

THE WINNEBAGOLAND WHISTLE

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

VOLUME 52, ISSUE No. 1

SPRING 2019

Train set | A fly in the window | Misses its stop

COVER PHOTO:

Big Boy #4014 boiler undergoing restoration in UP's Cheyenne steam shops in 2017. The fully restored and operational locomotive will be part of the Golden Spike 150 celebrations, which start May 10. Big Boy No. 4014 will leave Cheyenne May 4 following a 9:30 a.m. MT christening ceremony at the historic Cheyenne Depot and arrive in Ogden for the May 9 celebratory event culminating in the Big Boy joining with The Living Legend No. 844. The celebratory event will be streamed live May 9 at 10:30 a.m. MT via the Union Pacific Facebook page.



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Superintendent's Report

By John Leow

Well, baseball season has begun, so it must be Spring, right? Not so fast, Bucko. Although the robins have appeared in northern lower Michigan, Marquette is expecting a ginormous snow storm in the next few days. First Spring is over, with Second Winter pending. The good news is that True Spring should be just around the corner.

With the major portions of our cottage renovation project winding down, hopefully I'll be able to concentrate a little more on modelling in the upcoming months. I've been working sporadically on a Campbell LCL freight house kit, but progress has been slow. I'm still hoping to have it ready for the Spring meet.

Speaking of the Spring meet, we'll be gathering in Stevens Point on May 4th (Star Wars Day - May the Fourth, get it?). Roger Wurtzel and Mike and Mary Eiden are organizing this event, and have a good program planned. We're going to hold roundtable discussions on modeling and photography topics, so if you have any models or photos you'd like to present, bring them along. There will also be the usual contests and a soup and salad buffet banquet. We'll be holding our annual membership meeting there, so be sure to get your registration in if you haven't already. It's important that you attend.

You should have received an electronic ballot for the officer elections, which was due March 24th. This was something new we decided to try to increase participation in the election. I hope you all voted!

The Titledown Train Show is scheduled for April 27-28. As you know, the WLD has a responsibility to put on a good display at the show, which means we need help from the membership to man our booth. Check with Vern Ehlke for details on how to sign up for a time slot. (You're going to be there anyway, right?)

(Continued on page 2)



Superintendent's Report

(Continued from page 1)

The MWR Regional Convention is scheduled for May 16-19 in LaCrosse, WI. This is a joint convention with the Thousand Lakes Region, so it should be quite an event. The schedule includes museum and industry tours, several Modeling with the Masters sessions, and operating sessions, in addition to the usual clinics and contests. Get your registration in soon if you're interested – some of these options have limited slots available.

The Fall meet is scheduled for September 7th in the Copper Country. Keep your eyes peeled for more details – we're planning on speakers from the Keweenaw National Park and the Quincy Mine Hoist Association, as well as tours of the Quincy grounds and the Quincy and Torch Lake engine house and locomotive #6.

This is my last Whistle column as WLD Superintendent. I can't believe it's been three years since I wrote my first one! "Time flies when you're having fun" goes the old expression, and my time as Superintendent has, for the most part, been fun. This is a tribute to the other officers and board members, who made my job easy by never failing to step up to help with the task at hand. I'm truly indebted to them – especially Scott Payne and Vern Ehlke, who do a masterful job of handling the finances, IT, and clerk duties. They're absolutely unflappable. Todd Bushmaker does a great job with the Whistle, and Mike Eiden likewise with the website - good publications and communications are the backbone of an organization. I also need to thank Dave Allen, who was my travel mate. He made the four-hour trips to and from Appleton much more enjoyable. And finally, I'd be remiss if I didn't also thank the Division membership. You are the ones who make the Division what it is.

Keep up the good work! — John



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View From the Cab

Your Editor

It seems like one way or another, weather always comes up in these columns. Can't help it, the weather is always interesting in Wisconsin. From long stretches of sub-zero and snowstorm after snowstorm, to 60 degrees in March, and back to snow again in April. Sheesh, can't we have cleaner breaks between seasons? It's messing with my rhythm. Not to mention my kids' school calendar!

When (and if) spring decides to stick around, the calendar starts filling up with model railroad fun! Besides TTS, there's the spring meet May 4th and a joint MWR-TLR regional meet starting May 16th. Check out your local clubs too... many of them like Sheboygan, Green Bay and Paper Valley have events throughout the year.

Meanwhile I've certainly had a full plate. Been running two school projects this winter at work, we're remodeling our master bath (or trying to), and TTS of course is commanding my attention as we wrap up preparation through April. Speaking of which, please make sure to sign up for the WLD booth at the show! We usually have the same (small) group volunteering, so new faces would be welcome! Touch base with Vern Ehlke or myself by April 21st (Easter) if you can spare a few hours.

We have some personnel changes in store shortly at the Division, with the election (hopefully you voted!); stay tuned for that. While I think the next slate of officers will be just fine, unfortunately the positions ran unopposed. This has not been an uncommon occurrence around here; we have well over 100 NMRA members in our Division but like many other organizations, only a small fraction choose to be regularly active in the activities and processes of this group. In any case this is John's swan song as Superintendent and we thank him for his able leadership and service despite being waaayyyy up in the Marquette area. I'm sure he won't miss the long drives to the board meetings but he (and Dave Allen!) set a positive example of participation despite the WLD's large geographic area.

Stop by the TTS show office in a few weeks and say "hi" when you pick up your name badge for the WLD booth! This is our last show at Shopko Hall before it meets the wrecking ball (coincidentally Shopko itself is biting the dust at the same time), so come take one last look.

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

Spring Floods Affect Rail

By Nick Austin, Freight Waves

Historic flooding that began on March 15 has wiped out miles of roads and bridges along the Missouri River, especially from eastern Nebraska to western Iowa. Omaha was the largest city to be hit. This part of the country isn't a big player when it comes to freight movement by truck, but at least two major rail companies in the region now have several subdivisions that have been put out of commission by floodwaters. They're doing the best they can to get things back on track.

Many farms were destroyed by the floods, and Nebraska and Iowa are two of the largest producers of grains and corn in the U.S. It's important to get these trains moving again. The latest estimates of damage to crops and cattle in the two states is nearly \$1 billion.

BNSF issued an updated customer letter on March 25 in which it states that crews are "conducting ongoing assessments and inspections regarding the condition of our main lines." Additional resources, including ballast, are on their way to affected locations to make track repairs as soon as possible. While service on some subdivisions has already been restored, with speed restrictions in place where necessary, normal train flows in the area are not likely to resume for quite some time. BNSF has created a Midwest flooding recovery web page to provide specific information and resources regarding this event, and the company has posted several embargoes in response to track outages in Iowa.

The Union Pacific Railroad is also making progress. On March 21, the company announced the reopening of two of its subdivisions that were damaged by the flood – the Blair (Fremont, Nebraska, to Missouri Valley, Iowa, via Blair), and the Omaha (Missouri Valley, Iowa, to Fremont, Nebraska, via Omaha).

Company officials stated that "while there is still work to be done in the affected areas, over the past few days our Maintenance of Way teams have made significant progress restoring service to areas impacted by flooding."

The Columbus (Fremont to Grand Island, Nebraska), Lincoln (Valley to Lincoln, Nebraska) and Falls City (Council Bluffs, Iowa, to Kansas City, Kansas) subdivisions remain out of service. Union Pacific officials say they will continue to reroute traffic, where possible, around the affected areas. Customers with rerouted shipments may experience an additional 72 to 96 hours of transit time.

CN Infrastructure Work

From Progressive Railroad News

WISCONSIN – CN has budgeted \$120 million in capital expenditures this year. Expansion projects will include developing a PTC system and construction of 8 miles of double track near Hawthorne.

Maintenance highlights will include replacing more than 35 miles of rail; installing 90,000 new ties; rebuilding of 80 road crossing surfaces; and performing work on bridges, culverts, signals and other track.

"In 2018, CN passed the threshold of US\$1 billion of private investment in our state's rail network. Their continued financial commitment through 2019 is a necessity to facilitate the safe and efficient handling of freight moving in and through the state," said Craig Thompson, secretary-designee of Wisconsin Department of Transportation, in a press release.

Whistle Content Needed!

How did you do in high school English writing class? Solid "A"? Not so good? DOESN'T MATTER! What DOES matter is we need YOUR content! Share your model or prototype knowledge, experience, skills, or just musings RIGHT HERE IN THESE PAGES!

Let's face it... I can't keep reprinting articles from national publications here indefinitely. I'm sure we'd ALL like some variety, so send some stuff to me EXPRESS FREIGHT!

Try your hand at some of these topics:

- Model Reviews: kits or RTR;
- Your kitbash or scratchbuilt masterpieces;
- DCC: decoder installs, programming, accessories, tips and tricks, wiring, etc.;
- A tour of your pike, either under construction or completed scenes and operation;
- Prototype influences, history, or current ops;
- Show us your collection;
- Your WLD / NMRA experiences and prognostications;
- Editorials (non-political!), jokes, recipes, bio, etc.

Don't worry... I'll edit for spelling and formatting! Send to tbushmaker@sbcglobal.net. Thanks!!

Milwaukee to Ramp up the HOP for DNC in 2020

By Alex Zank, Milwaukee Business News

Milwaukee is planning to extend the Hop streetcar system to the Wisconsin Center, the city's downtown convention center on Wisconsin Avenue, about a month prior to the start of the 2020 Democratic National Convention next July, according to a city alderman.



Alderman Robert Bauman, who is a proponent of the streetcar and whose district represents much of downtown, said he has been informed by the city's Department of Public Works that they are currently working on the final design of the streetcar extension.

The department's plan, he said, is to begin construction this fall. With an estimated construction schedule of 6-9 months, the work would finish by June 2020.

The city has plans to extend the streetcar system up to the Fiserv Forum and eventually into the Bronzeville neighborhood. In reaching the new Bucks arena, the line extension would head north along Fifth Street and Vel R. Phillips Avenue, with a stop near the intersection of Vel R. Phillips Avenue and Wisconsin Avenue.

City leaders already set aside \$20 million in tax increment financing to pay for part of the extension, which would extend the streetcar service from the Intermodal Station north to Wisconsin Avenue. The money was set aside to be used as a local match for federal funding that was to pay for the other half of project costs to fully extend the line to the arena. So far, the city has been unsuccessful in its bid to secure the federal funding.

However, the \$20 million already allocated to the pro-

ject could be used to at least extend the streetcar to Wisconsin Avenue and the convention center.

Additionally, the streetcar's lakefront line is not fully complete. That extension includes a station at the planned 44-story Couture high-rise near Michigan Street and Lincoln Memorial Drive. Bauman said the lakefront line has been finished up to the point where the city is just waiting on the Couture to begin construction.

The national convention adds a sense of urgency to streetcar construction plans, Bauman said.

"I'd say there's a huge sense of urgency because obviously the existence of the streetcar was a big deal" for the Democratic National Committee, said Bauman.

As part of the city's agreement with the Democrats to host the national convention, the city is required to offer free streetcar service to convention-goers and the public during the days of the event. City leaders signed the agreement on Monday.

Bauman said that particular provision of the agreement came at the "eleventh hour" from a phone call from DNC chair Tom Perez directly to Mayor Tom Barrett.

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Division Officers (terms thru 04/19)

John Leow	Superintendent
Todd Bushmaker	Asst. Superintendent
Scott Payne	Paymaster
Vern Ehlke	Chief Clerk
John Leow	Division Director

Board of Directors (terms thru 04/19)

Wally Rogers	Joe Lallensack
Dave Nitsch	Todd Bushmaker
Dave Allen	Mary Eiden
Mike Eiden	Phil Herman
Chris Heili	Rich Hopfensperger
Andy Dorsch	

Note that we are actively looking to fill additional Director positions!

Committee Chairs

Phil Herman	Financial Review
Todd Bushmaker	Whistle
Marv Preussler	Achievement Program
Wally Rogers	Membership
Phil Herman	Clinics
Lynn Jasch	Convention Registrar
(Vacant)	Convention Chair
(Vacant)	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
(Vacant)	Scout Coordinator

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



www.wld-nmra.com

Facebook:
"WinnebagoLand Division
NMRA"

Timetable

- April 13** WLD Board Meeting
SLHTS Archives, Appleton
- April 27-28** Titletown Train Show
Shopko Hall, Green Bay
<http://www.ttsgbllc.com/index.html>
- May 4** WLD Spring Meet
Stevens Point, WI
See details and registration this issue
- May 17-19** MWR-TLR joint Regional Meet
Lacrosse, WI
See details and registration this issue
- June 15-16** Strawberry Fest Train Show
Waupaca, WI
See flyer this issue



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- Get discounts from free shipping to 20% off (or more) from manufacturers of all sizes who've partnered with the NMRA
- Contact other NMRA members anywhere in the world for layout tours, train chat or even op sessions through our Model Railroad Directory
- 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!

Fill out this form and include your payment.
U.S.: Send \$19.95 (U.S.) to NMRA-RailPass Membership,
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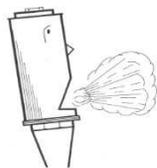
**So much bang.
So few bucks.**

*RailPass offer is for new members and those who haven't been NMRA members for two years or more. Individuals can join at RailPass rates only once. Membership renewal will be at the regular membership rate. RailPass members can attend conventions and participate in contests, but cannot vote or hold office.

2019 NMRA Winnebagoland Division Spring Meet



MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU



SATURDAY May 4, 2019 – Stevens Point, WI

Location:

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
600 Wilshire Blvd
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Join the Winnebagoland Division in Stevens Point for a day of railroad modelling activity. There will be model and photography roundtables to help you improve your models and bring your layout to life. Sales tables will be available in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your models for NMRA Achievement Program judging! Bring your photos and models to share in the contests! Enjoy a soup/sandwich buffet lunch followed by the WLD annual meeting. Visit some local model railroads on the layout tours and railfan along the way. You may get to see CN trains working on the former Soo Line/Wisconsin Central rails.

Schedule of Events:

Registration: 8:00 – 10:00

Swap Tables: 8:00 – 11:30

Model and Photo Contests: 8:00 - 11:30

Modelers Roundtable: 9:00 – 10:15

Photography Roundtable: 10:15 – 11:30

Lunch and Annual Meeting: 11:30 – 1:00

Layout Tours: 1:30 – 5:00

Pre-Registration is not required to attend, but must be received by May 1, 2019 if sales tables are requested

Name(s) _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ e-mail _____

Number of NMRA Members attending X \$10.00 _____ NMRA number(s) _____

Number of Non-NMRA members attending X \$15.00 _____

Number of Buffet Lunch attending X \$9.00 _____ (Pre-Registration must be received by May 1, 2019 for lunch)

Number of Sales Tables needed X \$5.00 _____

(Must be a registered attendee to purchase swap tables)

New Member Discount = _____ (Coupon MUST be enclosed)

Total enclosed = _____

Make Checks Payable to Winnebagoland Division

RETURN THIS FORM TO:

Mary Eiden

WLD Registrar

2229 Dixon St

Stevens Point, WI 54481-3842

Additional forms can be found at www.wld-nmra.com

In accordance with NMRA Insurance requirements, non-NMRA members will be limited to a maximum of three lifetime visits to Winnebagoland events, after which they will be expected to join the NMRA to continue attending WLD events.

2019 Combined TLR/MWD Convention

Our joint convention with the MWR will be in Lacrosse, WI on May 17-19, 2019 at the Days Inn. Registration will start Thursday afternoon.

Thursday night will have layout tours and clinics. Thursday meals are on your own. The Freight House Restaurant in downtown Lacrosse has \$3 burgers. The restaurant is in the restored Milwaukee Road Freight House.

Friday we will start out with early clinics then will board the bus to tour The Stella Jones railroad tie treating facility in Rockland WI. We will also tour L.B. White, manufacturer of heating units for agriculture buildings, Dahl Auto Museum, and tour the Railroad display in Copeland Park. Lunch will be provided at the Cedar Creek Country Club in Onalaska. Dinner is on your own Friday night. Layout tours and clinics will be available in the evening.

Saturday we will have clinics running all day. Lunch will be provided at the hotel restaurant. The banquet and Chinese auctions will be in the evening.

At the time this article is being written we are working on operating sessions with the local layouts. The Modeling with the Masters clinics are also in planning stages.

Non-rail events for Saturday include tours of The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Rose Convent Chapel, The Hixon House, and Riverside Museum. (There will be a small additional charge for these tours.) If time allows, we will also do some shopping at LaCrosse's beautiful downtown. We will return to the hotel for lunch (included in registration cost). These tours will be via car pool!



The Stella Jones Railroad Tie Treating facility.

Photo : Stella Jones



CB&Q 4-8-4 #4000 at Copeland Park.

Photo: LaCrosse Tribune

Modeling with the MastersClinic Descriptions

La Crosse, WI 2019

MWTM - Scratch Building a Small Puddle Jumper Bridge

Title: Scratch Building a Small Puddle Jumper Bridge **Cost:** \$25 **Scale:** N and HO

Date: Friday

Time: 7:00 am to 10:15 am

Lead Instructor: Clark Kooning, MMR; assisted by other MMRS as available

Clark and the MWTM team will provide you with the knowledge to build a small bridge with structural elements out of Styrene and wood. You will be shown how to paint, or stain wood used for the abutments. In addition, you will learn about applying small details which make this very small bridge come alive. This small bridge can be used in many layout situations.

****Be advised with the time limited for this clinic you may or may not complete the project but will leave with all the necessary information and materials to complete this project on your own****

MWTM - Introduction to Building DPM Structures

Title: Introduction to building DPM kits **Cost:** \$25 **Scale:** N, HO

Date: Saturday

Time: 7:15 am to 11:30am

Lead Instructor: Clark Kooning, MMR; Assisted by other MMRs as available

Clark will take you thru the steps of building a DPM structure. Many people have built these fantastic little kits but don't quite build them correctly. In the clinic we will show you a few tricks and tips to build these gems. Whether you are a beginner or some what of an expert you will find some great tips in this clinic Our project will involve a two-story city building and you will be assisted by 3 MMRs during your hands-on experience.

****Be advised with the time limited for this clinic you may or may not complete the project but will leave with all the necessary information and materials to complete this project on your own****

MWTM - Introduction to Laser Kits

Title: Introduction to Laser Kits **Cost:** \$25 (HO/N) \$30 (S/O) **Scale:** N, HO, S, O

Date: Saturday

Time: 1:00 pm to 5:15 pm

Lead Instructor: Clark Kooning, MMR; Assisted by other MMRs as available

Clark will take you thru the steps of building a Laser Kit for the first time. Laser-cut wood is now used to create an array of precision-cut kits with parts ranging from walls with door and window openings cut ever-so-accurately to extremely fine window mullions. All parts fit perfectly (even in multiple layers) allowing the resulting structure to appear very similar to a scratch-build model. Our project will involve a bunkhouse that could also serve as a storage shed on your model railway. and you will be assisted by 3 MMRs during your hands-on experience.

****Be advised with the time limited for this clinic you may or may not complete the project but will leave with all the necessary information and materials to complete this project on your own****

If you are signing up for the operating sessions or modeling with the masters this sheet needs to be filled out and returned with your registration form.

MODELING WITH THE MASTERS: Below are 3 clinic day/time choices. Select your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd preferences and circle your scale choice. There will be 25 modelers per session, limited to 75 modelers. There is an additional cost of \$25.00 to cover the cost of the model.

Tool list for the clinic is on the TLR web site please look over so what you will need to bring along to build your model.

Friday, May 17, 7:00 – 10:00 am Build a small, puddle jumper bridge with styrene and wood

HO N

Saturday, May 18, 7:15 – 11:30 am Build a DPM building HO N

Saturday, May 18, 1:00 – 5:00 Introduction to building a laser wood kit N HO S O

Operating sessions:

Please check the day or days you would like to operate. Layouts will be posted on the website when more information becomes available. If multiple layouts are available, you will be contacted pick which layout/layouts you would like to operate.

Thursday Night

Friday Night

Saturday

If you have any questions, send them to:

2019mwrtlrconvention@gmail.com

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30TH ANNUAL (FREE!) STRAWBERRY FEST TRAIN SHOW & MODEL CONTEST

In conjunction with the Waupaca Historical Society
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Saturday, June 15 – 10 AM to 5 PM

Sunday, June 16 – 10 AM to 3 PM

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For information see our website: www.wamrltd.com

Train Show & vendor tables – Roger Hildebrandt, (715) 258-8218

Model Contest – Eugene Much (920) 596-3484

