

January 2025

THE HEAD OWL HOOTS

Burnell Breaker

HAPPY NEW YEAR – 2025 !!!

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas with many trains under the tree from Santa Claus.

We had a great December 14 meet with 22 of us enjoying a clinic by Steve Miazga, MMR, along with a short presentation from Dave Nelson. The Milwaukee Union Terminal Railroad Club was open for us to visit afterwards. Established in 1933, there is a lot of history there. A few of its members at that time were the driving force behind the formation of the NMRA.

David Mielke is also looking for help at our Train School January 18, 2025. Members are needed to just talk to attendees at a station devoted to a single topic.

We are also looking to build upon our Model Railroad Retreat for September 13, 2025. We have not yet decided upon a place to hold it, but this will be our first event for the 2025-2026 season. Mike Slater is heading this up. Talk to him if you are interested in displaying, selling, giving a clinic or having your layout open for touring afterwards.

On a sad note, Jean Frey, the wife of WISE member Bob Frey passed away November 25, 2024, after a long battle with cancer. Bob is in an assisted living facility at Tudor Oaks in Muskego where he and Jean have lived since 2018. Please keep Bob and his family in your prayers.

Dennis Janssen has agreed to continue as our Assistant Paymaster (bookkeeper), but not as a board position. So, technically, the board position of Paymaster is still open, but we have Dennis back to take care of the Division's finances. Thank you, Dennis. We still should be looking for a Paymaster to take over in the future. None of us are getting any younger and Dennis will work with whoever decides to take on this job so that there is a smooth transition.

If you have ideas as to where we can hold our meets at little or no cost, let us know. It appears the New Berlin Public Library is a good home base for the majority of our meets but would be nice hold our meets in other areas of our division, giving us a chance to visit local layouts at those different locations.

Trainfest 2024 is behind us, and we now look forward to Trainfest 2025 being held November 8 and 9, 2025 at the Wisconsin State Fair Park Expo Center. It will be back under NMRA control with the national office financing and running it. They will be looking for help from us for guidance and to others within the Midwest Region to volunteer at the show. If you are interested in volunteering with Trainfest 2025, let us know and we will pass it onto the national team. You can email me at superintendent@trainfest.com.

We are always looking for help within the Division. If there's any way you can help, let us know.

Thank you again for everyone's support.

Burnell

View From the Tail Car

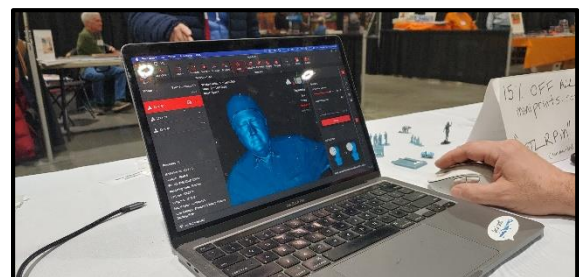
Trainfest 2024 boasted dozens of major model railroad manufacturers, over 50 operating model train displays in many different sizes and scales and over 500 tables of merchandise and organizations but none compared to the Wise Division booth. Even the miniature train rides behind Thomas the Tank Engine could not draw attendees away the WISE division booth and the riveting information it provided. All jesting aside, the WISE Division booth had an abundance of information on the division, local hobby shops and more in addition to offering free locomotive testing for anyone who purchased locomotives from the many vendors at the show.



Mark Willmering, Burnell Breaker,
LaRoye Chisley, Robert Niederman

Drawing more attention than even the Division's booth was the Mini Prints booth operated by Bernard Hellen. Here one could be scanned and a scale sized figure of them would be generated. Burnell Breaker, Mark and Robert Niedermann decided that just one of them was not enough and to have miniature versions of them made.

Pictured below is the first step of the process. Mark and Robert were placed on a turntable where they had to hold the desired pose for four minutes. As they spun in circles, they were being scanned and the computer was making a 3D image.



Burnell's scan as it appeared
on the computer.

...and, that is the View from the Tail Car.




Wisconsin Southeastern Division Midwest Region
of the National Model Railroad Association

2024-2025 Schedule of Events

Sunday, September 15, 2024 - 9AM to 3PM

Kettle Moraine Ballast Scorchers Railroad Club Model Railroad Show & Swap Meet

Washington County Fair Park, West Bend
(Extra Fare Event)

Saturday, September 28, 2024 - 9AM to 3PM

Model Railroad Retreat - St. Paul's Lutheran Church

NON-MEMBERS \$5.00
8760 37th Avenue, Kenosha

Saturday, November 16, 2024 - 1 PM

Monthly Meet - New Berlin Public Library Community Room

FREE ADMISSION (Contests, Clinics, Bring & Brag, Layout Tour)
15105 Library Lane, New Berlin

Saturday & Sunday, November 23-24, 2024

Trainfest - Baird Center, Milwaukee

(Extra Fare Event)

Saturday, December 14, 2024 - 1 PM

Monthly Meet - New Berlin Public Library Community Room

FREE ADMISSION

Saturday January 18, 2025 - 1 PM

Train School - New Berlin Public Library Community Room

FREE ADMISSION

Learn about this great hobby and all it offers from local modelers.
Stations will be set up to discover different aspects of the hobby.

Saturday & Sunday, February 15-16, 2025

Mad City Train Show - Alliant Energy Center, Madison

(Extra Fare Event)

Saturday, February 22, 2025 - 1 PM

Monthly Meet - New Berlin Public Library Community Room

FREE ADMISSION

Saturday, March 22, 2025 - 1 PM

Monthly Meet and Membership Meeting Oconomowoc Historical Museum

FREE ADMISSION

103 West Jefferson Street, Oconomowoc

Sunday, April 13, 2025 - 9 AM to 4 PM

Metro Model Railroad Club Model Railroad Show

Ozaukee County Fairgrounds, Cedarburg
(Extra Fare Event)

BRING & BRAG about your recent acquisitions, layout progress or rail adventures at the Meets!

Upcoming Division Events:

Executive Committee Meeting

January 8 7:00pm at Lionel Railroad Club and Zoom

WISE Division Meeting

January 18 Train School 1:00 – 4:00pm New Berlin Public Library

No Zoom Meeting

February 22 1:00pm New Berlin Public Library

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82116880636?pwd=euk76tE0ElvG846Z4TWjOQtweJDczD.1>

or us Meeting ID: 821 1688 0636 Passcode: 261

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Clinicians Invited at NMRA Convention

The great clinic presenters in the Division are invited to present their clinics at the 2025 NMRA Convention in Novi, MI in July 2025. We expect to have about 200 clinics taking place throughout the week. If interested, please email your contact information and clinic ideas to me at hazmatrichm@aol.com. I will respond to your email with the forms that need to be completed.

We have nearly 200 people already registered, at this time, for the convention which will start on Monday July 14 to Saturday July 19. We have reduced the costs by reducing the registration fees, but, yet we will be staying in a very nice Sheraton Hotel. Most of the activities, such as the layout tours, will be accessible using your personal vehicle.

" It is the 90th year of the NMRA! So, it will be a convention like none other!"

Rich Mahaney
NMRA NCR President
269-214-4221



2025 NMRA National Convention
Station No. VI - hosted by the North Central Region of the NMRA

A Word about Constant Contact e-mail

Each Constant Contact e-mail includes links to update or unsubscribe your e-mail address. **Please do not use these links.** If you unsubscribe using the Constant Contact link, your e-mail address will be removed from the NMRA membership database, from the Midwest Region e-mail database and probably from your Division's records. If you get an e-mail that you don't want, just hit the delete key. Furthermore, if you use the update link, your change may not be timely posted to the NMRA membership database.

If you need to change your email address with the NMRA please follow these directions:

The direct way is to log on to the "Members" page of the NMRA website, choose the "View your NMRA membership" box on the right side of the screen, scroll down to the bottom of the page and select "Update". Enter the new email address in the appropriate box and click "Submit".

Division Video Library

A reminder for everyone that the Division's Video Library is available for members to checkout DVDs.

As I stated after the Division went inactive, I cannot do both jobs of being the Interim Superintendent and Video Librarian, bringing and managing the Video Library at our meets. If you would like to checkout any DVDs, look at our catalog on wisedivision.org and contact me with the number and title of the one(s) you would like to view. I will bring them to our next meet or you can pick them up at my business. The DVDs are currently stored in my company's warehouse in Caledonia.

If you are interested in taking over the Video Library, contact me. It's an easy job, where you need to bring the Video Library to our meets and manage the checking out and receiving of them from the members.

Burnell Breaker
superintendent@trainfest.com
262-939-9193

Membership Directory

We have not updated our Membership Directory in over a decade. The information in this directory is vital to the ongoing revitalization of the Division.

As your new Layout Tour Chair, updating this document is my priority. With the information contained within its pages, we will be able to foster camaraderie and the sharing of ideas and expertise that is a key to a thriving organization and something that is greatly needed in the Division.

My plan is to send out a form by email, in the new year, asking for your contact information and details about your layout and other model and prototype interests. Please consider responding to my request. The Division is moving in a new direction, and this directory will be an essential part of this revival.

David Mielke
Layout Tour Chair

A Note from the Editor:

The more years that I serve as your Editor, the more that I learn of the many facets to this passion you call model railroading. There is so much to this hobby that would pique the interest of a vast variety of folks. But our conversations are too often directed to those who build layouts or operate them that you are mute about the scenery, photography, history and architecture that are also a portion of the hobby. Expand your perspective of the hobby and you just might expand your membership as well.

Please remember that the deadline for the February issue is the 20th of January. So, keep this deadline in mind and send your articles and photos to the Owl Car to owlcar@trainfest.com.

Your Editor
Cindy Mielke

AP Achievement Program

Dave Poquette

To most NMRA members, the NMRA Achievement Program (AP) is a way to achieve the Master Model Railroader (MMR) status. You must earn 7 certificates in 4 different categories (model railroad equipment, settings, engineering and operation, service to the hobby). Each category is broken down into subcategories as follows:

- Model railroad equipment
 - Motive Power
 - Cars
- Settings
 - Structures
 - Scenery
 - Prototype Models
- Engineering and Operation
 - Civil Engineer
 - Electrical Engineer
 - Chief Dispatcher
- Service to the Hobby
 - Association Official
 - Association Volunteer
 - Author

Obtaining the MMR status can be a daunting task. It takes commitment and many hours to achieve. The process is well worth the effort. I am currently going through the process and have spent countless hours achieving 5 AP certificates and 3 merit awards towards a 6th certificate, structures. I feel that going through this process has made me a better modeler in many ways. I only wish I could have saved that switch tower that I made from cardboard or even the Revell models that I built when I was knee-high to a grasshopper so that I can compare it to the models that I'm building now.

You can find more information about the Achievement Program at <http://nmra.org> and click on the Education tab. If you have further questions, feel free to contact me. My contact information is listed in the Division Leadership section of this newsletter.

If you don't feel like this is "your cup of tea", then at least consider earning a Golden Spike Award. Unlike the AP, you don't need to have your models judged nor do you have to earn 7 certificates. You just need to have built a layout that meets certain requirements:

- Display 6 pieces of rolling stock. These can be scratch built, craftsman kit, super detailed commercial kits.
- Construct a minimum of 8 square feet of model railroad or module(s) including scenery in any scale.
- Construct 5 structures. These can be scratch built, craftsman kit, or super-detailed commercial kits. If a module has less than five structures, additional structures separate from the scene may be presented.
- Three types of tracks are required (turnout, crossing, cross-over, etc.). All tracks must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial track can be used.
- The track must be wired so that 2 trains can be operated simultaneously.
- One additional electrical feature must be used. This can be powered turnouts, turnout indicators, lighted building, signaling, etc.

Most of you may already qualify for a Golden Spike Award. If you think you do qualify for a Golden Spike, fill out the attached form and contact me. I will come to your layout to see if you qualify. Please message me at ap@trainfest.com.

	<p style="text-align: center;">ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM FEBRUARY 2019</p>
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PLEASE COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION FORM AND SEND TO YOUR DIVISION OR REGION AP MANAGER

Member Name: _____ NMRA#: _____ Expiration: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State/Province: _____ Country: _____ Zip/Post Code: _____

Date Submitted: _____ Region: _____ Division: _____

- The Golden Spike Award (GSA) will be awarded to any NMRA member who completes the Qualifications Checklist, obtains the necessary signatures (Division AP Manager or some local NMRA member approved by the Division AP Manager), and if the applicant does not already hold MMR status.
- The GSA will be administered by the Division and Region AP Managers.
- AP requirements and definitions apply for scratch building and super-detailing.
- The Division AP Manager will submit the signed form to the Region AP Manager who will issue the Golden Spike Award certificate.
- The Region AP Manager will then forward the completed form to the National AP Manager so that an announcement can be made in the NMRA Magazine.

GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:

1. Rolling Stock (Motive Power & Cars):

- Display six units of rolling stock either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or superdetailed commercial kits.

2. Model Railroad Setting (Structures & Scenery)

- Construct a minimum of eight square feet of model railroad or module(s) including scenery in any scale.
- Construct five structures either scratchbuilt, craftsman kits or superdetailed commercial kits. If a module has less than five structures, additional structures separate from the scene may be presented.

3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)

- Three types of track are required (e.g. turnout, crossing, crossover, etc.). All must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial track may be used.
- All installed track must be properly wired so that two trains can be operated simultaneously (e.g. double track main, single track main with sidings, and block or command or other form of control).
- Provide any one additional electrical feature such as power operated turnouts, signaling, turnout indication, lighted buildings, etc.

Witness: _____ Name: _____ NMRA #: _____

Region AP Manager: _____ Region: _____

Layout Tours

David Mielke

After the December WISE meet at the New Berlin Public Library, the membership was treated to a tour of the layout of the Milwaukee Union Terminal or as it is affectingly called, The MUT. This layout, built by the Milwaukee Railroad Club, is located under the Canadian Pacific rails in the old passenger station which was built in the early 1900s.

The club itself was established in 1933 and is still in the same location for last 88 years. This club's history reads as a who's who in the realm of Milwaukee model trains. Two previous Milwaukee mayors, Al Kalmbach of Kalmbach Publishing, William Walthers of Walthers Distribution and Manufacturing, and many others who were instrumental in the formation of the NMRA.

The club's 30 x 54-foot layout is an O scale 2 rail that employs a block system and WWII technology that is used to control the layout as shown in the photo below. The club is the oldest train club in the state of Wisconsin and the second oldest O scale club in the United States.



Notice the detailed interior of this Interlocking tower



Club member, John, operates the panel controlling the main yard



The layout is controlled with B17 and B25 airplane components from WWII



The history of the club

NMRA Membership Benefits

Gary Hendrickson

While the Division offers its members clinics, presentations, layout tours and events, there is so much more for the model railroad enthusiasts and that more comes with NMRA membership. NMRA membership offers so many benefits and perks that you may never have imagined.

Now, what exactly are those NMRA membership benefits? Well, there are actually quite a few. So, here's a list the more prominent ones...

- **Beginner's Guide**
Learn the basics of trackwork, wiring, scenery, and more in this [online guide](#).
- **Fellowship with other model railroaders through virtual and face-to-face connections**
Participate in regularly scheduled in-person division, national, and virtual events.
- **Online Video Library**
Dozens of professionally produced "how-to" videos as well as more than 150 National Convention [clinic videos](#).
- **NMRA Member's Aid Program**
Ask a [question, any question](#), about the NMRA or about model railroading – and get an answer!
- **Modeling With the Masters® (MWTM)**
Get coaching in hands-on learning experiences led by Master Model Railroaders® in [MWTM](#).
- **National Conventions**
Held in a different location in the US every year, the [National Convention](#) is a week-long event featuring multiple model railroad layout tours, operating sessions, prototype tours, hands-on clinics, and presentations.
- **Model and Photography Contest Participation**
Participate in the [celebration of models, photos, and crafts](#) at Divisional Meets, as well as Regional and National Conventions.
- **Partnership Program**
Receive discounts on model railroad products and services from free shipping to 40% off all purchases.
- **Grouper**
US-based members, over the age of 65 with a Medicare Advantage, may be eligible [for reimbursement of their](#) annual NMRA dues.
- **Annual NMRA Calendar**
Features twelve of the best of the best model railroad photographs annually in a fund-raiser to members in the USA.

NMRA Membership Benefits (continued)

- **NMRA eBulletin**
A [monthly email newsletter](#) with the latest updates and news direct from the NMRA
- **Model Railroad Directory**
Contact NMRA members in the [Model Railroad Directory](#) for a layout tour, to talk trains, or to participate in an operating session
- **NMRA Turntable**
A [monthly curated email newsletter](#) with some of the most interesting model railroad websites, videos, blogs, and articles on the web.
- **NMRA Magazine - monthly print and online/digital**
Print and online/[digital monthly publication](#) featuring news about the organization and its Regions and Divisions, along with modeling articles, product conformance reviews, and other information. *Each member automatically gets access to the digital version of the NMRA Magazine with your membership. Print versions require a subscription.*
- **NMRA Interchange**
Connect electronically with NMRA members around the world to ask questions, provide answers, post events, share ideas, and make friends in the [NMRA Interchange](#).
- **NMRAx – The NMRA's Monthly Virtual Meetup**
The NMRA's Monthly Virtual Meetup of model railroad presentations broadcast over YouTube Live. [NMRAx](#) provides an opportunity for attendees to directly interact with the presenters.
- **NMRA Online Archives**
Scans of more than 10,000 photographs, slides, plans, drawings, paint schemes, and more available for download at a discount to members in the [online archives](#).
- **Achievement Program (AP)**
Push your skills to new levels while earning recognition for your efforts in the Achievement Program.
- **Train School**
The January WISE Division meet is a live train school, mentored by our seasoned experts, covering a multitude of railroad modeling topics at learning stations all around the room.
- **Standards and Conformance**
Be a part of the organization that sets the [standards](#) for and verifies the [conformance](#) of model railroad products and technologies. Purchase Standards Gauges at significant price reductions over retail prices. Track templates and decals also available in the [Company Store](#).

For more benefits and information on how to become a member, visit the NMRA website at [National Model Railroad Association](#) or follow the NMRA on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/NMRA.org>

Division Leadership

Board of Directors

- Burnell Breaker --- Superintendent
superintendent@trainfest.com
 262-939-9193
- Robert Niedermann --- Assistant Superintendent
Asst.super@trainfest.com
 414-587-4778
- David Rohr --- Chief Clerk (Secretary)
chiefclerk@trainfest.com
 262-783-7230
- Tim Koch --- Director at Large
tim@trainfest.com
- David Mielke --- Director at Large
mielkemanor@att.net
- Open --- Paymaster
 Dennis Janssen --- Assistant Paymaster
dennis@trainfest.com

Committee Chairs

- Gary Hendrickson --- Membership
members@trainfest.com
 847-800-1380
- Dave Nelson --- Clinics
engine1385@aol.com
- Dave Poquette --- Achievement Program
ap@trainfest.com
- Dave Mielke --- Train School/ Layout Tours
mielkemanor@att.net
- Cindy Mielke --- Owl Car Editor
owlcar@trainfest.com
- Mike Slater --- Social Media Manager
m Slater@wi.rr.com
 262-515-3623
- Jim Hebner --- Webmaster
webmaster@trainfest.com
- Contest --- Robert Niedermann
 Video Library --- Burnell Breaker
 Picnic/Bus Trips --- Open

FROM the NMRA Please Keep in Touch



Please make sure the NMRA has your current contact information. You will not be able to access the full range of NMRA benefits unless we can reach you.

- Please visit nmra.org/members
- Use your email address and password to log in.
- If you have not yet registered, or forgot your password, there are buttons for that. Take a moment to easily correct any problems.
- Once logged in, click on Member Info (top right corner).
- Make sure your information is correct.
- If not, please go to:

nmra.org/request-membership-info-changes

to submit a request for changes to be made.

Thank you!

The WISE Owl Car is published by the Wisconsin Southeastern (WISE) Division of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA).

Subscription is free in an electronic format to all NMRA members residing within the boundaries of the WISE Division.

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Please send any comments, information, or editorials to Editor Cindy Mielke via email: owlcar@trainfest.com

November Board of Directors Minutes

**Wisconsin Southeastern (WISE) Division of the NMRA
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, November 13, 2024
Location: Lionel Railroad Club & Zoom**

Meeting called to order by Burnell Breaker at 7:06 pm

EC Present – Burnell Breaker (Interim Superintendent)
Robert Niedermann (interim Asst-Superintendent)*
David Rohr (Secretary, Chief Clerk)

Chairs Present - David Mielke (Train School)*, Cindy Mielke (Owl Car)*, Mark Willmering (Trainfest - Floor)*
Mike Slater (Facebook)*, Gary Hendrickson (Membership), Jim Hebner (joined at 7:08pm)

Guests – Bob Mcgeever (MWR President) *

Absent – Tim Koch (Director At Large) *Attended via zoom

Minutes: No changes noted from the October 9 meeting minutes, approved.

Paymaster Report:

Dennis J is doing the reports. No changes noted from the October report, approved.

Membership:

Gary Hendrickson's submitted the following report: "The WISE Division roster stands at 133 as of October 31. In October, there were 12 renewals, 2 - 30 days overdue, 1 - 60 days overdue. We've heard back from Lucy Dormont, NMRA National Engagement Director, about the request we've made for a support video project to facilitate our membership promotion. Her response was, "I have reviewed this and am currently trying to work it into the schedule. Let me discuss with Gordy and see if we can come up with a project completion date." From this, I think we can assume that our request has apparently been approved and is in the prioritizing stage."

Clinics:

Dave Nelson's submitted the following report: "The clinics will both be conducted by me (couldn't find anybody else) and both are on Galesburg IL. The first one is about Galesburg as a modeler and railfan destination. Following a brief break, the second one is on past years' Galesburg Railroad Days displays and activities, plus interesting ways to get to Galesburg and see plenty of trains. This should give us plenty of time for anything you want to say after the clinics and still be out of the library by 4 pm ".

AP Program:

Dave Poquette's submitted the following report: "Ray Meyer of Port Washington submitted an AP application for Locomotives. He also submitted an application for MMR."

Website:

The new updated website is now live as of yesterday, November 12. Most things are sort of working, but still tweaking. While the website is not fancy, it's easier to manage.

Layout Tours:

Dave Mielke stated he has the WCGD (Waukesha County Gandy Dancers) in downtown Waukesha.

Train School:

Improved flyer, poster and Facebook posts are being created by Image Management

Owl Car:

October issue was late, due to Burnell on vacation. The November issue was sent to members on November 7.

Dennis J is the person sending out the newsletter via Constant Contact. Deadline for December issue is November 15.

Show Schedule –

December 15 – LRRRC Swap (WISE Meet December 14)

February 15 & 16 – SCWD Mad-City Show (tentative – need crew)

March 16 – LRRRC Swap (WISE Meet March 22)

April 13 – Metro Club Swap - Cedarburg

Old Business

- **Zieger Estate** – Nothing new to report, Burnell is too busy. Slater stated he can help.
- **Trainfest 2024** – Have tickets to sell to our members. \$10 for 2-day admission. We are offering mail-in sales. We heard the New Berlin Library will allow us to sell, if we are not making a profit. So far, we have sold 14 tickets to members. Exhibitor info is online, with a floor plan, and parking info. We need to get a crew together for manning the booth for both days. So far, we have Burnell, Robert Niedermann, Mark Willmering and LaRoye Chisley. We need to find at least 1 more person to help. Also we need to decide what we will bring to the show booth. Pre-purchase your parking pass! Saturday will be expensive. The Bucks are at Fiserv Forum and the Cream City Challenge College Basketball tournament is at the Panther Arena
- **2024 - 2025 Schedule and Meeting Locations** – New Berlin Library will allow coffee and light snacks. Invite everyone, but only NMRA members can participate in door prizes, contests, layout tours, etc. It will be a late start for February 2025. We have the 2025 dates reserved for Train School and the February meet. Robert was able to clarify with the New Berlin Library that we can have a donation jar out for the coffee and light snacks. The library will also allow us to sell our Trainfest tickets, just so long as we are not making a profit on them. IM has created a post for our November 16 meet. We plan to do a test zoom meeting with Mike Slater, then in December, do a Zoom meeting for the full Division who want to join remotely.
- **Division going active** – Division is active again as of 11/4/2024. We presented our revised Constitution and By-Laws to the Midwest Region BOD at their 11/2/2024 fall meeting and the resolution to go active was unanimously passed. All officers would stay in place through 2025. First elections would be Spring 2026
- Regarding the Constitution and By-Laws, is there anything we need to do with the State, in filing the documents? We need to research this.
- \$200 matching funds program. We will have to think what we can use it for in 2025.
- **2025-2026 Schedule of Events** – thinking ahead . . . Model RR Retreat at NB Library, besides local meets, a monthly meet in Kenosha at St. Paul's Lutheran, member trip?
- John Hagen is moving into assisted living and will be donating more items to us for sale. Possibly picking up before our November 13 meeting

New Business:

- RPM Meet – The next date could be the third Saturday, September 20, 2025 if the library is available

Next Meeting:

Next meeting is Wednesday, December 4. The date has changed due to a conflict for a few attendees. The meeting to be held at the Lionel Club in New Berlin at 7 pm or via zoom. The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 8

Jim Hebner, Gary Hendrickson, Cindy Mielke, David Mielke and Mike Slater left the meeting.

The meeting went into closed session at 8:11 pm. The closed session ended, and meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

Member Code of Conduct

Introduction

This Code of Conduct (“Code”) has been developed to set expectations for the behaviors, conduct, communication, and interactions between you and other members, officers and directors of the National Model Railroad Association, Inc. (“NMRA”). This Code applies to all such persons when engaging with other NMRA members, participating in any event, social media platform or other sponsored extension of the NMRA (for example, the NMRA Interchange or an NMRA-sponsored online meeting) and attending NMRA meetings, events, or activities (whether National, Regional, Division or other subset). This Code also includes general guidelines on the appropriate use of social media for NMRA matters at any level.

Why do we need a code of conduct?

We join the NMRA and participate in its activities for one common reason – we enjoy the model railroading hobby and the fun, challenges, personal growth and camaraderie that it provides. It is imperative that we keep our common bond of model railroading “front and center” and rise above the inevitable differences that exist among us in personalities, opinions, experience, gender, age, race, nationality, or any of the other factors that make each of us unique individuals. Our collective goal is to enjoy and promote the hobby of model railroading, so we must strive to avoid “distractions” that interfere with or obstruct our common purpose. Collaboration and co-operation are vital for the success of our hobby and our enjoyment of model railroading and everything it has to offer.

What does the NMRA expect of members?

The NMRA expects all members to conduct themselves in a respectful, responsible, and mature manner, and demonstrate courtesy and kindness toward other individuals. Constructive and healthy discussions and interactions are encouraged and in fact are vital to the success of our hobby. However, certain other verbal and nonverbal behaviors and actions are not consistent with the NMRA’s values and hurt our hobby and relationships, such as the use of disparaging language, shouting, profanity, confrontational, intimidating, or threatening behavior or language, and immature and disrespectful behavior or language. It is imperative that we interact in a polite and professional manner.

The NMRA does not condone abusive, threatening, or aggressive behavior toward anyone at an NMRA event or in an NMRA forum (such as social media and other forms of electronic and digital interaction). This includes other participants, event organizers or sponsors, judges, or other officials.

You should be welcoming to newcomers and remember they may not have the benefit of experience and information that you have enjoyed. Be constructive in helping to make their entry into the hobby an enjoyable one.

Harassment

NMRA events and functions are meant to be fun, educational, and inclusive. No one should be subject to intimidation, made to feel unwelcome, or put in fear of reprisal. Harassment may include behavior or language that causes alarm, distress, anxiety, fear of physical violence, offensive statements, verbal abuse, and threats. Members should be sensitive to others.

Non-Retaliation

The NMRA relies on you to identify potential issues and raise concerns that the NMRA may need to address. The NMRA prohibits acts of retaliation against any person who reports an issue honestly and in good faith, and retaliation can constitute misconduct that could subject a member to discipline. This commitment to non-retaliation assures you that raising concerns, reporting misconduct, or cooperating in any investigation will not result in adverse consequences. The NMRA prohibits retaliation in any form, at any level of the organization, recognizing that retaliatory behavior contributes to an environment of mistrust and diminishes the willingness of individuals to be collaborative and transparent. During the investigation of any matter, the NMRA makes every reasonable effort to maintain the confidentiality of those involved.

Use of social media

The rapid growth of social media combined with ease of use and pervasiveness make it an attractive channel for communication. Use of social media for communication also creates the possibility of a host of unintended consequences. To help you identify and avoid potential issues, we are providing some examples of best practices that are meant to help you understand, from a wide range of perspectives, the implications of participation in social media. Any postings that you make as a representative of or participant in NMRA sanctioned activities will reflect on you and the NMRA.

Understand Your Personal Responsibility: You are personally responsible for the content you publish on user-generated content forums, such as blogs or social media sites. Remember that what you publish will be public for a long time. Protect your privacy.

Be Accurate: Be sure that you have all the facts before you post. It's better to verify your sources first than to have to post a correction or retraction later. If you do make a mistake, admit it and correct it. Post a retraction, edit your post, make any necessary apologies. If you are editing an earlier post, make it clear that you have made a correction.

Respect Others: You can catch a whole lot more flies with honey than vinegar. If you are constructive and respectful while seeking advice, asking for help, or discussing a disagreement or bad experience, you are far more likely to reach an understanding. In some instances, you may not be able to reach an understanding or agreement, but it is your responsibility to be constructive and address the problem rather than attacking the person.

Respect Your Audience: Don't use personal insults or disparaging conduct or language toward others. Show proper consideration for others' privacy and for sensitive topics. Users are free to discuss topics and disagree with one another but be respectful of others' opinions. You are more likely to achieve your goals if you are constructive and respectful while discussing a bad experience or disagreeing with an idea or a person. Harassment is not acceptable.

Think Before You Post: There's no such thing as a "private" social media site. Search engines can turn up posts and pictures years after publication. Comments can be forwarded or copied, and screenshots are easily available. Archival systems save information even if you delete a post. If you feel angry or passionate about a subject, it's prudent to wait until you are calm and clear-headed before posting.

Does it Pass the Publicity Test? If the content of your message would not be acceptable for face-to-face conversation, over the telephone, or in another medium, it is not acceptable for a social networking site. Do not use the anonymity afforded by a social media screen name or handle to post something that you wouldn't say if you could be identified.

Take the High Ground: You are more likely to build a high quality following if you discuss ideas and situations civilly. Don't pick fights online. Remember that as a participant in NMRA programming, you are representing the NMRA, and the organization supports the principles of fun, respect, and inclusion.

Do not post information that you know (or reasonably should know) is private, confidential, or proprietary. Some information that becomes available to you may be considered private, confidential or proprietary by the owner or source of such information – think before you post and if you are unsure, check with the owner or source before posting. Do not post anything in a private forum that you would not present in any public forum because there is no true privacy on the Internet. Ask yourself if you would want to see this published in the newspaper or posted on a billboard tomorrow or ten years from now? Additionally, ask yourself if you would want to see screenshots posted to the person or persons about whom you are speaking or writing.

Be Aware of Liability: You are responsible for what you post on your own site and on the sites of others. Be sure that what you post today is not something that you will regret in the future and that you are not violating any legal guidelines. Postings on social media sites can be, and have been, the subject of lawsuits alleging defamation, slander, or libel. In such a lawsuit, a court can compel the social media platform to disclose your account information; you won't be anonymous.

How does the NMRA enforce this code?

The NMRA can enforce this code of conduct independently, or in response to a complaint, after notice to affected members and due process including an opportunity to be heard. Proceedings include gathering facts, interviewing witnesses, conducting a hearing, and imposing discipline or dismissing the matter. The NMRA is a private membership organization; membership, member benefits, and the use of NMRA trademarks and intellectual property are not free or public. Therefore, the NMRA's leadership can determine that a violation of this code of conduct justifies a disciplinary action. Examples of actions include censure (a warning the similar conduct could cause termination), removal from an elected office, disqualification from elected offices or leadership, and termination of membership. The NMRA's Corporate Policies & Procedures Manual (CPPM), and Ohio state law applicable to nonprofit membership corporations such as the NMRA, governs the enforcement of this code and member discipline.

Get Paid for Having Fun

YOU PLAY, THEY PAY

Grouper works with health plans to cover your NMRA membership.

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

Grouper

nmra.org national model railroad association

Visit the [National Model Railroad Association](#) Facebook page for details.



Modeling & Prototype Railroad Contests

Each month, we hold contests at our meet. Over the years there have been a few entries with an emphasis on few. In December, there were two entries of incredible structures, worthy of winning in our Structures category. Just check out the photos below. But, these entries, despite being award winning did not win because there was only one competitor and therefore, there was no contest.



Everyone of us has something worthy of an entry into any one of categories in the Modeling and Prototype Railroad Contests. But, you may deem your work inferior and unfit to be considered. You may be right or you may be terribly wrong. Not taking the risk of submitting your entry you would have denied others the opportunity to see and learn something from you.

The same can be said about the Bring and Brag portion of our meets. Below is the photo of a display-only pair of CNW engines and a caboose that was shared. So claim your bragging rights and submit your work into a monthly contest or a Bring and Brag. You've earned them!!



Modeling & Prototype Railroad Contests

Each month, a model, photo, and railroad-related craft popular vote contest is held at the WISE Division meets. These contests are free to enter and are open to the public. Voting will take place in the following categories:

Motive Power – Steam
 Motive Power – Diesel
 Traction / Electric
 Passenger Equipment
 Freight Equipment
 Non – Revenue Equipment

Structures
 Photographs – Prototype
 Photographs – Model
 General
 Youth 8 – 17 Years
 Train Related Crafts

There are five award categories: Best of Show, 1st Place, 2nd Place, Youth 1st place and 2nd Youth Place. Each category receives an Award certificate and gift certificates depending on the place earned and membership in the NMRA. Best of Show will also receive a plaque. Our Contest Director will provide you with a number and a small tag to fill out describing your entry. After that, it's a blind vote by attendees. The votes are tallied at the end of the meet culminating with the award announcements.

It's that simple and that fun!

For contest rules and details, contact Robert Niederman Contest Chairman and Asst. Superintendent at asst.super@trainfest.com.

Shows and Swaps

Wisconsin and Northern Illinois

Monthly

Great Midwest Train Show

DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, IL
<https://trainshows.net/event/104/great-midwest-train-show>

Jan. 5, Feb. 2, Mar. 9
 \$8 admission

Kenosha Union Hall Swap

3030 39th Ave, Kenosha WI

Jan. 19, Feb. 9, Mar. 9
 9:00am – 1:00pm
 \$5 admission

Milwaukee LRRC Swap Meet

New Berlin Entertainment Center,
 16000 W. Cleveland
<https://milw-lrrc.org/mlrrc-train-show-and-sale>

Jan. 19, Feb. 23, Mar. 16, Oct. 19, Nov. 16,
 Dec. 21
 8:00am – 12:00pm
 \$4.00 admission
 Club House opens at 10:00am
 2721 S. Calhoun Rd, back of building.

Annual Train Shows

Show Dome Railroad Train Show

Milwaukee Domes
<https://milwaukeedomes.org/event/show-dome-theme-train-show-2/>

Jan. 18 – Apr. 6

Amherst Big E Train Show

Springfield MA
<https://www.railroadhobbyshow.com/>
 Jan. 25 – 26

Lena IL Train Show

Mar. 15 – 16

All Scale Train Show

Milwaukee County Domes
 Show Dome, Lobby and Greenhouse
<https://milwaukeedomes.org/event/show-dome-theme-train-show-2/>

Feb. 1 – 2

Sheboygan Swap

Windjammer Banquet Hall
 Lakeshore Lane
 2519 S. Business Dr. Sheboygan WI

Mar. 19
 9:00am – 4:00pm
 \$4 admission

March O Scale Meet

Westin Lombard Yorktown Center
 70 Yorktown Center
 Lombard IL
<https://marchmeet.net/WP/>

Mar. 20 – 23

TCA York Spring Swap Meet

Apr. 24 – 26

Waupaca WI Swap Meet

June 21
 9:00am – 4:00pm

RPM Meet

Location to be announced
 Sep. 13

NMRA WISE Division Trainfest ®

Nov. 8 – 9

Shows and Swaps (continued)

NMRA SCW Division 57th

Annual Mad City Train Show
Alliant Energy Center
Exhibition Hall
Madison, WI
Feb. 15 – 16
Sat. 9:00am – 5:00pm
Sun. 9:00am – 4:00pm

Title Town Train Show

Green Bay, WI
May 3 – 4

Additional Shows

Butler Library, LRRC Kid's Layout

<https://butlerpl.librarycalendar.com/event/lionel-train-display-155>
Jan. 4, 2025
11:00 – 3:00 pm

Stevens Point - Arctic Swap Meet

<https://www.stevenspointarea.com/event/model-railroad-show-%26-sale/28204/> or
<https://www.travelwisconsin.com/events/fairs-festivals/artic-run-model-railroad-show-sale-39590> or https://railfan.com/wrp_timetable/arctic-run-model-railroad-show-sale-2/
Jan. 11 - 12
Sat. 9:00am – 5:00pm
Sun. 10:00am – 3:00pm

Racine LRRC Open House

4625 Washington Ave.
(Above American Coin & Jewelry - park behind the store and enter through side entrance.)
Jan. 18, Mar. 22, May 17
10:00am – 2:00pm
Free Admission

Great Tri-State Rail Sale

LaCrosse Center
Second and Pearl Street
Jan. 25
9:00am – 3:00pm
\$5 admission

Open House

WCGD (Waukesha County Gandy Dancers
Badgerland S Gaugers Club
<https://www.wcgdrailroad.com/events>
Jan. 25 – 26, Mar. 1
10:00am – 6:00pm

LRRC Kid's Layout

Muskego Library
<https://library.muskego.wi.gov/calendar.php?view=month&month=02&day=01&year=2025>
Feb. 8
10:00 – 4:00

Three River's Model Railroad Show

Onalaska Omni Center
255 Riders Club Road, Onalaska, WI
Mar. 15 – 16

Rock River Valley Train Show

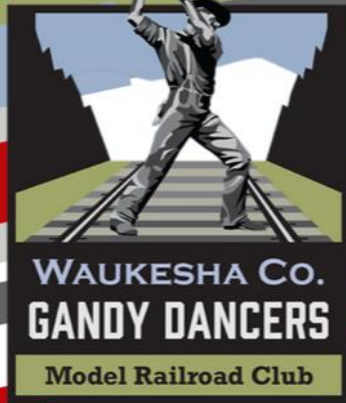
Harlem High school
9229 N. Alpine Road,
Machesney Park, IL
Mar. 29 – 30
Opens at 10:00

Metro Milwaukee Train Show

Ozaukee Fairgrounds
W67 & N866 Washington Avenue
Cedarburg, WI
April 13
9:00am – 4:00am

Kettle Moraine Ballast Scorchers

Washington County Fair Park
3000 Pleasant Valley Road – Highway 45 & PV
Oct. 12
9:00am – 3:00pm



OPEN HOUSE

OCTOBER 5

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

DECEMBER 7

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

NOVEMBER 23 - 24

10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

JANUARY 25 - 26

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

MARCH 1

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

**741 NORTH GRAND AVENUE
WAUKESHA, WI 53186**

**FIND US AT:
WWW.WCGDRAILROAD.COM**

**CONTACT US:
WCGDRAILROAD@GMAIL.COM**

(turn over for Train Sale & Show Schedule)



Our 78th Year

OPEN HOUSE

Since 1947

SATURDAY and SUNDAY

APRIL 5 and 6, 2025

NOVEMBER 29 & 30, 2025

10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Parkland Plaza

2721 South Calhoun Road

New Berlin, Wisconsin 53151

(262) 754-9900

(entrance in back of building)

OPEN WEEKLY

**Open Fridays 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm
year round (unless a holiday)**

October through April

**Saturday & Sunday: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
call to confirm or check website**

See Many Toy Trains Running on Our Huge Layout

--- Minor Train Repairs ---

OPEN HOUSE DONATION: \$2.00

Veterans get in FREE – Scouts in uniform get parents in FREE

Children 12 and under are FREE with an adult



Visit our Web Site
www.milw-lrrc.org

Like & Follow us on
FACEBOOK



(turn over for Club Hours)



Toy Train Sale and Show

(See below for more information)

All Gauges & All Scales

SUNDAY DATES

<u>2025</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>
January 19	October 19	January 18	October 18	January 17
February 23	November 16	February 22	November 22	February 28
March 16	December 21	March 15	December 20	March 21

BUY • SELL • TRADE
NEW • USED • PARTS

Sale: New Berlin Entertainment Center
8:00 am to 12:00 noon **ADMISSION: \$4.00**

16000 West Cleveland Avenue • New Berlin, Wisconsin
(Enter on east side of building)

Kids 12 and under: FREE with Adult

For More Information or Table Reservations

Robert Sobolik
(414) 483-5886

RobertDSobolik@netzero.com



TRAIN SHOW: at Club will be open by 10:00 am
2721 S. Calhoun Rd (in back of building) Donations Accepted

Visit our Web Site
www.milw-lrrc.org

Like & Follow us on
FACEBOOK



LIONEL RAILROAD CLUB
SOUTHEASTERN WI

2024 – 2025

Open House Schedule

Hours: 10:00am -2:00pm

10/19/2024

11/23/2024

12/21/2024

01/18/2025

02/22/2025

03/22/2025

04/12/2025

05/17/2025

Above American Coin & Jewelry
4625 Washington Ave., Racine

Park behind the store

Enter through the side entrance.

Admission is free.

Donations gratefully accepted.

f Like us on Facebook!

Lionel RR Club of SE WI



(Please Turn Over for More Information!)

LIONEL RAILROAD CLUB

SOUTHEASTERN WI

Outstanding Features of Our Club Rooms and Layouts

Three "O" Gauge layouts, and one "S" Gauge Layout, all of which are work-in-progress status!!

- 10 x 14-foot Fastrac layout with numerous switches and wyes for operating on different routes, remote control operation, featuring Plasticville city and a carnival scene with operating rides.
- 17 x 27-foot layout that features 3 loops of track with wide sweeping curves, numerous sidings, controlled with state-of-the-art remote-control components. Scenery includes our city of Spencer, that features industrial, agricultural, and suburban areas.
- 4 x 16 layout with traditional three-rail tubular track and switches, for the pre-World War Two model train collector and operator.
- *Our Newest Layout is a 5 x 8 "S" Gauge Layout!*



(Please Turn Over for More Information!)

WISE Division of the NMRA Presents

TRAIN SCHOOL

FREE ADMISSION



**SATURDAY
JAN. 18, 2025
1-4PM**

- Learn how to turn that Christmas train set into a permanent layout.
- Receive help with Track Work, Wiring, Maintenance, Scenery, DCC Programming, 3D Printing, Layout Construction.
- Assemble a Freight Car or Building Kit.



**NEW BERLIN
PUBLIC LIBRARY
COMMUNITY ROOM**
15105 W LIBRARY LN, NEW BERLIN, WI

Current HO Scale Car Projects N&W HC-46 ACF 2-Bay Covered Hopper

Arrived September 2022

Using Accurail's 2200 Series ACF 2-Bay Covered Hopper as the basis, we are offering it in a Norfolk & Western repaint scheme. These cars are N&W class HC-46 and are from an original batch of fifty built by in 1966 by ACF with the Round Herald paint scheme. Subsequently some cars went through a general maintenance program and were repainted in the block N&W livery. Photos were found showing at least three of these cars (road numbers 170753, 170768 and 170794) were reweighed at some later date because that area is "patched out" on the car with the new data displayed. Those same photos place these three cars as being in service in 1992 and 2004. It is these three, highly unique, road numbers that Cincinnati Division 7 is now offering for sale as limited edition kits.

A special Thank You! goes out to the N&W Historical Society for their assistance in providing research support in the development of this limited-edition freight car. Their investment of time and the supply of photos and information made this car possible.

Pricing is \$25 per car, or a 3-car set at \$70. Shipping (via USPS Priority) is \$10.40 for one car and \$18.40 for two or more cars. Ohio residents, please add 7.8% sales tax on the total price of the kits and the shipping/handling fee.

Customers outside the USA, please **contact us** for shipping arrangements and charges.



To order, please send **your email and phone** information along with a **check or money order** in US dollars, payable to Cincinnati Division 7, MCR, NMRA, to:

Cincinnati Division 7 Car Projects
c/o Paul Maciulewicz
9151 Congress Court
West Chester, Ohio 45069

Contact our **Car Projects Chairperson** with any questions.

Add this superb, one of a kind, historical tank car to your collection. The Northern Utah Division of the NMRA is selling a series of HO scale Utah Oil Company (UTOCO) tank cars manufactured by InterMountain Railway.

The cars feature a build date of 8/45 and a test date of 9/28/51. Originally intended to be the convention cars for the 2019 NMRA convention in Salt Lake City, supply chain issues prevented the cars from arriving on time. Offered in six road numbers, the cars have metal wheelsets and Kadee couplers.

Priced at \$45.00 each with free shipping, you can get your very own historical tank car before this limited edition is sold out, go to either: www.northernutahnmra.org/club-car or <http://northern-utah-division-nmra.square.site>

