



THE WISE OWL CAR

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Southeastern
Division of the National Model Railroad
Association



January 2015

THE HEAD OWL HOOTS

By Joe Russ, Superintendent

Hi all,

I hope the new year is off to a good start for all of you.

There is an issue I would like to address regarding Trainfest, and am asking your support on. For the 2014 show general admission was raised at the door from \$12 to \$13. While we did better financially in 2014 than 2013, and well enough to basically cover the Division's operating costs, we saw attendance drop around 20%. This is the second year attendance has dropped.

The Trainfest committee is proposing raising admission at the door yet again, from \$13 to \$15 for 2015. When attendance goes down, you do not raise admission. Some want to compare the gate to other venues at in the area, such as the Children's Museum. But what they forget is those are year-round, with paid staff and permanent facilities to maintain. We rent a facility for a weekend and the show is put on by volunteers.

My goal as Superintendent is, and has been, to find ways to keep the hobby affordable for those attending Division events. We are still able to maintain monthly meets that are free to members and the public alike, with the contests. The bus trips have become self-sustaining. The new WISE Division Operating Day is also free. Why? Because I want to see the hobby grow by both keeping the modelers we have, and making it affordable for those considering the hobby and making it a family activity.

A big part of that starts with an affordable Trainfest. The new committee did a great job the past year in bringing in new features to attract visitors to the show, from new clinics to make 'n take and Junior Engineer Program for the kids to the MLES train ride. And with a year of experience under their belt, so will ideas for cutting some costs. Let's keep admission where it is and give the new features to the show a chance to work to build attendance back up.

I ask that you contact any WISE board member(s) before January 14 and encourage them to vote to maintain the \$13 adult admission at the door another year. The NMRA Bulletin used to have the tagline, "Sharing the fun with everyone," so let's do so by keeping Trainfest affordable so everyone can share the fun. In other news, for those of you who haven't heard, Greenfield News & Hobby will be closing at the end of March. If you have any outstanding certificates that you won in one of the Division's contests, be sure to redeem it soon.

See you at the meet in January 18.

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Please send any comments, information, or editorials to the editor.

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WISE Division once again sets up train at the Ronald McDonald House By Joe Russ, Superintendent

The WISE Division once again set up trains around the Christmas tree at the Milwaukee Ronald McDonald House in Wauwatosa. For every year since 1990, with the exception of last year due to new construction at the House, the Division has set up a pair of G-gauge trains around the House's tree for guest families to enjoy. This year Superintendent Joe Russ and Membership Director Neal Michel set up the trains in early December and took them down in early January.



Picnic by Mark Willmering- Chair

Hello all, I hope you had a great Christmas and Santa brought you lots of train stuff. Here we are in a new year and this year we will be at a new location for our annual picnic. The Milwaukee Light Engineering Society has agreed to host our picnic. The date will be August 2, 2015. You can access the M.L.E.S. web site at mlesrr.org for the location and directions to their facility. We will have door prizes again, I hope to get more N Scale, and Bunzels Old Fashioned Meat Market will provide the food again. Of course there will be train rides.

So mark your calendar for August 2, 2015. Mark Willmering mwillmering@aol.com

Layout Tours by Mike Carlson

This month we will visit Dave Poquette's HO scale Paper Valley Lines.

Dave's layout is based on the Chicago and Northwestern in the Green Bay area and is set in the late 1940's to early 1950's during the height of the diesel transition era. The layout is a 16' x 18' mushroom-style layout which is the only known layout of that design in the Milwaukee area. Dave uses JMRI generated switch lists and a Lenz DCC system to operate the Paper Valley lines, which offers a wide variety of throttles to operate the layout with.

The Paper Valley's 130 foot main line includes interchanges with the Milwaukee Road and Green Bay & Western railroads. The railroad is approximately 65% scened, allowing you to view the layout's construction, from bench-work to finished scene. **Layout Tours Needed** We need layout tours for February in the Racine or Kenosha area, since the division meet will be held in Racine. There are openings for March and April as well. Let us see what you have been working on!

Membership by Neal Michel

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

December Meet Attendance: 61 signed in. 44 indicated that they are NMRA members. NMRA Division membership is: 221.

Bus Trips by Art Oseland

Hello All

Bus confirmation with Badger Coach for Mad City Train Show Feb. 21, 2015. Also, confirming the DuPage Train Show May 3, 2015.

More details to come.

More information-Contact Art Oseland at raydenny1@aol.com, or H: [414-764-5375](tel:414-764-5375)



All Aboard!

Leave the driving to us and relax.
Put this date on your 2015 calendar.

BUS TRIP
Mad City Train Show
Saturday, February 21, 2015
Arrive 9:00 a.m. Depart 2:00 p.m.

\$35.00 per person
admission to the Train Show
coffee, soda, water and donuts on the bus

Pick up at Park & Ride lots
College Avenue (southwest lot - 7:00 a.m.) State Fair Park (I-94 and 76th Street - 7:15 a.m.) I-94 & Barker Road (Goetz's Corner - 7:30 a.m.)

Sign up and pay at
December and January WISE meets.
Don't wait and get left at the platform!

FOR MORE INFORMATION - CONTACT
Art Oseland
raydenny1@aol.com
414-764-5375

Contest By Dave Evans, Chair

The following are the results for the Popular Vote Contest held in Brookfield on 12/7/2014.

Best of Show, Dave Evans for the Armstrong Turntable
Freight Equipment, 1st Place Donald Barske for his Miller Beer Car
Freight Equipment, 2nd Place Jim Sohns for his RB (Reichsbahn) 30' flat (N scale) W/PKW III
Structures, 1st Place Ed Varick for his Kutzt General Store
Structures, 2nd Place Dave Evans for his Armstrong Turntable
Photographs - Prototype, 1st Place Jim Sohns for his CN Westbound freight west of Stevens Point
Photographs - Prototype, 2nd Place Mark Willmering for his Combres & Toltec K-7 Mikado
Photographs - Model, 1st No contest Photographs - Model, 2nd No contest
General, No contest one entry Youth 8-17 years, No contest Train Related Crafts, No contest
Motive Power - Steam, No contest. Motive Power - Diesel, No contest one entry

I would like to recognize and thank those persons for their time and effort put into their models and photos. They are: (not in order) Herb Grosnitz, Jim Sohns, Donald Barske, Ed Varick, Dave Evans and Mark Willmering.

I encourage anyone who may attend the meets to feel free to enter a model or photograph, and even better, multiple entries. (Limit to two per category) While we are pleased to see NMRA (National Model Railroad Association) members who have entries in the popular vote contest, it is not a requirement and the contest is open to anyone. It does not have to be a new or recent model or photograph in order to enter. The benefits are the satisfaction of having one's entry recognized and award certificate for 1st and 2nd place winners. Also, the 1st. place winner for each category gets a choice of gift certificates to selected hobby shops. The Best of Show winner also receives a very nice plaque which can be mounted and displayed on a wall.

Contest Best of Show



Best of Show, Dave Evans for the Armstrong Turntable

Contest By Dave Evans, Chair



Freight Equipment, 1st Place Donald Barske for his Miller Beer Car

Structures, 1st Place Ed Varick for his Kutzt General Store



Video Library by Burnell Breaker

I have acquired new DVD's for the Division's Video Library. They are now available to be checked out. Remember, the policy is to check out one month and return them at the next month's 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.

All DVD's will be available for checkout at the January 18 meet. If you checked out DVD's or VHS tapes at the September 21 meet, they need to be returned at the January 18 meet.

Check out the listings on our website and if there are videos you want to see, let me know, I will make sure that it isn't checked out and if not, bring along to the next meet for you. Also, if you see a DVD advertised and you think it would be a great addition to our video library, let me know.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Superintendent: Joes Russ	(262) 408-1946
Assistant Superintendent : Ken Jaglinski	(414) 331-9643
Chief Clerk: Al Lederman	(262) 617-6064
Paymaster: Bob Sherman	(262) 790-9830
Trainfest : Ken Jaglinski	(414) 331-9643
WISE Owl Car Editor: Harry Grieshaber	(414) 915-2102
Contests: Dave Evans	(414) 353-6939
Achievement Program: Gary Children	(414) 327-1666
Layouts: Mike Carlson	(262) 370-9321
Membership: Neal Michel	(414) 817-1278
Youth Group Director: Mark Hintz	(262) 820-3566
Picnic: Mark Willmering	(414) 258-3944
Bus Trip: Art Oseland	(414) 764-5375
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Clinic Director: Ed Kofroth	(414) 425-7945
Directors at Large	
Cedor Aronow (262) 242-0108	Dennis Janssen-Assist. Paymaster (262) 544-6324
Bob Henderson (262) 692-6999	

2015 Meet & Events Dates	
Jan. 18, 2015	Midway Hotel Brookfield Formally Best Western
Feb. 15, 2015	Roma Lodge 7130 Spring St, Racine, WI
March 15, 2015	Midway Hotel Brookfield Formally Best Western
Apr. 26, 2015	Midway Hotel Brookfield Formally Best Western

Midway Hotel & Suites, Brookfield
1005 S. Moorland Rd., Brookfield
262-786-9540

The Wisconsin Southeastern (WISE) Division of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) serves the model railroaders in Southeastern Wisconsin

Clinics For January 2015

Doors Open at 12:30 p.m.	<p>Popular vote contest registration (open to the public) until 1:30 p.m..</p> <p>The January Categories for the Popular Vote Contest are:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Category</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Category Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>#100</td> <td>Motive Power - Steam</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#200</td> <td>Motive Power - Diesel</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#300</td> <td>Traction / Electric</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#400</td> <td>Passenger Equipment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#500</td> <td>Freight Equipment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#600</td> <td>Non - Revenue Equipment</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#700</td> <td>Structures</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#800</td> <td>Photographs - Prototype</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#900</td> <td>Photographs - Model</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#1200</td> <td>General</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#1300</td> <td>Youth 8 - 17 Years</td> </tr> <tr> <td>#1400</td> <td>Train Related Craft</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>> BEST OF SHOW AWARD <</p> <p>Dealers: Setup starts NO EARLIER than 11:30AM</p>	Category	Category Description	#100	Motive Power - Steam	#200	Motive Power - Diesel	#300	Traction / Electric	#400	Passenger Equipment	#500	Freight Equipment	#600	Non - Revenue Equipment	#700	Structures	#800	Photographs - Prototype	#900	Photographs - Model	#1200	General	#1300	Youth 8 - 17 Years	#1400	Train Related Craft
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1:00-1:45 p.m.	Dave Evans– Tools for Modeling																										
2:00-2:45 p.m.	Jim Shippman– DCC																										
3:00-3:45 p.m.	Dave Nelson– Trackside Details																										
3:45-4:00 p.m.	Announcements and Presentations of Contest Awards																										
4:00-6:00p.m.	Layout Tours This month we will visit Dave Poquette’s HO scale Paper Valley Lines (Maps to be distributed at conclusion of meeting)																										