

Press Release

Cedarburg, WI TRAIN SHOW GOES GLOBAL

The breadth of the model trains being exhibited at the spring show of the METRO Model Railroad Club has gone international. The Club has invited the Milwaukee chapter of the European Train Enthusiasts (ETE) to exhibit their models of European trains, locomotives and cars that differ significantly in appearance from American trains. Many of these models are made by Marklin, a brand very popular in Europe and with many aficionados in the States. Their layout also demonstrates how trains can be controlled by a cell phone or tablet.

The show, scheduled for March 8th at Circle B Recreation in Cedarburg, will feature all the popular scales of model railroading. METRO's own national award-winning portable layout will be the exemplar of HO scale. This layout is fully scenicked and highly detailed, with many animations and humorous scenes. Its larger cousin O scale, popularized by the Lionel brand, will be represented with equipment brought by Joe Rantanen of the Kettle Moraine Ballast Scorchers, who will be exhibiting a variety of newer Lionel O Scale Trains.

N scale, half the size of HO, will be on display in a large layout built by the Ballast Scorchers Club of West Bend. Full of interesting scenes and action, it also has a representation of the infamous Weyauwega derailment. The Club likes to run long trains not often possible in larger scales. Modeler Jeff Young is displaying his highly detailed American Flyer S Scale layout. Scenes throughout this layout include a junk yard, a campground complete with tents and camping trailers, a pond, people fishing and canoeing, a prison chain gang working on a road, pumpkin patch, and much more. There will also be a display of G scale trains, a popular scale for garden railroad, courtesy of Modeler Don Leutner. An even larger model train on display will be a 7 ½" scale model by Dan Steingraber of the Milwaukee Light Engineering Society of Jackson, WI. This scale of trains is large enough to ride on.

The smallest scale on display will be a layout built by members of the WizKidz, a Z scale layout with trains that can be run in a suitcase. All of the clubs exhibiting are open for new members. Attendees can discuss membership, as well as modeling problems with club members at the show. METRO can be found on the web at www.metroclub.org.

The show also features 57 tables of dealers and swappers will be on hand to buy, sell and trade model railroad equipment, both new and used. This is the 25th year for the show and Chairman Jim Bartelt assures everyone it will be the best one yet. "With so many new products being sold, and with the technology changes, it is amazing just to window shop what is now available," Jim said.

"People need to come out and see what model railroading has become", METRO President Ray Meyer said. "This isn't toy trains. It is modeling an entire industry with a high degree of realism that modelers take very seriously." The show opens at 9 a.m. and runs to 4 p.m. Admission is \$3, with children under 12 admitted free when accompanied by an adult. Sponsors of this year's show include Dr. Daniel Witkowski DDS Gentle Family Dentistry, Tires Unlimited Automotive Services, Johns Pizzeria of Grafton Port Washington State Bank, and C & M Auto Services.

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