



# 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.nrhswis.org](http://www.nrhswis.org)



Reading 4-6-2 No. 128 is between Elkins Park and Oak Lane stations as it speeds south with a New York express in the 1940s. William P. Ratchford photo

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## Upcoming Events April 2018

### TMER&THS (Traction and Bus Club)

[www.tmer.org](http://www.tmer.org)

Saturday April 21, 2018

NEW LOCATION - Waterstone Bank

6560 S 27th Street

“Railfanning the Little Train that Could” by Bob Baker

### NMRA WISE Division Monthly Meet

Sunday April 22, 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](http://www.wisedivision.org) for information

### NRHS National Convention

[www.nrhs.com](http://www.nrhs.com)

August 7-12, 2018

Cumberland, MD

### Milwaukee Road Historical Association

[www.mrha.com](http://www.mrha.com)

July 18-21, 2018

Olympia, Washington

National Convention

### C&NW Historical Society

[www.cnwhs.org](http://www.cnwhs.org)

National Convention May 17-20, 2018

Rapid City, South Dakota

### Soo Line Historical and Technical Society

[www.sooline.org](http://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 Tiletown 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](mailto: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](mailto:sparksandcinders@gmail.com)



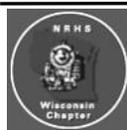
## Friday April 6, 2018 Rob McGonigal “Reading in the 1970’s and More”

Rob McGonigal, editor of Kalmbach’s Classic Trains magazine, has lived in Milwaukee since the early 1980s, but he grew up in suburban Philadelphia. His local station was Elkins Park, on the Reading Company’s main line 10 miles north of the city, used primarily by electric M.U. commuter trains. Rob often rode his bike to the station after school in the early 1970s, sometimes taking photos with his mom’s Instamatic camera. See some of these photos and many more.

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.

Refreshments are now available at Chapter meetings. So enjoy a light snack and watch some great presentations.

Please watch the Chapter webpage [www.nrhswi.org](http://www.nrhswi.org) for any weather cancellations



## Wisconsin Chapter Meeting Schedule

Friday April 6, 2018 Rob McGonigal - Reading in the 1970’s  
Saturday May 5, 2018 Chapter Banquet - Meyers Restaurant  
June 1, 2018 Mike Patrick - To Be Announced

### 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](mailto:engine1385@aol.com)

## March 2018 Meeting Summary

President Bob Baker called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. Thirty-eight people were in attendance.

There will be another opportunity to buy snacks or sodas before the presentation starts. All attendees were asked to sign the attendance list, with their e-mail address, so that we can send notice of future programs to them, and to fill out name tags.

Bob Baker reported on the Board of Directors meeting at the church on Saturday, February 24. It lasted for nearly two hours. Slightly over half of that time was spent on increasing meeting attendance and membership. Some of the suggestions made there are being implemented starting tonight—specifically name tags, sign-in sheets, and snacks and sodas. Bob Baker has written a letter to NRHS National in support of Old Brule Historical Society’s effort to save, move and restore the Northern Pacific depot at Blueberry, Wisconsin. A full set of minutes detailing these and other issues will be published in Sparks & Cinders.

Rob McGonigal, the editor of Classic Trains, will be showing a presentation on the Reading Railroad at the Friday, April 6 meeting. Our annual banquet will be at Meyer’s Restaurant in Greenfield on Saturday, May 5. David Leider will be presenting the history of the Chicago Stock Yards, with emphasis on railroad service. Mike Patrick will be presenting on Friday, June 1—topic to be announced later.

## From the President

All of our meeting topics are announced in advance on our Chapter Web Site, at nrhswis.org. There are a lot of historic photos and other valuable content on there, largely thanks to the efforts of Chapter member Mike Yuhas.

President Bob Baker presented a 25-year continuous membership certificate and pin to Mike Grosko of Vernon Hills, Illinois. There was a round of applause for Mike, a frequent attendee who comes a long way to be with us.

Bob Baker then asked if there were any further new business or announcements. No one offered any. A motion and second for adjournment followed. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The announcements and discussion were declared adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Bob Baker introduced our presenter, retired Chicago & North Western engineer Gary Rumler. Gary and his father had worked with our Chapter Secretary's father Gilbert Marcussen. Gary started with C&NW in Milwaukee in the early 1960's. He relocated to Red Wing, Minnesota, in the late 1970's. Gary worked in all states served by the C&NW except North Dakota (where C&NW trackage was limited to one branch to Oakes) and Upper Michigan. He retired from their successor Union Pacific about 2005. Gary's two sons are carrying on the Rumler family railroad tradition on the Union Pacific. One that was present tonight will start his engineer training on Monday, March 5, 2018.

Gary took a number of slide photographs throughout his career. He included a generous sampling of those, from the start of his service through the folding of C&NW into Union Pacific in 1995, from all over the system, in tonight's excellent presentation. Many were rare views, taken from engine cabs, and showing things in Milwaukee and surrounding communities that no longer exist. Gary knew where all of these slides, both those that he took himself, and those that he traded or purchased, had been taken. He had a number of interesting stories to go with them.

The presentation went right up to the 10:00 pm limit on our use of the church property.

Respectfully Submitted  
Thomas W. Marcussen  
Wisconsin Chapter Secretary

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### Chapter Member Mike Grosko receives 25 Year Pin

Chapter President Bob Baker presented Mike Grosko with his 25 year membership pin at the March 2, 2018 meeting. Congratulations to Mike on 25 years.



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Gary Rumler's presentation at the March meeting drew one of the largest crowds we've had in recent years. Thanks for your efforts Gary! Let's keep the momentum going for Rob McGonigal's show at the April meeting. I can guarantee he will put on a great show. Please spread the word and bring a friend or two or three.

Those of you who were at the March meeting noted that we now have refreshments on sale. Cold Soda is 50 cents, candy bars one dollar, and chips for 50 cents. We did well, and will bring more for April.

Great to see Mike Grosko getting his 25 year pin and congratulatory letter at the March meeting. Bob Brown and Harry Evans were unable to attend, so I have mailed out their pins to their homes.

The banquet is coming on May 5th. I am looking forward to seeing Dave Leider's show on the Chicago Stock Yards. Registration and sign up is included in this issue. We need door prizes, too.

Mike Patrick is going to be showing in June, and Keith is working on another East Troy trolley ride. This time we are going to go to try a morning ride, and a BBQ lunch.

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### “Reading in the 1970’s and More” with Rob McGonigal April 6 2018

Rob McGonigal, editor of Kalmbach's Classic Trains magazine, has lived in Milwaukee since the early 1980s, but he grew up in suburban Philadelphia. His local station was Elkins Park, on the Reading Company's main line 10 miles north of the city, used primarily by electric M.U. commuter trains. Rob often rode his bike to the station after school in the early 1970s, sometimes taking photos with his mom's Instamatic camera.

Elkins Park station is still a busy stop for SEPTA trains, and its waiting room is now a public meeting space. About a year ago, the Philadelphia Chapter NRHS, one of the society's oldest chapters, began holding its monthly meetings in the station. On a recent visit to see his parents, Rob showed some his 1970s photos of Elkins Park and its environs at a chapter meeting, augmented with several 1940s-50s photos of trains in the area from the Kalmbach files. It's a unique collection of images from territory that's generally overshadowed by other, higher-profile lines.

In addition to the vintage Reading photos, Rob will show pictures from his 2014 visit to Chicago Metra's Tower A-2 during an afternoon rush hour.



A Reading Company electric M.U. train kicks up snow at Elkins Park station in the early 1970s. Rob McGonigal photo

## Board Meeting Minutes February 24 2018

President Bob Baker called the meeting to order at 9:42 am. Treasurer Tom Hoffmann, Secretary Tom Marcussen, Past President Dave Nelson, and Directors Ralph McClure, Andrew Roach, Cathy Wegner, Neal Wegner, and Mike Yuhas were also present. Vice President Keith Schmidt and Director Al Baker were not available.

The first item on the agenda was increasing meeting attendance and membership. This topic took up slightly over half of the meeting time. Treasurer Tom Hoffmann reported that we mail out approximately 90 copies of each issue of Sparks & Cinders. About 50 of those are to members. Five or six are complimentary free copies. The remaining 35 or so go to paying non-member subscribers. All attendees had already read National President Al Weber's 2-page e-mail on the subject. President Bob Baker opened up the floor for suggestions: Offer good programs, and have them announced in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

Develop printed brochures, posters, and/or flyers. While it would be good to get younger members who have the potential to be members for many years, older members also have value.

Location is an issue. Many people perceive Fox Point as being hard to get to. It is not easy to navigate if you are unfamiliar with it. Street signs are small and hard to read. There are no street lights. Our meetings start after dark through most of the meeting year.

Once at the church, it is not easy to find the meeting room. Consider putting up some signage, if that is allowed.

Old maps seemed to attract significant attention at our Train Fest booth. People were interested in what was in their neighborhood, near their workplaces, and where those tracks went.

Good programs. We should have a program committee and/or other greater advance planning.

Get visitors to give us their e-mail addresses so we can send them notice of upcoming programs.

We need a database of current members' e-mails, so we can send the same notices to them.

Name tags would go a long way toward breaking the ice and getting conversations started.

Set up an attendance list, with a space for people to provide their e-mail addresses.

Prepare some flyers that announce our presence, meeting schedules and presentation subjects to the public. We can get them to the Brookfield Library, which has a train section. Ralph McClure can get flyers into multiple North Shore libraries, which are all closer to the meeting location. Flyers should state that guests are welcome to attend at no charge. Not all train clubs have that policy. We need to explicitly state it.

Offer rides. Some older people have trouble with driving at night. There are no street lights, and street signs are small and hard to read, in Fox Point.

Cathy Wegner can also get flyers to Butler Library, which has an extensive train section. Much of it is our books.

All members should be working on getting flyers / posters to all libraries and hobby shops that will take them.

Consider offering presentations at libraries.

We should definitely put our web site on all of the above materials. It has a lot more information than we can practically publish on paper. It is not easy to find, unless one knows where to look, because it is not well-represented on most Internet search engines.

The following actions will be taken as soon as possible:

Obtain name tag labels and pens.

Act as greeter.

Set up attendance list.

Set up database of members' e-mails.

Set up program committee.

The report from Events Chair Ralph McClure (Item 6 on the planned agenda) came next. Mike Yuhas suggested that we try to offer people opportunities that they cannot do on their own. Bob Baker suggested that Metra trips, similar to those that Jeff Marker used to lead, would be a low-cost, low-risk option. We could do a group outing to the Mid-Continental Railroad Museum in North Freedom. Other possibilities are Franklin Park, Illinois, Railroad Days, Galesburg, Illinois, Railroad Days, various other railroad museums, and the Railfan Park in Rochelle, Illinois. Offering a bus ride is financially unattractive, but driving distance is a deterrent for many. There were no easy answers to that dilemma.

Ralph also suggested that he look into the Zoo train, which is not that far away. Maybe we can get people into the otherwise-inaccessible shops. He was advised to work with Keith Schmidt, who may know people there.

We will go back to East Troy Electric Railroad, but at a different time of the day, so that photographers will have different lighting and photo opportunities than on the 2015 and 2017 trips, in 2018. (This was Item 2 on the planned agenda.) Tom Hoffmann reported that we lost money in 2017. Most of the cost of the event went for food. Mike Yuhas proposed different rates for members vs. outsiders / guests. Members should get some benefits for their payment of dues. Keith Schmidt, who volunteered to set up a schedule / date, will be asked to do so. There was a discussion of whether food should be on-your-own. That way each attendee can eat what they like. On the other hand, social time is an important part of these events. Others questioned whether we were paying too much money for that. There was no definite conclusion.

Bob Baker directed us back to Item 3 on the planned agenda. The Old-Brule Historical Society in far NW Wisconsin is asking us to write a letter of endorsement supporting their application to National for a preservation grant for the Northern Pacific depot in Blueberry, Wisconsin. The deadline for applications is on Saturday, March 24. Blueberry is on US Highway 2 in eastern Douglas County. Blueberry is on the Northern Pacific branch to Ashland, Wisconsin, that once connected with the Wisconsin Central, when it was an NP subsidiary (until 1897). It became more of a dead-end logging branch after Soo Line took over the WC in 1909. The Ashland branch is now the Tri-County State Trail. Tom Marcussen said he had walked parts of this trail (in 2011) and specifically remembered not finding a depot at Blueberry, or numerous other locations that he looked. He suggested at least asking them where it is, or for them to provide a photo, before we write the letter. He volunteered to check this out, and was given their web site—old-brule.org. (Dave Nelson researched Wisconsin Public Service Commission records, and found that the depot was "removed," presumably to private property off the line, in 1959. It had been sold again at an estate auction in 2005. The web site stated that the current owners were offering it at no cost. The society estimated a moving cost of \$2500.00, plus a \$100.00 permit fee, to bring it to their museum. No added restoration costs were mentioned. The information on their web site seems legitimate, referring to multiple locations along the NP line that Tom is familiar with. Tom did not contact them. Bob Baker decided that the above was sufficient evidence for him to write the letter.)

Item 4 was the annual banquet update. We will be at Meyer's Restaurant in Greenfield. We made a \$100.00 deposit on a reservation for Saturday, May 5. Bob Baker will follow up and confirm that later today. Speaker David Leider will discuss the history of the now-closed Chicago Stock Yards, with emphasis on rail service there. At a past banquet there, an adjacent wedding had nearly drowned out our speaker, Railroad Commissioner Jeff Plale. We shall need to bring a sound system this time. Multiple board members stated they would rather have a smaller number of higher-value door prizes. East Troy tickets were of-

# Chapter Banquet Saturday May 5 2018



David Leider grew up in Des Plaines, Illinois. My parents were carnation growers for the cut flower market, so I had a very early introduction to horticulture. Following in the family footsteps, I attended the University of Illinois and got a Bachelor of Science degree in Ornamental Horticulture. After college I worked for a retail nursery, but after 13 years switched to the wholesale side. I have worked for Iverson Perennials, Klehm Nursery and currently at Hoffie Nursey.

The Soo Line ran behind our greenhouses and we had a spur for delivering coal. I have been a railfan and modeler as long as I remember. I also achieved Master Model railroader in the NMRA. I was prompted to write my first book (Waupaca and its Railroads) and realized that I enjoyed researching railroads and related history as much as modeling. I have written three books, including one on pickles and am working on several more. I have written numerous articles for the Soo Line Historical and Technical Society, as well as modeling articles on a variety of topics for the hobby magazines. I have been a board member for the Soo Line Historical & Technical Society since 1999 and President since 2011. I am also involved with other railroad historical societies and am editor of the Midwest Region of the National Modeler Railroad Association's newsletter for ten years.

I am married to my wonderful wife Audrone and have a stepson, Kornelijus.

David's presentation will feature a talk about the history of the stockyards and packers in Chicago. How and why the stockyards were built, the relationship with the packers and the importance of the railroads.



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Wisconsin Chapter – NRHS

Official Banquet Registration Form  
Annual Chapter Banquet — Saturday, May 5, 2018  
Meyers Family Restaurant 4260 S 76th St

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ No. Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. Encl. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Your phone number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Cost is \$22.50 per person. Make checks payable to: Wisconsin Chapter-NRHS. Mail your remittance to: Tom Hoffmann, 1102 Aspen Drive, Waukesha, WI 53188. If you have any questions, call Tom at 262-542-7447 or 262-271-4173 .

Deadline for mailing reservations is Saturday, April 22, 2017

Cocktails 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

## From the Archives - CB&Q Steam Photos by Russ Porter

ferred as one example. They did not feel it was essential that every attendee receive a prize.

Item 5 was a clarification of the timing and requirements of the annual business meeting, and the conducting of business at other meetings. Dave Nelson led this discussion. The by-laws require a minimum of one formal business meeting per year, in either January or February, as designated by the Board. When he became President, he did away with formal motions and voting at other meetings, because they were off-putting to guests and prospective members, and reports do not need to be voted on. Tom Marcussen asked if we were allowed to transact business at regular meetings, if a quorum were present, or if advance notice of the topics to be discussed were required. He provided several examples of routine decisions to be made during the rest of the year. Dave Nelson said those were under the control and authority of the Board, which could call a special meeting (possibly as part of a regular meeting, with advance notice of topics to be discussed) if approval of the full membership were needed or desired. Apart from that, regular monthly meeting need not be formal. Arrangement of tables and seating, etc., are matters of style that are under the control of the current leadership.

Item 6, Activities Chair Report, had already been covered earlier.

Item 7 was the Treasurer's report from Tom Hoffmann:

### RECEIPTS:

\$1226.00 - Dues  
\$ 765.00 - Banquet  
\$ 600.00 - East Troy Outing  
\$ 360.00 - Books  
\$ 5.95 - Interest (Checkbook)  
\$2956.95 - Total

### EXPENSES:

\$1249.70 - Sparks and Cinders  
\$ 829.00 - Banquet  
\$1033.09 - East troy outing  
\$ 450.00 - Donation to Church (use of meeting space)  
\$ 50.00 - Gift Certificates to two church custodians  
\$ 818.06 - Miscellaneous (mostly insurance)  
\$4429.85 - Total

\$11,696.33 - Checkbook Balance

\$63,503.18 Heartland Funds (Mutual Fund)  
\$28,578.35 Chase (CD)

As of this date, 7 members have not yet renewed for 2018. Mailing out paper copies of Sparks & Cinders is costing us a lot of money and volunteer time. We could save a lot of both by sending out e-mail notices instead. That would require us to have every member's e-mail address. Work on that goal is underway (see above).

Item 8 was other business. Bob Baker asked if there were any. Mike Yuhas said that we need to approve the minutes of the last previous Board meeting, on Friday, December 1, 2017. Secretary Tom Marcussen had handed out copies of those before the meeting started. Mike Yuhas suggested a minor edit so we look more professional when these minutes are posted on the Chapter web site. There were no objections. Mike Yuhas moved to approve the December 1, 2017, board meeting minutes, subject to the above change. Dave Nelson seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mike Yuhas moved to adjourn the meeting. Dave Nelson seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 am.



La Crosse WI CBQ #5632 No Date Given



East Dubuque, IL CBQ #5632 No Date Given



6 Doubleheader Westbound on CBQ at Mendota, IL

# From the Archives

## April 1958 - 60 Years Ago

The Milwaukee Road terminated passenger trains 30 and 35 between Milwaukee and Berlin, both trains made their last runs on Saturday, March 22. In recent years they had been affectionately dubbed the "Berlin Bullet" by railroaders, patrons, and fans. Motor car No. 5900 is presently on trains 12 and 23, the Cannonball, between Milwaukee and Watertown....The Chapter roster lists twenty members for 1958.

## April 1963 - 55 Years Ago

Jim Scribbins reports that the Soo Line is taking delivery of its new Geeps, be on the lookout for them....The Milwaukee Road is repainting cabooses, with the number above the bay window and a herald below.

## April 1968 - 50 Years Ago

The Milwaukee Road will operate a bi-level passenger extra on Saturday May 4 from Wisconsin Rapids to Wauwatosa and return. The 1200 passengers will visit the Milwaukee County Zoo....Ex-GTW No. 5629 will operate to South Bend and return on May 5....The two privately owned North Shore cars stored at Jones Island are scheduled to be moved to the WERHS storage site in Menomonee Falls soon.

## April 1973 - 45 Years Ago

Famed designer Brooks Stevens, who designed the Hiawatha Skytop Lounge Observation cars, will be the speaker at the annual Chapter banquet on May 18....ICG's 1926-vintage electric suburban cars will be retired soon when 15 new double-deckers are delivered.

## April 1978 - 40 Years Ago

The Royal Hudson No. 2860 is scheduled to be on display at Waukesha on Friday and Saturday, April 21 and 22....BN is studying whether to move the corporate headquarters from St. Paul to another state. BN employs more than 3,000 people in its St. Paul headquarters.

## April 1983 - 35 Years Ago

Butler Railroad/Frontier Days will feature train rides on the C&NW powered by ex-C&NW steam locomotive No. 1385. The event, scheduled for June 4 and 5 is co-sponsored by the Butler Lions Club, the Butler Area Chamber of Commerce, Wisconsin Chapter-NRHS, and the C&NW. Chapter member Jerry Hilton is serving as general chairman of Railroad Days.

## April 1988 - 30 Years Ago

The Wisconsin Chapter annual banquet on May 6 will feature Ed Burkhardt, president of the new Wisconsin Central, as speaker.

## April 1993 - 25 Years Ago

Plans are progressing for the 53rd Annual NRHS Convention in Chicago July 21 through 25. Four mainline steam engines are expected to be in attendance, N&W 611, UP 3985, ex-NKP 765 and 587...The first regular service double stack train on the Soo Line (ex-Milwaukee Road - now CP) was observed on March 6.

## April 1998 - 20 Years Ago

Milwaukee-Watertown commuter rail service is set to begin on April 13 running via the CP. The trains will be extensions of the Chicago-Milwaukee Hiawatha service. The service will operate for 90 days during the reconstruction of I-94....WSOR announced a number of summer and fall passenger excursions utilizing their E-units and passenger cars....Ex-Milwaukee Road No. 261 will power steam excursions out of Green Bay on July 4 and 5

## April 2003 - 15 Years Ago

Wisconsin Chapter has a booth at MSOE TrainTime for the second year on March 8 and 9....The National Railroad Museum in Green Bay acquired an SD24 donated by CN. It began life on the CB&Q and later toiled on the FV&W....UP was ordered by Illinois regulators to repair and monitor a 70-year-old wooden bridge over US 14 at Deval Jct.

## April 2008 - 10 Years Ago

It was announced the Milwaukee Road #261 will be visiting Milwaukee from June 18th to June 24th. Friday Evening June 20th a Dinner Train will run from Milwaukee to Sturtevant. Sat and Sun June 21st and 22nd trips from Milwaukee to New Lisbon, WI will run. #261 will head back to Minneapolis, MN on Tuesday June 24th. Amtrak will celebrate what is being called National Train Day on May 10th in four cities including Chicago and Los Angeles. This will be the culmination of six weeks of events.

## April 2013 - 5 Years Ago

It was announced the long time chapter member Bob Bullerman has passed away on Feb 23, 2013. Jeff Plale Wisconsin Railroad Commissioner is the speaker for the annual chapter banquet. It was announced that money was being raised to have N&W #611 be restored to operating condition. This was a big announcement. (Note - #611 was restored and is running excursions).

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## Milwaukee Road #261 to run Excursions June 9-10, 2018



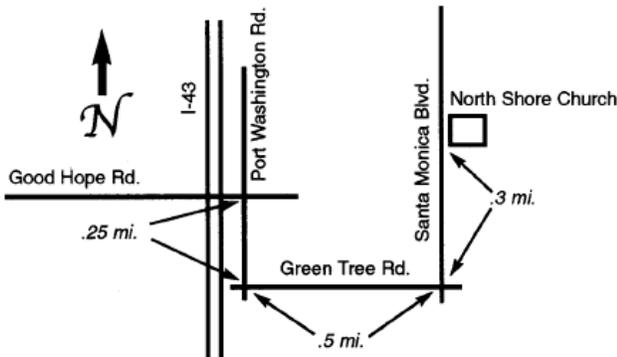
The Milwaukee Road #261 4-8-4 will pull a round trip excursion from Minneapolis, MN to Duluth, MN and return. The trip will be June 9-10, 2018. The trip is a fundraiser for the #261 organization. They need to raise \$150,000 to install PTC equipment on the #261. Without the PTC equipment the #261 will not be able to pull mainline excursions. For more info [www.261.com](http://www.261.com)

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](http://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](mailto: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 Yugas, Ralph McClure, Andrew Roach, Neil and Cathy Wegner and Dave Nelson.

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