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December 2019

Trainfest® Report

America's Largest Operating Model Railroad Show.

Trainfest attendance for 2019 was 14374 tickets sold and 1696 exhibitors and volunteers for a total of 16070. Although attendance was down slightly from 2018 in my opinion we had an excellent show. Feedback from manufacturers and vendors was positive and other exhibitors appeared to be having a great time.

We have several commitments from manufacturers to sponsor international layouts for 2021. They are Marklin, Germany, Scale Trains.com, Canada and Scenic Express, Holland. We also have layouts from Great Britain that Trainfest will sponsor.

We have commitments from T-Trak and N-Trak to allow international modules to link up with them. If someone can't bring a module and wishes to bring their international trains, these groups will allow the visitors to operate.



Kato will be spreading the word in Japan, Australia, and Europe. They will also continue to hold a national T-Trak contest next year at Trainfest.

I have spoken with all the major magazines and they will be promoting our show in January so people can start making plans to attend.

Ken Jaglinski - Trainfest Chairman

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From Your Superintendent...

— Mike Slater

I want to start this column off with a warm welcome to our new Division members within the past few months: Matt Keen of Racine, Jeff Schowalter of Racine, and Anthony Martinez of Oak Creek. I hope you are able to attend our Division meets and learn some new things to help you progress in the great hobby we all like.

Another Trainfest has come and gone. This show would not be possible without the volunteers who helped organize the show, the people that display at the show, and the many manufacturers and vendors at the show. We are always looking for people to help out at Trainfest so consider it in 2020 if you haven't before. Remember this is our only fundraiser. It provides funding for the many activities we provide and undertake during the rest of the year, all at no cost to you or at a reduced fare. Please consider joining in on the fun. The first year I helped out I worked both Thursday and Friday. In years past I had only helped my traction group set up our layout and ran trains during the show. Remember only a few short hours of volunteering will get you a free 2-day pass.

This season of meets I am trying some new things. Back in September we held our first RPM meet. While we only had half of the tables filled with displays, I have already heard from many of the people who did not display that they will be bringing items next year, and those that did display will be returning. This was a great event and it allowed people to share new ideas. This December we are again trying something different with our "hands on" modelers event. The success of the event will be judged by the number of folks who jump in with questions and those that help answer them. I want those of you that have areas in the hobby that you have problems with to come forward and ask questions; maybe the person next to you will have answers. I will bring some things along that we can try out. I will bring an airbrush so people can try airbrushing a boxcar. I have about 9 decal sets for those that have never decaled a boxcar. Give it a try —we will help you. Have problems installing DCC or programming a locomotive? I'll have my own personal DCC programming box to help you out. And I will also bring one of the Division's modules that is in need of scenery. We'll show you how easy and fun it can be to give it some dimension. If you want us to cover other topics, let us know what we can do at this event. This month we all can be presenters and share our ideas and techniques with others.

This is a fun hobby, but it is a lot more fun when you can share it with others.

Mike

Many Hands Make Quick Work at WISE Storage Locker

Most WISE members are probably unaware that the Division has rental storage space that we pay for monthly. The roughly 200 square foot space is located in New Berlin and is used to store the Division records, our WISE Meet items as well as all of the support materials for Trainfest. This includes the modular HO layout that is used at Trainfest for the Junior Engineer Program. This layout was expanded in 2019 which forced the Division to look at options to increase our space. Our Chief Clerk came to the rescue with a great solution. David Rohr was able to provide the Division with some great heavy duty shelving which more than doubled the effective amount of space at the locker. A work day was called to reorganize the space with the shelving. A team of six Board members and volunteers quickly cleared the space, erected the shelving and redistributed the stored materials. It Fit!

The final test of the new space occurred on Sunday evening after Trainfest when all of the items used at the show had to go back into storage. And guess what... everything fit in a well organized fashion, even with the new extra WISE layout modules!

Many times you will hear us ask for help at our regular meetings and Meets. This work session is proof that just a few hours of help can go a long way. Thanks to the crew for the effort. This translates into some great fiscal savings for the Divisions bottom line. At right are some pictures taken during the work session.



Above, David Rohr secures first row of shelving as new member, Matt Keen begins to align the other tier. Middle shows Matt and Andy Greco assembling the second wall as Steve Miazga hauls material back in. The final storage arrangement is shown at bottom. Thanks also to Superintendent Mike Slater and Trainfest Chair Ken Jaglinski for their help as well.



Video Library Update

— Burnell Breaker, Video Librarian

The Video Library will be available for checkout at the December 8 meet. Because of the limited space at the Lake Park Pavilion, a limited Video Library will be available. The weather will also play a role in what I bring.

Any DVD's checked out at the October meet are due back December 8. We have many new titles in the library.



Upcoming Division Events

December 8, 2019—WISE Modelers Meet—a Learning Session

Lake Park Pavilion, Milwaukee, 12:30 pm

January 19, 2020—WISE Division Meet

Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee Airport, 12:30 pm

***February 15, 2020—Annual Bus Trip to Mad City Train Show**

March 15, 2020—WISE Division Meet

Mt. Pleasant Lutheran Church, Racine, 1:00 pm (*Note time*)

April 17-18, 2020 – Spring WISEops Operating Weekend

April 19, 2020—WISE Division Meet and Annual Meeting

Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee Airport, 12:30 pm

***May 2020—Bus Trip—Great Midwest Train Show, DuPage, IL**

September 26, 2020—WISE Division RPM Meet

Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee Airport,

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

***November 14-15, 2020—Trainfest 2020**

Wisconsin State Fair Park Expo Center, West Allis, WI

** Denotes extra fare event*

For more event details go to our website: WWW.WISEDIVISION.ORG



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Upcoming National And Regional Events Of Interest

February 1-2, 2020 — Arctic Run Model Railroad Show

Holiday Inn Convention Center, Stevens Point, WI

February 15-16, 2020—Mad City Train Show

Alliant Energy Center, Madison, WI

March 21-22, 2020 — Three Rivers Model Train Show

The Omni Center, 255 Riders Club Rd., Onalaska, WI

April 18-19, 2020—Tittletown Train Show

KI Convention Center, 333 Main St., Green Bay, WI

May 14-17, 2020—Midwest Region NMRA Convention

“The Peoria Rocket”

Holiday Inn & Suites, East Peoria, IL

www.mwr-nmra.org

June 20-21, 2020 — Strawberry Fest Train Show

Waupaca Recreational Facility, Waupaca, WI

July 12-18, 2020—NMRA 2020 Convention St. Louis

Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark, St. Louis, MO

www.gateway2020.org

July 17-19, 2020—National Train Show

Dome at America Center, St. Louis, MO

www.nationaltrainshow.org

July 4—10, 2021—NMRA 2021 Convention Santa Clara

Santa Clara, CA

Historical Society Meetings

November 16, 2019—C&NW Historical Society

21st Annual Chicago Area Get Together, 2pm to 9pm,

Riverview Banquets, Batavia, IL

www.cnwhs.org

April 30—May 2, 2020—Burlington Route Historical Society

2020 Mile High Spring Meet

Joint Meet with Rio Grande Modeling & Historical Society

Denver Marriott West, Golden, CO

www.burlingtonroute.org

June 2020—Milwaukee Road Historical Association

2020 Annual Meeting, Elgin, IL (details not final)

www.mrha.com

September 10-13, 2020—Burlington Route Historical Society

2020 Fall Meet, Radison Duluth-Harborview,

Duluth, MN

www.burlingtonroute.org

September 17-20, 2020—Soo Line Historical & Tech. Society

Holiday Inn, Manitowoc, WI

www.sooline.org

September 19-23, 2020—Great Northern Railway Hist. Society

2020 Convention, Nelson. BC

www.gnrhs.org

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

— Dennis Janssen

A Bite Out Of History: Chewing Gum

Need help whitening your teeth? Want to quit smoking? Trying to lose weight? There's a chewing gum for all of that and more. New types of chewing gum are introduced all the time, but did you ever wonder how it managed to gain such a grip on consumers? Believe it or not, people have had a love affair with gum for thousands of years. From humble beginnings to hundreds of varieties, here's a look at how chewing gum rose to become the powerhouse product it is today.



How It Originated

Long before William Wrigley Jr. made a name for chewing gum, ancient civilizations were tapping into trees and other sources of resin and chewing on soft, rubbery substances both for enjoyment and medicinal purposes. Evidence indicates prehistoric Europeans would chew on birch bark tar quite possibly to help relieve toothaches, while Aztecs and Mayans would turn to gum from the chicle tree to appease their thirst or hunger. In North America, Native Americans favored spruce tree resin, and it became commercialized and sold in sticks by a colonist named John Bacon Curtis in 1848.

Eventually, scientist Thomas Adams succeeded in enhancing chicle with flavor, and his work would set off various trials to improve the ability to retain flavor – with peppermint found to be particularly effective. Mr. Adams helped bring attention to chewing gum by introducing it to vending machines and selling it in the subways of New York in 1888, but chewing gum really took off when a soap industrialist named William Wrigley Jr. promoted it as an add-on to his products. From "Juicy Fruit" to "Doublemint" gum, Wrigley created one of the most successful chewing gum companies that ever existed, and many of his products remain popular today.

Gum Gets a Modern Makeover

After the turn of the century, chewing gum innovations accelerated due to deeper research and newfound discoveries. Bubble gum and other sweet flavors became a mainstay, and production further proliferated in the 1930's and 1940's, when synthetic rubbers made mass production easier than ever. Perhaps one of the biggest advancements came in the 1950's, when sugarless chewing gum was first created by a dentist, Dr. Petrusis, and sold to William Wrigley Jr. The nation was becoming more health-conscious, and chewing gum products followed suit.

Today, chewing gum comes in countless varieties, and has grown even more popular due to its ability to:

- **Freshen breath:** almost all types of gum come flavored to help mask odors.
- **Keep teeth white:** both chewing and active ingredients can fight tooth staining.
- **Fight plaque:** sugar free, xylitol-based gum inhibits the growth of oral bacteria.
- **Aid in weight loss:** many turn to gum as a low calorie treat instead of snacking.
- **Help quit smoking:** nicotine gum is an effective substitute for cigarettes.
- **Supplement your diet:** certain gums are fortified with vitamins and minerals.

Several sugarless brands also come with a seal of approval from the American Dental Association, and are recommended by dentists to help fight tooth decay.

Choosing the Right Gum

Chewing gum is often purchased on impulse, but putting a little thought into the type of gum you choose can make a big difference to your oral health. Read the labels closely to ensure you have selected a sugarless variety that won't harm your teeth, and then narrow down the field based on additional preferences – from flavor to active ingredients and beyond. If you need help in choosing the right gum, or are unsure about the effectiveness of a particular brand you have chosen, simply call your dentist for guidance. Just like most things, chewing gum should be done in moderation chewing gum too frequently may lead to jaw muscle fatigue or more serious issues such as Temporomandibular Joint Disorders (TMD, TMJ).

Sources:

Chewing Gum. (n.d.) Retrieved July 28, 2015, from <http://www.madehow.com/Volume-1/Chewing-Gum.html>

History of Chewing Gum. (n.d.) Retrieved July 17, 2015, from <http://www.chewinggumfacts.com/chewing-gum-history/history-of-chewing-gum/>
Nix, Elizabeth. (2015, February 13). *Chew on This: The History of Gum.* Retrieved July 21, 2015, from <http://www.history.com/news/hungry-history/chew-on-this-the-history-of-gum>

From the Contest Director

— Ted Zieger

At last month's meet we had an entry submitted by someone for someone else. It was submitted under the builders name but he was not present. Just a reminder that you must submit your own entry and be present to win.

See you and your entries at our December 8th Meet at Lake Park Pavilion in Milwaukee (see map on Page 7).

Next WISE Board Meetings

All WISE/NMRA members are welcome to attend our monthly board meetings. They are held at the clubhouse of the Milwaukee Lionel Club at Parkland Plaza, 2721 S. Calhoun Road, New Berlin. Entrance is at the rear side of the building.

Our next meetings will be held on Wednesday, December 18th and January 15th at 7:00 pm.

Meetings generally last an hour and a half. We look forward to seeing you as a guest at our next meeting. Member input is always appreciated.

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Trainfest® 2019 Memories

America's Largest Operating Model Railroad Show.



**Setup
and the
show
begins!**



*The WISE
Booth Team*



The SOO Line Historical Team



What a Life!

Trainfest® 2019 Memories

America's Largest Operating Model Railroad Show.

Setting up for Celebrate a Railroad





WISE Division NMRA
Model Railroad Meet
December 8, 2019
12:30 pm

PUBLIC WELCOME — FREE ADMISSION

12:30 pm *Doors open and contest registrations*

Whether you are a beginner or a long time modeler, you are bound to learn something at this meet. WISE members will demonstrate their techniques for designing, painting, modeling and more! There will not be a swap meet at this event due to space limitations.

1:00 to 2:15 pm **Session 1: Hobby "How-To" Techniques**

2:15 to 2:30 *Break for Contest Voting*

2:30 to 3:30 pm **Session 2: Hobby "How-To" Techniques**

3:30 to 4:00 pm *Contest Awards & Announcements*

4:00 to 6:00 pm *Layout Tour: To Be Announced*

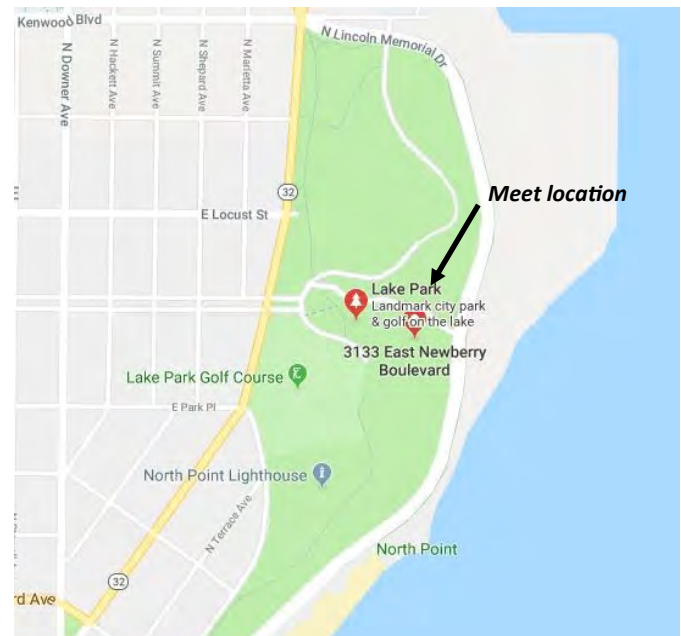
**Bring in Your Best and Enter the FREE
 Model and Photography
 Popular Vote Contest**

If you don't enter—you can't win!

2 Entries Allowed, per Person, per Category

Special Meet Location
Lake Park Community Center
3133 Newberry Blvd. in Milwaukee

(See Map Below)



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!

Jim's Tips and Tidbits

—Jim Kelly

Apply cement sparingly

There are certain phrases, often dire warnings, that become almost automatic when writing about model railroading. My former colleague, friend, and *Model Railroader* magazine associate editor, the legendary Gordon Odegard, would almost invariably write, "apply cement sparingly" every time he was describing some step in a construction project. I think other authors picked that up from him and so we'd see it over and over.

It's occurred to me since that there may have been a historic reason for this. Gordy was always leading edge, wanting to try new things, but he was also old school and had been scratch building models and assembling kits since the 1940s. Most of those models were wood, and were assembled with what I would have called airplane glue or tube glue, which I think was acetate suspended in a solvent and usually applied straight out of the tube. Ambroid was probably the most popular brand among model railroaders. As I recall goopy, resin-based tube glues for plastics were used in assem-

bling the few plastic models available in those earlier years. "Apply cement sparingly" was definitely good advice or you could end up with pretty sloppy results.

Elmer's glue was introduced by Borden in 1947 and those making wood models were using it a lot by the mid-Fifties. I still make wood models with Elmer's, squeezing a dab out on a piece of plastic sheet and applying it (not too sparingly) with a toothpick. Of course now there are other brands of white and yellow glues, including Ambroid. And in the 60s came the CAs, which I use only where other products won't work, as in cementing metal or plastic parts to wood or your hand to the back of your head. Yellow glues, also called carpenter's glues take a bit longer to set, but once set are waterproof.

Back in the early 1970s when Allen Armitage was revolutionizing the hobby with information on building models from styrene sheet I discovered liquid cement for plastics and what a great innovation that was, whether building plastic kits or scratch building with styrene. There was really no glue involved at all. We were effectively welding parts together. What a long way we came in just a couple of decades.



WISE Division of the NMRA
 402 Dodie Drive
 Waukesha, WI 53189-7425

CATCH THE TRAINS!

MadCity
 53rd Annual

**MODEL RAILROAD
 SHOW AND SALE**

Sat. Feb. 15, 9AM-5PM • Sun. Feb. 16, 9AM-4PM
 Alliant Energy Center, Exhibition Hall, Madison, WI

Four HO train sets given away each day!

Family Pak \$32

Includes two adults (regular or senior) and two kids (5-15)

Adults \$12 (16 & older), Seniors \$11 (65 & older)

Children \$6 (age 5-15), Kids under 5 FREE

Active duty military \$11. Two day pass \$16. Parking fee not included.

All children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.



All Aboard!

**Leave the Driving to Us &
 Attend the Mad City Show
 With Your WISE Friends**

Saturday, February 15, 2020

Arrive 9:00 a.m. Depart 2:00 pm

Ride the Bus

\$39.00 per Person

\$19.00 (age 17 and under with an adult)
 Price includes admission to the Train Show,
 Coffee, Soda, Water, Donuts and Snacks on
 the Bus Trip

Pick Up at Park & Ride Lots

College Avenue/ I-94
 (Southwest Lot—7:00 a.m.)

State Fair Park
 (I-94 & 76th Street—7:15 a.m.)

Goerke's Corner

(I-94 & Barker Road—7:30 a.m.)

Sign Up and Pay at the

December or January WISE Meets

Don't Wait and Get Left at the Platform!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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