

Published by the Wisconsin  
Southeastern Division of the  
Midwest Region of the  
National Model Railroad  
Association, Inc.

March 2018

## WISE Members Enjoy Trip to MAD-City Train Show

Our annual bus trip to the MAD-City Train Show in Madison was once again an enjoyable event. Over 25 members rode our charter bus to Madison, meeting up with other Division members who chose to drive. This annual show is hosted by the Wisconsin South Central Division of the NMRA. Here are some highlight pictures from the show. If success can be measured—the cargo compartments had to be used to transport back some of the goodies.



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### Last Big Event for Spring... Off to DuPage

*(Leave the driving to us!)*

Our annual bus trip to the Great Midwest Train Show at the DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, IL will be on Sunday, May 6, 2018. Look for more details in the April Owl Car. Cost is \$39 per person and includes the bus, admission, goodies on the bus and two Chicago layout tours. Pick-up will be at College Ave. Park & Ride.

Sign up and payment can be done at the March or April Meets. Youth pricing options are available.

For more info contact Art Oseland at raydenny1@aol.com or 414-764-5375.

## Notes from the Super's Desk...

### *Spring is Coming!*

As the last few days have become sunnier our family railway has become busier. In my house the Family RR is the corporate structure and theme, though it is often 3 versus 1 in lease negotiations.

For those of you who went to Madison on the bus trip send your thoughts, experiences and feedback to me. I ended up missing the show at the very last moment so I'm eager to hear what others have to say and saw!

While the news has spread I'd like to mention that long time member Dick Cecil passed away. A memorial article can be found on Page 8 of this month's Owl Car.

Our next meet is March 18th at the Four Points Sheraton (see the Upcoming Event page at: <https://wisedivision.org>) and it looks to be another great lineup. It looks like we will be back in the rooms we started the year in. A water pipe leak the night before our January Meet had those in attendance taking a long walk. Thank you for making the best of the situation and kudos to the hotel for keeping us in business.

April 22nd will be our Meet & Annual Meeting. Included in this Owl Car is the ballot. You will find the two directors running along with their biographies. Ballots must be postmarked no later than April 18th and received by April 20th in order to be counted. The results will be announced during the Annual Meeting.

The Election Committee has been through the wringer trying to sort out what started as "simple" questions I had about the process. This stymied their work due to no fault of their own and so I am reaching out to all of you asking for volunteers to take up positions on the WISE Board. I have asked them to reach out to members as well.

Currently we are relying on just a few members to handle the many tasks of the Division. Unless some members step forward to take on a role or some other solution develops some of the activities of this Division may have to be scaled back. Given both the history and potential our group has this would be unfortunate and hopefully temporary.

With the March meet coming finish up those last details and bring your contest entries! Stop a board member and talk to them about open positions and volunteering. Send your ballot in and enjoy the change of seasons and modeling.

—Pete



**NMRA  
Midwest Region  
Convention  
April 13-15, 2018**

You still have time to take advantage of early registration discounts for this year's Midwest Region Convention in Madison. Early registration ends March 31. It is being held at the Radisson Hotel on the South Beltline near West Towne Mall. Clinics and operating sessions are planned for Friday evening and the clinics continue Saturday morning. Saturday also features more operating sessions and layout tours in the afternoon. The banquet is planned for Saturday evening with keynote speaker Tony Koester from Model Railroader magazine. Additional layout tours are available on Sunday. For more details check out the website at: [www.nmra-scwd.org](http://www.nmra-scwd.org)

## Jim's Tips and Tidbits

—Jim Kelly

Among my favorite modeling tools is the lowly toothpick. I prefer the round ones, and many years ago I bought two small plastic jars of them at the grocery store. I still have hundreds left.

Mostly I use them to apply glue to small areas. They work great for Goo, CA, and white and yellow glues. I just squeeze a little out on a scrap piece of sheet styrene. You can trim the ends of the picks to get them into tight places. In 1978 when Model Railroader magazine was finishing off its N scale Clinchfield RR we used them to stab clumps of lichen to the styrofoam hillsides until the white glue set.



Many of us have fond memories of the late Dick Cecil. Mine go back to the 1980's when I lived on the east side of Milwaukee and Dick would come over on most Sunday afternoons to help on the layout. (This was the second of my Tehachapi layouts. I'm now on number four.) Dick was great fun and a very careful and exacting modeler. He was a strong believer in "letting the tool do the work" and he could drive me nuts watching him make a slower-than-slow saber saw cut in plywood. The result though was perfectly cut roadbed.



The first mass production toy train manufacturer was the German firm Marklin, starting with wind-up trains in 1891 and going electric a few years later. They're still at it 120 years later.



In the March NMRA magazine NMRA president Charlie Getz says there's evidence that model railroaders live five years longer than other folks. Maybe we can get those layouts finished yet!



## From Your Editor

— Steve Miazga

This month's edition of the Owl Car can be seen in full color and high resolution on the WISE website: <https://wisedivision.org>.

This month's mailing in hard copy format is so that we can distribute the ballots to the membership for the Board election. Next month we will resume the e-mail distribution of the Owl Car.

## Video Library News

— Burnell Breaker

The Video Library will be available for DVD check out at the March meet. All DVD's are due back by the April meet. No DVD's will be checked out at the April meet. We have a great selection of DVD's available for free use by WISE Division members.

A reminder as well, there are still a limited number of the Division's last membership directories available. One free copy per member.



## Upcoming Division Events

### March 18, 2018—Division Meet

Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee Airport, 12:30pm

### April 22, 2018—Division Meet & Annual Meeting

Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee Airport, 12:30 pm

### April 6-8, 2018—WISEops 2018

### May 6, 2018—Bus Trip to DuPage County Swap Meet\*

\* Denotes extra fare event

For more event details go to our website:

[WWW.WISEDIVISION.ORG](http://WWW.WISEDIVISION.ORG)

## WISEop Registration to Start Soon

— Joe Russ

The Division's operating weekend, WISEop, will be held April 6-8. A final schedule is being worked out now for the seven layouts that are participating, and registration should be starting in early March. Watch the Division's web site and Facebook page for updated information.

## WISE Meet Contest Activity Increases

— Dave Evans

March greetings fellow railroaders. This month we will have all categories open for submissions. It has been just amazing to see the number of entries as well as the quality level being submitted. No matter what your modeling level may be, these contest entries challenge us all to continue growing in the hobby and our skills. No matter the outcome, there is nothing that gives one more pride than to see your entry on the table for all to enjoy and learn. We look forward to seeing you with "your" entry this month.

Good luck to all!

The WISE Owl Car is published by the Wisconsin Southeastern (WISE) Division of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA). Subscription is free in an electronic format to all NMRA members residing within the boundaries of the WISE Division.

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## Upcoming National And Regional Events

### January 20—March 18, 2018—Mitchell Domes Exhibit

Railroad to Wonderland, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

[www.milwaukeehomes.org](http://www.milwaukeehomes.org)

### March 10-11, 2018—Delavan Train Show

Delavan American Legion Hall, Delavan, WI

[www.visitdelavan.com/trainshow](http://www.visitdelavan.com/trainshow)

### March 11, 2018—Metro Model Railroad Club Annual Show

Circle B Recreation, Cedarburg, WI; 9am-4pm

[www.metroclub.org](http://www.metroclub.org)

### March 17-18, 2018—La Crosse & 3 Rivers Model RR Show

Omni Center, - 255 Riders Club Road, Onalaska, WI

Saturday 9am—5pm Sunday 10am—4pm

### March 24, 2018—28th Annual Model Train Swap Meet

Fox Valley National Guard Armory, Appleton; 9am—3pm

### April 13-15, 2018—Midwest Regional Meet

Capitol 400, Madison, Wisconsin

More information on the Convention website

at: <https://www.nmra-scwd.org/capitol-400.html>

### April 28-29, 2018—Tiletown Train Show

Veterans Memorial Complex, Green Bay, Wisconsin

(See more information on Page 7)

<http://www.ttsqbllc.com/showinfo.html>

### August 5-12, 2018—NMRA 2018 National Convention

Kansas City, Missouri

<http://www.kc2018.org/>

### August 10-12, 2018—National Trainshow

Kansas City, MO Convention Center

<http://www.nationaltrainshow.org/2018/ntskc.html>

### September 14-16, 2018—Fall Harvest Days

Racine County Fairgrounds, Racine, Wisconsin

[www.fallharvestdays.com](http://www.fallharvestdays.com)

### November 10-11, 2018—Trainfest 2018

Wisconsin State Fair Park Expo Center, Milwaukee

<https://www.trainfest.com/>

### July 7-13, 2019—NMRA 2019 National Convention

Salt Lake City, Utah

<http://www.nmra2019slc.org/>



## WISE Division NMRA

# Model Railroad Meet

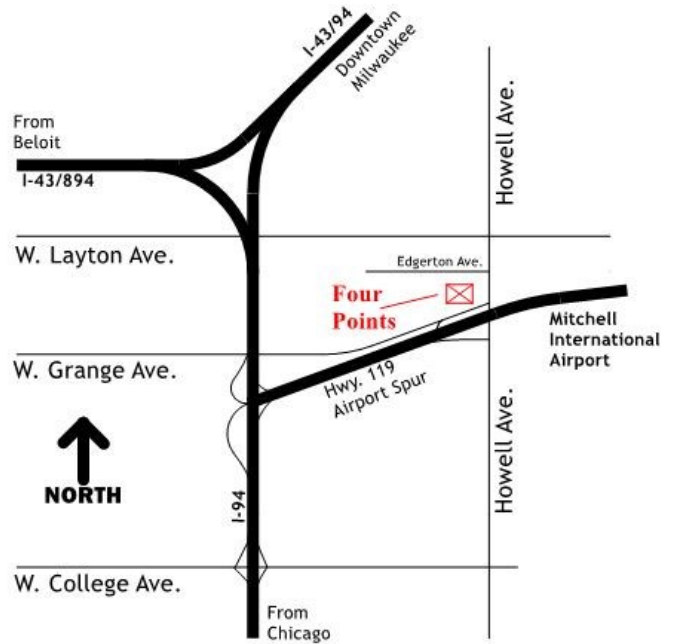
### March 18, 2018

**PUBLIC WELCOME — FREE ADMISSION**

- 12:30 pm Doors open and popular vote contest registrations  
Until 1:30pm
- 1:00 to 1:45pm "Using Microsoft Office Programs for your Hobby"  
An overview of how to use the powerful programs within Microsoft Office to enhance your hobby  
*Presented by Steve Miazga*
- 2:00 to 2:45 pm "Open Loads" *Presented by Dave Nelson*  
Open loads on flat cars and gondolas are not only interesting but represent potential modeling projects.
- 3:00 to 3:45 pm "Industrial Buildings along the Right of Way—  
Railroad Customers"  
*Presented by Otto P. Dobnick*
- 3:45 to 4:00 pm Announcements / Presentation of Contest Awards
- 4:00 to 6:00 pm Layout Tour

**Bring in Your Best and Enter the FREE Model and Photography Popular Vote Contest**  
**If you don't enter—you can't win!**  
 2 Entries Allowed, per Person, per Category

**Meet Location**  
**Four Points by Sheraton Hotel**  
 5311 S. Howell Ave. in Milwaukee  
 (formerly the Clarion Hotel & Conference Center-MKE Airport)  
**DRIVE AROUND TO THE BACK AND USE REAR ENTRANCE**



**CONTEST CATEGORIES**

Photo Prototype, Photo Model, Model Diorama, Structures, Freight Equipment,  
 Passenger Equipment, General, Non Revenue Equipment, Traction

**AND DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE BEST OF SHOW AWARD!**

## Don't Miss Dave Nelson's Open Loads Clinic

Dave Nelson will be presenting a clinic depicting prototypical open loads for rail cars. Here are a few examples of what you can expect to see in Dave's presentation. His clinic is scheduled for 2:00 pm at our March Meet.



# 2018 WISE Division Board Elections—Official Ballot

Note: All ballots **must be mailed** to:  
Dave Nelson  
Attn: WISE Division Election Committee  
1506 East Fox Lane  
Fox Point, WI 53217

All ballots must be **postmarked by April 18, 2018, received by April 20, 2018 and include your Name and NMRA Member # for verification.** Vote for no more than two candidates for the Board of Directors.

Note: **The NMRA does not allow FAMILY MEMBERS to vote, nor does the Midwest Region.**

Article IV, Membership and Dues, of the NMRA Regulations includes the following provision in Section 2:  
"B. Each member in the above classes, including Honorary Life Member, shall have the right to:"

"4. Except for Family Members; and Sustaining and Corporate Members other than individuals, the right to vote and run for elective office in any Region or Division of which the member is a resident member, subject to any qualifications and conditions"

Member Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

NMRA Member # (required) \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS BALLOT IS A RETURN MAILER—FOLD, ADD 1ST CLASS STAMP AND TAPE ALL 3 SIDES TO ALLOW FOR PROPER MAIL HANDLING**

## Candidate Bio's



**Art Oseland** — I have been a member of the NMRA since 1999 and currently I am the Bus Tour Director for the WISE Division. I help out at Trainfest as a volunteer where needed. I am also a Past President of Mid-Continent Railroad Museum. I've been a member of the Museum since 1985 and still serve as an active conductor during the summer season. I am also Past President of the Milwaukee Lionel Club and have been a member of the Club for 40 years. I ask for your support and vote for me as WISE director.



**Dave Evans** — I am currently an active member of both the NMRA and the WISE Division. As a Board member, we all hold various tasks and duties in the support of our division with mine currently as Director of Contests. In conjunction with those duties, I also am a member of the Trainfest committee which is also a part of the WISE division. I started out in the late 50's with a Lionel train set so typical of that period. My next large railroad experience came as an Electrician Apprentice with the Kansas City Southern Railroad. After serving in the United States Air Force, I took up the hobby of model railroading in 1975, the early years of "N" scale. I have been an active modeler ever since with my current scale being Sn3. My current layout under construction has absolutely no wiring as the trains are all radio controlled and battery operated. Exactly the same as DCC with sound, but NO wiring needed. I've built many structures and turnouts by hand and won numerous awards for them. That's why I so enjoy being Contest Director. My job is to encourage and promote others to do the same no matter one's skill level. The satisfaction comes in saying "I did that!", and the respect from others for that handiwork. I support Trainfest by obtaining the awards, plaques and badges. I would like to continue as Contest Director with the same enthusiasm. Changes in those two years? You bet. New Best of Show award, all categories open during the meet, Award for modeler with most entries, and helping with Joe's squares contest and other items. It has indeed been a honor to have served the Board and you our fellow modelers. I would appreciate your support for another couple of years. As I like to say, "See you next month!"

### Vote for no more than TWO Board of Director Candidates

- Dave Evans:** Candidate for WISE Division Board of Directors
- Art Oseland:** Candidate for WISE Division Board of Directors
- Write in Candidate for Board of Directors (must be NMRA Member) \_\_\_\_\_
- Write in Candidate for Board of Directors (must be NMRA Member) \_\_\_\_\_

**VOID**

Fold Here FIRST

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**VOID**

**VOID**

DAVE NELSON  
ATTN: WISE DIVISION ELECTION COMMITTEE  
1506 EAST FOX LANE  
FOX POINT, WI 53217

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Fold Here SECOND

# OWN THIS UNIQUE CAR



The Fox Valley Division of the NMRA offers a unique refrigerator car kit in HO scale. It is based on an original design by the late Master Model Railroader Don Cook. Cook Orchards was a major industry on Don's Great Northern Railway Spokane Division layout and he had many of these cars in service moving apples from the Washington State orchards to the storage facility

This is an Accurail kit made in the USA and the artwork faithfully replicates Don's original design. The kit includes decals for road numbers 100 through 156. **The cars sell for \$23 per car. Shipping and handling within USA: \$7.50 - one car; \$14 - 2 to 4 cars. Money order or check payable to: Fox Valley Division, NMRA. Please send orders to: Fox Valley Division Car Project, c/o Charles Rita, 331 Florence Avenue, Evanston, IL 60202. For more details, visit [www.foxvalleydivision.org](http://www.foxvalleydivision.org) . For questions or international orders, contact [website@foxvalleydivision.org](mailto:website@foxvalleydivision.org).**

## TITLETOWN TRAIN SHOW™ 2018



**April 28th & 29th, 2018**

**Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm  
Sunday: 10 am - 4 pm**

**Shopko Hall**  
(Brown County Veterans Memorial Complex)  
**1901 S. Oneida St., Green Bay, WI**

**Northeastern Wisconsin's Premier Show!**

Dozens of Vendors & Shops    Hourly Door Prizes  
Model Contest    Kids Activities    Free Train Ride  
Operating Layouts in Multiple Scales  
Model Kits, DCC, Toys, Books, Videos, Antiques, etc.  
**42,000+ square feet of Nothing but Trains!**



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[www.titletowntrainshow.com](http://www.titletowntrainshow.com)  
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**Tooting Our Horn Since 2002!**



**WISE Division NMRA  
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*palakatos@gmail.com, 414-748-1240*
- Joe Russ—Assistant Superintendent  
*jruss@execpc.com, 262-408-1946*
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*n9rxd@sbcglobal.net, 262-617-6064*
- Dennis Janssen—Paymaster (Treasurer)
- Reid Kahrs—Ex-Officio (Past Superintendent)  
*rkahrs@charter.net, 262-628-8489*
- Ken Jaglinski—Trainfest Chairperson  
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- Open - Layout Tour Director
- Open - Clinic Director
- Open - Picnic Director

**Website: [www.wisedivision.org](http://www.wisedivision.org)**





WISE Division of the NMRA

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Butler, WI 53007-0242



## ***In Memorium — Dick Cecil***

On February 16 model railroading, and the WISE Division, lost one of its active long-term members with the passing of Richard (Dick) Cecil at the age of 84 after a fight with cancer.

Dick graduated from UWM and was an Army veteran, serving as a Second Lieutenant.

He served the Wisconsin Southeastern (WISE) Division as superintendent, assistant superintendent, director, Trainfest co-chairman, estate helper and many other roles.

In 1985 he was one of three co-chairmen for the NMRA's 50th anniversary convention held in Milwaukee.

Dick also served the Midwest Region in many capacities over the years, including president, vice-president, director, auctioneer and contest judge.

Aside from being an HO modeler who enjoyed operating sessions, Dick also served on the board of the Friends of the East Troy Electric Railroad in East Troy, Wisconsin.

A gathering for friends and family was held Saturday, February 24th, at the University Club in Milwaukee. The family requests donations in his memory be made to the East Troy Railroad Museum or Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra.

Our condolences to his family and his many model railroading friends. Rest in peace, Richard. Thank you for your years of service to the hobby. You will be missed.