

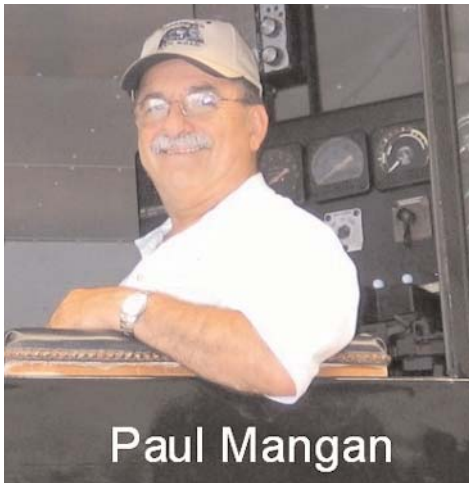
Waybill

Midwest Region NMRA –
Summer 2014



President's Report

By Paul Mangan, President, MWR



Paul Mangan

Rail Fun 2014 the Midwest Region Convention, is now in the books. All signs are pointing to a very successful convention. Thanks to the Fox Valley Division (FVD) and Superintendent Jeff Jarr's convention staffs for sponsoring this great week end. The DuPage division

also helped with this event and thanks go out to them as well. The official count of attendees is not in yet but it appears they are very close to hitting their expected registration numbers. Personally, I had the opportunity to operate on a couple of real good layouts. Art Jones and Mike Ritschdorff made us all feel welcome and treated us to a fun evening

Thanks to all of those who attended Rail Fun. Without you there wouldn't be a convention. See you in 2015 at the WinnebagoLand (WLD) convention. Four Directors at Large (DAL) were elected in the previous election cycle, three of which are replacing members who are completing their 2nd terms. At the May 2014 BoD meeting, M. David Johnson (FVD), James Landwehr (FVD), Fred (Rob) Robinson (SCWD) and Paul Wussow (DuPage Division) were welcomed to the board. later n behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to thank Ingrid Drozdak, Mike Hurlburt and Barb Rothwell for their service to the Midwest Region and the NMRA and also welcome our new DAL's.

At this meeting Mike Hurlburt was nominated and confirmed to be the MWR Model Contest Chair. Paul Wussow has agreed to take on the position of Clinics Clearing House Chair. It is volunteers like you that keep this train moving along.

Believe it or not I have been traveling around the Region a bit this year talking with division members and leaders. I traveled to Rockford for their train show and also up to Green Bay for the Titledown show. The remainder of this year I plan on attending other division meets throughout the Region. I enjoy talking with other members to find out if there are concerns that we can address from the Region.

One of the subjects we need to address is the problem of recruiting members to let their names stand for election to their local Board of Directors or any other office for that matter. This is not just a local problem but a national one. While I was walking around the Rock River Valley Division (RRVD) show at Rockford in March, I met up with John Mann and Tom McCabe. As we began talking, this very subject became front and center. RRVD was having their election on April 6th as well as the South Central Wisconsin Division (SCWD). Being the past Superintendent of the SCWD means that I was the elections chair until the new Superintendent was elected. So I know how hard it is to get people to run for office. Congratulations to Bob McGeever (SCWD) and Tyrone Johnsen (RRVD) for being elected to Superintendent in their respective divisions. Congratulations to Jeff Jarr (FVD) and to all who did stand up and run for an office. You are among that elite 10%. It has been said that only 10% of the entire world's population volunteer for anything so you are in a pretty exclusive club.

In talking with Tom and John that day in Rockford, one of them said "it is almost like having to lock the doors and say no one leaves until we elect a new Superintendent". I can't remember which one said that but doesn't it have familiar ring to it? It is almost as if every year the same people are running for election. Those who serve long terms almost need to threaten to resign in order to convince the membership they need people with new ideas to stand up and take over. If you have any ideas to help encourage more people to run for office please let me know, I'm about out of ideas on this subject.

I know I've been talking a lot about train shows but I just can't help it as I do enjoy them. Continued page 3

The WAYBILL

Editor

David J. Leider MMR
601 N. Elmhurst Rd.
Prospect Hts. IL 60070
847-253-7484
sooauthor@netzero.net
Associate Editor
Jim Osborn

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CONTRIBUTIONS

Articles, photographs and artwork are encouraged in either hardcopy or electronic form. The editor uses Quark 4.1 as his publishing software on a Mac. Word documents are also acceptable, but please send the photographs as an attachment. Copy is due by the 10th of February, May, August and November and should be sent to the editor at the above address. Submitted material will be returned upon request.

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601 N. Elmhurst Rd
Prospect Hts IL 60070-1308
sooauthor@netzero.net
847-253-7484

Editor's Column

My wife and I have decided to downsize. Of course that means moving and what of the railroad? I have never really finished any layout over the years and this one was no exception.

For those of you that do not know, I am modeling a single town. I choose Waupaca, Wisconsin for various reasons, foremost being that the original Wisconsin Central Railway, later the Soo Line built through it in 1871 and the Waupaca Green Bay Railroad, later the Green Bay & Western came in 1907.

I am still enamored with the town and want to rebuild it once we move. But this move is also temporary, as we plan to move to Florida after I retire in a few years. So when I rebuild the layout, it must not only be portable, but able to withstand the environment of Florida.

Jim Osborn told me about Micore™1600, which he used on his layout, instead of homasote. It has the advantage of not absorbing moisture, so I will use that. Since the layout is a big shelf, I will rebuild it in 4x3 foot sections that can then be bolted together. I assembled 5 modules so far, and covered them with 1/4 inch plywood, which the Micore will be attached to. I have been taking all the buildings off the old layout and placing them on the modules to map out where I need to lay track. I used a roll of christmas wrap paper for a template. The reverse side is printed with one inch squares, which assures that everything is aligned correctly.

I drew my track plan and building locations on the paper and then rolled it up for safekeeping. The main problem is making sure that no turnouts are built directly over a joint.

When laying out the buildings, I found that I had room for a building that I wanted on the old layout, but did not have space for. Although it was not served directly by the Soo or GBW it was a prominent building and very distinctive, built right on the river to provide waterpower.

Since I had not taken a lot of photos when I was photographing the town 20 years ago, I had to go back. I thought that I would go during Strawberry Fest.

in June, but I have to work that Saturday. As luck would have it, the Winnebagoland Spring meet was in Waupaca, so I reserved a room and went.

I always enjoy going to the Winnebagoland meets, they are a great bunch of guys, and many are fellow board members of the Soo Line Historical & Technical Society, so I always feel at home. The program was great, the food (Wisconsin bratwurst) delicious and of course there are always Lynn's homemade cookies.

I got photos of every angle of the building, going in the early morning and again in the afternoon. As it was still cool, the trees had not leafed out, a perfect time for taking modeling photos. I even got over to the depot to see the progress that Mike Kirk is making.

Every time I go he has finished another room, or made some other improvement. His level of energy amazes me.

You can go to Strawberry Fest and see for yourself, as well as everything else in a few weeks. see the ad on page 5.

2014 Regional Convention

Another Regional convention has come and gone and all those that attended had a great time and saw some excellent layouts. It was a joint Fox Valley/Dupage division effort. I was in charge of clinicians and want to thank all those who gave clinics.

The contest room was a little sparse, so I hope that more of you bring models to the next Region Meet, which will be in Manitowoc. Rumor is that there will be a special area for modelers to bring their Great Lake ore boats and other craft. Should be an interesting convention.

Advertisers

Thank you to those that have renewed their ads. Add rates are a bargain for the number of copies we send out. And of course the waybill is free for anyone to see on the NMRA and Midwest Region websites. A lot of eyeballs for a low price.

Presidents Letter continued

Another group I am involved with is the Wisconsin Garden Railway Society. The last show on the WGRS agenda each season is the Titledown Train Show (TTS) up in Green Bay. This year we enjoyed another good show that was put together by the TTS staff. While walking around checking out the show I just happened to bump into Jim Allen and Mike Hirvela who were doing the same thing I was doing. I also ran into quite a few people I know from other divisions in the MWR. The show was well attended and the crowd was flowing steady all day, both days. I took the opportunity to converse with James Cruthers, Superintendent of the Winnebagoland Division. WLD has stepped up to host the MWR spring convention in 2015. James's committee is busy assembling a good package to make for an enjoyable convention. More information will be available in the Waybill.

Fifty Years old. If we are talking about people this certainly doesn't sound all that old to me anymore but when it comes to a Division in the Midwest Region it is a big deal. CID, WLD and SCWD turned 50 in 2013 now in 2014 Illinois Valley Division (IVD) is turning 50. They will have a special meeting on September 14th to commemorate this event. Congratulations to all in the IVD who made this ride possible.

Summer is just around the corner and our hobby changes a bit. We emerge from the basement and see that big glow in the sky that feels so nice and warm. We will soon be in train chasing mode. I have my favorite spots as most everyone else in this hobby does. My first stop is a place on the Mississippi River called Glen Haven. We always camp there with some close friends at a small theme park. We can sit in the pool (if the weather cooperates) and watch trains from there. In August we travel up to Trempealeau WI and camp at Perrot State Park where we watch trains and visit some home layouts of folks we have met at the LaCrosse train show.

Always travel safe, be aware of your surroundings and respect railroad property. Have a great summer.

See You by the Rails

Paul

Region News

The annual Meeting of Members, Midwest Region, NMRA, was held during the convention on May 18, 2014. Here are the minutes:

President Paul Mangan called the meeting to order at 8:56 am at the Best Western Plus Hotel & Conference Center in Schaumburg, Illinois. Paul thanked Jeff Jarr and the Fox Valley Division for hosting the 2014 Spring Convention and the DuPage Division for assisting with the convention.

Minutes from the Annual Meeting of Members held on May 4, 2013 were unanimously approved as written and published in the Summer 2013 issue of the Waybill

Reports:

Bert Lattan summarized Region finances. As of December 31, 2013 the General Fund and the Youth Fund had combined assets of \$43,071.72. For the year then ended, income, primarily from Milepost 50 convention income, Waybill subscriptions and the NMRA dues rebate was \$9,323.66; expenses, primarily for the Waybill, were \$9,093.33 and net income was \$230.33.

Old Business-There was no old business.

New Business

Paul Mangan announced the winners of the election:

Directors-at-Large

M. David Johnson, Fox Valley Division

James Landwehr, Fox Valley Division

Fred Robinson, South Central Wisconsin Division

Paul Wussow, DuPage Division

Paul thanked Ingrid Drozdak, Fox Valley Division, Mike Hurlburt, Wisconsin Southeastern Division and Barb Rothwell, South Central Wisconsin Division for their four years of service as Directors-at-Large.

Mike Wadinski discussed preliminary arrangements the 2015 Spring Convention, which is being hosted by the Winnebagoland Division. The convention dates and hotel are April 17-19, 2015 and the Holiday Inn in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, respectively. Among other activities, WLD is planning rail and non-rail clinics, a swap meet and a banquet. There may or may not be prototype tours. Many local businesses are no longer receptive to tour groups. Jim Hediger, Senior Editor at Model Railroader magazine, will be the banquet speaker. The Wisconsin Maritime Museum is one of many attractions in the city. See <http://www.mwr-nmra.org/convention/conventions.html>.

Bill Wemhoff presented information about Fort Wayne Rails, the North Central Region 2015 Convention, at the Fort Wayne Hotel in Fort Wayne, Indiana from October 29th through November 1st 2015. The convention will include clinics, operating sessions, etc. with emphasis on prototype tours. Chuck White presented a short video about all of the currently planned convention activities. See <http://fortwaynerails2015.ncr-nmra.org/> for details

Steve Studley reviewed Central Indiana Division plans for Highball to Indy, the NMRA 2016 National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana from July 3rd through July 10th 2016. The convention will be held at The Westin Indianapolis hotel in downtown Indianapolis. The National Train Show will be held in the Indiana Convention Center, which is a short walk through a covered walkway that connects the hotel and the convention center. To date, four tours at the Amtrak Beech Grove Shops have been arranged. In 2013 the Beech Grove Shop tour was very popular with Milepost 50 participants. See www.nmra2016.org. The meeting adjourned at 9:16 am. Respectfully submitted,

Bert Lattan, Secretary

Midwest Region Achievement Program Report by Marvin Preussler MMR- MWR AP Manager

I am happy to report that there has been a good deal of activity from our members. Members continue to take part in the Achievement Program all over the Midwest Region. Take a look at the following:

The following members received an AP Certificate:

Minton Dings	Havana,,IL	Volunteer
Paul Mangan	Oregon, WI	Chief Dispatcher
Walt Herrick, Jr	Huntley,IL	Author
Steven Brown	Indianapolis, IN	Author
Gregg Condon	Greenville, WI	Electrical
Gregg Condon	Greenville, WI	Civil

Hopefully there will still be a fair amount of activity in the AP in the next few months as the spring turns to summer, and a lot of modeling, shows, and activities continue! There are plenty of train shows and meets going on this summer to get one motivated. I had a scheduling conflict and was not able to attend this past Midwest Region meet. Speaking of the Midwest Region meet, I was sent a note from model contest chairman Gary Children today. The following members earned a Merit Award for their models in this past MWR Meet-

Jim Wise- Locomotive Service Shop
Jim Osborn- Covered Bridge
Mike Shockley- Station

So get going on those modeling projects and take a look at the NMRA website to see what you may qualify for and set a goal. Hopefully you will be able to use this past MWR meet to motivate you to get that model finished up and to get going in the Achievement Program.

Currently there are five more certificate applications that I have sent to National for processing by members in our Midwest Region. Hopefully these AP certificates will be showing up in my mailbox shortly. Like I said in my last column, it seems the folks at National are running about three months behind. All I can tell you is to be patient. One thing I can tell you is that I process MWR AP paperwork on a monthly basis. I do not sit on paperwork for our members unless there is a question about some of the qualifications or documentation involved. As always, work with your division Achievement Program Manager first, and if there is a problem, feel free to contact me. Thanks!

Marvin Preussler, MMR, MWR AP Chairman

**Next Board Meeting
During Trainfest
Wisconsin Expo Center
Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

November 9, 2014; 10:00 am

2015 Election

Petition Deadline Is September 24, 2014

Although the 2015 election is several months away, it is time to start the election cycle. In 2015 we will elect a President, a Vice President and three (3) Directors-at-Large. Paul Mangan and Steve Studley will complete their first two-year terms as President & Vice President, respectively, and under the Bylaws will be eligible to run for another term in 2015. Jim Allen and David Leider, both from the Fox Valley Division, will complete their second two-year terms in 2015 and under the Bylaws will not be eligible to run for another term in 2015. Thanks to Jim and David for their dedicated service. Linda Sukup will complete her first two-year term in 2015 and will be eligible to run for another term.

By serving the Midwest Region and your fellow NMRA members as a Director-at-Large for two terms (four years), you will qualify for the Association Official certificate under the NMRA Achievement Program. You will also meet many NMRA members from other Divisions and perhaps form lasting friendships.

There are two ways that your name can be placed on the ballot. The first is by recommendation of the Nominating Committee and approval of the Board of Directors. To be considered by the Nominating Committee (Chairman Dave Johnson from the Fox Valley Division and Members Lou Venema from the Central Indiana Division and Mike Vivion from the South Central Wisconsin Division), you must submit a biography/candidate's statement of 200 words or less and a 2x2, passport-style photo to the Committee with a copy to the Region Secretary (Bert Lattan) as soon as possible, but no later than September 24, 2014. The preferred method of delivery is electronic mail. (While e-mail is not required to serve on the Board, it is highly desirable since the Board conducts pre and post meeting activity by e-mail.) If you do not have e-mail, you may mail your bio/photo to Bert Lattan, who will convert it to an electronic format and send it to the Committee. Addresses and e-mail addresses for the Committee and the Secretary are on the Board of Directors page of the Region website (www.mwr-nmra.org).

The second method is by petition signed by at least ten (10) current NMRA members who live in the Midwest Region. The petition form is available on the Region website or it may be requested from Bert Lattan. Your petition must be accompanied by a biography/candidate's statement of 200 words or less and a 2x2, passport-style photo. It must be received by Bert Lattan no later than September 24, 2014. He will convert it to an electronic format and forward it to the Committee.

The Committee will submit its recommendations and the names of all resident members nominated by petition to the Board of Directors for review and approval during its next meeting, which is scheduled for Sunday, November 9, 2014 during Trainfest in West Allis, Wisconsin. Each candidate's biography/statement & photo and a ballot will be included in the Winter 2014 issue of the Waybill. The results of the election will be announced during the 2015 Annual Meeting of Members, which will be held during the 2015 Spring Convention. The convention will be hosted by the WinnebagoLand Division and will be held on Friday, Saturday & Sunday, April 17, 18 & 19 at the Holiday Inn in Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

If you have any questions about this process, please feel free to contact any member of the Committee or the Secretary. —Dave Johnson

Official Regional Photographer

MWR Secretary Bert Lattan has announced that Walt Herrick has accepted the long vacant position of Region Photographer. He will be in charge of taking photos of the model enteries at the contests and at other functions. Welcome aboard, Walt.

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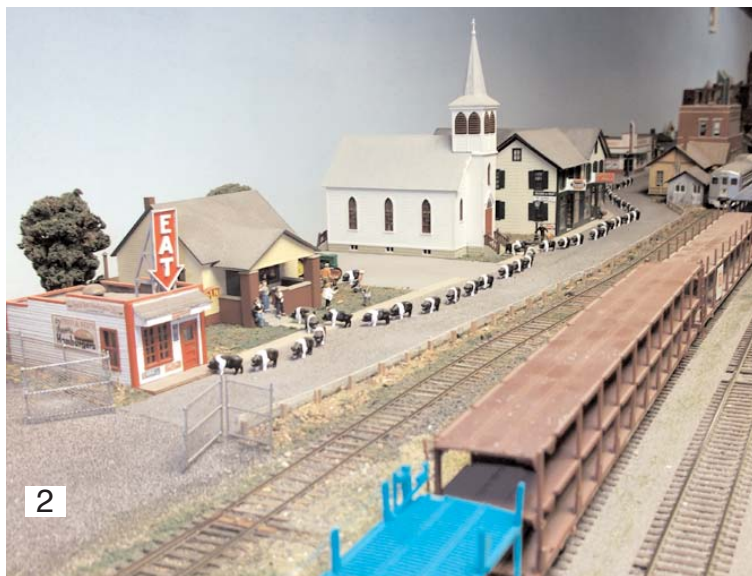
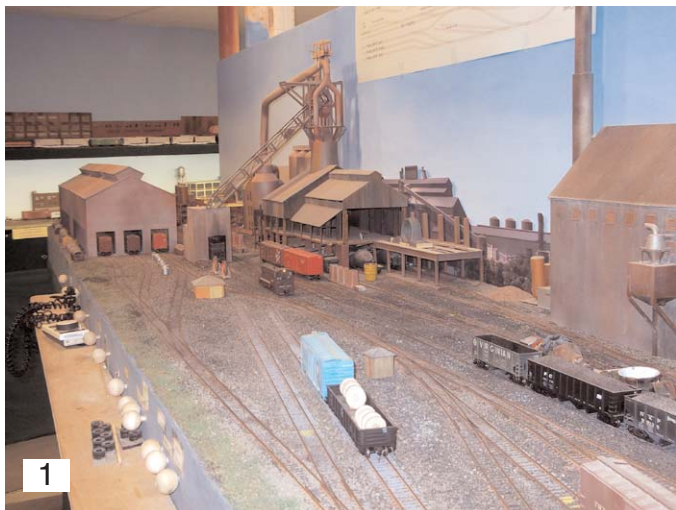
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Photo page

Convention special



Layout scenes and convention highlights

1. Steel mill scene on Greg Bedlecks GN/NP layout
2. Another scene on Greg's layout. The hogs are making the long trek to the Slaughterhouse.
3. Clinician Greg Condon explaining the concept of Clothshell Scenery
4. Vinegar factory on Dale Heilman's ATSF/UP in Kansas City layout.
5. Wellsburg on Jim Osborn's C&NW layout.

All photos this page by David Leider



More action and some layouts

- 1 Photo Contest winners
- 2 Signals on Lou Santello's computer run layout
- 3 Ingrid Drozdak presents awards as judges Jim Landwher and Gary Children look on with several winners.
- 4 Model Railroader editor David Popp rolls up his sleeves before answering some questions.
- 5 Weathering Clinician Fred Firkus entered several models in the Popular Vote contest. Here is a very realistic Soo Caboose.



caboose photo by Walt Herrick
all others by David Leider

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