



2024 February Issue

January 21st Meeting Report

(11) members were in attendance: Tom Patterson, Ray Puls, Ron Schlicht, Roy Meissner, Doug Stoll, Bob Blomberg, Steve Heinemann, Wayne Friedrich, David Wiedenkiller, Larry Blank and Jeff Madden.

President Ray Puls opened the meeting.

Roy Meissner gave the positive treasurer's report.

Old Business:

1. Ron Schlicht reported that the thought of the Gandy Dancers club to replace all of the existing carpeting was cancelled because of the fear of asbestos tiles underneath. Both clubs will fill in some uncarpeted areas, primarily along the walls, with trimmed carpet tiles.
2. Ron Schlicht also reported that the tabletop (Flyer-Plasticville) layout will be put back up when a refrigerator is moved from the area. BSG still has to move our storage cabinets and other supply bins to the new storage area.
3. The subject of a summer picnic was brought up and member in attendance unanimously expressed that they would be interested in attending if one were held.
4. Our possible future 2025 Fall S Fest was discussed. The help from the State-Line S Gauge club was mentioned again, and our BSG club will investigate a location.

New Business:

1. Member Wayne Friedrich offered the MSOE picnic grounds for an August 11, 2024 BSG picnic. These grounds near Jackson, WI, have the elaborate 7-1/2" gauge setup that folks can ride on. The club tentatively accepted the offer.
2. A tentative OK was voted on for the August 11, 2024 BSG picnic at the MSOE location. This is ideal for BSG members and families. It's a good

place for kids, grandkids and us older kids to go and enjoy.

3. Dues are due
4. There was not a membership list distributed in 2023 A 2024 membership roster will be published soon after the annual dues is collected.
5. Financial matters regarding our non-profit status, club assets and insurance matters were discussed. After the passing of our treasurer, Jeff Young, some of the details fell through the cracks and have to be resolved
6. Until we get our modular layout back together and get the tabletop layout re-installed there probably won't be any public open houses. The HO club has repositioned portions of their layout and have a substantial area that is in operation. It appears that the final floor plan has been approved this will involve a huge expansion.
7. Upcoming shows were talked about including the MAD CITY show on Feb. 17 and 18, the Spring S Spree on May 3 and 4 in the Cleveland area, and the NASG Annual Convention on July 17-21 in Harrisburg, PA.

Note: If there are any members that may be attending any model railroading gatherings and plan on having a vendors table, contact Ron Schlicht regarding the possibly taking some of our Fall S Fest hopper cars with them. We are still suffering the effects that Covid had on our convention and in particular, our cars sales.

Meeting adjourned – Jeff Madden

After the general meeting , Doug Stoll did a little demonstration and explanation of using an old computer hard-drive as power source for various model railroad needs.

Clubhouse Clatter

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

The Christmas decorations in the window displays have been removed and one of the members of the Gandy Dancers has put up a Valentines Day display. We are hoping to improve on the G gauge window layout in the near future.

Due to some health and personal issues, I apologize for not getting out a January newsletter. I will catch up with reports in the next newsletters. At that time, I'll fill you in on the Mitchell Park Domes Train Show and the Mad-City train show.

After a hiatus Delevan will be restarting their train event. The 2024 Delavan Train Show arrives in historic downtown Delavan, WI on March 9 & 10, 2024. With layouts and interactive exhibits displayed across the Downtown, visitors can enjoy a free, family-friendly weekend with a small-town festival feel. Kiddos of all ages can operate accessories, complete scavenger hunts to find characters and details on layouts, and even run the trains on the layouts. As always, the Delavan Train Show is free admission and offers free parking in the downtown area.

BSG Layout Progress

As this time there is little to report on the layout progress on the modular layout or on the tabletop layout. We are still awaiting the movement of some of the facility equipment in order to even setup the tabletop.

With the help of Tom Patterson, Jim Maslowski, Ron Schlicht and Ray Puls, all of the Badgerland supplies including the two large storage cabinets have been moved to the area that was assigned to for our equipment. That particular project went smoothly and was done in less time than anticipated.

Ray Puls has been working on the trackwork and electrical connections for the modular layout. He has laser leveled all of the modules It is hopeful that the layout will be operational in a short time.

As mentioned regarding Jeff Young's equipment, stopping in at the club is the best way to view everything. There is still a lot of really nice items available.

For more information Contact Ron Schlicht. I can send pictures if you desire.

Fall S Fest

By Ron Schlicht

Just some final thoughts on Fall S Fest. Gone are the years of over 600 attendees, gone are the days of 200 vendor tables. Gone are the days of selling over 500 Fall S Fest cars. (In 2000, BSG sold out, 525 cars, before the convention even started.) Gone are the days of having more than enough help for all of the tasks that are required. Worst of all gone are some of the familiar faces. Those individuals who never missed the event and will never make one again.

As I looked around the room most of the familiar faces were that of the vendors. Some of the prices, particularly Lionel American Flyer were astounding. Astoundingly low, on new in the box 80's and older. Everyone who bought in those later year cars has one and there are not enough people that don't already have one.

As much as S Fest is supposed to encompass all of S Gauge, it is still dominated by A.C. Gilbert American Flyer Trains, admittedly it's still ***FLYER FEST***. This is the reason there is a diminishing return on investment for the sponsoring organizations. 1967 spelled the death of Gilbert trains. This makes almost all of Flyer enthusiasts eligible for Social Security and there is not a lot of room for a train layout in a condo or an elder care facility.

In saying all that the Badgerland S Gaugers are on the docket for sponsoring Fall S Fest 2025. That is unless we can't find enough club members to help out. Some of the key positions may not be available anymore. Facilities are also a big issue. Many of the newer hotels do not have large enough conference rooms or tables available for vendors. Hotels in the area have many requirements for the amount of room reservations. Banquet costs are getting out of hand and there are a lot of contingencies attached to use their menus and facility. BSG paid dearly for that the last time we hosted the event. Holding an event at a hotel, although convenient, may be economically out of our reach. Needless to say, BSG hosting Fall S Fest is presently in question. Facilities and membership participation in order to hold this event are the primary issues

Details For Calendar of Events

MAD City show in Madison, WI is Feb. 17 and 18. At the Alliant Energy Center.

Delavan Model railroad Train Show March 9th & 10th. Check out their website for more information.

Spring S Spree is from May 3-4 at the Emidio & Sons Expo Center in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio (near Akron). This is the 50th Anniversary of the CVSGA (Cuyahoga Valley S Gauge Association). A special AM B&LE (orange) boxcar will be offered. For details check events on the NASG website (nasg.org) or go direct to www.cvsnga.com. This hall location is separate from any hotel. There is a hotel with special rates available nearby.

The NASG Annual Convention will again be in Harrisburg, PA from July 17-20. Check the NASG website (nasg.org) for details.

Local Area Meets

Model Railroad Train Show Swap Meet

Kenosha Union Club

3030 39th Avenue Kenosha, WI

9:00 am To 1:00 pm

Admission \$5.00

2024	March	10
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Lionel Swap Meets

New Berlin Entertainment Center

16000 West Cleveland Ave.

New Berlin, WI

8:00 am To 12:00 pm

Admission \$4.00

2024	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

Admission \$8.00

2024	March	3
	April	7
	May	5

Wisconsin Southeastern Division Midwest Region
(WISE) Meets)

New Berlin Entertainment Center **

16000 West Cleveland Ave.

New Berlin, WI

1:00 pm To 4:00 pm

Admission \$4.00

2024	February	25**
	March	17**
	April	21

East Troy Electric Railroad Time (TBD)

WISE Division members and their families only - pre-registration required

(Extra Fare Event - Train Ride, Car Barn Tours, Lunch)

Check website: www.wisedivision.org

Next BSG Meeting

Date: Sunday February 25th

Time: 1:30pm

Club Location:

Corner of South St. & Grand Ave.

Waukesha, WI 53186

****Reminder**

Although the meetings are scheduled for 1:30pm, we plan on hosting an open house on those meeting days from 10:00am to 4:00 pm. BSG meetings are scheduled on the same day as the Lionel Club swap meet dates.

Future Meeting Dates:

2024	March	17
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Additional meeting dates have not been established.

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.

Dues Notice

It's that time of year again. Actually, it is past that time of year. Due to an omission in the December newsletter and no January Newsletter, no dues notice was published. It's kind of like the I.R.S. giving you an extension. All of the members that have been attending the monthly meetings have already paid their dues.

The dues is still \$20.00 a year

Make checks payable to the Badgerland S Gaugers

Send to Treasurer
Roy Meissner
P.O. Box 1438
Merton, WI 53056-0001
262-538-4325

Editors Comment:

For years (probably 20 or more) the Badgerland S Gaugers have not changed their dues rate. For years BSG virtually shut down from about sometime in April to October. BSG was a part time club, meeting at various members homes. For years BSG did not have a great deal to offer their members. BSG is now a year-round organization with a clubhouse.

Members wishing to run their trains, and a number of members that want to, have keys to the clubhouse. This allows them in come in anytime, perhaps with their grandchildren. There is a small number of members that have made contributions to the club both financially and with equipment.

I know that there are a number of individuals that like to be members of organizations and don't participate a lot and that's ok, they just like to be kept informed about our club and S gauge.

At our meetings there are refreshments (soda or bottled water) for our members, those are furnished and paid for by BSG. BSG held a really nice Christmas party this past year, one of the best ever, some of that was paid for by BSG.

Has anyone seen the cost of living lately or done any shopping? Maybe it's just me, I've been in this club since 1975, but \$20.00 a year. What a bargain.

Ok you might think the newsletters aren't that great, but you are getting more of them than in the past.

Special Notice

Due to some personal health issues, long time BSG member Gary Children, is dismantling his extensive S gauge layout He is extending an invitation to all who may be interested in purchasing any of the items on his layout. This will include trains, structures, electronics or anything that may interest you .

For more information: please contact him.

Gary Children
2135 S. 95th St.
West Allis, WI53227
414-327-1666
gchildren1@att.net

Badgerland S Gaugers Club Officers

<u>President</u>	<u>Vice President</u>
Ray Puls W334 S5362 Red Fox Way North Prairie, WI 53153 262-409-3496 rpuls3@yahoo.com	Ron Schlicht 5274 S. 49th Greenfield, WI 53220 414-477-7866 rons48tblue@gmail.com
<u>Treasurer</u>	<u>Secretary</u>
Roy Meissner P.O. Box 1438 Merton, WI 53056-0001 262-538-4325 rmeissner@wi.rr.com	Jeff Madden Bron Derw Ct. Wales, W 53183 262-968-3729 nasgdispatch@gmail.com
<u>Directors</u>	<u>Newsletter Editors</u>
Larry Blank Fred Vergenz Wayne Bartelt	Jeff Madden Ron Schlicht

Badgerland Website:

Doug Stoll, Omaha@frontier.com

Website for BSG:

www.trainweb.org/bsg

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:



Ron Schlicht - rons48tblue@gmail.com