

# THE OWL CAR

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

**Trainfest**  
*America's Largest Operating Model Railroad Show*

April 2013

## March Contests

By Bonnie Janke - Contest Director

November 9 & 10, 2013

### UPCOMING EVENTS :

- WISE Youth Group meeting  
dates on WISE website
- WISE Division Operating Day  
April 13, 2013
- Bus Trip - Great Midwest Train  
Show Dupage, IL  
April 14, 2013  
Details on page 3
- Division Meet & Annual Meeting  
April 21 , 2013  
Candidate Bios start on page6  
Best Western –Symposium &  
Underwood Rooms  
Brookfield, WI  
  
2013-2014 Meet Info  
Page 9  
August 4, 2013 Annual WISE Picnic

There was a lot of activity at our last meet on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013. We were very blessed with those who brought their items to show in the different categories. We're also glad that the items that were shared with all of us were items that took time to make up our minds which one of each category were the one to vote on. Jim Sohns was our winner of our 'BEST OF SHOW' for his "Leister Lake". And he also took 1<sup>st</sup> place with that entry, in the General (diorama) category. Jim's competition was a new comer John Laatsch with his "Captain Jack's Boat & Bait Shop". Again some very fine modeling.

It is always great to see some of the other modelers who come prepared to enter our contests. One was 1<sup>st</sup> Place winner, Ed Varick for his freight equipment entry "Milwaukee Road Plywood Car". Fred Janke was our 2<sup>nd</sup> Place winner with his "Wisconsin Southern Gondola" with Equipment Tires.



WISE Youth Group Entry by  
Jaden Liermann

Continued on page 4

## WISE BOARD 2012-2013

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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.

## The Head Owl Hoots

By Joe Russ

Hi all,

April is a very busy month for the Division. April 13 is WISE Division Operating Day and April 14 is the Division's bus trip to the swap meet in Du Page. Then on April 21 is the last Division meet of the season (of sorts) and our annual meeting and elections. Be sure to attend this meet! On April 28 is the Tri-Division meet in Rockford between the WISE Division, South Central Wisconsin Division and the Rock River Valley Division. The clinic will be announced later. Contact me if you are interested in carpooling to this fun event. Location is at the Midway Village & Museum Center at 6799 Guilford Rd. in Rockford. 12:30-4:00 p.m. \$2 donation.

In other news, the Constitution and Bylaw Committee submitted the revised constitution to the board of directors for them to review, which they did at their March meeting. Some minor revisions were suggested, which the committee will make, and then resubmit to the BOD for approval. Because the final draft will not be ready in time for proper notification to the membership, there will be a special meeting at the October meet for the membership to vote on the constitution.

Finally, I would like to thank LaRoye Chisley for taking over the role of Achievement Program Director. If any of you are interested in the AP program, please see or contact LaRoye.

Hope to see you at the April meet, if not before.

Joe Russ  
Superintendent  
262-408-1946

## WISE 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

# WISE Division Operating Day

by Joe Russ

The Division has a new event called the WISE Division Operating Day (formerly known as Milwaukee Operating Day) which will be held April 13. It is an opportunity to operate on up to three of eleven participating layouts, including the METRO Model Railroad Club in Port Washington. The day is organized into three sections: Morning, Afternoon and Evening from which you can pick one layout to operate at. You can select one layout for the day, or up to three for what is called an "Op 'Till You Drop" experience.

You are responsible for meals and transportation to and between layouts. And for those who want to try model railroad operation, there will be a beginners' session on one layout which will cover the basics of operating with computer-general switch lists and dispatching via radio. Space will be limited and everything is first-to-register, first-assigned. You can find a link to the event on the WISE Division's website at [www.wisedivision.org](http://www.wisedivision.org).

If you have any questions, feel free to call Superintendent Joe Russ.

## Video Library

By Burnell Breaker - Video Library Director

It has been a very good season in regards to the number of videos being checked out by everyone. Let's keep it going next fall. Tell others about this benefit of belonging to the NMRA and the WISE Division.

**The final meet of the season is on April 21, 2013 and all checked out videos MUST be turned in for the end of the season inventory.**

Check out the listings on our website and if there are videos you want to see, let me know. Arrangements can be made over the summer to check out videos.

# 2013 Spring Bus Trip

Great Midwest Train Show @ Dupage County Fairgrounds - Wheaton, Illinois

**Sunday April 14, 2013**

The price of 36 dollars per person includes the bus, admission to the show, coffee, soda, water and donuts on the bus.

We are scheduled to arrive at the show 9:30 am and depart at 1pm for the Elmhurst Train Club.

Pickup point will be 8am College Ave. Southwest park and ride lot.

For More Information-Contact  
Art Oseland 414-764-5375  
[sueoseland@aol.com](mailto:sueoseland@aol.com)

## DONT'T FORGET - - -

By Ed Varick Picnic Director

It's time again to mark your calendars  
.. Sunday, August 4, 2013.

What for you ask?

The Annual WISE Division  
Picnic happens on that date.

The Milwaukee County Zoo is the  
site and fun is in store.

Watch the Owl Car for more  
information as the date gets closer.

# March Contests Continued

Our Structures category was another time when we had a lot to look at and try to make up our minds which ones we should vote for. Our 1<sup>st</sup> place winner was John Drechsler for his “Storage Shed”, followed by 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner Ed Varick with his “Regal Begal Bar & Bowl”. Which brings us to our final category of the day, model photos. Our 1<sup>st</sup> place winner was Barb Smith with her “Bridge”. The 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner was Charlie Schulz, with his “Wisconsin Southern #3802”.

April 21, 2013 is just around the corner. We in the “Contest Room” are looking to have a great time. We would like all of you, who have entered something in the past couple of years, who haven’t won a 1<sup>st</sup> place, to bring one entry for each category that was entered without a win and see if you might take home a 1<sup>st</sup> place at this 2012/2013 April, meet. For a long time we haven’t been able to see something entered for our Youth Group, (ages 8 to including 18) that the Wisconsin Southeastern Division, Inc. sponsors. We have recently added three new members to the WISE Guys & Gals. One of the youth, age 8, is Jaden Liermann. He did a Diorama called “Camp Boy Scout. He planned the diorama all by himself and did all of the work on it and his Dad only was allowed to use the hot glue gun, so that Jaden wouldn’t get burned. Please take a look at his picture on page 1. And I can only say that at the meet it was sure a great job done. We can’t wait till Jaden shows the rest of the youth his Certificate of Participation, for his entry.

So come prepared to enter items in all the categories that will be featured at the April 21, 2013 meet.

**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        |                               |



Best Of Show  
Jim Sohns  
“Leister Lake” HO Module/Diarama



1st Place Model Photo  
Barb Smith  
Bridge



2nd Place Model Photo  
Charlie Schulz  
Wisconsin Southern #3802

# March Contest Results

## Continued

**Sorry** to Fred Janke for not having a good photo to publish for his 2nd Place Wisconsin & Southern Gondola with tire load



1st Place Structures  
John Drechsler  
Storage Shed



2nd Place Structures  
Ed Varick  
Regal Beagle Bar & Bowl



1st Place General  
Jim Sohns  
Leister Lake



2nd Place General  
John Laatsch  
Captain Jack's Boat & Bait Shop



1st Place Freight Equipment  
Ed Varick  
Milwaukee Road Plywood Car



## Joe Russ Candidate for Superintendent

For the past two years I have had the pleasure of service as your Division Superintendent. I say "your" because this isn't my Division, nor the board of directors', but the memberships'. I have been active in the Division, and the hobby, for nearly 40 years, and have held the positions of Owl Car Editor, membership director, Assistant Superintendent and Chief Clerk. Thus I have a good understanding of what it takes to run the Division as I have seen where it has come from, and where it is going.

One of my goals was to improve communication on all levels. To do so I did the following:

- Brought back the full "meet sheet" with more clinic information for distribution to the local hobby shops
- Created and implemented a Facebook Page and Group for the Division
- Integrating images posted on Facebook on to the Division web site
- Posted more pictures on the Trainfest Facebook page to generate more traffic to that page, and created a Trainfest Twitter account to move the show into social media promotion
- Sent out notices via email (which I plan on expanding more in the coming year)

Other things accomplished during the last two years:

- A revamping of the WISE Division Youth Group which has allowed for more stable leadership and the group to grow, bringing more young modelers into the hobby
- Appointed, and served on, a committee to fully revamp the Division's Constitution and Bylaws
- Created and organized operating days (Optoberfest and Milwaukee Operating Day - now the WISE Division Operating Day) to get a new Division event

Plans for the future are to start planning for the Division's 50th anniversary in 2016. As there will be a national convention within the Midwest Region in Indianapolis that year, we cannot have convention like we normally would to celebrate such a milestone.

I thank you for your support and look forward to continuing to serve you the next two years.

Joe Russ

## Kurt Wamser Candidate for Superintendent

While the future of the WISE Division may be in all of us, its members, it takes a strong leader with vision to guide us into the future. This common sense approach to leadership is what I am about. It's why I've chosen to stand up and ask for your vote as your next Superintendent.

There are a number of things I would like to see happen as your next Superintendent. I know a number of members have mentioned to me "treat the membership as they want to be treated" – and I agree with them. For example, when members go above and beyond, like doing clinics or opening their home for layouts tours, I want to see them recognized for their effort and would want each one invited to the annual appreciation dinner. Perhaps we could encourage hobby shops to have a special event such as a "NMRA member-only" evening, where members were offered special deals or an opportunity to meet with a featured manufacturer.

What I personally love about our division are the great opportunities over the years of meeting and learning from fellow model railroaders, visiting their layouts and seeing their passion for the hobby.

On a local level I've been involved with our organization for years - from being the OWL Car Editor and Youth Committee Chair to being the current Assistant Superintendent for the last two years. I've even served on a national basis as Treasurer for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 2010 National Convention.

Getting the WISE Division back on track and grow our membership is my goal as your Superintendent. I have the experience, the passion, and most importantly, the vision to take the WISE Division to the next level.

Please vote Kurt Wamser for Superintendent.





### Ken Jaglinski Candidate for Assistant Superintendent

I have been active in the Division and am currently a member of the BOD. I hold the position of assistant treasurer and I am a member of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. I was co-chair for the NMRA National Convention held in Milwaukee in 2010 and was responsible for publicity, the welcome picnic and the food for the bus tours. I model in HO and HOn3 and have a fully completed DCC layout which was featured in "Scale Rails". I hold operating sessions on a regular basis and invite newbies to come and join the fun. I feel that I can help the Division from a business perspective since I have a MBA from the Executive Program at UWM and have owned, operated and sold several businesses. Please vote for me for Assistant Superintendent.

### Linda Sukup Candidate for Assistant Superintendent

It's been a pleasure serving you and the WISE Div for over 18 years. There's more to do though! As your Asst Super, I would like to:

- 1. Build Membership.** With more members, we will be able to offer more clinics, more meets, more socials. More of what we all love about WISE. Wouldn't it be exciting to see some new layouts? Just think of the possibilities!

- 2. Plan New Program Options.** We all love our clinics, meets and socials... but there is more out there for us to do together. Imagine trips, private layout reviews, factory visits, being part of a speaker's bureau for youth. The sky's the limit!

- 3. Actively Engage Youth in the Hobby.** Being an educator has taught me a lot of how to talk to kids and relate to them. I want to use that expertise in reaching out to kids to get them active in railroading. In concert with other members, I would like to launch a youth speaker's bureau and set-up demonstrations for kids at area malls. Go to where the kids are!

To me, being an assistant superintendent is more than just supporting the superintendent. It's about making a difference in our community and within our division. I would like to have the opportunity to help change our little corner of the world. Please vote Linda Sukup on April 21.

Linda Sukup  
Current Hobby Activities  
WISE Div member since 1995  
Midwest Div Board of Director, Director at large  
Past Superintendent WISE Div 2009-2011  
Member Board of Directors, Milwaukee Road Historical Assn.





## 2013-2014 Meet dates and Locations

September 15, 2013:	Milwaukee Light Engineering Society 2620 N. Country Aire Dr., Cedarburg, WI
October 20, 2013:	Best Western Plus Midway Hotel 1005 S. Moorland Rd., Brookfield, WI
November 9 & 10, 2013	TRAINFEST®, Wisconsin Exposition Center, West Allis, WI
December 1, 2013:	Country Springs Hotel 2810 Golf Rd., Pewaukee, WI
January 19, 2014:	Country Springs Hotel 2810 Golf Rd., Pewaukee, WI
February 16, 2014:	Best Western Plus Midway Hotel 1005 S. Moorland Rd., Brookfield, WI
March 16, 2014:	Veterans' Terrace at Echo Park 589 Milwaukee Ave., Burlington, WI
April 27, 2014:	Country Springs Hotel 2810 Golf Rd., Pewaukee, WI



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Milwaukee 414-482-1566

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Milwaukee 414-461-1050

## THE OWL CAR

WISCONSIN SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION OF THE  
NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

April 21, 2013    Best Western Plus Midway Hotel  
1005 s. Moorland Rd. - Brookfield

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

**Clinics:**

**1pm - Roger Blocks - Tracing the Thunder Lake RR (WI logging RR)  
from the air – Macro view**

**2pm - Brad Pagel - Tracing the Thunder Lake RR on foot – Micro view**

**3pm - Annual Membership Meeting and Elections of Officers**

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