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May/June 2013

Anticipating A New Season

We Hope You Plan To Attend All or Most Events This Season

We are now into the beginning of our **2013 ILSR Train Club** Season. We currently have 67 paid up members/families on board for this year. Thanks to all of you who have renewed and want to see our Club strong, friendly, and representing the best railroading experiences for our membership in the State of Indiana.

Whether you currently have an operating train layout or not, we want to offer every member the best activities and opportunities to be involved in this great hobby. We strive to have a good balance of **“leaders”** and **“followers”** in our Club. If you personally have a suggestion or idea that you feel would make our Club even stronger or appealing, please share it with David Palmetter or any of our other Club officers.

Lastly, look at our Club calendar and write these dates down on your own personal calendars, iphones or computers. If $\frac{3}{4}$ of our membership shows up at each Club event, that shows a lot of real Club support! On the flip side, if only $\frac{1}{4}$ of our membership shows up for a Club event, that leaves our host(s) and Club Officers scratching their heads and wondering - **“what happened?”**

It's OK to just be on the membership role and read the Newsletter, but let me tell you, **it's a whole lot better (and FUN) to be present, be involved and to become “known as a friend”** with the variety of people and expertise we have in this Club. Like most other Train Clubs, I know our membership is spread out all over Indiana, plus Ohio and Illinois. That means some serious driving time for many of us. However, it is not that much different for our neighboring train club members that are affiliated with the Chicago,

Cincinnati, Dayton or Columbus Train Clubs. Enough said. Wishing you all “Clear Tracks” ahead!

- Bud

Nice Trees For Your Garden RR

As most of us know, **Lynn Denison** has dismantled his beautiful “Rose Rock & Crystal City” Garden Railroad. All that is left are dozens of scale trees approximately 2 to 3 feet in height. (Boxwood, Dwarf Spruce, Boulevard Cypress and Cotoneaster Plants *(have bright red berries that resemble red apples on a tree)*).

Please contact Lynn during this month of May if you are interested in any of these trees as he is **giving them away free** to any Club member that want them. *(You may have to dig them out yourself)* Lynn is anxious to level his remaining backyard and sow grass seed to establish a lawn, so this is on a “first come, first serve” basis.

In This Issue

| | |
|---|--------|
| Anticipating A New Season; Nice Trees | page 1 |
| 2013 Annual Club Banquet | page 2 |
| 2013 Annual Club Banquet | page 3 |
| Final Winter Blast | page 4 |
| What We Can Do With Our RR Trees . | page 5 |
| Next Time . . Let's Take The Train! . . | page 6 |
| 2012 Club Financial Statement | page 7 |
| 2013 Club Event Calendar | page 8 |

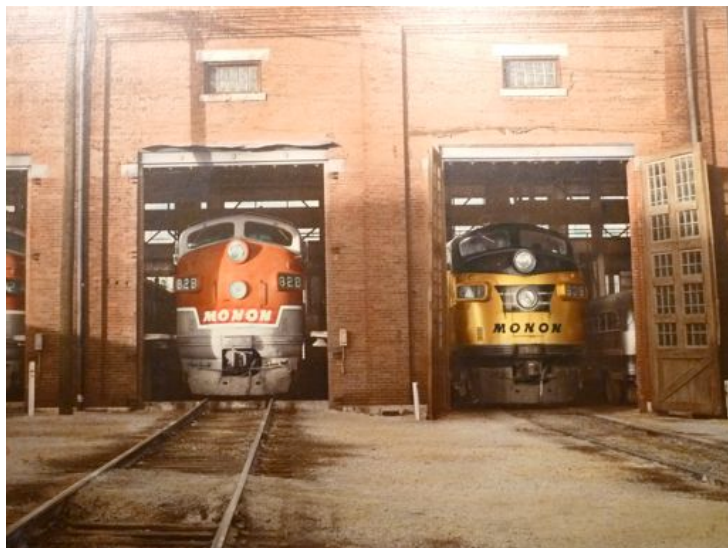
2013 Annual ILSR Club Banquet Sunday, April 28 held at the ***MONON*** Connection Museum

We had 32 Club members & spouses attend this years 2013 Annual ILSR Club Banquet in Monon, IN. This was only half the number of attendees that attended last year's 2012 Banquet at the Golden Choral in Noblesville, but hey - the Monon Connection is a unique railroad experience that can only be had by driving to Monon. Our tour guide, Harold Harvey, shared several stories from visitors from all over the United States that have visited some of the finest railroad museums in the country, and can't understand how the Monon Connection here in Indiana can have more quality railroad related artifacts than most any museum in the whole entire country.



Harold Harvey, our tour guide, was born and lived his whole life in Monon, IN. His is a life-long love of trains and railroading history in general.





Monon Passenger Locomotives pictured inside the Lafayette, IN. shops. (In IU and Purdue colors)



If some of our wives got tired of “walking and looking”, there were ample RR benches to “sit and rest for a spell”.



The “Pot Roast” & “Ham Steak” buffet was a First Class Dinner for all.



Some eating places have great food; Some have great atmosphere. Here, we truly had **both**!



David Palmetter had a great time conducting the Club meeting and distributing the many door prizes.



Raffle tickets were sold for this handsome display BN SD40-2. **Dave Beck** was the lucky winner!

Final Winter Blast

MARCH 25, 2013

Just when most of us were looking forward to “Spring”, Indiana weather surprised everyone with a record breaking 5-7 inch snowfall. Schools were canceled and we had to put gas in the snowblowers and start cleaning out our driveways and sidewalks. I like to prune out the dwarf spruce trees on my Garden Railroad early before the ground cover plants start greening up and get trampled on. I had 4 trees already done when the snows hit.

Several Club Members emailed me some great photos of what their layouts looked like on March 25. (Thanks Guys for sending me your railroad photos that are being shown on these pages. I thought they were good enough to forward on to Channel 6, 8 & 13 News, but I really couldn’t do that without everyone’s permission, so it just didn’t get done.)

To have some FUN, see if you can guess at which railroad you are viewing without looking at the answers at the bottom of the article.





and the answers are

- A. Randy Banks
- B. Dale Olson
- C. Rex Bowman
- D. Don Davis
- E. David Palmeter
- F. Bud Hunter
- G. Geoff Schwartz

**Oh! What
We Can Do
With Our
Railroad
Trees . . .**

Well, it is really up to us if we want to call them trees or bushes. Guess it all depends on how we shape or prune or groom our landscaping.

There is NO right or wrong answer - it is just a matter of personal taste.

In the case of my two *Dwarf Spruce* trees (see pics below), these guys were getting too filled in and looking more like “bushes” rather than “scale trees”. After pruning with some pruning shears to leave only the last two inches or so on the end of each branch, they now look like aged trees that have been around for 100 years or so. It is all about FUN on both the **Railroad** AND in the **Garden!**

(I have 4 dwarf spruce trees like this, and I will average 1 hour per tree to prune. Believe it or not, the trees will fill back in after 3 years, so it's a chore that needs to be repeated every couple of years or so if you want to maintain that particular outdoor look.)



(Before)



(Couple of days after)

“NEXT TIME . . . LETS TAKE THE TRAIN!

- Bud Hunter

As a kid growing up, our family never took train trips for family visits or vacations. Train trips that we read about in books and magazines are something that I just missed out on. If we want to experience what that was like today, we pretty much have to rely on **Amtrak**.

Now that Spring is here, many of us are thinking about a summer vacation. Why not consider taking a trip that all or part of the trip can be made by train? This page covers a few memories of last summer when my wife Nancy and I, plus my brother-in-law David and his wife Patty decided to take the train to California.

Basically, we departed Lafayette, IN. to Chicago Tuesday, July 17 (on the “*Hoosier State*”). After a short layover time at Chicago’s iconic Union Station, we departed on the “*California Zephyr*” for the 2 day/2 night train trip to San Francisco, CA. Scenery and train trip were unforgettable and, just in case you are wondering, we did arrive in San Francisco right “on time”.

We rented a car for 2 weeks of traveling California, Oregon and Nevada. We flew back home to Indianapolis with lots of wonderful, unforgettable memories - some of which are pictured on this page.



Nancy & Bud boarding train at Lafayette, IN.



“Dinner on the Diner” (somewhere in Iowa)



Looking out the rear door of our “sleeper car” while traveling thru Colorado.



Nancy snaps a picture while traveling thru Utah.

INDIANA LARGE SCALE RAILROADERS

2012 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Starting Balance 1/1/'12 \$6,746.39

Modular Group

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Income: Beginning Balance | \$1,599.29 | |
| Train Shows | <u>\$400.00</u> | |
| Total Income | \$1,999.29 | \$1,999.29 |
| Expenses: Storage Bldg. (Rent) | \$100.00 | |
| Supplies | \$3.57 | |
| Truck Expenses (gas) | <u>\$66.86</u> | |
| Total Expenses | \$170.43 | <u>\$170.43</u> |
| Year Ending Balance Modular Group | \$1,828.86 | \$1,828.86 |

Train Club

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Income: Beginning Balance | \$5,147.10 |
| Dues | \$1,260.00 |
| Shirts | \$78.50 |
| Movie | \$204.00 |
| Pizza Dinner Train | \$726.00 |
| Dinner Raffle | \$186.00 |
| 4-Club Tour Lunches | \$2,100.00 |
| Orchard in Bloom Plants | \$37.00 |
| Ckg Acct Interest | <u>\$0.66</u> |
| Total Income | \$10,659.26 |
| Expenses: Newsletter (Printing, Postage & Misc.) | \$1,154.20 |
| Shirts | \$77.04 |
| Movie | \$204.00 |
| Door Prizes | \$210.51 |
| Club Dinner | \$591.00 |
| Liability Insurance | \$100.00 |
| Locomotive Repair (Youth Grant) | \$84.00 |
| 4-Club Signs & Supplies | \$149.06 |
| 4-Club Train Ride | \$500.00 |
| Domain Reg. & Web S. | \$186.75 |
| Orchard in Bloom Plants and Supplies | \$157.92 |
| 4-Club Tour Lunches and Church Rent | \$1,620.00 |
| Overpayment for Dinner | \$40.00 |
| Overpayment for Lunches | \$75.00 |
| Pizza Train w/meals | \$712.00 |
| Bank Checks | <u>\$25.95</u> |
| Total Expenses | \$5,887.43 |

Year Ending Balance for Train Club
\$5,887.43

Year Ending Balance
(Train Club + Modular Group) \$6,600.69

Respectfully submitted by
Marion Hensley (ILSR Treasurer)

ILSR Club Officers

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2013 Club Event Calendar



- | | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| May 3 - 5 | Orchard in Bloom Garden Show & Train Display Indianapolis | Crew change on our " <i>California Zephyr</i> " at Grand Junction, Colorado 7/18/12. |
| June 5 thru 9 | 29th National Garden Railway Convention - Cincinnati, OH. | |
| June 8 | Upland Strawberry Festival - Modules | |
| July 13 | Club Road Trip to Taltree Arboretum Train Exhibit - Valparaiso, IN. | |
| August 24 | Combined Club Open Houses in Lebanon Rex Bowman and Bud Hunter hosting | |
| September | RR Layout Tours are pending with Ron Loudermilk and Dave Graff | |