

July August 2021

www.nmra-scwd.org

Volume 52 No. 11

Super's Report

Phil Hottmann
Division Superintendent

Where do we go from here? Now that summer has arrived and Covid-19 restrictions have lifted, we certainly have other choices.

Technologies now offer us the ability to maintain some of the on-line services for our general membership meetings. Our hope is to be able to present our meeting virtually for those who choose not to drive to our meeting site. This will also allow us to present clinics and layout tours virtually. We may be able to present clinics and layout tours from throughout the country.

I was disappointed to hear that TrainFest will not be presented this year. I always look forward to this show. To me it's the unofficial kick-off to the modeling season. Hopefully next year it will return. I'm not sure, but this could potentially provide a greater interest in our show.

On Memorial Day I stopped in at Paoli only to run into Paul and Kathy Mangan. It was great to see some of our members again in-person. I'm looking forward to the Summer Picnic coming up in July.

You can also attend the NMRA National Convention virtually this year. The cost is \$49, and it runs from July 6th through the 10th.

I hope to see you at the picnic on the 17th.

Phil

Next SCWD Meet

Sept 12, 2021 at 1:00 pm

Video Contest: Page 2

Next BOD Meeting:

August 9, 2021 at 7:00 pm

ZOOM Meeting



Contest Column

Dave Down, Chair

2020 has come and gone along with a big chunk of 2021. Thankfully the pandemic seems to be receding, letting us plan future activities and gatherings for the SCWD. Our photo and model popular vote contests are coming back in September, so it is time to set our plans for 2021-2022.

In September we are resuming in-person meetings at our new location in Verona, and our contests will resume then, too. Here is the planned list of categories for the next year:

- September: Railroad Structures
- October: No contest (reserved for the 2020 Model Project contest)
- November: Freight Cars
- December: Maintenance of Way and Non-Revenue Cars
- January: No contest (Rail School)
- February: Non-Railroad Structures (but served by railroads)
- March: Open Freight Cars
- April: Passenger Cars
- May: No contest (reserved for 2021-2022 Model Project Contest)

continued next page

The September contest will have the following breakdown:

Sheds, Shanties and Miscellaneous Structures
Coal / Fuel / Sand / Water Facilities
Stations / Terminals
Car Servicing Facilities (Repair Shops, Equipment Cleaning, Ice Facilities)

As usual we will have contests for models in each category, and contest photos of prototypes and models in each category.

Dave

2021-2022 SCWD Video Contest

Steve Lanphear

**Planning To Get Out Of Pandemic Jail This Summer And Do Some Railfanning Or Visit Some Layouts?
You could enter some of your videos in this Contest!**

SCWD 2021-22 Video Contest Guidelines

This year's SCWD video contest will be open for submitting entries on November 1, 2021.

Here are the things you need to know:

- There are two categories: **Prototype** and **Model**.
- The contest is open to those who attend the SCWD meetings.
- The person submitting an entry must be the one who took the video, however you may have help from others in editing your entry.
- The video can be from any time period (it doesn't have to be taken just to enter this contest).
- It has to be a **maximum** of 5 minutes in length, but can be any size less than that and the file has to be less than 2GB in size.
- All videos must be on a railroad or model railroad theme.
- The video can have title screen but not necessary, however there should be no names or identifiers on it (it is a "blind" contest).
- For the **Model Category**, the video can be of anyone's layout, not just your own.
- First, second and third place will be given for each category (no points given toward annual Photographer contest).
- **Deadline for Entries – March 1** (you will upload all entries to the website listed on the SCWD website, Video Contest webpage).
- You may enter more than once (max. of 5 entries per person).
- Voting starts **Mar 10** on the SCWD Video Contest webpage.
- Voting will be closed on end of day **April 15**.
- Winners will be announced at the May 2022 Meeting.

History of Tank Cars

By Jim Feldman

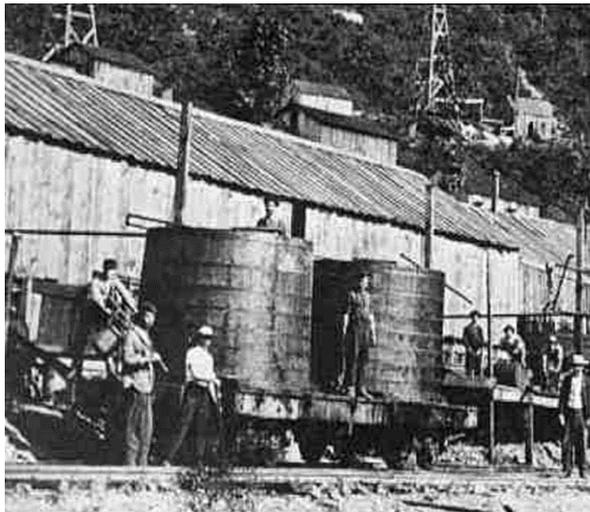
The tank car was one of the last functional rail cars developed. The passenger car, box car, gondola and flat bed were all early creations intended for specific loads; passengers, grain, and general freight.

But liquids were shipped in barrels, using the existing standard cars.

Liquid was shipped this way for many years. Leakage and expense were generally ignored for lack of a better method. The Central Pacific used barrels to ship water during construction of the line. Even liquid-based industries like breweries shipped in barrels by rail.

This all changed completely and very suddenly in August of 1859 when oil was discovered near Titusville Pennsylvania. Suddenly the railroads had the opportunity to make oceans of money shipping a liquid commodity. The tank car essentially didn't exist at this time.

The first solution was patented by the Densmore brothers (who also invented the QERTY keyboard). The Densmore car was a pair of wooden tanks mounted on a flat car. It was crude, leaky, dangerously top heavy and of limited capacity, but it was good enough for a few years.



A Densmore oil car c. 1860 in Titusville Pennsylvania.

It didn't take long (Empire Transportation Co. in 1869) for somebody to realize that the railroads already knew how to make long metal tanks that didn't leak since every loco had a boiler. That somebody left the decking off a flatcar mounted a steel tanks (with an expansion dome, access hatch and safety valve) on the flatbed's frame. By 1880 except for specialty applications, the wooden tanks had all but disappeared.

Around 1888, specialty manufacturers, like the Union Tank Car Co, began selling 6,000-to-10,000-gallon tank cars directly to the oil companies. Twenty years later there were ten thousand of them in service. Early designs were riveted together; the way boilers were made.

As technology advanced in materials and techniques they were welded, making a stronger and better sealed joint. By 1930 the tanker was made of a single rolled tube with welded endcaps. Due to rugged construction and the cost of replacement, older cars continued in service.





New enough to be welded
but old enough to have a frame.

Capacity rose steadily, from the early 6000 gallons to a fairly common 20,000-30,000 gallons today. The biggest tanker ever to be put into service was the 1964 GATX 96500 with a capacity of 50,000 gallons, it was 90 feet long and ran on four trucks, it ran for twenty years and is now in a museum in St. Louis.



Eventually the tanker business started to decline as pipelines and tank trucks proved superior in some ways. As these technologies come under fire from environmental groups, the rail tanker looks better and better. Even as the oil business declines the tank cars maintain their place in the transportation business, since they efficiently carry not just oil but food stuffs, chemical products, and all manners of liquid commodities.

Jim Feldman, SCWD Member



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Clinics
Layout Tours
Ops Sessions
Prototype Tours



www.IndyJunction2022.org



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NMRA 2021 Rails by the Bay

NMRA 2021 Rails By The Bay, NMRA's 2021 national online virtual convention on July 6-10, 2021, has several exciting announcements. The convention has booked a first group of 20 layout tours by video. Layout names, owners, and complete descriptions are at pcrnmra.org/NMRA2021/layouts.html.

There are nearly 30 clinics lined up. Most will be pre-recorded, with live Q&A after the clinic ends, to allow maximum video quality plus interactivity. For a complete current list visit pcrnmra.org/NMRA2021/clinics.html.

Well-known actor, modeler and railfan **Michael Gross** will be offering a special video address during the week. Michael's past convention banquet talks have earned accolades.

Online registration, with payment by PayPal, is now available. The all-inclusive fee for a full five days of video content, Q&A, plus other bonuses, is just \$49 or less than \$1.25 per hour. Video content will be available to registrants for at least two weeks after the convention.

Register online today at pcrnmra.org/NMRA2021/registration.html.

SCWD listserv starts a new idea for “stuck at home” model railroaders

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

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

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

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

Steve Lanphear
SCWD listserv Coordinator
scwdmemberlist@frontier.com

NMRA Steel Mill Modelers Special Interest Group (SIG) Annual Convention

August 19, 2021 - August 21, 2021

Arrival night Wednesday, August 18, Departure day Sunday, August 22



Host Convention Hotel:

The Hampton Inn Southgate is the host hotel and convention site for the Steel Mill Modelers Convention, it is located at 13555 Prechter Blvd, Southgate, MI 48195. The hotel is along the east side of I-75 at the Northline Road intersection with I-75. The hotel is offering a special room rate for convention attendees. The phone number is 734-574-4000.

Planned Convention/Event Schedule:

- **Wednesday evening, August 18:** is the arrival date for the convention
- **Thursday, August 19:** has a Detroit River boat tour to look at steel mills from the river side in the morning which includes narration by Ken Borg and a tour of a steel roll processing plant in the afternoon.
- **Friday, August 20:** has clinic presentations all day at the Hampton Hotel site and vendors on site to help you get the steel mill buildings, railroad cars, detail parts for inside and outside of your buildings and mills that you need for your layout or display.
- **Saturday, August 21:** has layout tours of 7 or more railroad layouts with steel mill operations and modeling on them during the daytime between 9am and 4pm.
- **Saturday evening, August 21:** has the annual steel mill modelers dinner and meeting at 6pm.
- **Sunday, August 22:** is a day on your own to continue to see steel mills and other related steel companies in the southeast Michigan area by driving by, visit Henry Ford Museum, visit Greenfield Village, rail fanning for photos or just watching trains pass by, go to Toledo, OH and visit the Great Lakes freighter boat and museum, watch Great Lakes freighters sail by along the Detroit River at Wyandotte or Detroit, go shopping! Spend money! Visit Windsor, Canada for a day, bring your proper identification and passport!



Registration and Costs: More information on registration and costs are on the NMRA Steel Mill Modelers SIG website at <https://smmsig.org/2021-annual-meet/>

Fly In Or Drive To Attend The Convention:

The Wayne County/Detroit Metro Airport is about 15 minutes or less to the west of the hotel for those that need to travel to the convention area by airplane. From the airport, on the east side of the airport go to Middlebelt (north-south road), then go to Northland Road and head east. When you past highway I-75 on Northland Road, on the east side of I-75, turn south on Prechter Blvd to the Hampton Inn (you will go past a Holiday Inn). For those planning to drive to the convention, getting to the intersection of I-75 and Northland Road is pretty easy! Remember that I-75 has "rush hour traffic" in the morning and the afternoon, so plan your driving times accordingly.

Contact Information And Questions At This Time:

Contact Rich Mahaney in Michigan at phone number 269-214-4221 or email at hazmatrichm@aol.com

A Puzzle for You

You like trains, or train watching, but have you ever wanted to go to an OPS (Operating Session) and run trains on someone else's layout, but were afraid you wouldn't know what to do?



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Happy Railroading!
Steve



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

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

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

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

Steve Lanphear
SCWD listserv Coordinator
scwdmemberlist@frontier.com



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

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

Steve Lanphear and the Puzzle Development Team.



**Minutes SCWD Board Meeting
7:00 pm, May 10, 2021
via Zoom meeting**



The meeting of the South Central Wisconsin Division Board of Directors was called to order at 7:05 pm by Superintendent Phil Hottmann. Phil Hottmann, Dr. Bill Clancy, Bob McGeever, Dave Dingman, Steve Preston, John Kosobucki, and Bill Mitchell were present. John Haverberg attended to present an update on the SCWD July Summer Picnic.

BOD Meetings: *Members of the SCWD are invited to join a Board of Directors meeting. Meeting dates are published in the **Bad Order**. Send a request to Phil Hottmann or another member of the SCWD Board for a ZOOM link to the upcoming meeting. The members' contact information is in the REDBOOK.*

Minutes

Motion by Dr. Clancy, second by Down, to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

Paymaster Report

Bob McGeever presented the high points of the Paymaster Report. Consignment sales are working at the **Madison Hobby Stop**. Motion by Mitchell, second by Preston, to approve the Paymaster Report as written. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Picnic - John Haverberg updated the Board with the latest plans. The SCWD July Summer Family Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, July 17th, 2021. The park opens at 12:00 noon and closes at 5:00 pm. The picnic lunch will begin serving at 12:30 pm at the **Blue Rose Pavilion** at **Little Americka Park** in Marshall. **HY-VEE** has offered two options for the lunch - a Box Lunch or served by a HY-VEE employee. Costs are similar. The Board is favoring the lunch served by an employee. **HY-VEE** will be following the *Dane County COVID-19 guidelines*. The Board is recommending that all our members and adults attending be vaccinated. Masks will be worn except for the meal. Adults will be responsible for their children. Visitors to the park will also be following **Little Americka COVID-19 guidelines**. Thank you, John, for the updates.

Achievement Program - Ken Hojnacki is keeping records up to date.

Advertising - No updates at this time.

Bad Order - The "Constant Contact" email system has encountered some problems with valid **email addresses**. The **email list** comes directly from the NMRA membership list, so please keep your membership active and your email current with the NMRA. **All SCWD members are requested to inform the NMRA when their email address changes.**

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

Clinics - Mike Vivion has announced his retirement as Clinics Chairperson. A new Clinics Chairperson is needed for Fall 2021. **ZOOM** clinics will not be going away in the Fall. Members of the Board are looking at what equipment and communications system will be needed for our clinic presentations at the Verona facility. Discussion included having joint "Face to Face" and "ZOOM" clinics. Region Clinics Coordinator, Eric Peterson, Midwest Region of the NMRA, is lining up ZOOM clinics for all regions to use which will be a good resource for the new Clinics Chairperson.

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

Contests - Photography - Check out the most current Bad Order Newsletter for the next ON-LINE photography contest. **REMINDER: Images that are sent to Dave Down need to contain the image in a JPEG image file format accompanied by comments that may contain location, date, and person submitting the images.**

Modeling Project - Mike Vivion will be taking over coordination of the annual modeling project.

Door Prizes - Door prizes are in inventory for the upcoming SCWD monthly membership "Face-to-Face" meetings. Past door prize certificates need to be picked up at the **Madison Hobby Stop**.

Layout Tours - (REMINDER - A NEW CHAIRMAN IS NEEDED) - Phil is compiling a list of layouts that may be open for tours. The SCWD is always looking for more people to host virtual layout tours and future face to face tours. Please contact Phil Hottmann about the possibility of opening up your layout for a virtual or face to face tour. Phil's contact information is in the **REDBOOK**.

Membership - "Constant Contact" communications software is allowing the tracking of memberships easier. Our members are encouraged to keep their membership current and report any changes in **email addresses**. **Please renew your membership as soon as possible to keep your continuous membership in good standing.**

Rail School - If our January Rail School is held, it will be in a new location at the Verona Senior / Community Center. This facility follows Dane County COVID-19 guidelines. There may be a "rule" that only vaccinated people may enter the facility to keep it safe for Verona community members that use the facility during the week. The possibility of moving **Rail School** to a month after the February **Rail Show** is a possibility.

Rail Show - The "**Title Town**" model railroad show that was held in Green Bay on April 17 had a good attendance. Bob McGeever attended the show and spoke to vendors to let them know that our plans for **February 19th and 20th, 2022 Madison Model Railroad Show and Sale** event is moving forward. Vendor and exhibitor invitations are being sent out. The SCWD website has the Rail Show announcement on the calendar.

Website - The www.nmra-scwd.org website is looking good! The www.nmra.org website is **UNDERUSED** by its members. There is a direct link from our SCWD website to the National Model Railroad Association website. You will need to register your NMRA membership to view the "members only" information on the different pages of the NMRA website.

Old Business:

Commission Sales - Consignment sale income from Company Store items at the **Madison Hobby Stop** is almost covering our monthly door prize costs.

Happy Hour - The next SCWD "ZOOM" Happy Hour event will be May 28 at 5:00 pm. An email announcement will be sent out.

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

New Business:

Winnebagoland Division - The Winnebagoland Division of the NMRA has extended the South Central Wisconsin Division an invitation to join their Division in a ZOOM session. More information will be sent out to our members via email as information becomes available.

Tri-Meet - Interest is increasing for the Wisconsin Southeastern Division, the Rock River Valley Division, and the South Central Wisconsin Division to begin planning for a "Tri-Meet" for May 2022. A motion was made by Dr. Clancy, second by Preston, to pursue this May 2022 "Tri-Meet" opportunity.

Face to Face Meeting Location - At this time, our SCWD Monthly Membership face to face meetings are planned to be held at the new facility in Verona. Details on how the facility is to be used within the context of Dane County and City of Verona *COVID-19 guidelines* are being investigated. As of May 2021, the Board has recommended:

COVID-19 guidelines be enforced for our "face to face" meetings

All attendees will wear masks

Adult attendees should be fully COVID-19 vaccinated

COVID-19 guidelines may be less restricted in September which may modify our SCWD recommendations

Support of Small Businesses:

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

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Preston, second by Kosobucki, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Bill Mitchell - Clerk

**The MWR Spring
Convention
PREVIOUSLY
RESCHEDULED
FOR
SEPTEMBER 2021
has been
CANCELLED**



A Word about Constant Contact e-mail

Each Constant Contact e-mail includes links to update or unsubscribe your e-mail address. **Please do not use these links.** If you unsubscribe using the Constant Contact link, your e-mail address will be removed from the NMRA membership database, from the Midwest Region e-mail database and probably from your Division's records. If you get an e-mail that you don't want, just hit the delete key. Furthermore, if you use the update link, your change may not be timely posted to the NMRA membership database.

If you need to change your email address with the NMRA please follow these directions:

The direct way is to log on to the "Members" page of the NMRA website, choose the "View your NMRA membership" box on the right side of the screen, scroll down to the bottom of the page and select "Update". Enter the new email address in the appropriate box and click "Submit".



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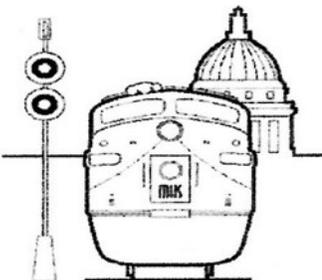
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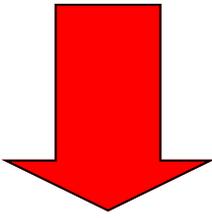
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If you change your email address

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

Thank you!

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TRAINS & MORE

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Contact

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Bad Order Editor

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

* = Train Show Ticket advance sales

SCWD 2020-2021 Meeting Schedule

Regular Meeting	BOD	PICNIC
		July 17, 2021
	Aug 9, 2021	
Sept 12, 2021	Sept 13, 2021	
Oct 3, 2021	Oct 11, 2021	
Nov 7, 2021	Nov 8, 2021	
Dec 5, 2021	Dec 13, 2021	



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