

# Waybill

Winter 2004

Mid West Region NMRA



*Train Fest Workers Gary Children (Region VP), and Reid Kahrs (Region Trustee),  
at the WISE Division sponsored Train Fest, held in Milwaukee, WI.*



# EXECUTIVE BOARD & CHAIRPERSONS OF MWR STANDING COMMITTEES

(Please contact the Waybill editor for any corrections prior to the next Waybill deadline.)

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## President's Report

by Richard Cecil, President MWR

As noted in my last column, Gary Children and I visited the IVD meet in September to help celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We were accompanied by our Trustee Reid Kahrs and MR Senior Editor, Jim Hediger. It turned out to be a beautiful day and we all had a good time visiting old and new friends. Had some of the anniversary cake, bought some models that I was after, from Marion Brasher's hobby shop, the Valley Roundhouse, took some pictures in Mendota and proved, once again, that "Model Railroading is Fun". That leaves only the CID to be visited before my term ends. I suppose you could call that "political promise" that was kept. In deed, a rarity in these times.

## Midwest Region of the National Model Railroad Association.

The Waybill is published 4 times a year:  
Winter – December, January, February  
Spring – March, April, May  
Summer – June, July, August  
Fall – September, October, November

Edited by: Barb Rothwell  
Mailing address for the Waybill entries:  
5667 Concord Drive  
Fitchburg, WI 53575  
[cvwrails@charter.net](mailto:cvwrails@charter.net)

And now to a more serious subject. Sometime back, I was criticized by one of the region members for preaching. When I discussed the complaint with one of the Board members, he said if not me, then who else. Apparently I backed off too far, or my "Reports" aren't read as much as I hoped. It is now a week after the national Presidential election, and we ***do not*** have a complete slate of nominees. In other words, if the election were held today, we would fill only four of the five vacancies. That is just plain pathetic! If you want to help, contact Jim Wilhite at [jwilhite@netdirect.net](mailto:jwilhite@netdirect.net). Jump on in, the water's fine.

Over the last three and a half years I have fielded a number of complaints, although there have not been too many. Guess that shows that we are doing something right. But none of those complainers have offered to become members of the team and help govern the

organization. I'm sure they have more excuses than "Carter has pills", but if they don't become part of the solution, they are most certainly part of the problem.

While I'm on my soapbox, I best warn you that the next year will be one of great transition and will probably be subject to all sorts of administrative headaches. September of 2005, is the target date for the NMRA to become a "new" organization. But I'm sure that there will be missteps, and many opportunities to snipe for those so inclined to do so. Will these changes bring about a stronger organization or not? I hope so. There's a lot of room for improvement. For one thing, maybe all of us will be given ballots for the next election. They missed me last time, so I wasn't part of the 80% that approved the restructuring.

I alluded earlier to the national election. I must say I wou't miss the phone calls from Rudy, Barbara, George, the Johns, etc. etc. etc. But I just can't resist this final comment.

I'm Richard Cecil and I approve of this message.

⊗

## **AP Awards**

by Rick Shoup

Master Builder – Scenery

Mike Nicoletti

(085615, MWR 744)

12442 Sanderling Trace

Fishers, IN 46038

Association Official

Capt Albert D. Nelson

(L 05545, MWR 745)

1661 Atlanta Circle

Manitowoc, WI 54220-1728

Folks, two more men have earned their MMR certificates. If you know them, please send each a congratulations note.

John M. Johnson, MMR 339

22398 Scojo Drive

Franklin, VA 23851-2819

Albert J. Kamm, Jr., MMR 340

20207 S. Greenfield Lane

Frankfort, IL 60423-8925

⊗

## **MMR #340**

by Richard Cecil

It is with great pleasure that I advise the Region that Al Kamm, Jr. of our Calumet Division is now Master Model Railroader Number 340. I've known Al for many years and couldn't be happier for him to have accomplished this singular honor. Atta boy, Al.

⊗

## **AP Stuff**

Anyone interested in getting started with earning an AP award, just needs to contact Bill Myers our Regional AP person, or contact your Division AP Chair for more information on how to get started. That's the only way you'll get your MMR. So start today!

# Division Schedule

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## Calumet Division:

Contact: Al Kamm Jr  
(815)469-2917

**Date: December 12, 2004**

Location: Kamm's  
20207 S Greenfield Lane  
Frankfurt IL  
(815) 469-2917

Celebrate the season starting at 12 noon –  
spouses welcome

**Date: January 16, 2005**

Location: Crestwood Civic Center  
14025 S Kostner Ave  
Crestwood IL

This will be a work session starting at 12 noon,  
on the portable layout.

## Central Indiana Division:

Contact: Larry Gilbert  
(765) 779-4039

**Dates: December 4, 2004 (Saturday) –**

Indianapolis IN  
Naptown & White River Model RR  
Club Indianapolis Train Show & Swap  
Meet

Central Catholic School, 1155 East  
Cameron, Indianapolis  
Dealer Setup Hours: 7:30AM – 10AM -  
- Show Hours: 10:00AM to 3:00PM  
Contact: Carl Tomamichel, 222 South  
11th Ave., Beech Grove, IN 46107 –  
Evenings 317-786-1183

**January 8 and 9, 2005 - GATS**  
Indianapolis

**Jan 30th Noblesville, IN**

Hamilton County 4H Expo Center, 2003  
Pleasant Street  
Dealer Show & Meet - 10AM to 4 PM  
CID Annual Auction - 2PM to 4PM -  
get those auction items ready!

## DuPage:

Contact: Rob Schiavone  
(630) 690-3262  
[robert\\_s\\_60188@yahoo.com](mailto:robert_s_60188@yahoo.com)

Location: Lisle Library  
777 Front Street  
Lisle, IL

Meetings starts at 1:30pm

**Dates: December 5,** Holiday Gala Event and  
Boast-a-thon. Photo contest – all  
NMRA categories

**January 9, 2005,** Annual Auction  
**February 6, 2005 - TBA**

## Fox Valley Division:

Contact: Richard Sweet [rsweet@pactiv.com](mailto:rsweet@pactiv.com).  
11 Park Place Circle  
Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047  
(847) 550-1399

Meeting Place (unless otherwise specified):

Gary Morava Recreation Center  
110 W. Camp McDonald Road  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
(1 blk west of Camp McDonald  
Road and Elmhurst Road Rt. 83)

Meeting times: 1:30 - 4:30 PM

**Dates: December 19, 2004**

**January 16, 2005 –** Layout Tour

**February 20, 2005 –** Division meeting



**Illinois Valley Division:**

Contact: Marion Brasher

(815)663-3411

Email: valleyrnhouse@aol.com

Location: Illinois Central College, East Peoria, IL

IVD Meets are conducted using the following format - Doors open at 12 noon, there is space and tables for members to set up swap tables, the meet starts at 1 PM and tours of model railroads in the area follow the meet (usually around 3 PM). The cost to attend our Meets is \$1.00 for all attendees

Date: Call for information

**North Shore and Western Division:**

Contact: Jim Spice

(847)-662-7267

Location: Glenview Public Library  
1930 Glenview Road  
Glenview IL

The Division meets regularly from September to May, frequently on the fourth Sunday of the month. Meetings are held from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm in the Maynard Room of the Glenview Public Library. From time-to-time, meets are followed by layout tours from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

**Dates: December 3-5, 2004**, Layout Tour  
Saturday 9am-5pm, Sunday 1-5pm  
(set-up Friday 5-9pm)

**January 30, 2005**, Contest – Steam  
Locomotives

**February 27, 2005**, Contest – Freight

**Rock River Valley Division:**

Contact: Joe Whinnery

815-398-8973

Location: Midway Village and Museum  
Center, 6799 Guilford RD, west  
of Perryville and State St. Doors  
open at 12:30 with the meeting at  
1:00. Donation is \$2.00.

**Date: December 5, 2004**, Garage Sale  
**January 9, 2005**, Structure Contest  
**February 6, 2005**, Photo Contest

**South Central Wisconsin Division:**

Contact: Bob Wundrock

608.845.6232

Location: Fitchburg Community Center  
5510 Lacy Road  
Fitchburg WI

Meeting times: 1-4pm

**Date: Dec. 5, 2004**

Annual Auction

Contests: Moving the Military

Layouts: TBA

**January 9, 2005**, Rail School**February 6, 2005**

Contest: February 6, 2005: Closed and  
Covered Freight Cars

Layouts: TBA

**February 19-20, 2005** Railshow

Alliant Energy Center

Madison, WI (see ad in this issue)

**Southern Illinois Division:**

Contact: Joe Skamel

(217) 892-9740

Location: NA

Anyone interested in helping Joe start  
some activities, please contact Joe  
directly.

**Winnebagoland Division:**

Contact: Tod Rebhahn

(920) 983-8384

Dates: January 29, 2005, Stevens Point

Call for more information

**Winnebagoland Division Club Meets:**

**Cedar Creek Railroad Club**

Weekly meetings are held on Wednesdays at

7:00PM in the Train Room at

Lamm's Garden Center

2708 Sherman Road

Jackson, WI

**Central Wisconsin Model Railroaders, Ltd.**

**- Stevens Point/Plover WI Area**

HO and N-scale modular layouts. The clubhouse is located in the basement of a restored Wisconsin Central Railway's depot in the Portage County Historical Society's Heritage Park, Plover. Meets Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Visitors are always welcome. For more information call the clubhouse at 715-342-7300 on meeting nights. You can also email Jerry Rohlinger or phone him at 715-341-2069, or call Don Anderson at 715-344-8545.

**Clipper City Model Railroad Club -**

**Manitowoc**

Iron Horse Barn - Expo Grounds - I43/ US 151

Meets 1st Thursday at 7:30 p.m. - For more

information contact: Joe Lallensack

**Fond du Lac Model RR Club - Fond du Lac**

**Green Bay Area Model Railroaders Club**

**(Newer Industries) - Green Bay WI**

**Hub City Model Railroaders - Marshfield -**

Meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month except June, July and August, at 7:00 p.m. The clubhouse is located at 709 N. Chestnut Ave. For more information contact Keith Meacham or Gene Greenwald.

**Kettle Moraine Ballast Scorchers**

**Railroad Club, Inc.**

137 B North 6th Ave. West Bend, WI 53010

**Machickanuee & Splinter Creek Model RR Club - Marinette, WI**

Meets Wednesday at 7 p.m. at 1729

Stephenson Street, Marinette, WI. A new

layout is under construction. For more info e-mail Norman (Chic) Hartert.

**Neenah-Menasha Model RR Club - Neenah**

323 West Forest Avenue. Open visitation the

first Wednesday of the month, other

Wednesdays by invitation only. For more info call 414-725-3967.

**Paper Valley Model Railroad Club -**

**Kaukauna, WI**

The clubhouse is located at W2221 Block

Road, Kaukauna, WI. Club hours are Thursday

7pm - 9pm and Saturday 1pm - 4pm.

**Plymouth Model RR Club - Plymouth WI**

**Rhineland RR Association - Rhineland WI**

Meets at the Soo Line Depot Museum in

Pioneer Park Wednesdays at 7 p.m.-and

Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon. HO scale layout

depicts the railroad operations in and around

Rhineland from 1930 to 1950. Visitors are

always welcome. For more information contact

Club Secretary Rodd Blaisdell at 715-362-

5996.

**Rothschild, Schofield, & Weston Model Railroad Club- Rothschild, WI**

The club meets every Wednesday night at 7pm in the basement of the Hobby Connection in Rothschild, WI. The club layout is open to visitors every Saturday afternoon until 5pm.

**Sheboygan Society of Scale Model RR Engineers -Sheboygan WI**

Meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at the Railroad Lodge, 1001 N. 10th Street. 38 by 46-foot HO and HOn3 layout with double-tracked mainline and a 60-foot hidden staging yard. Visitors are always welcome and membership is open. For more information write to Club Secretary, Dick Pool at the above address or call the club on Tuesday evenings at 920-452-0166.

**Seymour Model Railroad Club - Seymour WI**

209 Depot Street. Open house first & third Sunday of each month from 1-3 p.m. HO Scale. The layout is located in the former Green Bay & Western depot which was moved across the street and restored. For more info contact David Fairbanks, 323 Washington Street, Seymour WI 54165-1331.

**Tri-City Railroader's Association - Wisconsin Rapids WI**

Meets at the Lowell Senior Center, 330 8th Street South on the second and fourth Sunday of each month from September through May. HO scale layout. For more information contact Club President John Sawaska at 715-421-4610 or send e-mail to Dick Hoekstra.

**UP Shortlines Model RR Club - Marquette, MI**

The UP Shortlines Model RR Club meet on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7 pm at the Jacobetti Veteran Hospital in Marquette. The

club owns a 9' by 55' HO scale traveling layout as well as a real LS&I U25c, an ore car and ex-MoPac caboose which are displayed at Presque Isle Park in Marquette.

For more information contact Richard Cooke at 906-225-5468, or email to ljlcrc@aol.com

**Waupaca Area Model Railroaders - Waupaca** More info: 715-258-5842.

Meets on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

**Wisconsin & Michigan Model RR Club - Marinette WI**

Meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Elk's Club in Marinette, WI. The semi-permanent HO scale layout is 26' by 6'. Visitors are always welcome and membership is open. For more information contact, Dave Rickaby at 1031 Marinette Avenue, Marinette WI 54143 or call 715-732-1318.

**WISE Division:**

Contact: Bonnie Janke janke@execpc.com  
262.392.9698

Location: Best Western Midway Hotel  
5105 S Howell, Milwaukee, WI

Meeting time: 12:30-4pm

**Dates: December 12, 2004**

**January 16, 2005**

**February 20, 2005**

The WISE Division sponsors monthly meets throughout Southeastern Wisconsin. Meets are on Sunday afternoons, and the public is always welcome. You'll be able to attend clinics on model railroading skills, enter modeling and photography contests, find a treasure or sell your railroad items at the SWAP meet, tour layouts at members homes.







## TRAIN GUYZ

Hank Brown  
622 Oak Street  
Cottage Grove WI 53527  
(608) 839-4939  
E-mail: [wildernesstours@charter.net](mailto:wildernesstours@charter.net)

WE CAN MAKE YOUR MODEL RAILROAD DREAMS COME TRUE

Want to be a Judge for the  
Modeling and Photo Contest at  
the Regional Convention.



As an incentive,  
part of your  
Convention Fee  
will be returned to  
you for judging.

Contact: Gary Children at 414-  
327-1666, or Ingrid Drozdak at  
[ingridtreelady@aol.com](mailto:ingridtreelady@aol.com)

## CID CD Flyer

The first ever CID CD has been created. This is available **free** to any CID member by simply showing your NMRA membership card at a **MEET**. Anyone living outside of the drive time to the Meet areas may request one by mail or e-mail from the **Chief Clerk** or **Rusty Spike Editor** (see **CID Info page** for addresses). Be sure to include your name and address and NMRA membership number. Non NMRA members may purchase one at Meets for \$5.00. It is also available to anyone joining the NMRA at one of our Meets or at our booth at **GATS** shows.



# Happy Holidays!

From all of us at the MWR Board.

We hope you have a safe and happy holiday season, and enjoy those "toys"!

**Any interesting  
railfanning, or  
layouts you've seen  
lately?**

**Have you gotten  
your AP award for  
author yet?**

Here's your chance to put the two of them together, and provide an article for the Waybill.

Check the Waybill deadline in the next column, so you'll have plenty of time to send in your article for the next Waybill.

**Remember, if you  
can write an article,  
you shouldn't be  
afraid of a little  
more paper work,  
to get those AP  
points.**

## Waybill Schedule

*Waybill current schedule:*

Fall (September, October, November)  
Winter (December, January, February)  
Spring (March, April, May)  
Summer (June, July, August)

*Deadline for submission to each issue is listed  
for the month previous to publication:*

*August 15<sup>th</sup> for the Fall issue  
November 10<sup>th</sup> for the Winter issue  
February 10<sup>th</sup> for the Spring issue  
May 15<sup>th</sup> for the Summer issue.*

*Send submissions to: [cvwrails@charter.net](mailto:cvwrails@charter.net)*

## Waybill Advertising

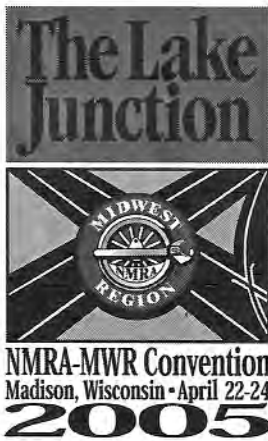
At the last Board of Director's meeting, the MWR Board approved the submission of advertising for placement in the Waybill.

Effective June 1<sup>st</sup>, advertising will be accepted for placement starting in the Fall 2004 Waybill. The deadlines for camera ready ads will be the same as the copy deadlines stated above, (*please submit by e-mail if possible in MS Word format*). If you need ad composition, please contact the Waybill editor. Railroad related advertising only will be accepted for publication.

Advertising rates/year are as follow:

Full page	\$100.00
Half page	75.00
Quarter page	50.00
Business Card size	25.00





# Come Join Us for Lake Junction 2005

April 22-24, 2005

to be held in

Madison, Wisconsin

at the Quality Inn & Suites

2969 Cahill Main, (off South Fish Hatchery Road)

Tentative timetable:

The 2005 Midwest Region, NMRA, Spring Convention will be hosted by the South Central Wisconsin Division (SCWD) of the NMRA, at the Quality Inn & Suites, located at the corner of South Fish Hatchery Road and Cahill Main, (easily accessible from Hwy 12/18, and lots free parking).

The hotel features many amenities: indoor pool and whirlpool, exercise room, game room, laundry, business center, and in room high speed internet connections. The hotel also features a full breakfast included in the room rate, and 8 restaurants located within walking distance. We have blocked all available rooms at the hotel with room rates starting at \$79/night, (larger suites are available for groups and dealers at \$109/night). For reservations call: 608-274-7200, and ask for NMRA rate.

We will also have open our usual exceptional layouts (large and small) open for both operating sessions and tours.



	Date/time	Rail	Non-rail/Youth
Friday	Noon-8pm	Registration	
	7pm	Clinic	Clinic NR
	7-9pm	Contest room open for entries	
	7-9pm	Company Store open	
	7-9pm	Auction room open for entries	
	7-10pm(?)	Layouts and operating session	Youth (8-18) operating session at the Middleton Depot
	8:30pm	Clinic	
	Saturday	7:30am-6pm	Registration
7:30am-noon		Contest room open for entries Company Store open	
7:30am-5pm		Auction room open for entries	
8:00am		Clinics	Clinic Youth
9:30am		Clinics	Clinic NR
11:00 am		Clinics	Clinic NR
1-4pm		Co. Store open	NR Tour
1-4:30pm		Contest room open for viewing	
1-5pm		Layouts open	
1:30pm		Clinic	Clinic NR
4pm		Clinic	
5-6pm		Contest room open for entry pickup	
6pm		Cocktail hour	
6:30pm		Banquet	
7:30pm	Presentations/Awards		
8:00pm	Annual Meeting/Auction		
Sunday	8am-noon	Registration	
	8:30am	Clinic	Co. Store open
	9am-noon	Regional Board Meeting	Clinic NR
	10am-11:30	Clinic	Store pickup only
	Noon-5pm	Layouts open	

In 2005, we are emphasizing youth activities, by holding an operating session for youth between the ages of 8-18, hosted by the SCWD Youth group.



# Train Fest 2004

I got a report from Gary Children on Sunday night of the show, that this years gate was around 16,000 people, who got to see a lot of running trains and many vendors. If you missed the show, here's a few shots taken while perusing through the vendor tables.





# Dreams, Themes and Scenes

by Bill Myers

As fall rapidly approaches, also comes the season of train shows, club meets, and model railroad layout presentations. All these events provide opportunities to meet with old friends and make new ones, both in, and for, the model railroad hobby. I have long enjoyed participating in these events both in participation and presentation. For many years, I displayed a small modular N-scale layout, the Hoosier Hills Scenic Railroad, at places ranging from division events to one National Train Show, and at special events in local libraries, schools, nursing and retirement homes, as at business activities.

Then came a day when an almost tragic automobile accident resulted in irreparable damage to the layout. It was damaged so badly that its last appearance depicted a tornado scene from the movie *TWISTER*. Since then, I have built and displayed other portable layouts, including one in G-scale, one in On30, and now a very small layout in N and G scales. At the same time, I have been building a larger N-scale layout in my train room at home.

None of these have given me the personal satisfaction I had with the original N-scale layout. So I've been dreaming. I dream of a layout that is very mobile, one that can be handled at all times by me alone, one that will have two or three trains running at one time, one that can be stored very easily in a small area. I wanted to be able to take this

layout anywhere, and operate it even if electrical service was not available. I wanted this layout, (when complete), to be of a quality to earn sufficient points to earn me a Master Builder-Scenery Certificate in the NMRA Achievement Program. As Achievement Program Manager for the Midwest Region, I tell myself that I should do as I encourage others to do, and also write an article for publication to receive points toward a Model Railroad Author Certificate.

I decided that the first part of this project must be to establish goals, identify limitations, and establish a starting point. The first and most important goal was to establish a budget and plan to build within the budget limitation. I elected to stay with N-scale because I already have experience, engines, rolling stock, and building in that scale. I also decided to stay with DC power, because I have the controllers and intend to operate trains more or less continuously, rather than lots of switching, starting and stopping. I also intend to install sound as a part of individual scenes rather than into operating trains.

The second goal was to design a lightweight, but very sturdy base for the layout that could be moved about, through narrow halls and doors, and which could also be loaded onto a pick-up truck by myself with ease.

Therefore, I decided the maximum overall weight of the layout, frame, and all accessories should not be more than 85 lbs. My thoughts turned to developing a steel frame, on coasters, which would support a layout of the minimum 18'2" required for a

Scenery Certificate, and which could be folded to pass through doors as narrow as 30".

I visited local building supply houses and found that square tubular steel material would probably fill the requirements I envision. After designing a workable frame, I took my design to fellow modeler Matt Hewitt. Matt suggested design improvements and then fabricated the frame. He used one by one-half inch tubular steel for the frame base and the uprights on which the layout top would be attached. The bottom frame, which also provides the footprint for storage and transporting, is 74" long and 26" wide. Matt also welded 3" stationary casters on one end of the frame, and swivel casters on the other end. This will allow the layout to be moved through almost any door and maneuvered through narrow corridors or crowded rooms. It is also a size easily loaded in a pick-up truck with a topper, that I will use for transporting. The total weight of the complete frame and legs is 29lbs. Figure 1 is a picture of the completed frame w/o the foam base inserted, and folded in the storage/transport position.

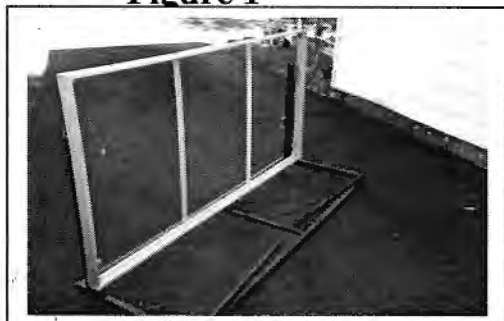
The wooden frame on which the layout will be built has is now finished. I developed a design to support a base of 2-3x6 foot sheets

of extruded foam building insulation for a total thickness of 1½". A high quality white pine lumber was selected for this purpose, because it was lightweight, and had a nice grained surface, without knots and blemishes. My friend, Vern Parks, a master woodworker, cut and trimmed the boards, and then assembled them to size with rabbet joints at the corners that are also supported by triangular wood braces. This provides a frame that won't twist or warp easily, yet is light weight and very nice looking. The total weight of the metal support frame, the wood layout support frame, and attaching fixtures are just a few ounces under 40lbs. This is less than half the total weight, I expected the finished layout to reach, and will allow for easy handling by just me. Figure 2 shows the layout set up as it will be when ready for work, or show. Figure 3 shows the layout folded ready for transport or storage.

Now it is time for my scheme, to select a layout purpose, track plans, and select scenes that will be depicted on the four separate viewing sides of the table. I hope to have at least one track operating so I can demonstrate this at its first show in three weeks. I will report on the progress in the next WAYBILL.

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**Figure 1**



**Figure 2**



**Figure 3**

