

April 2017

www.nmra-scwd.org

Volume 48 No. 8

Super's Report

Bob McGeever

Division Superintendent

A number of topics this month.

The April meeting will be our last meeting for the 2016 – 2017 season. Part of it will be our Annual Meeting of the Membership and election of the Board of Directors for the 2017 – 2018 season. We have a full slate of candidates. I encourage all members to vote. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can request a ballot from Mike Vivion. You must return it to Mike prior to the Annual Meeting for it to be counted.

Our May meeting will be the annual joint meeting with the Rock River Valley Division. The RRVD will be hosting the meeting this year on May 7th. They have a pair of interesting clinics lined up for the meeting. Jim McQueeney will give an overview of the Cumbres & Toltec Railroad. The second clinic is Clarence Welte - Behind the scenes stories, pictures and videos of the Illinois Railway Museum including three major movies made there.

Our annual Banquet will be held on May 19th. You will find the details in this edition of the Bad Order.

I was going to cover in detail all the folks that need to be thanked for working the Train Show in February. Then I realized I am going to do that as part of the annual banquet. So I will save the list of names for the June edition of the Bad Order and just list the crews who made it happen.

Somewhat in the order they started to work on the 2017 show, a big thanks to:

- The Company Store Crew
- The Show Committee

Next SCWD Meet:

April 2nd 2017 1:00 pm
Zor Shrine Temple
575 Zor Shrine Place
Madison WI

Clinics: Page 2

Model & Photo Contests: Page 3

Next BOD Meeting:

April 10th 2017 7:00 pm
Fitchburg Fire Station

Next Youth Group Meeting:

April 23rd 2017
Zor Shrine Temple

- The Truck Crew
- The Parking Lot Crew
- The Office Staff
- The Ticket Booth Crew including volunteers from McFarland Cub Scout Pack 53, McFarland Girl Scouts, McFarland Boy Scout Troop 53, and St. Dennis School.
- The Show Judging Crew

We are deep into the planning of the 2018 Capitol 400 Midwest Region Convention. We will be hosting it at the Radisson Hotel on April 13, 14 and 15 of 2018. We are looking for clinics for the convention. If you have a clinic you might want to give or a clinic you would like to see contact Bob Wundrock.

Don't forget the Golden Rails 2017 Midwest Region Convention will be held in Rockford on April 28, 29 and 30. You can download the registration form from <http://www.2017mwrconvention.com>. One of the clinics is a chance to meet Charlie Getz, President of the NMRA.

Hope to see you all at April meeting,
Bob

AP Corner

Ken Hojnacki
AP Chair



As noted last month, Al Potts earned a merit award for his scratchbuilt freight shed. His award was formally presented at the March meeting. Also, Webb Winn was presented with the Golden Spike Award for his Kansas City area-inspired layout. Congratulations to both.



The March meeting was a poling place for 19 Division members. No, that's not a typo, they weren't voting—they were building a load of poles for their flat cars. 16 HO and 4 N scale pole loads were made by cutting and gluing stripwood for the stakes and the bearing beams the poles rest on. Then the pre-stained poles were added. The loads, for 40' or 50' cars, were a mix of RTR models and some Division Model Project cars. (Maybe we'll see some of these loads at the next meeting with the Model Project entries.) The loads were then finished by adding fine wire between the stakes to represent the binder cables used on the prototype to hold the poles in check. Some folks were able to finish, others still needed to complete their cables but hopefully everyone had a great time building a one-of-a-kind load that they can say, "I built that myself!"



Ken

The Clinic Corner

Bob Wundrock

Thanks again to Steve Lanphear for making us think about snow again with his informative clinic on railroad snow removal.



For our last clinics of this model railroad season, we welcome again Dave Nelson of the WISE division.

Dave will present the following two (1-1/2) clinics:

1. Bucyrus Erie Factory and its railroad. The Bucyrus Erie factory in South Milwaukee, WI, has been taken over by Caterpillar of Peoria, but in the 19th and 20th centuries was both a significant railroad (C&NW) customer (shipping and receiving) but at one time was also a major manufacturer of railroad equipment. This presentation is sure to interest anyone interested in heavy manufacturing and open loads.

2. Easement Curves using Kerf Cut Sub-roadbed. Easement curves on a model railroad have both a practical and aesthetic value, and this presentation will show a way to include easement curves on a model railroad without having to know advanced mathematics.

See you in April, Bob

Layout Tours

Phil Hottmann

It was nice to visit Bob Taylor's layout again. Bob has a beautiful layout with lots of detail. Hopefully Bob has decided to become a member of the NMRA. We would love to see him at our meetings.



We also got to visit Steve Stone's layout and got to check in on his latest progress. Steve will soon be starting his scenery work and we look forward to our next visit.



Thanks again to both Bob and Steve for having their layouts open.

For April's meeting Ken Hojnacki will open his layout. I'm still trying to locate another layout for this tour.

Phil

Contest Column

Dave Lendved and Steve Lanphear
Contest Co-Chairs

The contest this month features 1:1 scale models of railroad rolling stock. Due to space limitations in the parking lot, we ask that entries be limited to 85 feet in length and 250,000 pounds in weight. (April Fool!)

The real theme of the April 2 Contest is: April Foolery. We haven't had this theme for several years but it's back due to the requests of several members. The rules are simple. Anything that is funny, fantastical, unusual, strange, humorous or just plain foolish can be entered. Categories are flexible. This contest is strictly for fun. Enjoy!



Categories for the April Contests are:

- A. Steam
- B. Diesel
- C. Passenger Cars
- D. Freight Cars

Results for the March Contest "Off-Track Vehicles:

Model Contest

Cat. A R.R. Owned Vehicles

1st Dave Casey: C&NW Ford
Utility Truck



2nd Dave Casey: C&NW High Rail Car

3rd Al Potts: WSOR Crane Truck

Cat B. Non-R.R. Trucks and Semis

1st Phil Hottmann: Mack Truck

2nd Dave Casey: Beaver Lumber
Company Truck



3rd Don Swinton: Schlitz Beer Semi

Cat. C. Non-R.R. Buses and Automobiles

1st Dave Casey: Greyhound Bus
(Popular Vote Winner)



2nd Dave Casey: MGTC Road-
ster

3rd Don Swinton: School Bus

Cat. D Off Road/Other

1st Dave Casey: Farm Tractor
with Trailer



2nd Al Potts: WSOR Dozer

3rd Don Swinton: Dozer

Photo Contest

Prototype

Cat. PA R.R. Owned Vehicles

1st Bob Wundrock: Amtrak Car Washer

2nd Al Potts: WSOR Crane Truck

3rd Ewing Row: BNSF High Rail

Cat. PB Non-R.R. Trucks and Semis

1st Al Potts: Red IH Steam Era Truck

Cat. PD Off Road/Other

1st Al Potts: WSOR Dozer

Model

Cat. MA R.R. Owned Vehicles

1st Ewing Row: Speeder and Pickup

2nd Al Potts: WSOR Crane Truck

3rd Ewing Row: C&NW Stakebed Truck

Dave and Steve

Youth Group

Steve Brist

The SCWD Youth Group had the opportunity to do a "hands on" model railroad operating session on the HO model railroad of SCWD member Alan Potts. Mr. Potts operates a layout based on the Union Pacific Railroad, featuring "point to point" train operations and majestic western scenery. Each Youth member was given the opportunity to be part of a train crew and received orders to move their train along the right of way. This layout features multiple train operations at the same time, with realistic scenarios to deliver freight cars to their destination.



This was an opportunity for our members to see sophisticated model railroad operations in a realistic setting. They learned about how multiple trains can occupy the same track, without collisions. There were two members for each train crew. One member had the throttle and served as the engineer and the other member handled the paperwork and car cards, and acted as conductor. This was an excellent opportunity for our members. We thank Al Potts, his wife Sarah and the SCWD adult members who served as dispatcher, yard superintendents and other positions so our members could have fun operating the trains.

Our next meeting will be on Sunday April 23 back at our regular location at the Zor Shrine Building, at 1PM. The meeting will be one week later than usual, because of Spring break and the Easter holiday.

Members participating in the flatcar modeling contest are reminded that the judging for prizes will be at the April adult meeting, Sunday April 2, at 1PM at the Zor Shrine Building, 575 Zor Shrine Place. We would also ask that your models be brought to the Youth Group meeting in April, as well. Members who complete the project and bring it to one of these meetings will be refunded their \$5 deposit. WE look forward to seeing you and your models at these events. Happy Railroading!

Steve



Photos taken by Steve Brist



**SCWD Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
February 13, 2017**



The Board of Directors meeting for the 2016-17 South Central Wisconsin Division, Midwest Region, National Model Railroad Association was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on February 13, 2017 by Superintendent Bob McGeever. In attendance were Board members **Dave Lendved, Bob McGeever, Mike Vivion, Phil Hottmann, Jerry Lawler, Ken Hojnacki, Bill Clancy.**

Minutes Approval: Minutes for the January 2017 meeting were approved with amendments as to attendance and change of meeting date.

Paymaster Report: Paymaster report was approved.

Committee Reports:

Achievement Program: Al Potts entered freight shed models for review in the monthly model evaluation. Webb Winn has earned a certificate. We are currently waiting for a correction to the name on the certificate and will present it to Webb when we get the corrected certificate back from NMRA.

Bad Order: Everything continues to operate smoothly

Clinics: Bob and Steve have clinics planned through the end of the year.

Contests: We need ideas for next season. Different ideas were discussed. They included Favorite Structures, Military Models, Circus Trains, and an open class.

Modeling Project for 2016-2017: We need a chair for next year. Potential candidates include Mike Vivion, Al Potts, and Ewing Rowe.

Make and Take Activity: Everything is cut and put together. These poles will work well with the modeling project flat car. The 'Make and Take' activity has 16 HO and 5 N Scale par-

ticipants.

Door prizes: 22 were donated for the rail show. Walthers and Kalmbach donated.

Layout tours: Layout tours of Bob Stone and Bob Taylor are scheduled for March.

Picnic: Picnic date is July 15 and Little Amerika was chosen for this summer. July 15th is the weekend of the 'Whiskey River Days'. Alternative locales will be considered for 2018.

Publicity: Meeting Information has been forwarded to national magazine for inclusion in their events listing. Bob Boelter is handling PR for the Train Show and this is being handled in a timely fashion.

Rail show: CAD software is being used to determine layout at the Alliant Center. Bob will report out the final layout at the February meeting

Spring Trip: It was agreed that the Illinois Railroad Museum will be the destination. Date: June 10th. It will be a one day trip. Group will meet at the Zor Shrine parking lot and will travel from there. Meeting time will be 8am. We have 26 confirmed and a waiting list is being created in the event that we have cancellations

Web Site: The use of Paypal was discussed for managing online Train Show ticket sales. Minimal response to date. It was determined that this is feasible and that we will pilot this for 2017 and determine how to proceed for 2018.

Youth Group: Youth group will have their new layout at the Rail Show and have a location to promote the group and solicit new members.

Publicity: The May SCWD meeting will be held in Rockford with the Fox River (Rockford) Division.

Bob Boelter is going to contact the Wisconsin State Journal and ask for a pdf version of the State Journal article on the 50th Anniversary of the SCWD Rail Show. This pdf article will be posted on the web site. There will be a cost of ~\$25 for the pdf site.

Old Business

Wes Peat's Speeder: John is storing it safely at his house until a decision can be made as to appropriate disposal. It was determined that the speeder would be donated to the Illinois Railroad Museum. Arrangements are being made for the donation and transfer after the show.

Membership Booth: Bill Marks has completed the rehab and it will be ready for the Rail Show

Literature Review:

- Literature handouts for the membership booth been reviewed and updated as determined to be appropriate.
- Staff to work the membership booth at the train show has been identified.

New Business Outreach to scouting groups for the scouting railroad badge was discussed. It had been done previously, but is no longer an activity of the group. Jerry agreed to make inquiries with the scouting organizations and report back.

Capitol 400: The Capitol 400 has been chosen as the name of the 2018 Regional Convention being hosted by the SCWD. Expected attendance will be 100-125.

Capitol 400 is quiet. There was no meeting because of the Rail Show. Artwork is being worked on to promote the site and meeting.

Respectively submitted by Jerry Lawler, SCWD Chief Clerk



Midwest Region News

Well the time is here to say that this is the last report I am writing as your Midwest Region President. After serving four years as President and 2 terms as VP and 2 years as division director it is time to turn the keys over to a new administration. In this time frame I have met a lot of wonderful people all over the region and at national. I can say that throughout the NMRA we have a lot people who can guide this hobby forward in a positive direction for the future.

Thanks to all of those who have helped me along the way. I urge all of you who have the desire to give back to the hobby to get involved in the leadership positions that will better this wonderful hobby of ours.



The **'Golden Rails'** Midwest Region spring convention will arrive in April on the 28th, 29th & 30th. Thanks go to the Rock River Valley Division for hosting this event. It definitely looks like a great time shaping up.

The name of this convention coincides with the fact that this year celebrates the Rock River Valley Division's 50th anniversary. Congratulations to all the members and friends of the RRVD. This milestone is the sign that you have had great leadership and a very supporting membership over the years. Fantastic job folks!

If you have never been to a model railroad convention, this is one to go to and see what they are all about. The cost is much less than a national convention and it is just south of town. There is still time to sign on to have a great time.

So what goes on at a convention? Lots of stuff! Here are just some of the things that happen;

There are always layout tours featuring some very fine layouts. Here you have the opportunity to meet the hobbyists in the division along with other members of the region and the NMRA.

Operating sessions are on tap at different layouts

Clinics are usually going on most of the weekend with top notch clinicians.

A model and photo contest room so bring your stuff in for judging.

Sometimes there are proto type tours available depending on the location of the convention.

There are usually some non-rail events and activities for the non-rail person in the family such as tours or luncheons. The past few years Project Linus has been at conventions for those people who would like to create blankets for hospitalized children.

A small part of the convention is the Midwest Region Board of Directors meeting held on Sunday morning at the convention hotel. If you are an NMRA member you are welcome to come in and observe the meeting. This will be my last board meeting as your president as my term is over and our new president, Steve Studley (Central Indiana Division), assumes the position.

You can go to the convention web site and see what's going on: www.rrvd-nmra.com/2017mwrconvention.com/.

Next Year the South Central Wisconsin Division will host the MWR convention. Planning is already underway for the Capitol 400 MWR Convention on April 13th-15th 2018. Make your plans now.

See you by the Rails,

Paul Mangan
Midwest Region President

My flat has a telephone pole load

Ewing Row
Modeling Project Chair

I finished by demo flat cart in time for the March SCWD meet on March 5. I had signed up for the telephone pole make-and-take clinic put on by Ken Hojnacki. What a great clinic it was.

Ken, with an impressive effort, had telephone poles, N and HO scale ready for participants. Those modeling in HO could choose either a 40- or 50-foot flat cars; poles for each were available, as well as material for bearing beams and stakes. HO poles were made from 3/16-inch dowels. N-scale poles began as wooden kitchen skewers.

Going the extra mile, Ken had cut the telephone poles to length, 45 feet for 50-foot flats. He even tapered them — thinner at the top than at the bottom like a tree would be. Finally, he stained them giving the poles a fresh looking pole that had just been preservative treated. Those procedures may not sound like much, but, with 28 poles per 50-foot flat car load, he had to prepare over 400 poles just for the HO project.

There isn't much room for decals on flat cars. I did not find Micro Scale decals for flats, despite looking for over a year. I ended up using some N-scale decals and others that were not for the Union Pacific but which seemed the right size and font. When I over sprayed by final effort with Krylon Matte Clear Acrylic Coating, a product I use all the time, one brand of decal ran a little. First time it has happened to me. With adequate weathering, perhaps no one will notice.

Good luck to all as you finish your 2016-2017 Modeling Project.

Ewing

April Is Also Election Time!

I remind everyone that we are holding our annual election of the SCWD Board of Directors at our April 2nd meeting. I am pleased to announce that this year we currently have a slate of eight candidates running for the seven board positions. If anyone else is interested in running please contact me as soon as possible. Photos and bios of the candidates follow below (in alphabetical order).

If you are unable to attend the meeting and want to vote absentee, please send me your selections via email or mail (see the Red Book for my contact information). Only current SCWD members are eligible to vote. I must receive absentee ballots not later than Friday, March 31st, for them to be counted.

Mike Vivion
Past Superintendent and Elections Committee Chair



Phil Berry

I have been an SCWD board member for the past 8 years. I've held the Position of Clerk (secretary) and for the past 6 years have served as the Pay Master (Treasurer). This has involved a fair amount of work counting, depositing, and managing the money of the SCWD, filing the taxes, and producing the financial statements of the SCWD. If re-elected to the board I would like to continue as the Pay Master.

My day time job is a Product Manager for TDS Telecom, part of the TDS family of companies (TDS Telecom, TDS Metrocom, and US Cellular). I manage the revenue budget and related expenses for this part of TDS. I am fortunate to have my own little piece of TDS that I get to manage as if it were my own and that experience has really helped me in my role as Pay Master over the past 6 years.

When I'm not at work or at a baseball game I am in the basement with the trains.



Dr. Bill Clancy

My passion for model railroading began in the 1950's as 12 year old building Strombecker wooden freight cars and built a very, very small railroad. As a competitive athlete through high school and college followed by medical school and orthopedic residency, I had no time to devote to it.

I left the U.S. Naval Academy as Head Team Physician to come to Madison in 1974 to be the U.W. Head Team Physician and orthopedist and started the U.W. Hospital Sports Medicine Clinic and program. Between clinics and team coverage, I had little time available but managed to build a small layout with the guidance of Pete Olson and Al Potts.

In 1989 I left for Birmingham, Alabama to help develop the Alabama Sports Medicine and Orthopedic Center. With a little more time available, I built two large HO layouts. In 2010 at the request of the U.W., I returned as Head of Sports Medicine and Head Team Physician and retired three years ago which allowed me and my wife to go full steam ahead with my passion.

I first joined the NMRA and the SCWD in approximately 1979. In October of 2013, I started building a large HO layout which is now up and running.

I really enjoy the monthly SCWD meetings particularly the clinics but even more the wealth of knowledge and friendships of the members who graciously share their skills and knowledge which I sorely needed and will need more in the future.

Having been elected to the SCWD Board of Directors for the past two years, I have had the opportunity to become more active in our Division. It was a great eye opener to see how passionate and hardworking the board members were in trying to advance interest, provide more relevant information and make our monthly meetings more meaningful for our membership. I certainly would like to continue on the Board of Directors to help advance the vision of the Division.



Ken Hojnacki

I became a NMRA member 54 years ago, in 1962, and am a Life Member. I started with American Flyer before that date and eventually switched to HO. Except for a mid-life crisis prior to the 1997 National when I switch to Sn3 for a short time, I have been an HO modeler of the New York, Ontario & Western for most of those years.

I have served in the position of Chief Clerk, Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent of Keystone Division 2 of the Mid-Central Region. I also served on a number of committees in that Division and also the SCWD. I am currently the SCWD Achievement Program Chair.

I have also been active with full-size trains for over 40 years and am currently a steam and diesel qualified engineer at the Mid-Continent Railway Museum in North Freedom.

I believe that the NMRA is the reason we have so much to enjoy about this hobby. Beyond the standards that allow all manufacturers' products to operate on our layouts, it is the NMRA that has made possible our monthly meetings, our conventions and bringing us all together to learn and enjoy this hobby. We face many challenges to bring new members into the hobby and the NMRA and to find ways to provide all of our members with interesting activities that educate us and challenge us to be better modelers. I would like to help in that effort.

**Phil Hottmann**

I have been a model railroader for 28 years. Most recently I have served on the SCWD B.O.D as Assistant Superintendent and have also been organizing our layout tours.

My focus in the hobby has been on highly detailed and weathered structures. I find this hobby to be extremely interesting and challenging. With recent developments in digital technologies, we have seen a new level of realism. This has also reduced the amount of effort required and has created a real boost to the hobby.

I have enjoyed attending the SCWD meetings and have often been amazed at all of the information provided by the members and for the members. I would like to see the division continue to grow and develop and serv on the Board for another term.

**Jerry Lawler**

I am a native Madisionian who has lived and traveled around the world. I recently retired and have an interest in helping the division grow the model railroad hobby in whatever I can contribute. Like many of my contemporaries, I had an HO railroad in the 1950s with my 4 older brothers. 15 years ago while living in Cleveland, I began to put up an HO layout around our Christmas tree and last year as I approached retirement, I decided to become an active modeler and began to create a layout. With the help and support of a number of the division members, I have created a nice layout (in progress) and will like to become a board member to help the division grow our hobby.

My best train ride has been from Columbus, WI to Mexico in 1967. Other great train experiences that I've had include taking the train from Cuzco, Peru to Macchu Picchu, the trans-Siberian Railroad from Kurgan, Russia to Ekaterinenburg, Russia, and the Durango to Silverton rail.

**Dave Lendved**

Hello SCWD members. My name is Dave Lendved. I'm running for re-election to the Board of Directors. I've served for one year on the BOD and it has been an eye-opening experience. It takes a lot to keep our division going and I want to help.

My earliest railroad memory is seeing the old black Whitcomb switcher trundling across the 8th street bridge in Sheboygan, WI. The bridge would not support a steam locomotive, so the CNW ran the small diesel to switch the Sheboygan Coal Co. The Chicago Northwestern was our "Home Road" and I'm still partial to the Northwestern Line.

In the 1960's I had an N scale empire in our front porch. The oversized wheels and gigantic couplers look a little silly now. But it was fun. In 1999, I started my current (and still evol-

ing) layout. I'm amazed at the variety and quality of the equipment now available. I joined the SCWD sometime around the turn of the millennium.

My favorite aspects of the hobby are watching trains (model and prototype) and reading about the history and operations of the railroads.

Whether I am voted onto the BOD or not, I intend to help make this organization a success.

**Bob McGeever**

My wife and I have been rail fans all our lives. I got interested in model trains as a kid when my dad gave me and my brother his childhood Lionel train set. I spent the first 30 years of my married life intending to build a model railroad. My boys and I went to the train show every couple of years and dreamed of what we could do with half the base-ment. Time passed, the boys grew up and I found I finally had the time to build a model railroad.

I started the planning a layout about 12 years ago. I'm working in N scale using the WSOR as my prototype. It supports my interest in lots of local freights in limited space, it runs through the town I live in, and I really like the color scheme on their locos. I have what I call my second draft up and running. The third draft is in the planning stage and construction will start in the spring. With each draft it gets bigger. I joined the NMRA in 2010 to learn from other people with more experience. I have had the honor of serving on the BOD since 2011 as the Clerk and the Superintendent.

**Steve Preston**

Like all kids, I got interested in trains when I was a young lad. I got my first set at 7 years old but it was a short lived love affair since it came to a sad end about 8 months later. Well at the ripe old age of 42, I found my first new set. It was a "MOPAR" Lionel set of a limited edition. I soon grew from there. I wanted to know more about building and modeling and that's when I came to my first train show. I found one of the SCWD's membership forms, and I joined about 6 years ago – well the rest is history.

I would like to run for the board, not only to see what goes on behind the scenes, but to hopefully bring in some fresh ideas. From there I might get a better understanding of how things work, but also to help me grow possibly in our organization. Thank you for your support.

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





It's banquet time!

May 19th 2017

To be held at the Zor Shrine Temple
575 Zor Shrine Place, (upstairs)
Madison WI

Cocktails at 6pm



Make sure you get what you want from the bar prior to dinner.
The bar closes at 8pm for the evening.

Dinner will be served starting at 7pm — so don't be late.

Reservations must be received by May 12th.

Cost of meal: SCWD/NMRA members, \$10.00

Non-NMRA attendees, \$15.00

\$5.00 children 12 & under.

Name:	Rail	Non-Rail	\$

Make sure you indicate rail or non-rail. If more than 4 then add to a separate piece of paper and send it along with your reservation

Address: _____
 City: _____ WI Zip _____

Send your reservation to:
Bob McGeever
309 W. Randolph St.
Stoughton, WI 53589

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Note: If you are an NMRA member, your spouse or significant other is the same price as you.

Checks should be made payable to the S.C.W.D.



SCWD 2017 Summer Picnic sign-up.

The 2017 SCWD summer picnic will be held on Saturday, July 15th at Little Amerricka in Marshall WI.

From Little Amerricka web site: Whiskey River Railway Day - July 15th, 2017

Multiple trains will be running for our guests. All of our steam locomotives will be steamed up for operation at the park train station that day. Different locomotives will be switched around to pull our trains through out the day, this includes steam and diesel. This will be a rare opportunity for the public to see all of our locomotives.

The Park opens at noon and closes at 6 pm. We have arranged a picnic to be catered around 1 pm, and we will again have the Blue Rose Pavilion to enjoy the food and fellowship. Entrance to the park is free as is the lunch to all SCWD members and guests. Viewing of the railway equipment is also free. To ride the train around the 2 mile loop costs \$4.50. A wrist band can be purchased to allow you to ride all of the attractions including the trains. Wrist bands can also be purchased on-line ahead of time at a substantial savings at: www.littleamerricka.com.

You MUST sign up for this event so we know how much to tell the caterer to prepare. Guest(s) are welcome to attend with you. If you can't sign up at our regular March or April SCWD meetings, please fill out the form below and mail to John Haverberg by July 8th.

----- Cut Here -----

SCWD Annual Picnic

Saturday July 15th, 2017

Little Amerricka Park, Marshall, WI

Lunch at 1:00 pm.

Members and Guest(s) Names:

Address: _____

City: _____ WI Zip _____

Send your reservation to:

John Haverberg
4797 Delmara Rd.
Middleton, WI 53562

Rock River Valley Division - NMRA



HOLIDAY INN ROCKFORD, IL
APRIL 28, 29 & 30, 2017



Home Timetable Registration/Fares Map
Clinics Contest Operating Non-Rail Activities

The members of the Rock River Valley Division would like to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our Division with you. We are hosting the 2017 Midwest Region Convention with layout tours featuring many great railroads in our Division, operating sessions on some fine layouts, numerous clinics - some yet to be confirmed - which will include some well-known clinicians, a silent auction (bring items to sell), a photo and model contest, a few great non-rail activities showcasing the Rockford area and a not-to-be missed banquet program by Randy Garnhart and Jerry Pyfer.

www.rrvd-nmra.com/2017mwrconvention.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!

Update: SCWD Arranged 2017 RAILFAN Trip to the Illinois Railway Museum

For those of you who have not been to the IRM, it is an all volunteer run museum in Union, IL containing a large collection of street cars, trolleys, electric, diesel and steam trains and other railroad equipment. A SCWD sponsored railfan trip to IRM is scheduled for June 10th. We leave Madison at 8 am and return by 7 pm. Currently, 31 members and guests have signed up which is the bus capacity. However, I will keep a waiting list by contact date in case of cancels. Please respond to me by e-mail at: haverdj@tds.net or by phone at: 608 836-7963 if you would be interested on going on this trip and haven't yet signed up.

All Attendees: Cost per person will be \$38 which includes the bus trip and admission. Lunch will be on your own either brought from home or bought at lunch counter on site. The fee is to be **prepaid by May 1st** by cash or check made out to SCWD. You can mail the fee to me at: John Haverberg, 4797 Delmara Rd., Middleton, WI 53562 or bring it to the April SCWD meeting.

John Haverberg, SCWD Railfan Trip Coordinator



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

A few words from the NMRA President



My report from Atlanta

I would like to provide a quick summary of our mid-year Board of Directors meeting, held in Atlanta in February. Why Atlanta?

Well, three Directors live in the area or very close, as does our Secretary; the hotel is very reasonable and ATL is an easy/inexpensive airport to reach even in winter. We spent long hours in committee and planning meetings plus the BOD sessions. We also got a lot done.

At this BOD session, we announced some exciting initiatives and updated others already underway. The official minutes will summarize what was done but here are some of the items of interest to members and we are very excited about a wealth of member benefits coming your way.

We are expanding our educational and informational resources for you. We are renewing our agreements with TrainmastersTV, Model Railroad Academy and Model Railroader Video Plus in which they've agreed to donate some of their outstanding educational videos to our online library. These can be accessed through the [Member Only video page](#) on the website. Free!

We will soon be launching a new electronic newsletter linking you to some of the best of the articles, videos and information on the Internet. Also free.

And we are very excited about new and increased efforts to launch a major Member Discount Program. We already have a significant number of rail attractions and museums offering discount admission for NMRA members. Now we are expanding that program to potentially include hobby shops, manufacturers and perhaps craft stores and big-box retail stores. Many organizations offer member discounts such as tie-ins to rental car companies or airlines. We want to initially focus on vendors of interest to our hobby and to our members. I expect this program to expand and over time become a significant reason to join or stay a member.

Similarly, our Model Railroad Visit Registry, a worldwide listing of model railroads and members you can visit on your travels, is well underway. The format for the list and process is completed and we next will solicit willing members to list. Soon, you will be able to find members on your trips you can contact and perhaps arrange a visit. That process is how, many years ago, a 16-year-old (me) met the legendary John Allen (a member) and visited the Gorre & Daphetid.

With the assistance of our Vice-President for Special

Projects Gerry Leone and Marketing Consultant Christina Ganzer, the BOD agreed to development of a marketing plan, which will help us expand our membership base. Based on the excellent work done by our Recruiting and Retention Committee, we also will emphasize retaining existing members in addition to expanding member benefits. We recruit an impressive number of new members each year but lose as many if not more of those new members. Some sadly due to death, but a large number who choose not to renew. Working on new benefits and on retaining those new members will increase our membership numbers.

The BOD also adopted a modest but necessary dues increase of three dollars per year, effective for U.S. members on September 1st. This dues increase, representing just 25 cents a month, is due to increased costs caused by long-term inflation. We are aware of the challenges any increase brings but also recognize there has been no dues increase in six years. Believe me, the first thing we look at is cutting costs and overhead. Even with the best of intentions, costs do not always cooperate yet we held off increases for six years. This modest increase also allows us the flexibility to work on the initiatives and programs that can deliver more benefits. Dues only cover 80% of our costs and we seek non-dues funds wherever we can to keep your cost of membership as low as we can. If you want to save, renew before September 1 at the old rate.

There was a lot of other business accomplished but I will let the minutes, to be posted after approval, and unofficial summary below speak to that. We value your membership and your feedback.

Whether you agree or disagree with me, we always welcome your thoughts, insights and comments. As I always say.....those are my thoughts.....what are yours?



[Charlie](#)

TRAINFEST PHOTO CONTEST

As the sounds of trick or treaters fade away we begin to hear the bells and whistles of model trains running. All scales can be seen. G, O, HO, N, Z, and TT. American Flyer, Lionel, Traction, Standard and 7 ½" gauge. Amid the train sounds we hear questions. How does that work? Can I try that? What's new? We hear model railroaders negotiating with vendors and kids laughing. We hear parents saying don't touch and then club members asking

those same kids if they want to run a train. Thousands of people, young & old, little & big, girls & boys all having fun. Where are we? We are at Trainfest, America's Largest Operating Model Railroad Show.

Trainfest is held the second full weekend in November at the Wisconsin State Fair Park Expo Center in West Allis, Wisconsin. Trainfest is worth a two day ticket and a chance visit to Milwaukee. Over the past 45 years, Trainfest has seen a great number of changes designed to improve the experience for all attendees.

At Trainfest, we are trying to keep up with innovations in the hobby and inspire the younger generation to get involved. Our Jr. Engineer program will be back for the 3rd year. This feature has proven to be a big hit with the younger crowd and the modelers that work with them. It introduces youngsters to model railroading by letting them operate trains while modelers show them how things work.

The Kids Activity Zone, where a child can build a structure, race trains, color, ride a 7 1/2" gauge train and watch a railroad related performance, also helps introduce them to the joys of our hobby.

"Celebrate a Railroad" will be back in 2017. This year the SOO Line is the featured railroad. Previously we honored the Chicago & Northwestern and the Milwaukee Road. We work with the line's historical society and a local museum to create a museum quality historical display about the railroad. If your division, or an organization you know, would like to use these displays they can be rented at a cost of \$250 for a period of 10 weeks. Contact kenj@trainfest.com for more information.

Trainfest 2017 will again offer clinics presented by manufacturers, vendors and hobbyists. With more than 50 clinics there is sure to be something to interest you. In addition to the clinics, the Niagara Division of the NMRA has members at Trainfest working on small projects. These modelers will show you how to make car loads, trees, build structures, build cars and many more projects. You can ask questions or just watch.

Trainfest has an exciting new program for 2017. We invite you to enter into our inaugural Trainfest Photo Contest. There will be 10 photo categories. The first is the railroad being celebrated. This year it is the SOO Line and next year the Great Northern. The other categories are steam, diesel, revenue rolling stock, non-revenue rolling stock, passenger cars, people working, structures, model railroads and a general category. You can enter in one or all 10 categories. All of the photos

will be displayed during Trainfest 2017 where thousands of people will admire your work. The winning photos in each category will also be displayed on the Trainfest web site for the following year. So give us your best shots and let us show them off for you. Visit Trainfest.com for rules and deadlines.

When you visit our website also check out the Trainfest store. We have memorabilia from last and previous years including limited run rolling stock and t-shirts. You could order a print of the paintings of the Chicago & Northwestern Depot or the Milwaukee Road Shops. Both are the work of artist Larry Fisher and commissioned specifically for Trainfest.

At Trainfest 2017, we are looking forward to welcoming back the many manufacturers and vendors who help us make the show possible, and keep us supplied with what we need to enjoy our hobby. We still have lots of room for vendors and manufacturers so if you fall into one of these categories or know someone who does please contact us. We would love to see you there. If you are a small cottage industry we also offer an inexpensive 8 foot table. We are always looking for new layouts to display and ways to improve Trainfest so if you have any comments or suggestions please contact us at Trainfest.com.

Mark Willmering
Photo Contest Chair

28TH ANNUAL (FREE!)

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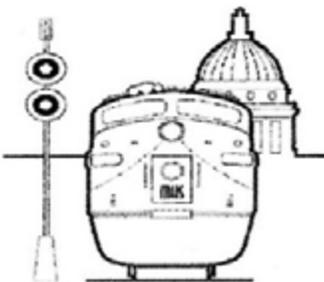
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Madison Hobby Stop – 6622 Mineral Point Rd (inside Clock Tower) – Madison WI *

*Train Show Ticket advance sales

2017 Meeting Time Table

Regular Meeting	BOD	Youth Group	Banquet	Picnic
April 2 nd 2017	April 10 th 2017	April 23 th 2017		
May 7 th 2017 (Rockford)	May 15 th 2017	May 21 st 2017	May 19 th 2017	
	June 12 th 2017			July 15 th 2017