

October 2015

www.nmra-scwd.org

Volume 47 No.2

Super's Report

Bob McGeever
Division Superintendent

The BOD is reviewing the bylaws in preparation for the next edition of the Red Book. Usually I just read the sections that relate to something we are working on. Now I have to read every line. While doing that reading I learned that we used to have a Library Committee Chairman who was supposed to maintain a roster of libraries in the Division. He was also supposed to annually acquire and donate bound copies of Model Railroader and Railroad Model Craftsman magazines to the Madison Public Library. Clearly we don't do that stuff anymore. It got me thinking about how the hobby has changed because of that darned thing called The Internet.

Not that long ago the public library was our main access point to the world of information. Now the Internet is our main access point. And the scope of the information available has grown by leaps and bounds. I remember as a kid reading back copies of MR and RMC at the public library. Now, I can just go online at any time of day to find a back copy. I know this is not news to most of you. Still, the places we go for information and how fast we can get the information will affect how we go about our hobby. A subscription to MR and RMC is no longer an essential part of learning about our hobby. For example, say I want to work on static grass today. I can google the topic. I will find all sorts of You Tube videos showing how somebody else does it. I don't have to wait for it to

Next SCWD Meet:

October 4th 1:00 pm.
Zor Shrine Temple
575 Zor Shrine Place
Madison Wisconsin WI.

Clinics Building / rebuilding (see page 2)

Model & Photo Contests:

Souvenir Cars (See page 3)

Next BOD Meeting:

Oct. 12th 2015 7:00 p.m.
Fitchburg Fire Station

Next Youth Group Meeting:

Oct. 18th 2015 Zor Shrine Hall

Special Project Update:

See Page 3

show up in a magazine or find a back issue. I can watch the videos right now. Instant intellectual gratification! This is great. It is also great that I didn't have to pay for the information because a lot of it is pretty lame. I will have to dig through a lot of videos to find a good one. Instant intellectual stupefaction! If you are a model railroader on a tight budget, you can now access lots of information for a very low cost. If you are a model railroader in a hurry, you can find a lot of information right now. This should be a good thing for the hobby. But I think it also decreases the focus on the more traditional sources of information like MR, RMC, and the NMRA. MR and the NMRA seem to be adapting by providing all sorts of good information on line. I am hoping RMC will soon be

able to do the same. The Model Railroad Hobbyist magazine folks seem to be really good at this on line information thing. I am more likely to return to a site that has high quality information than one that makes me dig through a pile of bad stuff to find the good stuff. And, if it works for Cody Grivno, David Popp, Stephen Priest, or Joe Fugate, I think it will probably work for me. But hey, I'm just an old guy that used to go to the library. So use the Internet to find good sources of information that fit your needs and use them to improve your modeling. If you find a really good source, share it with the rest of us.

Enough of the deep thoughts!

I hope you all enjoyed our first regular meeting at the Zor Temple. I think it went pretty smooth compared to the first time we set up at the KoC hall. This is a new experience for the Shriners. They normally don't have non-members using the hall in off hours. There are a few small issues we will work on to make the hall more usable. The one real bothersome issue was access to the meeting room without using the stairs. The intent was that folks who needed to use the elevator would use the front door. But we didn't unlock the front door. Turns out we really can't do that at this time. For now, we will have somebody posted at the front door 15 minutes before the meeting starts to provide access to the elevator to those who need to use it.

Hope to see you at the October meeting,

Bob

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The Clinic Corner:

Fred (Rob) Robinson

Our first clinic in October is a look at a variety of narrow gauge railroads in Colorado. The second clinic will be a streamed presentation of various ways to simulate water.

We didn't have a chance to show these videos at the September meeting. The second clinic is aligned with the annual model project

Rob

⊗

13 sign up for "water" kits SCWD Special Project 2015-16

Ewing Row

Modeling Project Chair

At the regular SCWD Sunday meet on September 13, 2015, a total of 13 signed up for the 2015-2016 Modeling Project. Actually it was only 12 individuals because one person signed up for both an HO and an N-scale kit.

If there is a theme this year, it is water. There are only two "have to do's" for the project: 1. Water must be modeled, and 2. participants must adhere to the diorama size requirements.

The kit includes all you need to scenic a 144-square inch base for HO scale or 72 square inches for N, including a suitable sized piece of pink insulation that is 1.5 inches thick. However, to make it even easier any base is acceptable.

Also, if you want, you may hand lay track with material provided: ties and Code 83 weathered rail. However, any type of track -- flex or sectional -- is acceptable.

Material for modeling water is provided. It is acrylic glazing liquid and plaster cloth. Acrylic glazing liquid is the same material that Woodland Sceinics has in it water-making kits. The plaster cloth is supplied to make a water-tight base for pouring the acrylic glazing liquid. Like real water, it will run to the lowest point and through many of the non-watertight bases you might choose. Complete directions for modeling water will be part of the kit. The cost of the kit is \$10.00.

Participants are free to use any materials they desire. The only Modeling Project musts are: You must model water and you must have your base be within the size limits.

There will be more opportunities to sign up for the Modeling Project. Contact me at rxing2@att.net to receive your kit at the October meet or sign up at the October meet; you'll receive your kit in November. So whether you choose to build a diorama for display or incorporate your efforts into a layout, this year's modeling project is for you.

Who among you will accept the challenge!

⊗

Contest Column:

Dave Lendved
Model Contest Chair

October Model Contest

The Model Contest theme for October is “Souvenir Cars”. This contest gives us a chance to see and display those freight car kits we find in the gift shop of the railroad museum. Conventions, meets, and rail shows often have cars for sale that commemorate the event. “Club” cars are not a place to have a cigarette and a martini. These are cars sold by various model railroad clubs. The cars in this contest may or may not have a real life prototype. These cars are for fun and to remind us of past good times. The categories are:

- A. Museum Cars
- B. “Club” Cars
- C. Convention or Meet Cars
- D. Commemorative Cars

See you in September!

Dave



Layout Tours:

Phil Hottmann

Layout Tours for October 2015.



I want to thank Donn and Rose Tolley for opening their layouts for our September meeting. It was the perfect day, featuring two great layouts; The Virginia and Truckee in G gauge outside and the V&T in Ho on the inside.

For October Bob Stone will be opening his layout. If I can find another in the area I will also include it. I also need to fill railroad tours for the rest of the season. If anyone is interested in showing their layout please contact me.

We need to tours fill for the rest of the year. If anyone is interested in having your layout open for us please contact me. My contact info is in the SCWD Red Book. Sign up early and get the dates you want.

Thanks
Phil



Midwest Region News



NMRA Michiana Division Education and Training Conference & Workshops 2015

"Designing and Building like a Prototype "

The NMRA's Michiana Division Education and Training Conference took place on Sept. 11th and 12th. Clinics ran all day Friday and Saturday, layout tours and a banquet on Friday.

For those not aware of the EduTrain program, this event is held every year as part of the NMRA's education program. It is hosted by the Michiana division with the leadership of Superintendent Bob Blake.

This year's conference was well attended so you can make your plans for next year to be there on Sept.30th & Oct.1st 2016. Go to their web site www.michiana-nmra.org for all the information about this event.

I would like to thank Bob and the Michiana division for hosting our Midwest Region fall Board of Directors meeting.

On this subject, (boards of directors and other volunteer positions). At the National Convention in Portland OR I was invited to attend a meet and great session with other region Presidents and NMRA leaders. One discussion was about the difficulty of convincing people to run for leadership positions not only the national level but at all levels in this organization. The blame always falls on the fact that we are not acquiring younger members and that our senior members have done it before.

There is a lot of truth to that last statement but not all the blame can be put there. There are a lot of good people that have not served in any posts that are available who I feel would be very good at these

positions. Any organization that is successful has people in these positions who sacrifice time to better the organization. So to those who have never participated I ask you to give it a try and to those who have done it before, come on down and do it again. You have the experience that can help out the new people on the boards and committees to show them how we can all make this NMRA of ours even better.

Paul

☺ Send in your Red Book Form ☺

Red Book Report:

Time is getting down there to the end of the game so to speak. I plan to go to press with the new Red Book by Nov 1st. Keep in mind that it takes a few days to get it all ready for printing. If you have not sent in your form with a signature allowing me to put your name in the book even though it was in the last one I can NOT put it in this one. The next printing will be in 2018.

Qualifications to be in the Red Book; you must be a current member of the NMRA and live within the boundaries of the SCWD. Sign the form that you should have by now and mail it (snail or Email) to me.

If you don't have a form then email me at SCWDeditor@charter.net. Or contact SCWD Superintendent.

Thanks you very much.
Paul Mangan



SCWD Board of Directors Meeting Minutes June 8, 2015



August 10, 2015

The Board of Directors meeting for the 2015-2016 South Central Wisconsin Division, Midwest Region, National Model Railroad Association was called to order at 7:06 p.m. on August 10, 2015 by Superintendent Bob McGeever. He declared a quorum present. In attendance were McGeever, Mike Vivion,

Alan Paine, John Haverberg, Phil Berry, Phil Hottmann and Bill Clancy.

A motion was made by Phil Hottmann, seconded by Bill Clancy and approved by the Board to accept the minutes of the 6/10/2015 Board Meeting as presented.

Phil Berry presented both June and July paymaster reports with the July report being the last in fiscal year 2014-2015. A motion was made by Mike, seconded by Bill and approved by the Board to accept the reports as presented. Phil B. then presented budget projections for 2015-2016 fiscal year along with actual yearly budget items from 2008 through 2014-2015. Bottom line showed SCWD to be in good budget shape. A motion was made by Bill, seconded by Phil H. and approved to accept the proposed budget as presented.

Committee Reports:

Bad Order: Paul Mangan has been an excellent editor for many years. Bob suggested that the BOD should look into the possibility of finding a SCWD member willing to give Paul relief and take over for Paul in the near future.

Club Liaison: Alan said the first area up coming Club show will be in Monroe 26&27th of September.

Clinics: Bob indicated that it should be possible to stream digital presentations on-line at the new Zor Temple meeting venue.

Contests: See Bad Order for monthly modeling and photo contest subjects.

Modeling Project: Bob handed out a written proposal for the 2015-2016 Modeling Project by Ewing Row. The Project is to create a railroad diorama that must include model water. Ewing is willing to put together kits of model material to sell for \$10. There will be size restrictions for both HO and N scale dioramas by adults. A parallel contest for the youth group to scenic their T-trak modules is proposed. Ewing's proposal included rules, guidelines, and prizes. He also prepared a comparison of the last eight years of special projects with the subject and signed up and actually completed projects. A motion was made by Biil, seconded by Phil H. and approved by the Board to go ahead with Ewing's proposal.

Door Prizes: Statement budget amount available for door prizes will be provided to Bill Weber for the fiscal year by Phil B.

Layout Tours: Phil H. is starting to make contacts for coming year. Board discussed possibility to limiting # of tours with the possible exception of the May 2016 meeting where SCWD will be hosting the Rockford Division joint meeting plus also hosting the NMRA Midwest Region Board of Directors meeting on the morning of our joint meeting. Any outdoor G-scale layouts should be during good weather. Perhaps there should be no tours scheduled for Super Bowl Sunday in February.

Picnic: 2015 picnic at Little Amerricka was a success with youth group able to visit the shops before the full park opened. Four steam engines pulled passenger trains during the afternoon. Catering by Hy-Vee worked out well, again. SCWD members and guest attendance was less than the 134 signed up but still exceeded 100.

Magazine SCWD Meeting Publicity: John indicated that the SCWD meetings have been submitted to the five hobby publications through the December meeting and the 2016 Rail Show to the State of Wisconsin Travel Wisconsin web site.

Rail School: Mike suggested that flyers be prepared to promote the January Rail School and distributed to various sites in addition to advertising in the newspaper. There will be enough money in the budget to cover this cost.

Youth Group: The youth group will be touring the Illinois Railway Museum in Union, Ill. on Sept. 5th. Board discussed the need to transport old HO layout(s) to the new meeting venue.

Old Business:

Bob re-formatted and sent out the SCWD by-laws. The Board members should review and be prepared to recommend changes/updates to be included in the Red Book update scheduled to go to printing for late this calendar year.

Bob reminded Board members to get their Red Book Opt in Form filled out, signed and mailed in BY REGULAR MAIL. Paul needs by no later than October 27, 2015.

New Business:

Bob will be doing a dress rehearsal of multi-media equipment on Monday, 8/24, at the Zor Temple. Let Bob know of special requests you might have.

Possible new multi-media items to be purchased include a new Blue-ray player (+/- \$70) and an HDMI mixer box (\$30-\$50). Zor Temple has a large screen display monitor we hope to use.

Motion by Bill, seconded by Phil and approved to adjourn at 8:47 pm.

Respectively submitted by John Haverberg, SCWD
Chief Clerk

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A lot of NMRA members and guests had a fantastic week in Portland at the Portland Daylight Express Convention. Model railroad conventions are not just something where we go just to see the hobby at its finest but also to reunite with other modelers we have met over the years. It is the modeling that brings together and the wonderful friendships that keep us coming back.

In 2016 the Central Indiana Division of the MWR will host the High Ball to Indy NMRA National convention.



Registration is now open so if you want to save some money sign then up today before the sign up fees go up January. Go to www.nmra2016.org or on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/nmra2016>

It is only a couple of hours drive from the Madison area so come on down and join us.



Beech Grove Shops will probably be one of the tours available.

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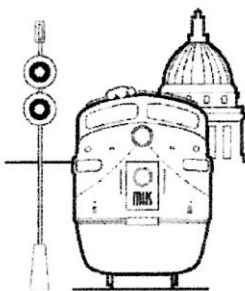
BOB BOELTER'S O SCALE GREAT WESTERN RAILROAD HAS MOVED TO STONEFIELD



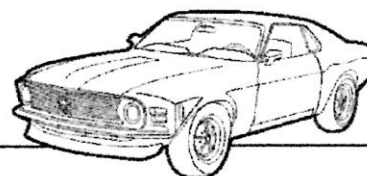
The model railroad has been donated to the Wisconsin Historic Site in Cassville to be rebuilt in one of the village's buildings (see stonefieldhistoricsite.org). Funds have to be raised for the reconstruction. Contributions can be made to Stonefield Historic Site, 12195 County Highway V V, Cassville, WI 53806 and identified for "Stonefield Model Railroad". If you'd like to help in other ways contact Bob at bboelter1@gmail.com



Visit gwrr.org for layout pictures and more information



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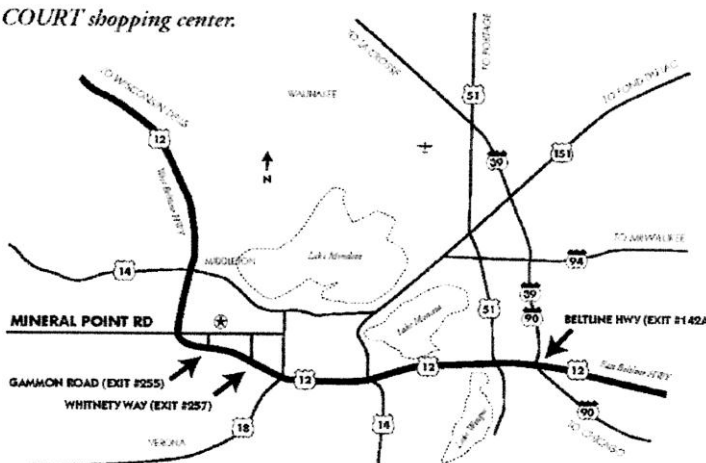
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TRAINS & MORE

From the files of Errata Data: What Did You Do Last Summer?

Hmmm, a very interesting question. The older we get the shorter the seasons seem to feel. Well, because the NMRA conventions happen every summer, there is always something to look forward for us train folks. I say train folks because the conventions are more of a family event these days. So here we go!

The 2015 NMRA national convention was held in Portland OR this year From Aug 23rd to the 29th. It was a little later than usual but everything on the calendar seemed to be later than usual this year.



On the 20th of August 12 SCWD members hopped on the Empire Builder at the Columbus station and headed west to Portland. On the train we also met 6 more people in our car including MWR Vice-President Steve Studly and his wife. A great start to a great week.



The train was on time and off we went. Everything was running great until the next morning we were told that due to the fires around Glacier National Park we would be bussed

around the park and board another train on the other side of the park. Well, we prepared for this to happen as we rode on but when we got closer to Shelby MT they announced we would have dinner on the train and we may be able to go through the park. That is exactly what happened. The wind had shifted and the all clear was given.



The ride to Spokane and on to Portland went very well after being told by the crew in the sleeper car we were having too much

fun. We arrived in Portland safe and sound and ready for a fun week of conventioning.

Our first adventure was to figure out how the light rail system worked to get us to our hotel. The PDE staff had people at the station to help guide us to make sure we got on the right train and didn't get lost. We almost got lost anyway but with the help of local people we made it to the hotel. After checking into our hotel the adventure began.



The Chelatchie Prairie Railway in Washington proved to be quite an interesting tour. This was the first tour of a week of railroad mania.



The convention had a full slate of activities and with the limited space I will touch on some high lights. Later this season we will have a wrap up at one of our meets to cover the event more in depth.



I liked this scene from the Columbia River Gorge cruise because one of our modelers in Madison has this scene of the Columbia River on his layout.

Now the Oregon Coast Railway was a different tour altogether. This one brought us down to the ocean on a beautiful sunny day. We also got to stop at a dairy to get some fresh Ice cream treats and to check out the world's smallest light house in a park with fantastic views of the ocean.



After seven days of conventioning it was time to head back but first was a stop in San Francisco for a few days. Six of us hopped on the Coast Starlight for the trip down the coast.

The Coast Starlight has a special car in its consist called a Pacific Parlor car. It is equipped with plush seating and special services available to make the ride more enjoyable. A full service refreshment bar and a movie theater downstairs is also part of this car.



One of two pacific parlor cars

For the last leg of the trip home we were on board the eastbound California Zephyr. Some fantastic scenery exploded in front of our eyes as we headed on to Chicago.



Lots of engines ready for the scrap pile. I imagine if you made an offer you could pick one up but you will probably need a bigger layout.

⊗

Youth Group Report:

Steve Brist

The SCWD Model Railroad Youth Group held its first meeting of the season on September 20th at our new location at the Zor Shrine Building. We welcomed two new members and made plans for the upcoming year. We discussed this year's modeling project and considered using our N scale T Trak modules as the basis for dioramas for the project. SCWD member Paul Balfe joined us again and gave a clinic on mounting track on roadbed and adding ballast and grass for scenery. Then we had operating sessions on our HO and N scale layouts. We enjoyed meeting in our new location, which includes a storage area for our layout and equipment. We want to thank Mike Vivion, Bob McGeever and Paul Mangan for moving our layout and equipment to our new meeting location.

The Youth Group was active this summer. We attended the SCWD picnic and got a behind the scenes tour of the Whiskey River Railroad shops, roundhouse and engine preparation areas. We also got the chance to take a field trip to the Illinois Railway Museum, where we saw Frisco 1630 steam engine in operation.

We are looking for clinics for future meetings. If you are interested presenting a clinic, contact Youth Group leader Steve Brist or SCWD Superintendent Bob McGeever. Our next meeting will be October 18 at the Zor Shrine Building.

Happy Railroading!

Steve



More convention Photos



Cable Cars, Senior citizens roller coaster!





NMRA Directors and Officers

The NMRA Board recognized the newly elected and re-elected members: Peter Youngblood, MMR (North America At Large Director), Mike Bartlett (Pacific District Director), Joe Gelmini, MMR (Eastern District Director). It also recognized newly elected Vice President – Administration Clark Kooning, HLM, MMR and Vice President – Special Projects Gerry Leone, HLM, and MMR who took office at the General Membership Meeting on Thursday evening at the recent NMRA Convention in Portland.

Additionally, the Board thanked outgoing Vice President – Administration Dave Thornton for his many contributions and years of service. The Board also named Pete Magoun, MMR, as new Lead Director.

NMRA adopting standards for Layout Command Control

The National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) Board of Directors has agreed to adopt standards for Layout Commands Control (LCC), formerly known as NMRANet. LCC is an operating system protocol, which will work hand-in-hand with Digital Command Control (DCC), handling all non-motive power related functions on a model railroad layout, such as signaling, telephone, and automation. In essence, LCC is DCC for the rest of your layout. LCC was developed over the past several years by the Open LCB Group – a large group of volunteers with expertise in electronics, networking, programming, and model railroading similar to the group that developed Java Model Railroad Interface (JMRI). The final draft of the LCC protocols and the specification documents have been published for comment on the NMRA's website. Look for an article describing all of the benefits of LCC in a future issue of the *NMRA Magazine*.

FRA: most railroads will miss PTC

deadline

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has sent its Status of Positive Train Control Implementation report to Congress. The report is mandated by the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee and shows that after seven years and significant assistance from FRA, most railroads will miss the Dec. 31, 2015 positive train control (PTC) implementation deadline that Congress established in 2008.

“Positive Train Control is the most significant advancement in rail safety technology in more than a century. Simply put: it prevents accidents and saves lives, which is exactly what we seek to do at The Department of Transportation every single day. We will continue to do everything in our power to help railroads install this technology,” U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx said.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) began calling for train control systems like PTC in 1969, and FRA was involved in establishing PTC standards with stakeholders for more than a decade before the 2008 mandate. Three years before Congress passed the PTC mandate, FRA issued its final rule that established uniform PTC standards for railroads willing to voluntarily install the technology.

PTC prevents train-to-train collisions, over-speed derailments, incursions into established work zone limits and a train going to the wrong track because a switch was left in the wrong position.

In 2008, Congress passed the Rail Safety Improvement Act (RSIA), requiring all Class I railroads transporting poisonous-by-inhalation hazardous (PIH) or toxic-by-inhalation hazardous (TIH) materials and all railroads providing passenger service to implement Positive Train Control by Dec. 31, 2015.

In the Station:

I hope that you were all able to find the new meet location on the west side of Madison and were able to avoid the Madison Iron Man and Woman competition. Our SCWD moving crew gathered on Sunday the 20th to move stuff from the storage locker over to the ZOR Shrine temple for the youth group meeting. We stuck around to watch Paul Balfe conduct a clinic on scenery and ballasting track.

The kids really appreciated Paul's clinic as did Steve Brist who by the way is doing a wonderful job of leadership for our youth group. It would be great to see more members sign up and do clinics for these young modelers. After all, this is the future of our hobby so let's pass it on.

See you by the Rails

Paul



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* = Train Show Ticket advance sales

2015 - 2016 Meeting Time Table

Regular Meeting	Train Show Staff	BOD	Youth Group
Oct 4 th 2015	WED. Oct 7 th 2015	Oct 12 th 2015	Oct 18 th 2015
Nov 1st 2015	Nov 4 th 2015	Nov 9 th 2015	Nov 15 th 2015
Dec 6 th 2015	Dec 2 nd 2015	Dec 7 th 2015	Dec 20 2015