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September 2019



## From Your Superintendent...

— Mike Slater

Where has the summer gone..... kids in the area are going back to school, the daylight hours are getting shorter and soon the temperatures will be getting cooler. In September we start a new season for WISE members.

For this season of meets we are trying a few new things. First off is the RPM meet (see the adjacent article on what a RPM meet is), then the modelers workshop in December (I'll explain that one next month), and a joint session with our neighboring NMRA divisions in the spring. Sometimes we need to try new things to gain interest with our fellow modelers.

However to make any event a success we need volunteers. For our Monthly WISE meets we need people that are willing to present a clinic. This can range from a new technique you have learned in your modeling, a recent rail fanning trip or an update you have done to your model railroad. If you need help putting together a clinic let us know, we are willing to help you put it together.

At Trainfest we need help in three areas. We can really use some help manning the WISE/NMRA booth, the Make & Take area, and the WISE Division switching layout that we allow kids to operate on. If you are interested in helping out in those areas please let us know, because without Trainfest we would not be able to do the many great things for our members, the local community, and area museums.

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## What is a RPM Meet?

— Mike Slater

For our September meet we are trying something completely different. This format will be completely new to many of our Division members. Before I can start to explain what a RPM is I need to let you know what RPM stands for, RPM stands for Railroad Prototype Modelers, something that most of us do without thinking about it. A prototype modeler is one who models a locomotive, car or structure exactly as it was in real life. During the Meet, modelers have their projects on display. Some modelers may go to extremes to match the real object; some may add some additional detail to make the model represent the prototype. Items on display do not need to be completed, sometimes the in process model is more interesting to learn from, this way other modelers may learn how to do something in order to improve their modeling skills.

In July I attended the RPM in St. Louis, Missouri. To date they have had over a dozen RPM meets in the area and it seems like every year it gets larger and more interesting. The show is not about the Modeler, it's all about the model. Your skill level does not need to be extreme; the beginner is also welcomed to share their models. It is all about learning from one another....

This year I was again able to talk to people like Bob Rivard, Mike Buddy and Dave Davis. Many of these names you may recognize from being published in many of our hobby magazines. However, there were many other talented modelers who you may have never heard about. One of these modelers was Rick Dakota (Duckie) Kempf. Rick models in the present day, so this means his freight cars have graffiti on them. What sets Rick apart from most modelers is that he hand paints all of this artwork on his cars..... He copies this on freight cars from prototype photos, but he also does a lot from his own mind. Most of his personal tags that he creates are to honor our veterans and first responders.

Maybe a more modern time is not what you model..... this is fine. One couple at the St. Louis meet models the depression era. The couple, Jeremy and Kristin Dummmler, are both excellent modelers. At this year's meet Jeremy was showing some of his HO scale Yosemite Valley equipment, though recently he had made the decision to change from HO scale to Proto 48 (exact scale O scale), however his wife will continue to model in HO scale. Kristin is also an excellent modeler, she had several examples of freight cars she has built including several poultry cars..... This just proves the couple that models together stays together!

(Continued on Page 7)

# Trainfest® Report

America's Largest Operating Model Railroad Show.

Trainfest 2019 is quickly approaching and we find ourselves in need of volunteers. The Trainfest Builders program is looking good as we have 13 participants representing all categories who range in age from 5 to 14 years old. There will be 6 new modules linking up to the WISE Division Layout in addition to the four new modules we have created. We need a person to oversee the operation of this layout and people to help run it during the show. If you or someone you know can help us out please contact me at [kenj@trainfest.com](mailto:kenj@trainfest.com).

As most of you know, this year we are celebrating the CB&Q, the Burlington Route, and the 32 panel historical display has been approved by the historical society and is awaiting BNSF Foundation approval before going to print. The pins, plaques, N scale and HO cars have been received and placed for sale on our website.

Currently we have 201 exhibitors registered. Manufacturers – 54, Vendors – 42, Displays – 20, Historical Societies Selling – 8, Historical Societies – 4, and layouts 60. Of the 60 layouts 31 are participating in attendee operations and the scales represented are: STD – 1, G – 7, Lego – 3, O – 7, S – 1, HO – 28 N – 107 and Z – 3.

Tickets are being sold at hobby shops and will be at pumpkin and harvest festivals all at the ON LINE prices. Ticket sales are going at a good pace and might possibly indicate an increased attendance. We have started a round up program where people can add money to their purchases to help us support bringing international layouts to Trainfest 2020. We currently have interest from layouts in England, Germany, New Zealand, Australia, and Canada.

If you know of someone who would like to participant in this year's Trainfest, have them contact me directly at [kenj@trainfest.com](mailto:kenj@trainfest.com) to request an application. If you are travelling and see a nice looking layout that has not been to Trainfest before please let them know we would like to have them at our show.

Obviously the only way that Trainfest can be successful is with the help of many **volunteers**. This year we will continue to reach out to youth groups to help staff the MLES riding railroad crossings and other areas. If you know of a group who would like to attend Trainfest in exchange for one hour of service per participant please have them contact me.

We need **you** to help staff the show. Please go online and complete the volunteer application or contact Dave Nelson directly at [engine1385@aol.com](mailto:engine1385@aol.com).

**Remember Trainfest is your show. Let me or other committee members know what you would like to see in the future.**

Ken Jaglinski, Chair

[kenj@trainfest.com](mailto:kenj@trainfest.com)



## From the Editor...

— Steve Miazga

Do you have something of interest that you would like to share with your fellow modelers? Consider putting together an article for the Owl Car. We are always looking for information that would be great to share. Email me your idea or article at [smiazga50@gmail.com](mailto:smiazga50@gmail.com). New authors should submit their articles in a Microsoft Word or compatible format. We need to receive them by the 15th of the month prior to publishing to allow for page layout planning.

## 2019 WISE Ride

— Dave Poquette

This year's WISE Ride will take place on the Bug Line Trail. The Bug Line was first built in 1890 by the Milwaukee, Menomonee Falls & Western railroad to serve the area limestone quarries. The MM&W was later acquired by the Milwaukee Road which operated the line until 1978. While the quarries are still in use, the railroad is long gone. More historical information about the Bug can be found at the Sussex-Lisbon Area Historical Society's website, <http://www.slahs.org/history/railroad/bugline.htm>.

Sixteen miles of the Bug Line were converted to a Rails-To-Trails recreation trail that starts in Menomonee Falls and ends just east of North Lake. It crosses the CN right-of-way and follows the UP right-of-way for a short distance. The bike ride will be held on Sept 14 at 1pm at the Village Bowl (AKA Bugline Sports Bar and Grill) in Menomonee Falls with rail-fanning stops along the route. Food and refreshments will not be provided by the division. If you are interested in attending this admission-free event, please contact Dave Poquette, [dpoquette@wi.rr.com](mailto:dpoquette@wi.rr.com), 414-906-0678.



### Village Bowl

(Bugline Sports Bar and Grill)

N86 W18330 Main street

Menomonee falls, WI

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



## Video Library Update

— Burnell Breaker, Video Librarian

The Video Library will be available for WISE Division members to check out at our October 20, 2019 meet. I have a conflict of events and will not be able to attend our September 21, 2019 RPM meet until sometime that afternoon. I am planning to have the DVD's from my father's collection, along with 2 new DVD's about Skookum and the Big Boy from Kalmbach available at the October 20 meet. Please check out the DVD listing on the website and if there is a specific disk you wish to check out, please contact me and I will have it set aside for you at the October 20 meet. Remember that all items checked out are due back at the next meet unless other arrangements have been made with me. If there is a title you think the Division should add to the Video Library, let me know as well. This is your Video Library!

Also, WISE Division Membership Directories are still available. Each member gets 1 complimentary copy. Pick up your copy at the next meet at the Video Library tables.



## Upcoming Division Events

- \*September 13-15, 2019—Fall Harvest Days, Racine County Fairgrounds**  
Model Trains, WISE Display and Youth Group
- September 14, 2019 — Annual WISE Ride, Menomonee Falls, 1pm**
- September 21, 2019—Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet**  
Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee Airport, 9 am—4 pm
- October 4-5, 2019—Fall WISEops Operating Weekend**
- October 20, 2019— WISE Division Meet**  
Four Points Sheraton Milwaukee Airport, 12:30 pm
- \*November 9-10, 2019—Trainfest 2019**  
Wisconsin State Fair Park Expo Center, West Allis, WI
- December 8, 2019—WISE Modelers Meet**  
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**  
*\* Denotes extra fare event*

For more event details go to our website: [WWW.WISEDIVISION.ORG](http://WWW.WISEDIVISION.ORG)



## WISE Division NMRA Officers & Board of Directors

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- John Hagen — Layout Tour Director  
*sprinthag@yahoo.com, 262-385-4450*
- Open - Clinic Director and Membership Director



## Upcoming National And Regional Events Of Interest

**February 15-16, 2020—Mad City Train Show**  
*Alliant Energy Center, Madison, WI*

**May 14-17, 2020—Midwest Region NMRA Convention**  
*"The Peoria Rocket"*  
*Holiday Inn & Suites, East Peoria, IL*  
*www.mwr-nmra.org*

**July 12-18, 2020—NMRA 2020 St. Louis**  
*Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark, St. Louis, MO*  
*www.gateway2020.org*

## Historical Society Meetings

**September 12-15, 2019—Soo Line Historical & Tech. Society**  
*2019 Annual Convention, Lake Delton, WI*  
*www.sooline.org*

**September 18-22, 2019—Burlington Route Historical Society**  
*2019 Fall Meet and Annual Business Meeting,*  
*Sandwich, IL, [www.burlingtonroute.org](http://www.burlingtonroute.org)*

**October 25-27, 2019—C&NW Historical Society**  
*Trego Railfan Weekend, Trego, WI*  
*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 19-23, 2020—Great Northern Railway Hist. Society**  
*2020 Convention, Nelson, BC*  
*www.gnrhs.org*

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

— Dennis Janssen

I have spent some time in the dentist's chair in the past few weeks and thought I would pass this on.

### 7 Surprising Foods That Are Staining Your Teeth

Wine, coffee and tea—it's the trifecta of tooth-staining foods that almost everyone knows to avoid in order to protect their pearly whites. These beverages, however, are just the beginning of a long list of foods that can sabotage your smile, and chances are that many are flying undetected right under your very nose! From condiments to candy, put these sneaky offenders on your radar to keep tooth discoloration at bay.

#### Common Tooth-Staining Foods

##### 1. Tomato-Based Meals

The high acidity level of tomatoes coupled with their bright red color can pack quite the punch on the enamel of your teeth. From your mom's homemade spaghetti sauce or soup, or your favorite brand of ketchup, constant exposure to even the smallest of doses can be damaging.

##### 2. Curries

As rich in color as they are in flavor, many spice blends rank high in staining power, due to brightly colored ingredients such as turmeric and saffron. Over time, their pigments can leave a yellowish tint on your teeth.

##### 3. Dark Sauces

Whether it's food infused with soy sauce, balsamic vinegar, or other dark liquid, you can bet that eating enough of it will also dim your smile. If it's the base of your meal, there's a definite risk to the enamel of your teeth, but even side dips can be just as harmful because they are often more concentrated.

##### 4. Clear Soda

Dark sodas already get a lot of notoriety for discoloring teeth, but don't switch to clear soda just yet! While its lighter color can make it seem like the better choice for those who love soda, it's still high in sugars that can eat away at tooth enamel and leave them prone to staining.

##### 5. Fruit Juices and Berries

Fruit is undeniably nutritious, and many juices now come with no sugar added, but fructose is still a form of sugar, and it is bad news for tooth enamel. In fact, the darker color of certain fruits and juices—such as blueberry or grape—can have a staining effect similar to wine.

##### 6. Sports Drinks

Because their makers often do a masterful job of promoting rehydration and electrolyte replacement, it's easy to overlook the sugar content and bright, fluorescent colors. Similar to soda and fruit juice, however, both the pigment and sugary nature of these drinks can leave your teeth less than white in no time.

##### 7. Hard Candies and Popsicles

If they can turn your tongue into a rainbow of colors in a matter of seconds, just think of what they can do to your teeth! Even if consumed occasionally, prolonged sucking puts the surface of your teeth in direct contact with sugar, acid and dye—resulting in tooth decay as well as discoloration.

### Tips To Prevent Tooth Staining

Cutting out many of these problem foods can go a long way in keeping your smile sparkling, but it may be unrealistic to avoid certain foods completely. Here's how you can help protect your teeth from sugary, acidic and/or colorful food:

- Eat thoroughly, but quickly to minimize any contact with the tooth's surface
- Use a straw to help bypass most of your teeth when drinking beverages
- Drink plenty of water during and after meals to wash away food particles
- Brush and floss your teeth after meals to help prevent stains from setting in.
- Use whitening toothpaste to help remove stains and keep teeth sparkling

### Professional Treatment Options

In addition to practicing good hygiene and being more mindful about your diet choices, professional dental care can do wonders in keeping your smile bright. Seeing your dentist regularly for a cleaning and checkup can help prevent and detect tooth staining, and there are many cosmetic whitening procedures that can remedy existing discoloration, whether mild or severe. Schedule a visit with your dentist for the optimal treatment plan for you.

#### Sources:

*7 Foods That Are Secretly Staining Your Teeth.* (2014, Feb. 7). Retrieved June 5, 2015, from <http://www.womenshealthmag.com/beauty/foods-that-stain-teeth>

*Foods and Habits That Stain Your Teeth.* (2009, Nov. 10). Retrieved June 3, 2015, from <http://www.webmd.com/oral-health/features/foods-stain-teeth-feature?page=2>

Lee, Robert. (2014, October 24). *7 Foods and Drinks that are Staining Your Teeth.* Retrieved June 2, 2015, from <http://esteemdental.com/7-foods-drinks-staining-teeth/>

## Want to Show Us Your Layout?

At the conclusion of each of our regular monthly meets we try and schedule a visit/tour of a nearby layout. Each tour is unique in that some are completed, some are set more for operations with minimal scenery, and some just exhibit some great rolling stock. If you have not had an open house for the division in the past and are willing to show off your handiwork we would love to hear from you. For details on what you need to do to get considered for a meet tour contact our Layout Tour Director John Hagen. He can be emailed at [sprinthag@yahoo.com](mailto:sprinthag@yahoo.com) or called at 262-385-4450.

## Annual WISE Bus Trips Planned

Our annual treks to area hobby shows are on our calendar so it is time to mark them on yours. The Mad City bus trip is planned for Saturday, February 15, 2020. Our trip to the Great Midwest Train Show in Dupage, IL is scheduled for Sunday, May 3, 2020. Watch for event sign ups at our regular monthly meets. These are extra fare events and cover trip and entry.



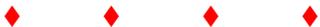
## Jim's Tips and Tidbits

—Jim Kelly

Art Curren, who was in my opinion the King of the Kit-bashers, used several techniques that I first learned from his articles and have used happily ever since. First was using the good old X-Acto knife with the no. 11 blade as a scraping tool to dress the edges of styrene walls, roofs, and other parts. You just hold the blade perpendicular to the edge you're working on and scrape lightly, and the styrene shaves off in neat little curls. (Art probably saved those and found some use for them.) This technique is particularly handy for when you've managed to get an edge not quite straight or when you want edges to join at an angle, 90 degrees or any other.



Art never threw away anything that came in a plastic kit box and he used the sprues for piping, downspouts, and any other detail that was round. If you study sprues you can find lots of potential parts just setting there awaiting discovery. Oh, and you can scrape off the flash with your X-Acto knife as mentioned earlier. Art liked lots of roof detail, and he found it lurking in sprues. And, incidentally, because we're usually looking down at our models, roof detail pays off big.



Because I model in N scale and build mostly with plastic I don't use much CA (cyanoacrylate adhesive), which is often referred to as super glue, although that is a copyrighted brand name. As you've probably found out, the CAs sold at the hobby shops are high quality, but also rather expensive. The problem I have is that I'll use only a tiny percent of it, before it goes bad. When I need CA now I go to Walgreens and buy the inexpensive stuff in the tiniest tubes. You can get five or six of these in a package for about a buck and a half, and if you get only one use from a tube, it's no big deal. The quality may not be great, but it's good enough.



Funniest remark I've heard at a Steve Miazga operating session: "Hey, Steve, you got any glue?"

## What is WISEops and Why Should You Participate?

— Andy Greco

WISEops is an event that pairs both brand new and experienced operators with layout owners willing to open up their homes and operating layouts to those who do not regularly operate on them. It is primarily a fun, easy going event.

An operating model railroad serves a purpose similar to the prototype – to move goods and people from point to point as efficiently as possible. Like the prototype it also must function with a minimal of issues doing so. Often the detail of the locomotives or rolling stock is not as high as award winning models as it must stand up to the rigors of numerous operating sessions and the inevitable derailment or mishandling. However it is far more realistic in that not only does each piece of rolling stock have a destination(s) but must get there around other traffic on the layout.

The layouts in Wise Ops have all different control systems, different dispatching methods, different ways of tracking the cars, and different switch lists. The beauty of this is that at every operating session not only the layout, but the way it is controlled and administered, is new to several of the operators. We get around this by having several pilots familiar with the layout available to coach newcomers. Some of the layouts also encourage youngsters to participate.

Just four years ago, I myself had never operated a layout other than my own. I wanted to participate in an operating session for several years but was afraid of a long list of things; I didn't know anyone there, I would break something, I would not know how to run on the layout, and I was afraid of messing up a serious operating session with my inexperience, etc. After a couple of years of passing up WISEops, I finally got off the couch and tried it out. Every fear I had was unjustified. The sessions were set up with an understanding newcomers would be there and need some help. There was no time pressure, and most of all everyone just wanted to have fun! My best friends in this hobby have all been met at operating sessions since then, and what I have learned from them has made my modeling better and more enjoyable.

So if you have been thinking of it but hesitant, please take the plunge. We need more folks to operate that just want to have fun! See you in October.

## Fall WISEops Set for October 4th & 5th

— Andy Greco

Plans are progressing for our Fall operating weekend with registration to begin shortly after Labor Day. Operating sessions are planned for the evening of the 4th followed by morning, afternoon and evening sessions on Saturday the 5th.

The following layouts will be open for operating that weekend: Rock Harbor, Ashland Superior and Pacific, Tomah Portage and Mauston, Four Corners & Five Lakes, BN Peoria Sub, Missabe Junction, Metro Model railroad club, and Midwest lines.

If you have operated in the past you will receive an email with directions to the registration website after Labor Day. The process will be the same as last spring. If you have not participated in the past, email Andy Greco at [nmrawiseop@gmail.com](mailto:nmrawiseop@gmail.com). Enjoy a couple of photos from our Spring 2019 event.



## Union Pacific X4014 Big Boy Visits the Midwest

Railfans were a chasin' in July as the recently fully restored Union Pacific "Big Boy" #4014 made a trip from Cheyenne to visits in Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois. While there was no public viewing in the Milwaukee area, there was plenty of action and tons of pictures and video posted on social media and in the local press.

Enjoy these professional photos taken by Mark Llanuza, the Official Metra Photographer, shot in and around the Chicago metro area. These are included in the Owl Car with the permission of Mr. Llanuza and are provided courtesy of Jeffrey Marker, a member of our Trainfest Committee.





**WISE Division NMRA**  
**Railroad Prototype**  
**Modelers Meet**  
**September 21, 2019**  
**9:00 am to 4:00 pm**

**PUBLIC WELCOME — FREE ADMISSION**

**Meet Location**

**Four Points by Sheraton Hotel**

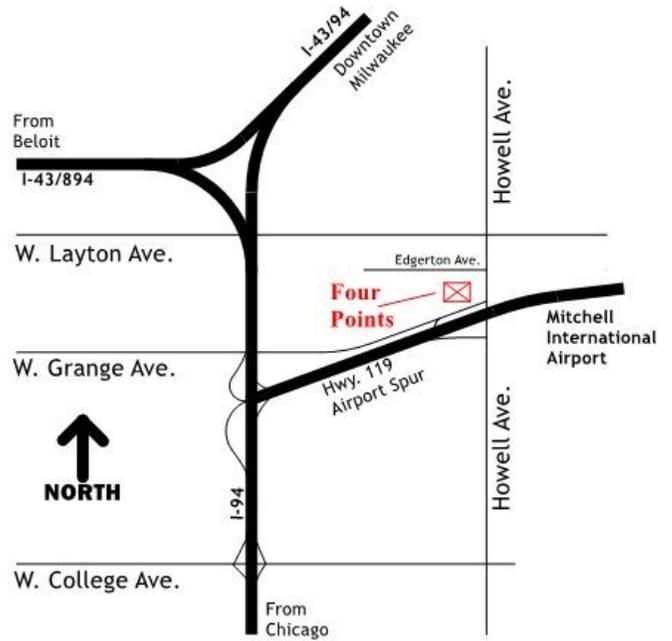
**5311 S. Howell Ave. in Milwaukee**

**BALLROOM ENTRANCE, SW CORNER, UNDER CANOPY**

*Join the WISE Division as we host our first RPM in Milwaukee. Model displays will be available from 9:00 am until 4:00pm.*

*There will be several clinics offered in the morning and afternoon. No clinics will be offered between Noon and 1:00 pm.*

**Door Prizes**



**What is a RPM?**

*(Continued from Page 1)*

Sometimes a RPM is not just trains or related structures. Vehicles are also a big part of our modeling world. At the St. Louis show there were several people who just model vehicles in HO scale. This group calls themselves the 1/87 scale club. While some members of this group are also model railroaders, some of them, like Sam Denehy, have never built a model railroad. Sam's niche in the 1/87 vehicle world is lowrider custom cars and movie cars. This year Sam had a great display of his HO scale movie and TV cars. His display included many scenes including a 50's drive-in with some of the cars from Grease, Ecto One from the Ghostbuster's (with fully functioning sound and lights) and a Bates Motel and house scene.

So I encourage all of you to bring a model or two that you are working on whether complete or in process. Just remember this is the best hobby in the world, so let's share it with one another and lets all have fun. Speaking of sharing, here are a few pictures of the typical displays seen at the St. Louis RPM.





WISE Division of the NMRA  
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