

### February 2018

### www.nmra-scwd.org

Volume 49 No. 6

## **Super's Report**

Bob McGeever Division Superintendent

Our Editor has noticed several patterns in my Superintendent reports. As I get closer to the end of my tenure as the division Super they are not just getting shorter, they are also handed in much later. Fortunately for our Editor, this morning I have to choose between shoveling snow and getting my report done. One of the nice things about being retired is that I can be the last guy on the block to clear the snow. Heck, I can even wait until the City has plowed the street so I only have to clear my driveway once. So here is my report.

Most of you will remember that the SCWD is a 501c3 tax exempt organization. As part of that status we should be doing things that educate and inform the public about our hobby. We are in the middle of that season. The annual Rail School and Mad City Train Show are the events we put on to educate and inform the public.

We had a very successful Rail School. About 130 guests and 50 division members attended. This is the best attendance in several years. I'm not sure if we can thank the Packers for this but we seem to get better attendance when we are not competing with them. I was afraid that this year would be the last year we could offer the make and take program using the old Athearn blue box kits. We had about 25 of the kits left. But then Company Store took in 75 of them on consignment. I will recommend to the BOD that we purchase them. So we should be able to continue the program for one more year. If anybody else knows how we could get some more kits, speak up. If anybody has Next SCWD Meet: February 4, 2018 at 1:00 pm Zor Shrine Temple Clinics: Page 2 Model & Photo Contests: Page 2 Next BOD Meeting: February 12, 2018 at 7:00 pm Zor Shrine Temple Next Youth Group Meeting: February 17-18, 2018 Train Show

### CATCH THE TRAINS!

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an idea as to what kits we can use in place of the blue box kits, speak up. One of these years we are going to run out of blue box kits and we should develop a transition plan.

You may have heard that we plan to have a computer at the membership booth at the Train Show this year. This year we will be locating the SCWD information booth next to the Show Office to give it more visibility. Instead of giving folks an NMRA application form that they may never act on, we will go on line to the NMRA web site and sign them up on the spot. We had a chance to practice this at Rail School. We signed up a new member and his son. We have proven we can do it. We have also proven that the sign up screens are not intuitively obvious but we muddled through. With a little practice, we can get good at it. If any of you are looking for more volunteer time at the Train Show and think you can find your way through the registration screens, Steve would love some help with this.

Hope to see you at the February meeting,

Bob

## The Clinic Corner

Bob Wundrock Clinics Chair

For our Super Bowl Sunday meet, we will have two SCWD members presenting clinics.

The first clinic will be given by Fred "Rob" Robinson titled: "More Than Car Floats." Once upon a time there were railroads with "navies" Pure car floats were the tip of the iceberg for these "navies".

I will present the second clinic of the day about Bruce Chubb's Sunset Valley Oregon System layout. A few

members of the SCWD have seen and operated on Bruce's Grand Rapids, Michigan layout, including me...four times. I'll show track diagrams, layout



details, photos and operations videos of this 2,556 square foot layout.

See you then (weather permitting!),

## **Contest Column**

Dave Lendved and Steve Lanphear Contest Co-Chairs

We'd like to remind everyone that February 1 is the deadline for entries in the SCWD Video Contest. Several videos are already posted at the SCWD website, on the Video Contest page. Voting starts on February 15.



The theme for the February Model and Photo contests is Moving Forest Products. Logging, lumber, pulpwood and paper have long been staples of Wisconsin railroading. Millions of railroad ties were manufactured in Escanaba and shipped to the west for construction of the UP's transcontinental line. Modeling and photographing forest product cars and loads gives us a chance to focus on some of the most ubiquitous railroad equipment in our region.

February 4<sup>th</sup> Photo and Model Theme:

Moving Forest Products Cat. A Logs and Pulpwood Cat. B Lumber Cat. C Paper Cat. D Finished Wood Products, Other



Dave and Steve

## **Layout Tours**

Phil Hottmann Layout Tour Chair

I am not finding many people willing to have their layout open for our monthly meetings. I'm assuming most people are getting their layouts ready for the Regional Convention.

So for the February meeting I'm intending to feature Howard Zane's layout. Howard always has a few interesting things to say about model railroading and his endeavor.

Phil





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

Registered for the Capitol 400 yet? Only two months left to get the Early-Bird registration price of \$55 for Rail, \$40 for Non-Rail. The program is shaping up with lots of exciting clinics, layouts and Non-Rail activities. Don't be left out of this fun event.

So far, a small committee has worked hard to put the basics together for a great weekend of model railroading. Now we are reaching out to you for assistance at the convention. If you have or will be registering, and could spare a few hours during the weekend, we can use help in several areas.

First and foremost, we will need assistance with the Registration Desk. The Registration Desk will be open from 11 a.m. on Friday to 8 p.m. that evening; and again starting at 7:30 a.m. Saturday morning and running to noon. We need at least two people to check in attendees, give them their registration materials and special car kits purchased with their registration. They would also take on-site registrations (checks or cash only, no credit cards) and sell the special run cars as required. We will probably want three people during high-traffic times such as 4-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday morning.

Bob Wundrock and Bob McGeever will be looking for room monitors and people with some computer knowledge who can help presenters with their needs in the clinic rooms. This would be Friday evening from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Those of you who have attended other regional conventions know that it takes dedicated volunteers to make everything run smoothly for everyone's enjoyment. We want to provide that same enjoyment to our guests, in the same fine tradition as previous regional and the 1997 National conventions hosted by the SCWD. I know you may just be coming up for air after the Train Show but this won't be quite as strenuous plus you'll get to meet a lot of modelers from all over the region. Please consider helping out if you can. See me at the February meeting or talk to/email any of the following Capitol 400 committee members with your indication of interest and days you would be available. We'll sort out the time slots when we see how many folks sign up. Thanks for your help.

Ken Hojnacki Bob McGeever Bob Wundrock Keith Thomsen John Haverberg Diana Haverberg Judy Vivion Mike Vivion Bill Clancy Kathy Clancy Phil Hottmann Bill Weber

We hope to have you "all aboard"!

Ken Hojnacki Convention Chair

## **Modeling Project**

Phil Hottmann Modeling Project Chair

There is only two months remaining before the April meeting deadline. From what I hear a number of people have started their kits.

If you have any questions about the construction of your kit, please get in contact with me.

Phil



For more SCWD and NMRA news and information go on-line to our web site at <u>www.nmra-scwd.org</u> and visit the **Bad Order on our web** 



### Trains in the Movies, The General

Jim Feldman, Guest Contributor

On April 12, 1862, a year to the day after the Confederate attack on Fort Sumter, twenty northern men, led by Union agent James Andrews executed what the Southern Press would call: "The most daring undertaking that Yankees ever planned"; and "The most extraordinary and astounding adventure of the war."

Andrews' plan was to wreck a Confederate rail link, the 138-mile single track Western and Atlantic railroad, between Atlanta and Chattanooga, thereby isolating East Tennessee and disrupting supply lines of the Confederate army. They intended to accomplish this by stealing a northbound train in Atlanta, running it to Chattanooga, cutting telegraph wires, burning bridges, and tearing up tracks as they went. As a plan, it was ambitious, audacious and plausible. It had the support, though unwritten, of more than one Union general (Buell and Mitchel).

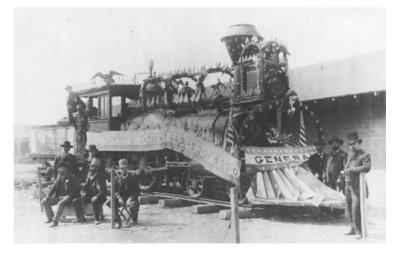
It began well enough. Andrews and his twenty men, dressed as civilians easily stole a train during the breakfast stop at Big Shanty Georgia (now Kennesaw) between Atlanta and Chattanooga. They uncoupled the locomotive, *The General*, (an 1856 Rogers 4-4-0 and one of the W&ARR's best workhorses) from three passenger cars and a mail car. With the General pulling the tender and three empty boxcars they fled north on the W&A toward Chattanooga.

It failed because Andrews and his planners could not have foreseen the remorseless Terminator-like pursuit of the man whose train they stole. William Fuller left his breakfast and began to chase the northbound General. He was on foot for the first two miles, then fourteen miles on an MOW hand cart propelled by poles like a gondola. He commandeered an industry switcher, the Yonah (a clapped out 1848 Rogers 4-2-0), and continued the chase fifteen miles with that engine, When the Yonah failed, Fuller switched to the William R Smith for another six miles until it crashed into a rail torn up by the raiders. Fuller then ran on foot another two miles before taking charge, with the help of its engineer, of the southbound Texas (an 1856 4-4-0 by Danforth Cook & Co.) at Adairsville. They pushed the Texas' twenty-one freight cars onto a siding and without a turntable to turn north began chasing the northbound General in reverse.

Fifty miles later, the General, unable to get far enough ahead of Fuller to take on wood or water, ran out of steam and the raiders scattered into the woods to be captured over the next two weeks. It had been seven hours since Andrews stole the General at Big Shanty.

The Texas, returned to its original engineer, calmly towed the General back southwards to Adairsville (it now resides in a museum in Kennesaw Georgia, the site of its theft by Andrew's raiders) coupled onto its 21 freight cars and resumed its scheduled trip south.

Eight of the raiders (including Andrews) were courtmartialed and executed as spies. Eight others made a daring escape from an Atlanta prison after Jefferson Davis dismissed their pleas for clemency. The rest were released in a prisoner exchange in 1863. All survivors received the newly minted Congressional Medal of Honor.



The General in 1888 reuniting the pursuers and the pursued. Fuller is leaning on the post at the right. The raiders are at the left and in the cab.

This event was so loaded —on both sides — with drama, romance, heroism, and theatrics that it has, so far, been made into two feature length movies:

### The General 1926

Written, directed, and starring Buster Keaton, The General is generally considered one of the greatest silent films of all time. Keaton plays Johnnie Grey, modeled after William Fuller, making the Southerner the hero. The movie does not bother to stick to the reality of the events, shoehorning in a love story, a fiery train wreck, and for simplicity's sake, a single pursuing train. It was certainly the most expensive silent ever thanks to the ultimate scene where the Texas crashes through a burning trestle into the river below. Most of the film was shot in and around Cottage Grove, Oregon on the lines of the Oregon Pacific and Eastern RR. Keaton purchased three locomotives from the line. The General locomotive was intended to be played by the original but when the museum discovered that the film would be a comedy, they withdrew their permission. The General was portrayed by an anonymous 4-4-0 purchased from the OP&ERR, as was the Texas

which crashed into the river. The film is available free on Youtube.com.

### The Great Locomotive Chase

Disney's 1954 version is told from the Northern perspective making Andrews (Fess Parker) the hero. Although it takes liberties with history, it stays truer to events than Keaton's version. All four trains used by Fuller to chase the General are present:

The General was portrayed by the William Mason, a 4-4-0 built in 1856 by Mason Machine Works as Baltimore and Ohio's #25. It is now in the Baltimore and Ohio museum.

The Yonah was portrayed by a 1925 recreation of the Lafayette, a 4-2-0 built by the Norris Works in 1843; the reproduction survives in the B&O museum.

The Texas and the William R Smith were both represented by the Invo, an 1875 Baldwin 4-4-0, restored and renumbered after sale to Paramount Pictures.

While sanitized in the Disney style, woodenly acted and historically shaky (no snake pit prisons or hanging of spies to be seen, just brotherly handshakes), the trains make the movie worth a look.



The Yonah



The Texas

The Inyo

Jim Feldman, SCWD Member

## **Rail School**

Andy Potts Rail School Chair

On January 7<sup>th</sup>, the division hosted another successful rail school. From scenery to structure building, car weathering to decaling, SCWD members shared their insights and expertise. Once again, the SCWD Youth Group stole the show with their make and take freight car project.

It was a little bittersweet for me, as it was my last time as the rail school chair. Thank you to all of the division members who participated in the school and made it such a great event.



Andy



## Save the Date It's Banquet time!!!

Friday, May 18, 2018 **Details to follow in future Bad Orders** 



### **Capitol 400 Midwest Region NMRA 2018 Convention** April 13, 14 & 15, 2018



www.nmra-scwd.org/convention

### **Registration Form**

#### ALL FARES INCLUDE BANOUET

| Registration Type                                    | Fare | Number | Total |
|--|------|--------|-------|
| Rail Early Full Fare                                 | \$55 |        | \$    |
| Non-Rail Early Full Fare                             | \$40 |        | \$    |
| Banquet Only   | \$30 | 22     | \$    |
| Rail Full Fare After March 31, 2018                  | \$65 |        | \$    |
| Non-Rail Full Fare After March 31, 2018              | \$45 |        | \$    |
| Non-NMRA members add \$20 for 9 Month NMRA Rail Pass | \$20 |        | \$    |
| HO Scale Illinois Central Special Run Box Car        | \$20 |        | \$    |
| Total Enclose  | d    | i i i  | \$    |

| Name For Badge **PLEASE PRINT** | NMRA # or Non-Rail |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
|                                 |                    |
|                                 |                    |
|                                 |                    |

Please indicate any special dietary restrictions for the banquet:

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

#### 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 2sd for each session. See layout descriptions in the Operating Session section of the Capitol 400 website: http://www.nmra-scwd.org/convention.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: State: Zip: City: Phone #: ( ) E-mail:

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

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

## **Youth Group**

Steve Brist

In January, the Model Railroad Youth Group participated in the annual Model Railroad School. We had a good turnout from our members and we met many new families who have an interest in model railroading.



Both Youth Group parents and members helped with the popular "Make and Take" project. Youth visitors were able to pick out an HO scale Athearn freight car kit and

then assemble it with the help of a Youth Group volunteer. After they assembled the kit, we offered the owner of



the newly assembled HO freight car the opportunity to test their car by running it on our HO layout. We were able to operate relatively long trains of newly assembled cars on double track in two directions. We were even able to give a few of our young visitors throttle time to operate the own car over our layout.

I want to extend my thanks to all of the Youth Group parents who helped with this event. They were kept very busy by excited young people.





Our next event will be operating the Youth Group layout at the Mad City Train Show, February 17-18 at the Alliant Energy Center, Exhibition Hall. Youth Group families who work at our layout will get free admission to the Show. The annual Train Show is one of the highlights of the year for our members. While attending the Train Show is a fun event for everyone, we use the Train Show as a new member recruitment opportunity. We actively engage parents and young people who visit our layout and invite them to join our group. We usually collect a good sized list of names and email addresses.

We will resume our monthly meetings at Zor Shrine on Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup>. I am seeking adult SCWD members to lead clinics or demonstrations for our Youth Group meetings. These can be relatively simple, but we want to expose our members to model railroading skills and techniques and we look forward to your help. In the meantime, Youth Group families are encouraged to sign up as a volunteer and join us at the Mad City Train Show.

Happy Railroading! Steve





## **Model Railroad School**







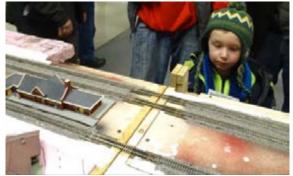




















## All Aboard for the Capitol 400 Midwest Region Convention. April 13-15, 2018 Madison, WI

- Operating Sessions Friday Afternoon and Evening
- Clinics Friday Evening and Saturday Morning and Afternoon Including:



RAILROAD

The Photography of O. Winston Link

Model Railroader Editor Tony Koester



- Layout Tours Saturday Afternoon and Sunday
- Non-Rail Activities Including Project Linus
- · Every Registration Includes the Banquet with Guest Speaker 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

boener rægman.com

Visit gwrr.org for layout pictures and more information



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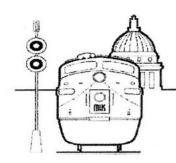
## \*\*\*\*\*Now Open Sunday 12:00 to 5:00\*\*\*\*\*

Happy New Year!! Hope everyone had a great holiday season. I want to thank all my customers for making 2017 another good year; I appreciate your continued support.

Don't think old man winter is done with us yet. There is still plenty of time to continue working on the layout. For all the supplies you need we usually have them or can get in a couple of days.

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



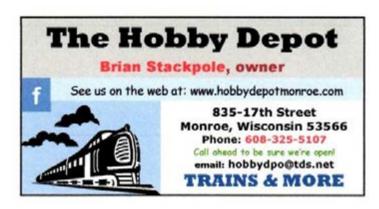
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## Ad Space Available

## Contact

Kathy Clancy Editor

SCWDKathy@aol.com

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

Publishes eleven issues yearly of the

## **BAD ORDER**

Official Mailing Address: BAD ORDER 3940 Trempealeau Trail Verona, WI 53593

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

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



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!



### SCWD Board of Directors Meeting Minutes December 11, 2017



The Board of Directors meeting for the 2017-2018 South Central Wisconsin Division, Midwest Region, National Model Railroad Association was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on December 11, 2017 by Superintendent Bob McGeever. In attendance were Board members **Dave Lendved**, **Bob McGeever**, **Mike Vivion**, **Phil Hottmann**, **Jerry Lawler**, **Ken Hojnacki**, **Bill Clancy**, and **Phil Berry** 

<u>Minutes Approval</u>: Minutes for the November 2017 meeting were approved.

**<u>Paymaster Report</u>**: Paymaster reports for October and November 2017 were approved

#### **Committee Reports:**

Achievement Program: Two certifications have arrived and will be presented at the December meeting. Spelling errors on one certificate will need to be corrected before presentation.

**Clinics:** Refer to the 2018 schedule published in the Bad Order clinic subject

**Contests:** Video contest rules have been published on the web site. Two videos have been submitted to the contest and several members have mentioned that they are working on videos for the contest. These may be shown at some point at the Capitol 400.

### Modeling Project for 2017-18:

29 'Flats' modeling project kits have been distributed. One remains to be distributed. There are 'N' scale kits as part of the projects/contest.

Phil conducted a presentation at the last Youth Group meeting and several were distributed. There was strong positive response to Phil's kits by both the youth as well as the adults. The adults felt that the models were something that could be built by the children and adults working together. Phil mentioned a willingness to set up a table at the January Rail School to work with anyone who is planning to build a flat for the contest.

**Door prizes (Meetings):** Bill Weber is responsible for the meeting door prizes and has budget. He reports that all is well with meeting door prizes.

**Layout tours:** No in home layout tours are scheduled for December. The division will be presenting video layout tours from the web.

**Membership:** Steve Preston and Paul Mangan are working together on this. The SCWD will have a membership booth next to the Division Office at the train show.

**Picnic:** BOD agreed to return to Little Americka in 2018 as it has activities/rides for kids as well as a nice facility for the adults.

**Rail School:** Rail School is scheduled for the January meeting. Andy has agreed to coordinate the event again this year. There are available models for a 'Make and Take' component to the school.

The Superintendent asked for volunteers to help him with set up and takedown. A number of members have agreed to come early to help set up and to stay later to help take down.

**Rail show:** Superintendent reported that we will have several new vendors and exhibitors for this year's show. The floor plan layout is proceeding as planned.

**Web Site:** Issues remain with the idea of e-tickets for the show. There is a ticket processing fee which has a cost that may make e-ticketing too costly to pursue. This issue is being further researched.

**Youth Group:** Jerry Lawler is now assisting Steve Brist with the Youth Group.

**Capitol 400:** A one page notice web site has been created. Op session text is done. Video may be added. More coordination work with the hotel is underway. Layout tours are currently being scheduled. A promotional DVD has been created and sent to all divisions in the region. Video and website page were previewed at September meeting. The clinic schedule has been set.

### Old Business: None

**New Business:** Jerry brought up for discussion, the possibility of creating a display board of local model railroad layouts. These layouts would be submitted to the SCWD for display on a board at the Rail Show and/or the SCWD web site. The Board suggested that Jerry develop a more fully developed plan and present to the Board at a future date.

<u>Adjournment:</u> Ken Hojnacki moved for adjournment and Dave Lendved seconded and the Board approved adjournment at 8:15 pm.

Respectively submitted by Jerry Lawler, SCWD Chief Clerk

### PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR AREA HOBBY STORES

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

### 2018 Meeting Time Table