

Wisconsin Chapter National Railway Historical Society

Volume 68 Number 3



March 2018

SPARKS AND CINDERS

Our purpose as members of Wisconsin Chapter—National Railway Historical Society is to gather, preserve and disseminate information, both historic and current, pertaining to railroading in Wisconsin and the Upper Midwest.

Visit the Chapter Webpage www.nrhwis.org



Chicago and Northwestern Train #149 at Waukegan, IL in May 29, 1964. See more shots like this from our March presenter Gary Rumler. Photo by Gary Rumler

In This Issue

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- Local Trains Still Around

Upcoming Events March 2018

TMER&THS (Traction and Bus Club)

www.tmer.org

Saturday March 17, 2018

NEW LOCATION - Waterstone Bank

6560 S 27th Street

"Here Comes Our Bus" by Milw County Transit System

NMRA WISE Division Monthly Meet

Sunday March 18, 2018 12:30pm to 4:00pm

Four Points Airport Howell and Grange Aves

Swap Meet, Clinics, Contests and Layout Tours

Check out www.wisedivision.org for information

NRHS National Convention

www.nrhs.com

August 7-12. 2018

Cumberland, MD

Milwaukee Road Historical Association

www.mrha.com

July 18-21, 2018

Olympia, Washington

National Convention

C&NW Historical Society

www.cnwhs.org

National Convention May 17-20, 2018

Rapid City, South Dakota

Soo Line Historical and Technical Society

www.sooline.org

National Convention

September 20-23, 2018

Stevens Point, WI

Green Bay & Western Historical Society

Annual Meeting Banquet

Saturday April 28, 2018 Best Western Green Bay Inn

780 Armed Forces Dr Green Bay, WI

Same Saturday as Titletown Train Show

Thank You to all those that contributed to this issue of Sparks and Cinders. Member contributions make this newsletter YOUR newsletter. - Sparks and Cinders Editor

Wisconsin Chapter Now on Facebook !!

Thanks to Keith Schmidt the Chapter now has a Facebook Page. It Can be accessed at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Wisconsin-Chapter-NRHS/170129169765334> (Must enter the number string)

Sparks and Cinders is published by the Wisconsin Chapter, National Railway Historical Society. President: Bob Baker contact at bbaker@milwpc.com. Send all address changes and dues to the treasurer, Tom Hoffmann, 1102 Aspen Dr., Waukesha, WI 53188. Send all material for publication to the interim editor, Keith Schmidt 3286 S Springfield Ave Milw, WI 53207 or at sparksandcinders@gmail.com



Friday March 2, 2018 Gary Rumler
"Northwestern"

Gary comes from family of railroaders and will be presenting "North Western" for our March meeting. He worked for the C&NW as an engineer from 1966 to 2005, in both the Milwaukee area and southern Minnesota.

He grew up in South Milwaukee, six blocks from the Old Line. He had to cross these very same tracks on the way to school. On the way, he frequently met train passenger train 152, a SB train to Chicago. On weekends Gary expanded his love of trains.

And so it was, in July 1966 Gary was hired by the C&NW. His first trip was the Butler Road Special from Butler to National Ave, working for his father.

Meetings are held at the North Shore Congregational Church at 7330 N Santa Monica Blvd in Fox Point in the lower level. The meeting room at the North Shore Congregation Church is handicap accessible.

Please watch the Chapter webpage www.nrhswi.org for any weather cancellations



Wisconsin Chapter Meeting Schedule

Friday March 2, 2018 Gary Rumler - "Northwestern"

Friday April 6, 2018 Rob McGonigal

Saturday May 5, 2018 Chapter Banquet - Meyers Restaurant

MEETINGS NOW START AT 7:30PM !!!

Programs Subject to Change

If you would like to present a program

at a Chapter Meeting

Contact Dave Nelson at email engine1385@aol.com

February 2018 Meeting Summary

New 2018 President Bob Baker called the meeting to order at 7:41 pm. Twenty-five people were in attendance.

There were some changes in procedure and protocol. Officers in attendance will again be seated at the front table. There may be some formal motions. As always, only full members may make or second motions, or vote on them. Any motions that change direction or set new policies are subject to the quorum requirement in the Chapter by-laws.

Secretary Tom Marcussen declined to read the minutes of January 5, 2018, annual business meeting, or the summary report of the "informal" part of the meeting that followed. The summary report was published in the February 2018 issue of Sparks & Cinders. It is available to all members and others in attendance. It did not need to be approved. The formal business meeting minutes will be published in a future issue of S&C, and will be approved at the next meeting following their publication. There were no objections.

Treasurer Tom Hoffmann presented a partial / approximate treasurer's report for the calendar year of 2017. The following points were made:

The checkbook balances.

We still have about \$11,000 in the bank.

Approximate expenses were \$1250 for S&C, \$1862 for events

meeting summary continued

(mostly for banquet and East Troy trip), \$1318 for miscellaneous (mostly for insurance and for donations to church and custodians for the use of their space). Those total up to \$4430.

Approximate revenues were \$1226 from dues, \$765 from banquet, \$600 from other events (mostly from East Troy trip), \$360 from book sales, and \$5.95 from interest. Total revenues of about \$2956.95

Comparing the above shows a loss of \$1473.05 in 2017. That is preliminary and approximate

We filled out our Wisconsin state sales tax report. We had about \$40.00 in in-state sales. No payment was due because of the small amount.

Ron Ziese made a motion to accept the above treasurer's report. Jerry Krug seconded it. It was approved by unanimous voice vote.

The 2018 annual banquet will be going back to Meyer's Restaurant in Greenfield on Saturday, May 5. The new ownership at Pallas Restaurant instituted a new minimum of 75 people. Our typical attendance has been in the 30's. We have reserved space, with a down payment at Meyer's. Don and Debbie Goerke will be in charge. They are looking for door prizes.

Gary Rumler of Red Wing, Minnesota, will be presenting the program at our next meeting on Friday, March 2. He is a retired Chicago & North Western engineer who worked with our Chapter Secretary's father Gilbert Marcussen. This should be a good one. Rob McGonigal, the editor of *Classic Trains*, will be at the April 6 meeting. Mike Patrick will be presenting on Friday, June 1.

Tonight's meeting was in the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* events column, with our presenter Al Baker being mentioned by name.

Among the 25 in attendance tonight, there was one guest, Harry "Buzz" Ennis, a former Soo Line / Canadian Pacific engineer who retired in 2011. He heard about us from meeting with Bob Baker at Meyer's Restaurant. We have one new member, Gaylord Yost of River Hills, who found out about us through the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel events column. The Schreiber's from Bayside, who became subscribers in January, were back.

There will be a Board of Directors meeting at the church, starting at 9:30 am, on Saturday, February 24.

Tom Hoffmann asked all to be quiet on leaving after the presentation. The church youth have an all-night event on the second floor.

President Bob Baker made a plea to all of us to promote attendance and / or membership in the Chapter. We need to get more people here, and signed up for membership.

He then asked if there were any further new business or announcements.

Dave Nelson reported that he finally received his 2018 membership card from NRHS National. He sent his renewal in November 2017. The new membership renewal system is working -slowly.

Dave announced that our banquet speaker will be David Leider, associate editor of the Soo Line Historical and Technical Society magazine, and author of several books on the Soo Line, the original Wisconsin Central (1870's – 1961), and their customers.

Bob Baker reminded all members to please sign up (renew) for 2018, and pay their dues. Tom Hoffmann can accept those payments tonight.

Neal Wegner saw Amtrak P42 #181 on the east-bound

From the President

I'd like to thank "Uncle Al" Baker for his excellent show at the February meeting. We have a board of directors meeting coming up on February 24th, but we won't know the results until the March meeting on 3.2.18. So please come for an update. We've got some really good shows coming up too. An update on March's presenter Gary Rumler is posted separately in this issue. Rob McGonigal from Classic Trains is on tap for April and noted Historian Mike Patrick for June.

Our 2018 banquet is scheduled for Saturday May 5th. Unfortunately we had to move our banquet from Pallas in West Allis to Meyers in Greenfield. Simply put, Pallas didn't want our business.. And I know our organization had an unfortunate experience with Meyers a few years back. But we had no choice. I am guaranteed we will have a good time. Meyers has good food and excellent facilities too. Mr. Dave Laider from the Soo Line Historical and Technical Society will be our banquet speaker. Don and Debbie Goerke remind us to bring door prizes.

Finally, a plea to pay your dues. I am guilty myself, but promise to be legal by the March meeting. I am inviting our subscribers to consider joining our national NRHS organization. We just received an excellent edition of the NRHS Bulletin in the mail.

CU at the March 2nd meeting!!



meeting summary continued

Empire Builder (train #8). This was the trailing engine, which remained on the rails, in the south-bound Amtrak Cascades (train #501) Talgo derailment between Tacoma and Olympia, Washington on December 18, 2017.

Jeff Marker reported that one of the two "orphaned" Wisconsin Talgo train sets was taken out of storage at the Amtrak shop in Beech Grove, Indiana, and sent out to the US Department of Transportation test track in Pueblo, Colorado. The move, via Chicago, and then SW of the old Santa Fe main line, was hours behind schedule. The Oregon Talgo set that ran through a derail protecting an open drawbridge on July 2, 2017, is at Talgo's Century City plant in Milwaukee for repair. The set that was in the December 18 wreck is too damaged to repair. (One could speculate that the Wisconsin set is a replacement. No one has said anything on the subject.) Los Angeles subway cars have begun arriving at the Century City plant for rehabilitation. Lots of work / activity is going on there.

President Bob Baker announced that three Chapter members will receive 25-year pins in 2018: Mike Grosko, Harry J. Evans, and Robert W. Brown.

The announcements and discussion above ended at 8:00 pm.

Our speaker tonight was Chapter member Al Baker, a 30-year veteran of the Racine Police Department, who has spent the last 11 years as Police Chief in Danbury, Connecticut. Al was involved in the railroad museum there. He is now retired and returned to Wisconsin. Al presented three trays of slides covering mostly Wisconsin railroad subjects, with some pictures from California and Colorado, from roughly 1980 through 2001. The presentation ended at 8:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Thomas W. Marcussen
Wisconsin Chapter Secretary

Chapter Honors Three 25 Year Members

I am happy to announce that the Wisconsin Chapter has three (3) members celebrating 25 years in our chapter. Congratulations go out to:

Mike Grosko

Harry Evans

Robert W. Brown

I am hoping that each of you can come to an upcoming meeting, so you can receive your 25 year pin, accompanying letter, and our adulations. Please Email your attendance to me at bbaker@milwpc.com

Thanks guys!!



Wisconsin Chapter NRHS Annual Banquet Saturday May 5, 2018

When - Saturday May 5, 2018

Where - New Location

Meyers Family Restaurant
4260 S 76th St

Cocktails 6pm to 7pm

Dinner to Follow

David Leider from the Soo Line Historical Society will be the speaker at the banquet this year. David is the past president of the Soo Line Historical Society. David is a prolific model railroader and railroad author. David has authored 3 books on railroading. David is currently Associate Editor of the Soo Line Historical Society newsletter The Soo and also editor of The Waybill the newsletter for the Midwest region of the NMRA. Should be a great evening.

Cost \$22.50 per person

Don and Debbie Goerke will be helping to organize the door prizes. They are always looking for donations so if you can help out please let them know.

To RSVP please contact Tom Hoffmann at 262-542-7447 or 262-271-4173. Payment can be made at monthly meetings.



Original 23rd Annual Model Railroad Show Presented by Metro Model Railroad Club

Sunday March 11, 2018 9am to 4pm
Circle B Recreation Center
Cedarburg, WI

Operating Model Railroad Layouts
Swap Tables

For more information check out
www.metrorrclub.org
jimbartelt@gmail.com



Gary Rumler - March 2018 "Northwestern"

More about our March 2018 presenter. Gary comes from family of railroaders and will be presenting "North Western" for our March meeting. He worked for the C&NW as an engineer from 1966 to 2005, in both the Milwaukee area and southern Minnesota,

He grew up in South Milwaukee, six blocks from the Old Line. He had to cross these very same tracks on the way to school. On the way, he frequently met train passenger train 152, a SB train to Chicago. On weekends Gary expanded his love of trains.

And so it was, in July 1966 Gary was hired by the C&NW. His first trip was the Butler Road Special from Butler to National Ave, working for his father. Gary's bio lists more places that he worked on the railroad than can fit in this biography. This included both freight and passenger.

In 1972, Gary moved to the Southern Minnesota area. Again the list of lines Gary worked on is endless. He even tried a stint on the Powder River Coal Line.

Gary's last trip was as engineer on the Roseport switch run in July 2005. He proudly comes from a railroad family that includes 228 years of seniority from his grandfather to his two sons.

Gary has been a member of our NRHS organization for many years. He and his wife live in Red Wing MN. He assures me the former CGW depot is still open, serving Caribou coffee.

NRHS Membership News

The NRHS's new Neon membership database is up and operational. It now has a built in "grace period" after the end of your membership that ends March 31, 2018. Only then does membership actually end. You can renew after that but won't be on the mailing list for any publications that are issued after March 31 until you do renew.

Only a "Regular Member" can renew a "Family Member". The renewal must be done through the "Regular Member" sign-on. If you have trouble in renewing a "Family Member," please contact Hugh Harris and he'll reset the link so you can go ahead. Hugh stands by to assist joining and renewing: e-mail him at membership@NRHS.com or at hughrharris@aol.com.

The Neon system is now accepting donations as well. Go to the "Donations" tab on the NRHS website, and there are four funds that you can select. The links will take you directly to the donation interface. These funds go directly to the NRHS Fund, while your dues go to the NRHS account. - *Dave Nelson*

Dynamic Duo Get UP Numbers

The last 2 locomotives still in full C&NW paint, GE C44-9W's Nos. 8646 and 8701, will be getting UP yellow and gray, part of the road's quest to repaint all remaining units not yet in the UP color scheme. The last ex SP and ex-Cotton Belt locomotives were renumbered with "patches" in 2016, leaving the 2 C&NWs as the last holdouts. They were used mainly in ex C&NW territory in the Proviso-Belvidere-Global 3 vicinity and stored at the Illinois Railway Museum when not needed. They were pulled from IRM in early December and departed Proviso for North Little Rock, Ark., shop Dec 16th. There the 8646 is to be renumber #9750 and 8701 is to become #9805. It was noted that UPRR locomotive manager Woodie Davis at Proviso retired about the same time as the 2 holdouts.

by Jerry Krug and Mike Bartels

Plan to Expand Hiawatha Service Comes at a Price

A plan to expand Chicago to Milwaukee Amtrak service by three round trips daily would require \$195 million in line upgrades, a Wisconsin Department of Transportation official said.

According to a Milwaukee Business News report, Arun Rao, state transportation department passenger rail manager, told a recent meeting of Milwaukee's Public Transportation Review board that three of those projects, costing \$59 million, are within Wisconsin: \$10 million for a second platform at Milwaukee's Mitchell Airport station and \$49 million for two projects at or near downtown's Milwaukee Intermodal Station.

Amtrak currently serves the Chicago to Milwaukee route with seven Hiawatha round trips that carried more than 829,000 passengers in fiscal 2017. With the additional round trips, ridership is projected to exceed 1 million. Those figures do not include a potential ridership boost for Foxconn Technology Group's planned Mount Pleasant, Wis., factory, which could employ up to 13,000 people and is near the Hiawatha's Sturtevant stop.

In Illinois, efforts to add sidings to accommodate additional Hiawatha service has met with significant opposition in the communities of Lake Forest, Deerfield, Northbrook, and Glenview. Residents are concerned what the additional capacity would mean for Canadian Pacific freight operations, and fear increased freight traffic could hurt property values.

Courtesy - TRAINS Newswire Kalmbach Publishing

Annual Business Meeting Minutes

This January meeting included the annual formal business meeting of the Wisconsin Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. Only members (who must be members of the national society) were allowed to participate. President Dave Nelson asked all other attendees to please be patient during the formal business part of the meeting. There were 19 members in attendance. Therefore a quorum was present. President Nelson called the annual business meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

The meeting began with the review of the minutes of the previous annual business meeting, on Friday, January 6, 2017, as re-published on page 4 of the January 2018 edition of Sparks & Cinders. There were no corrections or discussion. Mike Yuhas moved that the minutes be approved as published. Bob Joyce seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The next order of business was the election of officers and directors for 2018. The current / incumbent (2017) officers and directors were introduced:

President—Dave Nelson

Vice President—Keith Schmidt

Treasurer—Tom Hoffmann

Secretary—Tom Marcussen

Directors—Bob Baker (Past President), Ralph McClure, Greg Mross, Andrew Roach, Cathy Wegner, Neil Wegner, and Mike Yuhas

Greg Mross and Andrew Roach were not able to be present this evening.

All of the above incumbent 2017 officers and directors were eligible to run again, and had indicated their willingness to do so, with two exceptions. President Dave Nelson

is stepping down. He will remain on the Board as Past President. Greg Mross is stepping down from the board because he has not been able to get to very many meetings. That will change with his upcoming retirement.

Tom Hoffmann nominated Bob Baker for President. There were no other nominations for President. Dave Nelson called for any other nominations for any of the other officer positions. There were none. Dave Nelson called for any nominations to the at-large Board positions. Bob Baker nominated Al Baker. Al was not present due to illness. Bob confirmed Al's desire and willingness to serve. There were no other nominations to the Board.

Tom Hoffmann moved that the nominations be closed. Keith Schmidt seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The above nominations left us with the following slate of officers and directors for 2018:

President—Bob Baker

Vice President—Keith Schmidt

Treasurer—Tom Hoffmann

Secretary—Tom Marcussen

Directors—Al Baker, Ralph McClure, Dave Nelson (Past President), Andrew Roach, Cathy Wegner, Neil Wegner, and Mike Yuhas

There were no contested positions. Mike Yuhas moved that the Chapter vote as a block to elect the above slate. Keith Schmidt seconded the motion. Dave Nelson asked if anyone would prefer separate voting. No one spoke up. There was no other discussion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote. The above slate was declared to be re-elected.

Bob Baker explained that his brother Al Baker had been away since 2005. He had been the Police Chief in Danbury, Connecticut, since then. He just retired, moved back to the Milwaukee area, and is looking forward to again participating in the Wisconsin Chapter. He did not attend tonight because he was not feeling well, and did not wish to spread his illness around.

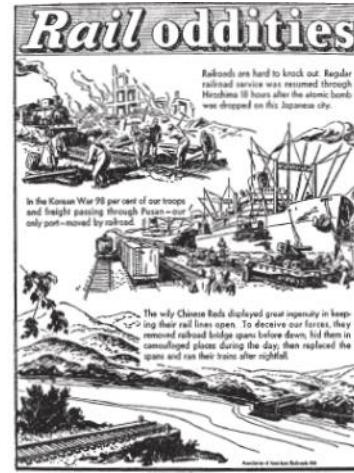
Bob Baker expressed his appreciation for Dave Nelson's leadership and service as President. There was an extended round of applause for Dave Nelson.

The next formal business meeting will be held on Friday, January 4, 2019—unless a situation comes up that calls for a special meeting.

Mike Yuhas moved that the formal business meeting be adjourned. Keith Schmidt seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The formal business meeting was declared adjourned at 7:40 pm. Respectfully Submitted

Thomas W. Marcussen

Wisconsin Chapter Secretary

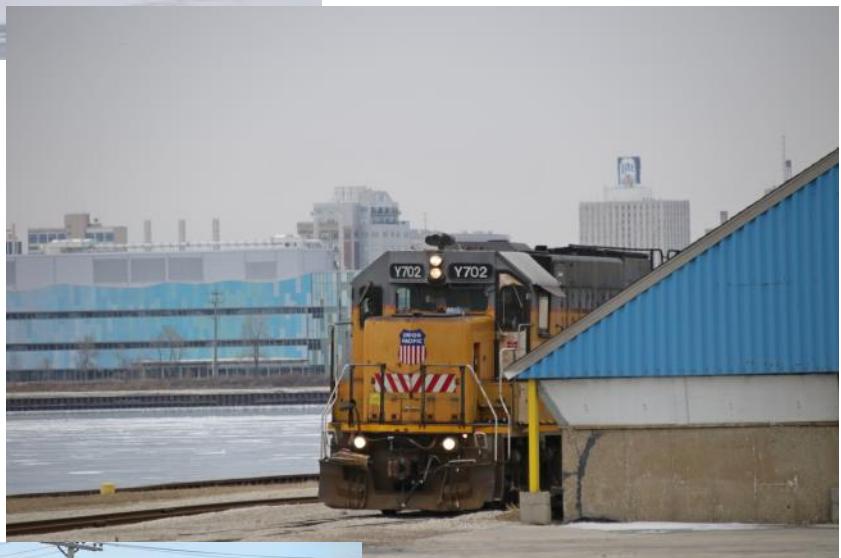


Local Trains still Run in the Area



The Union Pacific Marsh Job is a local train that keeps on running. Here the UP Y702 is powering the Marsh Job as it moves around some salt cars and a tank car on Jones Island in February 2018. Jones Island is still a busy customer for the UP. Salt is always being loaded and unloaded. Also LaFarge ships and receives Portland cement. Tank cars have become more numerous as more LP gas is being unloaded on Jones Island. The Marsh Job is usually down on the Island in the mid morning most days.

Photos by Keith Schmidt



Again the Marsh Job is keeping busy. Here UP #1436 is in charge of the train in late January 2018. The engine and two gondolas have just come down a pretty steep grade and are sitting along Water Street. Soon the engine and gondolas will push across Water street and into Miller Compressing scrap metal yard. Miller Compressing, a chemical company and an asphalt company are the only customers left up in this area off Water Street. The Marsh Job if needed is usually in this area in the afternoon.

Photo by Keith Schmidt

From the Archives

March 1958 - 60 Years Ago

On the 23rd of February, about 75 rail enthusiasts from our Chapter, from other railroad and historical groups, and a few other individuals, paid their respects to the Wells line with a lengthy ride. Car No. 972 was chartered, but the number of interested people was so great that it was necessary to obtain Car No. 966. The run was made over both the Harwood and West Allis lines, with frequent photo stops. Car No. 972 returned from West Allis as an express; No. 966 was run behind, allowing additional photo stops. The Milwaukee & Suburban Transport Company was very cooperative; our thanks to them for their part in the somewhat nostalgic event.

March 1963 - 55 Years Ago

If the Twin Cities 400, trains 401-400, are terminated Saturday, March 23, Jim Scribbins will make the "last ride" to either South Beaver Dam or Adams on that date. If nine additional members accompany Jim (on advance notice), C&NW will protect the transfer from 401 to 400 at Adams, where the trains meet. For less than ten persons, it will be necessary to settle for the shorter ride (and safer connection) at South Beaver Dam. 401 - Lv. Milw. 1:50 p.m.; S. Beaver Dam 2:54 p.m.; Adams 3:50 p.m.
400 - Lv. Adams 3:50 p.m.; S. Beaver Dam 4:43 p.m.; Milw. 5:44 p.m.

Round trip coach: S. Beaver Dam \$3.50; Adams \$6.85

March 1968 - 50 Years Ago

The Milwaukee Road has joined the trend to high horsepower six-axle hood units with the delivery this month of six EMD SD45s and six GE U30Cs.

March 1973 - 45 Years Ago

On February 20, the Milwaukee Road announced that the railroad would phase out its remaining electric operations in favor of fully-dieselized service throughout the system. The decision ended speculation that the railroad might refurbish and expand its electrified operations....C&NW commuter F units are regular visitors to the Milwaukee area, seeing weekend duty in freight service. C&NW has purchased 11 diesels from the UP to replace older units in its Chicago commuter operations.

March 1978 - 40 Years Ago

All of the area railroads have experienced power shortages and have leased power as follows: Milwaukee Road: 15 CN Canadian-built SD40s, a number of B&O GP30s and GP35s, and 12 Southern SD24s. Soo Line: 4 Southern SD24s. C&NW: 18 B&LE SD9s, 2 CN GP35s, also, many UP units are showing up as payment for horsepower miles....The Michigan Highway Commission has approved an increase in the car ferry Chief Wawatam schedule from once a week to between seven and ten trips a week between St. Ignace and Mackinaw City to ease the backlog of over 450 freight cars awaiting passage.

March 1983 - 35 Years Ago

The major reconstruction project for the C&NW this year will be the rebuilding of the line from Clyman Jct. south through Watertown to Jefferson Jct....The C&NW announced the summer schedule for the 1385. It includes display at Jones Island on May 21 and 22, Butler Railroad Days, June 3 - 5, and other operations throughout the railroad until September 25....The Milwaukee Road has shelved the conversion of the Chicago-St. Paul double track mainline to single track. Possibly the main reason for not completing the project, according to consultants, is that due to bankruptcy proceedings, no funds are available for the project.

March 1988 - 30 Years Ago

This issue of S&C contained an interesting potpourri of reprints and other information including a chart showing the major interchange points of the Wisconsin Central, a Soo Line timetable page showing the schedule of the Laker in 1951, the 1924 Poor's Manual entry for the Green Bay & Western plus a photo of GB&W loco No. 316 by Jerry Hilton, the 1988 Norfolk Southern steam schedule, an errata sheet for Wisconsin Rails, and a membership survey regarding Chapter activities and S&C.

March 1993 - 25 Years Ago

Soo Line moved the first test double stacks through the newly enlarged tunnel at Tunnel City on February 11. Revenue service with double stacks is set to begin soon....The next segment of the Soo Line (ex-MILW) to be single tracked will be Pewaukee to Watertown....CP Rail unveiled its new livery recently. The design features stylized U.S. and Canadian flags....The ICC has again put the WC/GBW/FRV merger on hold pending additional negotiations regarding employee job protection

March 1998 - 20 Years Ago

An extension of Metra service from Kenosha to Racine and Milwaukee is being studied by SEWRPC....In a related item, city officials from Gurnee, Wadsworth, and Waukegan are discussing the possibility of Metra service to those communities...CN, which has begun a cash tender offer for 75% of IC's outstanding stock, say that the IC corporate name and its Chicago offices will remain if the merger is ultimately completed....Asked if WC will become a merger partner, Tom Power, WC's Chief Financial Officer said, "Our intent is to remain the strong regional carrier that we are, and we will work with other carriers on shipments all over the United States that originate or terminate in Wisconsin."

March 2003 - 15 Years Ago

On February 16 and 17, as a result of record snowfall in the Baltimore area, the roof of the 1884 Baldwin Roundhouse at the B&O Railroad Museum partially collapsed. The first collapse occurred between midnight and 12:30 a.m. on the 17th, an additional section collapsed at 5:30 a.m. Collapse of the roof may have been triggered by a severe dynamic load of falling ice and snow from the large round clerestory roof striking one side of the already snow-burdened roof. Some items normally on display in the roundhouse were temporarily in other buildings and weren't damaged, however, two 1870s-era coaches were crushed, one was cut in half. Graffiti vandals struck the Illinois Railway Museum in Union, Illinois, on February 1 when they spray-painted on antique CTA cars. There was also a graffiti incident at the Fox Valley Trolley Museum in South Elgin, Illinois,

March 2008 - 10 Years Ago

December 28, 2007 was the last day that the Marsh Job and Cudahy Job crews started and ended their day at Mitchell Yard. After this the crews will be based out of Butler Yard. 5 tracks in Mitchell Yard will remain in service. Three tracks will be available for interchange with the Canadian Pacific.

March 2013 - 5 Years Ago

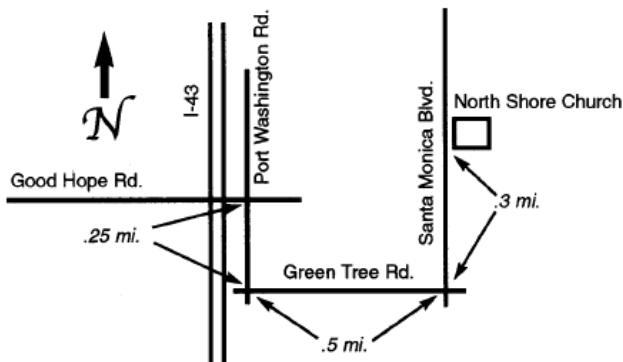
According to the Sheboygan Press for December 18, the long rumored rehabilitation of the former Chicago & North Western rail line between Plymouth WI and Kohler may finally be a reality. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation has awarded \$17.1 million to finance the project, which is expected to begin in the spring of 2013. Talgo's first Oregon trainset is at US DOT' test track near Pueblo, CO. It operated up to 115mph, the speed limit of its Amtrak engine. It could otherwise have gone up to 130-135mph. Testing is almost completed. The first Oregon set will be shipped from Pueblo to the Talgo maintenance facility in Seattle about February 10th - 12th.

Sparks & Cinders
1102 Aspen Dr
Waukesha, WI 53188

FIRST CLASS

Chapter Meeting Location

North Shore Congregational Church
7330 N. Santa Monica Blvd.
Fox Point, WI



For Meeting Updates and Weather Cancellations
please check the Chapter Webpage
www.nrhwis.org

Sparks & Cinders is published by and for the members of the Wisconsin Chapter, Inc., National Railway Historical Society monthly except for July and August. The Chapter meets at the North Shore Congregational Church, 7330 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Fox Point, Wisconsin, on the first Friday of each month, except July and August, at 7:30 p.m. The Wisconsin Chapter, Inc., NRHS, is a not-for-profit corporation, affiliated with the National Railway Historical Society and the Wisconsin Historical Society, organized to preserve the history of railroading in Wisconsin and the surrounding area.

The interim editor of Sparks & Cinders is Keith Schmidt. All material to be included in Sparks & Cinders should be sent to him via U.S. Mail to 3286 S. Springfield Ave Milwaukee, WI 53207 or by e-mail to: sparksandcinders@gmail.com by the 15th of the month preceding the month of publication. All address changes should be sent to the treasurer, Tom Hoffmann, 1102 Aspen Dr., Waukesha, WI 53188-2314.

Membership in the Chapter is open to anyone having an interest in any aspect of railroading. A subscription to Sparks & Cinders is included in the annual dues of \$65.00 per year which also includes membership in the national organization and a subscription to its publications, NRHS Bulletin and NRHS News. Officers of the Wisconsin Chapter are: President, Bob Baker; Vice-President, Keith Schmidt; Secretary, Tom Marcussen, Treasurer, Tom Hoffmann; National Director Tom Hoffmann; Directors, Al Baker, Mike Yuhas, Ralph McClure, Andrew Roach, Neil and Cathy Wegner and Dave Nelson.

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