

January 2016

[www.nmra-scwd.org](http://www.nmra-scwd.org)

Volume 47 No.5

*Happy New Year*

## SCWD Rail School 2016



## 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 10, 2016, 1–4pm**  
Zor Shrine Temple, 575 Zor Shrine Place, Madison WI  
[www.nmra-scwd.org](http://www.nmra-scwd.org)

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

### Next SCWD Meet:

January 10<sup>th</sup> 2016 1:00 pm.  
Zor Shrine Temple  
575 Zor Shrine Place  
Madison WI

**Clinics:** (No January Clinics, Rail School)

**Model & Photo Contests:**

(No contests, Rail School)

**Next BOD Meeting:**

January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 7:00 p.m.  
Fitchburg Fire Station

**Next Youth Group Meeting:**

January 10<sup>th</sup> 1:00 pm Rail School (see p.10)

Well, here we go again. Now that Christmas is behind us and New Year's Day is coming up fast we can now look forward to our annual Rail School. The date this year is January 10<sup>th</sup>. This is when we open up our doors and welcome our neighbors in to enjoy a day of modeling and education. As part of our 501 (c) 3 commitment we must inform and educate the public about railroads and our hobby.

Keep in mind that Rail School is **not just for kids**, it is for anyone that is interested in modeling trains. If you have one of those friends that just needs a slight push in the door then this is the time to commence pushing.

Also, even if you didn't sign up for a table you need not stay away, we can always use a hand with room set up and other duties throughout the day. It takes more people just to get the room set up in this new location.

It is always a fun day to share the fellowship that happens when we all get together and, it's a great way to start off the New Year.

From the entire staff of your Bad Order we wish you a

**Safe and Prosperous New Year!**



## Super's Report

Bob McGeever

Division Superintendent

It was a Thursday night and the Packers were not looking good. I figured I should turn off the sound and just read something for a bit. On the top of the pile was a book I mentioned last month, Scenery for Model Railroads by Bill McClanahan. It has been decades since I had read it all the way through. Seemed like as good time as any to do it again. By the time I was half way through it I realized that right now is a pretty good time to be a model railroader. The design issues and problems faced by anyone building a model railroad have not changed since the 60's but nowadays we have a much better set of tools and materials to work with. One thing that has not changed that much since the 60's is plaster. The book has pages and pages of discussions of the pros and cons of different types of plaster for different types of casting and scenery work. We still have these discussions. Often.

Repeatedly. But ground cover and foliage techniques have really advanced. The book discussed the use of sawdust, zip texture (more plaster!) and flock for grass. Real flock. The type you find at an art or fabric store. No fine turf or static grass in those days! Foliage was mostly made from lichen. I don't recall a single use of dilute white glue in any of the ground cover sections. And the terrain techniques have evolved. We still lay plaster soaked cloth over cardboard strips or window screening. Now the cloth is usually plaster gauze. The window screening is plastic, not metal. I recall the scenery drew blood the first time I tried to form metal screening into hillside contours. I was

using a tin snips instead of the scissors I use today. Like I said, right now is a pretty good time to be a model railroader. The interesting thing is that despite the limitations of the materials folks were working with in the 60's, the techniques in the book are still fundamentally sound. They will work really well when you use the all the new materials that are available today. Makes me wonder what someone like John Allen could accomplish if he was working on a model railroad today. I'm sure it would be truly incredible.

### On to other topics:

Rail School is fast approaching. We will need extra support from the membership to set up the room before the event starts and to put everything back where we found it after the event is complete. So even if you are not putting on a clinic, you can show up early and really contribute to the success of the event.

The Bad Order is getting a new editor. After many years of service, Paul Mangan is giving up the post. Kathy Clancy volunteered to take over the post on a Thursday and the Board of Directors gave her the job the following Monday. It never fails to amaze me how fast the BOD processes an appointment once we find out someone has volunteered to take the job.

We are getting an early start on the spring elections. There will be at least two new members on the BOD after the spring elections. John Haverberg and Fred Robinson have decided to step down from the BOD. At least two people have expressed an interest in running for the board. If you have any interest in running for the BOD, contact Mike Vivion. As the Past Superintendent, he is the person who organizes the annual BOD elections.

3-D printing is another of the new tools that I think makes right now a real good time to be a model railroader. The Madison Area Technical College is running a couple of 5 week mini-courses called "3-D Printing Design Intro". There is a session starting on January 21<sup>st</sup> and another starting on April 26<sup>th</sup>. I have been trying to teach myself the basics of 3-D printing. But there is a problem. The teacher doesn't know any more than the student. If you sign up for the January session, we can be lab partners! MATC is also running a pair of mini-courses covering the 3-D modeling software SketchUp. The "SketchUp Intro" session starts on March 23rd. The "SketchUp Advanced"

session starts April 27th. SketchUp is free software that is commonly used to create models for submission to a 3-D printing service like Shapeways. It can very useful for planning scratch built structures.

See you at Rail School,

Bob



Little Water



Or big Water  
There is water, water everywhere but not a drop .....



## Contest Column:

Dave Lendved  
Model Contest Chair

Our January 10 meeting is the annual “Rail School” so there will be no model or photo contest. That gives everyone more time to prepare for the February contests. The theme will be “Trackside Railroad Structures”. We’re looking for sheds, coal towers, signal shanties and more. This will be a change from engines and train cars we usually see.



Till then, Happy Holidays! See you in '16.

Dave



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## Modeling Project 2016

Did you squeeze in time to work on your modeling project? The holiday season can be very busy you know. Watch out though, April will be here before you know it. Yaa!

Good luck to all who have signed up for this year's project.

## Layout Tours:

Phil Hottmann

It was great to see Al Potts layout again. Al has a lot of well detailed scenes.

Beautiful work, thanks Al.

We will not have any tours in January due to the Rail School.



Thanks

Phil



## Midwest Region News

### Train Show Season has Only Just Begun:

Sounds like a familiar old song to some of us but how sweet is it. We just finished another year of modeling activities and now here comes another one. It seems like Trainfest just ended yesterday and the Holiday Shows came and went but how the time does fly. Now it is time for the SCWD Rail School on January 10<sup>th</sup> 2016.

The Holiday season in Madison saw a lot of attendees at shows in our area The SCWD youth group holds their December meeting at Olbrich Gardens where the kids get to run the trains and have a Back Stage tour where the power and staging area is.



WGRS layout at Rotary Gardens

Rotary Gardens in Janesville once again had their fantastic light display as well as Christmas caroling, hot apple cider and G scale trains. As you can see in the photo above, their turn out is usually large as well.

There are a few SCWD members in the WGRS including WGRS President Donn Tolley

### National Conventions:

Looking forward to summer 2016, The Midwest Region's Central Indiana Division (CID) will be hosting the Highball to Indy National Model Railroad Convention. National conventions are a great way of

celebrating our hobby and enjoying the fellowship with a large gathering of our members.



For more information on the National convention please visit the NMRA web site at [www.NMRA.org](http://www.NMRA.org) Or go to our electronic edition for a sign up form at [www.nmra-scwd.org](http://www.nmra-scwd.org) and you can be on board.

I'm looking forward to seeing you there as I hope you can join us for a great time.

Paul Mangan  
President  
Midwest Region



## Red Book Report:

The Red Books have arrived!

Because I didn't get all the info to the printer early enough we got into their Christmas rush of mailings so therefore, I didn't have them in December as I had hoped. I will bring them to Rail School. These are for current NMRA/SCWD members only! If your membership has expired you will need to renew said membership to receive one.



You will notice a couple of different things; first, the Board of Directors cleaned up a lot of bylaws that don't apply any more. Second; the names in the directory are in a last name first sequence.

If you chose not to be included in the Red Book it does not mean you can't be issued one. You can!! This is one of the many benefits of NMRA membership.

I would like to thank all those members who have signed on to be a part of this directory as it can be a useful tool for all members.

Paul



## SCWD Board of Directors Meeting Minutes November 9, 2015



The Board of Directors meeting for the 2015-2016 South Central Division, Midwest Region, National Model Railroad Association was called to order at 7:00 pm on November 9, 2015 by Superintendent Bob McGeever. In attendance were Directors McGeever, Phil Berry, Phil Hottmann, Bill Clancy, John Haverberg and Fred Robinson and guest Ewing Row. Bob declared a quorum present.

A motion was made by Bill, seconded by Phil H. and approved by the Board to accept the minutes of the 10/12/2015 Board Meeting as submitted.

Phil B. presented paymaster's reports for the months of Sept. and Oct., 2015. Bill made a motion to accept, Phil H. seconded and the Board approved the reports as presented.

### Committee Reports:

**Bad Order:** Paul Mangan stressed the need to Bob, again, for articles by committee and Board members to be submitted by the 14<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**Club Liaison:** Trainfest is in Milwaukee this coming weekend. There will be some involvement by SCWD members with layout displays and providing fliers to distribute for our show in February.

**Clinics:** Fred was thanked for good clinics at the 10/11 general SCWD meeting. For Dec. a clinic on trackside details, a report on the National NMRA meeting in Portland, a review of contest judging and video(s) on basic landscape modeling will be presented. Question brought to Bob by meeting attendee if the videos were copyrighted and did we have permission to show them. Phil B. said answer is that we do not charge for members to see them, so it is okay to show them.

**Contests – models and photographs:** Board noted the need for records of winners now that certificates are no longer being issued.

**Modeling project:** Ewing Row reported that 22 adult and 10 youth group kits have been paid for.

Layout Tours: Phil H. reported on layout tours planned for Dec. (Al Potts) and for next spring. He is working on a special list for the May combined Divisional meeting.

Publicity: SCWD meeting date and information through May 2016 have been provided to hobby and railfan magazines. Mad City Model Railroad Show and Sale dates and Info likewise has been provided to the hobby and railfan magazine "events" columns.

Rail School: Flyers to be provided at Olbrich Gardens Holiday Train and Flower show starting early December. Committee is working on arranging trainers for school.

Rail Show: Planning is on track for 2016 show.

Youth Group: Ad hoc meeting at Trainfest planned. Bob McGeever finishing new, light weight portable table(s) for youth display layout.

Old Business: Final changes to the SCWD Bylaws by BOD were reviewed. Fred made a motion to accept as modified, Bill seconded, and Board approved.

New Business: During discussion about publicity Bill suggested SCWD compile a list of model and prototype upcoming "events" outside of the tourist trains. John noted that John fisher had done this as a regular contribution to the Bad Order based on information he obtained from a variety of sources. Included in John's reports were railroad specific Historical Society meeting dates and locations, club meets and sales in the Wisconsin area, special steam and diesel railfan trips, etc. Bill felt that since SCWD members model a wide range of railroads in a wide range of locations, the service should identify events at least country wide. He also expressed a need for timely transfer of the information which might preclude using the Bad Order as a primary vehicle which is only published once a month. Bob suggested Bill investigate issues related to such a service and report back.

Motion by Bill, seconded by Phil H, to adjourn was approved at 8:10 pm.

Respectively submitted by  
John Haverberg, Chief Clerk

⊗

Respectively submitted by John Haverberg, SCWD  
Chief Clerk

⊗

## The Old Station Master:

There was no response from last month's question so we'll go over it again.

The Menomonee engine that was built in 1852 was the first locomotive constructed in Wisconsin. It was built in Philadelphia in 1848 and shipped by sailing vessel up the great lakes from Buffalo. It arrived in Milwaukee on Sept. 12, 1850 for the Milwaukee and Mississippi.

What was the first railroad in Wisconsin to build its own locomotives?

Answer: The Milwaukee and Mississippi Railroad.  
Today it is known as the Milwaukee Road.

No quiz this month due to the passing of a member of the old station masters family. Our deepest sympathies go out to you Thomas.

⊗

## For Auld Lang Syne

Some pictures from 2015:



It is always fun when members open their layout for tours after the meets. We had a few more this year and it would be good to see this trend continue.



Train Shows

Our Train show in February always brings out our best so I salute the hardest working men and women in show business, the SCWD load in and out Crew.



We had opportunities to see some lay outs for the first time and to revisit some others that haven't been open for a while.

For more Auld Lang Syne visit our electronic edition on our web site at [www.nmra-scad.org](http://www.nmra-scad.org)



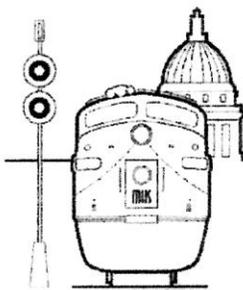
## BOB BOELTER'S O SCALE GREAT WESTERN RAILROAD HAS MOVED TO STONEFIELD



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](http://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](mailto:bboelter1@gmail.com)



Visit [gwrr.org](http://gwrr.org) for layout pictures and more information



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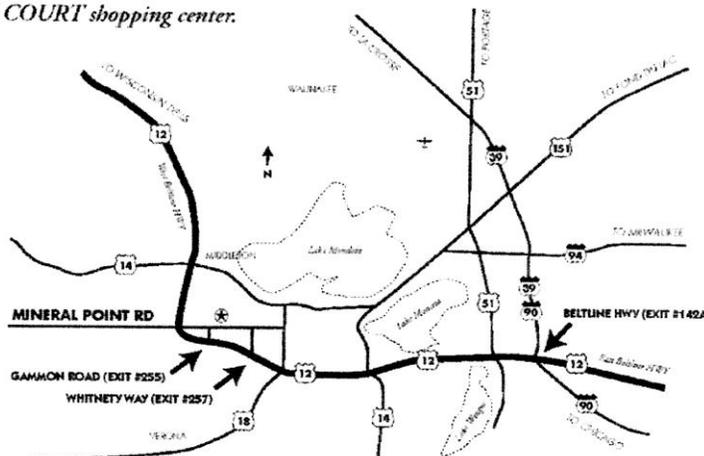
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*Mike Vivion*

## South Central Wisconsin Division of the National Model Railroad Association

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**TRAINS & MORE**

# From the files of Errata Data:

Paul Mangan

Plans for this spring are progressing at a fast pace. Our Division AP chair Ken Hojnacki has organized a Make and Take clinic that goes along with this theme

## The quest for modeling knowledge:

### Make and Take Project

By Ken Hojnacki



For our March meeting, we will have a hands-on construction clinic based on the NMRA Modeling with the Masters series. You will have the opportunity to construct a coil steel load complete with carrier in HO, N and other scales if you desire. You will construct four coil steel loads with banding and a steel I-beam carrier out of styrene and two wooden timber carriers from stripwood for use in a 40-42' gondola. The wooden carriers allow you to use a shorter or longer gondola by centering the carriers over the trucks. You don't need to have a high degree of skill working with styrene or wood to participate. Having built these at the Portland National, it is a fun project and one you can easily replicate at home if you desire more. All materials will be provided but if you want to bring a scale rule, a sanding tool, and/or your favorite paint brush, please feels free. All parts will be cut to length but may need some finishing. We will paint the coils but painting the steel carrier will be up to you in your own workshop. A PowerPoint presentation will take you through the construction steps and at the end; you will have a unique load you can proudly say you built yourself.

Those not wishing to build the project will have the opportunity to watch videos. If you would like to build a coil steel load, we will have a sign-up sheet at Rail

School or you can email me your interest and what scale kit you would like at [khojnacki@charter.net](mailto:khojnacki@charter.net).

Ken



## Youth Group Report:

Steve Brist

About 16 adults and young people attended the SCWD Youth Group field trip to Olbrich Gardens to see the G scale holiday trains. We were hosted by SCWD members Donn and Rose Tolley and Paul Mangan. Our members had the chance to go behind the scenes of the layouts and a few of our members actually got to operate the trains! Donn and Rose operated equipment from their V&T RR and Paul showed off a train from his Cat Mountain Railroad. As you can see from the photos, everybody had a great time.



Our next event will be will be the Model Railroad

School on January 10 from 1 - 4 at our regular meeting place, Zor Shrine Temple, 575 Zor Shrine Place. Members will have a chance to learn more about the model railroad hobby as well as demonstrate the hobby to potential new members. Youth who participate will have the opportunity to take home a project.



## N M R A News

### Welcome to the NMRA InfoNet News (Infoblast) For December, 2015

#### **\*\* Correction –**

In last month's (November) NMRA InfoNet News there was an error in the candidate names for the position of Atlantic District Director. The candidates are Kathy Millatt and Peter Bowen.

Also, Roger Ferris was awarded a NMRA Fellow Award at the 2015 NMR Convention.

#### **An article from Frank Baker, Acting NMRA Marketing Director:**

I received my first train set at the very early age of two. Along with my early entry into the hobby, came a desire to know more about how this wonderful toy worked. I was hooked. While that train set no longer exists, I grew up surrounded by trains. Up until I was nine, The Erie Railroad was 4 houses up the street. My neighbor was Grif Teller, the famous artist for many PRR calendars. He also had a Buddy "L" set that I would drag out of his garage and set it up in my backyard. At nine, we moved to another town and the DL&W was my new neighbor. Trains were part of my formative years. This is a wonderful hobby and the achievement program has helped me in many ways. Friends and fellow modelers know that I have a passion for scratch building structures.

Before retirement, I was Director of Sales & Marketing for an Arizona based company, with customers around the world. I retired six years ago and really immersed myself into the hobby, just ask my wife. Since then I have been the editor of our division newsletter and publicity chair for our 2015 regional convention.

Earlier in the year I raised my hand letting Charlie Getz know of my interest in the NMRA marketing position. At our PSR regional convention in September, Charlie announced this to everyone. We all know that the hobby is changing much like everything else in the world. Today's young are more interested in that little black



On the weekend of Feb 20-21, we will staff the Youth Group layout at the Mad City Model Railroad Show. We are looking forward to participating in this great event.

In November I was the conductor for the Santa Train at North Freedom. I was happy to host one of our members, Lloyd, who rode the train on Saturday. He is pictured with me in front of the locomotive.



box called a phone and seem to dwell on its ability to do almost everything. Our population is aging, adults are working more and the hobby is seeing declining in numbers.

Bringing back the heyday of model railroading is probably an impossible task, but developing new and exciting elements of the hobby across a broad spectrum of age related hobbyists or potential model train enthusiasts might just work. This is going to be a challenge and will require thinking “out of the box” and the help of everyone to refine, create, and implement new solutions to attract a new generation of model railroaders and retain many of the existing members. I look forward to working with everyone in this challenging position and having your help to excite, inform and grow the NMRA.

NMRA  
Frank C. Baker  
Acting NMRA Marketing Director

## More Auld Lang Syne:



So should old acquaintance be forgot and never brought to mind? To thee I say Nay.

It was a real fun year. I hope you all enjoyed it.



# 2016 NMRA National Convention Registration Form

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT!

[www.nmra2016.org](http://www.nmra2016.org)

Registrant Last Name:		NMRA #:	
First Name:	___ Dr. ___ Mr. ___ Mrs. ___ Ms. ___ MMR ___ HLM		
SIG Memberships (shown on badge): ___ LDSIG ___ OPSIG ___ PRO ___ RPM ___ N ___ S ___ G			
Complete Name As It Should Appear On Badge:		Area Code & Telephone #:	
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E-Mail Address:			
Name Of Companion:	___ Dr. ___ Mr. ___ Mrs. ___ Ms. ___ MMR ___ HLM		
Complete Companion Name As It Should Appear On Badge:		E-Mail Address:	
Names & Ages (As Of July 2016) Of Family Member(s):			
Special Considerations:			
<i>Note: Tours, meal functions, non-rail activities, and tickets for other events may be added to this 2016 NMRA National Convention pre-registration as the events are announced and promoted.</i>			

### Convention Registration Fees

<i>Fees On or Before February 1, 2016</i>	<i>Fees After Feb. 1, 2016</i>	<i>Sub-Total</i>
Basic Registration (NMRA Member) ___ x \$130.00	Basic Rate ___ x \$150.00	\$
Companion (Non-rail) Registration Rate * ___ x \$55.00	Companion * ___ x \$60.00	\$
Youth #1 (under 18 as of July 2016) ___ x \$50.00	Youth #1 (under 18) ___ x \$55.00	\$
Youth #2 (under 18 as of July 2016) ___ x \$50.00	Youth #2 (under 18) ___ x \$55.00	\$
NMRA Family Registration Rate ** ___ x \$270.00	Family Rate ** ___ x \$290.00	\$
Non-NMRA Member, add registration fee of \$25.00	Non-Member Rate, add \$25.00	\$
* Must accompany a standard registration ** Family rate includes NMRA member, companion, and all children up to 18 years of age as of the national convention in July 2016		Total Submitted To: <b>NMRA 2016 \$</b>

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## Highball to Indy '16

The NMRA National Convention is coming to Indianapolis in the Central Indiana Division of the Midwest Region. Lots of railroad stuff and other activities to keep you busy all week. I encourage you to go on line to their Web Site and get all the information about this convention. Never been to a National before? This one is close so why not give it a try.

### In the Station:

Anything that is alive will continue to change. As you probably read in last month's Bad Order that after ten plus years as being your editor for the Bad Order I felt it was time for someone else to take the reins and give a fresh perspective to the newsletter. Kathy Clancy has volunteered to take on the challenge. Next month Kathy and I will work together on the February issue and then if all goes well she will be your new editor.

So in closing I would like to thank all of you for allowing me this opportunity. If I told you it was no fun I would not be telling the truth. I have had the honor of getting to know people in this division a lot closer. I want also to thank all of the contributors of info to the Bad Order for helping to keep this newsletter fun and informative.

To those who have signed on the Bad Order email only I will pass the address list on to Kathy so you shouldn't miss a beat.

The cold weather season is here (or somewhat here) and as I say every year if the weather outside is frightful then sit by the fire, it's much more delightful.

**Signing off for now.**

See you by the Rails



### PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR AREA HOBBY STORES

Hobby Horse – 1769 Thierer Road – Near East Town, Madison WI

The Hobby Depot – 835 17<sup>th</sup> Street – Monroe WI

Madison Hobby Stop – 6622 Mineral Point Rd (inside Clock Tower) – Madison WI \*

\* = Train Show Ticket advance sales

#### 2015 - 2016 Meeting Time Table

Regular Meeting	Train Show Staff	BOD	Youth Group
Jan. 10 <sup>th</sup> 2016	Jan 6th 2016	Jan 11 <sup>th</sup> 2016	Jan Rail School 2016
Feb. 7 <sup>th</sup> 2016	Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2016	Feb 8th 2016	Mad City Train show
February 20th and 21 <sup>st</sup> the 49 <sup>th</sup>	Mad City Model Railroad Show and Sale		