

THE WINNEBAGOLAND WHISTLE

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE WINNEBAGOLAND DIVISION
MWR/NMRA
VOLUME 44- ISSUE #3 FALL 2011



Working On The Ballast Train



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Union Pacific SD-70 4909 and mate head over the Sheboygan River on the original grade of the Sheboygan and Fond du Lac Railroad with a 70 car train of ballast. By far the heaviest train to operate over the line, your editor was surprised to see the 6 axle power make it safely over the span which was installed in 1902 by the C&NW.

Superintendent's Report...

By: Mark Preussler, MMR

Where did the summer go? As I am writing this column I can already feel a touch of autumn in the air. But, that's not all bad as we can begin to think about ramping up our hobby activities.

Here in the division, we are looking forward to several outstanding events, all of which are highlighted in this issue. First up on the agenda is our WLD Fall Meet on October 1st. Remember to get your registrations in to our trusty Registrar Lynn by September 23rd. You won't want to miss this event as we have several Midwestern railroad historical societies joining us at the event. While this meet is 100% organized and run by your division, I have felt it is worthwhile to bring in as many other groups or friends of the WLD as possible to offer something more to those attending. For this event, your division has made some changes to the standard operating procedure regarding meets as stated in the WLD Convention Guidelines. This has allowed us to entice clinicians from well outside of the WLD to attend. The clinics they offer are usually found only at "high end" events like the Prototype Modelers Meet in Naperville/Chicago. You will find more info about this change and other possible changes for upcoming events elsewhere in this issue.

All NMRA / WLD /members should also be watching and waiting for the mailman as we will have a mailing going out over Labor Day Weekend which will include a brief WLD update, a hard copy of our Fall Meet flyer, and a sign up sheet for our Annual Operating Session to be held in Waupaca and hosted by WAMR, Waupaca Area Model Railroaders. As always the event is open to all interested model railroaders, not just NMRA members. We will have more info on the event at our website soon. If you are a regular at this event, invite your friends this year as the group has plenty of room for dozens of operators!

Finally, as you know I've got some pretty strong opinions on how the WLD should operate, how it should relate to model railroad clubs as well as modelers in general, and what types of events we as NMRA members should be concentrating on to expand our membership and more importantly make the hobby more enjoyable. In this issue I am revisiting those themes in a "response" to an article I wrote 5 years ago. These articles are meant to start dialog. We have had many positive changes in the last year and I am sure we can keep them going in years to come.



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2011 NMRA Winnebagoland Division Fall Meet



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SATURDAY October 1st, 2011- Sheboygan, WI

Join the Winnebagoland Division, NMRA as we host Railroad Historical Societies from the C&NW, Soo Line, GB&W, Milwaukee Road, NP, and more along with model railroad manufacturers and dealers to an entire day of railroading!

An entire day of learning and camaraderie is what you'll find at this year's WLD NMRA Fall Meet. Imagine *Clinics* on topics from the prototype and scenery techniques to freight car detailing and locomotive improvements. *Manufacturer Displays* and *Sales Tables*. Drop-in style "Ask an Expert" Symposia ongoing from 9 a m to 2 p m. Bring YOUR models and photos along to share with your fellow model railroaders and historians. *Layout Tours* 3-5:30 p m. A Banquet with a Nationally Known speaker will wrap up the days events. All happening under one roof. **BE THERE!**

CLINICIANS:

David Leider, MMR The Vinegar Industry on the Rails
James Dick- Modeling Stillwater, MN
Larry Easton- Trail of Old Kate
Jim Singer- The CB&Q
Dennis Eggert- Modeling the C&NW Alco Line
Emory Luebke- More Industries for Your Model Railroad
Rich Hanke- The GB&W- All Access!

"Ask an Expert" Symposia:

Ron Christianson- C&NW Mullet River Modelworks Caboose
Jim Rindt- Scratchbuilding 101
Joe DeGroot- Brass Steam Loco Improvements
"Ask The Modeler" - Roundtable of Model Entries

MORE TO COME!

Clinicians and Topics Subject to Change

MEET & BANQUET: Windjammer Banquet Hall
2519 S. Business Dr.
Sheboygan, WI 53081

Corner of S. Business Dr. and Mead Ave. in Sheboygan.

ADMISSION: Meet Only (At The Door) = \$5.00
Pre-Registered Banquet Only = \$21.00
Pre-Registered Meet and Banquet= \$25.00

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: Registration 8:00 - 12:00
Swap Tables and Displays 8:00 - 3:00
Model/Photo Contest and Displays 9:00 - 12:00
Clinics 8:15-3:15
Home Layout Tours: 3:00-5:30
Happy Hour/ Banquet/Program 5:30-8:30

"GENERAL PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO ATTEND"

Pre-Registration Form (REQUIRED for Banquet). Must be received by 9-23-11

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CITY _____ ST. _____ ZIP _____ e-mail _____

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Banquet x \$21.00 _____

Meet and Banquet x \$25.00 _____

Dealer Table(s) Needed? @ \$5.00 ea. = _____

Total Enclosed = _____

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To:

Lynn Jasch, WLD Registrar
1850 Adler Way
Green Bay, WI. 54303

WLD Model Contest Wrap-Up

May 14th 2011, Neenah, WI

By: David Allen

It was a good show with ten contest entries and 9 Model Showcase (display only) entries submitted by eleven people.

MODEL CONTEST PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED:

Richard Cooke
Joseph Erickson
Norman (Chic) Hartert
Luke Lemmens
John Leow
Don Manlick
Eugene Much

MODEL SHOWCASE PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED:

David E. Allen
Richard Cooke (above)
Richard Hanke
David Karkoski

Results were:

RICHARD EGGERT BEST-OF-SHOW (POINTS)

DON STEFFEN BEST-OF-SHOW (POPULAR VOTE):

Wabash RR car ferry "Manitowoc" (a Structure) by Don Manlick Total Points 112

DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE

1. Soo 722 by Luke Lemmens

FREIGHT CAR

1. Oahu Rail & Land 98 HOn3 box car by John Leow Total Points 98
2. Hancock & Calumet freelanced box car (HOn3) by John Leow Total Points 89
3. Difco Air Dump cars GBW 130-135 (six cars) by Eugene Much

STRUCTURE

1. *Tracy Elizabeth* bulk freighter by Eugene Much Total Points 92 Merit
2. Ophir depot (Sn3) by Chic Hartert
3. Booty's Place (Sn3) by Chic Hartert

DISPLAY (Advanced)

1. Crawler Crane (O) by Rich Cooke Total Points 90

DISPLAY (Novice)

1. "Grand Continental" Passenger Train by Joe Erickson



Various models on one of several tables in the contest room.

Editors Note: What a great display of models! While several were truly noteworthy, all were very nicely done and looked the part. We certainly also had some new faces like David Karkoski and Joe Erickson showing off some very well done models. David Allen continues his wrap up on the following pages.

Spring 2011 Model Contest Wrap- Up...

MODEL SHOWCASE: Nine other models were shown but not judged:

David Allen:

SP M-4 1657, an M-4 2-6-0 steam locomotive

ML&T 30401, a CS-20 Canada box car

SP 81109, a CS-31 box car of 1902

SP 23, a CS-15 caboose

Rich Cooke: Soo 116 caboose (by Storzek)

Rich Hanke:

Cleveland Bank

Home in Cleveland

David Karkoski

Two DSS&A Accurail hopper cars

Two DSS&A gondolas (41' Accurail) with pulpwood loads

Models were judged by:

David Allen - NMRA # 68744

John Leow - NMRA #109038

Marvin Preussler - NMRA # 98974

with assistance by: Rich Cooke.



John Leow's freelanced boxcar- Merit Award level

I had fun judging nice models. Five were at the Merit level, and all were nice. Eye-candy! I often hear people complaining about the paper work. While we can easily justify the paper work (Contest Entry Form, Judges Score Sheet and supporting documentation) it can be a pain to prepare, particularly in a crowded contest room when you have other things you want to do! A solution is to fill out this stuff at home.

The Contest Entry Form and the Judges Score Sheet can be found on the web. One way to get there is to go to the Winnebagoland web page: <http://www.wld-nmra.com/> and click on <NMRA Forms> and then click on <Achievement Program>. Or go to the NMRA home page: <http://www.nmra.org> and on the left side in the Education section click on <Achievement Program>, then on the right side click on <Forms>. Either gets you to: <http://www.nmra.org/education/achievement/apforms.html> and a host of interesting possibilities. You will want (for each entry) the Contest Entry Form and the Judges Score Sheet. These may be filled out at your leisure.

Or, email me <dallen@nmu.edu> and request the forms. I will send you the .pdf copies.

Also on the forms page and well-worthwhile is the "AP Judging Guidelines for Motive Power, Cars and Structures: (PDF)". This is what we rely on when judging your models. You might find that there is not enough space on the Judges Score Sheet to explain what you did. Just note this in a separate supporting document. Include copies of photos of the prototype if available to help us judge the model, particularly the conformity section.

A final note - only a Contest Entry Form is needed for Popular Vote and for Model Showcase entries.

Dave Allen, Model Contest Chairman.



Left: Joe Erickson's Grand Continental Passenger Train set. Joe enjoys custom painting and assembling passenger train consists as seen in the movies, which is another of his interests.



Above: Eugene Much's freighter Tracy Elizabeth dominated another one of the contest tables. Merit Award Winner



Left: Don Manlick, MMR finished his latest boat just in time for the meet. This is the car ferry Manitowoc, operated by the Wabash RR. Scratchbuilt from wood, styrene, and brass parts, it took the best of show and popular vote awards the WLD Spring Meet. Look for more pictures of this outstanding model as well as photos from our other contestants in upcoming issues of The Whistle.



Union Pacific Ballast Train Comes To Sheboygan

By: Mark Preussler, MMR

It's not often that anything other than a unit coal train or a short wayfreight from Butler, WI visits Sheboygan. It would seem at times that the city is an afterthought for the giant railroad so you can imagine my surprised to see a set of SD70's and a 70-plus car string of ballast cars roll into town at the end of June. This train consisted of the older ballast cars which means much more manual labor involved. A group of M-O-W men responsible for opening the hoppers walked alongside the train from South Yard to Haven, WI on the first day while the following day the train backed down the old and ill-repaired former Sheboygan and Fond du Lac RR line to Kohler where the operation as far as the UP is concerned ends. The trackage beyond to Plymouth is still awaiting rebuilding from the WI State DOT and WSOR. I figured at least 30 miles of walking was done by the crew through weeds and rock.

From Kohler the train proceeded east until back on the main line as shown above. At that point the train backed into South Yard, the engines ran around the cars, and the train headed back to Butler Yard empty.

The crew certainly didn't lay down a heavy dose of the rock; mainly just dumped on the outside of the rails, in spots it looked like a person with a garden shovel could have made a bigger pile. To date nothing has been spread out by other crews and I am not holding my breath for that to happen. Still, it was fun to see a train rolling over track which sees traffic only once or twice a month at best, even it was moving at about 2 mph. It made me think about the trains I watched years ago moving at 30-40 mph over the same spots. The following pages contain some other photos of the same train. It's still a mystery to me as to why the heavy 6 axle power was allowed to operate over the light S&F rail, but no problems were apparently encountered other than perhaps some sore feet from all the walking.



As the crew walked along with the train, employees had to regulate the amount of ballast via opening and closing hatches with the switch located on the side of the cars. While easier than opening them manually, more modern set-ups include remote control hatches on the cars. Below the train is heading back to the yard after the trip to Haven, WI. Note the amount of ballast on the roadbed. This is an area that was finished. Not too generous with the ballast!





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Clinics Make The WLD Fall Meet a Must See Event!

Have you ever wanted to attend a Prototype Modelers Meet or your favorite railroad's historical society meet but couldn't make it due to cost or time? Here's a chance to get close to the experience at the 2011 WLD Fall Meet in Sheboygan on October 1st.

We are working on adding a few more clinics and still working with dealers to confirm their attendance, but I'm confident that our line-up of clinics is a winner! What we are working towards is an event that brings together serious modelers and historians while being open to the general public to see what it is we do, how we do it, and hopefully show them why they should be involved. Seasoned modelers will find the meet informative with 7 traditional power point and slide clinics and 7 symposium style clinics offered. Our symposium-style clinics will feature an expert giving a short presentation one-on-one or with a small group and then being open for questions. You will see how it's done or learn to do it better. Looking at the line-up, these are the folks who you would see at Naperville/Chicago or other "high end" events. You will have the chance to see some of the same high quality clinics without the price of traveling to Chicago or beyond.

We will be holding a banquet at this event with a speaker TBA as of this date. We will be looking for you on October 1st, 2011 at the WinnebagoLand Division Fall Meet!

CLIPPER CITY MODEL RAILROAD CLUB



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OPERATING SESSION TO RETURN TO WAUPACA

Watch our website and your mailbox for all the exciting details concerning the upcoming Operating Session set for November 5th, 2011. All WLD NMRA Members will soon have a hard copy of the sign-up sheet in their mailbox. We will also have a sign-up on our website.

This is a worthwhile event for all model railroaders. As in the past, we are opening the event to all interested, not just NMRA folks! You will be able to run on some of the nicest layouts in the WLD at this event. You will learn from the layout builders about their ideas on operating. Roger Hildebrandt will be setting up the event and the pizza party afterwards.

Waupaca is a central location for all in the WLD. It's a whole day of operating! Make sure you call your friends and carpool with them. The more the better as I doubt we will be able to max out all the operator spots without your help!

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What's Happening In The WLD Today- 4 Years Later

By: Mark Preussler, MMR

In the Fall 2007 issue of *The Whistle* I wrote a story that summed up my vision of where I hoped the WLD would head if I was elected as Superintendent and had a bigger role in setting or changing policies with the help and guidance of the WLD Board of Directors. A lot has happened in the last 4 years- and we didn't get off to a fast start, but like a lot of things in life if you continue to work hard for the change required, eventually it happens. I will be stepping down as Super next year, but I'll still be acting as the Convention Chairman and *Whistle* Editor if it pleases the new Super and Board. In the 2007 story, I wrote about what I thought we should be as a division in 2012.

I listed 7 goals I would strive for. Most have been met here in 2011 with the help of the BOD and especially James Cruthers. Back then I didn't know how much work it would be to try to re-energize the group. If you really want to lead, you need to be ready for some disagreement, unfortunately some lost friendships, and even some praise! It all goes with the job, and believe me it is a job when you want to try to do it right. If you want to just send in a column of what happened at a recent meet, the weather, or a NMRA business meeting for *The Whistle*, then Superintendent is a pretty easy title. But that's not how I approached the task. I'm not interested in a title only. We needed ways to gain members, retain members, and make our meets something worthwhile to attend.

Here's what I wrote back then in 2007 regarding my 7 goals:

***Renewed emphasis on clinics, layout tours, and model/photo contests during our meets.**

***Additional responsibilities for the Asst. Superintendent.**

***Better communication between the WLD and RR Clubs.**

***Better communication between the BOD and the membership.**

***Expanded Operating Session.**

***501c3 status obtained.**

***Continued or expanded role at TTS.**

Starting at the first goal, we have redefined our meets in the last 2 years. We now are trying to involve more people and groups, cross promote them to other NMRA divisions nearby, and get some of their best clinicians to come up here and do their presentations. We have met this goal, but more improvements are always welcomed.

We have yet to define a more "active" role for the Assistant Superintendent. That's not a bad rap for anyone who has served or is serving now, rather I would like to have that position be more visible and less behind the scenes. It's important to me that the Super and Assistant Super see issues in a similar fashion with only limited differences of opinion. Both need to be cheerleaders of the WLD and be the hardest workers for the group to really reach its potential.

When I think back to the late 1980's up to the present, there were some real issues between model railroad clubs and the WLD that would surface every few years. I believe we were too dependant on the local clubs for our meets. Coupled with poor communication of expectations, it would get ugly sometimes. Today, we can work with clubs that are willing to host without putting them in a bind financially or with lack of manpower issues. It's not surprising that so many clubs lost interest in holding a meet with us. I think our Board has made great progress on this communication issue over the last 6 years especially.

Likewise, though we have gone electronic in newsletter distribution, we have tried to convey what is happening at the Board Meetings without going through a rundown of the minutes in each issue of *The Whistle*. In this issue alone you can easily find what activities are planned and what to expect at them. I also have personally answered many e-mails from the membership regarding events, issues, etc. It's one of the best things about being the Superintendent! Making new friends and contacts. It's your NMRA division, not Mark Preussler's (or anyone else's) Private Club! Let anyone, including me, know what you like or what you think needs to be changed. I think our survey did a great job pointing us down the right path.

We have not had much luck expanding our OP Session. That is still a work in progress. We continue to try to look for options regarding layout capacity, moving the date, or holding the event in different cities within the WLD on the same day. We still seem to get only 20-30 folks each year, but some new faces have appeared and that's what it's all about.

I recently signed my name on the 501c3 "incorporation" forms and James Cruthers, our Chief Clerk mailed them in. We need to become an official entity in the eyes of the State. Once approved, the balance of the paperwork will be filed and we wait for a response. Will it happen in 2012? We have over a year to make it happen.

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WLD Today Continued...

I am confident that the WLD NMRA will continue as a partner with the TTS gang. We have a marketing strategy set up around the event and once we are an official entity with 501c3 status I am hopeful that we can begin to solicit donations and offer items for sale once again at TTS. Our display improvements have made us visible among the other displays and we want to reach out to the intermediate modelers who attend the show in hopes they attend our NMRA meets and join the organization.

In short, with a lot of hard work from all involved in running the WLD I think we have made an honest effort in giving the membership something more for their membership over the last 5 years. Give or take, we have had an increase of about 40 members holding steady at about 180. There are some great opportunities for new members to get involved now. I think you'll enjoy our upcoming meets too!

But we can't sit around and rest on these accomplishments. I want each NMRA member to bring someone new to our meets or OP Session. We welcome guests! Each member needs to think about a way to get involved at the divisional level; from being Superintendent to just attending a meet, it all helps the group in some way.

While I'm biased, I would submit that what I wanted as Superintendent back then has pretty much happened. Let me know of your ideas to make the WLD even better. You can contact anyone of your Officers via the webmaster link found on our website.

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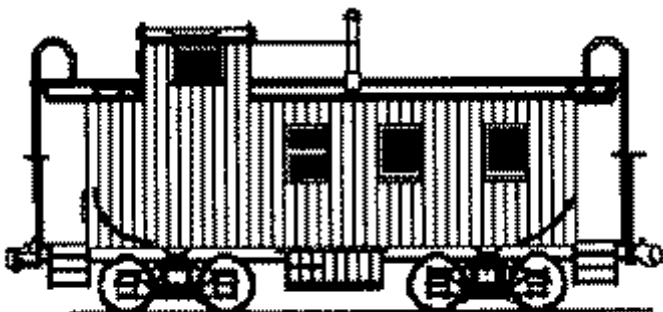


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August 18-21, 2011- Soo Line Historical & Technical Society Annual Convention
La Crosse, WI Info at: www.sooline.org

August 23-28, 2011- Clipper City Model Railroad Club Open House during the
Manitowoc County Fair- www.manitowoccountyexpo.com

Sept. 10 - 11, 2011 W&M Train Show. NMRA Booth and Clinics. Marinette, WI
Info coming at www.wld-nmra.com

Sept. 24-25, 2011- Green County Model RR Show & Swap Meet- Monroe, WI
Stateline Ice & Community Expo- 1632 4th Ave. W
<http://www.gcmrrinc.org>

October 1, 2011- NMRA Winnebagoland Division Fall Meet- Windjammer Banquet Hall-
Sheboygan, WI Info at www.wld-nmra.com

October 1, 2011- 2nd Annual Hope Train Club Show & Sale- Wesley Center
199 E. Jefferson St. Waupun, WI (920) 324-2350

October 15-16, 2011- Layout Open House- Railroad Lodge- SSSMRE- Sheboygan, WI
1001 N. 10th St. Food, Refreshments & Fun 10:00-4:00

October 23, 2011- Cedar Creek Central Model RR show & Swap Meet
Circle B Recreation -6261 Hwy 60- Cedarburg, WI
Info at www.lammscape.com/cedarcreek

November 5, 2011- Winnebagoland Division Annual Operating Session- Waupaca, WI
Info at: www.wld-nmra.com

November 12-13, 2011- 40th Annual Trainfest- West Allis, WI Info at: www.trainfest.com