

Waybill



Mid West Region NMRA –
Spring 2016

President's Report

By Paul Mangan, President, MWR NMRA



Trains, time and tide wait for no one. That being said, we have yet another division in the Midwest Region hitting that golden birthday. Happy 50th Anniversary to

the Wisconsin South Eastern Division of the MWR NMRA. Chartered on January 9th, 1966 the WISE division has grown to what it is today. Sponsoring one of the Nation's largest train shows is only one of the many successful accomplishments on record. When organizations of this type hit milestones such as this it happens not only because of strong and solid leadership at the top but also because of a dedicated membership that stays active and involved within the organization.

In the time I have served on the MWR Board we have had SCWD, CID, IVD, Winnebagoland and now WISE Division join the golden club. Once again, congratulations to all members of the WISE Division on your 50th Anniversary.

On a sadder note, I have been informed by Joe Russ that John Smallshaw, the WISE

Division's first Superintendent passed on January 26th 2016. On behalf of the Midwest Region of the NMRA I wish to extend our condolences to John's family and friends. May he rest in peace. A memorial service is tentatively scheduled for March.

As you all should know the Central Indiana Division of the MWR is sponsoring the Highball to Indy NMRA National convention. This event is only a short drive from most of our divisions and with the price of gas so low it would be an inexpensive drive there. If you haven't signed up as of yet you may want to consider attending this one. To new members, this is our yearly celebration of our hobby. Seven days of trains, trains and oh ya trains. Come on down and join us.

Because we have a division in the region hosting the National we do not have a spring convention. We still are mandated to hold an annual meeting of members and a Midwest region Board of Directors meeting. This spring the meeting of members will take place in Madison Wisconsin hosted by the South Central Wisconsin Division at their combined meet with the Rock River Valley Division. The location is the Zor Shrine Temple on Madison's West side at 575 Zor Shrine Place, Madison WI. The Meeting of Members will be conducted at the beginning of the meet that starts at 1:00 pm.

Prior to the division meet the MWR Board of Directors will hold our spring meeting. This

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The WAYBILL

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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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Editor's Column

As many of you know, I took my layout down several years ago and have been rebuilding it with the idea of being able to move it. I built it in 3 x4 foot sections that I assembled them on my not-so-even basement floor. Although I was extra careful, they are not as uniform as I would like, but more on that later.

Last year I built the risers for the elevated trackage through Waupaca and began laying track on one module at a time. I bolted several modules together, trying to get them as level as possible, with varying success. I did get most of the elevated track laid. It is handlaid with code 70 rail. I then put the modules standing up on the floor to free up space and removed the remainder of the old layout. The sectioned remainder there all summer.

This year I resumed work by redoing the first 3 turnouts I had done, as I was not satisfied. I then ran 12-gauge wire feeders on the bottom of each module and terminated the wires at each end, to make it easy to connect everything together. I also soldered small drop feeder wires to the track at each end.



After a lot of cutting gaps and retracing my wiring, I got it all to work without any shorts. I also laid some more track up to the bridge going over the Waupaca & Green Bay railroad.

The old railroad was supported by a 2x2 bolted to the wall and running the length of the layout and on two sides. I thought it would be easy to just put each section on the 2x2, add some removable legs and bolt each section together as I had done last year. Well, not so fast. I discovered that putting the sections on the floor, even though they were standing up, was not a good idea. The basement gets seepage in heavy

rains and even though each end had some inch thick pink foam under it to keep it off the floor, water was able to get up the wood and warp the plywood under the Micore that I used to glue the cork roadbed to. I also discovered that the ends did not but up evenly, there were large gaps between sections. Also that the 2x2 was never level. so I had to buy some 1x2's to that I screwed into the 2x2's after they were leveled.

I decided on plastic wood to fill the gaps and put a piece of saran wrap to keep the sections from welding together. The plastic wood also filled in some depressions that I discovered. I laid the cork roadbed for the tracks on the lower level and sanded it smooth to make a relatively flay surface before gluing down the ties, which were also sanded. My final step will be drilling new holes between sections. I am playing with the idea of putting brass tubing in the holes to keep everything perfectly aligned, especially when the layout makes its long journey to another location

What can you learn from this?

1. Never assume a basement floor is level or a room square for that matter.
2. Even in the driest basements, do not put things directly on the concrete floor.
3. If you build a layout in sections, expect to spend a lot of time fiddling to make sure they fit together.
4. Paint all wood and anything else that can absorb moisture repeatedly.
5. When doing wiring, check each section before going on to the next.



Continued from page 1

meeting will come to order at 10:00am at the same location. I would like to thank Bob McGeever and the SCWD for hosting our meeting.

All of the above meetings are open to NMRA members. You may come in and observe the board meeting and attend the meeting of members and you are invited to stay for the activities of the regular division meet. Keep in mind that the NMRA is a national organization and as a member you are able to attend any division meets or functions. You are only able to vote and hold office in your home division.

Spring is election season in a lot of divisions and at the region and national levels as well. Even if someone is running unopposed it is nice to know that there is support for what they are doing. This is a volunteer organization; nobody gets paid for the volunteer positions so when you take a position on, it is nice to know that people do appreciate what you're doing.

Better yet if you're not happy with the way things are going instead of grumbling about it why not jump up and do something about it. Get your name on a ballot and run for a position on the board at your division. This is a good place to start and learn how a board of directors works if you haven't had this kind of experience in the past. The rewards are only satisfaction and the feeling that you are really doing something to help others. So the next time someone asks you "Do you want to run for election?" it could be they think you would be good for this position. Think hard before you respond to the question. The person that asked you just may be correct. Good things happen when people stand up and take on these positions.

Have a great spring
Paul

Region News

Midwest Region Achievement Program Report by Jim Landwehr- MWR AP Manager

Great news regarding the Achievement Program! We now have a brand new Master Model Railroader in our Midwest Region! It is my pleasure to announce that on January 1 2016 National awarded Master model Railroad #572 to Minton Dings of Havana, Illinois. He earned his certificates in the category of cars, civil, author, structures, electrical, scenery, and volunteer. If you know Minton or see him at a meet, be sure to congratulate him on this major achievement in the hobby. From everyone in the Midwest Region, congratulations Minton on earning Master Model Railroader #572!

I am happy to report that there has been some activity from our members. They continue to take part in the Achievement Program all over the Midwest Region. The following members received

AP Certificates:

Minton Dings,	Havana, IL	Cars
Minton Dings,	Havana, IL	Civil
Daniel Brewer,	Granger, IN	Volunteer
Minton Dings,	Havana, IL	MMR

As always, work with your division Achievement Program Manager first, and if there is a problem, feel free to contact me.

Thanks,
Jim Landwehr, MWR AP Manager

Spring Board Meeting

Zor Shrine Temple
575 Zor Shrine Place
Madison, Wisconsin

Sunday, May 1, 2016; 10:00 am

AROUND THE MIDWEST REGION

by Walt Herrick

In this Waybill we focus on the MWR's DuPage Division located in Chicago's western and southern suburbs and then continuing farther south-east in Illinois. The division is comprised of six counties and parts of two others, and is an active division. Each year on a Saturday in March, the DuPage division sponsors the All American Train Show at Lyons Township High School in LaGrange. The 2016 show will be the division's 34th making it one of the longest running train shows in the MWR. The show is unique in that it is almost exclusively a "layout" show with no vendors or train selling or trading. Three years ago former DuPage Super, Keith Lipske, came up with the idea of offering an all day course in layout building called "Model Railroading" where members of the division teach novices the basics of building a 4 x 8 layout. The layout is built in February and then raffled off at the All American Train Show in March. Current Super, Alan Busic, says, "The raffle has become one of the most popular parts of the show."

DuPage also does a nice job of bringing youth into the hobby. Division member, Ray Gerlich, has worked with a Downers Grove, IL Boy Scout HO modular railroad group, the Venture Crew, for many years. Alan says, "The work those kids do is excellent. Their layout is every bit as good as many adult layouts." Recently the DuPage Division learned that the Venture Crew's layout trailer had broken, and they provided funds for the scouts to acquire a replacement trailer.

Besides the DuPage Division's activities, other major model railroading events occurring in the division are the huge--primarily 'buy and sell'--Great Midwest Train Show held at the DuPage County Fairgrounds in Wheaton, IL usually on the second Sunday of the month, and the Naperville RPM (Railroad Prototype Modelers) meet held in the Naperville area in October. The division is also the home of several outstanding home layouts including the Reid brothers Cumberland Valley in N scale, Bill Darnaby's HO scale Maumee Route, and the long established Elmhurst Model Railroad Club with its large HO layout and two new layouts in N and HO_{n3} both in the early stages of construction.

So, if you are looking for some great model railroading , you'll find it in the DuPage Division!



The Chicago Area's DuPage Division is the focus of this "Around the Region". The 4x8 layout being worked on at the All American Train Show in the center photo was raffled off to a lucky attendee. The Reid brothers' superb and nationally known N scale layout (bottom photo) is in the DuPage Division.

Upcoming Conventions

Midwest Region 2016 Spring Annual meeting

As seen in the box below, the 2016 annual meeting will be hosted by the SCWD and held at the Zor Shrine Temple in Madison. There will not be a convention this year as the National convention

**Annual Meeting
of Members
Zor Shrine Temple
575 Zor Shrine Place
Madison, Wisconsin**

Sunday, May 1, 2016, 1:15 pm

will be hosted by the Central Indiana Division in Indianapolis.

The fall Directors meeting will be hosted by the Michiana Division and will be on October 1. Remember, Directors meetings are open to all, so if you are interested in the workings of the Midwest Division, please attend.

National News

Welcome to the NMRA InfoNet News (Infoblast) For January, 2016

Register for the Highball to Indy, 2016 (2016 NMRA Convention. Registration fees for the 2016 NMRA Convention (July 3 -10, 2016) in Indianapolis, IN will increase on February 2, 2016 so to avoid the increase register now at www.nmra2016.org. (Sorry, it is too late for early registration, but you can register anyway. ed)

Upcoming 2016 NMRA Election -

The 2016 NMRA election ballot will be in the February issue of NMRA Magazine.

Every member of the NMRA worldwide will be receiving a copy of the February NMRA Magazine since one of the offices on the ballot is for At-Large Worldwide Director,

Removable mailing labels will not be used for this election. There will be directions on the ballot telling you how to fill in your membership information.

There will be five ballot collection points for this election. Some of these collection points will also be distributing the ballot electronically. If you receive the ballot electronically, please do not return the ballot through the post.

The Candidate Statements in the NMRA Magazine are restricted to 400 words. The candidates are allowed to write longer statements on the website. All Candidate Statements will be posted on the website. You should find a note in "IN THE NEWS" section which should have a link to the correct section. Otherwise, you can find them in NMRA Elections under Organization & Structure.

Candidates for the 2016 NMRA election -

Atlantic District Director
Peter Bowen
Kathy Millatt

At Large Worldwide Director
Mike Brestel
Bob Ferguson

Western District Director
Steve Barkley
Don Fowler
Stephen Priest

Please be sure to vote in this election.

Message from John Stevens, NMRA Secretary -

My name is John Stevens and I am the NMRA Secretary. It appears I am the only NMRA member whose history with trains started with an HO train set. A couple of years after receiving my first train set, I received an Aurora race car set. I really enjoyed playing with the cars, especially when I found that they made a piece of race track that had a piece of train track crossing it. This allowed me to run a train and

also run the race cars.

I moved to the Atlanta area in 1996 and was recruited to become an NMRA member in 1999. I later became the SER Secretary and then NMRA Assistant Secretary and in 2012 the NMRA Secretary.

The NMRA Secretary has a number of duties. The first is to prepare the BOD Meeting Consent Agenda Package. This process starts 75 days prior to the meeting and is completed when the package is forwarded to the Leadership Team no less than 20 days prior to the meeting. The second duty is to prepare the Minutes of the BOD Meetings. This process involves taking notes during the meetings and then within 20 days of the completion of the meeting or the Annual Banquet forwarding the draft minutes to the BOD. Over the next couple of weeks the minutes go through a number of revisions until the Final Minutes are completed. The minutes then go through an approval process with the BOD and then they are posted to the website.

The third duty involves the EHB. The BOD usually makes amendments to the EHB during the BOD Meeting. Once the Final Minutes have been approved, I amend my version of the EHB and then forward it to the IT Team so that they can be posted on the website.

Although these duties are all important, I think my most important duty is overseeing the elections. The nine BOD members, the President, and the two Vice Presidents all have three year terms. (The Secretary and the CFO are appointed positions). Every year there are at least three positions that are up for election. It takes approximately 15 months from the time I start soliciting for Nominating Committee Chairs until the process has been completed and the election results are announced.

If you have any questions about any of the Secretary duties, please contact me at snevets4@bellsouth.net

If you have any questions or comments about any of the above, please send them directly to a Director or Officer. You will find those addresses at www.nmra.org or in the NMRA Magazine

If the person holding a region or division office changes, or their email address changes, please contact me at tcdraider@aol.com with the corrected information.

Regards,
Tom Draper HLM, DSA, FA, MSA, PA
Director of Support Services

Saturday & Sunday March 5 and 6, 2016

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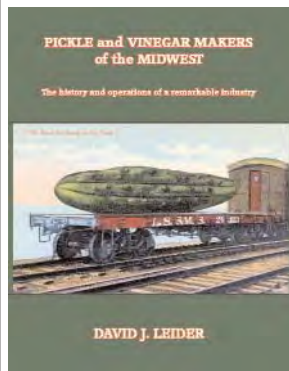
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The Winnebagoland Division, MWR, NMRA
 2016 Winnebagoland Division Spring Meet – Saturday, May 14, 2016

Meet location: Boys & Girls Brigade, 109 W. Columbian Ave., Neenah WI

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS*:

- 8:00 – 10:45 AM – Registration
- 8:30 – 11:30 AM – Model Contest – (Judging 11:30 – 12:30)
- 9:00 – 10:00 AM – Chris Heili – Designing Layout Panels in JMRI
- 9:00 – 10:00 AM – Sean Lamb – Ballasting Track
- 10:00 – 11:00 AM – Joel Weeks – Modeling Great Northern on Saturday 9/20/1969
- 10:00 – 11:00 AM – Mary Eiden – Making Signs with Computers
- 11:00 – 12:00 PM – Philip Herman – Designing a Layout for Operations
- 11:00 – 12:00 PM – David Leïder – Modeling the Pickle Industry
- *Clinicians and Clinic Topics are Subject to Change
- 12:30 – 1:30 PM – Luncheon & Winnebagoland Division Annual Membership Meeting
- 2:00 – 6:00 PM – Layout Tours
- 2:00 – 6:00 PM – Operating Session***
- ***New: We will offer an operating session at one location (2-6 PM) – registrations limited; first come, first served
If you wish to participate in the Operating Session you MUST be registered for the meet.

ADMISSION: Meet Only (at the Door) **NMRA Member (NMRA member number required)** = \$7.00
 Meet Only (at the Door) non-NMRA Member = \$10.00 Pre-Registered Luncheon Only = \$12.00
 If you want the luncheon add \$12.00 per registration (chix breast, BBQ pork sandwich, potato salad, mac & cheese)
 Special lunch requests not offered

Pre-Registration Form (REQUIRED for Luncheon) – Must be postmarked by 5/2/2016

Name: _____ NMRA # (required for member price): _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 Email address: _____ Additional people: How many? _____
 Additional Guests name(s): _____

Operating session? (circle one) **Yes** **No** Who? _____ (full name)
 (until full)
 Meet only: # people ___ x \$7.00 (NMRA member only) = \$ _____ (NMRA Member number REQUIRED)
 # people ___ x \$10.00 (non-member) = \$ _____
 If you want the luncheon add \$12.00 per registration = \$ _____ **Make check payable to:**
Winnebagoland Division
 Luncheon only: # people ___ x \$12.00 = \$ _____
 Display table (vendor): # tables ___ x \$5.00 each = \$ _____
Total remitted = \$ _____

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