



Deadline for Submission to the May Issue:
April 20, 2026

April 2026

THE HEAD OWL HOOTS

Burnell Breaker

HAPPY EASTER!!!

Our March 21 meet was a great success! The weather cooperated, with Joe Russ even touring on his motorcycle. Those of you who visited the 3 homes, the Kettle Moraine Ballast Scorchers layout and the Wolf Schlesinger Club at the Slinger Historical Museum know we all had a great time. The only downside was that no CN and W&S trains came through while we were at the museum. We will definitely plan to do another layout tour day again. If you would like to participate with your home layout and know of another point of interest in your area, let us know.

We're always looking for new members. Give someone you know a flyer and invite them to one of our meets.

We need to be looking to the future and will be going through our storage unit this spring or summer. There are many items we can likely clear out from our days running Trainfest besides other items. If you'd like to help, let me know.

Besides the annual meeting and election results, we will have 2 clinics by Mark Willmering and our contests. Let's finish out this season with a lot of entries in our contests!

We can also use help with going through, pricing and selling the model train donations we received. We presently store our donations at my printing company in Caledonia.

These donations to the Division have helped generate revenue for us. If you know of someone who is looking to donate a family member's collection, have them contact one of the Board members.

ONE LAST REMINDER - IT'S ELECTION TIME!
The deadline to get your ballot to Dave Nelson is April 15. The results will be announced at the May 2 Annual Meeting.

We are working on the 2026-2027 season of events and hope to have a tentative schedule to present to everyone at our May 2 meet. If you have an idea for an event, let one of the Board members know and we will look into it. Remember this is your WISE Division!!

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE ANNUAL MEETING MAY 2!!!

MODEL RAILROADING IS FUN!!!

Burnell

Upcoming Division Events:

Board of Directors Meetings

Wednesday, April 8 7:00pm
Zoom

Membership Meeting

Saturday, May 2 1:00pm
New Berlin Public Library
Community Room

Tim Koch Candidate for Director at Large



My name is Tim Koch. I'm married with one son and currently live in Slinger. I am employed as a mechanical engineer. I received a train set at age 3 and have been a Model Railroader ever since.

I grew up attending train shows and other WISE division events with my grandpa, dad, and uncle. In 1982, I started attending shows as an exhibitor with my grandpa and the WISE Division's HO track and later with my family and a few friends, we started our own group, Rusty Rails. I have been an exhibitor at every Trainfest that has been held since 82.

In 1985, I became an official NMRA member (so I could attend the conventions) and had remained a member until the early 90's when I moved out of the WISE division area to attend school. I later moved back into the area and joined again in 2010.

Currently my spare time is split between Rusty Rails, building a home layout based on the Milwaukee Roads Racine and Southwestern line, and restoring a 1946 Ford truck.

A couple of years ago, I volunteered as a Director at Large because I wanted to help the Division re-build and ensure it would be around for years to come. I'm running for re-election to continue this work.

A Word about Constant Contact e-mail

Each Constant Contact e-mail includes links to update or unsubscribe your e-mail address. **Please do not use these links.** If you unsubscribe using the Constant Contact link, your e-mail address will be removed from the NMRA membership database, from the Midwest Region e-mail database and probably from your Division's records. If you get an e-mail that you don't want, just hit the delete key. Furthermore, if you use the update link, your change may not be timely posted to the NMRA membership database.

If you need to change your email address with the NMRA please follow these directions:

The direct way is to log on to the "Members" page of the NMRA website, choose the "View your NMRA membership" box on the right side of the screen, scroll down to the bottom of the page and select "Update". Enter the new email address in the appropriate box and click "Submit".



Wisconsin Southeastern Division / Midwest Region
of the National Model Railroad Association

2025-2026 Schedule of Events

SATURDAY, September 13, 2025 - 9 AM to 3 PM

MODEL RAILROAD RETREAT - St. Paul's Lutheran Church

NON-MEMBERS \$5.00

8760 - 37th Avenue, Kenosha

SATURDAY, October 18, 2025 - 1 PM

MONTHLY MEET - New Berlin Public Library Community Room

FREE ADMISSION (*Contests, Clinics, Bring & Brag, Layout Tour*)

15105 Library Lane, New Berlin

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, November 1-2, 2025

TRAINFEST - Baird Center, Milwaukee

EXTRA FARE EVENT

SATURDAY, January 10, 2026 - 1 PM

TRAIN SCHOOL - New Berlin Public Library Community Room

FREE ADMISSION

Learn about this great hobby and all it offers from local modelers.
Stations will be set up to discover different aspects of the hobby.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, February 21-22, 2026

MAD CITY TRAIN SHOW - Alliant Energy Center, Madison

EXTRA FARE EVENT

SATURDAY, March 21, 2026 - 1 PM

MONTHLY MEET - Schlesingerville to Slinger Historical Museum

FREE ADMISSION (*Contests, Clinics, Bring & Brag, Layout Tour*)

414 Kettle Moraine Drive S, Slinger

SATURDAY, May 2, 2026 - 1 PM

MONTHLY MEET and MEMBERSHIP MEETING -

New Berlin Public Library Heritage Room

FREE ADMISSION (*Contests, Clinics, Bring & Brag, Layout Tour*)



wisedivision.org

trainfest.com

BRING & BRAG about your recent acquisitions, layout progress or rail adventures at the Meets!

Division Video Library

Even though we have trimmed the Division Video Library in half, there are still many DVD's available to check out. We have for sale the ones we have decided not to keep. We will have them at the various shows where we are selling our estate collections. Our next show where we will be selling is the April 12 Cedarburg Train Show. We will be working on a new listing of available titles soon.

As I stated a few years ago when I became Superintendent, I couldn't be both the Superintendent and Video Librarian, bringing the Video Library to our meets. Even with the offer to let me know which titles you would like to check out and bringing them to the next meet, no one has taken me up on the offer. The titles were listed on our website, so everyone had access to the Video Library.

Neighboring Divisions have already dropped their video libraries on account of all of the content that is available online, we are the exception. Presently, the Library is stored at my printing company in Caledonia, and I am likely looking at retirement, with the sale of the business and building within the next 1-3 years. This is another reason for the thinning of our Library. The Video Library will be looking for a new home.

If you are interested in taking the job of Video Librarian, contact me. It's an easy job, where you bring the Video Library to our meets and manage the checking out and receiving of them from the members.

Burnell Breaker

brbreaker78@gmail.com

wisenmra@gmail.com

262-939-9193



Membership Directory

We have not updated our Membership Directory in over a decade. The information in this directory is vital to the ongoing revitalization of the Division.

As your new Layout Tour Chair, updating this document is my priority. With the information contained within its pages, we will be able to foster camaraderie and the sharing of ideas and expertise that is a key to a thriving organization and something that is greatly needed in the Division.

My plan is to send out a form by email, in the new year, asking for your contact information and details about your layout and other model and prototype interests. Please consider responding to my request. The Division is moving in a new direction, and this directory will be an essential part of this revival.

David Mielke

Layout Tour Chair

mielkemanor@att.net

A Note from the Editor:

As the weather turns warm and the days begin to lengthen, more opportunities for railfanning present themselves. Rail Fans continually search for the best place to view the rail cars and for any information on specific lines that run through locations. The Owl Car is a great place to share that information. So, write up a sentence or two and include any pics you have taken.

Remember that the deadline for the May issue is the 20th of April. So, keep this deadline in mind and send your ideas, articles and photos to the Owl Car at cindy.m.mielke@gmail.com.

Your Editor
Cindy Mielke

The Frugal Modeler Thinks Out Loud

Dave Nelson

Going to the Mad City model train show in Madison last month, and walking the aisles -- the prices for new stuff are getting to be real eye-openers, and while I wasn't actively shopping for much I couldn't help but think, what trains (or what lunch for that matter) could I have possibly afforded were I a teenage hobbyist, as I myself once was, back when dinosaurs roamed the earth? This is a real issue for the continued health of our hobby -- our newest modelers with no income of their own.

But there *are* deals to be had, provided you're willing to ratchet down your standards and spend real time looking carefully at a seller's offerings, including the boxes on the floor. Just as families on tight budgets must consider shopping at resale stores, hobbyists young and old should consider what can be done with "previously enjoyed" model trains. The SCWD Division that puts on the Mad City show itself has many tables of estate sale items, as they face the same issues of an aging membership that the WISE Division -- and the entire hobby -- sees. A willingness to tinker and repair, or repurpose, helps. As the late Art Curren, the famous kit-basher, wrote, you also need to be able to look at a kit or a model and see beyond the manufacturer's original intentions.

One guy's table caught my eye as he had some unusual bridge kit parts which I recollected buying from him at prior shows, and I needed a few more of them. It turns out he had been a part owner of the old "Three Brothers" line of HO model train kits (not to be confused with the Three Brothers Restaurant in Bay View!), including the commuter train double deck galley car kits for CNW, Rock Island, Burlington Route, and Milwaukee Road cars.

Walthers and Kato now make their versions of those cars, but decades ago Three Brothers was the only game in town. He's been selling off the parts inventory for some years. Being a long-time kit-basher, I saw a familiar built-up structure that I always have a use for, on a shelf with many other assembled structures. It was on my "want list" so when he said "\$5" to my "how much?" that seemed reasonable, but I misunderstood. The \$5 was for ALL the structures on that shelf, which I managed to cram into one cloth bag. Then he threw a big handful of the bridge parts I'd also been looking at into the bag, no charge. He said "take the whole box if you want them" but that would have been overload. The photo shows all the structures I got for \$5 (sure, some are basket cases but that is exactly what a kit-basher is looking for), minus the one N scale structure that was part of the stash and which I found a good home for just minutes later.



View From the Tail Car

March Layout Tour by David Mielke

On March 21, 2026, the WISE Division members toured five layouts both in homes and at club facilities. The five layouts each presented different rail lines as well as degrees of completion.

Bill Pfister's is one of the more developed layouts that feature many distinct scenes and trains bearing the CNW, GBW and Milwaukee Road logos. This layout has hosted over 100 operating sessions.

While Pfister's layout is more complete, Mark Digerness is a good work in progress. This layout boasts a double deck with long trains. We're excited to see how this layout progresses in the years to come.

The Kettle Moraine Ballast Scorchers displayed their modular layout and the unique double layouts with a N-Scale layout with an equally detailed HO-Scale beneath it.

The layout presented by Tim Koch featured his Grandfather's hand-made scratched built structures.

The day of layout tours ended at the Slinger Railroad Club that is in the basement of museum. The club truly turned a pig's ear into a silk purse, crafting a very nice double deck layout from parts. Very impressive!

25 to 30 members of the WISE Division and our counterparts from other southeastern divisions visited and viewed these layouts, each displaying a unique and noteworthy aspect of the hobby.



Bill Pfister



Mark Digerness



Kettle Moraine
Ballast Scorchers



Tim Koch



Slinger Railroad
Club

Upcoming Clinics and Tours

Two Clinics to be Featured at the May 2nd Meeting

by David Nelson

Photos by Mark Willmering

In addition to the annual meeting of members, the May 2 meeting at the New Berlin public library will feature two new clinics to be given by Mark Willmering. (Mark's article on scratch-building a rail-to-truck transfer building just appeared in the Spring 2026 issue of the Midwest Region's online *Waybill*.) One of his May clinics will focus on how to build and use removable loads of coal and similar commodities in open hopper cars. The other will provide information and details about the car floats that Mark has added to his Rock Harbor layout as an unusual and vital source of rail traffic (and scenic interest). The Rock Harbor is modeled as a railroad on an island, so on Mark's layout, these car floats are his railroad's interchange connection with the rest of the railroad system.



May Layout Tour

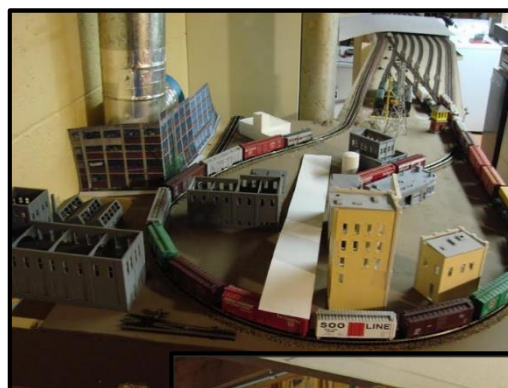
Dave Comina is opening his layout for a tour for the May 2nd meet. He is working full time on it for the N Scale Convention Tours in June.

Dave is currently redoing the wiring on the main part of the layout and connecting the wiring on the 3 new additions to the layout. He has added on to almost double the size of layout. His additions are too numerous to list here, so plan on touring the layout and check out what is new to Dave's layout.

The layout is open to tour from 9:00am – Noon and then one hour after the meet on May 2nd

Dave Comina's address is
912 East Howard Avenue., Milwaukee WI 53207
414-339-3795

There is limited parking on Howard Avenue. If you park on that street, be sure to pull in your drivers outside mirror. Parking on Logan or Lenox is much safer. Howard Avenue is reachable from 194/43 from the West and 794 from the East.



Division Leadership

Board of Directors

Burnell Breaker --- Superintendent

brbreaker78@gmail.com

wisenmra@gmail.com

262-939-9193

Robert Niedermann --- Assistant Superintendent

rpncpa@outlook.com

414-587-4778

David Rohr --- Chief Clerk (Secretary)

ChiefClerkWiseDiv@gmail.com

262-783-7230

Tim Koch --- Director at Large

timkoch@charter.net

David Mielke --- Director at Large

mielkemanor@att.net

Dennis Janssen --- Assistant Paymaster

Dennisjans51@gmail.com

Committee Chairs

Gary Hendrickson --- Membership

nkpgary@gmail.com

847-800-1380

Dave Nelson --- Clinics

engine1385@aol.com

Dave Poquette --- Achievement Program

dpoquette@wi.rr.com

Dave Mielke --- Train School/ Layout Tours

mielkemanor@att.net

Cindy Mielke --- Owl Car Editor

cindy.m.mielke@gmail.com

Mike Slater --- Social Media Manager

m Slater@wi.rr.com

262-515-3623

Jim Hebner --- Webmaster

hebnerj@gmail.com

Open ---

Picnic/Bus Trips ---

Contest ---

FROM the NMRA Please Keep in Touch



Please make sure the NMRA has your current contact information. You will not be able to access the full range of NMRA benefits unless we can reach you.

[trains - By the Yard®](#)

- Please visit nmra.org/members
- Use your email address and password to log in.
- If you have not yet registered, or forgot your password, there are buttons for that. Take a moment to easily correct any problems.
- Once logged in, click on Member Info (top right corner).
- Make sure your information is correct.
- If not, please go to:

nmra.org/request-membership-info-changes

to submit a request for changes to be made.

Thank you!

The WISE Owl Car is published by the Wisconsin Southeastern (WISE) Division of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA).

Subscription is free in an electronic format to all NMRA members residing within the boundaries of the WISE Division.

The Wisconsin Southeastern Division, Inc does not offer any warranties or guarantees, nor assumes any liability from the information contained in this publication.

Permission is granted to the use of news items in other publications provided credit is given to the Owl Car and author.

Trainfest and the Trainfest logo are registered trademarks of the WISE Division, NMRA, Inc.

Please send any comments, information, or editorials to Editor Cindy Mielke via email: cindy.m.mielke@gmail.com

February Board of Directors Minutes

**Wisconsin Southeastern (WISE) Division of the NMRA
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, February 11, 2026
Via Zoom**

Meeting called to order by Burnell Breaker at 7:05 pm

Officers Present - Burnell Breaker (Superintendent)*
Robert Niedermann (Asst-Superintendent)*
David Rohr (Secretary, Chief Clerk)*
David Mielke (Director At Large) (Train School)*
Tim Koch (Director At Large) *

Chairs Present – Cindy Mielke (Owl Car) *, Dennis Janssen (Asst Paymaster) *,
Mike Slater* (Social Media) left at 7:50pm

Guests – None * attended by Zoom

Officers Not Present – Paymaster – open position

Minutes: No changes noted from the January meeting minutes, Bob N. motioned, 2nd by Tim K., approved.

Paymaster Report: No changes noted from the January report. Bob N. motioned, 2nd by David M., approved.
• Good sales at the swap meets.

Membership: Gary Hendrickson – Not Present – Gary submitted the following report

<u>Members::</u>	<u>Membership as of:</u>
Jan. '26: 125	Dec. '25: 116
	Jan. '25: 125
	Jan. '24: 139

- The gain of 9 members from December looks like it's due to a little flood of end-of-year renewals.
- I'm finding that the data in January's WISE membership report is flawed.
- The expiration dates for the 30- & 60-day overdue listings show folks who expired in 2024. Impeding follow-up on recent expirations.
- Looks like the Mothership got a little confused, again.... There is not a lot of consistency in these reports from one month to the next.
- No change in membership. No reply from those who were sent postal letters.

AP Program: Dave Poquette – not present, no report

Layout Tours: Dave M. – Layout schedule is in the Owl Car

Owl Car:

January Express issue with a ballot, was sent to members with no email.
February was sent to members with email, another good issue.

Website: Jim Hebner - not present, no report

Clinics: Dave Nelson - not present, his report:
 "Because its Zoom presentations and YouTube presence seem to be thriving, I asked the Michiana Division's super. Greg Buelmann, for his views on how their Division membership is holding up. Evidently appearances are deceiving because they are hurting too.
 Here is Greg's reply:
 Hi Dave, we are experiencing a similar trend and have very few members who actually participate. Ron Christensen got together with some local folks in southeastern Michigan on Tuesday, both members and non-members, and it seemed to go well. We get very few at the traditional outings we hold and have trouble getting people to accept officer positions, etc. There's about five of us who keep it going and we are wondering if we'll be able to sustain it for very long. The Zoom calls and YouTube are pretty healthy as you noted, and we do not restrict that in any way regarding membership. I see it as a service to the hobby that we all seem to enjoy. Good luck! Greg"

Train School: Dave M – Next event is January 25, 2027. We can reserve the New Berlin Library October 2026

Model RR Retreat:

Need a new location, need a place we can charge admission and vendors.
 Possibly David R's church in Menomonee Falls. Need to pick a date, to schedule the venue. Decided to have it August 29, 2026.
 Joe's operating event to be on Sept 19 - 21, 2026.

Facebook:

Mike Slater – Mike said schedule posts on Facebook are not working anymore.
 Mike posted that Mad City is coming up.
 Suggested to hand out business cards for a reminder of train school.

Show Schedule –

- We will sell at 5 of the 6 Lionel Club's swap dates on March 15 with 3 tables.
- Selling at the Metro Club's Show in Cedarburg Ozaukee show April 12, 2026.
- Signed up completed for 2 (not 3) tables. Will have Jerry? for help
- Also sign up for KMBS October Swap at Washington Co. Fair Park October 11, 2026.
 Need 4 tables. We will get an additional table (3 + 1) to have. Tim K is selling next door and he can help at the sales.

Old Business:

- **2025-2026 Meet Schedule**
 - March 21 – Slinger Depot– Can seat 40 - 45. Could get folks from WLD (Winnebagoland Division) to attend
 - May 2 – NB Library - Annual Meeting & election results
- **2026 election –**
 - Tim K's position will be on the ballot in spring `26.
 - Dave Nelson, LaRoye Chisley and Dave Poquette will be on the Election Committee.
 - Tim's biography and ballot included in January Owl Car and Express issues with election information mailed to members whom we do not have email addresses for. Will keep election information in Owl Car through April issue. Results to be announced at the May annual meeting.

- **2026 - 2027 Schedule** – We needed to start planning so we have it ready for the May meeting.
 - **August/September 2026** – Model Railroad Retreat, new location, date, use member retention grant from NMRA to offset cost of hall.
 - **October 17, 2026** – Meet, New Berlin Public Library
 - **November 7 & 8, 2026** – Trainfest, Baird Center
 - **December** – no meet
 - **January 25, 2027** – Train School, New Berlin Public Library
 - **February 20 & 21, 2027** – SCWD Mad City Train Show, Alliant Energy Center
 - **March 20, 2027** – Meet, different location? CNWHS Joint Meet, New Berlin Public Library? Cudahy Library? Tippecanoe Library? Cudahy Depot? Bucyrus Museum? When is Rockford show in 2027?
 - **April 17, 2027** – Annual Meeting, Election Results, New Berlin Public Library
- **Gary Children's Slides** – over 10,000 slides with Ektagraphic Carousel projector. Tim and I are planning to visit Neal Michel in early March. Mike S can scan (digitize) the slides.

New Business:

- Burnell is hoping to retire within the next couple years. He will likely be putting the building and business up for sale. We will need a new home for our items stored at my business. What to do with the video library?
- Once the weather warms up, we should spend an afternoon at the storage unit to see what we can get rid of. Strip the last 2 layout sections of salable items and trash the tables. Mike S. suggested he would offer some space at the caboos museum at a reasonable cost.

Next Meeting:

Next BOD meeting is Wednesday, March 17 at 7:30pm via Zoom.
After that the meeting will be April 8, 2026 (Back to Wednesdays)

Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm. Motioned by Dave M., 2nd by Tim K., approved.

Respectfully submitted by David A. Rohr, Chief Clerk.

Our Mission

The mission of the WISE Division of the National Model Railroad Association is to promote model railroading, to engage in the preservation, perpetuation and enjoyment of the hobby of model railroading, rail fanning and education generally of the history of railroading in the United States and where appropriate throughout the world and to engage in charitable work (as defined in sec, 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended) including, but not limited to providing funding to historical associations, scholarships, model railroad museums and other charitable organizations affiliated with or desiring to learn more about railroading and model railroading.

Shows and Swaps

Wisconsin and Northern Illinois

Monthly Events

Great Midwest Train Show

Dupage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, IL
2015 Manchester Rd., Wheaton IL
<https://www.greenbergshows.com/gmtspages/gmts>

Apr. 12, May 3, Jun. 7, Aug. 2, Sept.13,
Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6 • 9:00am – 3:00pm

Milwaukee Lionel Railroad Club – Swap Meet

New Berlin Entertainment Center,
16000 W. Cleveland, New Berlin, WI
Enter from east side of building
<https://milw-lrrc.org/mlrrc-train-show-and-sale>

Oct. 18, Nov. 22, Dec.20

• 8:00am – 12:00pm

Milwaukee Lionel Railroad Club – Open House

2721 S. Calhoun Rd, - Drive to back of building
<https://milw-lrrc.org/mlrrc-open-houses>

The Club is open weekly Friday • 1:00 – 9:00
year-round (unless major holiday)

Winter hours Saturday & Sunday

• 1:00 – 5:00 October 4 to April 26.

Waukesha County Gandy Dancers & Badgerland S Gaugers Open House

741 N. Grand Ave., Waukesha, WI 53186
<https://www.wcgdrailroad.com/events>

May 2, Aug. 1, Oct 3, Nov. 14 & 15, Dec. 5

(Dates may change to Nov. 14 & 15 to

Nov. 7 & 8 to match Trainfest dates)

• 10:00am – 6:00pm

Kenosha Model Railroad Train Show (Swap)

New location: Kenosha Moose Lodge
3003 30th Ave. Kenosha Union Hall
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100087630919326>

Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec.13, Jan. 10, Feb. 14,

Mar.14 • Sunday, 9:00am – 1:00pm

LRRC SE Wis - Open House

4625 Washington Ave, Racine, WI 53405
Upstairs of American Coin & Jewelry
<https://www.facebook.com/LRRCSEW>

Apr. 18 • 10:00am – 2:00 pm

Annual Train Shows

Hales Corner Library

Milwaukee Lionel RR club's 3 portable layouts
will be presented in lower hall

5885 S. 116th St., Hales Corner, WI 53130

<https://halescorners-wi.whofi.com/calendar/event/1311905?method=embed>

Thursday, Apr. 2 • 12:00pm – 8:00pm

Saturday, Apr. 4 • 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Fond Du Lac Train Show

1225 4th St., Fond Du Lac, WI
First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall

<https://allevents.in/fond-du-lac/5th-annual-cn-central-model-railroad-open-house/200029679763759>

Saturday, Apr. 11 • 10:00am – 4:00pm

Sunday, Apr. 12 • 9:00am – 2:00pm

Fond Du Lac Layout Tour

179 Guindon Blvd, Fond du Lac, WI 54935-6042

[5th Annual CN Central Model Railroad Open House, 179 Guindon Blvd, Fond du Lac, WI 54935-6042, United States, 11 April 2026 | AllEvents](https://allevents.in/fond-du-lac/5th-annual-cn-central-model-railroad-open-house/200029679763759)

Saturday, Apr. 11 • 10:00am – 12:00pm

Metro Milwaukee Train Show

Ozaukee Pavilion, Ozaukee Fairgrounds
W67N866 Washington Ave, Cedarburg, WI
[Metro Milwaukee Train Show](https://www.facebook.com/metro-milwaukee-train-show)

Sunday, Apr. 12 • 9:00am – 4:00pm

120+ tables

IRM Hobby Shop Train Sale

Illinois Railway Museum

7000 Olson Road, Union, WI 60180

<https://www.irm.org/>

Saturday, Apr. 18 • 10:00am – 3:00pm

120+ tables

No fee to attend but the IRM Campus will be closed for this special event

Butler Library Train Fest

Milwaukee Lionel Railroad Club – 3 track layout
Clark House Museum and Caboose will be open

<https://butlerpl.librarycalendar.com/event/train-town-usa-train-fest-404>

Cookies, treats, story time and other exhibits in the works.

Saturday, Apr. 25 • 11:00am – 3:00pm

WISE Division Monthly Meet

New Berlin Public Library Community Room
15105 Library Lane, New Berlin WI 53151

<https://wisedivision.org/events.html>

Saturday, May 2. • 1:00pm

Free Admission

Contests, Clinics, Bring & Brag, Layout Tour

Lionel Railroad Club's 18th Annual Car Show

2721 Calhoun Road, New Berlin WI 53151

The classic cars are at the rear of the building.

Park in the front.

<https://milw-lrrc.orghttps://milw-lrrc.org/mlrrc-event-calendar/2025/5/4/17th-annual-2025-mlrrc-car-show-m2xnf>

Sunday, May 3 • 10:00am – 2:00pm

Titletown Train Show

KI Convention Center 333 Main Street,
Green Bay WI 54301

www.ttsqbllc.com/

Saturday, May 9 • 9:00am – 4:00pm

Sunday, May 10 • 10:00am – 3:00pm

Waupaca Area Model Railroaders 2nd annual Strawberry Fest MRR Show and Sale

Waupaca Recreation Center,
407 School Street, Waupaca, WI

Intersection of School, State & Badger St.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1400836395405301&set=a.569274785228137>

Saturday, Jun. 20 • 9:00am – 3:00pm

The Challenges and Achievements of the Transcontinental Railroad

The completion of the Transcontinental Railroad in the United States stands as a monumental achievement in the history of rail transport. This remarkable feat, completed on [May 10, 1869](#), represented not just a triumph of engineering and perseverance but also a unifying force for a nation recently torn apart by the [Civil War](#).

The linking of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific Railroads at Promontory Summit, Utah, effectively connected the American East and West. This event symbolized a new era of expansion, communication, and commerce, knitting together a vast and diverse country.

The construction of the Transcontinental Railroad was an endeavor fraught with immense challenges. It required the surmounting of formidable natural obstacles, including the rugged Sierra Nevada and the vast plains of the Midwest.

The labor force, comprising a diverse group including many [Chinese immigrants](#) on the Central Pacific line and Irish immigrants on the Union Pacific, faced extreme conditions, from blistering heat to biting cold.

Despite these challenges, the project advanced, showcasing human determination and ingenuity. Notably, innovations in tunneling, bridge-building, and track laying were developed during this colossal project.

<https://historycooperative.org/who-invented-the-railroad/>

LIONEL RAILROAD CLUB
SOUTHEASTERN WI

2025 – 2026 OPEN HOUSE DATES

10/18/2025	01/17/2026
11/22/2025	02/21/2026
12/06/2025	03/21/2026
12/20/2025	04/18/2026

10:00am -2:00pm

Above American Coin & Jewelry 4625

Washington Ave., Racine

Park behind the store, Enter through the West Side Door

Admission is Free.

Donations gratefully accepted.

 **Like us on Facebook!**

“Lionel RR Club of SE WI”

Questions and Additional Information, please contact us at:

info@lionelrrclubsewi.org



(Please Turn Over for More Information!)

Outstanding Features of Our Club Rooms and Layouts

Three "O" Gauge layouts, and one "S" Gauge Layout, a Thomas-the-Tank-Engine Layout, all of which are work-in-progress status!!

- 10 x 14-foot Fastrac layout with numerous switches and wyes for operating on different routes, remote control operation, a carnival scene with operating rides and more.
- 17 x 27-foot layout that features 3 loops of track with wide sweeping curves, numerous sidings, controlled with state-of-the-art remote-control components. Scenery includes our city of Spencer, that features industrial, agricultural, and suburban areas.
- 4 x 16 layout with traditional three-rail tubular track and switches, for the pre-World War Two model train collector and operator.
- *Our Newest Addition is a 5 x 8 "S" Gauge Layout!*



(Please Turn Over for More Information!)

(turn over for Club Hours)



Toy Train Sale and Show

(See below for more information)

All Gauges & All Scales

SUNDAY DATES

<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u>	<u>2027</u>
October 19	January 18	October 18	January 17	October 17
November 16	February 15	November 22	February 28	November 21
December 21	March 15	December 20	March 21	December 19

BUY • SELL • TRADE
NEW • USED • PARTS

Sale: New Berlin Entertainment Center
8:00 am to 12:00 noon ADMISSION: \$4.00

16000 West Cleveland Avenue • New Berlin, Wisconsin
(Enter on east side of building)

Kids 12 and under: FREE with Adult

For More Information or Table Reservations

Robert Sobolik
(414) 483-5886

RobertDSobolik@netzero.com



TRAIN SHOW: at Club will be open by 10:00 am
2721 S. Calhoun Rd (in back of building) Donations Accepted

Visit our Web Site
www.milw-lrrc.org

Like & Follow us on
FACEBOOK 



OPEN HOUSE

January 24th-25th (& Swap Meet)

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

March 7

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

May 2

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

August 1

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

October 3

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

**741 NORTH GRAND AVENUE
WAUKESHA, WI 53186**

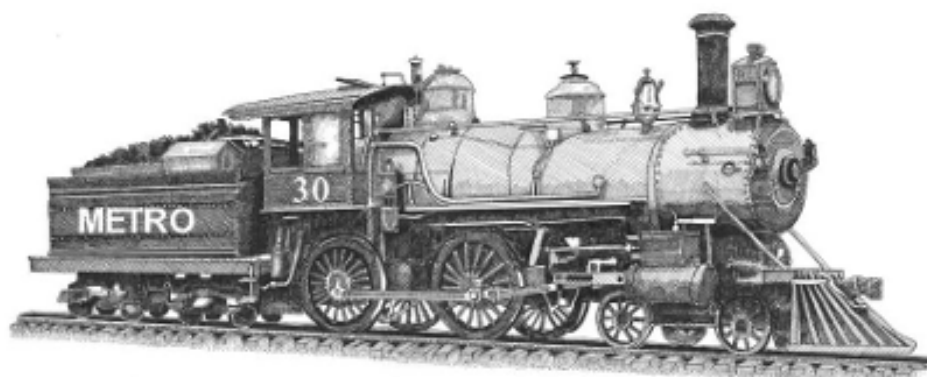
FIND US AT:

WWW.WCGDRAILROAD.COM

CONTACT US:

WCGDRAILROAD@GMAIL.COM

THE ORIGINAL 30th ANNUAL MODEL RAILROAD SHOW



APRIL 12th, 2026

**Expo Center Ozaukee Fairgrounds
W67N866 Washington Ave, Cedarburg, WI**

9am - 4pm

- MULTIPLE OPERATING LAYOUTS
- MODEL TRAIN SWAP MEET 90+ TABLES
- FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
- FREE PARKING

**SPONSORED BY THE
METRO MODEL RAILROAD CLUB, LTD. OF
PORT WASHINGTON, WI**



**DIRECTIONS: I-43 TO HWY 60, WEST ON 60
FOR 5 MILES, SOUTH ON WASHINGTON 1.2
MILES, EAST ON CAMBRIDGE TO PARK**

**ADMISSION: ADULTS: \$5.00
CHILDREN: 12 & UNDER FREE**

**MORE INFO: <http://www.metrorrclub.org>
e-mail: jimbartelt@gmail.com
or call: James Bartelt at (262)-284-5876**

MARCH MADNESS



Model Train Show

The IRM Hobby Shop in Union, IL will be selling its large excess inventory of N, HO, S, O and G Scale model trains, track, buildings, and accessories!

Date: Saturday, April 18
Time: 10am – 3pm
Location: Illinois Railway Museum
7000 Olson Road
Union, IL 60180

**NOTE: IRM Museum Campus will be closed to the public during this event. No fee to attend.*

We Accept: Cash    

*** No tax on purchases**



The Illinois Railway Museum Model Train Hobby Shop is a 501 (3) (c) non-profit organization. Donations of model trains and other items are always welcome and are tax deductible for the donor.





For Sale

6 Drawer Wood Cabinet (4)

13.5"W x 26"H x 15"D

\$15.00 each



WorkForce Tool Cart

32"W x 40"H x 20"D

\$30.00



2 LED Shop Lights (4') \$7.00 each



Interested?

Contact WISE Division for more information: wisnmra@gmail.com

2026 WISE DIVISION BOARD ELECTION

Note: All Ballots **Must Be Mailed or Scanned/Photographed and Emailed** to:

Dave Nelson
ATTN: WISE Division Election Committee
1506 East Fox Lane
Fox Point, WI 53217
engine1385@aol.com

All ballots must be **scanned/photographed and emailed by April 15, or postmarked by April 10, received by April 15** and include **your NMRA #** for verification. Vote for no more than One candidate for the Board of Directors.

Note: **The NMRA does not allow FAMILY MEMBERS to vote, nor does the Midwest Region.**

Article IV, Membership and Dues, of the NMRA Regulations includes the following provision in Section 2: "B. Each member in the above classes, including Honorary Life Member, shall have the right to:" "4. Except for Family Members; and Sustaining and Corporate Members other than individuals, the right to vote and run for an elective office in any Region or Division of which the member is a resident member, subject to any qualification and conditions.

Name (Please Print) _____

NMRA # _____ **(required)**

VOTE for no more than ONE Board of Director candidate

_____ **Tim Koch:** Candidate for WISE Division Board of Directors

_____ Write In Candidate for Board of Directors (must be an NMRA Member):

Fold here

Dave Nelson
Attn: WISE Division Election Committee
1506 East Fox Lane
Fox Point, WI 53217

Fold here