

THE OWL CAR

NEWSLETTER OF THE WISCONSIN SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION
of the National Model Railroad Association

Trainfest
America's Largest Operating Model Railroad Show

November 10 & 11, 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS :

- WISE Youth Group meeting
dates on WISE website

- Division Meet
September 16, 2012
Best Western - Harwood Rms
Brookfield, WI
Clinics Info on Page 5

- Division Meet
October, 2012
Best Western -Symposium &
Underwood Rms
Brookfield, WI

2012 Trainfest Tickets on Sale
Info on Page 3

2012-2013
Contest and Meet Info
Page 7

September 2012

YOGI SAYS "THANKS"

By Ed Varick Picnic Director

Thank You for a
beautiful day.



Photo by Neal Michel

Thanks for some great food; fantastic door prizes; wonderful friends and another great Picnic sponsored by the WISE division of the NMRA.

All had a good time enjoying some delicious food, ice cream soda and free popcorn courtesy of the Zoo. Credit must be given to our fantastic donors; Illinois Railroad Museum; Kalmbach Publishing; Walthers; South Side Trains; Greenfield Hobbies; Waukesha Gandy Dancers; Mr. John Tews and Sandy Lorenz. Thanks to all.

The 2013 Picnic is scheduled for August 4, so mark your calendar if you want to join us. I (Yogi) will try being there but Mr. Park Ranger is really strict about wandering around, so we'll see what we can work out.

THANK YOU Again

P.S. Did you meet my volunteers who worked hard to make the picnic a success? Fred and Bonnie Janke, Neil and Diane Michel, Wayne Dunbar and our own cuddly BooBoo, Dick Cecil. Thanks to all.

Ed Varick,
Picnic Chairman

WISE BOARD 2011-2012

OFFICERS:

Superintendent Joe Russ 262-408-1946	Assistant Superintendent Kurt Wamser 414-791-7549
Chief Clerk Al Lederman 262-617-6064	Paymaster Bob Sherman 262-790-9830

DIRECTORS:

Trainfest® John Tews MMR 262-820-3566	Achievement Program Ted Lewtas 414-362-9798
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Clinics Ed Koforth 414-425-7945	Contests Bonnie Janke 262-392-9698
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Layout Tours Tim Scott 262-786-3327	Membership Neal Michel 414-817-1278
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Newsletter/ Website Kurt Wamser 414-791-7549	Picnic Ed Varick 414-761-2068
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Video Library Burnell Breaker 262-939-9193	Bus Trips Art Oseland 414-764-5375
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Directors at Large:

Dick Cecil 414-236-5386	Gary Children 414-327-1666
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LaRoye Chisley 414-352-3546	Cedor Aronow 262-242-0108
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Coordinators:

Youth Group Mark Hintz

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In case of ... bad weather WISE meet cancelations will be posted on the "Home" page of the WISE website along with posting with Milwaukee TV channels 6 and 12.

Superintendent's Corner By Joe Russ The Head Owl Hoots (new column heading)

As summer ends, it's time to get back to thoughts of model railroading and heading to a new season of events, or working in the basement. But that's not to say some noteworthy Division business wasn't done over the summer...

A thank you goes to Ed Varick and his helpers for pulling off another great picnic. While the food and weather were perfect, attendance was unfortunately down from last year. However, the national convention in Grand Rapids happened to fall on our picnic weekend which prevented a number of members from attending.

Before summer there was a new appointment to the board. I'd like to welcome Art Oseland to the board of directors. Art has been doing the WISE Division bus trips for the past few years, a position he will continue to handle, and has experience with the Lionel Club of Milwaukee and the Mid-Continent Railroad Museum. Welcome aboard, Art.

And Art was soon given extra duties as I appointed him chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws committee, which has had two meetings and is putting together documents needed to bring our constitution and bylaws in alignment with each other, as well as the Midwest Region and other parts of our operation. The committee consists of two officers (Paymaster Bob Sherman and myself), two board members (Art Oseland and Neal Michel) and two regular members (Dave Nelson and Ken Jaglinski). Division attorney, and former Trainfest chairman, Bruce Schrimpf is also on the committee. There will be more information on this in the coming months, and if you have any suggestions, feel free to contact myself or any committee member.

Also over the summer, board member Ted Lewtas started the transition of taking over the NMRA Achievement Program duties for the Division from Cedor Aronow. Ted is a very active HO modeler who is participating in the AP program, and is currently in the process of building a new Boston & Maine layout. Look for clinics on the AP program in the coming months, and more opportunities to have your models judged. Thank you Ted for taking on this responsibility, and thank you Cedor for your years in directing the program.

Of course, we can always use more help in running the Division. Thus a reminder that I am also looking for someone to take over webmaster duties for the Division. Experience with Wordpress and basic HTML are helpful, and experience with Facebook pages and groups are a bonus.

Continued on page 4

Trainfest Tickets

NOW ON SALE

Advance Tickets on sale for \$10 each.

Friday Product Showcase ticket now on sale. The \$40 special Friday Products Showcase ticket includes access to the manufacturers show, dinner and gift bag on Friday along with admission to Trainfest Saturday and Sunday.

Kids coupons available from the Trainfest website.

Tickets are on sale at the following Supporters and Friends of the Wisconsin Southeastern Division and Trainfest.

Metro Milwaukee Area:

Greenfield News and Hobbies - Greenfield
Hiawatha Hobbies - Waukesha
Silver Spring Hobby & Games - Milwaukee
Sommerfeld's Trains - Butler
South Side Trains - Milwaukee
Walthers Terminal Hobby - Milwaukee

Outside metro Milwaukee:

EngineHouse Service - Green Bay, WI
Lombard Hobbies - Lombard, IL
Madison Hobby Stop - Madison, WI
Park Lane Hobbies - Dyer, IN

Division Directories

We still have many WISE Division Directories to hand out to our members. If you have not picked yours up or know of a friend who is a Division Member that hasn't picked theirs up, stop by the Video Library table at our monthly meets and do so, please. Thanks! Burnell Breaker

September Contests

By Bonnie Janke Contest Director

Here we are with summer almost gone and a new 2012-2013 Wisconsin South Eastern Division meets that are about to begin. I've had time to think about all you modelers and what you might bring to the WISE contest room in September. I'll keep a list for all of you and I will be handing out the list for the 2012-2013 contests at the September meet. We know that you can also go on the Website and see what the list is, but sometimes it helps to have a list close by to know what you want to be working on for the monthly meets. My thoughts are making sure that you have all the information that you need to enter our contests. At the April meet we were able to have several people who came to take advantage of our contest at Wisconsin South Eastern Division meet.

We also know that there were several of you modelers who said that you had things just about done on an item that they wanted to bring. My hope is that you were able to get them completed and we look forward to seeing you in our contest room. We have a very nice room with plenty of space to have all your entries to be shown and for people to come and vote for you and maybe in September you will be the one to win our "Best of Show" plaque. If there is anything that you want to learn about modeling come to the meets and see what is being offered in our clinics. If there is something that you want to learn and be able to complete for your layout or also for the contests, please let us know. We are here to help you. We will be featuring all categories for September so please look the list over very carefully. Stop by and pick up the Wisconsin South Eastern Division Contest List for 2012 - 2013, in our Contest Room.

September 16th, 2012 meet:

All Categories Featured

Motive Power - Steam	Motive Power - Diesel
Traction/Electric	Passenger Equipment
Freight Equipment	Non - Revenue Equipment
Structures	Photographs - Prototype
Photographs - Model	General
Youth - 8 to including 17	
Train Related Craft	

Superintendents Corner continued from page 2

This would be a great chance for someone who wants to get a bit more involved in the Division to do so. Please contact me if you are interested.

I am also looking for someone interested in organizing a bicycle ride for the Division over one of great rail trails in our boundaries. Such an event would be something different, and offer an opportunity to combine education with a bit of exercise. Again, please contact me if you are interested.

For those who don't want to get that involved, we are always in need of new clinics and layouts to tour. If you would like to do either, please contact Ed Kofroth if you have a clinic you would like to share and Tim Scott if you would like to have your layout open.

Unfortunately, the summer was marred with some bad news. Those of you who frequented Division meets over the years remember Cal Krazonya as a regular seller the swap room. A former member in the Division, who at one time had an impressive layout in Brookfield, Cal had moved outside the Division but still attended the meets on a regular basis. Cal passed away on June 22 at the age of 71. He will be missed.

By now some of you may have heard that board member John Tews submitted a resolution to look at changing the Division's current owl logo and even suspending use of WISE Division as our name. If you have looked at Trainfest advertising the past few years, you will notice that the Division logo, and even NMRA logo, not to mention the "WISE Division, NMRA," have not been featured as prominently as they should be to get our name out to the public and model railroading community that Trainfest is an NMRA Division show. I was pushing to change this when this resolution was brought forth.

The initial motion for the resolution was tabled, and it now is on the agenda for the September board meeting. I have put a link to the resolution on the Division's web page, and it is also available on the Division's Facebook page and group. I will be discussing this more at our September 16 meet.

continued next column

Superintendents Corner continued:

So far the majority of the comments I have heard have been in favor of keeping the WISE acronym as our name, and updating the look of the artwork. Feel free to give me your feedback by emailing me at [jruss@execpc.com](mailto:j russ@execpc.com) or give me a call at 262-408-1946.

And finally, a reminder that since the Packers play da Bears on Thursday evening, September 13, they don't play on the afternoon of Sunday, September 16. So you can't use that as an excuse not to attend the September meet. See you there!

Joe Russ
Superintendent
WISE Division, NMRA=

News From NMRA National

Results from the NMRA National election for 2012:

Charlie Getz NMRA President

Dave Thornton - Vice President - Administration

Bill Kaufman - Vice President - Special Projects

John Roberts, MMR - Eastern District Director

Mike Bartlett - Pacific District Director

Miles Hale, MMR - At-Large North America Director

New Strategic Planning Committee being headed up by Western Director Jack Hamilton

The Marketing Department team of Page Martin, Garrett Ewald, and Barrett Johnson were named at the 2012 NMRA convention. Each of these individuals has professional marketing experience, and is tasked with developing advertising and promotions aimed at retaining existing members, re-enlisting lapsed members, and attracting new ones

Ben Sevier of the Pacific Southwest Region has accepted the position of Information Technology Director for the NMRA.

Clinics for September

1 pm **Cliff Olson** - Large Scale Prototype Operation

This clinic will look into some of the unique benefits and challenges of prototypical operations in 1.5" scale, or "Live Steam" railroading. All aspects including yard and road operations, radio dispatching, and card way-bill systems will be covered.

2 pm **Bill Bedell** - Four decades of operations in the Port of Milwaukee, including trains, boats and trucking.

3pm **Ted Lewtas** - The NMRA's Achievement Program is designed to promote the hobby of model railroading by encouraging individual members to broaden their outlook and to continuously improve their skills through a system of peer-judged modeling projects. Completion of these projects entitles the member to display the Certificate of Master Model Railroader.

This clinic will explain the rules and procedures of the Achievement Program, display a few Models built by WISE members for the Program, and maybe give a few tips on preparing your model for Merit judging."

Video Library

By **Burnell Breaker** Video Library Director

Your Video Librarian has been busy this summer acquiring new DVD's for the Division's Video Library. All of the titles listed below will be available for checkout at our September 16 meet. The usual policy remains for new titles, **LIMIT OF 2 PER MEMBER**. You can still check out up to a total of 6 titles per month. All are due back to the Video Library at the next month's meet, unless other arrangements have been made with the Librarian, me.

I will have the complete video library of VHS tapes and DVD's at the September 16 and January 20, 2013 meets. All DVD's and some VHS tapes will be available for checkout at all other meets this season, except for the final meet of the season on April 21, 2013, where all checked out videos **MUST** be turned in. Check out the listings on our website and if there are videos you want to see, let me know, I will make sure it isn't checked out and if not, bring along to the next meet for you.

NEW DVD's

Santa Fe Odyssey, Vol. 1
CSX Toledo Sub, Parts 1 & 2
Building the RGS, Vol. 1-9
Wisconsin Central, Vol. 1, The Northern Lines
Wisconsin Central, Vol. 2, Winter on the WC
Wisconsin & Southern
C&NW's Iron Ore Route
C&NW in Northwest Wisconsin

THANK YOU to the Hobby Stores that support the Wisconsin Southeastern Division of the NMRA and it's Members:

Greenfield News & Hobby
Greenfield 414-281-1800

Jetco's Hiawatha Hobbies
Waukesha 262-544-4131

Sommerfeld's
Butler 262-783-7797

South Side Trains
Milwaukee 414-482-1566

Walthers / Terminal Hobby
Milwaukee 414-461-1050

MEMBERSHIP

By Neal Michel Membership Director

Why join the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA)? That's a question that I have asked myself. I frequently take for granted the many things that the NMRA has done for model railroaders since its inception in 1935. Through the course of the 2012-13 Meet season, I plan to hi-light the many benefits to being a member of the NMRA.

To begin, let's look at the structure and purpose of the NMRA. It's a non-profit educational association whose purpose is both to promote the hobby of model railroading and to help set standards within the industry. As of June 2012 there are just under 19,100 members world wide. There are 17 NMRA Regions across the globe and each region is composed of many Divisions. There are a total of 150 Divisions. Our WISE Division currently has approximately 250 members. The WISE Division includes the following counties: Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha. Next month we'll take a look at Standards and Recommended Practices.

Meet Attendance: If you attend one of our division meets, please be sure to sign in and receive a chance at a great door prize. With a swap area, clinics, contests and layout tours there is something for everyone.

6 - Month NMRA Membership Only - \$9.95
(This membership offer is for new members and those who have not been NMRA members for two years or more.) Membership application forms are available at the sign in table.

2012 Picnic Memories



Photo by Neal Michel



Photo by Neal Michel



2012-2013 Meet dates and Location

All Meets for the 2012-2013 season will be held at the Best Western Plus Midway Hotel
1005 s. Moorland Rd. - Brookfield

September 16, 2012 meet will be located in the Harwood Rooms at the south end of Hotel

October 21, 2012 December 2, 2012 January 20, 2013 February 17, 2013
March 17, 2013 April 21, 2013 meets will be held in the Symposium & Underwood Rooms

Featured Contest Categories by Meet: 2012-2013

9/16/2012

All Categories

10/21/2012

Motive Power – Steam

Passenger Equipment

Non – Revenue Freight Equipment

Model Photos

12/2/2012

Motive Power – Diesel

Revenue Freight Equipment

Prototype Photos

Train Related Crafts

1/20/2013

Motive Power – Steam & Diesel

Structures (On and Off Line)

General (Dioramas & Trains)

Model Photos

2/17/2013

Traction/Electric

Passenger Equipment

Non – Revenue Freight Equipment

Prototype Photos

3/17/2013

Structures (On and Off Line)

General (Dioramas & Trains)

Freight Equipment

Model Photos

4/21/2013

All Categories

Complete Contest Category List:

Motive Power – Steam

Motive Power – Diesel

Passenger Equipment

Non-Revenue Freight Equipment

Freight Equipment

Structures (On and Off Line)

General (Dioramas & Trains)

Traction/Electric

Model Photos

Prototype Photos

Train Related Crafts

THE OWL CAR

WISCONSIN SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION OF THE
NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

September 16,2012 Best Western Plus Midway Hotel
1005 s. Moorland Rd. - Brookfield

- 12:30pm Meet Opens: Registration - Contest - Swap Meet

Clinics:

- 1pm Cliff Olson - Large Scale Prototype Operation
- 2pm Bill Bedell - Four decades of operations in the Port of Milwaukee
- 3pm Ted Lewtas - The NMRA's Achievement Program

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