

# THE WINNEBAGOLAND WHISTLE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WINNEBAGOLAND DIVISION
MIDWEST REGION – NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

Volume 52, Issue No. 2

**SUMMER 2019** 

Chugging along the tracks | Going through a dark tunnel | The train is majestic



# Superintendent's Report

By Andy Dorsch

The final days of spring are wrapping up and summer in Wisconsin is almost in full swing. Our garden is in full bloom, the lawn has been cut and mosquitos are plentiful! The last couple of days I've been taking refuge from the tiny winged vampires in my train room, working on the first sections of my model railroad. As I was adding the first layers of scenery to my railroad I started to reflect that over the past few months in the Winnebagoland division there has been a lot going on...so here are my notes!

#### Spring Meet:

I want to thank all the folks who put the Spring Meet in Stevens Point this year. It was a great meet that was jam packed with fun and fellowship. The contest room was chock full of beautiful and detailed models as well as some really sharp looking photographs. As I wandered in and out of the contest room I could hear the judges commenting on the degree of quality of the entries at this meet

We also had our annual business meeting at the Spring Meet where we get together discuss business concerning our division...there was no new business to discuss.

Even though I didn't personally get to the layout tours, I got to see them via pictures posted to our division Facebook page (thanks Paul)! I have to say there that there were some pretty outstanding layouts! Thank you to those people who opened up their layouts for the spring meet!

#### Titletown Train Show:

The LAST Title Town Train Show (TTS) at Shopko Hall was held this April. I feel that this one was

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#### COVER PHOTO:

Longtime NMRA, WLD, and SLHTS member Larry Easton passed away May 26 at age 84.

Story on Page 3.

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# Superintendent's Report

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the best yet. The Winnebagoland Division had a booth up front and center greeting all the patrons who came through the "turnstiles." Special thanks to Vern Ehlke for taking the reins to organize, set up and tear down our booth all while fighting the "mother of all colds." Now it should be noted that Vern had help too!!! I want to thank all the volunteers who took their time to help out, shake hands, talk to the folks about the hobby and our organization.

Feedback from our booth was generally good. I want to highlight a comment that was made to me from the Superintendent from the WISE Division of the NMRA. He said that he was impressed that the members of our Division were out in front of the booth talking to people and having fun! He said its not that common to see folks at an NMRA booth – volunteers engaging with show goers...KUDOS TO THE WLD VOLUNTEERS!!!

Upcoming Meet – The Copper Country Express:

Mark your calendars! September 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> is our Fall Division

Meet in Upper Michigan's beautiful Copper Country! John

Leow is working tirelessly to plan this fantastic event that will immerse you in the region's rich railroad history! As of now the event has the following activities outlined:

- Get access to the Quincy & Torch Lake engine house.
   Don't miss your chance to get up-close and personal with Q&TL #6 (affectionately known as "The Beast") and meet the crew that restored it!
- Clinics, including some on the history of the Copper Country, one of the most historically significant areas of the country!
- Show off your models and photos in the contest/ celebration room!
- Enjoy a genuine miner's pasty lunch!
- There will also be some "extra fare" activities on tap, including a tour of the Quincy Mine Hoist House and Mine!

This event is shaping up to be an outstanding event! I for one can tell you that I am looking forward to the genuine miner's lunch!!!

WLD Fall - Ops Session will be Saturday, November 2nd, 2019 and will be in the Sheboygan area more information to follow.

Trainfest will be held at Wisconsin State Fair park November

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## View From the Cab

Your Editor

Finally getting some summer weather after a cool and very wet spring. Haven't heard about any major track washouts or other ROW damage this year, though arson was suspected for the total loss of the depot building in Pembine on June 17th.

We also lost another local treasure: Larry Easton passed away May 26th. He was an accomplished author, historian, modeler, archivist, and not least, friend to many in the Division, the NMRA, and the SLHTS. We've devoted this issue to Larry (although I was disappointed that by deadline I hadn't received any tributes other than from Emory, so I'm just reprinting the obituary)... it's the least we can do, in addition to a donation in his name to the SLHTS archives, and a new WLD award to be announced later. It's sad to lose a person like Larry, but unfortunately the hobby isn't getting any younger and he won't be the last resource we mourn in this Division.

At this writing there's another building coming down: the Brown County Arena and Shopko Hall complex, for which demo started shortly after TTS at the end of April. TTS itself was damaged as well, with a last-minute scheduling of a presidential visit next door causing about half our normal attendance to stay away Saturday. We had a normal Sunday, meaning those people by and large did not decide to come the next day instead. We have not been able to recoup our losses from Mr. Trump's campaign of course... we just put on the best show we could under the circumstances.

To that end WLD volunteers did a great job this year staffing the booth and engaging with attendees; heard several great comments including from the superintendent of the WISE Division. Special thanks to Vern for pushing through his nasty spring cold to organize and get everyone and everything there.

John Leow has left our superintendent position in the very capable hands of Andy Dorsch, who is joined by Mike Ostertag as the assistant sup. That doesn't mean John's going full radio silence however... he is busy organizing the Fall Meet up in Hancock September 6-7, with a slate of activities as full and exciting as the meet in Marquette a couple years ago. Check out the info at the end of this issue. We are still looking for a host for the Spring 2020 meet, so if you are in a part of the Division that would be willing to put something together on relatively short notice, let us know and we'll certainly help!

Enjoy your summer, enjoy this issue, and spend some time thinking about what you want from the Division and what you can contribute to it. We'll talk later.

Until next time, keep on trainin'! —Todd tbushmaker@sbcglobal.net



Neenah - Larry Easton, age 84, of Neenah, passed away with his family by his side on May 26, 2019, eight days short of his 85th birthday. Larry was born in Casey, Illinois on June 3, 1934 the son of Doris Easton. He graduated from Casey High School in 1952 and then from the Wisconsin State College at Oshkosh in 1958 with a Bache-

lor of Science degree, authorizing him to teach mathematics. Larry was united in marriage to Margaret Ann Salzsieder on November 20, 1954. He taught for two years at the Mosinee High School from 1958 until 1960 and then was a mathematics teacher at Neenah High School for 28 years retiring in 1989.

Larry was a past president of the Neenah Historical Society and was instrumental in the preservation and restoration of the Octagon House here in Neenah. He was a member of the Soo Line Historical and Technical Society and Editor Emeritus of the Soo magazine. Larry was a prolific writer and with his lifelong love of all things railroading, he authored several articles for assorted publications. He authored many books on railroads including railroads in his hometown of Casey, Illinois and many throughout Wisconsin. His hobbies were photography and model railroading, building a model railroad display in his basement. Larry co-founded the Neenah Model Railroad Club with his good friend, Stanley Bye.



Larry is survived by his children: Brian (Gloria) Easton, Diane (Jeffrey) Schraufnagel and Russell (Tammy) Easton; his grandchildren: Jason (Quinn) Easton, Bridget (Sean) McGinnis, Jesse (Veronica) Schraufnagel, Paul (Melissa) Schraufnagel, Kyle

Rietveld, Britney Rietveld (special friend Brian), Christopher Easton (special friend Erin) and Allison Easton; great grandchildren: Kaili and Brice Easton, Katharine and Madeline McGinnis, Leah, Emily, Jocelyn, David and Veronica Schraufnagel; a brother-inlaw, Thomas Salzsieder, sisters-in-law, Geri Hansen and Jeanette Salzsieder, and many nieces, nephews and cousins. Larry was preceded in death by his beloved wife Margaret who passed away in October of 2014. Larry missed his dear Marge every day. He was also preceded in death by a daughter, Lynn Rietveld, a son, Robert Easton and an infant granddaughter, Robyn Lynn Rietveld.

Larry will be missed by his "son" Emory, the group at the archives, the Blew group, Jack Speech, Paul Morton and many more.



#### From Emory Luebke:

Larry was a friend to all. He always listened to others and answered any questions he could. He never made you feel like you were bothering him with any railroad question no matter how trivial. His knowledge of the local railroads was amazing. He never forgot anything he learned in his research and talking to others. He could recall these facts at a moments notice.

Larry was a very special friend to me and if it was not for him I may not even be in our great hobby today. For sure I would not have been as involved in the WLD if it wasn't for Larry as we almost always went to NMRA functions together. His encouragement and critiques made me a better modeler. I will miss Larry more than words can say. I hope is now enjoying discussing model railroading with Carl, Don, John and all the railroad friends who have gone before him.

# Superintendent's Report

(Continued from page 2)

9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of this year. It should be noted that Trainfest this year will host the Midwest Region B.O.D. meeting as well.

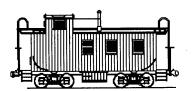
Our neighbors to the south, the NMRA WISE Division will be hosting the first Milwaukee Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet (RPM). The planned date is Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup>, with operating sessions in the evening. This will be the WISE Divisions first ever RPM meet, we plan to have many model trains and 1/87 scale vehicles on display. Talk with the model makers to find out they built their models. We will also have several how to clinics going on though out the day. This first ever event will also be free to the public. It will be located: Location: Four Points Sheraton - Milwaukee Airport 5311 South Howell Ave Milwaukee, WI 53207.

Reflecting on taking over as Superintendent of the Winnebagoland Division, I am humbled at the opportunity to lead a great group people that are just as enthusiastic about model railroading as I am. I want you all to know that you can reach out to me with any questions you have about the NMRA or model railroading altogether. I love talking about trains!

My goals for the WLD during my time as Superintendent will be to focus on key areas:

- **Engagement** Getting Members Active in the division and the NMRA as a whole.
- Entertainment Having fun in this hobby and this organization.
- Education At the core of what the NMRA is all about, being evangalists for this hobby and teaching people about it.
- **Experience** Ensure that our members get the most out of their experience with our organization.

So that's it, my first report as your new Superintendent! I know it was long! But I enjoyed putting it together. I hope that you all have a great summer and I look forward to getting to know all of you! *Thank you, Andy Dorsch* 



# Spring Photo Contest

By Joe Lallensack

### Spring Meet 2019 Photo Contest Stevens Point, WI on May 4, 2019

Best of Show:

Paul Hillmer – Model Color Print, BN Montana Freight

First Place, Model Black & White Print: Erik Kolosinski – Waiting for the train to pass

First Place, Prototype Color Print: Paul Hillmer – Lawe Street C&NW bridge

Second Place, Prototype Color Print: Paul Hillmer – Mineral Range Run-by

Third Place, Prototype Color Print: Paul Hillmer – CN Kimberly Sub crossing

Honorable Mention, Prototype Color Print: Erik Kolosinski – Passing Bancroft station

First Place, Model Color Print: Paul Hillmer – Green Bay club Ore dock

Second Place, Model Color Print: Erik Kolosinski – In the Yard

First Place, Tongue-in-cheek: Emory Luebke – Southern "Donkey"

It was a small contest with only 9 entries. There were 3 entrants with the photos spread across 4 categories. Surprisingly, each photo got an award! This is happening quite often lately. My thanks to Randy Williamson and Mike Eiden for assisting me in the judging. The judging process was quite tough due to the quality of photos. Even though judging can be challenging, we sure encourage anyone to bring photos to the next Meet.

Along with the usual contests, a modelers roundtable and a photographer's roundtable were presented, just like it was done in Merrill last spring. Since there has not been a structure set up for our roundtables, I brought a tray of slides to show my work and explained the thoughts behind my photos. The photos were not all award winners but they showed the examples of good and bad results in prototype and model photography. I hope everyone enjoyed the show as much as I did putting it on.

Joe Lallensack Photo Contest Chairman



You could say I was born into trains...

Growing up I was exposed to trains every day. My parents' house was located right on the Chicago and Northwestern Marshline Subdivision. Trains would come by two to three times a week, and when the locomotives blew their horns for the grade crossing I'd race out the back door so I could get a glimpse of the slow lumbering locals as they rocked and rolled down the tracks. These first experiences with trains were the gateway for my involvement into model railroading.

I became more and more interested in trains as a kindergartner, and as Christmastime drew near, a well drafted letter to Santa Claus helped get me my first set of model trains. It was of course a Tyco trainset that featured a Santa Fe GE unit and a fist full of random rolling stock. I remember not bothering to open up the other presents that year and asked dad to quickly assembly the circle of steel track on our living room floor so I could get the trains running! The trains ran all day, straight through to New Years. I think I still have parts of that set to this day!

#### Teenage Years

As I outgrew my Tyco fleet and became more of a serious model railroader, my dad and I helped charter a model railroad club in our hometown of Ripon, WI. It was a modular club where all the members would bring in modules, hook them together and run trains for hours. I could recall it being a typical modular layout where all geographies of the United States could be seen on one trip around the layout. At this point in my modeling journey you could say I was getting pretty serious into it. We had a midsize layout at home, two modules for the club and whole fleet of locomotives and rolling stock that we ran on the layouts on a regular basis. Those were great times!

## College Hiatus

The college years modeling drought gets a lot of us modelers and I was no different. When I went off to college my train collection got boxed up. And my layout got torn down. I still was interested in trains however; I could be found trackside rail-fanning or paging through a *Model Railroader*, but it never went much further than that. I got back into trains and model railroading full swing when I bought my first house. Something about having an empty basement and a head full of dreams seems to bring all of us back to modeling.

#### Current Works

I'm currently building an HO Scale rendition of the Chicago and Northwestern Marshline Subdivision. My layout is in the construction phase as of right now, and I have about one towns-worth of track down. My goal with the layout is to recreate the line that ran behind my parents' house. I'm taking the approach of aiming for prototypical accuracy, even down to the ratty railroad ties that supported the rickety rails. My hopes for this layout is that I am able to create and preserve a bit of history for a railroad line that was so instrumental in generating my interest in trains and model railroading!

When I'm not model railroading, I'm either at work as a Project Manager for Oshkosh Corporation or chasing around my 3 year old son. He keeps me busy that's for sure! I also enjoy fishing, gardening and woodworking. So that's a little peek into who I am and what I'm about, I'd love to connect with you all and learn a bit about you as well! If you'd like you can find me on social media; I'm on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and I have a YouTube Channel that is focused on sharing my model railroading exploits! To find me in all social media platforms, just search Andy Dorsch and I should pop up. Thank you for taking the time to get to know me, I look forward to meeting all of you in the near future! — *Andy* 



# Meet Your Assistant Super

By Michael Ostertag

I want to start by saying thank you to all that voted for me. I will do my best to represent and serve the Winnebegoland Division and the NMRA with ingenuity, respect and experience. I do have a vision for our division. For those who may not know me. I have been in model railroading since around 1975. I have modeled in both HO and currently in S scale. I am a scale modeler and typically model the Milwaukee Road between 1975 and 1985. That is only one thing I will bring to the table. I've also worked for the prototype since 1992, starting as a brakeman with the Green Bay and Western until the Wisconsin Central merger in 1993 where I was a conductor. I became a locomotive engineer in 1996 and continue to operate locomotives to this day, now for the Canadian National since 2001.



I look forward to meeting as many division members as possible. I want to see this division grow from within. By that I mean, more involvement from those who typically don't get involved. A division in the NMRA, or any organization for that matter, is only as strong as its members allow it to be. The Winnebagoland division has always had a good group of people involved in model railroad and prototype rail activities. However, I would like to see that go up. I mean way up! This division has such a deep group of modelers it would be a shame to see those resources go untapped. I want to strongly urge anyone that may not have been involved in the past to give me a call and we will talk about how to get involved and help to build the division.

Again, I look forward to helping to make our division grow and become one of the best divisions within the NMRA. — *Tag* 

# Pembine Depot Lost

Reprinted from WLUC TV-6

#### PEMBINE, Wis. (WLUC) - UPDATE

Two boys have been arrested in relation to a Monday morning fire in Pembine. Marinette County Sheriff Jerry Suave said the two Pembine-area boys, aged 14 and 16, were taken into custody in relation to the fire at the Lake Superior Railroad Union Depot.



The building was a total loss, but no injures were reported, the sheriff said. The cause of the fire and more are ongoing with the sheriff's office and fire services.

Suave said Pembine and Amberg Fire Departments, Pembine Rescue Squad and the sheriff's office responded. Anyone with information is asked to contact the sheriff's office at 715-732-7600.

#### **ORIGINAL STORY:**

A train depot in Pembine is a total loss after a Monday morning fire.

Patrol Sergeant Randy Miller with the Marinette County Sheriff's Office said they were called out to the scene at about 10:43 a.m. central time.

Local fire and rescue teams responded to the scene of the fire. Miller said the train depot was fully engulfed.

Miller said, and it can be seen, that the building is a "total loss."

"It's just like when you lose a historical building like that, railroad depots, especially has a lot of history to the area. I think a lot of people are going to be disappointed because of that. But, it's a great community, I think they'll get through it. But it's hard to lose a building like that."

He said the cause of the fire is still under investigation. Assisting in the fire Pembine-Dunbar-Beecher Fire Department and the Marinette County Sheriff's Department.

### Team Track

#### **Division Officers** (terms thru 04/20)

Andy Dorsch Superintendent Mike Ostertag Asst. Superintendent

Scott Payne Paymaster Vern Ehlke Chief Clerk

#### Board of Directors (terms thru 04/20)

Division Officers (above) PLUS:

Wally Rogers Joe Lallensack Dave Nitsch Todd Bushmaker Dave Allen Mary Eiden Mike Eiden Phil Herman

Chris Heili Rich Hopfensperger

Jason Hethke Paul Mastalir

#### **Committee Chairs**

(Asst. Supt.) Property Manager

Todd Bushmaker Whistle

Mary Preussler Achievement Program

Wally Rogers Membership Phil Herman Clinics

(At-will, current meet) Convention Chair Paul Mastalir Company Store Scott Payne Operating Sessions David Allen Model Contest Joe Lallensack Photo Contest Vern Ehlke Technology Paul Hillmer Social Media Michael Eiden Webmaster

Rich Hopfensperger Hobby Shop/Model Club Liaison

Scout Coordinators Paul Mastalir / Mike O. (At-will Volunteers) Financial Review

Note that these positions need not be Directors; any member in the Division may chair or participate in these committees!



### Timetable

July 7-13 NMRA National Convention

Salt Lake City, UT

July 13-14 Omaha Railroad Days

Includes UP #4014

https://omaharailroaddays.com/

Sept. 4-7 National Narrow Gauge Convention

Sacramento, CA

https://www.nngc2019.org/

Sept. 6-7 WLD Fall Meet, Hancock MI

See info this issue

Sept. 26 WLD BOD, SLHTS Archives

Appleton, WI

Nov. 2 WLD Operating Session, TBD

Nov. 9-10 Trainfest, WI State Fair Park

West Allis, WI



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- Get access to more than 20,000 photos, slides, plans, drawings, paint schemes and more with the NMRA Online Archives
- Receive 9 monthly issues of NMRA Magazine
- Receive reduced rates on layout or collection insurance
- Take part in programs like Modeling with the Masters, the Achievement Program, Estate Counseling, contests, clinics, and more!
- Attend events at your local Division or Region

## Sign me up! U.S.: Send \$19.95 (U.S.) to NMRA-RailPass Membership. RO. Box 1328. Soddy Daisy, TN 37384 Canada, Send \$19.95 (Coln) to NMRA-Canadan RaiPass Membership, Registrar NMRA Canada, 9-8975 Meadowale Town Center Cir., Suite 405, Mississauga, ON: LSN 2V7 Address City/State/Zip Email Check Credit card Credit Card III



So few bucks.

Expira

# THE COPPER COUNTRY EXPRESS

HANCOCK, MICHIGAN



# 2019 WINNEBAGOLAND DIVISION FALL MEET SEPTEMBER 6-7, 2019

FINLANDIA UNIVERSITY JUTILA CENTER 200 MICHIGAN STREET, HANCOCK, MI

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (ALL TIMES EDT)

Friday, September 6th - The Quincy Mine Experience (Quincy Mine Location):\*

10:00 – 3:00 – Quincy Mine hoist and underground tour

3:00 – 5:00 – Quincy Mine hoist area surface tour

5:00 - 6:30 - Dinner (on your own)

7:00 – 9:00 – Guided walking tour of the Quincy Mine Grounds

\* \$25.00 additional charge. **Minimum 12/maximum 24 participants**. Additional information will be provided to those attendees indicating interest on their registration form. See additional requirements on registration page. Schedule subject to change.

#### Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> (Finlandia University Jutila Center – 200 Michigan Street, Hancock):

8:00-10:45-Registration

8:30 – 11:30 – Model/Photo Contests (Judging 11:30 – 12:30)

9:00 – 12:00 – Clinics (Schedule and lineup subject to change.)

Keweenaw Nat'l Historic Park staff
History of the Calumet & Hecla Mining Company

Dennis Leopold History of the Copper Range Railroad

Pat Thoney Modeling the Quincy and Torch Lake in On30

12:30 – 2:00 – Luncheon and Program

Chuck Pomazal "From Rust to Restoration: Restoring Q&TL Locomotive #6"

2:30 – 4:30 – Q&TL Enginehouse/Water Tank – Ride the hand car; see Q&TL #6 and other restoration projects

2:30 – 6:30 – Layout Tours and Area Exploration

Admission: Meet Only (Pre-registered or at the door): NMRA Members \$10.00, Non-members \$15.00

Luncheon – Miner's Pasty Lunch (Pre-registered only): \$13.00

Hotels: Arrangements for a limited number of rooms have been made with the following hotels (**Code NMRA**):

Ramada Inn Hancock \* 99 Navy Street 1-906-482-8400 \$176.00 - \$216.00 Magnuson Inn Hancock \*\* 235 Hancock Street 1-906-482-6111 \$93.59 - \$96.29 Magnuson Inn Houghton \*\*\* 820 Sheldon Ave 1-906-487-1700 \$119.00 - \$129.00

- \* Includes continental breakfast. Rooms held through 7/06/2019.
- \* Includes continental breakfast. Rooms held through 8/06/2019.
- \*\* Includes restaurant breakfast and complementary drink coupons. Rooms held through 8/06/2019.

# Pre-Registration Form (Required for Luncheon) - Must be received by 08/31/2019 (Please fill out one form for each attendee)

NAME:	NMRA #:	
Email Address:	Phone:	
MEET (\$10.00 MEMBERS, \$15.00 NON-MEMBE	(RS**):	\$
LUNCHEON (\$13.00)		
QUINCY MINE EXPERIENCE (\$25.00 – MIN 12	/MAX 24 PARTICIPANTS)	
TOTAL		\$ ======
RETURN THIS FORM AND PAYMENT TO: (Make checks payable to: Winnebagoland Division)	John Leow 321 Alger Street Marquette, MI 49855	

\*\*Remember, NMRA insurance requirements allow non-members to attend a maximum of three meets. Keep your train on

#### **Quincy Mine Experience Tour Requirements/Restrictions:**

- Long pants recommended.
- Must wear closed toe walking shoes/hiking boots. No sandals or clogs.
- Alcohol, drugs, or firearms are prohibited on site.
- No video during hoist/underground tour.

the right track - join the NMRA today!

- Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) will be provided: hard hat, coats, etc.
- Participants must be able to climb several flights of stairs, steep inclines, walk on metal grating, and negotiate rough terrain.





