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March 2017

## It's Election Time!

The WISE Division election of Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and board members is upon us. And for the ballots, **EVERY** member is receiving a hardcopy of this newsletter.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find a page with the biographies of the candidates running for Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and the two elected board positions this year. Please read them over and be sure to cast your vote for **no more than two board members** by mailing it in.

As last year, your ballot **MUST** be

mailed in per the instructions on the ballot, and include your name and NMRA number. Then the nominating/election committee of Dave Poquette, Dave Nelson and Laroye Chisley will be able to tally up the votes.

Also, don't forget the Division's annual meeting will be at 3:00 p.m. at the April 23 meet at the New Berlin Ale House. We will present the election results at that time, review the Division's finances and cover any other business that comes before the membership. Please participate and attend.

## May 7 Bus Trip Info

The WISE Division Bus Trip to the Great Midwest Train Show in Wheaton, Ill. will be Sunday, May 7. Fare will be \$39 for adults, \$15 for those 17 and under with an adult.

Fare includes admission to the show, coffee, water and donuts on the bus.

We will have boarding at the College Ave. Southwest lot at 8:00 a.m.

After the swap meet we will be visiting three layouts:

- The Lisle Model Railroad Club's HO and HOn3 layout located in the basement of two-story farm house on Lisle Heritage Museum property.
- Ron Scharing's freelanced HO scale Tinkrin, Jawin & Eatin Railroad. It is a 24' x 24' point-to-point layout set in the 1960's. The layout's eight towns are named after towns in Wisconsin. Scenic backgrounds and hills divide the scenes around the four peninsulas.
- Wayne & Bill Reid's N scale Cumberland Valley System. The 22' x 38' layout hosts the PRR/N&W/WM with a mainline run of over 130' and features Appalachian scenery, a large yard, branch line and freight and passenger service. Steam and diesel power of mid-1950's and realistic operating scheme covered many times in *Model Railroader* and other model railroad publications.

To register contact Art Oseland at raydenny1@aol.com, 414-764-5375, or see him at the March or April meets.

## Video Library News

by *Burnell Breaker*

DVD's will be available for check out at the March 19 meet at the Oconomowoc Historical Society. We are finishing up the job of transferring most of our VHS tapes to DVD's so the complete library can be enjoyed by everyone. These will be available at our September 17 meet at the Clarion Hotel, across from the airport.

Some of you may have overdue DVD's. Remember, the policy is to check out one month and return them at the next meet. All are due back to the Video Library at the next meet, unless other arrangements have been made with the Librarian, me.

**All DVD's MUST BE TURNED IN AT THE APRIL 23, 2017 MEET** at the New Berlin Ale House.

## WISEop 2017 update

By *Joe Russ*

Sixteen layouts will be participating in WISEop, the Division's operating weekend on Friday evening, April 21 and morning, afternoon and evening on Saturday, April 22.

NMRA members will get a week to register before non-members. Registration will be done online starting in early April, so watch the web site for information as the date nears.

Here is the final list of layouts:

- Ashland, Superior & Pacific (HO)
- BN Peoria Subdivision (HO)
- Cedar Creek Central Model Railroad Club (HO)
- C&NW Lake Shore Division (HO)
- Four Corners & Five Lakes Railroad (N)
- L.A. Junction (HO)
- Lionville & Western (O three-rail)
- METRO Club (HO)
- Midwest Lines (HO)
- Missabe Jct. (N) **New!**
- NAPM club (HO)
- Norfolk & Whey (HO)
- Tehachappi Pass (N)
- Timber River Railway (HO)
- Tomah, Portage & Mauston (HO)
- Trap & Garnet Ridge (O)

### Inside this issue:

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## Garden Railway at the Domes

A reminder that there is a garden railway exhibit at the Mitchell Park Domes in Milwaukee. The exhibit, titled the Great Train Robbery, will run through April 2. Call (414) 257-5600 for information.

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

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

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Email: jruss@execpc.com

Phone: 262-408-1946



## WISE Board of Directors

### Superintendent

Reid Kahrs .....(262)628-8489  
rkahrs@charter.net

### Assistant Superintendent

Joe Russ .....(262)408-1946  
jruss@execpc.com

### Chief Clerk

Al Lederman .....(262)617-6064  
n9rxld@sbcglobal.net

### Paymaster

Dennis Janssen .....(262)544-6324  
Dennis@Trainfest.com

### Assistant Paymaster

Open

### Clinics

Ed Kofroth .....(414)425-7945  
mredrr@wi.rr.com

### Contests

Dave Evans .....(414)797-4374  
snairt1951@aol.com

### Owl Car Newsletter

Open

### Layouts

Open

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

In this issue of the *Owl Car*, is the election ballot, and you will notice that I will not be seeking re-election for Superintendent of the WISE Division. This has been my second run as Superintendent, having previously served the WISE Division in that capacity from 1997 to 2001. You will also notice that not many candidates have come forward. Next year, why not consider running for the Board? I planned on seeking re-election and running against the other candidates. When I brought the idea home for suggestions, I was given one. Peter Lakatos came forward and offered to run for Superintendent. Peter had been on the board a short time and has designed the new WISE Division web site. I believe he is a good candidate, and this will be a good change for the Division with some new ideas, rather than the same old ones I've had. Please support all the candidates

and cast your vote. Yes, there is also space on the ballot for write ins.

On February 18 I attended the Mad City Train show. I volunteered to help and was given the opportunity to man the Amtrak booth for two hours. The same time I was in the Amtrak booth, Gary Children was also volunteering his time there. Gary actually spent over five hours in the booth. At the Amtrak booth the attendees were able to make out an entry for a drawing for a round trip on the *Empire Builder*. We were quite busy with many entries being filled in. It was enjoyable to spend time visiting with the attendees and hearing their comments. The winner's name was drawn at the end of the show on Sunday, and it was Dr. Richard Kemper, DDS of Racine. It was good to see the WISE members that took the bus (I believe it was around thirty people) and other Division members that also attended the show.

The next WISE Division meet will be at the Oconomowoc Museum on March 19. In the museum is a train layout and other railroad memorabilia. I hope to see you there, and don't forget to bring your contest entries. Stop by to say "hello".

Reid

## The Editor Hoots...

Yes, it's election time. Yes, we are fortunate, again, to have enough members step forward and fill the positions. So please, take the time to vote.

And if you look to the left, you will see we still have a number of open board positions. While board members are stepping forth to make sure the jobs get done, that is not a long-term solution. Personally, aside from organizing meet locations, and coordinating WISEop, I am also handling layout tours, the *Owl Car* and doing some basic membership duties.

Please consider joining the board and filling an empty position in your Division.

Despite my duties mentioned above, I am (trying) to work on my entry for the Division's mini-square contest in April. So far I have the materials made and/or gathered. How is your entry progressing?

Joe Russ

### Achievement Program

Gary Children .....(414)327-1666  
csuperchief20@wi.rr.com

### Membership

Open

### Youth Club

Mark Hintz .....(414)745-4613  
gp30@fuzzyworld3.com

### Trainfest

Ken Jaglinski .....(414)331-9643  
kenj@trainfest.com

### Picnic

Open

### Bus Trip

Art Oseland .....(414)764-5375  
raydenny1@aol.com

### Video Library

Burnell Breaker .....262-939-9193  
brbreaker@yahoo.com

### Director-At-Large

Steve Miazga .....262-309-6939  
Sjmiazga4258@gmail.com

Robert Sherman .....414-448-7017  
bob4sherm@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.wisedivision.org



# Free Model Railroad Meet

Hosted by the WISE Division, NMRA

**- Public Welcome -**

Visit [www.wisedivision.org](http://www.wisedivision.org) or call 262-408-1946

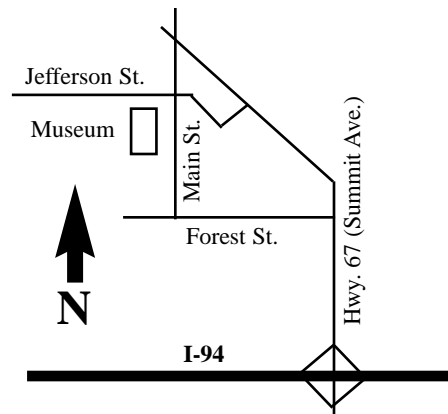
Schedule subject to change without notice



## March 19, 2017

Opens at 12:30	Popular vote contest registration (free and open to the public) until 1:30 for all categories
1:00 to 1:45	<i>NMRA's Achievement Program - Scratch Building</i> Dave Evans will give a brief overview on the NMRA's Achievement Program, and then cover how it applies to an AP certificate in scratch building.
2:00 to 2:45	<i>History of Railroading in the Oconomowoc</i> Chuck Gevreat will review the history of railroading in the area. He will also cover the history of the museum's HO scale model railroad and how they tie into each other.
3:00 to 3:45	<i>Scratch Building a Small 2-story Apartment Building</i> Harry Evans will review building a model of the Washington House. The scratch building steps include photographing, measuring, creating drawings, laying out openings and selecting components.
3:45-4:00	Announcements and Presentation of Contest Awards
4 - 6:00	Layout Tour: a HO C&NW layout (map distributed at 4 p.m.)

**Oconomowoc Historical Museum**  
103 W. Jefferson St., Oconomowoc



### Upcoming Events

- April 21-22 ...WISEop 2017
- April 23.....Meet at New Berlin Ale House
- May 7.....Bus Trip to Wheaton Swap

## The Contest 1/2 Page



*Best of Show: Ed Varick's HO scale Grandpa's Bakery Shop structure*

The following are the results for the Popular Vote Contest held on January 15, 2017.

**Best of Show** – Ed Varick for his HO scale Grandpa's Bakery Shop structure (above)



**Freight Equipment, 1st Place** – Mike Slater for his CNS&M MD Ferry Truck car #1501

**Freight Equipment, 2nd Place** – Mark Wilmering for his HO scale logging disconnects

**Non-Revenue Equipment, 1st Place** – Mark Wilmering for his HO scale logging caboose

**Non-Revenue Equipment, 2nd Place** – Mike Slater for his HO scale Reefer #240

**Structures, 1st Place** – Ed Varick for his HO scale Grandpa's Bakery Shop

**Structures, 2nd Place** – Robert Niedermann for his HO scale Estrada Electric Supply

**Photographs – Prototype, 1st Place** – Mark Wilmering for his photo "Laona Northern Steam Engine"

**Photographs – Prototype, 2nd Place** – Al Lederman for his photo "Cumbres and Toltec"

**Photographs – Model, 1st Place** – Ted Zieger – for his photo "Scenic Train"

**Photographs – Model, 2nd Place** – Mike Janke – for his photo "WSOR 4030 Rounding the Bend"

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 members who have entries in the popular vote contest, it is not a

See **Contest** on page 4

## Candidate Statements

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### **Peter Lakatos - Superintendent**

Clarity and Communication, important in my modeling as in our Division. Without periodic reflection and conversation about my potential modeling endeavors, I lose an honest assessment of my current skills and future needs.

I believe our Division needs the same. Discussing the historic upward trend of Trainfest and downward trend of member participation in the Division is needed. Uncovering obstacles that prevent member involvement with the WISE can help us thrive and possibly grow.

I'm Peter Lakatos and having been in and around the WISE for a few years, I'm running for Superintendent.



### **Joe Russ - Assistant Superintendent (inc.)**

During my four years as Division Superintendent, and past two years as Assistant Superintendent, my goals were to improve communication and create new events. Along those lines a new email service was started, as well as a Facebook Page, and we started WISEop and the WISE (Bike) Ride at minimum or no cost to the Division or participants.

I have been one of the few on the board to argue to keep costs to participate in check, and fought to keep Trainfest admission at a more reasonable rate than it is now. The hobby should be affordable to everyone.



### **Gary Children (inc.)**

Hello, my name is Gary Children and I am a candidate for director of the Wisconsin Southeastern Division of the NMRA. Right now I am the AP chairman of the Division.



### **Ed Kofroth (inc.)**

Ed Kofroth has been into railroads and modeling railroads since the age of five. I have been the clinic chairman for many years. Am now running to continue that chairmanship.



### **Mark Hintz (inc.)**

I have enjoyed running the WISE Division's Youth Group for the past several years, and would like your consideration for another term as Youth Group Director. I have been a model railroader for most of the past 35 years.

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### **Contest from, page 3**

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. The Best of Show winner also receives a very nice Wisconsin shaped plaque which can be mounted and displayed on a wall. Remember, this is **YOUR** contest!

Get going on those models and photographs and we will see you in March and remember April is the due date for the "Squares Contest".

*Dave Evans*  
Contest Director

# 2017 WISE DIVISION BOARD ELECTIONS

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 19, received by April 21** and include **your NMRA #** 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 an elective office in any Region or Division of which the member is a resident member, subject to any qualification and conditions

Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Superintendent/President**

**Pete Lakatos:** Candidate for WISE Division Superintendent

Write In Candidate for Superintendent (must be an NMRA Member):

\_\_\_\_\_

**Assistant Superintendent/Vice President**

**Joe Russ:** Candidate for WISE Division Assistant Superintendent

Write In Candidate for Assistant Superintendent (must be an NMRA Member):

\_\_\_\_\_

**VOTE for no more than TWO Board of Director candidates**

**Gary Children:** Candidate for WISE Division Board of Directors

**Mark Hintz:** Candidate for WISE Division Board of Directors

**Ed Kofroth:** Candidate for WISE Division Board of Directors

Write In Candidate for Board of Directors (must be an NMRA Member):

\_\_\_\_\_

Fold here

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Dave Nelson  
Attn: WISE Division Election Committee  
1506 East Fox Lane  
Fox Point, WI 53217

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Fold here

# Midwest Region NMRA 2017 Spring Convention

## “RRVD – Golden Rails” Registration Form

April 28, 29 & 30, 2017

### FARES<sup>##</sup>

(Spouse of a member will qualify for the member price)

	<u>NMRA</u> <u>Member/Spouse</u>	<u>Non-NMRA</u> <u>Member/Spouse</u>
Full Fare (Includes Banquet) <sup>##</sup>	\$50/\$50	\$60/\$60
Convention Only (No Banquet) <sup>##</sup>	\$40/\$40	\$50/\$50
Banquet Only <sup>##</sup>	\$30/\$30	\$30/\$30

<sup>##</sup>Registrations received after April 14, 2017 or at the door will be \$10 extra

**Activities Registration**

- Friday Night Operating Session (indicate your preference, i.e., 1, 2, 3):  
(Not a “layout tour;” you are expected to operate)  

TO&W \_\_\_\_\_
CN&W \_\_\_\_\_
TP&W \_\_\_\_\_
- I expect to attend the Hobo Grill lunch at the Rochelle RR Park: # attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Enter Desired Meal Choice in the “Meal” column: B = Buffet (chicken & pork), S = Special Diet

<p><u>Name</u> (PLEASE PRINT)</p>	<p>Circle One for each registrant</p>																
<p>NMRA Member: _____  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-left: 100px;"> <span>Last name</span> <span>First name</span> </div> </p> <p>Member Spouse: _____  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-left: 100px;"> <span>Last name</span> <span>First name</span> </div> </p> <p>Non-NMRA Member<sup>**</sup>: _____  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-left: 100px;"> <span>Last name</span> <span>First name</span> </div> </p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 12.5%;">Full</th> <th style="width: 12.5%;">Convention Only</th> <th style="width: 12.5%;">Banquet Only</th> <th style="width: 12.5%;">Meal B/S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">\$50</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$40</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$30</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">\$50</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$40</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$30</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">\$60</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$50</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$30</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Full	Convention Only	Banquet Only	Meal B/S	\$50	\$40	\$30		\$50	\$40	\$30		\$60	\$50	\$30	
Full	Convention Only	Banquet Only	Meal B/S														
\$50	\$40	\$30															
\$50	\$40	\$30															
\$60	\$50	\$30															

Add \$10 each for late registration: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>\*\*</sup>Includes \$10 RailPass membership – must be eligible (either never been a member before OR haven’t been a member for 2 years or more; can join at RailPass rates **ONLY ONCE**)

NMRA #: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: “RRVD – Golden Rails”  
 c/o Don Brindle – Registrar  
 3159 Far Hill Rd  
 Rockford, IL 61109

Office Use Only

Am’t Rec’d: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Op Session Status: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: “Rock River Valley Division - NMRA” (No cash, please)

Additional registration forms available for download at [www.2017mwrconvention.com](http://www.2017mwrconvention.com).