

THE OWL CAR

WISCONSIN SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION OF THE NMRA

Trainfest
America's Largest Operating Model Railroad Show

November 12 & 13, 2011

UPCOMING EVENTS :

- **WISE Youth Group meeting dates on Waukesha County Gandy Dancers website**

2 CONTESTS

March meet will also feature

The categories from the

February 2011 also

- **March 20, 2011**
**WISE Meet Best Western-
Airport Milwaukee**
- **April 10, 2011**
WISE Meet
Annual Meeting
Election of Officers
**Best Western- Airport
Milwaukee**

MARCH 2011

NEW LOOK !!

WISE WEBSITE

The WISE website has received a complete make over and new look. The site was in need of help and had done its job well, but new technologies and formats made it long over due. The video library is now up to date along with a new calendar of events. The drop down menu for searches will make it easier to locate information and will now include our contests. The new contest drop down will have the rules, categories, schedule and the awards now listed for easy reference. The more user friendly the better was the goal. The site will be up and running by mid March. We are looking forward to our website being more of informative and comprehensive. We know additions will need to be made, please feel free to let us know your thoughts.

The ease of updating and keeping current was a part of the make over. The division would like to make the calendar of events more interactive for the clubs and historical groups within the division's boundaries. Should your group have a schedule of meetings or event(s) that are open to anyone and would like to share please send it by email to Linda Sukup @ superintendent@wisdivision.org or Kurt Wamser @ kwmilwrld@wi.rr.com and we will make the updates. With the information being sent, we plan to setup a contact person list for each group enabling the WISE to share information back to the various groups also. Please look at the new website and make sure your group is listed, and if we did unfortunately miss someone PLEASE let us know or if you do not want to be listed.

**NMRA Achievement program judging at
March 20 meet details on page 5**

Superintendent's Corner

By Linda Sukup

Many good things have happened lately. We now have a Layout Tour Director which is Tim Scott. Tim has been working hard putting together tours of area layouts.

There will be a newly designed website. The website now is being redone and will be practical and user friendly. The website is almost finished. I will be announcing when the website is up and running.

The down side was the cancellation of the February meet at Country Springs Hotel in Pewaukee. If this happens again (and I hope it doesn't), please watch channel 6 or channel 12 for any cancellations.

Another really good thing happened, we had our first bus tour to MAD City on February 19. A big thank you goes to Art Oseland and Reid Kahrs for arranging this trip.

So many good things have happened!

Elections will take place for Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Clerk and Paymaster on April 10. Please be present to cast your ballot. If you are interested in running for one of these offices, contact Dick Cecil at thecil@sbcglobal.net.

WISE Division Board of Directors 2010- 2011

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Trainfest®

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Picnic

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Youth Group

Trainfest® Website

www.trainfest.com

Advisor for Youth Group - Jenny Janke
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MARCH CONTESTS

By Bonnie Janke Contest Director

We have great news for the Contest Room, at the March Meet.!!!

Being as we weren't able to have a meet in February because of the weather, we are going to hold two contests at our March Meet. All of those who had entries ready for the February Meet will be able to bring them to the March meet, where we will be holding that contest also. And those who are ready to enter their items, for the March Meet, please bring and enjoy, those contest categories.

We will be holding February & March Contests at the same time, but not together. Which means we will be voting for each month, and there will be two BEST OF SHOW plaques giving out, and all the first place plaques for each month's categories will be handed out for that given month. Sorry if this is just a little confusing, but we still want our modelers to be given a chance to win. Here are the entry items for each month, and for April. And Good Luck!



Upcoming Contests

2-20-2011 being done at the March 20,2011 Meet

- Traction / Electric
- Passenger Equipment
- Non-Revenue Freight Equipment
- Prototype Photos

3-20-2011

- Structures (On & Off Line)
- General (Dioramas & Trains)
- Model Photos
- Freight Equipment

4-10-2011

ALL CATEGORIES:

- Motive Power - Steam
- Motive Power - Diesel
- Traction / Electric
- Passenger Equipment
- Freight Equipment
- Non-Revenue Freight Equipment
- Prototype Photos
- Model Photos
- Structures (On & Off Line)
- General (Dioramas & Trains)
- Train Related Crafts
- Youth

2011 Election of Officers

Dick Cecil - Election Committee Chairman

The following is the list of those currently running for office in April. The March Owl Car will have a brief bio from each candidate .

Candidates are:

For Superintendent:

Linda Sukup

Joe Russ

For Asst. Superintendent:

Kurt Wamser

For Paymaster:

Bob Sherman

For Chief Clerk:

Al Lederman

Nominations are still open, please contact Dick

Cecil should you care to run.

tehcil@sbcglobal.net

MEMBERSHIP

By Neil Michel Membership Director

It is always good to see everyone at our meets. While your there take a minute to sign in and receive a chance at a great door prize. How about a 6-month membership in the NMRA for only \$9.95? Membership application forms are available at the sign in table. This offer is for new members and those who have not been NMRA members for two years or more.

WISE Division Directory coming soon !!

CLINICIANS NEEDED FOR 2011 MONTHLY MEETS

By Al Lederman Clinics Director

Thank you to all of you that have presented a clinic this season. The topics and information during the clinics have been educational and entertaining; and some of us have even taken away a new idea. We still need more volunteers to step foreword and present a clinic and your topic can vary. Should you know of someone who has a skill, please let me know. If you know of a rail fan photographer who has given a presentation elsewhere, please let me know.

If there is anyone who is interested and needs help putting the clinic together on the computer, please ask. There are a number of people in the division who can help.

Train Stores that support the WISE Division of the NMRA and it's Members:

Greenfield News & Hobby
Greenfield 414-281-1800

Jetco's Hiawatha Hobbies
Waukesha 262-544-4131

Sommerfeld's
Butler 262-783-7797

South Side Trains
Milwaukee 414-482-1566

Walthers / Terminal Hobby
Milwaukee 414-461-1050

Mullet River
Plymouth 920-893-9552

Engine House Services
Green Bay 920-490-4839

Madison Hobby Shop
Madison 608-829-3820

NMRA ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM JUDGING

At MARCH MEET

By Dr. Cedor Aronow

That is the question the judges for the NMRA Achievement Program must answer when they are judging the quality of a model that the builder has asked them to evaluate for merit points. The NMRA Achievement program is a fun and educational way to have your work critiqued by judges who are familiar with building and modeling techniques. There are guidelines that are published by the NMRA for the judges to use as they evaluate a model for merit points. There is some leeway for the judges, but the points are awarded based on a matrix for each of the several categories that are judged for each model. The points awarded are not done so in an arbitrary manner. Guidelines must be followed.

Many modelers are reticent about entering a model into a judged contest at a National or Regional convention because of the notion that those judges are extremely stingy and picky in awarding points.

There is a difference between a contest and judging for merit awards. The judges always use the guidelines for awarding points but in picking the 1st place entry in a contest often involve some decision making on the part of the judges. Everything is judged for merit points, but the picking of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place award involves a somewhat different approach by the judges. A person can build a model it can be judged at anytime and does not have to be an entry in a contest. A modeler only has to contact the AP Chair in the Division or any of the officers of the Division and request judging of a particular model. The AP Chair then communicates with the modeler and judging is arranged. If the model is a structure that can be moved or a piece of rolling stock or motive power the judging is often done at one of the regular meets. For some of the categories such as scenery, electrical, mechanical, etc. the judges will come to the location of the layout and do the judging on site. The AP judges in the WISE Division are very flexible and accommodating to the modeler's needs.

Your AP judges are more than willing to answer any questions you may have regarding your work. We often are asked to look at a work in progress to give advice on how to bring the model up to the level that it can make enough points to earn a merit award certificate. Your AP judges are available to help you in your progress to earning merit awards and then moving on to receive a category certificate. We really want to see you succeed and will help you in any way we can. It is suggested you go to the NMRA site and go to the Achievement Program and inform yourself about the various categories and the requirements to earn a Category certificate. There are links to the judging criteria and it provides some interesting and valuable information as to how the judging is actually done.

Don't overlook some of the other categories in the AP program such as Association Volunteer, Author and Dispatcher. These are not modeling categories but are part of the road to becoming a Master Model Railroader.

At the March WISE Division meet, we will have judges available so bring in your models for judging or evaluation and advice. We are anxious to see you.

THE OWL CAR

WISCONSIN SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

March 20, 2011 Meet Clinics at Best Western Hotel - Airport, Milwaukee

Clinics:

- 1pm **Bill Bidell** “Modeling HO Trucks”
- 2pm **Harry Evans** “Digital Photo Backdrops”
- 3pm **Roger Blocks** “Basic Wiring”

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