

December 2017

www.nmra-scwd.org

Volume 49 No. 4



Super's Report

Bob McGeever
Division Superintendent

I do not normally jump into the debate over why we need the NMRA. Charlie Getz usually handles that just fine in his editorials in the NMRA magazine. But just this once I will. A long time ago when personal computers were new, there was a huge issue with interoperability between brands. A monitor used by one brand might not work with a different brand. Files saved on one brand could not be read by another brand. And on and on. One day in the midst of some mess with multiple brands of PC I remember saying something like why can't the computer industry be more like the model railroad industry. Why can't the PC industry develop its version of the NMRA standards? Then I had to explain to my coworkers what the NMRA was. Many people were willing to struggle through the early days of the PC because they were such great tools. How many parents would have been willing to give their children a train set if they had to struggle with it like it was an early PC? Not many. The NMRA standards have been vital to the success of the hobby.

The fall meeting of the Midwest Region BOD was held at Trainfest. The regional newsletter will cover it in detail but there a few highlights I want to mention.

First, I told the BOD about the video contest we just started. Folks were impressed. A lot of the folks present had questions about how we were going to do it. I gave them a brief overview and sent them to our web site for details. We may be creating a process that the whole division will use.

Next SCWD Meet:

December 3rd 2017 1:00 pm
Zor Shrine Temple

Clinics: Page 3

Model & Photo Contests: Page 2

Next BOD Meeting:

December 11th 2017 7:00 pm
Zor Shrine Temple

Next Youth Group Meeting:

December 17th 2017 1:00 pm
Olbrich Gardens

Second, the Thousand Lakes Region has run a joint Regional Convention with another division. I think it was the Mid-Continent Region. It was a very successful convention with attendance around 300. They have proposed that the Midwest Region run a joint convention with them in May 2019. It would be based in La Crosse. Since none of our regions have submitted a bid for the 2019 convention, the BOD will be looking into the proposal.

Hope to see you at the December meeting,

Bob



Contest Column

Dave Lendved and Steve Lanphear
Contest Co-Chairs

The December photo and model contest theme is
“Interior Details: The Inside Story”.

The details on a model train layout are often the most memorable and interesting features. The interiors of structures and rolling stock present many opportunities to present details that “tell a story” or provide context of place or time for a model. Interiors can be viewed through windows or open doors. Often, the roof of a structure is removed and set aside to reveal a modeled interior. Lighting a structure or passenger car can highlight interior detailing.

Photos of the inside of stations, train cars and cabooses can often evoke nostalgia for these once ubiquitous scenes. Interior views often show people and activities that illuminate railroad life and add another dimension to our models.

December 3rd Photo and Model Contest Theme:

Interior Details: The Inside Story

- Cat. A Revenue Equipment
- Cat. B Non-Revenue Equipment
- Cat. C R.R. Structure
- Cat. D Non-R.R. Structure

November Contest Results: Trackside Industries

Model Contest

Cat. A Chemical, Oil, Gas

1st Dave Casey: Texaco Sand & Fuel Station



Cat. B Manufacturing

1st Bill Clancy: Swakhammer Welding Co. (re-built Fine Scale Miniatures) Popular Vote Winner



Cat. C Agriculture, Forestry, Mining

1st Dave Casey: Olsen Feed Shed



Cat. D Freight Transfer, Storage, Other

1st Don Swinton: Warehouse Storage on Donald, Barbstown & Southern

2nd Dave Donkle: Warehouse-Transit

3rd Dave Casey: Kowalke Ice House



Photo Contest

Prototype Photo

Cat. PB Manufacturing

1st Jason Martin: Marx Toy Factory

Cat. PC Agriculture, Forestry, Mining

1st Charles Karpelenia: Grain Loading at Cottage Grove

2nd Charles Karpelenia: Cottage Grove

Cat. PD Freight Transfer, Storage, Other

1st Charles Karpelenia: Storage Warehouse and Milwaukee Cold Storage

SCWD Video Contest Starts Now!!!

The SCWD video contest was announced at the November Meeting and is currently open for submitting entries.



Here are the things you need to know:

- There are two categories: **Prototype** and **Model**.
- The contest is open to who attend the SCWD meetings.
- The person submitting an entry must be the one who took the video, however you may have help from others in editing your entry.
- The video can be from any time period (it doesn't have to be taken just to enter this contest).
- It has to be a **maximum** of 5 minutes in length and the file has to be less than 2GB in size.
- All videos must be on a railroad theme.
- The video can have title screen but not necessary, however there should be no names or identifiers on it (it is a “blind” contest).
- For the **Model Category**, the video can be of anyone's layout, not just your own.
- First, second and third place will be given for each category(no points given toward annual Photographer contest).
- Deadline for Entries – **Feb 1** (you will upload all entries to the website listed on the SCWD website, Video Contest webpage).
- You may enter more than once (max. of 5 entries per person).
- Voting starts Feb 15 on the SCWD Video Contest webpage voting will be closed on end of day April 1.
- Winners will be announced at the April Meeting.

Dave and Steve



The Clinic Corner

Bob Wundrock
Clinics Chair

For our December clinics we will have two SCWD members doing presentations.

Bob Boelter will be first up talking about how he moved his layout.

His clinic is a two-part discussion. The first part covers the process of donating, valuing, and moving a 1,200 square foot layout to a historical society and developing a plan to have it rebuilt. There were, and are, a number of surprises along the way

The second part is how a vision of new layout was an inspiration that helped relieve the disappointment of having to take down what was a lifetime model railroad. That layout, a G gauge indoor switching type based on the Milwaukee Road "Beer Line", is up and running and Bob will give a preview.

Donn Tolley will then present "Using batteries for powering your trains."

He'll show how to use DCC with batteries for most gauges using items you can buy. He'll also discuss how to find room for batteries.

Thanks again Chris Heili of the Winnebagoland division for enlightening us about Arduino controllers at the November meet.

Bob



Modeling Project

Phil Hottmann
Modeling Project Chair

The kits are now complete and most of the HO kits were picked up at the November meeting. The N-scale kits will be available at the December meeting.

So far, I don't think anyone has started their kit yet. When you do get started, if you have any questions you can give me a call. I could also give a small clinic at one of the meetings if you think that would be helpful.

Phil

Layout Tours

Phil Hottmann
Layout Tour Chair

Hats off to Ron Halvorson for opening his Union Pacific - Pocatello Division for our November meet. His layout is nearly 100% complete and now almost ready to run operation sessions. I think everyone enjoyed seeing Ron's well designed layout. It looks like it would be a lot of fun to do an ops session.



For our December meeting it looks like we will do some virtual tours using YouTube. So if you have some favorite videos you think we should view, just let me know.

Also, I do have openings for the rest of the year, so please let me know if you're interested in opening your layout.

Phil



NMRA MIDWEST REGION CONVENTION MADISON, WISCONSIN • APRIL 13-15, 2018

A big part of any convention is the layout tours. We all like to see what other modelers are doing, both to view different approaches to the hobby and to get ideas for our own layouts. And we like showing others what we are most proud of. SCWD conventions have always had a large number of layouts and we are hoping the Capitol 400 will be no exception.

Many of you have already responded to Phil Hottmann's email seeking your help by opening your layout and we thank you for your responses. If you haven't responded to Phil, please do. We have heard some comments that folks "aren't ready" to be open. While there are many reasons why someone can't be open, please don't let the thought that "no one wants to see my Plywood Pacific" be the reason. Nothing could be further from the truth. Many layouts with little or no scenery or operating track have still provided ideas and inspiration for many model railroaders. Maybe your layout could be one of them. You don't need to run 50 trains, have working signals or mountain scenery to open your layout. You do need to provide access to your layout room and be ready to answer questions and take compliments. So please think about it—you can accomplish a lot in five months.

As I mentioned at the last meeting, because we feel that most attendees will head home in an easterly or southerly direction on Sunday, they will try to focus on layouts along their route home. The result is that other fine layouts not along those travel routes are likely to see smaller numbers of visitors. This is why we are asking those layout owners who are west or north of the Radisson and not near I-94 on the way to Milwaukee or I-39 on the way to Janesville to consider being open on Saturday afternoon from 1 to 4pm. While this is a short window, it gives folks time to travel to layouts around Waunakee or Verona, for example, on Saturday and still have plenty of time to see layouts east or south on their way home—ultimately giving them more layout viewing opportunities. Please consider letting Phil know if you are north or west of the Radisson and can be open on Saturday after-

noon for a few hours. If you can also be open Sunday, that would be even better.

We would ask those east and south of the Radisson to be open only on Sunday if possible.

If anyone needs a yard sign for the open house, I have one old crossbuck sign courtesy of George Elder and will we make more signs as needed. Let Phil or me know of your signage needs.

Remember, due to insurance requirements, you must be an NMRA member in good standing at the time of the convention to be part of the layout tours.

Ken Hojnacki
Convention Chair

From the NMRA



**Remember: you
have to be
registered on the website to get
to the Members Only section!**

Remember that you have to be registered on the website to take advantage of the Members Only features! This means that even though NMRA Headquarters has your email address, you still have to register your email address on the website itself.

If you haven't done this, go to www.nmra.org, click on "Registration" in the upper right-hand corner of the screen, and enter the email address that's on file at NMRA HQ. If you've changed email addresses, please call NMRA Headquarters at 423-892-2846 and have them change or verify your email address.

Enter a password that you'll remember, and you're all set. If you have problems, please read the "[Frequently Asked Questions](#)" page, or contact the [NMRA Webmaster](#).

Capitol 400 Midwest Region NMRA 2018 Convention



April 13, 14 & 15, 2018

Registration Form

ALL FARES INCLUDE BANQUET

Registration Type	Fare	Number	Total
Rail Early Full Fare (Must be received by March 31, 2018)	\$55		\$ 0
Non-Rail Early Full Fare (Must be received by March 31, 2018)	\$40		\$ 0
Banquet Only	\$30		\$ 0
Rail Full Fare After March 31, 2018	\$65		\$ 0
Non-Rail Full Fare After March 31, 2018	\$45		\$ 0
Non-NMRA member (includes 6 Month NMRA Rail Pass membership)	\$10		\$ 0
HO Scale Illinois Central Special Run Box Car	\$20		\$ 0
Total Enclosed			\$ 0

Name For Badge **PLEASE PRINT**	NMRA Number	Non-Rail
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>

Please indicate any special dietary restrictions for the banquet:

FRIDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING OPERATING SESSIONS

Operating Sessions will be held Friday afternoon from 1pm to 4:30pm and Friday evening from 6:30pm to 10pm. You can sign up for afternoon, evening or both. Indicate your layout preference—1st and 2nd for each session. See layout descriptions on the Operating Sessions page of the website: <http://www.nmra-scwd.org/operating-sessions.html>

Afternoon Session 1-4:30pm	Evening Session 6:30-10pm
___ Bill Clancy Rio Grande Pacific	___ Bill & Rose Weber Union Pacific
___ Bob Wundrock RLD&M	___ Ken Hojnacki & Peter Reinhold NYO&W

Crew assignments will be based on first received/first assigned. A waiting list will be created if needed. You are expected to operate; there will be plenty of opportunities to view the layouts at regular tour times. You will be notified of your assignment via email so be sure to include it below. The Committee reserves the right to cancel or change layouts.

Street: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 E-mail: _____ Phone #: (____) _____

Mail to: **Capitol 400**
 c/o Keith Thomsen- Registrar
 7202 New Washburn Way
 Madison, WI 53719

Make checks payable to: "SCWD Capitol 400" (No cash, please.)

Office Use Only	
Amt Rec'd: \$	_____
Check No.:	_____
Op Session Status:	_____

Youth Group

Steve Brist

The SCWD Youth Group learned about using wood to construct model buildings at the November meeting. Phil Hottmann, Chair of the SCWD Model Contest, demonstrated wood model construction techniques using the model contest building kit. Members learned about glu-



ing wood shingles with white glue, staining using a solution of India ink and rubbing alcohol, painting wood with flat paints and dry brushing for weathering effects. Youth members and parents were impressed by Phil's modeling techniques. So far, four Youth Group members have signed up for the model project. The model contest judging will take place at the April SCWD adult meeting, and the top 3 models will receive prizes.

Two Youth Group members and their families reported on their field trip to the Railroad Park in Rochelle, Illinois. Rochelle is where two double tracked main lines of



the Union Pacific and the BNSF cross on their way in and out of Chicago. They reported that they saw 16 trains in 5 hours. They shared photos that are included with this article.

We also had operating sessions on our HO and N scale

youth group lay-outs. SCWD members Paul Balfe and Jerry Lawler also present at our meeting. Paul brought his tools and worked on engines that needed maintenance. Jerry supervised operations on the HO layout. And SCWD President Bob McGeever set up and took down the N scale T-Trak modular layout.



This will be our last meeting at the Zor Shrine building, until March. Next month we will make our annual holiday trip to see the G scale trains at Olbrich Gardens. This visit will take place on December 17. On January 7th we will participate in the annual SCWD Train School at the Zor Shrine building. And on February 17 & 18, we will be at the Mad City Train Show.

We have lots of fun activities coming up over the next few months. We look forward to the holiday season, and a happy new year.

Happy Railroading!
Steve



Rail School 2018

Andy Potts
Rail School Chair

While it might not seem like it, the SCWD Rail School is fast approaching. The school is on January 7 from 1:00 to 4:00 at the Zor Shrine Temple. The Rail School is an opportunity for the SCWD to showcase its wealth of talent and share it with the community.

Please be sure to sign-up in advance if you would like to be a clinician. While I try keep an extra table or two open for people who sign-up the day of, I cannot guarantee you a spot if you don't sign-up ahead of time.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the December regular meeting. Additionally, feel free to contact me at (608) 213-1757 or

arpotts@uwalumni.com if you would like to sign-up.

Thank you!

Andy



Model Railroad School


Fun. Educational. Free.

Clinics and demonstrations show you how to turn a toy train into an exciting, operating model railroad. Hands-on projects for kids to take home.

Sunday, January 7, 2018, 1-4pm
Zor Shrine Temple, 575 Zor Shrine Place, Madison WI
www.nmra-scwd.org

Hosted by the South Central Wisconsin Division of the National Model Railroad Association.

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Clipper City Model RR Club

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Friday, Dec 29 3:00-7:00
Saturday, Dec 30 11:00-4:00
Manitowoc County Expo Grounds
Manitowoc, Wisconsin

Exhibits include the following gauges:
N, HO, S, O, & G and a Museum Room

Come Join Us!!!





Midwest Region News

Things are beginning to wind down for 2017. This year has just flown by and soon it will be 2018 but until then we need to finish up a few more things for this year. Here is the wrap up for this year.

In November each year the Wisconsin Southeastern Division opens the doors at Wisconsin State Fair Park for Trainfest. This year was no different as on Nov. 11th & 12th the trains were running and the train lovers from all over the world converged on Milwaukee. It was a well-attended show again this year and fun was had by all.

Among the groups from Madison that set up there were Madison HoTrak, Wisconsin Garden Railroad Society and Cap City Modular layout. Sue and Larry Bunce were also there with their vendor table full of beautiful antiques.

Trainfest also hosted the Midwest Region Board of Directors fall meeting on Sunday the 12th. The MWR would like to say thank you to the WISE Division for setting up the space for our meeting.

In December the Wisconsin Garden Railway Society (WGRS) will once again participate in the Holiday Express display at Olbrich Gardens on Madison's east side from Dec. 2 to the 31st. This is a good chance to see first-hand what garden railroading is all about. The staff at Olbrich Gardens does a wonderful job setting up the decorations around the trains and each year the theme is different. I'm not sure what the theme is this year but I know it will be fabulous as usual.

Olbrich Gardens is located at 3330 Attwood Ave. Madison WI. The trains run from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.

On Sunday Dec. 10th Donn Tolley and I will be running trains and hosting the SCWD Youth Group. It is always fun to have Steve Brist there with the kids.

Happy Holidays to All

Paul Mangan
Past President MWR



SCWD Board of Directors Meeting Minutes* October 9, 2017



Board Members Present: Bill Clancy, Ken Hojnacki, David Lendved, Mike Vivion, Phil Berry, Phil Hottmann and Bob McGeever.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by McGeever at the Fitchburg Firehouse

Minutes:

Minutes of the September meeting were not available. Will be reviewed at the November meeting.

Paymaster Reports:

Paymaster report for September was reviewed. Motion by Clancy, second by Hottmann to approve as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Model and Photo Contests:

The video contest is in the final stages of development. The plan is to roll it out to the membership at the November meeting.

Modeling Project:

Hottmann to attend Youth Group on Oct 15th to present the project.

Cap400:

Hojnacki briefed the BOD on the current status of the planning. All is going well.

- The hotel has a new event manager. He and Ken have met to review our contract and plans.
- The Convention cars will have a 50/50 split of car numbers. Not what we asked for but we will accept it.

Old Business:

None presented.

New Business:

The City of Fitchburg has asked us to find another location for our BOD meeting as they need to improve the security of their fire station. We can rent a meeting room at the ZOR facility for \$50 per meeting and lock in an annual schedule like we do for our other meetings.


Motion by Clancy, second by Hottmann to move our BOD meetings to the ZOR facility. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Clancy, second by Hojnacki to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes by acting Clerk McGeever.



*All Aboard for the Capitol 400
Midwest Region Convention.
April 13-15, 2018
Madison, WI*

- Operating Sessions Friday Afternoon and Evening
- Clinics Friday Evening and Saturday Morning and Afternoon Including:
The Photography of O. Winston Link 
- Layout Tours Saturday Afternoon and Sunday
- Non-Rail Activities Including Project Linus
- Every Registration Includes the Banquet with Guest Speaker Tony Koester



Model Railroader Editor Tony Koester

Visit www.nmra-scwd.org for details.

Come Join The Fun!



**BOB BOELTER'S O SCALE
GREAT WESTERN RAILROAD
HAS MOVED TO STONEFIELD**



The model railroad has been donated to the Wisconsin Historic Site in Cassville to be rebuilt in one of the village's buildings (see stonefieldhistoricsite.org). Funds have to be raised for the reconstruction. Contributions can be made to Stonefield Historic Site, 12195 County Highway V V, Cassville, WI 53806 and identified for "Stonefield Model Railroad". If you'd like to help in other ways contact Bob at bboelter1@gmail.com



Visit gwrr.org for layout pictures and more information



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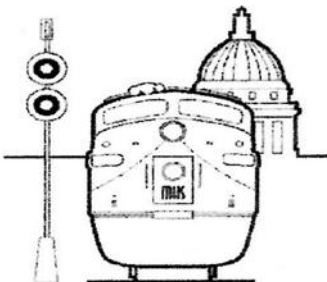


**Preorders are 25% off regular price except
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Kathy Clancy

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



If you move, don't forget to notify Kathy Clancy the Bad Order Editor. Changing your address with the NMRA does not change it for Bad Order mailing.

Thanks!

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 *

* = Train Show Ticket advance sales

2017-18 Meeting Time Table

Regular Meeting	BOD	Youth Group	Train Show	Convention
Dec 3 rd 2017	Dec 11 th 2017	Olbrich Gardens	Dec 6 th 2017	
Jan 7 th 2018	Jan 8 th 2018	Rail School	Jan 3 rd 2018	Jan 17 th 2018
Feb 4 th 2018	Feb 12 th 2018	Train Show	Feb 7 th 2018	Feb 21 st 2018
Mar 4 th 2018	Mar 12 th 2018	Mar 18 th 2018	Mar 7 th 2018	Mar 21 st 2018