

Herbert Koch – President
 Edward Carter – Vice President
 Robert Ciolino – Treasurer
 Joseph Smolinski – Secretary



Directors: Swav Kojro
 Edward Zeglicz Jeff Mills
 Bill Trzaskus Tom McGrath

LINKS OF INTEREST:

April 2025

Story for Classic Toy Trains with Roger Carp.

From Roger Carp, “I’m writing as senior editor at Classic Toy Trains magazine. As you know, CTT has for the past 20 years brought out every year an “extra” issue on a topic related to toy trains history, whether historical or oriented to operation.” “Layouts Open to the Public for Visiting.” He would like to know more about our club with pictures of the layout with members and a video of our layout. I have sent him the materials and Roger will let us know when his project is finished. Some of the items sent:



Some Club members of the story



Areal money shot of our layout



Typical picture sent to CTT

Barcelona comes to CLRC:

We had guests from Barcelona Spain, Jordi Sala Carrion and Enrique Lora Jimenez, which is the home of Antoni Gaudi, the architect of the inspirational church Sagrada Familia and the Park Guell, an area where one can relax and enjoy one another’s company. Swav and I enjoyed sharing the layout with them.



Herb and Swav with Jordi and Enrique of Barcelona



Group picture for CTT story

CLRC goes to Mr. Muffin's Train Show.

Tom McGrath organized a visit to Atlanta, IN, where the Mr. Muffin's Train Show was held. We were joined by Nick Gardner, Gerry Radon, Jack Kleffman, and Matt Polanski. We also saw Wells Lifka who was already there.



Overview of the Train Show



Mr. Muffin holding class



Tom, charter Director of CLRC



Dr. Jack Fisher weathering boxcar



Herb at Mr. Muffin's Train House



Mr. Muffin's layout

Railroading Merit Badge is Canceled this year!

For the first time in over 20 years, we did not get sufficient registrations to support this activity and are forced to cancel. We do plan to have it again next year on June 6, 2026. I look forward to seeing everyone again next year.

CLRC CELEBRATES 30 YEARS PART VII

Our 30th year celebration continues with Part VII in 2011.

Gary Statkus, an engineer by trade, spent much of his time helping us find our building. When we were looking for our train house, we always asked Gary to review our choices of building from a structural perspective. He would point out structural strengths and weaknesses. We rejected many sites in our search from Gary's analysis. He liked what he saw in our building where we now run trains. While we were building the beltline, Gary wanted to contribute a bridge on the upper dog bone leg. He did a super job in building the bridge to a standard he knew would support the largest of engines our members could run on it. Gary, much thanks.

In July of 2011, Joe Oster surprised us with a super wall hanging his wife, Nancy, made which highlights many types of trains from toy trains to heavy duty steam and diesel engines with their consists. Nancy, it looks great, thanks. For many years, Joe was our secretary. We miss Joe who passed earlier this year.

We had another fun time at the National Train Day that was held at Union Station. Our team was there to set up and man the layout and enjoy interacting with our guests.



Gary's bridge just installed



Joe and Nancy with wall hanging



CLRC at National Train Day

Not only were there exhibits in the Great Hall, but there were also many engines on display on the Union Station Tracks.



C&NW UP Legacy SD70Ace Engine



Herb at the throttle



Hiawatha parked for a good party

CLRC In-House Picnic

On September 24, 2011 we had an in-house picnic with grills cooking in our backyard. Members were enjoying the camaraderie which is present in our club.



Members grilling our feast



CLRC gathering in the clouds



George and his daughters

Railroading Merit Badge June 6, 2011



Opening ceremony



One of the many tent sessions



having a lunch break

Our business meeting April 9, 2011.



Bob and Al set up the session



Members group picture



Members hearing club's information

Building the new layout, July 30, 2011.



Bob cutting baseboard trim



Irwin formatting electronics



John wiring beltline layout



Swav crossing "T's" and dotting "I's"



Breaking down old layout



New home of our banner

LINKS OF INTEREST:

CLRC April running trains.

[April Running Trains](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y8IIDf8Q_Y)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y8IIDf8Q_Y

[Jeff Mills gives a tour of our layout and its vignettes](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FbCg8v238NU&t=507s)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FbCg8v238NU&t=507s>

[Touring Vietnam I - Hanoi](https://studio.youtube.com/video/e17qfklNa1Q/edit)

<https://studio.youtube.com/video/e17qfklNa1Q/edit>

[Touring Vietnam II – Ha Long Bay Cruise](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEtBCiWH7Qw&t=37s)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEtBCiWH7Qw&t=37s>

Club Phone Line 815-485-2588 • Visit us on the Internet: www.clrcrtrains.com

Notes from Tom McGrath

Whole Layout Run Mondays: May 19

On May 19 - the clubhouse will be open for whole layout running from 8:30 am until 2:30 pm. Up to 8 trains will follow the same route across the entire layout including the bridge. Trains will be limited to 12 cars and locomotives must be command-controlled (TMCC, Legacy or Lion Chief). Engineers must stay with their trains at all times and will be required to operate some switches to follow the route. No advance sign-up is necessary. Engineers will have two-hour blocks if there are waiting engineers. Questions: Tom McGrath 630-272-7976; twmcg904@comcast.net

Pictures for CLRC 2026 Calendar

We are looking for members to submit a picture of our trains and layout in a “landscape” format for the rest of this year. The best ones will go into our 2026 calendar. Submit the picture to Herb Koch – herbwkoch@gmail.com or Joe Smolinski – josephsmolinski1@comcast.net

In the future I will continue our CLRC story by showing the modifications to our building and much more.

Stories by Herbert W. Koch

Pictures by Herbert W. Koch

Please let me know if you want any of the pictures in full file size.

Phone: 708-577-3156 or email me at herbwkoch@gmail.com