



## 2024 October Issue

### September Meeting Report

(7) members were in attendance: Ray Puls, Ron Schlicht, Tom Patterson, Jeff Madden, Larry Blank, Dave Hunsicker, Fred Vergenz Bob Blomberg Jerry Poniewaz.

Vice President Ron Schlicht called the meeting to order. Although present, President Ray Puls was recuperating from a recent bout of pneumonia.

Roy Meissner was unable to make the meeting. There was no treasure's report.

Jeff Madden followed with the minutes of the last meeting.

### Old Business:

1. The previous, Aug. 11, BSG picnic outing at the MSOE Live Steam grounds only had two of us attend – Jeff Madden and Bob Blomberg.

### New Business:

1. Ron Schlicht told us that Joel Webber and Tom Schnurr of the St. Louis club reminded us of the St. Louis Fall S Fest coming up in October.
2. Ron Schlicht said our 2025 Fall S Fest registration and promotional brochure is being coordinated by CASG member Bill Cantrell who then is compensated by the BSG club.
3. The 2025 car was approved to be a special run Milwaukee Road boxcar to be produced by American Models. Ron Schlicht is coordinating the artwork.
4. Ron Schlicht also showed artwork for a patch for the BSG FSF in 2025. It was approved by the members.
5. The progress of the modular layout in our permanent quarters was discussed. When complete the layout will have two double track (hi-rail) loops in operation. The goal is to be able to switch from various electrical controls. The

décor on the walls surrounding the layout was also discussed.

6. There will be an open house at the quarters on Oct. 5, 2024.
7. Next club meeting will be Sunday Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Jeff Madden

### Clubhouse Clatter

So, what's happening with the Badgerland S Gaugers. It's September so this means that the model railroading season is officially here. The past couple of newsletters had pictures showing some of the additions to the modular layout.

It's that time of year. What does that mean, it's the "election time" of the year. Now that is just what you want to hear. and have heard the nasty word, that is unless you live in a cave. That also means I wouldn't have your address and can't send you a ballot. Traditionally BSG has our nominations for club officers around now. Then in December we have a "Secret Ballot" which is cast into some one's cap (drop box) and scrupulously counted and tabulated by a club member and a notarized witness to ensure election integrity. The results are then announced to those that attended the meeting. Years ago, when BSG had more members, sometimes up to 30 at one meeting (my house), there was not a commission in place. There was actually time when we sent ballots in the newsletter to registered member. We hardly ever got a response.

All being said, democracy has died in BSG. Only a handful of members are willing to run for a position. It's not always willingly, we just intimidate them, a BSG union tactic. Therefore, all of the incumbents will run unopposed. Actually, they are not really running unopposed, they are just there, and unfortunately, **DEMOCRACY IS DEAD.**

This means, check the last page of the newsletter for your new, same as the last couple years, officers. To all those

winners?????? Congratulations. Bob Blomberg has been appointed and informed that he “IS” a new director.

## **BSG Layout Progress**

The plan has changed. As I have said, having discussions among our members is not only important, but can be very fruitful.

Originally, we talked about adding a passing siding to the layout. That would allow a member to setup their train while another member was running theirs. This eliminated the wait while a train was removed. Then it was a thought to connect the original yard, (yard 1 South) to the inner main line. After the acquisition of the Goeke modules, another yard, (yard 2 North), we discussed connecting the two yards, that were on opposite sides of the layout. Since one of the tracks on the modules did not connect to the yard system on either side, a discussion started about possibly adding track to the opposite end of the layout creating an inner loop. Hopefully your head is not spinning by now. And then and then, (reference to a 50’s song, Coasters, “Along came Jones”) if we are already putting in another drop-in section or a simple gate section, why not just add another track. That would use what would have been taking existing useless track section and creating “FOUR” loops of track. This would give more of our members the opportunity to run their trains at the same time. As of now only two members at a time can use the layout.

Now you are asking, is this going to really happen? It has already started; materials have been purchased and the construction has started. The initial framework has been put in and the Styrofoam top has been cutout and placed. This will now give us a basis to start the planning and laying out the structures that we are going to use. This doesn’t mean that the layout will be shut down, the existing outside loops will be in operation during construction.

The addition of Jeff Young’s and Don Goeke’s modules, have had a dramatic impact on the modular layout. For those of who are familiar with the old layout the new depth makes the layout more impressive than it ever was. There is still a lot of work to update them, but hopefully the pictures that have appeared in the newsletters, have given you an idea of the direction that the club is going.

There are plans in the making for a new smaller tabletop layout that we can take to other venues. Many years ago, BSG attended a number of outside events to promote our club. A smaller layout will be easy to transport and setup in a relatively short time. The club has enough of the S Helper track to achieve this. The layout will have the Hi-Rail look with simple Plasticville structures similar to what was in the earlier newsletters. Ron Schlicht will be donating a majority of the structures and materials.

All of the above concepts came about with members coming to the open houses and exchanging ideas. The more input we get from our membership the happier they will be with the end results.

The last open house did not have the number of attendees, I’m hoping for larger turnouts in the future. The front window G gauge setup is not to a level that I feel is drawing enough attention, it’s too much of a train on a rug. Last year’s Christmas display was decent, but we need to make it look more like a “Layout”. If there are any items that you have no use for that might fit into a G gauge setting, please let me know. I only wish that more of our members would stop by the clubhouse to see the direction the club is going and enjoy all of the upcoming benefits of being a Badgerland S Gauger.

There are still a number of Jeff Young’s equipment at the clubhouse and recently, a number of Dick Kloes’s items for sale. Jeff’s are more of the Hi-Rail Variety and Dick’s are more scale oriented.

There has also been some donated items members may be interested in some need a little TLC but the price may be right. Any sales help keep the club’s expenses down.

For more information Contact Ron Schlicht.

## **Fall S Fest 2024**

It’s getting closer, 2024 Fall S Fest will be hosted by the American Flyer S Gaugers of the St. Louis Area. As previously announced, it will be October 25 to 27. It will return to the Doubletree Westport, the same hotel as last couple of times. You can register online or mail. website <http://www.trainweb.org/afsgsla/>

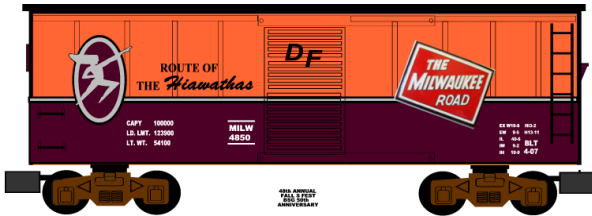
## **Fall S Fest 2025**

Many of the plans and decisions for FSF 2025 will be based on the data that we receive form the 2024 FSF, which will be hosted by the American Flyer S Gaugers of the St. Louis Area. Boy I’m glad we are just BSG, AFSGSLA is a mouthful.

Admittedly, hosting a FSF and holding it in a hotel (one location for all activities) would be ideal, but is not economically possible in our area. Hopefully familiarity will be an advantage, since the actual location, if not the same building, is the same as 2000. By the way, it was one of the most successful Fall S Fests drawing Over 800 attendees, 206 tables and 231 attending the banquet. 525 FSF cars were sold “before the convention started”.

A lot of this was due to the efforts of Mac McGrath, who was the director of the event.

At the meeting held Sunday September 8<sup>th</sup> at the clubhouse, two major decisions were made. It was hoped that more members would be present to vote on the car and patch proposals. Those present, approved the design for the car which was made from a number of different paint scheme offerings. The original thought was that of a plug door box car, from American Models, the choice of a plug door, was for cost purposes. After a discussion, it was decided to go with a traditional box car with a sliding door. Some of that decision, was making it more compatible with the AF style cars the we see at Flyer Fest. **(Sorry S Fest!!)** This will result in a slightly higher cost of the car.



The past six FSF's, yours truly, designed the patches. The patch design contest were dropped for two reasons. Number one was very little participation and number two was I always won anyway.



Due to Covid and the State-line S Gaugers no longer in the FSF rotation, some plans changed. BSG would have had a double anniversary 50<sup>th</sup> FSF and BSG's 50th anniversary. As a result, we will host the 48<sup>th</sup> FSF. Some would have liked that on the commemorative car. BSG was always one who wanted the FSF information to be less noticeable so as not to distract from the car design. We put the info on one end of the car. To appease all on one end of the box car it will be as the following:

**48<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
FALL S FEST  
BSG 50<sup>th</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY**

It will be so small you will hardly notice it.

## *The Photo Shop*

Have you ever given your email address to someone and regretted it? **OOPS!!!** Yeah, I gave mine to Pinterest. How many topics do you get that are "just" for you? Well, I have gotten some railroad ones that are really good and will occasionally put one in the newsletters. It boggles my mind as to how many versions of streamline steam locomotives were made. This makes me like my AF Royal Blue even more. It is also interesting of just how nice first class was. The only time that I have ever really seen the interiors were in movies like "North by Northwest" with Cary Grant.

As we age, as it seems most model railroaders have a kind of a longing for the good old days, I have no idea as to what Amtrak or other railroad passenger cars look like today, but then again, they probably don't look like these pictures. (Noone knows how to dress up anymore.)

Nobody has sent me any pictures, articles, or even hate mail, so here we go again, **my layout**.



### **News Bulletin:**

Recent population increase. As America increases in its population, I felt that my layout should keep pace and be upgraded. This census count is accurate to within one or two. (Yes, they are mapped.)

This is one of my favorite areas of my layout. My civic center didn't start out this way, but a few years ago, when I purchased the Kennedy car, oh well, this happened.



If you like or don't like this section, please let me know. Along with a random sample of pictures of all types I would like to continue a section like this.

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## The BSG Searchlight

I am always looking for ideas for articles that might be of interest to our members in the newsletters. We all might have some "Stuff" that we are either looking for or would like to find a new home for. BSG member, Tom Paterson threw out the idea of small ads in the newsletters for our members. BSG did this in the past. I'm going to try this column upcoming in the newsletters.

The only restriction will be that "**BSG Members Only**" will limit the number of listed items to 4 per newsletter. The ads will be posted for two consecutive newsletters then removed.

**Wanted:** Unbuilt, wood-sided, 40-foot, freight reefer kits by Kinsman or Scenery unlimited. Contact Tom Patterson: [tpatterson31@wi.rr.com](mailto:tpatterson31@wi.rr.com).

One recent development is that BSG has received a donation of pre 1952 American Flyer items, not only trains but accessories. The collection is too large to list in the newsletters One point of interest is that "most" of the pieces are in exceptional condition and some are in original packages and were never used. The collection will be going to Fall S Fest in St. Louis, however it is in BSG's possession and if you are interested seeing it, or want any information, please contact me.

(414) 477-7866 or email [rons48tblue@gmail.com](mailto:rons48tblue@gmail.com).

## In Memorial

This is not a joyous year for the Badgerland S Gaugers. Once again in a very short period of time we lost a past member and friend, Wayne Bartelt. Wayne and Karen Bartelt were hosts at their home for BSG club meetings. Wayne served as a director on the BSG board and was one the "**very active**" participants at some of our past Fall S Fests. There was no need to ask for a volunteer he was always willing to step forward and help. He offered ideas and suggestions for the improvement of our club. He was an avid model train and diecast truck enthusiast and attended many national conventions. Our condolences go out to Karen.

## Local Area Meets

### Model Railroad Train Show Swap Meet

Kenosha Union Club

3030 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue Kenosha, WI

9:00 am To 1:00 pm

Admission \$5.00

2024 No future dates at this time

2025

Their information is on Facebook. I'm not on Facebook

Anyone with info on this meet please let me know.

Question? Why would you have a website and only have information on your business on Facebook only. It seems to me like you are missing out on a lot of model railroaders, who "might" attend your event, and may not wish to be on Facebook. Huh, or is it just me.

### 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	October	20
	November	17
	December	15
2025	January	19
	February	23
	March	16

### Lionel Open House Events

Parkland Plaza

2721 South Calhoun Road

New Berlin, WI

(Enter in the back of the building)

10:00 am To 5:00 pm

Donation \$2.00

2024	November	30
	December	1
2025	April	5
	April	6

Check website: [www.milw-lrrc.com](http://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	November	3
	December	1

### Wisconsin Southeastern Division Midwest Region (WISE) Meets)

**\*\* Please Note the "Change" of Venue**

New Berlin Public Library Community Room

15105 Library Lane

New Berlin, WI

1:00 pm

"No Admission Charge"

2024	November	16
	December	14
2025	January	18
	February	22
	March	22

## Next BSG Meeting

Sunday October 20th

**Club Location:**

**Time: 1:30 PM**

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

**Remember**, the same day of the Lionel swap meet.

### Update:

Along with our clubhouse being open after all Lionel Club swap meets, the Waukesha Gandy Dancers and the Badgerland S Gaugers will have some additional open house events. The dates and times are as follows.

October 5 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 6:00 pm
November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10:00 am – 8:00 pm
November 24 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 am – 8:00 pm
December 7th	10:00 am – 6:00 pm
January 25th	10:00 am – 6:00 pm
January 26th	10:00 am – 6:00 pm
March 1st	10:00 am – 6:00 pm

For information on the Waukesha Co. Gandy Dancers  
Go to go: [WWW.WCGDRRAILROAD.COM](http://WWW.WCGDRRAILROAD.COM)

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## BSG Inventory

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

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

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## *Badgerland S Gaugers Club Officers*

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[www.trainweb.org/bsg](http://www.trainweb.org/bsg)

BSG encourages its members to share any new or existing product information they may find 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](mailto:rons48tblue@gmail.com)