



Badgerland S Gaugers News

“.... A social club for the promotion of model railroading -- especially S gauge including American Flyer, hi-rail, scale and other facets....”

Badgerland S Gaugers Charter

27th Year

Issue #208

March 2002

Published by B.S.G.

BSG Family membership Established Membership Reaches New Heights

January Meeting

Sunday, February 24, 2002
Brad Nelson's,
Waukesha, WI

Attendance:

G. Bruck, G. Children, Art Doty,
D. Goeke Jr., J. Goeke, D. Goeke,
D. Goeke, D. Goeke, S. Jones,
D. Kloes, J. Lebovitz, S. Lunde,
J. Madden, L. Marotz, R. Meissner,
B. Mosher, B. Nelson, K. Pilon,
A. Pratt, R. Puls, P. Rambus,
R. Schlicht, D. Smukowski,
S. Smukowski, F. Vergenz, J.
Young, K. Young.
Guests Kathy & Tim Andrews (29)

\$ Treasurer's Report \$

- a) Swap Meet Hall Rental
\$559.13
- b) Swap Meet Journal Ad
\$54.18
- c) Swap Meet Radio Ads
\$150.00
- d) WI (non-stock) club report
\$10.00
- e) Newsletter Printing
\$41.63
- f) Special S Gauge Handout
Flyers
\$7.00

BSG Reports

Dave Smukowski opened the general business meeting and proceeded to give directions to the nearest restroom.

The subject of an annual treasurer's report was brought up. Jeff will

proceed with this matter. This report will be given at one of the general meetings, but will not be published in the general newsletters.

Dave once again mentioned that many different events are requesting that we bring our layout to their shows, if not the modular layout, the one that Dave sets up at the swap meets. Don Goeke will be helping Dave volunteered to help out at some of the smaller meets. The decisions on other events will be up to the club members who own modules.

Every year there is Chocolate Fest in Burlington WI, this is sponsored by the Nestles company. This year the show is being held Saturday & Sunday, May 18th & 19th. Set-up for this will be after 5:00 pm, Friday May 17th. Some of the larger clubs in the area will be participating. Our club is going to have a presence there. The building that will house the layouts is big enough to accommodate the full BSG layout. By that, I mean the same size that we have had at Trainfest and Mad-City. Whether it is the small layout or some form of the modular layout, we “will” be there. This show will give us a lot of regional exposure. We will have to decide at the next meeting our plans for this show. The S&S 24ft. and two of the club ends “will” be there. Smokey has the other has the other corners and a 4 ft. module that “will” be there. The rest?????????

Smokey would be there without the layout. He suffers from CLD. Chocolate Lovers Disorder. I have

to be careful with some of my comments, for all I know, there probably is something like that. Is it just me? I seems like anytime, anywhere, when something out of the ordinary comes up, they make an excuse for it, by calling it a disorder. After reading my own newsletters, you've got to figure that I have enough acronym disorders to fill this page.

I always thought that D.D.S. behind dentist's names stood for Ding Dong School.

Most of our members are familiar with Buck & Jan Guthrie, who are avid S Gaugers. Buck has opened up a toy train museum in Argyle, WI. Argyle is southwest of Madison, WI. The Toy Train Barn features layouts with all scales and sizes of running electric and antique trains. There is the promise of a 12” gauge running railroad in the near future. For more information contact:

Buck & Jan Guthrie
W9141 HWY 81
Argyle, WI 53504
Phone: (608) 966-1464

The “ubiquitous” Art Doty gave the Art Doty report. After an unexpected medical absence, Art's presence at the general meetings was missed and his return was welcomed. Once again we received information on most of the model railroading activities taking place in the Mid-west. He also gave us information on the Spring S Spree and the A.C. Gilbert Heritage

Society activities. Just to prove that he is getting back in full swing, his weekly calendar of events is filling up faster than a prom queens dance card.

Jeff Madden gave a brief report on some new S Gauge product releases and passed around literature from various suppliers. Jeff also gave a report on the 2003 NASG Convention, which **will be hosted by our club**, July 9th thru 13th at the Olympia Resort. This will precede the 2003 NMRA convention, which starts the 13th. The NASG has accepted all of the criteria required for sponsoring a convention. Based on their acceptance of our proposal we will have to have a few committees for things like a patch, car and other activities. So what does that mean to you. You finally can go to an NASG convention without having to travel very far. It also means that you can now go into hiding to avoid being asked to help out. Afghanistan offers innumerable secret accommodations.

We will be making a presentation at this years NASG convention, July 31st-August 4, 2002 in Cleveland Ohio. We may also have a table there. For those attending perhaps you could contact Jeff Madden with some promotional ideas.

Gary Children gave a brief report on the Mad-City show, which was held in Madison. He pointed out a couple deficiencies, one of which was a lack of enough literature on S Gauge. We underestimated the amount of interest in S gauge both scale and high rail. Gary encouraged members to participate in club activities such as these shows. Gary has been a participating member of the WISE Division, NMRA and held a variety of positions in many organizations. Gary acts as our publicists and would appreciate any literature, suggestions or help in promoting S Gauge in our area. He finished with "Go Badgerland S Gaugers".

There are three pieces of literature, besides our swap meet flyer, that I

believe we should have printed in large quantities for distribution. The NASG S Trains Buyer's Guide, An "S" Sketch (brief history of S Scale model railroading) and The "S" Product Directory (a guide to S Scale model railroad products. Along with club information these are papers that even every club members should have. It was suggested that we have a handout flyer with a colored club logo, brief history and other club information on it. This is on my list of things to do along with a ton of other things. If anyone is interested in this task, let me know.

This was the first time that Brad Nelson had an opportunity to help out at a show. He noticed that we had a lot of attendees at our layout. We had a lot of individuals, not only stay but make return trips with their children. Our club members have made a point to communicate with the public. Many of the other clubs seem to just be content with running their trains and not interacting with the public. Maybe Badgerland S Gaugers are just big mouths, but at a show of this magnitude, that is an asset not a deficiency. Over 15,000 people came through the doors in two days. I hope we made some converts. Even if we didn't, the effort was worth the sore throat and hoarseness. (I enjoy these shows even though they are physically demanding on my part.)

We still had a little trouble with the video portion of the camera in the train, connector problems. The videos we showed still proved entertaining. Jean Goeke informed the public regarding the camera in the train and on other matters regarding the shown videos.

We had fast trains, long trains, forty-four cars, an engine and a caboose. Since our scale is a bigger than HO & N, a train that long appears to be a tad more impressive. This also gave an opportunity to display new products and point out the difference between American Flyer and the many suppliers of S

gauge. Try and pull forty-four AF cars with a single engine.

I though one of the best parts of the show is that we are getting a lot of help from some of our newest members. Jim Sanborn and Paul Rambus were big contributors to the success of our layout. When we ran out of some printed literature, Jim dashed out had some material printed up and donated it to the club. The old stand-bys were present, and we all know who they are. This show displayed the importance of having people on the outside of the track talking it up. All in all, this was the best Madison show ever. (If not for everybody, at least for me.)

If you talked to all of the members that attended the show, they all came back with a little different perspective. None of them had any negatives. Hats off to the Madison group for the outstanding job that they did.

Editor's apology: I gave some misinformation on how to gain access to the building in Madison for our club members. It was contained in the literature that they sent me but I didn't get it in the newsletter.

I believe that entrance will be handled the same way next year. This would be with the exhibitors entering at the back door and showing their passes. Actually I thought it worked well. So if you wandered around aimlessly for forty minutes, looking for the promised layout before crossing the security river, it's the fault of the modular chairman, whose keyboard led him astray, biblically speaking.

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There has been a request by the CASG that we bring our modular layout to the next Fall S Fest. I still don't know if it means the corners or just individual modules. Will our modules be plugged into others? Will their rails line up with ours? Do they have the same setbacks? We definitely need a lot more information regarding the setup. Who, what and where the layout

will be setup? We will await their input.

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Ron Schlicht made a proposal that we make a donation on behalf of Dave Sengenberger.

Dave's family requests that readers talk to their families about organ donations. Dave's family will be forever grateful to the strangers who gave the "gift of life" to Dave almost seven years ago when he received a lung transplant. Memorials may be made to your favorite charity or to:

Barnes Hospital Patient Care Fund
C/o Lung Transplant Services
#1 Barnes Jewish Hospital Plaza
St Lois MO 63110

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Ron Schlicht passed around an application for the 2002 Spring S Spree May 10th & 11th and the new Lionel catalog. He also passed around a copy of the Plastic Village Gazette. This is a magazine, which would be of no interest to scalers, but for those into Plasticville, Littletown, Marx and other plastic "toy" structures, it's a fun publication. Ron also passed around an application to the Plasticville Collectors Association. At the reading of this paragraph, I hope that no scaler goes into cardiac arrest or unstoppable vomiting.

For any new members who are interested in club hats or shirts contact Jeff Young. If you have not received a club patch or a membership card contact Ron Schlicht. If you have not received a club badge contact Dave Smukowski. Contact Dave if you lost your original badge and would like to get a replacement. It will be at your own expense.

Joel Lebovitz gave a report on the upcoming Fall S Fest 2002. CASG now has a web site on trainweb.org. Scroll through and you will find their newsletter. The location of S-Fest 2002 is going to be at what is described as a fabulous facility. The room is large enough to leave the trading pits up until the banquet. There are many clinics

being planned. In general it sounds like this will be a huge Fall S Fest. Our club may be taking a table for club purposes.

Art Doty is looking for members that may have Gilbert Winter Wonderland Panels. They are going to attempt to put together a large All Aboard layout. If you just have the generic All Aboard panels, Art may be interested in those also. For all that I know, maybe he is going for the Guinness Book of Records.

Don Goeke brought along some small Wal-Mart items, which would fit into S gauge layouts. It is amazing how many K-Mart and other "toy" store items can incorporate into your layouts, even if you are into scale. Grant it I'm not into 1/64th scale cars, but it is amazing how many different kinds of automobiles can be purchased nowadays. If you like 40's, 50's and 60's cars you can fill your streets. From inexpensive vehicles to whatever you want to pay, you might be able to find a model of the first car you ever owned. Mine was a 1951 Chevy Coupe. For some of you, they don't have the steam era.

Dick Kloes gave a brief report on the Mad-City show. The "Geezer Gate" is still a work in progress.

Dick noted that the club still has 38 female chinch plugs in our inventory. The club will be ordering the male plugs to make sets. These are the type of plugs that are used on our modular layout system.

So what's new, did you ever go to a bingo hall, casino or nursing home? Look at the proportion of males to females. It's no surprise to me that we have more female plugs than males. You put males and females in a basement for a few years and I'll bet a hundred to one odds on the results. If the female plugs didn't kill the male plugs, the males can probably be found at the bottom of Dick's sump pump.

Kathy Pilon along with her duties as sergeant of arms will be taking on the job as the head of the BSG sunshine club. Whenever there

is a need to cheer up either club members, or friends of our club, Kathy will send out cards. If there is anyone who you feel we should be sending a card for any reason, contact Kathy or Dave Smukowski.

Paul Rambus is looking into a facility where we could set up the layout to do some debugging for a short time. The common feeling is that this would be a good idea just prior to a large train show. He will report on this in the near future.



Next Meeting:

Sunday, March 24, 2002

1:00 PM

Location:

Harley-Davidson

**University & Conference
Center**

3700 West Juneau

Milwaukee, WI

Phone: (414) 342-4680

Jim Maslowski is the host of this meeting and has made all of the arrangements.

Directions:

I've looked over Mapquest and I am trying to give you the simplest directions that I can. Unless you are familiar with the area and exits near Miller Brewery you might get confused.

Take I-94

**Whether from East or West
Exit on the 35th street (Hwy. 18)
Drive North approx. 1-mile
Left Turn (West) on Juneau
Approx. 2-blocks**

There is a parking lot and you will see the Harley-Davidson Signs

Security: Kathy Pilon has been the official badge checker at the meetings; you might say that she is BSG security.

It would be a good idea to wear your BSG badge during our trip to Harley-Davidson. Their security is a lot tougher than ours. They will have a listing of our members, but it will still be a good idea to wear that BSG member badge.

Upcoming Meetings:

 March – Jim Maslowski*
 *Held @ Harley-Davidson
 April – Dick Kloes
 September – Dave Smukowski
 Call Ron Schlicht, if you wish to host a General Meeting.
 Main criteria for hosting a meeting
 Not on a swap meet Sunday,
 Weekday Evenings permissible.
 Saturdays do not exist.

Area Meets:

Badgerland Train Trade Show
Waukesha Expo Center 4-H Bldg.
N1 W24848 Northview Road
8:30 A.M. To 12:30 P.M.

March	17
April	28

Lionel Swap Meets
Knights of Columbus Hall
1800 South 92nd St. West Allis
9:00 A.M. To 12:30 P.M.

March	17
April	21
September	15
October	20
November	17
December	15

Tri-City Train Show
South Hills Country Club
3047 Hwy. 41 (I-94) E. Frontage Rd.
8:00 A.M. To 12:00 P.M.
 No Meets Scheduled Until Fall

Wise Division Meets
Midway Motor Hotel - Airport
Meets usually open @ 12:30 PM

March	17
April	21
Bus Trip	May
	5
Trainfest 2002	November 9 th & 10 th

Great Midwest Train Show
DuPage County Fairgrounds
Wheaton, IL

10 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

April	21
May	5

Chuck Zehner’s Wonderful World of Trains. All-Star Railroad Night
 Programs are held at the Milwaukee School of Engineering Student Center, 1025 North Broadway, Milwaukee, WI.
 Doors open at 7:00 pm.
 Programs start at 7:30 pm.

March	15
April	19
May	17

Programs are subject to change without notice.

“Editors Comments”
\$@ #*%!&^? :

Brad Nelson hosted our last BSG general meeting. Every time that we go to Brad’s, his layout just gets better and better. When he tore down the old layout , most people thought that he was nuts. When your layout is in CTT, national videos and various other publications, who could ask for anything more. Well the new layout is better than the old one. The various venues are more clearly defined. The wiring system has been improved and the results of all of his work are fantastic. He is about 90% done. There is just some window dressing to do.
 For those members who have never been to Brad’s, believe me this is a must see. There is much more to a visit to brad’s than the layout. You have to see the train workshop and the rest of the basement. The bad news is you have to go back home and eat your heart out.

Brad’s standing offer expires in April. After April, BFD takes hold of his senses, Brad’s Fishing Disorder. If you would like to run some of your equipment and don’t have a layout of your own, call him up soon or you will be SOL. (No explanation required.)

Did you ever notice how many people are using acronyms. At work that is all that you hear. I get the feeling that many are trying to impress you, with what they know,

and what you don’t. As a mild experiment at a meeting, after listening to an individual spew acronym after acronym, I made a response in which I made up two on the run. Nobody even called me on them.

After bashing their use I have to say one thing, being a lousy and slow typist, BSG beats the alternative. Just think about the St. Lois club, AFSGSLA, carpal tunnel for sure.

Enclosed in this newsletter is the long awaited 2002 Membership Roster. Hopefully all of the information is accurate. If there are any errors, please contact me. If there are not any errors in the roster, don’t thank me, thank God, because it is a miracle.

I’m rather surprised that no one noticed a mistake that has been in the last couple newsletters. We are in our 27th year. I can’t believe that I have been in an association with anyone, other than my wife, for that long a time. It seems like an eternity. ??????????????????
 The first mailing ever was 10/8/75 by Chuck Porter.

Volunteer Required:

With most of your BSG club officers having more than enough to do, we need an additional body, or bodies, for swap meet help. Someone is needed to transport the TV and VCR to and from the swap meet. Another or the same person is needed to put up, take down and store the swap meet signs. There are about four locations around the Expo center that the signs are placed. Jeff Young knows the placements. These jobs do not require you to even be at the swap the entire length of the meet, just at the beginning and end.

Changes:

None at this time. This is primarily meant to be used for changes to a

members addresses, phone numbers, etc. We might also use this for club information or revisions.

E-Mail Addresses:

Please send your addresses to:

ronaldschlicht@msn.com

This e-mail address may change in the next couple of months.

Wanted:

Chimney for Plasticville Log Cabin (1)
Chimney for Plasticville Ranch House
(1) Any Color

Contact Dave Smukowski

Phone: (262) 675-2664

Peach and Brown Plasticville Cape
Cod House. May be glued. Box not
required.

Dark Gray House under Construction.
May be glued. Box not required. Small
accessories not required.

Contact Ron Schlicht

Phone: (414) 421-8512

I only list items under "Wanted" for
two or three newsletters.

Please contact me if you want a listing
continued or it will be dropped.

The same goes for the "For Sale"
column.

Interested in swapping, mention it.
(Train Related Items Only)

For Sale:

21st Annual Fall S Fest Glasses

\$2.00 each or three for \$5.00.

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We still have a variety of S Fest
patches, 25th @ \$5.00 ea. 16th, 13th, 10th,
and 7th @ \$4.00 ea. Plus the 3rd @
\$15.00 ea.

-
10th Annual S Fest Gondolas (No
Trucks) \$15.00 ea.

Until the next time. See Ya.
Ron Schlicht

