

The Telegraph

A Visit to the Reindeer Pass
Railroad

CIGRS

Dateline: October 2019

CIGRS Meeting

Held September 22, 2019

Minutes of CIGRS September 22, 2019
by: Peter J. Paeth

Ron Huntimer brought the meeting to order at 2:00.

Howard Hoy gave a brief **Treasurers Report.**

Ron Huntimer mentioned that he had a major fire at his house and on top of it his AOL was hacked. He has consequently gotten a new email address RHuntimer911@gmail.com. Please update your contact lists.

Ron Huntimer suggested that a club member volunteer to be the "Communications Director". That person would be willing to send out mass emails to club members between meetings with announcements, etc. If you are interested in this position please contact Ron.

We then had a lengthy discussion about lack of volunteers to the many club events taking place at various times in the year. I believe it could all be boiled down into this one statement. **"CIGRS will begin to require a signup sheet for volunteers for club events at least 3 meetings in advance or the event coordinator will have to cancel CIGRS involvement in the event."** Ron or the event coordinator will provide signup sheets for upcoming events at meetings. **Renee Kidman** also volunteered to coordinate event participation by phoning for volunteers when necessary. A vote on this was proposed by **Jay Nugent** and it passed.

The conversation then turned to the Mall Schedule of operation with suggestions of trying to schedule work days as well as running days at the mall location. A schedule of days when the mall will be open is soon to be posted to the website. The schedule may be as simple as the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month but see the schedule posted for exact dates.

It was announced that the **Rieman Garden** Thursday Night Holiday events will not be official CIGRS club events. Volunteers can run trains but it is not considered a CIGRS event.

Ron asked the Newsletter editor for a report but I was busy with a medical issue with one of our members at the time so I missed my opportunity. I will post my report here instead. Thank you, Thank You, Thank you! Everyone has really stepped up and supplied me with great articles, ideas, photos projects for the newsletter. I was beginning to be worried that I might not have enough to go around but everyone has been a great help. Keep those cards and letters coming!

Jay Nugent, Mike Kidman and **Renee Kidman** gave a brief report about their National Garden Railroad Convention held recently in Portland Oregon and Jay has provided a detailed report for the newsletter on pages 4 & 5.

Show and Tell included a two seater outhouse model by Mike Armstrong. This roofless half wall building was a



replica of one he saw while on a recent vacation. The outhouse was complete with toilet paper and a visitor with pants down around his ankles for a daily sit down. No detail was too small!

Karla Gunzenhauser also showed her recent little depot project and a machine shed (photos on pgs 2 & 6).

Finally a brief request for ideas from **Jim Atkinson** who will hold next month's meeting on 10/20/2019 at 715 15th Street in Nevada, IA. He and his wife, Paula are providing the noon meal and is requesting that you bring your ideas for his layout which does not exist yet at this time. See the forum on Facebook for a start of the conversation and bring your ideas to the meeting as well.



Steel Sign on an outbuilding at Mike and Renee Kidman's Place.

Reindeer Pass Railroad Meeting Photos

By: Peter J. Paeth

CENTRAL IOWA
GARDEN RAILWAY
SOCIETY



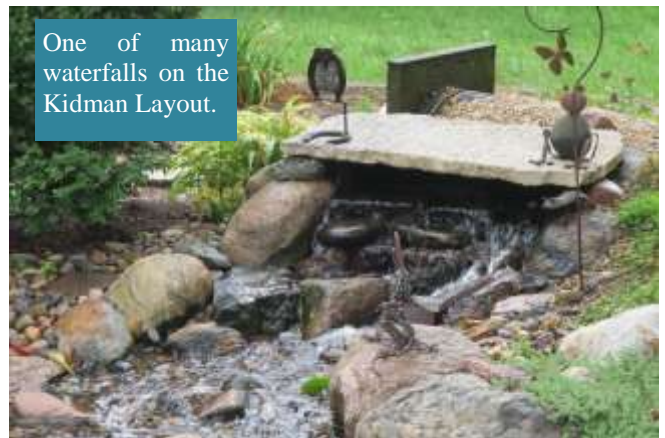
Housing on the Reindeer Pass layout



Karla's long shed and Mike's open air Outhouse.



CIGRS members visit before the meeting



One of many waterfalls on the Kidman Layout.



CIGRS Auction Item

Artwork By: Joe Godfroy



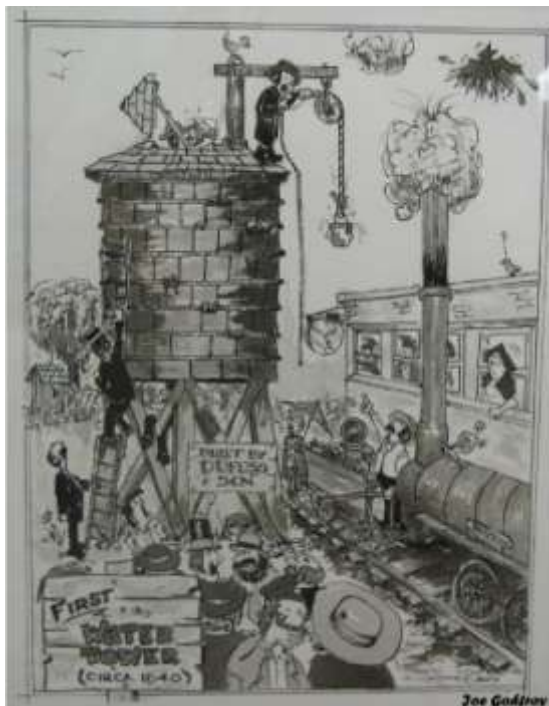
Our very own resident artist Joe Godfroy has drawn his last piece of artwork for the CIGRS club. The piece to the right is to be auctioned off at an upcoming meeting. This original artwork is titled, "The Dream & the Reality"

Other artwork also by Joe is the piece he did for the editor of the Telegraph and some other pieces he also did for auction for the club coffers. Little known trivia: Joe also is the artist who designed the CIGRS logo that is used throughout the organization.

Joe also announced an auction of his 1:1 scale railroad equipment and other things slated for auction on November 17 at Joe's home in Earlham.



The Dream & The Reality!



Other pieces of Joe's original CIGRS artwork



National Garden Railroad Convention - Portland, Oregon

Text By: Jay Nugent

Cheri and I flew to Portland Oregon on Tuesday August 27th to attend the National Garden Railroad Convention held at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel. That afternoon we took UBER to Lake Oswego to ride the Willamette Shore Trolley line that went from Lake Oswego to the Portland South Water Front District. The trolley is a reproduction of the type that ran on the line in the early 1900's. The line covers six miles following the West bank of the river. The track was originally part of a Southern Pacific Branch Line that ran to downtown Portland. One interesting aspect of the line is that many upscale homes have been built between the tracks and the river bank. This proved to be a problem for home owners who have to park their cars on a steep embankment on the other side of the tracks from their homes. In order to get groceries, furniture or new appliances from cars or from a delivery van, they have to cross over the tracks at the nearest pedestrian crossing and carry items to their homes. To solve this issue, home owner have built carts with wheels the same gauge as the track. They load their supplies carts at the crossing and wheel them down to the back doors of their homes. On the ride we met seven railroad enthusiast from Scotland who flew over and rented a nine passenger van for the event. They were kind to us to give us a ride back to the hotel after the trolley ride was done. Once back at the hotel we met up with Mike and his grandson Jake, who helped drive trailer while Renee and Jake's wife Afton flew, to make arrangements for the following day. Clinics were scheduled during the late afternoon and early evening ranging from building road bed, mountains and structures, to 3-D printing.

Wednesday morning Mike and Renee picked us up at the hotel and we drove 29 miles two view Multnomah Falls, the number one tourist attraction in Oregon. The falls measures 620 feet, making it the second highest in the United States. At the base of the falls is the Information Center and a Gift Shop. Visitors can hike a quarter mile up a pretty easy trail to a concrete bridge that replaced an old log bridge in the early 1900's.

This bridge goes over a section of the falls providing a spectacular view of the river below. For railroad buffs, it also allows us to see Union Pacific trains running on our side of the river while the BNSF trains are running on the opposite side. More energetic hikers can cross over the bridge and follow steep trail to top of the falls. After viewing the falls we traveled to Gary and Janette Lee's "Baker and Grande Ronde Railroad" a must see. Their home is located in a rural area. Their log home sits on a hill with a large porch on two sides offering views the railroad as well as the natural setting. When we arrived we were directed to a full size barn where Gary has

constructed a large yard to store trains. He has numerous hand build structures to include a roundhouse and turntable. Being an inside modeler for thirty years, I has intrigued with how he utilized this space. There is an opening at one end of the staging area that leads to their large detailed outside layout measuring 175' x 60' with 600 feet of mainline track. They model the 1890's and describe the railroad as a fictional narrow gauge branch line that connects to the Sumpter Valley RR at Baker City, OR. The railroad was featured in the April 2013 Garden Railroad magazine. After spending time enjoying the railroad we traveled back to Portland to pick up the trailer, go to the hotel and set up in the vendor hall. John Carl and Walt Smith along with Jake and Afton Kidman helped set up the display. That evening attendees could attend the BBQ so no clinics were scheduled.

Thursday morning we invited friends from Vancouver, WA to join us to tour some layouts. They had limited knowledge of G Scale, their only exposure was seeing one of my trains running on a large loop of track at our home at Sun City Festival in Arizona. We toured three layouts that morning. The first was located on a steep bank overlooking a small lake. The layout consisted of over 1,000 feet of track on multiple levels with numerous bridges to include a hand build Bascule Bridge. It also included many hand build structures. The second layout was featured in the 2014 Garden Railroad magazine. The plan was displayed along with numerous pictures taking during the construction process. It featured multiple loops that overlapped each other utilizing a series of tunnels. The third layout included long runs from the small town of Rocky Top USA, a restored gold rush town, to the town of Canyon City. The 1959 era of Rocky Top featured a visit from President Eisenhower seated in his presidential limousine with Secret Service agents running along side. After seeing these layouts we went back to the city for lunch then bid our friends farewell. The Ice Cream social was held that afternoon prior to the opening of the exhibits.

Immediately after the Vendor Hall was opened, the Reindeer Pass booth was swamped with customers. Mike and Renee had the largest area at the show and even then people had to line up outside the booth area in order to pay for their purchases. Renee was seated at her table greeting people taking payments and looking up prices on her computer if they were not already on the boxes. Mike was busy dealing with customers who were buying Air Wire, batteries, Revolution control systems and answering all types of technical questions. Cheri helped Renee by bagging items after they were rung up. John Carl worked at the round-a-bout containing small items

Item for Sale

Offered by: The Nugents



**Quick
Shade
Awning**

\$50



**CENTRAL IOWA
GARDEN RAILWAY
SOCIETY**

Quik Shade Tent

It's only been used for 2 or 3 Grain Tours, so like new condition. Could also be used for meetings if someone needs some shade. Paid \$100 new, will sell for \$50. Can bring to meeting, or they can pick up at our home in Waukee. No longer have space or use for it. Contact Cheri Nugent via email or phone if interested. (515) 371-9575.

National Convention (Continued)

Article by: Jay Nugent

and also the Egg Liners on top as well as helping with track and switches. I was in the Piko, USA and LGB areas helping people purchase rolling stock and engines. Walt Smith sat near the display of the more expensive items such as the Accucraft Galloping Goose and LGB Snow Plow. The booth was full all evening from 4:30 to 9 pm. I doubt if many train buffs went to any clinic sessions due to the constant crowd we witnessed in the Vendor Hall.

Friday morning Mike and Renee went to layouts on tour. Cheri and I decided to take a trip downtown to Powell's City of Books, the largest independently owned bookstore in the country. Powell's store takes up a full city block. It has three levels with both new and used books. It has a full room for history buffs that includes a section on railroads. We spent three hours looking around then crossed the street to have lunch, then back to the hotel to help at the display. The Vendor Hall was open from 2 pm to 9 pm. The second day was nearly as hectic as the first. Numerous attendees stopped to purchase additional items or in some cases to just visit. Our Scottish friends were back as well as a young couple from Germany and train enthusiast from all over the US and Canada. Clinics were on the agenda from 3 to 6 pm. The Banquet was held Friday evening as starting at 5 pm. Many do attend the banquet to hear the guest speaker as well as get an opportunity to visit with the organizers of the convention.

The last day of the convention included layout tours in the morning, clinics in the afternoon and an opportunity to run or watch live steam being run at Staver Locomotive, a large indoor and outdoor table high layout. Once again the Vendor Hall was open 9 m to 4 pm, but this day the general public was invited to attend. We were busy right up to the last minute. Reindeer Pass is a classy operation. Renee and Mike combine their strengths to make customers feel important and welcome. They know the business and have built a loyal following from not only the US but many other countries as well.

Cheri and I have attended at least fourteen conventions over our time in G Scale. All have been different, some better organized than others, some with many large professionally built layouts, some with small layouts but all have been fun. We have met many fine people who enjoy their trains. If you get a chance to attend the Nashville Convention in 2020 or the Denver Convention in 2021 by all means do it.

Puzzle Page

Courtesy of: Sheri Godfroy



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

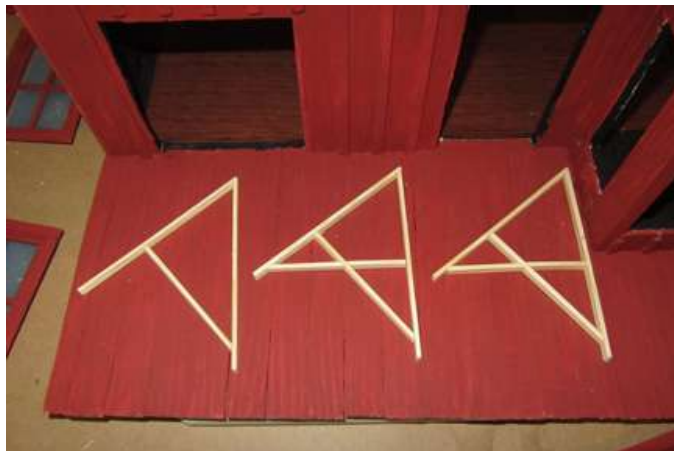
Amtrak Meet

ADIRONDACK	HIAWATHA	R	E	Y	L	F	D	N	A	L	T	R	A	E	H	T	H	E	R	F	C
BLUE WATER	KEYSTONE	E	I	K	R	E	T	S	A	E	N	W	O	D	N	R	O	A	S	T	L
CARDINAL	PALMETTO	T	P	H	C	A	S	N	S	E	N	G	E	R	T	O	T	R	A	W	O
CLOCKER	PERE	A	I	N	A	I	T	H	G	I	L	R	A	T	S	T	S	A	O	C	
COAST	MARQUETTE	W	T	A	O	D	D	O	F	F	E	R	F	U	R	L	E	S	L	L	K
STARLIGHT	PIEDMONT	E	V	W	R	I	E	N	C	R	E	S	C	E	N	T	M	W	Y	V	E
CRESCENT	SILVER STAR	U	D	A	R	E	T	N	O	M	R	E	V	O	M	E	L	C	A	E	R
DOWNEASTER	STATE HOUSE	L	C	T	R	S	W	A	S	R	T	L	H	E	C	A	A	L	I	R	K
EMPIRE BUILDER	VERMONT	B	F	H	O	R	R	E	D	L	I	U	B	E	R	I	P	M	E	I	N
HEARTLAND	WOLVERINE	S	T	A	T	E	H	O	U	S	E	D	I	P	I	E	D	M	O	N	T
FLYER		A	Z	E	P	H	Y	P	E	R	E	M	A	R	Q	U	E	T	T	E	R

Karla's Scratch Building Corner : The Little Depot

Photo by: Karla Gunzenhauser

To the right is the finished product from last month's newsletter Karla Gunzenhauser's Little Depot!



Left: Roof Trusses for New Station

The roof supports are changing from three boards, to the final four board configuration. I only need 8 of them, not 11. With a bit of change, I could still use the jig to add the 4th board.

CIGRS Historical Re-collection

Text & photos Courtesy of: George Hagele

This gas station is actually built in four parts. The base, station walls, pump island and roof. The base is the simple part- I just cut 1/2" backer board the size of under the building and what might have been poured concrete. I painted it a light gray. I glued cleats to position the building.

George H. Hagele

Article and Photos from 2003 Newsletter



Library Page

Items to Borrow



The club Library has this paper Crimper tool. It will also crimp aluminum from aluminum cans. This device is a perfect way to make scale corrugated metal for pole barns and barn roofs. The box of pieces that Joe Godfroy had at the last meeting were pop cans cut and crimped using this tool.



For Sale

1:1 Scale free standing RR Crossing sign. Purchased from a bookstore. Asking \$30. I will deliver to the next Train Club meeting if requested.

cigrs@hotmail.com

OCTOBER

Birthdays

Renee Kidman	10-1
David Elbe	10-6
Denis Biechler	10-12

Anniversaries

CIGRS Personal Ads:

My Dear Sweet Caboose Girl,
Next time we take the train let's join the mile long club...

The Little Engine That Could

CENTRAL IOWA
GARDEN RAILWAY
SOCIETY



NOVEMBER

Birthdays

Julie Nelson	11-16
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Anniversaries

DECEMBER

Birthdays

Ethel Herrig	12-1
Peter Paeth	12-7
Dave Dunn	12-27

Anniversaries

If we are missing yours let us know so we can celebrate with you!

All personal ads accepted via email @
cigrs@hotmail.com

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CIGRS

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: Two drunks were walking up grade between the railroad tracks. One of them said, "This is the longest stairway I have ever been on." To this, the other replied, "It's not the stairs that bother me, it's the low banister."