



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

April 2018

## WISE Summer Bike Ride Planned for August

This year the WISE Bike Ride will be riding on the Hank Aaron State Trail. The trail is located in the Menominee River Valley and runs along the old Milwaukee Road yard tracks and takes the old right-of-way west to 123rd Street (due to the Zoo reconstruction, the trail is closed at 94th Place). The ride will be held on August 12 at 4pm. Food and refreshments are on your own.

We will start at the Milwaukee County Domes parking lot and continue on the Hank Aaron State Trail with stops where the old Milwaukee Road shops were located, Motor Restaurant and Purple Door ice cream. Since the CP yard is located in that area, I'm sure there will be some railfan opportunities as well!



For those who are concerned about hills, The trail does have a 3% uphill grade that starts just west side of the Miller park freeway and it can be avoided.

For more information about the trail or to download a map, go to <http://www.hankaaronstatetrail.org>. (Note: a State Trail Pass is not needed for the Hank Aaron State Trail.)

For more information or to sign up, contact:

Dave Poquette

414-906-0678

[Dpoquette@wi.rr.com](mailto:Dpoquette@wi.rr.com)

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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. We will depart from the College Avenue/I-94 Southwest Park & Ride Lot at 8:00 am. The cost is \$39 per person (\$15.00 for those 17

and under accompanied by an adult) and includes:

- ⇒ Bus transportation to the DuPage County Fairgrounds with coffee, soda, water and doughnuts on the bus
- ⇒ Admission to the Great Midwest Train Show
- ⇒ Layout tour of Jim Kubajak's HO Scale "Fall River Line" - a 1927 era steam railroad that was a bridge line between the B&O and the C&O in the southern end of the Shenandoah Valley.
- ⇒ Visit to the Lakeshore Model Railroad Association layout



*A scene from the Lake Shore Model Railroad Association layout.*

Sign up and payment can be done at the April Meet. For more info contact Art Oseland at [raydenny1@aol.com](mailto:raydenny1@aol.com) or 414-764-5375.

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

Our last formal meet for the season is drawing near as is the Midwest Regional Convention, are you ready for them?

I received some great feedback about the March meet. Thank you to everyone who helped pull it together and run the event.

As many of you know our April meet is traditionally the annual meeting and this year is no exception. We have two great clinics lined up and then the meeting will commence including the results of the election. The March issue of the Owl Car was physically mailed to each of us with a ballot attached, remember to have that postmarked no later than April 18th (and received no later than April 20th) to be counted.

The Capitol 400 Convention will be held in Madison, WI this year from April 13-15th. Amongst the many great clinics being offered are two on using Arduino microcontrollers on a layout and MR's Tony Koester giving an update on lessons learned from building his two layouts (and hints at a secret project: an O scale portable layout!?). Our own Dave Nelson will be there as well! Like many of you I've had the pleasure of hearing both modelers speak before and they are well worth the price of admission!

The Division is once again sponsoring a bus trip to Dupage in May. See Art at the meet or contact him to sign up and take advantage of what your Division membership offers.

I mentioned in the last Owl Car that we need help with running the Division. I have three spots that need to be filled as soon as possible:

- Chief Clerk (secretary). This role involves attending the board meetings, taking minutes and maintaining the division history amongst other duties. This is a vital position for the health of our organization. If you have the willingness to fill this position email me (below) or contact any board member and pass along your information. Al Lederman has served our division in this capacity for which we are grateful - thank you, Al, for your time and service to the division.
- Layout Tour Coordinator. We are looking for someone to setup and coordinate layout tours for our division. There are some resources available to guide a person in this process (past layouts, membership book etc.). This person would also be on the lookout for inviting new layouts for a tour. *After April 2018 layout tours will no longer be available until this role is filled.*
- Someone(s) to arrange clinics. The primary task involved in this role is to coordinate individuals to give clinics. As many of you have experienced these can range from slideshows covering varying aspects of railroad history to tree making, weathering, research, building experiences and 3D printing. This is a role that can be "crowdsourced" to a degree as anyone can send along a clinic they would like to offer.

While requests for help often go out the need for a Chief Clerk cannot be overstated enough and for layout tours to continue after April that role needs to be filled. I'm always available at [wisedivision@gmail.org](mailto:wisedivision@gmail.org) and see you soon.

—Pete

## Video Library News

— Burnell Breaker

Just a reminder that all DVD's must be returned to the Video Library at the April 22nd meet. No DVD's will be checked out at the April 22nd meet. The Video Library will again be available for checkout at the September 16th meet.

Also if you haven't picked up your copy of the Membership Directory, they will be available at the April meet.

## NMRA Achievement Program

The NMRA Achievement Program (AP Program) is just one of the benefits available to you as an NMRA member. Why is it a benefit? It allows you to benchmark your skills in the hobby against specific standards that provide design and development stability to model railroading.

Recently, one of our members achieved two awards in the achievement program, Dave Poquette attained his Master of Civil Engineering and Master Dispatcher awards. Congratulations to Dave!

The ultimate achievement award is the Master Model Railroader. If you read the NMRA monthly magazine, you will see that on a global basis, there are less than 700 hobbyists who have been awarded this accreditation.

Not all of us have the time or patience to pursue this ultimate award. But you can start with some simple ones, such as Dave recently did. In fact, if you have a layout that is complete with scenery, and you want to have some personal satisfaction that your work is worth noting to the world, you should apply for the Golden Spike Award. Take a look at the requirements on the NMRA website and if you have any questions, reach out to Gary Children who is our Division Achievement Chairman. Sometimes an acknowledgement of your skills can bring some personal satisfaction.

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### Upcoming Division Events

**April 6-8, 2018—WISEops 2018**

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

Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee Airport, 12:30 pm

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

**August 12, 2018—WISE Bike Ride**

*See details on Page 1 of this Owl Car*

**September 16, 2018—Division Meet**

Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee Airport, 12:30 pm

**October 21, 2018—Division Meet**

Lake Park Community Center, 12:30 pm

3133 Newberry Blvd, Milwaukee

**January 20, 2019—Division Meet**

Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee Airport, 12:30 pm

**February 2019— Annual Bus Trip to Mad City Train Show\***

**March 17, 2019—Division Meet**

Oconomowoc Historical Museum, 12:30 pm

**April 21, 2019—Division Meet & Annual Meeting**

Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee Airport, 12:30 pm

**May 2019—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)**



### NMRA Midwest Region Convention

**April 13-15, 2018**

You still have time to pre-register for the MWR Convention in Madison, Wisconsin. 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)



### Upcoming National And Regional Events Of Interest

**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—Tittletown Train Show**

*Veterans Memorial Complex, Green Bay, Wisconsin*

*(See more information on Page 7)*

<http://www.ttsgbllc.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)

**September 21-23, 2018—North Platte Rail Days**

*Cody Park & Golden Spike Tower, North Platte, NB*

[www.northplatteraildays.com](http://www.northplatteraildays.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/>

### Historical Society Meetings

**May 17-20, 2018—CNW Historical Society**

*2018 Black Hills Meet, Rapid City, SD*

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

**July 18-21, 2018—Milwaukee Road Historical Association**

*2018 Annual Meeting, Olympia, Washington*

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

**September 15-19, 2018—Great Northern Rwy. Hist. Society**

*2018 Annual Convention, Bellingham, WA*

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

**September 20-23, 2018—Soo Line Historical & Tech. Society**

*2018 Annual Convention, Stevens Point, WI*

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



## WISE Division NMRA

### Model Railroad Meet

April 22, 2018

#### PUBLIC WELCOME — FREE ADMISSION

12:30 pm	Doors open and popular vote contest registrations Until 1:30pm
1:00 to 1:45pm	<b>Hand Laying Turnouts</b> Presented by Jeff Otto, Oak Hill Model Railroad Track Supply
2:00 to 2:45 pm	<b>Big Steam Today!</b> The U.S. enjoys more than 180 operating steam locomotives nationwide. Jim Wrinn, editor of Trains Magazine, will take us to the hot spots, literally, show some of the most impressive ones, and give a preview of the most ambitious restoration ever that will bear fruit in 2019: Union Pacific's Big Boy.
3:00 to 3:45 pm	WISE Annual Meeting
3:45 to 4:00 pm	Announcements and Presentation of Contest Awards

**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!**

## Trainfest Update

—Ken Jaglinski

As of the beginning of April, we have 33 Layouts, 10 Displays, 12 Vendors and 17 Manufacturers registered for Trainfest 2018. This sign up is on pace with the last couple of years. I will be sending out reminders in mid-April to those who have not submitted their application yet. A new manufacturer to Trainfest, Fame Toys, out of Okinawa Japan will be launching a new product at Trainfest. It is a fully operational LEGO type train car and track that is also compatible with LEGO and O scale track. It comes in kit form and is directed at children age 5 and up.

We have started a new program this year for Jr. Engineers level 2 and up called "Operate on a home layout". We sent out emails to 53 qualified Jr Engineers and to date we have had 5 responses and 2 Jr. Engineers participated in an operating session held on Mark Willmering's Rock Harbor Railroad. Everyone there had a blast! Invitations have also been extended for a session on the Ashland, Superior and Pacific.

Another change for Trainfest 2018 is that scouts in uniform are no longer offered free admission. The committee did not feel we were being fair to all youth groups so we dropped that program. However, since Trainfest is always in need of volunteers, we are now offering youth groups to sign up and provide one hour per person of volunteer time in exchange for free admission. We will use these volunteers to staff the grade crossings on the MLES layout, man exit doors, help with the LEGO layout and possibly the Make & Take programs.

Remember we can't make Trainfest happen without YOU! So please go to [www.trainfest.com](http://www.trainfest.com) and sign up to volunteer.

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# March Meet Popular Vote Contest Results

Our March Meet once again brought out some great examples of modeling and photography. A big thank you to all the entrants for their submittals. Here is the tally of the popular contest vote:

**Best of Show -**

Ed Varick for his HO scale passenger car in transport on two flatcars, titled "Going to Green Bay"

**Freight Equipment -**

1st Place: Bill Morey for his HO scale Southern Pacific boxcar with hobo

2nd Place: Ed Varick for his HO scale boxcar loaded with lawnmowers

**Passenger Equipment -**

1st Place: Ed Varick for his HO scale passenger car in transport on flatcars, titled "Going to Green Bay"

2nd Place: Mike Slater for his O scale Milwaukee Road coach #139

**Structures -**

1st Place: Ed Varick for his HO scale East Troy band shell

2nd Place: Asa Money for the HO scale old garage scene

**Traction-**

1st Place: Paul Schneble for the O scale Philadelphia Suburban Transportation interurban #80

2nd Place: Mike Slater with his HO scale CNS&M MD car #209

**Prototype Photo -**

1st Place: Keith Schmidt—Soo Line #1003 at the Pond

2nd Place: Mike Slater—Amtrak #8

**Model Photo -**

1st Place: Steve Miazga—"At Rest"

2nd Place: Steve Miazga—"Under the Moonlight"



*Ed Varick's Best of Show entry*



*1st Place in Traction—Paul Schneble*



*Bill Morey's 1st Place in Freight Equipment*



*Asa Money's Old Garage—2nd Place in Structures*



*Structures winner, Ed Varick's East Troy bandshell*

## Waukesha County Gandy Dancers Open the Doors for WISE Division March Meet

Our March Meet concluded with a layout tour of the facilities of the Waukesha County Gandy Dancers Model Railroad Club in downtown Waukesha. The club also provides space for the WISE Division Youth Group led by board member Mark Hintz. You can find out more information about the club at their website: [www.wcgandydancers.com](http://www.wcgandydancers.com).

The WISE Division sincerely thanks the club for opening their facility for our members to visit. Enjoy the pictures of a great local club layout.



### \$\$\$ From the Cluttered Desk of the Paymaster

— Dennis Janssen

#### Who is watching your money?

Every one of us should have a financial planner. The one my wife and I use has given us invaluable advice when it comes to investments and the proper way to spend our retirement savings.

No matter what life stage you are in, working or retired, you should look for the advice of a planner. They have studied taxes, financial vehicles such as insurance, investments and other holdings as well as the clues to what is happening in the world. These studies are their lifestyle just as yours is your chosen field of work.

One of my favorite ways to stay in touch is a WPR program, "On Your Money". This is a one-hour radio call in program every Tuesday morning at 8 AM on FM 90.7. The show is repeated at noon on Saturday s from a recording.

The show goes beyond financial advice with topical advice such as "Should you unfriend Facebook?". Lots of fun and great advice.

This is a link to their web page:

<https://www.wpr.org/programs/your-money>



And the water is real!



Special thanks to Joe Russ for the photos of the WCGD layout tour.

# 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**

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- Open - Clinic Director
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**Website: [www.wisedivision.org](http://www.wisedivision.org)**





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