

May 2021

www.nmra-scwd.org

Volume 52 No. 9

Super's Report

Phil Hottmann Division Superintendent

It's looking quite good for us to meet in-person for the start of next season.

Our hope to return to the Zor does not appear to be an option any longer. We'll be confirming our reservation Verona Senior Center.

With most of us vaccinated I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the Summer Picnic. Don't forget to send in your form to John.

It will be great to finally get out of the basement for a while. As much as I enjoy working on my railroad, it would be nice to get out and do a few other things. Even though I was able to work on the railroad for the past year, I'm not in jeopardy of ruining my retirement plan. Plenty of work left.

We're starting to make plans for next season. We are preparing to host the Rail School and Rail Show.

We are also planning another Happy Hour on April 23rd. I hope to see you there.

Phil

Next SCWD Meet

May 2, 2021 at 1:00 pm ZOOM Meeting

Contest: Page 2

Next BOD Meeting:

May 10, 2021 at 7:00 pm ZOOM Meeting



Clinic Corner

Mike Vivion, Clinic Chair

For our final Zoom meeting before the Summer break, I am pleased to inform you that Steve Miazga of the WISE Division, who presented our clinic in November, will be back to present another clinic at our Zoom meeting on May 2nd. Per Steve, his clinic is titled, "Junction to Crossing".

He summarizes the clinics as follows: "The Duplainville, Wisconsin crossing of the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian National is one of the busiest action spots in Wisconsin for rail fans with 50 or more trains per day. In the summer and fall of 2020 the railroads did a complete replacement of the existing diamond and removed the interchange track. This presentation will show the sequence of construction from August until November and will provide modelers many ideas for adding details to their layouts."

I have previewed parts of the clinic and I hope you will join us for this presentation. See you on May 2nd.

Mike

Contest Column

Dave Down and Dave Lendved Contest Co-Chairs

May Photo Contest

As with most new things we had to learn how to navigate a different approach to our photo contest last month. Thanks to all of you who stuck with it as best you could. Our next photo contest will start April 8^{th} and go to the 28^{th} . Please send your entries to me at $\underline{dfdown2000@yahoo.com}$. It would be best to get your photos to me no later than April 7^{th} since voting will open on the 8^{th} .

The May theme is **Trackside Industry** in four categories for models and 4 categories for prototype. Category A is Manufacturing/Warehousing; B is Chemicals/Fuels; C is Agriculture/Forestry; and D is Mining.

Instructions for voting:

The contest access is: https://pollunit.com/polls/tistj0mh6fglaxioxbuusg

(if this doesn't take you to the contest, copy and paste into your browser)

You can look at the contest photos as soon as they are loaded, but voting will not start until April 8. Voting will end on April 28.

When you enter the site the following steps should be followed:

1. Just above the pictures on the right hand side is a sort option. Select sort by Title. This groups the pictures in each category near each other. (They will not be grouped in numerical order, but I don't control that.





- 2. After you sort the photos by title, then, if the photos are not labeled with the category and number click on the "information dot" on any one of the photos and all the labels will show up.
- 3. Below each picture there are two boxes. The box on the left has a black dot, the box on the right is blank and shows a check mark if you pass the cursor over it. When you select a picture as your choice for the category, click on the box with the check mark. If you change

your mind you can click on the box with the dot in it to remove the checked box. Select only one photo in each category.

4. When you are finished, close the site.

If you go back to the site your votes will be visible, but not any others.

If you have problems with voting or using the site, please let me know. Because our instructions were not complete, some of you did not vote in the last contest. We do not want to leave anyone out.

Winners will be acknowledged at the May meeting.

Dave

Layout Tours

Phil Hottmann

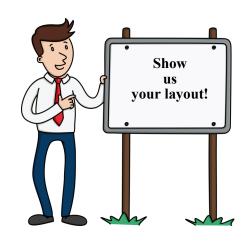
Our layout tour did not work out for April's meeting. Unfortunately, something came up and our presenter was not able to do it due to unforeseen circumstances. Hopefully we'll have another opportunity to see this layout.

For May's meeting John Schaffer will be presenting his layout. We have seen some preview photos from the layout and it look like John does some really nice work.

We are anticipating visiting layouts in-person next season. I would like to get the calendar filled out. I think we will have a number of layouts with new things to see due to COVID 19 (model railroader's best friend) in my case anyway.

I will be sending out emails to a number of you who I think would make for a great tour season. We should be able to schedule two for each meeting. I would encourage you to contact me if you want to get on the tour.

Phil



AP Corner Ken Hojnacki

Almost two years ago, we celebrated the 150th anniversary of the driving of the Gold Spike at Promontory Summit, Utah in 1869. Driving gold and silver spikes has long been a ritual signifying the completion of railroads, including models. I have done this myself many years ago and a friend even had a scale spike gold plated for his completion ceremony. And like the Union Pacific and Central Pacific, driving a golden spike doesn't mean all tracks and structures and equipment are completed. It simply means the mainline is completed from Point A to Point Z so trains can begin to run and generate revenue for the company. This should be the same for our own railroad empires. As we know, model railroads are seldom "finished," so we can follow the same procedure as the prototype.

That's where the Golden Spike Award comes in. It is the jumping off point for working toward the Master Model Railroader designation. Steve Lanphear has shared updates from a number of our friends who are working hard during this pandemic to put some meat on their railroads' bones. And some fine work it is indeed. So why not look over your railroad and see if all that hard work you have done hasn't qualified you for a Golden Spike Award?

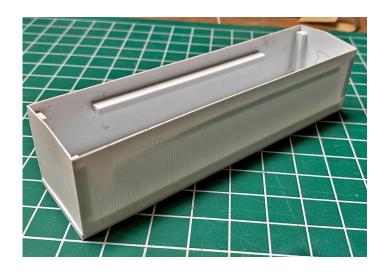
Here are the criteria:

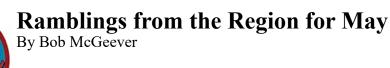
- 1. Display 6 pieces of rolling stock that are scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or superdetailed commercial kits. You can take a Bowser or Accurail or some such kit, add wire grabs, stirrups, ladders, customer paint and lettering, etc. No judging like a contest; just showing what you did.
- 2. Construct 8 square feet of railroad with scenery. Track must be laid and ballasted, with some scenery in place to cover the plywood substrata of your benchwork. This doesn't have to be the whole railroad and can be a module or modules that meet the size requirement.
- 3. Construct 5 structures that are scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or superdetailed commercial kits. That would include kitbashing. Details like interiors, special paint and lettering, roof details, etc. qualify.
- 4. Display three types of track, such as a turnout, crossing, crossover, turntable, etc. Each must function and be fully ballasted. Commercial track is acceptable.
- 5. Must be able to operate two trains simultaneously. This includes single track with sidings, power blocks or command control.
- 6. Provide any one additional electrical feature such as power operated turnouts, working signals, building illumination, etc. Even a lighted track panel qualifies.

Remember, you do have to build or create each of the items yourself. The verification is simple: contact me thru the online Redbook and when it is safe to do so, I will come visit and check off each requirement. In addition to the pride of displaying your Golden Spike certificate, you get a nifty golden spike pin for your hat or vest and the satisfaction and recognition of a job well done—and a start on bigger things to come.

Oh, yes, as I vowed last month, I did start on my car.

Ken





The editor of this newsletter has been dropping real strong hints that since I am almost the Midwest Region Prez I should start doing a monthly column for the Bad Order.

And the editor of the MWR newsletter is expecting a quarterly column from me for the Waybill.

Looks like it is time for me to get back in the practice of kicking out some monthly reports. So here goes.

A small confession. One of the reasons I got back into model railroading 20 years ago was that I was looking for a hobby that did not involve personal computers but did involve getting my hands dirty. I kind of misjudged that one. It turns out a PC is a real good addition to my modeling railroading toolbox. And I can still get my hands dirty when I want to.

There is no formal job orientation for new region presidents. The closest thing is the meeting of the Regional Advisory Council of the NMRA. This year the meeting is a series of four Saturday afternoon Zoom sessions about three hours each. Three down, one to go as I type this.

Some of the first things I learned in these sessions are:

- We are not alone. No matter what issues we think the SCWD is facing, most of the other divisions and regions are dealing with the same issues.
- The PC, the internet and Zoom have opened up some huge opportunities for inter-division, inter-regional and inter-continental communications. For example, the new President of the NMRA is Gordy Robinson. You may have seen him as the host of NMRAx. He lives in the Orkneys. That is about as far North as you can get in Scotland. But he has a good internet connection.
- The average age of an NMRA member is a shade past 68.
- Of the 15,000 or so members of the NMRA, only about 1000 of them are registered and actually use the NMRA members section of the website on an annual basis.

That last one surprised me. As a division, we are not taking advantage of some of the benefits included in our membership.

For example, you really should check out the NMRA Partnership Program:

"The NMRA Partnership Program is a member benefit that truly has a tangible payback. We've partnered with model railroad manufacturers of all sizes, giving them exposure on our website in return for receiving generous discounts for NMRA members all year long. Some provide members with special codes, others prefer a phone or email order, but all appreciate the additional business from our members. And of course, our members appreciate the extra savings...savings that can actually pay the cost of NMRA membership!"

As fortunate as we are to have a local hobby shop that gives us an NMRA discount on purchases, it is not practical for him to stock or order every item in the hobby. There are a lot of interesting vendors in this program. We can support our local hobby shop and use this program.

To access the membership benefits you have to be a registered member on the NMRA web site. You can do that at the following link:

https://www.nmra.org/members

Register with the site and check out the rest of the members only content when you get a chance.

Bob



Congratulations to the newly elected SCWD Board of Directors

Phil Hottmann, Superintendent

Dr. Bill Clancy, Assistant Superintendent

Bob McGeever, Paymaster and Past Superintendent

Bill Mitchell, Clerk

Dave Dingman, Director

Dave Down, Director

John Kosobucki, Director

Steve Preston, Director

Many thanks to Jim Feldman for his service on the Board of Directors



NMRA 2021 Election Results

President Gordy Robinson

Vice President Rick Coble

At-Large North American Director Chris Palermo

Eastern District Director John Doehring

Pacific District Director Rob Peterson

By-Laws Amendment Passed

SCWD listsery starts a new idea for "stuck at home" model railroaders

"I know that these are difficult times for all of us, but if we could pull together as model railroaders and share what we have been working on in our basement train rooms now that we have more time, perhaps we can all get some inspiration from our fellow SCWD members" said Steve Lanphear who manages the SCWD listserv.

We started a **Modelers Comer**, where we post photos of work in progress or work completed on your layouts. We figured that since we aren't having photo and modeling contests, clinics or layout visits, maybe we could share progress or ideas that we are working on.

Here's how it works: you send me a photo or photos, along with a brief description and I post it on the listserv for all to see. If you would like feedback from the group, let me know and I will include your email in the post, but that is **optional**. That way if one of you has a question they can contact you directly.

And from that day on March 29, 2020 to the present, we have had upwards of 150 posts from our modelers. We hope to continue this for as long as it is of interest to our members. If you are not on the listserv, just send an email to the address below requesting to be added to the list!

Steve Lanphear SCWD listserv Coordinator scwdmemberlist@frontier.com

A Puzzle for You

You like trains, or train watching, but have you ever wanted to go to an OPS (Operating Session) and run trains on someone else's



layout, but were afraid you wouldn't know what to do?

Model Railroad Operation is a fun and interesting role-playing game where the players (operators) use model trains to simulate the movements of the prototype railroad. Operators fill the roles of railroad employees like engineers, conductors, yardmasters, dispatchers, and more. Many of our SCWD members participate each month at multiple layouts to enjoy this fun and stimulating practice of critical thinking and problem solving in the context of railroad operations.

Now, there is a way for you to get your feet wet in this critical thinking and problem-solving railroad environment in the privacy of your own home through the use of railroad switching puzzles.

In July, a group of SCWD members started a project to introduce more of our members to the enjoyment of railroad operations, or as our wives call it, playing trains. Some of us have been engaged in operating sessions for 20 years or more, and would like to get more of you involved.

The project involves getting one to solve a series of train switching puzzles (on paper, or your computer) in the least number of moves possible. You can then submit your solution to see if yours was done in the least number of moves.

Beginners can start with 3 introductory puzzles to show the kinds of skills used in railroad switching operations. Then, you can advance to a series of more advanced puzzles written and based on actual SCWD member area layouts. Or, if you have already been to an OPS session, you could do an introductory puzzle, and jump right into the more challenging ones.

Join the SCWD listserv now and begin learning what this is all about!

Email Steve Lanphear at scwdmemberlist@frontier.com to be added to the list and start receiving your puzzles now!

Happy Railroading! Steve



Enjoy receiving interesting rail photos, model railroad tips, Operating puzzles, and challenging Mystery Photos??

Join The 120+ SCWD members and members from other Midwest Regional Divisions who are participating in the SCWD listserv. You can expect 5 - 10 photos of railfan photos or model railroad photos or other items per week on average, as well as SCWD announcements, monthly Mystery Photo contests, Modelers Corner, and OPS Corner Puzzles. The listserv has been running this since April 2012, and it has been quite popular.

The listserv is a one-way email broadcast to you, not a social media type service. The emails are sent in bulk, but as a BCC: type email.

Please save this email so you know how to get a hold of me. So, if you would like to try out this FREE member service, just send me your **Name** and **email_address_** and **City/State** to the address below. You may drop out at any time by sending an email stating such to the same address below.

Steve Lanphear SCWD listserv Coordinator scwdmemberlist@frontier.com



If you wanted to start with the OPS Puzzles, but didn't have time, soon we will have a section on the SCWD Website that will have all of the 7 puzzles that we have published on the listsery, including the handouts, diagrams, and solutions so you can start from the beginning, or pick and choose which puzzles you would like to try. This will be available to all who visit our website!

Stay tuned for more info on when it will be ready...

Steve Lanphear and the Puzzle Development Team.



SCWD 2021 Annual Summer Picnic



As most of you know, the 2020 SCWD Summer Picnic was canceled due to the covid-19 pandemic. With encouraging words on the status of vaccine inoculations, the SCWD Board has approved proceeding with planning for 2021. For the past several years, we have held the catered picnic at Little Amerricka Park in Marshall on their "Whiskey River Railway Day". We will do so again this summer on July 17th with the caveat that Federal, State and local health directives allow us to do so. Masks except when eating may be required.

Reservations have been made with the amusement park for use of their Blue Rose Pavilion and with HyVee for catering the event. The park opens at noon and closes at 6 pm. Lunch will be served starting at 12.30 pm. Entrance to the Park, parking and use of the pavilion are free. Also, the Board has decided to cover all the cost of the lunch this year. Railway equipment can be viewed for free, but train and other rides require purchased tickets from the Park. SCWD members, their direct families and other Division invited guests can attend the picnic. To determine the food quantities for the caterer, you will have to sign up by Saturday, June 19th.

Little Amerricka is located on STH 19 on the east edge of Marshall. Parking directly at the Blue Rose Pavilion can be reached off Box Elder Rd. intersecting USH 19 east of the Park regular entrance.

SCWD 2021 Annual Picnic Sign-up Sheet



SCWD Member and family attendee(s) names:	

Please print and fill out the form above and <u>return by June 19th</u> to: John Haverberg, 4797 Delmara Rd, Middleton, WI 53562



Minutes SCWD Board Meeting 7:00 pm, March 8, 2021 via Zoom meeting



The meeting of the South Central Wisconsin Division Board of Directors was called to order at 7:03 pm by Superintendent Phil Hottmann. Phil Hottmann, Bob McGeever, Dr. Bill Clancy, Jim Feldman, David Down, Dave Dingman, Steve Preston, and Bill Mitchell were present. Kathy Clancy, "Bad Order" newsletter editor, Paul Mangan, John Haverberg, and John Kosobucki were also in attendance. The published agenda was modified to allow topics of concern to be addressed earlier in the meeting to accommodate our guest presentations.

Minutes

Motion by Dr. Clancy, second by Dingman, to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

Paymaster Report

Motion by Mitchell, second by Dingman, to approve the Paymaster Reports as written. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Bad Order - Kathy Clancy reported that after several months of electronic distribution of the Bad Order to the membership via email attachment without any problems, she experienced significant returned emails with the distribution of the March Bad Order. Two servers in particular, tds.net and chorus.net, rejected her email with the attachment of the Bad Order as SPAM content.

To remedy the problem, she resent an email to all members alerting them of the problem and advised the members that did not receive her previous email to go to the SCWD website to retrieve it. She provided a link to the website. None of these emails were returned.

Kathy Clancy proposed to the BOD that this be a permanent change going forward, and the BOD approved unanimously.

Therefore, starting with the April Bad Order the membership will be notified via email when the Bad Order is posted on the SCWD website and a link will be provided to the website. Email attachments of the Bad Order will be discontinued with the monthly email from her. This hopefully should take care of all issues in distribution of the monthly Bad Order.

Bob McGeever is investigating possible other solutions.

Special Note: Kathy, our newsletter editor, is always in need of articles. Please submit articles by the 14th of the month to SCWDKATHY@AOL.com via email with attachments in a WORD formatted document.

Madison Children's Museum - Model Railroad Exhibit - Paul Mangan was contacted by someone from the Madison Children's Museum about problems that have occurred with the model railroad exhibit. This exhibit was installed at the museum in 2010. The maintenance person who handled the routine preventive maintenance on the railroad exhibit is no longer employed by the museum due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Paul Mangan and John Haverberg will be scheduling an appointment with the museum people to investigate the problems with the exhibit. Paul and John will determine what is needed and coordinate the necessary repairs. Other members of the SCWD have already volunteered to help with the repairs.

Picnic - John Haverberg - The SCWD July Summer Family Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, July 17th. John will need to know by the middle of June the status of the COVID-19 situation in Dane County. John will need to inform the Fitchburg **HY-VEE** catering service the count of people attending by the middle of June. Reservations are due back to John by June 19th. An announcement and reservation form to attend the July 17th picnic is on a separate page in the **'Bad Order'**.

Achievement Program - The achievement program has been temporarily suspended.

Advertising - No updates at this time.

Clinics - David Popp from Kalmbach Publishing presented "Canadian Canyons" at the March 7th SCWD Membership Meeting. Mike Vivion is lining up clinics for April and May. Bob McGeever is investigating the possibility of sharing clinics with other NMRA Divisions using ZOOM meetings.

Contests - Model - The model will re-start when face to face meetings are held.

Contests - Photography - David Down has been working out the technical difficulties and other problems with the *PHOTOGRAPHY* contest. The current contest has been completed. Winners were announced at the March 7th SCWD Membership Meeting. Congratulations to all the winners. Thanks go to the people who submitted pictures. The next photography contest will include more detailed instructions for submitting images and voting procedures. Please check out the "Bad Order" for information on the submission process. *REMINDER: Images that are sent to Dave need to contain the image in a JPEG image file format accompanied by comments that may contain location, date, and person submitting the images.*

Modeling Project - A Model Project Coordinator is needed. New ideas for the next model contest are needed.

Door Prizes at the Monthly Meeting - The Hobby Stop is given the names of the winners of the monthly door prizes.

Layout Tours - (REMINDER - A NEW CHAIRMAN IS NEEDED) - Phil Hottmann is in the process of lining up layout tours for the rest of this Spring and the startup in the Fall. Thanks go to the people providing tours of their layouts. We are always interested in what our members are doing on their layouts. The SCWD is always looking for more people to host virtual layout tours.

Membership - Steve Preston is keeping the membership roster current. We are encouraging all our members to keep their membership current. *Please renew your membership as soon as possible to keep your continuous membership in good standing.*

Rail School - Planning for the January 2022 Rail School will begin later this year. Steve Lanphear has a new switching layout available for use. The SCWD also has a switching layout in storage.

Rail Show - Bob McGeever is continuing his planning for the February 19th and 20th, 2022 Rail Show. The SCWD website viewers are being invited to attend our rail show on February 19th and 20th, 2022.

Website - The *www.nmra-scwd.org* website is looking good! There is a LINK to vote for the SCWD Board of Directors.

Old Business:

Commission Sales - Consignment sale income from Company Store items at the Hobby Stop is dribbling in.

Happy Hour - The last Happy Hour event had quite a few members attending. The attendees enjoy the discussions. The next SCWD "ZOOM" Happy Hour event will be March 26th 5:00 pm. An email announcement will be sent out.

Social Media - REMINDER - There is Still Need a Chairman / Co- Chairmen - Without our physical presence in the Model Railroading hobby, a need exists to put information about the hobby and our Division out on the internet. "Facebook" could become a very good platform to get information out to the world. *Question to the membership: "Are you familiar with FACEBOOK?"* The Board of Directors are looking for some members who have a good understanding of "social media" including Facebook to become the SCWD Social Media Chairman. Anyone interested should contact Superintendent Phil Hottmann or another member of the Board of Directors.

Elections - Dr. Bill Clancy, David Dingman, David Down, Phil Hottmann, John Kosobucki, Bill Mitchell, Steve Preston are on the ballot. The SCWD website has a link to the ballot. The deadline for voting is April 8, 2021. Election results will be announced April 11, 2021, at the April SCWD Membership Meeting.

New Business:

Face to Face Meeting Location - At this time, our SCWD Monthly Membership face to face meetings are planned to be held at the new facility in Verona.

Jim Feldman - Jim will be retiring from his membership on the SCWD Board of Directors on April 11, 2021. We wish to thank you, Jim, for your work on the board.

John Kosobucki - We wish to thank you for joining us as a guest at this Board of Directors meeting, and also thank you, John, for willing to run for a position on the board.

Support of Small Businesses:

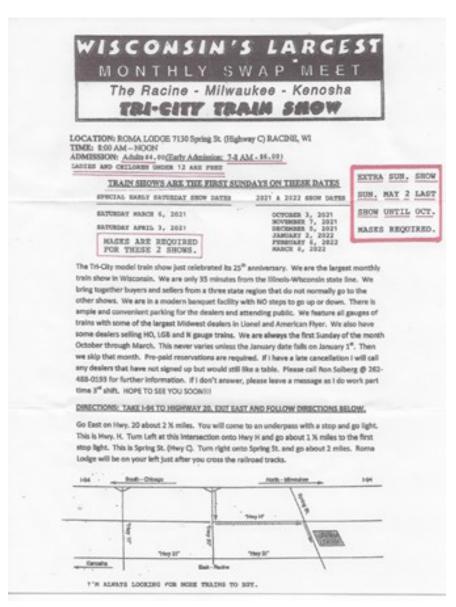
Our local hobby shops are continuing to be affected by the State of Wisconsin and local COVID-19 rules. Most hobby shops are now open. These hobby shops offer gift certificates or gift cards for later purchases. Call ahead for store hours and guidelines for each hobby shop.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by McGeever, second by Dr. Clancy, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Bill Mitchell - Clerk







MADISON HOBBY STOP

6622 Mineral Point Road, Madison, WI 53705 Ph: 608-829-3820 • Fax: 608-829-3852 • www.madisonhobbystop.com

Hours: Monday – Friday (10 am – 8 pm) and Saturday (10 am – 5 pm) Model Railroading • Plastic Model Kits • Rockets & Accessories • Pine Car • Paints • Tools & more!

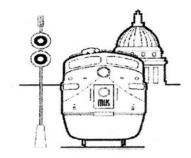
HAPPY SPRING!

For all your Model Railroading supplies,
we have most of them in stock always
or can get in a few days.
New/Old stock continues to come in.
Anything from Loco's, cars,
buildings, vehicles and scenery all at great prices.

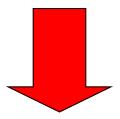


Preorders are 25% off regular price except
Walthers Proto which is 20% off
New/old consignment coming in weekly, stop in for best selection
Remember, most model railroad items are 20% off
with a valid NMRA or other club id card

Excludes discounted or sale items, magazines, and consignments
Gift Certificates Available



Madison Hobby Stop Chris Roosli, Proprietor



If you change your email address

don't forget to notify the NMRA and Kathy Clancy Bad Order Editor

Thank you!





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Photos in the Bad Order, unless otherwise noted, are by Kathy Clancy

Deadline for submissions: 14th of the month prior to publication. Email Bad Order Editor at SCWDKATHY@AOL.com

Place your ad here!!!

Contact

Kathy Clancy

Bad Order Editor

SCWDKathy@aol.com

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR AREA HOBBY STORES

The Hobby Depot – 835 17th Street – Monroe WI Madison Hobby Stop – 6622 Mineral Point Rd (inside Clock Tower) – Madison WI *

SCWD 2020-2021 Meeting Schedule

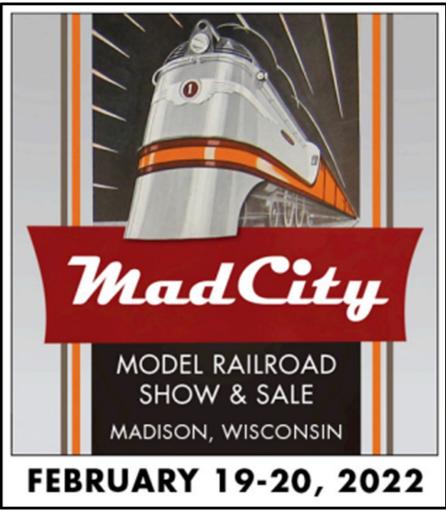
Regular Meeting BOD PICNIC (TENTATIVE)

May 2, 2021 May 10, 2021

June 14, 2021

July 17, 2021





^{* =} Train Show Ticket advance sales