

IFRR SMOKESTACK - AUGUST 2013 EDITION

Hi,

This edition focuses on the IFRR's participation at the RI Convention in Lisbon.

Thanks to Bill & Curtis Reinhardt for all their hard work to make this event a great success. Also thanks to all the members who participated and had a super time.

Best regards in Rotary,

Don

President IFRR

International Fellowship of Railroad Rotarians - Annual General Meeting Minutes June 25th, 2013 at the House of Friendship Rotary International Convention, Lisbon

by Bill Reinhardt

In Attendance : Bill Reinhardt, Curtis Reinhardt, Robert Bracegirdle, Basil Lewis, John Evans, Larry Jackson, Don Bell

Those attending the meeting met at the general fellowship booth and then moved to the eating area of the House of Friendship to conduct the meeting over lunch. The meeting was chaired by Bill Reinhardt.

Minutes of last year,s annual meeting were unanimously approved.

The following members were proposed and unanimously approved for club officers:

Don Schiller President

Bill Reinhardt Vice President

George Rigney Treasurer

Don Bell Secretary

Curtis Reinhardt offered to manage the club website

The meeting attendees discussed their various interests in railroading. Curtis Reinhardt talked about his Wine Rail Excursions in California.

Following lunch the meeting was adjourned and members set off to tour the Lisbon Street Rail museum.

IFRR VISITS CARRIS MUSEUM

by Bill Reinhardt

After the annual meeting of the general IFRR membership, part of the group hopped in the Metro (subway or underground) and local tram to visit the Carris Museum. The museum displays the history of public transportation in Lisbon through documents, every day objects, horse drawn and electric trams (over a dozen) and single and double-deck buses.(about six) The exhibits are in three buildings. Visitors are transported between the buildings in an early nineteenth century electric tram. In 1873 the horse drawn trams began service and in 1901 the electric ones followed. 1944 saw the arrival of the first busses. Trams and busses are in operation throughout the city.

IFRR MODEL RR TOUR OF GERMANY

June 28-July 6, 2013

by Bill Reinhardt

The International Fellowship of Railroad Rotarians arranged with the „Conductor,% Anton Seckler, this special tour after the Rotary International Convention, Lisbon, Portugal. Activities included five rides on prototype IC and ICE trains, visiting Hamburg, Berlin, Dresden, Stuttgart, the Black Forest, Freiburg and Frankfort, viewing ten model railroads of various gauges, visiting a dozen museums, castles, plants and churches, and eating and staying in delightful and quaint restaurants and hotels.

Each stop deserves its own description but time or space will not allow. The famous Miniatur Wunderland in Hamburg is the largest of its kind. It contains 36,000 lineal feet of track in HO scale. The five existing sections are: Southern Germany, Hamburg, America, Scandinavia and Switzerland with Italy under construction and France, Great Britain and Africa being planned. Some amazing statistics: 930 locomotives, 14,450 train cars, 46 computers, and 215,000 figurines.

The Eisenbahnwelten in Kurort Rathen is Europe,s largest garden railroad covering almost two acres. It models twenty different geographical areas of Germany serviced by 90 LGB locomotives and 250 rail cars and landscaped beautifully with buildings, figurines, autos, trees, etc. It is most impressive in that is so realistic that when over viewing the layout one cannot distinguish where the model ends and the real landscape begins.

Both the German and French National Railway Museums display historic locomotives and rolling stock from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries as well as credible model layouts. The Mercedes Museum in Stuttgart takes many rooms and ten floors to relate the history of Mercedes-Benz in both automobiles and commercial vehicles. The building itself is as artistic as the gorgeous displays of the vehicles.

Dinner at the Pulver Turm Restaurant in Dresden, which was constructed in 1565 as a gunpowder tower, was delicious German food in this unusual atmosphere. The French Automobile Museum displayed more Bugatti models than can be imagined and small number from other manufacturers.

Sightseeing was rounded out with cold war sights in Berlin, two castles, one fortress, a river cruise, two beautiful gothic churches, the world,s largest cookoo clock, much beautiful rural and urban landscape and even some available time for shopping.

This certainly was a great example of Rotary Fellowship at its best with compatible associates and a caring and knowledgeable guide.

ATTACHED PHOTOS INFORMATION

1. Annual general meeting of IFRR - PHOTO # 102



2. The group that toured the Carris Transport Museum in Lisbon.- PHOTO # 1061



3. The group that were on the Model Train Travel trip in Germany in front of the National Train Museum of France. (In France one day only) PHOTO # 336

