



# The WAYBILL

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## The WAYBILL

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Articles, photographs and artwork are encouraged in either hardcopy or electronic form. The editor uses Quark 4.1 as his publishing software on a Mac. Word documents are also acceptable, but please send the photographs as an attachment. Copy is due by the 10th of February, May, August and November and should be sent to the editor at the above address. Submitted material will be returned upon request.

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## Editor's Column

There is a lot of coverage of the Midwest Region convention in this issue. I will add my two cents here.

It was a great convention in spite of the weather, as you will gather from the articles. I had to be back in Chicago on Sunday morning as I had a booth at the Railroadiana Show. Unfortunately, I drove through the worst weather I had ever encountered: freezing rain, I could not see the edge of the interstate and a one hour complete stop south of Janesville.



Jim Allen (in blue shirt) receiving the award from John Drozdak, Ingrid's husband. Looking on clapping is Walt Herrick who took over her duties as photo contest judge and Gary Children, model contest judge in the background. Jim Allen assisted Gary in the model room. Jim's photo is on the cover.

On a more pleasant note, this was the first year of the Ingrid Drozdak Memorial Award pictured above. It was won by Jim Allen's excellent photo. I asked Jim about the photo and he replied;

"The photo was taken at Durango, Colorado in the mid 1970's. At this point in time the D&RGW still operated the Durango to Silverton run. The location of the photo was outside of the Durango roundhouse on one of the ready tracks. It was early morning and in a steady rain. My 35mm Minolta SRT-101 was mounted on a tripod with me holding an umbrella over it. I was using Kodacolor film with a timed exposure.

I want to congratulate the Region's newest MMR, Ron Christensen of the Michiana Division. Ron has been a close friend for many years, great job, Ron.

You may not notice, but the online version of the Waybill is often an expanded version. I do the print version first, then this version for the internet. I can add as much material as I want, where I am usually limited to 8 pages for print.

I wrote about the SCWD's video contest in the print version, but did not really do it justice. Please read my expanded version on page 7.

Cover:

Jim Allen's award winning photo taken at Durango, Colorado in the mid 1970's. More details are above.

# Waybill

## Mid West Region NMRA – Summer 2018



### President's Report

Steve Studley President, MWR

If you attended this year's MWR Convention, "Capitol 400", I hope you had as nice a time as I did. There were lots of information and enjoyment packed into just three days. We (fellow Central Indiana Division member, Bill Schoonmaker, and I) chose to operate on the Rice Lake, Dallas & Menomonie layout of Bob Wundrock, MMR on Friday afternoon.

That early slot allowed us plenty of time to attend clinics beginning Friday evening and continuing on through Saturday afternoon. Convention attendees were kept busy absorbing and sorting out all kinds of model railroading facts and techniques learned during the many clinic offerings. There were also opportunities to enjoy and learn from quite a few of the local South Central Wisconsin Division layouts while visiting during the layout tours. The convention culminated in a well-attended banquet Saturday evening where the guest speaker was Tony Koester. Bill and I were even able to visit a couple layouts on Sunday afternoon after the MWR Board of Directors meeting. Even though there had been inclement weather in the area, travel to and from the layouts was not that difficult. Thanks go to Ken Hojnacki, the convention committee, and the members of SCWD for a job well done.

As mentioned at the MWR Members Meeting held during the banquet, there were four Directors-at-Large elected in the recent MWR Board of Directors election. The four are: Eric Peterson, Central Indiana Division; Fred Henize, DuPage Division; Bob Landwehr, Fox Valley Division; Jim Allen, Fox Valley Division. Their term is for 2018-2020. Thanks to all four of them for offering their time to serve on the Board.

If you weren't able to attend "Capitol 400" this year, here is your chance for next year. Our NMRA neighbors to the north and west, Thousand Lakes Region, will co-host with the MWR a dual-Region

Convention on May 16-19, 2019 in La Crosse, WI. The tentative schedule is:

#### Thursday

Registration/Contest Room open  
Clinics and layout tours

#### Friday

Morning clinics  
Board buses 10 or 11 for the Pearl Street Brewery, the Dahl Auto Museum, and the Copeland Park Railroad display. It is possible more places may be added.

Lunch is still in the planning stage.  
Possible clinics in the evening, TLR board meeting, layout tours.

#### Saturday

Clinics  
Non Rail Trolley tour of La Crosse, and tours of other sites.  
Happy Hour 5:00, Banquet 6:00 Awards, Chinese Auction

As the schedule is firmed up, convention information will be added to the MWR website. Click on the Conventions tab at the top of the home page. Check back often to learn the latest. <http://www.mwr-nmra.org>

Now that the "Spring" (seemed more winter-like) Regional Convention is over, the weather here in south central Indiana has warmed up and brought the basement-bound modelers out into the sunlight and fresh air. Saturday, 5 May was the opening day for the Wabash Valley Railroad Museum in Terre Haute, IN. Included on the grounds of the museum is an elevated viewing platform which is adjacent to two CSX mainlines: Indy to St. Louis (east/west) and Danville, IL to Evansville, IN (north/south). Along with other railfans were about seven CID members there for the afternoon. So we had a warm, overcast day, visitors, and the local Dairy Queen was open about three

blocks away. What more could we want – yep, TRAINS! Fortunately two trains did come by while we were there – a nine-engine, 167-car monster, and an 80-car BNSF alcohol unit train - so it wasn't a complete washout. There were lots of good conversations during the day and we did have the two trains (and a chocolate malt). We learned from CID member Newman Atkinson (a docent at the museum) that during the half-hour after we left three trains came by. Get out with your friends, enjoy their company, add to your railroad/model railroad education, and enjoy the day. Maybe you'll be lucky enough to see more than two trains.

Please note: The 2018 NMRA National Convention and National Train Show will be held in Kansas City, MO from August 5 – 12, 2018. For more information: <http://www.kc2018.org/>  
In the meantime – back to the layout!  
Steve

## Region News

### Midwest Region Achievement Program Report by Jim Landwehr- MWR AP Manager

Great news regarding the Achievement Program! We now have a brand new Master Model Railroader in our Midwest Region! It is my pleasure to announce that on February 1 2018 National awarded Master Model Railroad #608 to Ron Christensen of Stevensville, Michigan. He earned his certificates in the category of cars, structures, author, chief dispatch, civil, electrical and scenery. If you know Ron or see him at a meet, be sure to congratulate him on this major achievement in the hobby. From everyone in the Midwest Region, congratulations Ron on earning Master Model Railroader #608!

I am happy to report that there has been some activity from our members. They continue to take part in the Achievement Program all over the Midwest Region. The following members received AP Certificates:

Steve Miazga	Waukesha, WI	Scenery
Steve Miazga	Waukesha, WI	Electrical
Steve Miazga	Waukesha, WI	Structural
Michael Shockley	Peoria, IL	Volunteer
Ron Christensen	Stevensville, MI	MMR
Bruce Giersch	Winnebago, IL	Golden Spike

As always, work with your division Achievement Program Manager first, and if there is a problem, feel free to contact me.

Thanks  
Jim Landwehr, MWR AP Manager

### Capital City 400 wrapup by Ken Hojnacki

As I write this, it is Sunday morning of our Capitol 400 Convention and I'm looking forward to sleeping in tomorrow.

#### The Good?

Our unofficial attendance was fantastic 153 Rail, 36 Non-Rail and 15 Banquet registrants, the biggest Midwest Region convention in many years. Nearly 50 people enjoyed the Friday night operating sessions on the railroads of Bill Clancy, Bob Wundrock, Bill and Rose Weber and myself.

#### The Great?

There were some great clinics on a variety of topics and the room was jammed for the fantastic O. Winston Link presentation by Tom Garver and Tony Koester's thought provoking presentation on layout design. The banquet room was filled Saturday night for a wonderful meal. At the members meeting afterwards, it was announced the Midwest Region would hold a joint convention in 2019 with the Thousand Lakes Region in La Crosse. Watch for more details. Awards were presented for some outstanding models and photographs in the judged contests. And Tony Koester kept us in stitches as he recounted stories about famous model railroaders he has known.

#### The Ugly?

The weather. Some folks braved the pouring rain and wind to visit a number of layouts Saturday afternoon. The rain turned to snow and sleet Saturday night and I am wondering this morning if anyone will venture out to layouts today.

I want to thank a great group of people who did the heavy work of putting this convention together: Bill Clancy, Paul Mangan, Don Mayo, Mike Vivion, John Haverberg, Diana Haverberg and Judy Vivion who put together the Non-Rail activities, Phil and Ellen Hottmann who organized the layout tours, Bob McGeever who made sure all our Audio Visual needs were met, Bill Weber who handled the door prizes, and especially Bob Wundrock who put together a great lineup of clinics, Keith Thomsen who handled

Continued on page 7



Above: 1st place Caboose UP 25089 by Ewing Row  
 Below: 1st place Rolling Stock (novice)  
 TP&W Gondola by Larry Nelson



Above Rail Grinder #1003 by William Lorence, 1st place  
 Diesel and Other Locomotive  
 Below: CNW F3 A/B set by Dave Casey display only



Above: I. M. Dunn Company Coal line dock by Jim Wise.  
 1st place structures  
 Below: Victoria Depot and Museum by Mike Schockley,  
 3rd place structures

Above: Flat car with Load, 2nd place Rolling Stock by  
 Bruce Giersch (novice)

Below: Flat Car with Pickle Load, display only Dave Casey



Right: Dairy Queen by Dave Casey, display only

Thanks to Jim Osborn who took all the contest photos





Above: Crossing Shanty by Dave Casey, display only

Below: Water Tool Shed by Dick Robinson, 2nd place structures



Below: Rat Hole Division by Marion Brasher 1st Place Model Color Print Category



Right: Diablo Canyon Bridge by Jim Allen 1st Place Prototype Color Digital Category



Top: Upper Beaverton Mine by Bruce Giersch 1st Place Display

Above: Speeder Shed Facility by Dave Casey, display only

Below: Ready to Go UP SD40 #1914 by Tom Phillips 1st Place Prototype Color Print Category



Continued from page 4

registration and Kathy Clancy who valiantly put up with my edits to create a great convention book. And to all the Division members who helped with setup and the registration desk, clinics and everyone who opened their layouts to visitors and wet feet. To paraphrase Paul Mangan, SCWD members are the best when it comes to putting on great model railroad events. Now I'm going to see if anyone braves today's weather to visit the O&W Auburn Division, then take a Rip Van Winkle-length nap. Maybe I'll wake up in time to see you at the May meeting. Ken Hojnacki Convention Chair

## SCWD video contest

By David Leider

On April 8 I gave several clinics at the SCWD meet. I was intrigued by their video contest, the first I had ever seen. I asked Ken Hojnacki, one of the winners, how it worked and he directed me to Steve Lanphear. He writes:

The video contest was started because we have many members who enjoy taking videos on their train related vacations and while visiting layouts at conventions. It seemed to me that we should be highlighting the terrific photography skills of these folks like we do for the photo skills in our monthly photo contests. I bounced the idea of a yearly video contest off of several of the SCWD members and the BOD and got the go ahead to do a feasibility study. Meeting with our Model Contest Chair, our Photo Contest Chair (me) and our webmaster, we looked at all of the benefits and hurdles to pulling this off. We developed a list of guidelines for interested members and announced them and the idea at one of our monthly meetings. The response was immediately positive. In this day and age of everybody finding something wrong with a new idea, it was refreshing to hear that everybody supported giving this a try. The guidelines were modified into the instructions that you see on the website. We announced that it was a "go" at the December meeting, with a deadline of Feb 1 for entries. The webmaster, Tom Morrison, pulled together a website service that would facilitate the uploading of the video files by the individual photographers, I then was sent a message that there was an entry, I sent the entry to Tom, who published it to our website where he had developed a format for displaying the videos in either the Model category or the

Prototype category as "blind" numbered entries in each category. We got a total of 7 entries this first year, from 5 individuals by the Feb 1 deadline. Members were encouraged to view the videos along the way from December to February. Voting opened on February 15 and was closed on April 1. Winners of 1st, 2nd and 3rd place were announced for each category at our April 8 meeting. Next year we plan on starting to accept entries on October 1 with the same February 1 deadline, to allow for more time to develop more entries and more interest.

More information from their website and the Bad Order, their excellent newsletter.

- The videos had to have a railroad theme
- Video footage must be taken by the entrant
- Title screen is optional
- Title screen cannot include entrant's name
- Maximum video length: ~5 minutes
- Submission deadline was February 1, 2018
- Voting open: February 15 –April 1, 2018
- Winners were announced April 8, 2018

After announcing the start of the Video Contest in the Fall of 2017, several SCWD members began working on their entries. The entries all had to be video taken by the individual but could be assisted in the editing process. The video had to have a railroad theme, maximum length was set at 5 minutes, with titles and sound optional. The maximum size was set at 2.0GB.

Videos were uploaded to:

[www.WeTransfer.com](http://www.WeTransfer.com) along with the entrant's name, subject, date video was shot, location and date submitted

A total of 7 videos were submitted by 5 different individuals by the February 1 deadline. There were two categories: Model railroads, and Prototype railroads. Viewing of the submitted videos began February 15 and continued through April 1, with results presented at the April 8 Meeting.

The results were:

Model Contest

1st Place - Ken Hojnacki

2nd Place – Bob Wundrock

Prototype Contest

1st Place – Ken Hojnacki

2nd Place – Tom Morrison

3rd Place – Steve Stone

You can visit the SCWD website and view the videos under the Contests menu through the end of the summer.

Why not consider a video contest for your division?

## 2018 Fall Board of Directors Meeting

VFW Hall #9759  
2018 Windsor Rd.  
Loves Park, IL 61111  
Sunday October 7, 2018; 10:30 AM  
(full breakfast at 10:00 AM)

### A Great Time in Madison In Spite of.... by Walt Herrick, FVD

Well, I had a great time at the MWR Capital 400 Madison Convention in spite of really terrible weather. Snow, in the middle of April for cryin' out loud? As long as you didn't have to go outside everything was fine, and the folks in the SCW Division made sure you didn't have to go outside with an excellent schedule of clinics and an excellent Saturday night banquet. My favorite clinic was Tom Garver's on his work assisting the famed rail photographer O. Winston Link in Link's photography and sound recording of the N&W during the last days of steam on that road. What great stuff Tom shared about Link and his work! I must admit though, that one clinic I attended was a "game changer" for me, and that was MMR Gregg Condon's "Layout Construction Efficiencies" clinic. Gregg really changed my perspective on how to build a model railroad. In his clinic, Gregg showed us how to build a layout relatively quickly using some techniques he's developed over the years. He should know, as his Mineral Point and Northern layout in the 2013 GMR was finished in



18 months! How'd he do it? By using such techniques as doing a lot of your layout modeling on manageable sections of the layout at your work bench, building small detailed mini scenes with your structures again at your work bench, and his (what MR calls) "cloth and caulk" method of creating a scenery base. All good stuff, this. Thanks, Greg, for showing me I don't have to slug my way through layout construction for the next five years to get something done! At banquet time (the food was really good in Madison) I, and the rest of the banquet room, loved Tony Koester's hilarious model railroad stories as he left us wanting for more. Of course, layout tours, as always for me, were worth the price of admission. I didn't get to see as many layouts as I would have liked, but I did see some very nice ones. Bill and Rose Weber's huge HO Union Pacific was mind boggling, as was Dr. Bill Clancy's Rio Grande Pacific with its masterful HO interpretation of the Keddie Wye. But the one I most identified with was Bob Wundrock's Soo inspired layout. I loved Bob's layout probably because of its size (medium sized basement layout), its fidelity to a prototype SOO branch (not rivet by rivet modeling, but modeling which beautifully captured the essence of the SOO), and its level of detail (not too much, not too little). Thanks, Bob! By any way you'd want to measure it (unless you're measuring the amount of snow accumulated that weekend), the Capital 400 was a great success. Thanks, South Central Wisconsin Division!

## 2019 Spring Annual Members Meeting

VFW Hall #9759  
2018 Windsor Rd.  
Loves Park, IL 61111  
Sunday May 5, 2019; held in conjunction with  
the Rock River Valley meeting

Left: Dr. Bill Clancy's Rio Grande Pacific model railroad features this amazing model of the UP's Keddie Wye found in California and originally built by the Western Pacific.  
Photo by Walt Herrick



## Wanna Win a Contest?

by Walt Herrick, FVD

I'm going to go out on a limb and say "winning a Midwest Region Model or Photo contest has never been easier".

If the number of models and photos/slides entered in this year's contests are any indication, modelers and photographers have an excellent shot at winning or placing in a MWR contest IF THEY JUST ENTER! Seriously people, there was a low number of entries in just about every model and photo category at this year's MWR convention! What does that mean? YOU stand a good chance of winning or placing with your models and/or photos or slides. Especially slides—there were no slides entered in this year's photo contest, and only one entered in last year's photo contest! Just about the same thing goes for models. Several categories had only 1 or 2 entries!



This beautifully built self propelled track inspection car won First Place in this year's MWR "Locomotive" model contest, but it was the only loco entered!  
Photo by Walt Herrick

So, I would encourage you to start preparing now for next spring's MWR Convention up in LaCrosse. You can enter 10 total models and ten total photos/slides in the contests with a maximum of three in any one category. With a little effort—probably a lot less than you think—YOU could be a winner!

Right Above: Phil Hottmann's 28 x 58 Ho/HOn3 layout Based on the 1930's. His Structures are amazing as seen above.

Right: Interior detailed warehouse on Bob Wundrock MMR's HO Soo Line Railroad.

Both convention photos by David Leider



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