



Our 2016 ILSR Train Club Banquet

How fast has this year flown by for you? Personally, I think I have accomplished a lot of good things this year and I hope you can all say the same thing. As far as our ILSR Train Club is concerned, it seems we were just getting the year rolling, and now we are looking toward the end of the season.

In any event, all of our Club Officers are looking forward to greeting and seeing everyone at our annual 2016 ILSR Train Club Banquet at the **Golden Corral** Restaurant on the east side of Indianapolis. (See flyer insert and reservation form in this Newsletter) This is a new location for us, so please take note.

We wanted to have a “Private Dinning Room”, a big variety of menu items, and we wanted to keep the cost of the meal to a reasonable amount. (*It has been at approximately \$20 for several years now*)

Please write this date, **Oct. 29,’16** on your calendars and share a couple of hours with other “Train People just like you” and plan to have a FUN time together. Remember, the “deadline” for reservations is Monday, **Oct. 24,’16**.

Also, if you have any Club suggestions, compliments or concerns, please let President James Driesbach know in advance so that we can discuss it if there is need to do so.

LARGE SCALE ONLINE NEWS ALERT!

I have just been made aware of this announcement from Crest Electronics -

*Dear Crest Electronics Customers,
(continued on page 6)*

What Does ILSR Mean To You?

- I Imaginative** - using or showing great creative power
Industrious - skillful, hard working and diligent.
- L . Large** - operating on a BIG scale as compared to others of it’s kind.
- S Social** - involving friends, companionship, like family relationships.
- R . . . Railfan** - enthusiastic about all aspects of railroading and train operations

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WHAT DO OUR ILSR CLUB MEMBERS DO WHEN WE'RE NOT RUNNING TRAINS?

Three of our Club Members are sharing three totally different stories in this Newsletter of ways they enjoy model railroading. **Rick Fair** saw a bridge he admired, so he scratch-built a model of it. **Dave and Doug Lynn** took a “father/son” trip to LaPorte, Indiana for the BTO National Convention and visited the Hartland Locomotive Works factory. Lastly, **Phil Streby** takes a ride on the front platform of the “*Hoosier State*” passenger train. As this Newsletter belongs to all of us, I always love it when Club Members send me material to share in the Newsletter. Thanks gentlemen. - Bud Hunter (*Editor*)

NATCHER BRIDGE

- *Rick Fair*

The William Natcher Bridge was completed in 2002 and spans the Ohio River on US 231 east of Owensboro, KY. I crossed this bridge several times last summer and was awed by its beauty and clean lines. So, I decided to recreate this bridge on my own garden railroad for a new interurban line I was building, rather than a highway bridge for motor vehicles.

The Natcher Bridge is 374 feet high and spans 4,500 feet across the Ohio River. My replica is 4 feet high and spans 42 feet of my back yard. (So the scale is close to 1/100.) The real bridge cost \$70 million and my bridge was much less than that. Fortunately the construction scale did not transfer to the cost.

The two towers I constructed from 1 inch cedar reinforced by ¼ inch plexiglass at most of the joints. The bridge roadbed is made of marine grade plywood and is supported about a foot above the ground by PVC pipe firmly concreted into the ground. The suspension cables are made of 16 gage steel galvanized wire secured on both ends by adjustable eye hooks.

My recently purchased Heartland Locomotive Works Interurban runs continuously back and forth via a



Rick Fair's Interurban operates regularly on his model of the William Natcher Bridge.

Pendelautomatik unit (*which in German, I'm sure, means goes back and forth*). The bridge took me two to three weeks to build once construction began.



DAY TRIP TO LA PORTE, IN.

- *Dave Lynn*

La Porte, Indiana, the home of the Hartland Locomotive Works, was the setting for the Big Train Operators 2016 Convention. Beginning Monday, June 20 through Saturday, June 25 - it was a time with trains of all sizes, both indoors and outside.

Doug and I were able to attend on Tuesday, the day devoted entirely to the HLW (Hartland Locomotive Works) and what a day it was. Beginning with a trip to the Hartland factory with tours of the entire operation from molds to final product assembly. It was interesting to see the attention to detail, the expert craftsmanship and the quality that went into each piece

- and all made in the United States of America. A sales tent of all factory products was setup outside and piled high with their train products and with very special prices. The morning was topped off with a wood-fired pizza luncheon.

The afternoon was a trip to the Hartland Paradise Railroad with 4½ miles of track, tunnels, streams, lakes, bridges - plus the world's largest 1/8 scale trestle. Several trains were running taking folks into the countryside.

The day ended with a Hartland sponsored dinner in the atrium of the Hotel. A special "History of HLW" presentation as well as a "one of a kind" raffle also took place.

The whole day was truly an outstanding presentation and an experience that will not be forgotten. Several folks still remembered our convention in Indy and commented to me. Next year's convention is June 20 - 24, 2017 in Buffalo, NY.



A familiar face on the pilot of the "*Hoosier State*" as it pulls into Dyer, IN. Yes - it is our own ILSR V.P. **Phil Streby**. What a lucky guy! *(photo credits to photographer Joshua Bauer.)*

NMRA Convention In INDY

*by David Palmeter
photos submitted by Bill Duncan*

On Friday, July 8, 2016, a neighbor (who is an “N” Scale railroader) and I attended the National Model Railroad Associations National Train Show. It was part of the week long NMRA Convention held at the Convention Center in Indianapolis. The convention included clinics, a model contest, and tours to railroads, both prototype and 32 model layouts. Our very own Jeff Carter’s and Bud Hunter’s Garden Railroads were two of those layouts toured.

At the show, our Indiana Large Scale Railroaders’ modular layout was represented and **won Second Prize** in the display competition - an amazing accomplishment considering the large number of excellent modular displays. Our layout looks better every time I see it!

G Scale Vendors I Visited -

Bachmann - They showed some new “Large Scale” Thomas the Tank Engine freight cars and Thomas locos with sound.

Kadee - They continue to expand their coupler offerings as well as adding freight car trucks. They have also added features to their remote uncoupling system.

LGB - They are promising more USA prototype trains and assured me that they are financially strong, being owned by Marklin/Simba Dickie Group.

Lionel - They have several “Ready-To-Play” sets that are “large scale”, but identified as “Not compatible with G-Gauge systems”. On a personal note, I picked up their 2016 Christmas catalog, which brought back a rush of memories from my youth.

Piko - They showed new road names for their continually expanding G Scale product line.

Overall, a great show with lots to see.



JULY 30 OPEN HOUSE AT DAVE & LUCY BECK'S - Bill Duncan

Knew I was in the right place upon seeing the “Becks Seeds” sign at the driveway entrance. Walking up the driveway to Dave’s Train Barn, I could see trains running around outside plus hear the rumble of many more trains on the inside layouts.

Outside (North) - This is an “L” shaped layout with an LGB articulated 2-6-6 steam loco with all the bells and whistles pulling a 3-car train through 2 tunnels and past multiple buildings and a train depot.

Outside (South) - This is a “figure 8” layout built around a waterfall and pond. Most interesting was the double track bridge (*built by Paul George*) crossing the pond.

Inside (South Room “G Scale”) Now this is where it got complicated trying to keep track of all the trains. There were two different trains running plus a suspended ski lift running back and forth across the skyline. Additionally there were many trains on display - diesel yard had 4 “Jeeps” painted in Indiana Railroad colors of red & white. These were originally used at the White River Gardens Christmas display for many years and were given to Dave by Tom Hoback (founder of the Indiana Railroad).

Hidden behind these in the loco shed was a Monon switcher, with two more 44-tonners located on a siding - what a sight to see. On the next table was the steam engine switchyard - from LGB there were 3 Stainz’s, an articulated 2-6-6, a Mogul, a Track Cleaner, a Shay logging train, and Dave’s infamous Purdue logo steamer. AND THEN, on the walls were shelves loaded with more locomotives and freight cars. There was also an impressive collection of railroad items and pictures on the rest of the walls.

Inside (Main Hall “O Scale”) This is where the most train sounds were coming from. It is amazing how much sound can be generated by these smaller (OK - O Scale) trains. On the outer loop was a NYC passenger train, then an



Beck’s Outdoor Train Layout



Beck’s Indoor Train Layout



Indiana Railroad freight, and on the inner dog-bone loop, Dave has a Pennsy RR freight. Want to thank Dave and Lucy for allowing us to join them for a couple of hours. It was indeed a FUN afternoon.



CANCELLED

Mother Nature managed to "have her way" with too much rain for Jeff Carter's "HOBO DINNER". Jeff even rescheduled from August 13th to the 20th, which normally would work - but not this time! Hopefully, this fun open house can be put on our 2017 Calendar of Events. - *Bud*

News Alert! (Continued from page 1)

We have made a good product, but have not developed sufficient additional items to allow us to cover our overhead. I devoted the past 2½ years to try to make this venture successful and failed.

We (all Crest Products) are closing as of 7-31-16 and I will look for a day job. In the meantime, you can mail any repairs to me at my home at **74 Williams Ave., Jersey City, NJ. 07304** and I will do the necessary repairs after my day job. However, I can't do free warranty repairs, so call me in advance for a quote and send a check with the repair plus return shipping costs. The phone number of my portable will remain the same at **(201) 565-6069**, though it will be better to reach me in the evenings.

It's been a pleasure to serve you and I look forward to a long time of keeping your (train) equipment in tiptop shape.

Yours truly,

*Navin Shievdoyal
Crest Electronics*

(Editors Note -
Unfortunately, Crest products include Crest Smoke Fluid as well.)

COOK OUT AT ZIONSVILLE TRAIN DEPOT



Rick Whit did simply a SUPER JOB hosting our Train Club for lunch at his Zionsville Train Depot. Rick handled most of the cooking, with a little out-



(continued) side help from Bill Duncan from time to time. While food preparations were taking place outdoors, Ross Buttrum was inside showing the pride of his train collection - a very colorful Aristo "Southern Pacific 5-car heavyweight" set of passenger cars pulled by an LGB Mikado steam loco with all the bells, whistles and chuffing smoke.



All tables had table cloths with a high-sided gondola car as a table center piece holding the salt and pepper shakers.



James reminded all of us about the up-coming Club Fall Banquet on Oct. 29 and getting your reservations sent in as soon as possible. (see inclosed flyer) (Members getting the "electronic News letter" can download yours from the web-site.

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Picture on previous page is a proud James Driesbach showing our Modular Division's "2nd Place Plaque" awarded at the NMRA National Convention held in July in downtown Indianapolis. Out of over 30 modular layouts of all scales exhibited, our Club's G-Scale layout received very high marks indeed. Good job everybody!

2016 Club Event Calendar

October 29 ILSR Annual Train Club Fall Banquet

November 24 Happy Thanksgiving to you and
all your families

December 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS !

Indiana Large Scale Railroaders
1214 Morningside Drive
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