

# THE OWL CAR

## WISCONSIN SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION OF THE NMRA

FEBRUARY 2010

### UPCOMING RAIL- ROAD EVENTS :

- January 16th -  
MARCH 24th  
Mitchell Park  
Domes presents  
“Westward Ho”  
garden railroad lay-  
out
- February 21 WISE  
Division Meet at  
Country Springs  
Hotel
- July 11- 18, 2010  
NMRA 75th Anni-  
versary National  
Convention in Mil-  
waukee

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### NMRA ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM JUDGING At MARCH MEET

By Cedor Aronow

That is the question the judges for the NMRA Achievement Program must answer when they are judging the quality of a model that the builder has asked them to evaluate for merit points.

The NMRA Achievement program is a fun and educational way to have your work critiqued by judges who are familiar with building and modeling techniques. There are guidelines that are published by the NMRA for the judges to use as they evaluate a model for merit points. There is some leeway for the judges, but the points are awarded based on a matrix for each of the several categories that are judged for each model. The points awarded are not done so in an arbitrary manner. Guidelines must be followed.

Many modelers are reticent about entering a model into a judged contest at a National or Regional convention because of the notion that those judges are extremely stingy and picky in awarding points.

There is a difference between a contest and judging for merit awards. The judges always use the guidelines for awarding points but in picking the 1<sup>st</sup> place entry in a contest often involve some decision making on the part of the judges. Everything is judged for merit points, but the picking of the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place award involves a somewhat different approach by the judges.

If a person builds a model it can be judged at anytime and does not have to be an entry in a contest. A modeler only has to contact the AP Chair in the Division or any of the officers of the Division and request judging of a particular model. The AP Chair then communicates with the modeler and judging is arranged. If the model is a structure that can be moved or a piece of rolling stock or motive power the judging is often done at one of the regular meets. For some of the categories such as scenery, electrical, mechanical, etc. the judges will come to the location of the layout and do the judging on site. The AP judges in the WISE Division are very flexible and accommodating to the modeler's needs.

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# Superintendent's Corner

Linda Sukup, Superintendent, WISE Division NMRA

Welcome to 2010!

This year is extremely exciting for us. The NMRA National Convention takes place here in Milwaukee on July 11-18, 2010. Go to the WISE Division website for a link to the Convention. The Convention needs many wonderful volunteers to make this a major success. Please consider volunteering for the National Convention. We need to show the world how we do things in Milwaukee.

Thank you for coming to the meets. Our next meet is at Country Springs in Pewaukee on February 21. This meet is very well attended.

Here is a plug for the contests. Please enter the model, slides, photography contest that the division sponsors very month. If you are a winner, you will receive a gift certificate from our awesome hobby shops.

Remember to patronize these hobby shops when you can. The hobby shops that support the WISE Division are: Greenfield News and Hobbies, Jetco Hiawatha Hobbies, Sommerfeld's, South Side Hobbies (formerly Jerry's Hobby Shop) and Terminal Hobbies. We added two more hobby shops out of town, they are: Enginehouse Services in Green Bay and Madison Hobby Stop in Madison.

## UPCOMING WISE & NMRA MEETS

**FEB 21**  
Country Springs  
Hotel  
2810 Golf Rd  
Pewaukee, WI

**MAR 21**  
Best Western  
Airport  
5105 Howell Ave  
Milwaukee

**APR 18**  
Best Western  
Airport  
5105 Howell Ave  
Milwaukee

### WISE Division Board

#### Superintendent

Linda Sukup  
414-446-9508  
[superintendent@wisedivision.org](mailto:superintendent@wisedivision.org)

#### Assistant Superintendent

John Shipman  
262-547-4813  
[asstsuper@wisedivision.org](mailto:asstsuper@wisedivision.org)

#### Chief Clerk

Reid Kahrs  
262-628-8489  
[chiefclerk@wisedivision.org](mailto:chiefclerk@wisedivision.org)

#### Paymaster

Bob Sherman  
262-790-9830  
[paymaster@wisedivision.org](mailto:paymaster@wisedivision.org)

#### Contests

Bonnie Janke  
262-392-9698  
[bjanke@wi.rr.com](mailto:bjanke@wi.rr.com)

#### Owl Car Newsletter Editor

Kurt Wamser  
414-791-7549  
[kwmilwr@wi.rr.com](mailto:kwmilwr@wi.rr.com)

#### Achievement Program

Cedor Aronow  
262-242-0108  
[topcampdoc@yahoo.com](mailto:topcampdoc@yahoo.com)

#### Membership

Neal Michel  
414-817-1278  
[njmichel@yahoo.com](mailto:njmichel@yahoo.com)

#### Trainfest®

John Tews  
262-820-3566  
[john@trainfest.org](mailto:john@trainfest.org)

#### Youth Group

Jenny Janke  
262-244-0818 home  
262-719-7777 Train Club  
[postmaster@wcgandydancers.org](mailto:postmaster@wcgandydancers.org)

#### Past Superintendent

Bob Gallegos  
414-350-7788  
[rrrover@mac.com](mailto:rrrover@mac.com)  
Special Events  
Ed Varick  
414-761-2068  
[ed2591rit@wi.rr.com](mailto:ed2591rit@wi.rr.com)

#### Layout Tours

Ted Lewtas  
414-963-0429  
[tlewtas@wisedivision.org](mailto:tlewtas@wisedivision.org)

#### Clinics

Al Lederman  
414-354-9579  
[n9rx@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:n9rx@sbcbglobal.net)

#### Bus Trip

Ed Kofroth  
414-425-7945  
[mredrr@msn.com](mailto:mredrr@msn.com)

#### Video Library

Open

#### Directors At Large

LaRoye Chisley  
414-352-3546  
[laroyechisley@earthlink.net](mailto:laroyechisley@earthlink.net)

#### Gary Children

414-327-1666  
[csuperchief20@aol.com](mailto:csuperchief20@aol.com)

#### Website:

[www.wisedivision.org](http://www.wisedivision.org)

#### Train Shops that Support WISE Division NMRA Events

**Greenfield News & Hobby**  
Greenfield 414-281-1800

**Jetco's Hiawatha Hobbies**  
Waukesha, WI 53072  
262-544-4131

**Mullet River**  
Plymouth 920-893-9552

**Sommerfeld's**  
Butler 262-783-7797

**South Side Trains (for-  
merly Jerry's Trains)**  
Milwaukee 414-482-1566

**Walthers/Terminal Hobby**  
Milwaukee 414-461-1050

**Engine House Services**  
Green Bay, WI  
920-490-4839

**Madison Hobby Shop**  
Madison, WI  
608-829-3820

# JANUARY CONTESTS

By Bonnie Janke Contest Chair

Was glad to see that we had people ready for the contest in January. We saw where some participants had put a lot of time working on their entries. It makes for a great contest when we have a lot of items that look so great. The structures contest had several entries, and there was only one point between 1st and 2nd place. So remember to enter, because you never know how things will go in a popular vote contest.

Don't be afraid to enter a contest even if you are the only one entered because you do have a chance to win Best of Show. Remember all entries must be the work of the person en-

tering which in turn brings the pride for the chance to win a 2nd or a 1st and chance for Best of Show. We have several young people in the Youth Group, and I'm sure Charlie Schulz would have loved to have other youth 14 and under entering the contest.

The more you work with modeling the better you become, and it shows in your work. If you have any questions about the contest, or would like a copy of the rules, please get in touch with me at a meet, being I carry the rules with me. You can also contact me by calling 262-392-9698. See you in the Contest Room.

## CONTEST RESULTS

### JANUARY 2010

#### BEST OF SHOW:

John Dreschsler - Log Unloader

#### Motive Power - Diesel

1st - Chris Carpenter - CNW  
SD7 #1663

2nd - Neal Michel - Soo Line  
RS - 3

#### Structure

1st - John Dreschsler - Log  
Unloader

2nd - Jenny Janke - Monkey  
Enclosure

#### Model - Photo

1st - Mike Janke - "Passing the  
Gold Spike"

2nd - Jenny Janke - Rio Grande  
A-B-B

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## Upcoming Contests

2/21/2010

at Country Springs Hotel  
Waukesha

Traction / Electric

Passenger Equipment

Non-Revenue Freight Equipment

Prototype Photos & Slides

3/21/2010

Structures ( on & off line )

General ( Dioramas & Trains )

Freight Equipment

Model Photo & Slides

4/18/2010

ALL Catagories

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## WISE Division Video/DVD Library by Neal Michel, Librarian

Videos/DVDs will be available for check out at the February Meet at the Country Springs Hotel in Pewaukee. If you would like to request specific videos/DVDs in advance, you can call me at 414-817-1278 or e-mail me at NJMICHEL@yahoo.com. If the items you request are available, I will bring them to the February Meet. A complete list of the Division video/DVD library is on the Division web site ([www.wisedivision.org](http://www.wisedivision.org)).

## WISE GUYS & GALS Youth Group

Welcome all youth !

Upcoming youth group regular meeting  
dates:

February 7th,28th 1pm - 4pm

March 21st 1 pm - 4pm

Regular meetings are held at the Waukesha  
County Gandy Dancers

831 N. Grand Ave. lower level

Waukesha

The Youth will also be at Train Time at  
MSOE in Milwaukee on March 6th & 7th  
from 10am - 5pm both days.

For information contact Jenny Janke at 262-  
244-0818 or email [j\\_a\\_janke@yahoo.com](mailto:j_a_janke@yahoo.com)

## Achievement continued from page 1

Your AP judges are more than willing to answer any questions you may have regarding your work. We often are asked to look at a work in progress to give advice on how to bring the model up to the level that it can make enough points to earn a merit award certificate. Your AP judges are available to help you in your progress to earning merit awards and then moving on to receive a category certificate. We really want to see you succeed and will help you in any way we can.

It is suggested you go to the NMRA site and go to the Achievement Program and inform yourself about the various categories and the requirements to earn a Category certificate.

There are links to the judging criteria and it provides some interesting and valuable information as to how the judging is actually done.

Don't overlook some of the other categories in the AP program such as Association Volunteer, Author and Dispatcher. These are not modeling categories but are part of the road to becoming a Master Model Railroader.

At the March WISE Division meet, we will have judges available so bring in your models for judging or evaluation and advice. We are anxious to see you!

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# 2010 NATIONAL CONVENTION

By Ken Jaglinski

The program for the national convention being held in Milwaukee July 11<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010, has shaped up nicely under the guidance of Reid Kahrs, our chairman. The final piece of the puzzle has finally fallen into place with the clinic program being completed. Skip Meracle and Ed Kofroth have done a great job along with Doug Auburg of National to put together over 120 clinics that will be offered throughout the week. Over 100 of these are “new” to the national convention.

The tour committee headed by Gary Children along with Ted Lewtas and Dave Wichman offer 29 layout tours featuring over 100 different layouts. Besides the greater Milwaukee area, tours are offered to Madison, Racine / Kenosha, the Fox Valley, and Illinois. In addition, you can choose from 17 prototype tours visiting local industry.

Chip Kahrs, along with a host of other ladies, has put together an outstanding General Interest Program. It features 9 tours offering shopping, historical and general sightseeing experiences, and 30 clinics ranging from crafts to clowns and spices.

As you know it takes a lot of VOLUNTEERS to run a successful national convention. We need your help to make the Milwaukee convention a show stopper. We can use your help at clinics, the tour desk, in the contest room, in the auction room, leading a prototype or layout tour, helping with audio visual equipment or at 100 other jobs. You can work one four hour shift, a whole day, or several times during the week.

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## 2010 Convention continued from page 4

Remember this convention reflects on the WISE division, so let's get it done right! Milwaukee was the birthplace of the NMRA and people will expect that we can do it just a little bit better. If you can volunteer your time please email Al Lederman at [n9rxd@sbcglobal.net](mailto:n9rxd@sbcglobal.net).

The National Train Show is filling up fast but if you have a layout that you would like to display at the National Train Show (Friday, Saturday & Sunday) at the Midwest Airline Center then email LaRoye Chisley at [laroyechisley@earthlink.net](mailto:laroyechisley@earthlink.net) and he will pass this information on to the NMRA person in charge.

If you don't have a computer, write me a note outlining what you might want to do and/or how much time you can devote. Send this to Ken Jaglinski 863 E Birch Avenue Whitefish Bay WI 53217 and I will pass it on to the appropriate committee.

We have a great overall line-up of things to do at NMRA75. Now is the time to register if you haven't already done so. The full registration packet will be printed in "Scale Rails" in the February issue. You can fill out the forms there and mail them in or you can do so online at our web site [www.nmra75.org](http://www.nmra75.org). Looking forward to meeting you and working with you to help or fellow railroaders enjoy their trip to Milwaukee.

### OWL CAR New Look

Fellow WISE members and friends, as you have noticed the OWL CAR suddenly got a new look and will continue to improve and will include pictures to be added in future issues, as I learn to understand the newsletter program. The volunteer that was the production editor informed the Superintendent and myself that he was no longer able to format the newsletter. Thanks in advance Kurt

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\*Rail Pass offer is good in the U.S. only and is for new members and those who have not been NMRA members for two years or more. Individuals can only join a Rail Pass once one time; membership renewal will be at the regular membership rate. Rail Pass members can vote, attend conventions and participate in contests, but cannot hold office and will not receive a New Member Pin.

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# THE OWL CAR

## WISCONSIN SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

February 21st Meet Clinics at Country Springs Hotel, Pewaukee

1pm - Roger Blocks - Update on the Thomasville Region CNW

2pm - Cody Grivno, Associate Editor of Model Railroader Magazine - Modeling Patched Freight Cars

3pm - Matt Van Hattem, Senior Editor Trains Magazine

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**P.O. BOX 242, BUTLER, WI 53007-0242**