeth	9-14

## CIGRS Personal Ads:

My dearest Glenda,  
 Thank you for sharing my love of 1:1 scale train vacations and for 12 wedded years of supporting my G-Scale addiction.  
 All my Love, Paul

# OCTOBER

## Birthdays

Renee Kidman	10-1
David Elbe	10-6
Denis Biechler	10-12
Albert Morgan	10-16

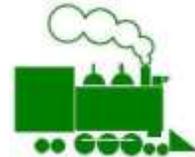
## Anniversaries

Karl & Nancy Swessinger	10-13
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If we are missing yours let us know so we can celebrate with you!

All personal ads accepted via email @ [cigrs@hotmail.com](mailto:cigrs@hotmail.com)

**CENTRAL IOWA  
 GARDEN RAILWAY  
 SOCIETY**



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## About Our Organization...

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 some-one 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, battery-powered and trains that actually run on live steam.

**Trivia:** A portion of the Promontory Point Golden Spike was removed and cast into 4 rings and 7 watch fobs. 1 each of the rings was given to President Grant, Secretary of the Interior Seward, the President of the Central Pacific Railroad and the President of the Union Pacific.