



2025 February Issue

December Meeting Report

(7) members were in attendance: Ray Puls, Ron Schlicht, Bob Blomberg, Fred Vergenz, Jeff Madden, Paul Bartelak, Jerry Poniewaz.

President Ray Puls called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Treasurer's report: No report, Treasurer absent.

Old Business:

1. Ron Schlicht is still checking with American Models on cost of cars, color schemes, numbers, etc.
2. Jeff Madden is working on BSG history for a future newsletter.

New Business:

1. Dues for 2025 was being collected. Those absent can mail in or pay at Feb. meeting.
2. There will be open houses at the club for the Waukesha Jamboree on January 25 and 26 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
3. It was noted that long-time former member and former club president, Dave (Smokey) Smukowski, passed away back in 2023 due to many years of an illness that beset him several years prior after a stroke. Smokey had been very active up until about 10 or so years ago. He developed some serious illnesses, and was unable to continue with the club.
4. Shows coming up that Ron Schlicht and helpers will set up his personal portable American Flyer layout at. These include: the shows at the Milwaukee Domes on Feb. 1 and 2, the Mad City NMRA show on Feb. 15 and 16, and the Delavan show on March 8 and 9. Setting up and taking down help is requested.
5. Ron Schlicht discussed profits from donated items to the club that will help our budget.

6. The number of cars ordered from American Models and the number of patches to order were discussed regarding our 2025 Fall S Fest coming up on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1.
7. Our non-profit status was discussed.
8. Possible clinics for the 2025 Fall S Fest was discussed. Several tentative ones could include John Heck, John Mann, Jeff Madden, and some others
9. Purchasing some wood for replacement legs and benchwork work was Ok's by the members.
10. Jeff Madden is working on a BSG history that could be used for an article in the Dispatch. Ron Schlicht and Fred Vergenz should contact him for some of the early info that he may not have.

Meeting adjourned – Jeff Madden

Clubhouse Clatter

So, what's happening with the Badgerland S Gaugers. With the holidays taking place, progress on the layout has been a bit slow. Addition plans for the internal expansion of the layout are being investigated. Over the years the aluminum legs and their mounting brackets have seen some wear and are not very stable. Most, if all of the internal modules, will have those leg replaced with wooden legs with levelers. The next project will be lazer leveling of the inner area. The construction of the two new in loops will then begin. A secondary Geezer-gate will then be made. When fully operational, final scenery will then start.

The Gandy Dancers (HO) Model Railroad Club layout is also under construction and in itself, has some very unique features that are very worthwhile seeing.

There is a lot more to see at the facility than just our layout.

There was an open house during the Waukesha Winter Jamboree on Saturday January 25 & Sunday 26th. There were a lot of activities including ice sculptures all over the downtown area, including two just very near the clubhouse. Nobody was taking a count, but the turnout on Saturday was by far the best open house attendance since the move to the new location. Sunday was a bit sparse.

We had a small number of individuals who came in and have American Flyer in their attics or basements. Hopefully, some day we may get some new members. If nothing else, we have received some nice donations.

I've been beating on the drums at the Lionel club swap meets to anyone who purchases an S gauge piece, to think about joining our club. Believe me, sales are far and few in between for S gauge. The only new memberships were one of the vendors joining the Gandy Dancers club and me joining the Lionel club. I'm still in our club too.

Outside of our regular meetings, eventually BSG will be scheduling play trains sessions. On Wednesday evenings the Gandy Dancers HO model railroad club has work nights. Plus, there are a few individuals that run some really neat trains, some are over 100 cars long. This might be just another great opportunity to see the full facility in action.

We want to get out an updated membership list this year. Please get your dues payment as soon as possible.

BSG annual dues \$30.00 per year.

Send your dues to club treasurer:

Roy Meissner

P.O. Box 1438

Merton, WI 53056-0001

Editorial

On the last page of the newsletters, you will note my email address contains **48tblue** and a picture of a #350 Royal Blue engine. 48T was the A. C. Gilbert set box number. The "Christmas Again" editorial kind of explains it.

Engine report: As mentioned I ran the Royal Blue for Christmas. The reverse unit, the speed that the engine, hauling 12 link style cars runs, and it still ran like brand new engine. A. C. Gilbert "quality" is remarkable, without having to do anything outside of oiling. It will go back on the shelf until (God willing) next year.

Mitchell Park Domes Show

Every year the Domes sets up a huge G Gauge layout in the flower dome, and every year there is a different theme, this year it was the pioneer era of railroading. Many of the structures were phenomenal. The layout is setup shortly after Christmas and lasts until a little before Easter.

In early February, for one weekend only, there is also an All-Scale Train Show. Z-scale, N-scale, HO-scale, S-Gauge, G Scale, Lego and Lionel have layouts displayed. In addition, the Milwaukee Light Engineering Society, a live steam club, has a display with an engine on 7.5" track. The All-Scale Train Show included train exhibitors throughout "both" the lobby, and Greenhouse #7. There were a total 13 layouts on display plus some displays. BSG was represented by Ron's "Hollywood meets Model Railroading", American Flyer layout.

The show is advertised as a Saturday and Sunday event with Friday being the setup day. Sometimes it is a bit of a task setting up. 620 people came through the doors on Friday. Although you are in the middle of setting up, there is still a lot of interaction with the public. The domes furnish a catered supper for the participating clubs.

Saturday there were 3,250 in attendance and on Sunday 2,500 attended. We had a limited amount of S gauge material available but did have BSG info sheets there. Let's hope that out of nearly 6,400 people we might pick up a new member.

In saying the above, Paul Bartelak and I set up, tore down and packed the layout in the van. I will be working on trying to cut the setup time to less than 6 to 7 hours and breakdown to less than 4-1/2 hours. One of the problems is that every other club layout had more than two individuals helping out with their layouts.

Fall S Fest 2025

The major planning stages are getting into full swing. The order and down payment has been made by BSG. We are hoping to get photos of the cars prior to our May/June registration mailing. It was decided to have two paint schemes and two different car numbers 4850 and 4851. The sides will be the same. The 4850 will have a black roof and ends and the 4851 will have silver roof and ends. There may be a "very" limited amount of special cars made.



In the near future the price will be established for the Fall S Fest cars. There is a considerable cost to hosting a Fall S Fest Convention. We are planning to take prepaid orders for BSG members, to provide for preliminary FSF expenses. There will be a discount for “Club” members.

With the passing of some of BSG’s members over the recent years, we will be pressed with having a manpower issue. This year will be BSG’s 50th anniversary.

The BSG Searchlight

For Sale: The Badgerland S Gaugers has an inventory of S Gauge rolling stock on hand and for sale. There is traditional A. C. Gilbert American Flyer, Lionel Flyer, S-Helper Service, American Models and others brands available at reasonable prices. There are also some unique, “mint condition”, prior to 1952, American Flyer accessories for sale. The proceeds from all sales will go to BSG.

For info some of these items or photos contact: Ron Schlicht

For Sale: Plasticville structures and accessories, boxed and unboxed, plus a number of small parts. Some are available in different color variations. Contact Ron Schlicht: rons48tblue@gmail.com.

BSG Train Events

The Mad-City Train Show
Saturday February 15th
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Sunday February 16th.
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Some of us will be there throughout all of the day. We are only asking our members to help out a couple hours or so. Primarily, all we ask is that you stand or sit outside the layout offering information on S gauge and the Badgerland S Gaugers Model Railroad Club.

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
2025

Their information is on Facebook. I’m not on Facebook
Anyone with info on this meet please let me know.

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

2025	February	23
	March	16
	End of season until Fall	

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

2025	April	5
	April	6

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

2025	March	9
	April	6
	May	4
	June	1
	August	3
	September	7
	October	5
	November	2
	December	7

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

New Berlin Public Library Community Room
15105 Library Lane
New Berlin, WI
1:00 pm
“No Admission Charge”

2025	February	22
	March	22

Next BSG Meeting

Sunday February 23rd

Club Location:

Time: 1:30 PM

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

Remember, the same day of the Lionel swap meet.

For information on the Waukesha Co. Gandy Dancers
Go to go: WWW.WCGDRRAILROAD.COM

BSG Inventory

Contact Ron Schlicht Phone (414) 477-7866 Email:
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

NOTE:

There is a "**BSG Members Only**" discount rate on the above hoppers. Contact Ron Schlicht.

Badgerland S Gaugers Club Officers

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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:
Ron Schlicht - rons48tblue@gmail.com

