



THE WINNEBAGOLAND WHISTLE

The Official Quarterly Newsletter of the WinnebagoLand Division - MWR/NMRA

Volume 43 Issue # 2

Summer 2010



“C&NW Late Winter In Sheboygan Falls” *Photo courtesy of Larry Easton.*

Inside This Issue:

Wrap Up From Menominee, MI WLD Spring Meet
More WLD Membership Survey Results
The WLD at TTS 2010

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: www.wld-nmra.com

The Superintendents Report...

What Makes Us Different?

Recently, I was talking to a friend about some of the issues facing the WLD-NMRA and local model railroaders in general. As we were on our way to the WLD Spring Meet in Menominee, it seemed appropriate that the subject of participation in our meets would come up.

"There are just too many shows and groups doing the same thing the Winnebagoland Division does", my friend noted. In a general sense I basically would agree. Thinking back 30 years ago, the model railroaders in the WLD area waited for WLD meets. No longer the case! We have model railroad events almost every month of the year sans August. In particular, the Titledown Train Show and Strawberry Fest Train Shows have taken some of what could only be found at the Winnebagoland meets years ago such as clinics and model "contests" and in each instance the show organizers, (whether a group or club) sees a better profit possibility without any type of monetary split with the WLD.

With all this competition within the Division for attendees, it would seem to be an easy decision for us just to forget about about doing the work -and dealing with a few headaches -that come along with organizing a WLD Meet twice a year. Basically why not just tell the membership we'll have a gathering at one of the above venues.

But hold on a second...

That brings us back to the question at the top of this column. The WLD-NMRA meets are different in several key areas;

- Model and Photo Contests judged by experienced modelers willing to show you how to do it better if you're interested.
- Home Layout Tours which offer great one-on-one time with the builder.
- Regional and National Meet info which will allow you to broaden your friends and contacts in the hobby.
- A banquet or luncheon to share stories and make new friends. In other words, fellowship.

What I'm pointing out isn't meant to put any group or club beneath the WLD, rather to try to prove my point that if you're a serious modeler and want to meet other like-minded folks, a good place to start is with the WLD by attending one of our meets. We have been working with shows like Titledown to gain exposure for the NMRA/WLD and to promote the hobby to the masses while our meets have become somewhat smaller gatherings of about 100 folks, though we hope (and work) for more.

With so many of the former movers and shakers in the division either involved organizing shows for a group they belong to, passed away, or seemingly not satisfied with the direction, personalities, and policies of the WLD today, it is up to all active WLD members to find new modelers to join us. We have had a jump in membership and I know we're headed on the right track.

Mark Preussler, WLD Superintendent

New London Historical Society

**C&NW Depot Museum, C&NW #11153 Caboose,
Soo #138 Caboose, Laona #101 Diesel**

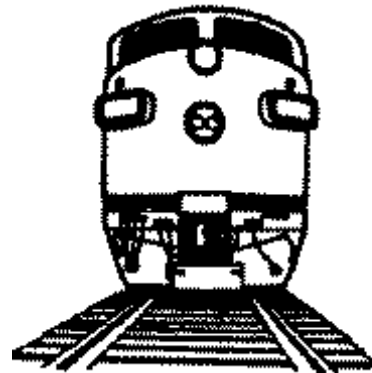
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Waupaca Area Model Railroaders Waupaca, Wisconsin

Hosts the ----- 21st Annual (free!)

Strawberry Fest Train Show

In conjunction with the Waupaca Historical Society and Waupaca Area Chamber of Commerce

Saturday, June 19 - 10 AM to 5 PM

Sunday, June 20 - 10 AM to 3 PM

Waupaca Recreation Center, 3 blocks east of downtown at the intersection of School, State & Badger St

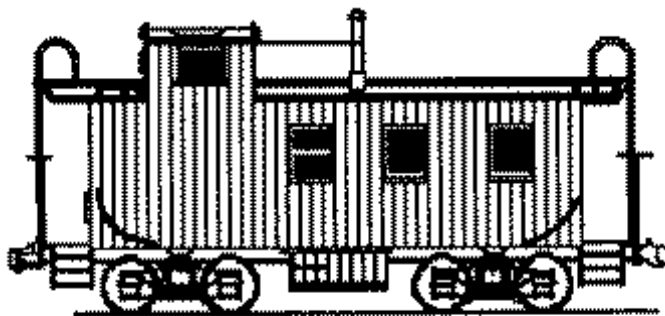
• **SPECIAL FEATURES:** Model Railroad in a Hearse/Funeral Coach & Train Rides & Lego Layout Train Rides by Rainbow Express

- Operating Model Railroad Layouts
- Model Contest (trains, cars, trucks, ships, buildings, scenery) – Adult and junior categories (see website www.wamrltd.com for contest rules)
- Hobby Shop Dealers and Vendors (all scales)
- Swap meet (hobbyist sale tables)
- Waupaca Railroad Depot Open House (see restoration in process)
- Waupaca Electric Railroad restored baggage car
- DEMONSTRATIONS & CLINICS (on-going all day Saturday)
- GREAT FOOD PLUS STRAWBERRY SHORT CAKE
- THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE Hands-on Kid's Layout)

Saturday only 10 AM to 5 PM! Historic Soo Line Railroad Depot - currently being restored will be open for visitors during show hours both days. North on State St, right on Mill St, and then left on Oak St just passed the railroad bridge on your left.

For show information see our website: www.wamrltd.com or call -

- Train Show & tables call Dennis Cook (715) 824-2045 or email Dennis@DFCook.com
- Model Contest: Dennis Cook (715) 824-2045; or Eugene Much (920) 596-3484



Your Division Makes a **BIG IMPRESSION** at TTS!



Once again this year, your Winnebago Land Division was a co-sponsor of the annual Titledown Train Show in Green Bay. Through the years we have tried to develop a display worthy of the event and one that stands above other divisions. We are getting closer, rotary beacon notwithstanding!

TTS is sort of a trying time for the WLD. It seems manpower for our display is hard to come by as so many of our members are directly involved with display layouts, working for the TTS show itself, or just not able to commit to time working the booth. Our multi-fold mission at TTS is to make folks aware of our Spring and Fall Meets, our annual OP Session, to highlight the talented modelers that belong to the WLD, and to raise some cash selling our promo items to further our cause of promoting the great hobby of model railroading. On all levels I would consider this year a success.

I worked the display for both days, all day, one of the perks I guess of being the Superintendent! In the above photo taken before the doors opened on Saturday, you can see what we looked like to the public. Our rotating beacon proved a bit too much for several nearby vendors so we turned it off to keep everyone happy. I'm sure your WLD "Promo Team" will come up with alternatives.

We went into this TTS planning to do things differently than previous shows. Without any type of layout to raffle, the decision was made to offer some “freebies” for our visitors via a small “entry form” to include the name and address of the visitor. Most importantly, a few questions were added along with the request of the visitors e-mail so we can easily send WLD information to them. We found that over 50 new contacts were harvested from the 100’s of entries we had. This tactic was repeated at the WLD Spring Meet and will be planned at any future events we set-up at, including our “mini-meets”.



Better signage and active modeling were foremost on the list of Winnebagoland display improvements.

As I was to be there all weekend, I decided that if we wanted an active modeling display, I would lead it. On Saturday, I built a Mullet River Model Works Soo Line Wood Caboose. A craftsman kit, it provided me with an opportunity to engage visitors. Children and adults both inquired “what are you fixing?” since they were oblivious to anything other than “ready to run” model railroading! The finished product turned out winning the Don Steffen Award at Menominee.. Not too bad considering the 2-foot square work area as seen in the above photo.

We sold out all of our HO scale cars from 2004 as well as doing good sales with our shirts. It’s amazing what a better looking display and folks willing to actually engage the public will do for sales. I know it’s not for everyone, but we can use more helpers in the future. If you are a member of the WLD, why not consider spending an hour at our booth next year? It’s fun and the Promo Team would love to meet you and talk trains. Look for a rundown of all the winners elsewhere in this issue and thanks to Paul Hillmer, Vern Ehlke, Paul Inman, Emory Lubke, James Cruthers, Roger Wurtzel, Joe Lallensack, and Marvin Preussler for making the display one of the best at this years show!



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On The Ready Track

June 10-13, 2010- Chicago & North Western Historical Society Annual Convention
Kenosha, WI Info at: www.cnwhs.org

June 17-20, 2010- Milwaukee Road Historical Association Annual Convention
Wausau, WI Info at: www.mrha.com

June 19, 2010- Strawberryfest Annual Train Show-Waupaca, WI WLD BOD Meeting- 1:00pm

July 11-18, 2010- NMRA National Convention
Milwaukee, WI www.nmra75.org

July 17, 2010- La Crosse Rail Fair- La Crosse, WI
Info at: www.4000foundation.com

August 20-22, 2010- 32nd Annual Soo Line Historical & Technical Society Annual Convention
Neenah, WI Info at: www.sooline.org

October 1-2, 2010- 7th Annual Marshfield Train Show- Marshfield Community Center
201 S. Oak Ave. -Marshfield, WI
Free Admission

October 2nd, 2010 WLD Fall Meet Escanaba, MI
More Details To Come!

Nov. 6th, 2010 Annual WLD OP Session in Sheboygan/Manitowoc. Watch future issues for more information!

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Welcome Aboard New WLD Members:

**Scott Payne
Gregg Condon
Lucia Franzen**

Join these modelers in taking advantage of the NMRA Railpass program!



More clinics, such as building realistic scenery, are wanted at our meets - photo MP

Reflections from the Membership

By: Mark Preussler

Our recent Membership Survey was well received and of the roughly 150 members in the WLD, about 50 surveys were returned. Not too bad considering our voter turnout statistics. In a future issue of *The Whistle*, we will continue to break down some numbers and examine the responses.

In this issue, I'll look at the responses we received in regards to clinics and the overall activities that go on during our meets. In looking at the numbers, we received an overwhelming number of "somewhat satisfied" or "no response" to this question. That leads me to believe we need to do better as either people are not attending the clinics or at best the subjects are not in line with what members would like to see. Again, we have a double-edged sword of an issue here: Meet organizers are dealing with a list of folks willing to do a presentation up against subjects attendees want to see more of. In many cases these two things don't match up!

We need to break it down a bit more before going any farther into this. In my experience there are pure clinics, and there are also those elusive activities like prototype tours of facilities that can be held at a WLD Meet. Anytime we consider the latter, we must consider increased time and cost to the attendee. The days of wandering around a railroad yard with camera in hand are over. Tours of anything railroad related now usually involve a bus, a guide provided by the railroad or company, and in most cases a waiver of liability. For a "one day meet", this type of activity is basically out of the question from a logistics stand. Just too much time is required unless we go to a weekend meet scenario, like a NMRA Regional.

So unless we find a group and a location willing to help organize an entire weekend of activities, off-site tours during our WLD Meets will continue to be rare. Let's focus on specific clinic ideas instead.

Many responses spoke of "prototype" slide tours of the area. In other words, a slide or power point presentation of historical prototype pictures from the town we're visiting. This is very workable. We have many historians among our group -and from various museums- willing to help, they just don't know it yet! If you are one of the above, please contact me and you will be added to the list of clinicians we have in our database. We will strive to include this type of presentation at future Meets.



*A presentation of Soo Line Operations in Manitowoc would be appropriate when a WLD Meet is held in the "Clipper City"
Photo- John Sachse.*

Tips on modeling, or how one can do it better were also high on the list. Most of the responses revolved around scenery techniques and locomotive improvements. We have several modelers willing to present this information, but we need more. A good way to share techniques can be through a clinic that focuses on your overall layout. We all like to brag a little, so why not throw something together and explain a favorite subject like how you weather your buildings and freight cars. Simply put some photos on a cd and write yourself an outline to follow. The WLD has the projector and laptop. It's a fun way to share your work with fellow modelers and the stress level is low since questions usually come from the audience as they view the picture on the screen. I can't stress enough that only by actively participating in the NMRA will you get your monies worth. I look forward to hearing from a new batch of clinicians soon to help liven up our future WLD Meets.

Paper Valley Model Railroad Club

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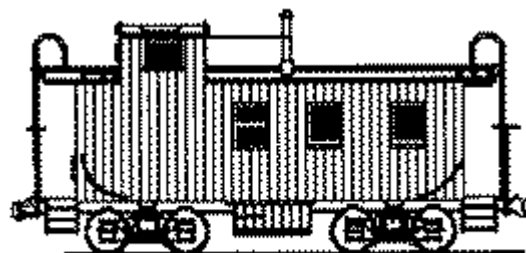
Meeting-1st Thursday of the Month at 7:30

Iron Horse Barn at Manitowoc Expo I-43 & US 151

P. O. Box 2076, Manitowoc, WI 54221

New members & Visitors Welcome

N-trak HO Lionel



Operating Session Returns to the Lakeshore...

Plan ahead! November 6th, 2010 is a date you will not want to forget as the WLD is planning a return to the Sheboygan and Manitowoc area for our annual WLD Operating Session. Details will be coming in later this year, but here's your chance to learn operations from experienced layout builders and operators! Remember, you don't need to be a NMRA member to participate.

Full details and guidelines are available right on our website www.wld-nmra.com

WINNEBAGOLAND SPRING MEET WRAP-UP

Another Spring Meet and Meeting of Members has come and gone. If you missed this event, you missed another good one, especially in regards to the model and photo contests. Additionally, Enginehouse Services, Mullet River and Southern, and The Hobby Junction all had sales tables. We had around 55 walk-ups and roughly 40 folks pre-registered for the banquet. Always would like to see more of our members make the event. The walk-ups are a bonus and in this case made the event a success.

Superintendent Mark Preussler gave an update on the status of the division to the membership present. The written update will go out later this year along with The Whistle Toot newsletter. There were clinics on wig-wag signals by Pete Zipperer, a prototype photography clinic by Joe Seidl, and a run through of the Roy Campbell collection by Tom Burg of Merrill Publishing. I enjoy seeing many of the old friends I know from the WLD such as Ralph Wehlitz and of course meeting new walk-up folks from the Menominee/Marinette area. The layout tours were first class as well. Seeing what Dave Rickaby is building always inspires while the completed layout of Joe Seidl allows you to see what is

possible with traditional DC-style wiring. Pat Dorin was our Guest Speaker after the awards were handed out for contest winners. We have various photos of the models along with comments from both Contest Chairs on the following pages. Big thanks to all who made it possible.

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WLD CONTEST RESULTS; MENOMINEE, MI

Results from the 2010 Spring Meet Photo Contest in Menominee, MI on May 15th

Best of Show: Dave Rickaby- #461 leaning through the bore (Model Color Print)

First Place, Prototype Color Slide: Emory Luebke- GT #4409 switching General Chemical

First Place, Prototype Black & White Print: Erik Kolasinski- Winona Fall Run 2006

Second Place, Prototype Black & White Print: Larry Easton- Soo #2363 on the turntable at N. Fond du lac

First Place, Model Black & White Print: Dave Rickaby- DRGW #455 through the swamp

First Place, Prototype Color Print: Gary Stiles- SP #4449 arriving in Winona, MN

Second Place, Prototype Color Print: Dave Rickaby- CP Coke Train at Portage East

Third Place, Prototype Color Print: Larry Easton- Soo #2363 at Neenah, WI

First Place, Model Color Print: David Rickaby- Late afternoon at Iron Mountain

Second Place, Model Color Print: David Rickaby- U&I #45 at Thomasburg

Third Place, Model Color Print: Ron Weyher- WB Autoparts train leaving Muskegon

My thanks to Dave Jasch and Roger Wurtzel in assisting me in the judging of the photos. We had a good turnout with 19 entries from 7 people. We had a few entrants who entered for the first or second time. Thank you for doing so! We would enjoy a comparable selection of photos when we hold our next contest in the fall in Escanaba. Consider the photos you take this summer of prototype railroading or photos of a completed scene on your model railroad as something you can enter. It is recommended that the prints be at least 5" x 7" for best viewing, but no larger than 11" x 14" because of space considerations. Also, they should be mounted but not framed to aid in handling during judging.

Joe Lallensack, WLD Photo Contest Chairman

RESULTS OF WINNEBAGOLAND DIVISIONAL MODEL CONTEST

May 15, 2010 Menominee, MI

It was a good show with eleven contest entries and 6 display only entries submitted by seven people.

PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED:

David E. Allen
Bob Fischbach
Paul Hillmer
John Leow
Mark Preussler
Marv Preussler
Raymond Smit

Results were:

RICHARD EGGERT BEST-OF-SHOW (POINTS) (and eligible for a Merit Award)
John Leow; GT Handcar Shed (O-scale)

DON STEFFEN BEST-OF-SHOW (POPULAR VOTE) (and eligible for a Merit Award) Mark Preussler; Soo (WC) 99014 Long Caboose

DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE

1. Bob Fischback; Milw C-32-8 (fantasy locomotive)

Below: Scratchbuilt GT Handcar Shed built by John Leow. A wonderful model and Best of Show!





Soo Line (WC) long caboose by Mark Preussler. A Merit Award Model and Don Steffen Award Winner.

FREIGHT CAR

1. Paul Hillmer; GN 65742 bulkhead flat with pulp logs (N-scale)
2. Paul Hillmer; NP 62716 bulkhead flat with pulp logs (N-scale)
3. Paul Hillmer; ACFX Staley covered hopper (tagged) (N-scale)
Paul Hillmer; C&NW flat car with tractor load (N-scale)
Paul Hillmer; CGW flat car with mystery load (N-scale)

CABOOSE

1. Mark Preussler; Soo (WC) 99014 Long Caboose
2. Paul Hillmer; GN X245 (N-scale)
3. Paul Hillmer; GN X245 (N-scale)

ON-LINE STRUCTURE

1. John Leow; GT Handcar Shed (O-scale)

OFF-LINE DISPLAY

1. Raymond Smit; Norm's Food Stand trailer

Six other models were shown but not judged:
Four by David Allen:
SP 1656, an IHC kitbash steam locomotive
UP 13205, an 1890s flat car with sideboards
ML&T 30401, a CS-20 Canda box car
SP 81109, a CS-31 box car of 1902
and two by Marv Preussler:
DW&P SD-40
DW&P International caboose

I had fun judging nice models. Two were at the Merit level, and all were nice.

The contest room is becoming a bit of an ongoing clinic with impromptu discussion of various techniques. In the past, and again this year, we talked some about Archer rivets and HiTech air hoses. Archer rivets are little blobs of resin carefully printed on decal film. They come in different sizes and spacings. Some have used them for making a riveted-course tank car - my use was far more humble.

Air hoses on freight cars are considered by many as being just potential on-track detail. Matter of fact, three weeks ago I had to do serious track cleaning, scraping up excess ballast. In the following vacuuming I also sucked up three airhoses that had been broken off. But the HighTech Details hoses are flexible rubber - they just bend. Neat.

One of Paul Hillmer's models was a covered hopper that had been "tagged" with graffiti. He did it with colored pencils. A classic case of thinking "out-of-the-box."

John Leo's handcar shed has scratch-built windows. Putting the mullions in has always been a real pain. Using a jig, John drilled out the frames. It was a simple matter to insert the cross mullion, then insert stubs for the vertical mullions. This was in O-scale; I will let you know how it works in HO-scale. Also, Mark Preussler discussed the various details of assembling his caboose. Meanwhile, I couldn't help but overhear thoughts from the photo contest - more tips and techniques for doing something better.

Models were judged by: David Allen, John Leow, Marvin Preussler and with assistance by Rich Cooke.

I look forward to our next contest at Escanaba! Dave Allen, Model Contest Chairman.

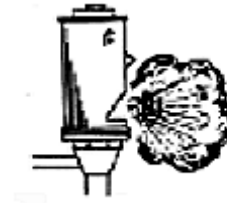
That wraps up the results of the contests. Please plan on bringing your models and photos to Escanaba this fall. You will learn new techniques and be able to share your ideas with other modelers. What could be better!

Mark Preussler, WLD Superintendent

WLD Officers Re-Elected!

The ballots are counted and we have winners! Here is the makeup of your division for 2010-2011:

Mark Preussler- Superintendent
Roger Wurtzel- Assistant Superintendent
Lynn Jasch- Paymaster
James Cruthers- Chief Clerk



Your BOD as of 6-1-10:

Joe Lallensack
Paul Inman
Vern Ehlke
Emory Lubke
Mary Eiden
Dave Allen

Please visit our website www.wld-nmra.com to contact any officer or BOD member via the Webmaster. Our website contains up-to-date information on upcoming events and activities!

Parting Shot:

Union Pacific local (Sheboygan -Cedar Grove) is seen switching the "Cheese Warehouse " at Cedar Grove. Trucks are used to distribute from this location to various outlets. *Larry Wieberdink photo from collection of Mark Preussler.*

