



2023 Summer Issue

June 4th Meeting Report

Ten members were present at the meeting of the BSG at the Waukesha location.

President Ray Puls opened the meeting.

Roy Meissner was unable to attend the meeting so there was no treasurer's report.

Again, there have been no recent significant expenditures. The main expenses were for the window display time schedule board. The board is now complete and on display. There was a proposal for the board in past newsletters. In order to minimize the cost some changes were made.

Jeff Madden reviewed last month's minutes.

Old business:

1. The date for the modular and tabletop layouts move moving to a different location in the new facility has still not been determined.
2. There will be a May 6 open house from 10-6 coordinating with a downtown Waukesha event.
3. The schedule board and the window displays were discussed. Ron Schlicht updated his progress on a "Timetable" sign for events to be placed in the upstairs storefront window. It is now in place. This schedule board shows months, dates, times, etc. for any open houses for both clubs.

New Business:

1. The club is working on sorting the inventory of the Jeff Young estate items for a possible future auction to benefit the family members.

An updated roster is being worked on. So far it is assumed the BSG has 33 members.

Our future meetings or open houses will generally coordinate with the Lionel Club swap meets in the fall and winter months.

Around the end of June, the BSG club may need some help in moving the modular and tabletop layouts to a different spot in the basement clubroom in order to accommodate the Gandy Dancer's layout redesign.

Our webmaster, Doug Stoll, finished off the meeting with a demonstration of some American Flyer locomotives running on radio control using model aircraft remote controllers. Lithium batteries were installed in an AF Atlantic and an AF GP9. Track power constantly recharged the batteries. The units ran nicely and club members got a chance to run the units.

Meeting was adjourned

Jeff Madden,

Clubhouse Clatter

So, what's happening with the Badgerland S Gaugers?"

Regarding a date for the move of the layouts to their new locations in the facility, it is temporarily on hold.

On May 6th WCGD & BSG had another open house session. A small number of individuals stopped in off the street. We try to make their visit enjoyable whether they are model railroaders or just stopped in out of curiosity.

(As a sidenote, two young ladies came in at the entrance and asked what type of band was playing. They had a different idea of what a Gandy Dancer was.)

The clubhouse has been open on all of the Waukesha Friday Night Live nights. The posted hours are from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The turnout has been a bit sparse but picking up. Some families have come and the kids are having a good look at model railroading.

There is always, either Ray Puls, Ron Schlicht or Fred Vergenz there by 4:00 pm. Although the outer doors are locked until shortly before 6:00, by contacting Ron Schlicht.(414) 477-7866 you gain you early access.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the Friday Night Lights in Waukesha just search it. It is quite an event attended by thousands of people with live bands and other activities. The website will tell it all.

The club has also benefited from the open houses. We now have (4) donated running American Flyer locomotives. For the window display (G-gauge) a family donated some additional LGB straight track and a lumber car. Member Paul Bartelak repaired an engine for an individual and he was so please with the repair cost, that he donated \$25.00 to BSG. We are hoping to eventually increase our membership. Most people that stop in were unaware that model railroad clubs are in the building. The window displays are still a work in progress but eventually be a return on investment for both clubs.

In regards to Jeff Young's equipment, stopping in at the club is the best way to view everything. There are SHS fast track items, AF cars, Gilbert American & Lionel Flyer cars, American Models and other scale and non-scale equipment, like Ace trucks, 1/64 and larger vehicles There is a lot of stuff making it difficult to post in newsletters. The pricing will be reasonable with a reserve. For more information Contact Ron Schlicht.

BSG Layout Progress

There is not much to say regarding the layouts since the move has not been made yet. When moved, the first activity will be getting the trackwork and electrical connections sound again. The modular layout is currently running as well as it ever has and some of our membership has been bringing their trains to run on it. Adding scenery and enhancing the present structures will be the main focus on the layout.

The tabletop just has had some small additions and enhancements made to the existing Plasticville structures. Adding scenery and enhancing the corners will be the next project on the tabletop layout.

In Memorial

Harold Immekus long time member of BSG recently passed away. Harold was involved in the original founding of our club in 1975. He served as the club's first treasurer and was part of the leadership committee for the first BSG sponsored Fall S Fests. He was instrumental in starting the first BSG swap meets. He was also an avid American Flyer and Plasticville collector.

Zombie Rail

By Doug Stoll

At the last club meeting I (Doug Stoll) brought three samples of Dead Rail locos that recharge while running on the rails. The system uses original Gilbert motors (can motors work also) and three Lithium Ion batteries for 12.6 volt power typically in the tender of a steam engine or the main body of the Baldwin (355) and GP (371). The Steam setup has batteries no different than your laptop or cordless drill. The smaller locos batteries are the same size as AA. To prevent issues with shorts or over charging, the track power AC or DC and 6-15 volt travels through the AF pick-up wheels, an 8 amp rectifier, and a three cell (3S) BMO balance board that evenly charges the cells with a 5 volt limit for each cell.

On board batteries for all types of units, from the charging circuit the batteries are series wired for the motor. The power (15 volts total due the 10 amp/5 volt for each battery) travels to electric race car components. First the power provides life to the brushed ESC (electronic speed control) which powers the motor through two DC wires. The ESC also provides a BEC (battery eliminator circuit) that provides power to the 2.4 Ghz receiver for radio control. When connected this way, the receiver controls motor speed from the ESC. Direction is controlled through a 15A DPDT non-latching relay wired like some AF steam units which had a directional slide switch just inside the roof of the cab. The relay is activated by the head light wires provided by the Model car ESC. From the relay, power is then provided to the motor which has been converted to DC (if Gilbert original open wound). There is a slide switch currently under the tender that connects or disconnects power to the ESC from the battery circuit allowing the track, rectifier, BMO balance board to charge the batteries while track power is on should it be required.

Radio control is currently provided through airplane transmitter allowing left control stick to activate throttle (up/down) as well as bell and whistle/horn (left/right). Accessories can also be activated through right stick. Currently have cattle loader (771) and baggage loader (770) on left/right movement and the cars designed for them on the up/down movement. The channels of the radio control how many accessories to activate per model. The model of radio control transmitter control how many models you can select. I use Spectrum Radios. I use a DX7 (gen1) and a DX4e. The 7 has the ability to select up to 20 different models and display model name on LCD screen. The operators can activate all of the locos and the one you select is the one you

control with a different frequency. Not all manufactures do this. The gen2 DX7E has 250 model selections so the sky is the limit. The DX4e controls only one model of choice which is OK for main line use. Deactivate and activate the loco of choice at the yard.

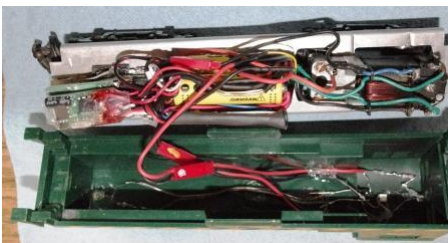
All components can be purchased at electronic supply houses like Digikey and/or eBay. I have used batteries from drills and laptop replacements. The replacement laptop battery provides enough cells for two steam engines (6 cells). AA size can be purchased through eBay.

Bright side is reliability even through switches and dirty or surface rusted rails and no more tender-thumping. Down side is the Baldwin still has gear noise. Can motor would correct that issue.

The used DX7 Generation 1 transmitter runs about 120 dollars, DX4e runs about 50 dollars and the loco upgrade runs about 50 dollars. Train hardware can be returned to original state, and transmitters can be used for helicopters, planes, cars, boats or for whatever you can imagine.

I have incorporated a volt-meter on the track fascia to measure available current. When the engines are charging, you will notice a pulse or change in voltage. When it stabilizes, they are fully charged. I also put led cab lights in locos powered from receiver to recognize when they are activated to prevent excessive drain. Lithium cells run from 4.2 max to 3.2 min with 3.7 as storage level. Charge with no more than 5v per cell. Overcharging will cause overheating. Undercharging will cause degrading of cell and permanent inability to reach full charge. Never charge them in series. Example would be a battery pack of three connected to a trickle charger power supply without a BMO protector in a balance board. One cell can reach 7 volts and burst into flames while next cell may never get a charge causing it to die. They are safe as long as rules are followed.

The conversion will be posted in our web in [BSG/Hints&Tips/Modify](#). DC conversion is already there. I also have created a Facebook group called American Flyer Zombie Rail. Reasoning is the upgrade is not entirely Dead Rail. Facebook location online is [American Flyer Zombie Rail | Facebook](#).



Fall S Fest 2023

The event will be held November 3-5 at Georgios Quality Inn and Suites Conference Center in Orland Park Illinois. For more information on the venue or for reservations go to: <https://georgios.com/georgihotel/>

In the event that you have not received a mailing, check out www.trainweb.org/CASG for more info on registration, vendors tables, car orders, directions, schedule, etc. **Or call Joel Lebovitz at: 847-212-3541**

Local Area Meets

Model Railroad Train Show
Kenosha Union Club
3030 39th Avenue Kenosha, WI
9:00 am To 1:00 pm
Admission \$5.00
2023

I do not have any other Fall dates at this time.

I have not gotten much information or feedback on the Kenosha meet or how well it was attended.

Lionel Swap Meets
New Berlin Entertainment Center
16000 West Cleveland Ave.
New Berlin, WI
8:00 am To 12:00 pm
Admission \$4.00

2023	October	15
	November	19
	December	17
2024	January	21
	February	25
	March	17

Check website: www.milw-lrrc.com
or call 262-754-9900

Great Midwest Train Show
DuPage County Fairgrounds Wheaton, IL
9 am to 3:00 pm

2023	August	6
	September	10
	October	1
	November	5
	December	3

Wisconsin Southeastern Division Midwest Region

(WISE) Meets

2023 No Schedule Available at this time

New Berlin Entertainment Center

16000 West Cleveland Ave.

www.wisedivision.org

Next BSG Meeting

There are no immediate plans for a Summer Meeting at this time until Fall.

The summer months are usually reserved for more outdoor activities and vacations. There will probably not be full newsletters published until Fall. This summer we will be actively working on the clubhouse to prepare for the upcoming 2023/2024 model railroading season. Have a safe and enjoyable summer season.

However, if you read this Bulletin, you will see that there are plenty of opportunities to participate in various open house events over the Summer. If there are any other significant club events you will be contacted via email.

Club Location:

Corner of South St. & Grand Ave.
Waukesha, WI 53186

Future Meeting Schedule:

At the present time, we have scheduled general membership meeting dates to coincide with the Lionel (all gauge) swap meets. You can anticipate that the next full season of official meetings will correspond with their posted schedule, unless otherwise specified in our newsletters.

BSG Inventory

Contact Ron Schlicht Phone (414) 477-7866 Email:
rons48tblue@gmail.com

2016 Sprecher Brewery Reefers \$55.00 Each
There is a very limited supply left of these cars left.



2021 Fall S Fest Hoppers (Hi-Rail Only) \$55.00 Each
Furnished with Coal Loads



Shipping \$11.00 on 1st car. \$4.00 ea. additional car.

The cars are also available at the BSG clubhouse.

For those of you who get THE DISPATCH magazine, after months of advertising our 2021 Fall S Fest cars, an old ad was put in for the Sprecher cars and the Soo Line gondolas, which have been sold out for over a year or so.

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BSG encourages its members to share any new or existing product information they may found to be beneficial. Share your scenery, technical or operational experiences on your own home layouts for the BSG newsletters.
Photos are encouraged.

Send any comments or suggestions to:



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