

telegraph

Volume 9, Issues 6 & 7

June & July 2012

CJ&G Railroad Comes Alive Indoors

The May CIGRS meeting was held at Jay and Cheri Nugent's home in Urbandale on Sunday, May 20, 2012. The C J & G railroad (Cheri, Jay and Grandson Grant) is an inside layout in a 19' x 30' room on the lower level of the Nugent home. The G Scale layout is on two levels with three mainline tracks and a number of sidings. A third level contains an O gauge train and buildings representing a larger city setting. After moving into their present home in the fall of 1997, a friend of Jay's and he finished off the lower level of their home and he began plans and construction of the layout. The layout took over three years to build and Jay continues to make changes and improvements. Scenery is made of white insulation foam; buildings are a combination of kits, scratch built and birdhouses. The layout features many vehicles and people that make up a variety of scenes.

Layout History

When Jay's daughter Ann, was 9 yrs old, they were introduced to LGB trains at Halls Crown Center in Kansas City in 1982. Upon returning home, they purchased a LGB starter set at the Merle Hay Younkers that had built a display on the second floor to promote LGB trains. After running their set in the family room of their home, they built their first layout in the basement of that home. Jay's present layout is the fifth he has designed and built since starting in the hobby.

Jay is partial to LGB American style engines. His first American engine was a Santa Fe F7 A and B diesel. This was followed by steam engines to include a Mogul, Mikato and Forney. In more recent years, Jay has filled out his roster with used LGB Alco diesels that he purchased while attending various National Garden Railroad Conventions. The roster is completed with Cheri's M&M train, a

K-Line speeder, a LGB hand car, a USA G-38 diesel with custom Kansas City Southern paint job and an Aster/LGB White Pass Steam engine.

In addition to the G Scale layout, the lower level family room is home for Grant's O gauge layout that he was proud to show off to all club members.

Inside this issue:

Club News & Pics	
Who's Dues are Due?	
Important Dates	
Meeting Summaries	
Projects	
July Meeting Preview	

Upcoming Events

- **July CIGRS Meeting is July 15th at Kathy and Gordon Cox's**
- **CIGRS Garden Railroad Tour on July 21st from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.**



Grant's layout includes the Polar Express, an old Lionel Turbine from the '50 and a MTH model of the Pioneer Zephyr. Jay also ran his Standard Gauge three-rail trains for club members that featured original Lionel equipment from the late 1920's and current reproductions from MTH.



Business Meeting

President John Myers called the meeting at 1:30 pm. Treasurer Howard Hoy gave the treasurers report then John turned to committee reports. Jay Nugent reported on the upcoming July 21st Garden RR Tour. Renee Kidman talked about the write-up that will be appearing in the Iowan Magazine and John Olsen brought copies to pass out to club members of the Welcome Home magazine that has done a feature on Garden tours coming this summer to include the CIGRS tour. A very nice two-page spread of John's layout is featured. This year's tour includes 5 sites. Jay passed around a sign-up sheet requesting help from club members to lend a hand at one of the layouts for the tour.

The next order of business was discussion about the April Swap Meet. In general the members felt that having the meet again would be beneficial, and that we should to invite other clubs to attend to include G Scale clubs as well as local O gauge and HO gauge clubs. A motion was made to hold the meet again next year at Redfield and set the hours for 1 pm to 4 pm. Discussion then turned to inviting Jerry Kliver to come during one of our winter meetings at the West Des Moines Police Station and talk about planting and caring for plants. President Myers will make the contact and set a date. Further discussion centered on what additional types of programs would be beneficial to members during the winter meetings at the Police Station. One suggestion was a clinic on how to lubricate the working parts of train engines. President Myers spoke about being approached by an area garden club about having a joint meeting. After much discussion, it was decided to invite the garden club to come to the June CIGRS meeting at John Olsen's home. John Myers will look into extending the invitation.

Accounts Receivable

**Members Punch your tickets
Now! All Aboard!**

Jim & Marilyn Magnuson	06-12
Denis Biechler	07-12
Tom & Linda Small	07-12

Remember Howard is a former IRS Whachamacallit. Why do you think we elected him to be the keeper of the purse. Really!

Did you know...

- On June 14th the Bondurant Grain Express headed to the Boone & Scenic Valley RR Museum. Read about it at:

http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2012307010085&ncli ck_check=1

- The UP Celebrated its 150th Anniversary. Check it out at:

www.up150.com

- The Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad Museum is now open. Check the BSV Website for scheduled hours.

<http://www.iowarailwaymuseum.org/>

**SAFETY FIRST
ALWAYS STOP
LOOK AND
LISTEN FOR TRAINS**





Grant showing his Climax and his Scout Project... a perfect loco carrier to make light work of moving from one layout to another.



Nice Job Grant!

MEMBER PROJECTS



Ole's Directional Track Sweeper with variable speed brush and lights built by World Class Electrician Michael Kidman

Karla Gunzenhauser went to work on an Engine House Design of her own after seeing the one Fred had on his layout (picture lower right). Her design will accommodate a locomotive entering in the forward or backward position as you can see from the cupolas cut into the roof ridge. Shingles are in the works to add a finishing touch to a Seriously Cedar structure for their Railroad.

Nice work Karla. Keep those update pictures coming.



MORE PROJECTS

Larry Nelson's Show and Tell—

Ask him about the number of welds and all the detail that went into creating this beauty.



Ole Crossing Signal from Old Town Ankeny is now fully operational with remote Bell ringer
Wired by Dr. Kidman



New Business

Mike Kidman talked about the Grinnell Transportation Museum. A few years ago, a representative came to a CIGRS meeting to talk about the museum, raise interest and funds. Mike has been approached about putting a G Scale train layout in the museum. Club member Dave Jones of Grinnell has been active in the museum project as well. Mike also talked about Marty Cozad's steam-up this coming September. This will mark Marty's 10th year for the three-day event. G Scale lovers from all over the country attend this event.

Show and Tell

Grant Boes showed a used Bachman Climax engine that his grandpa purchased at a train show in Kansas City. It was un-decorated so they had decals made saying: G. B. Work Train #3. Howard Hoy showed a large custom built switch or turn-out that was very well done. Larry Nelson brought an 8' steel bridge that he built. The bridge contains over 2400 welds. Very impressive. Tom Small told about his newly built layout on 76th Street in Urbandale and invited the members to stop by after the meeting was over. A map was provided with directions. Thanks Tom.

Show and Sell

Mike Kidman brought a number of custom painted graffiti box cars by Aristo Trains. Renee Kidman brought an assortment of plants. John Olsen brought some coolers to sell that will come in handy this summer.

Finally

Thanks for all who brought treats to Nugent's for the May meeting. The June CIGRS meeting will be at Pat and John Olsen's home. Plans are being made for lunch.

Jay Nugent, Secretary

Central Iowa Garden Railway Society

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Important Dates

JUNE

Birthdays

Betty Lamb	6-6
Sandra Bickel	6-18
Ione Edlen	6-20
Sheri Godfroy	6-24
Sandy Glick	6-28

Anniversaries

Bill and Connie Joy	6-12
Jay and Cheri Nugent	6-16
Eric & Sandra Bickel	6-18
Paul & Karla Gunzenhauser	6-21
John & Pat Olsen	6-21
John & Lori Myers	6-28

JULY

Birthdays

Marty Cozad	7-6
Gerald Reese	7-11
Eric Bickel	7-11
Noah Paeth	7-13
Donna Pritchard	7-16
Janet Moser	7-18
Lori Myers	7-18
Loudean Kirkpatrick	7-23
John Olsen	7-25
Paul Gunzenhauser	7-29

Anniversaries

Joe & Sheri Godfroy	7-1
Loudean & Marilyn Kirkpatrick	7-2
Dick & Susan Tinder	7-19

June CIGRS meeting at Pat & John Olsen's

The June CIGRS meeting was held at John and Pat Olsen's home in Saylor Township/Des Moines on Sunday, June 24th. Forty-five members were in attendance to watch trains run on Ole's layout, enjoy the potluck lunch and visit with fellow club members. Ole's layout features three mainline loops numerous sidings and switching options. The layout is well landscaped, including a beautiful water feature and well placed buildings to make for a nice setting to run trains. In order to maintain a zero grade, Ole has constructed a series of bridges and trestles on the West side his layout. He explained that Gordon Cox helped him build the wooden trestle as well as the steel trestle. This past spring during a very strong wind, the wood trestle was destroyed, so the Olsen and Cox construction crew were busy putting everything back in place for the meeting.

Layout History

Ole started out modeling diesel power. A Great Northern passenger train pulled by a F3 ABA combination commands one of the three main lines. The 25-car coal train, powered by a couple BNSF Dash 9 diesels is on the center loop. Ole was inspired to model this consist after seeing the prototype BNSF "Million Dollar" coal trains running in Colorado while he attended the National Garden Railroad Convention a few years ago. Also on display was a Burlington Northern freight train as well as numerous cars on sidings to complete the scenes. During the meeting, Ole explained that he started out being partial to diesel power because this is what he saw growing up, but now he is being drawn to steam power (influenced by a number of club members who are steam fanatics). After the business meeting, Ole brought out his Bachman Spectrum K-27 with Phoenix sound. This is a large engine and is very impressive. Ole has set up his control system so he can run both digital and analogue with the idea that club members can bring their trains to run.

Meeting called to order by the Honorable Jay Nugent, CIGRS Secretary

Business Meeting

President John Myers was out of state, VP Mike Kidman was at a train show in Kansas City and Treasurer Howard Hoy was also unable to attend the meeting so the Secretary Jay Nugent was left to run the meeting. Howard mailed a treasurers report showing the club to be financially sound. Next on the agenda was the tour. Jay Nugent talked about the July 21st tour and asked for volunteers to help sell tickets at the layouts. Jay brought posters and flyers that Sheri Godfroy helped hand out to club members so they could help promote the up-coming tour. All five layouts for this year's tour are in good order and ready for visitors. John Olsen was next on the program. He gave a welcome to all in attendance and talked about his vision for the layout. He has added some additional touches to include miniature pine trees and additional buildings. Next, Jay reported on John Myers discussion with the Johnston Women's Garden Club. The club has approached John about CIGRS setting up a display in the Botanical Center in 2013. John also relayed to Jay to report that he has been in contact with the Johnston Men's Garden Club about having them attend one of our meetings and we attend-

ing one of theirs.

Last month, the club asked the President Myers to look into informative programs for future meetings. One idea that was brought up was to ask Jerry Kluver to talk about plantings. John Myers has confirmed Jerry for the October meeting. Jerry fee is \$125. After a brief discussion, the club approved this expenditure and looks forward to having Jerry at our October meeting in Adel. Some of our club members are also considering putting together programs for the winter months. John Myers also mentioned in his notes that the web site has been updated and that additional pictures of club members layouts would be a nice addition. He encourages all members to check out the site and contribute.

New Business

Cindi Hancock has been in charge of the newsletter, but as stated in recent newsletter publications, health concerns have hampered her efforts. She mailed all material pertaining to the newsletter back to President Myers. Therefore the club needed a new newsletter editor. John Olsen was nominated and received a unanimous ballot to take on this position. Congratulation John.

Show and Tell

Karla Gunzenhauser brought a very impressive and detailed Engine Shed that she has been constructing. She is still trying to decide weather to put wood shingles on the roof or to make it a tin roof.. Any thoughts club members? John Olsen showed his track sweeper car that he and Mike Kidman put together. It is placed in front of an engine and has an electric motor that activates the brush on the front of the car. John demonstrated the car for us and it worked well.

Show and Sell

Rob Renes brought some miniature pine trees to sell and sold them all. Joe Godfroy brought various items to include three Airstream Campers that used to be on Richard Jones' layout in Iowa City. Doug Doggett brought some nice pieces of cedar wood and a well-detailed bridge. Darrell Von Rentzell brought a number of train items that deceased club member Sharon Seeley had on her layout in Dexter. Darrell and Sharon's daughter Wanda are in the process of closing out her estate.

LOTS OF PICTURES



Julie Nelson, Photographer, "Par Excellence"



Potted Plants by Renee Kidman

Finally

Thanks to Pat and John Olsen for hosting the meeting. Also a big thanks to them for providing the Chicken Salad sandwiches for the potluck, and to all who brought side dishes. It was good eating!

Jay Nugent, Secretary

Special Thanks to Julie Nelson for providing these pictures of Ole's layout during the CIGRS Meeting.



June

Boulder Creek Railroad at
the home of
Pat and John Olsen



Railfan Report

Karla passed this sighting along this past week. The track machine was in Lucas, IA, on Friday at 1:30 p.m., heading west.

Hot Tip for Track Power Enthusiasts:

<http://gscalenews.com/review/nms-track-cleaner>

Watch for this incredible operation coming to a town near you!

Kodak Moments People! Do it! Thanks Karla—keep ‘em comin’.

EDITOR’S NOTE

I hope you enjoy this Catch Up Edition of the Telegraph as much as I did figuring out which end is up.

I am now incredibly aware of how dependant an editor is on content to move forward with any sort of publication. Thank you Jay and John for your guidance and direction to get this Telegraph put together and please join me in thanking Karla and Julie for their colorful contributions as well. My plea to you is to email me any projects or railfan fun like travel trips or pictures of your garden and layout at different times of the season. It just makes for fun reading. This is your publication. If you expect to receive a publication worth reading lets hear from you. I will promise to share the information you submit in as timely a manner as possible keeping in mind I do still have a day job. I am learning and I have some great tutors but the learning curve is still pretty steep. Content—Content—Content.

Thanks for the opportunity to produce the Telegraph. **Ole**



HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY



***Everyone is entitled to my opinion.
You might as well give me yours too.***

**EDITORS NOTES. FILL THE BASKET UP!
THE TIME TO BE RUNNING TRAINS IS NOW!**

July Meeting Preview Of The: S & J Trestle Ridge Railroad

For anyone who knows Gordon, he is a detail guy. Well, it turns out Kathy is full of ideas and pretty much on the same wave length as Gordon. These snapshots are just a teaser for what you have in store for the July Meeting at the Cox's.

Gordon has faced many challenges in his Garden Railroading Experience but you will see he has overcome a good many of them and we will all enjoy the fruit of his labor on the 15th.

FYI: The **S & J** stands for Sam and Julia. Gordon and Kathy's grandchildren.

Imagine that! Check out Kathy's License plate on her Traverse.

It's pretty cool for a Gramma Plate.



FOOD

Cox's will provide sandwiches and drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share, along with your chairs and place settings.

PARKING

Due to their proximity to NW 66th they ask that no one parks on 66th because it is not safe. The Cox's would like to keep the driveway open for members using walkers, motorized chairs and for those who have difficulty walking. Come up the driveway for better access to their layout. For all the rest of us parking on an angle on either side of their driveway will work but be aware of the grade when getting out of your vehicles on the driveway. You will notice on the map (page 12) Overflow and easy access Parking will be directed north on NW 4th St. to NW 66 PL. You are welcome to park on the North side of the road. Then look for the signs showing where to walk through which is more level and closer to the backyard. **We will send out a more detailed aerial map to assist you as we get closer to the 15th.** If all else fails, call Gordon and he will guide you in. His phone number is: 515-249-



***This is a meeting you won't want to miss.
Gordon and Kathy are a great team.***

Come see what's growing in their backyard.

Future CIGRS Meetings

- July 15
Kathy & Gordon Cox
- August 19
Cindy and Doug Doggett
- September 16
Amy and Rob Renes
- October 21
Lori and John Myers



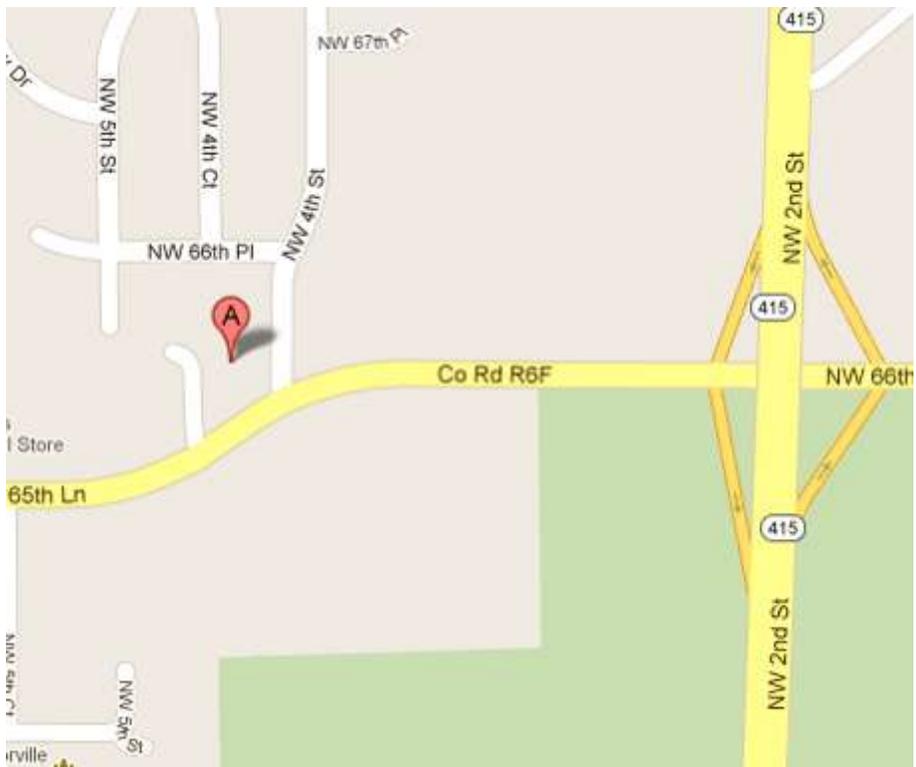
*Special presentation by
Jerry Kluver at the Myers in
October.*

He will present on plant selection and care in your garden and respond to our questions about plant issues around our home and in our layouts.

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.

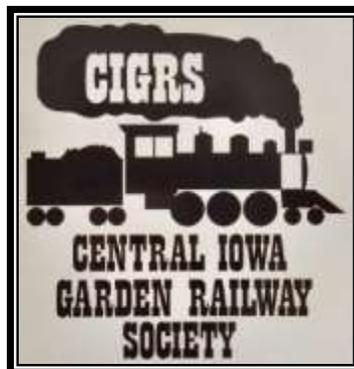
Programs are presented at some meetings, either by one of our members, or by someone brought in from outside the organization. The programs generally cover some element of the hobby, from the history of local and other Railroads, to rolling stock to track work, to locomotives, includes electric operation,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

The Home of Kathy & Gordon Cox
445 NW 65th Ln, Des Moines, IA 50313
515-279-5093



See the PREVIOUS page for details regarding PARKING AND FOOD

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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We're on the web:
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