

Waybill



Mid West Region NMRA – Spring 2008

President's Report

by Gary Children, President MWR

Well another year has come and gone. Hopefully you and your family enjoyed the Christmas season. The region election has passed and I hope you voted. This is your region, so let your voice be heard.

The SCWD put on another rail school in January. This is one way a division helps educate the community by showing everything that's done in the hobby. Good job SCWD!

This year the WISE division did a rail photo shot with a clinic and small portable layouts and how to use your cameras. There was also a clinic in building a Lionel layout in the basement that is four years in the making. It was nice to see something other than HO gauge. This is what model railroading is all about. Thanks to the WISE division.

I will be with the Badgerland Scales during the Mad City show in the information booth. Stop in and say hello. If I am not there I will be at the SCWD NMRA booth with the Superintendent Paul Mangan. Bring someone new with you and Paul and I will talk either him or her about why they should join the NMRA.

There will be two shows in March this year. The Fox Valley show will be March 15th and 16th at Harper College Sport Center in Palatine, IL and the Rock River Valley show will be at Jefferson High School. These will be very good shows so please try and attend at least one of them. Also, on April 26th and 27th, the WLD will have a show called Title Town Railroad Show. If you can't get to the March shows,

this one will prove to be worth the trip. The North Shore Western division had their show in December. They set up their modular layout display at the Glenview Public Library. The region convention will be held in Waupaca this year from May 9th through the 11th at the Best Western Grand Seasons Hotel. I certainly hope to see you there.

If anyone is at a railroad crossing and a pink box car comes through, you are not seeing things. The WSOR Railroad painted a 50 foot double door box car No. 503196 for making strides against cancer.

I model the Wisconsin Central Southern and Santa Fe in S scale. I did the three military cars and the safety car that WSOR did. They also did a pink box car. This goes back to the Lionel train in 1956 I believe. Lionel, eat your heart out.

On a more serious note, I went down to the Fox Valley division to help out with their new chair division for AP awards. I spent time helping several board members learn how to do the AP program including how to issue merit awards as well as recruiting and training several new local division contest judges. This was a great thing for me to help with something this important. Jim Landwehr is the new AP Trainmaster for the division and is busy with both encouraging new Golden Spike applications and shooting for two new MMR appointments from the Fox Valley division membership this year. He is teamed up with Marc Preussler and is actively keeping the AP paperwork process flowing. I thank Jim Osborn for this part of the report. Jim is also the new region web master. I also thank Randy for all of his hard work on the website and the work he does as vice president of the region and superintendent of the WLD division.

I heard a story that there is a larger group from Madison than Milwaukee is going to the national convention in Anaheim. We hope these people can handle us. If you are there, please stop in at the 2010 Convention booth for Milwaukee. Remember model railroading is fun!

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CIRROPS '08: A Railroad Operations Weekend in Indianapolis

The Central Indiana Railroad Operators (CIRROPS), in conjunction with the Central Indiana Division (CID) of the Midwest Region, NMRA, will host **CIRROPS '08: A Model Railroad Operations Weekend**. The **CIRROPS '08** Operations Weekend will be held in Indianapolis on April 4 - 6, 2008.

CIRROPS '08 will follow the successful pattern used by the Three Rivers OPSIG weekends (Ft Wayne) as well as the Southeast Michigan Prototype Operators weekends (Detroit) of offering four operating sessions during a weekend (one on Friday evening, two on Saturday, and one on Sunday morning). This operations weekend will include layouts in the Indianapolis metropolitan area as well as ones from the Lafayette, Bloomington, and Muncie, Indiana areas. The decision to host an operations weekend was made based on a desire to further the operations aspect of our hobby and to reciprocate to the layout owners in Chicago, Ft. Wayne, Detroit, and other locations who have graciously hosted CID members in the past.

Midwest region members interested in learning more about prototype model railroad operations are encouraged to participate in **CIRROPS '08**. Registration will open January 7, 2008. For more information go to www.cirroops.org or send an email to info@cirrops.org to be added to the mailing list. Registration will be available on the above web site. Those without internet access may call Steve Johnson at 317-435-8869.

For more information about model railroad operations, join the CIRROPS Yahoo discussion group. The CIRROPS Yahoo group is an informal association of model railroaders from the central Indiana area interested in prototype model railroad operations. Learn about upcoming railroad operating sessions in your area and engage in discussions about model railroad operations by joining the CIRROPS Yahoo group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cirroops>.

Members of the **CIRROPS '08** organizing committee are Bob Lehen, Midwest Region director-at-large (chair), Keith Clark, Steve Johnson, Al Kohut, Stan Krasienko, John Munson, Larry Swanson, and Pat Sweeney.

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Region AP News

by Marv Preussler-MWR AP MANAGER

There has been a lot of activity by our members recently. The following is a list of certificates that were earned in the last couple of months:

Golden Spike Awards went to the following folks:
Jim McQueeny-Rockford, IL
David Crement- Carpentersville, IL
Jim Landwehr- Arlington Heights, IL
James Osborn- McHenry, IL

Achievement Program Certificates Earned:

Donald Cook- Waukegan, IL – Volunteer-
MWR # 807
David Leider-Prospect Heights, IL - Scenery-
MWR # 808
David Leider- Prospect Heights, IL- Prototype
Models MWR # 809
David Leider- Prospect Heights, IL - Structures
MWR # 810
Ronald Lane- Columbus, IN Electrical
MWR # 811
Jim McQueeny- Rockford, IL Electrical
MWR # 812

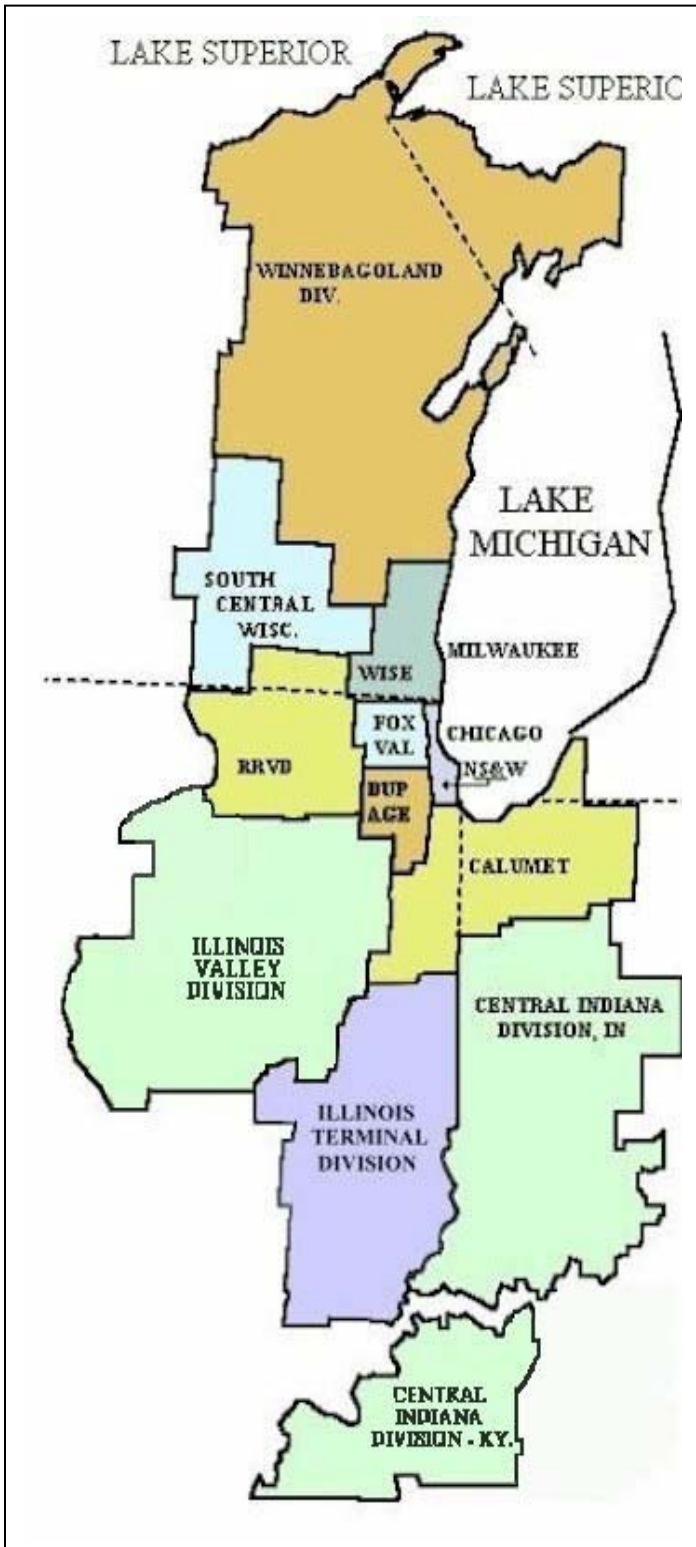
Congratulations to all those earning awards and certificates. Keep up the good work!

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Division Schedule

For schedules go to individual Division websites located at:

www.mwr-nmra.org/divisions/divisionindex.html



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For more information about electronic delivery and regular mail subscriptions, visit the Midwest Region website at <http://www.mwr-nmra.org/>.

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Annual Meeting of Members

Best Western Grand Seasons Hotel, Waupaca, Wisconsin

Saturday, May 10, 2008

Next Board Meeting

Best Western Grand Seasons Hotel, Waupaca, Wisconsin

Sunday, May 11, 2008; 9:00 am

WSOR Santa Train

by Gary Children

I may be your region president but I also enjoy working with full size trains. I worked with the 1003 crew with a train in Plymouth, Wisconsin on December 14th and 15th this past year. Jerry Thompson and a group from Plymouth got Santa Claus to come into Plymouth on a steam train on a real Milwaukee Road caboose.

The train was late getting into town on that Friday night, somewhere around 11:30 p.m. The engine had its tender filled with water. While that was being done, the diesel crew switched the plastic pellet cars off the main line so the steam engine could park in front of the depot. The previous week the Plymouth crew (which I was a part of as well) put up Christmas decorations around the Old Milwaukee Road Depot. After setting 1003 up for the night, I took some of the engine crew to hotels and got to bed somewhere around 1:30 a.m. and then got up at 6:30 a.m. to help get some last minute things that needed to be done.



North Pole. In the picture you see I was keeping people off of the crossing as 1003 returned to the North Pole. The signals were not working and it was snowing pretty hard. Marv Preussler took the picture.

Mark your calendars for December 13, 2008, because Santa is coming back to town. I will again be working with the crew and would love for you to stop by and say hello.

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High Wheeler '08

Model Train Show

Saturday & Sunday
March 15 & 16
9:00 am 'til 5:00 pm
Harper College Sports Center
Algonquin & Roselle Roads
Palatine, Illinois

High Wheeler '08
is sponsored by the
Fox Valley Division
National Model Railroad
Association
www.foxvalleydivision.org

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Not a Swap Meet
or Flea Market

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Congratulations to the RRVD celebrating their 40th years.

Interlocking safety circuit for a swing gate track.

by Dave Poquette (*used with swing gate described in article by Gary Hoover in Model Railroader March 1998*)

Most layout owners try to avoid building a duck under. The most obvious reason is that it can be difficult to navigate.

While planning my layout, I was trying to avoid a duck under. But due to space and the ideas that were incorporated into the layout, there was no way I could avoid it. To make matters worse, I needed 2 of them; one on top of each other. Part of the solution came in the March 1998 issue of MR. Gary Hoover showed how to build a swinging gate; the problem was that he did not have an interlocking circuit.

After building and mounting my “gates”, as described by Gary, I was ready to install the safety circuit. I installed a micro switch in the “door frame” of the gate (see figure A). When the gate closes, the micro switch will activate and supply power to the track.

Next, I gapped one rail 2.5 feet from the edge on both ends. This serves as your safety track so that the locomotive will have 2.5 feet in which to stop before it hits the floor while the gate is open. Run a wire from the live side of your gapped rail to one terminal of the micro switch. Then run two wires; one from the gapped rail and the other from your ‘gapped rail side’ of your swing gate to the other terminal of the micro switch.

Now we need a way to keep the gate closed and provide current to the other safety track. I used all-metal cupboard magnets for this.

This provides a good strong connection and provides electrical current to the safety track. Connect a wire from each side of the gate rail and wire it around the screw on the magnet. On the layout, do the same

thing but the wire is connected to the magnet plate. Mount the “L” bracket so that when the gate is closed it will support the gate and keep it from sagging down. (see figures B and C)

Now when the gate is closed, your train will run through and when it is open, the train will stop short. (see figure D)

Bill of Materials for each gate:

- All metal cupboard door magnets (2)
- Micro switches with rollers (1)
- ‘L’ metal brackets (1)



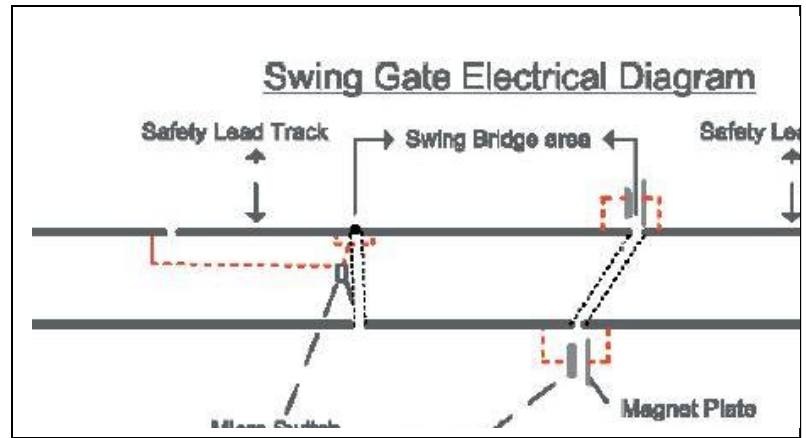
Figure A -micro switch at swing gate



Figure B-Magnet Plates (wired)



Figure C - Magnets (wired) + L bracket



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Figure D-Swing Gate – Closed

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James Bernard Perske June 25th 1929 - January 30th 2008



It's not often that we print information about other regions, but there are exceptions to the rules.

On January 30, 2008 one of the founding members of the Twin Lakes Region, James Bernard Perske, passed away.

Jim was born on June 25, 1929, and spent countless hours promoting the hobby and spreading his love of trains.

Jim could usually be seen passing out engineer certificates to young railroad enthusiasts at train shows in the TLC and the MWR.

Jim will truly be missed.

Waupaca Rails 2008

The WinnebagoLand Division invites you to travel to Waupaca and enjoy the numerous rail and non-rail related activities that the Central Wisconsin area has to offer. Watch our website for future updates:
<http://www.mwr-nmra.org/convention/waupaca flyer.pdf>

Operating Sessions: (Friday May 9th 7:00 PM Start)

We will have several layouts in the Waupaca area open for operating sessions. Those registered for operating sessions will receive confirmation of the layout they will be operating on prior to the event.

Clinics: Numerous clinics will be offered on a wide variety of subjects. Watch the website for more information on clinic presenters.

Layout Tours: Our division is geographically spread out, and so will the layout tours. We currently have layout open houses planned in Waupaca, Amherst, Stevens Point, Fremont and Larsen.

Contests: There will be the NMRA model and photography contests.

Awards Banquet/Auction: The banquet will be family style and held at The Best Western Grand Seasons Hotel

Auction: Midwest Region will have the annual auction after the banquet on Saturday night.

Other Events:

- On Friday afternoon, there will be a guided tour of Waupaca Foundry.
- In addition, of course, stop by the Club Car for snacks and soda and to visit with other individuals from the region. There will be videos running in the club car during the meet.

Non-Rail: Origami boxes....learn to fold a box

Door Prizes: With your paid registration, you will be automatically entered for a chance at fabulous door prizes.

Hotel:

Our convention hotel is the Best Western Grand Seasons Hotel, which is located at the intersection of Highway 10 & 54W in Waupaca. We have a room rate of \$69 single/\$79.00 double per night reserved until April 8, 2008. Please make reservations as soon as possible before that date, by calling them directly at: 1-877-880-1054. Website: www.bestwesternwaupaca.com. Ask for the National Model Railroad Association block of rooms. The hotel offers an indoor water park/whirlpool/sauna.

We hope that you will make "The Waupaca Rails 2008" in Waupaca a family weekend destination and take advantage of all the activities that Waupaca & the Chain of Lakes has to offer the rail, and non-rail enthusiast.

Tentative Schedule:

Friday, May 9th
 11am - 9pm Registration
 1pm – 5pm, 7pm – 10pm
 Clinics
 1pm – 4pm Waupaca
 Foundry Tour
 7pm - 10pm Operating
 Sessions

Saturday April 26th
 8am – 1 pm Registration
 8am – 12 pm Clinics
 1pm – 5pm Home Layout
 Tours

Sunday April 27th
 9am – 12 pm Region Board
 Meeting
 1pm – 4 pm Home Layout
 Tours

Waupaca Rails 2008

Registration Form:

Name	Full Fare \$50.00	Convention Only \$30	Banquet Only \$30
Registration Totals:			

Please Include your mailing address and email address so that we can contact you with updated information regarding the meet if required. Confirmations will not be sent unless you registered for operating sessions. (This is to keep postage costs down.)

Street: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____
 Email: _____

Any special Dietary Requirements: (We will try to accommodate and let you know if we cannot.)

- Friday Afternoon Waupaca Foundry Tour Friday Night operating sessions: Layouts will be announced at a future date.

Please make checks to WinnebagoLand Division (or WLD) and mail your registration to:

Lynn Jasch
 1850 Adler Way
 Green Bay, WI 54303-3303



MIDWEST
 REGION



Mid West Region NMRA

Mad City Railshow Photos



Above: Our region president at his usual best
Below: Best of Show – Wisconsin & Michigan Model RR Club



Ken Reigle (Madison Ho Track Group) looks over the large Saturday crowd from the inside safety of their module layout.



Above: A very happy train set winner with show staff Hampton Rothwell.

Below: First place winners for Exhibits at the show – really shows the gals know what their doing.



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