



## **2025 April Issue**

Members were in attendance:

Ray Puls, Ron Schlicht, Bob Blomberg, Fred Vergenz, Jeff Madden, Wayne Friedrich, Larry Blank, Don Goeke.

President Ray Puls called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

There was no treasurer's report.

The following minutes report will be a correction and a combination of the past two meetings versus the repetition of the report in the past two newsletters. This amounts to a second OOPS of the year. I will attribute it to age rather than just dim wittedness.

### **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 our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary which will be published in the NASG Dispatch. For non NASG members we may put the article in a future newsletter.

### **New Business: February**

1. Ron Schlicht reported on the progress of the 2025 Fall S Fest car order to American Models. The club is still finalizing the number of cars and pricing. A down payment has been sent to AM.
2. Ron Schlicht reported that the Flyer layout that represents the BSG club was displayed for 2 days at the Milwaukee Domes show, and it was also at the Mad City Show. There seemed to be good public turnouts at both these events. The next 2-day show for this layout will be in Delavan in March. Thanks to Ron Schlicht, Fred Vergenz, Bob Blomberg and Paul Bartelak for assistance at the shows. Also, at Mad City a six-foot display table was used for S related handouts.

3. It was noted that member Tom Patterson is recuperating from a serious illness.
4. Member Bob Blomberg is going to weld some washers to wingnuts to assist in setting up and taking down the Schlicht modular layout at shows.
5. Also, at the Mad City show in February of 2025 a dinosaur on a flatcar was a big hit for the youngsters. Noted too that the Chicago Area S Gaugers had their modular hi-rail layout at the Mad City show. BSG member Jim Maslowski operated his military train on this layout.
6. Regarding the 2025 FSF it was suggested to talk with the EXPO folks about the number of extra tables and chairs needed for dining area and displays. Other items discussed regarding the upcoming FSF were what the various charges were going to be for table space, registration, cars, patches, etc. Also discussed were number of vendors expected, banquet charges, Dispatch advertising, BSG history article for the Dispatch and the registration materials being worked up by Bill Cantrell of the CASG. Potential banquet speaker and clinic givers was discussed. Perhaps, if any estate sales were to be at the FSF, it could be promoted in our mailings.
7. Donations: There has been several donations of rolling stock and accessories to the club from various sources. In particular, one came from Heidl of West Allis who donated a nice Flyer 322 Hudson plus some passenger cars and freight cars to the club. A thankyou note will be sent out. Other items came to the club from someone at the Mad City show.
8. Lumber is to be obtained for the club modular layout. It was also suggested that some step stools could be a help in accessing parts of the layout, both outside and inside the donut hole.
9. Jeff Madden organized the complete collection of BSG club newsletters since the beginning in 1976. These are from day one up to 2015, and

are in 4 3-ring binders to be stored at the club location in Waukesha. Newer newsletters, from 2016 and on will come later.

10. There may be a future special sale item of a large estate which will be advertised to club members and other S clubs nearby.
11. It was discussed about BSG club members pre-ordering any 2025 FSF cars so that the proper order can be given to American Models.
12. Jeff Madden is still working on the club history article (50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary). Other members are proofreading. It is planned to send this to the Dispatch.
13. A future Dispatch ad (probably for the July-August issue) was discussed.

Meeting was adjourned.-Jeff Madden

## **New Business: February**

1. Layout progress on the club's permanent setup was discussed. The lift-up "Geezer Gate" is being improved with new latches. Eventually there will be a second lift-up for the inner double track loops. So, eventually the layout will have two double track loops which will enable the club to run 4 trains at once.
2. The result of the downsizing of member Gary Children's S layout was that the club received a donation of many nice scale buildings which are much needed to populate the layout since a while back most structures were sold off before the club was offered its permanent location.
3. Other buildings may be coming to the BSG club from an estate situation.
4. A multi-club invite is planned in the near future regarding sales of estate items for the family. Dates to be determined.
5. Update on the 2025 Fall S Fest planning: American Models is progressing on the artwork for the FSF Milwaukee Road boxcar. Club members are already signing up for pre-orders. Details for the mailing brochure are being coordinated with a member of the CASG who is helping with this. BSG members will soon coordinate with the Waukesha Expo Center, the Machine Shed restaurant and nearby motels for pricing information to be used in the brochure and registration materials.
6. The long-term future of the Fall S Fest was discussed by the members. After our one this coming fall, future Fall S Fests may be in doubt. It will be up to the Chicago Area S Gaugers and the St. Louis club to continue – or - have another

city jump in on the rotation – or – maybe there will be a joint effort to continue the Fests.

7. A discussion was held about working with the Waukesha Downtown Business Association about having a "model train" weekend in late fall where businesses would have small layouts in their stores or restaurants, and the club would also have an open house. Since Waukesha has a compact downtown, most displays would be within easy walking distance. Currently club open houses usually coordinate with themes such as an Art Crawl and Friday Night Live events where most of the public would hardly be interested in model trains.

Meeting adjourned – Jeff Madden

---

## **Clubhouse Clatter**

So, what's happening with the Badgerland S Gaugers Between the swap meet and the various model railroad shows the progress has slowed on the modular layout. It hasn't stopped, but the aging of the labor force is also a factor. When your calendar looks like a bingo being filled with medical appointments and procedures, "I've been working on the railroad" is sung a lot less.

Some of the plans for the new loops are being finalized. As soon as we get the lumber, we will start on the new construction areas. With the addition of some of the donated articles, the layout will look better than ever. I might add that there are a lot of items that the club has for sale and not just American Flyer stuff. We are doing our best to offer these things at reasonable prices. In the near future there will be some extraordinary pieces for sale. There has "still" been a limited number members that have stopped in to the clubhouse. The sales are helping to keep the Badgerland S Gaugers well beyond our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## **Editorial**

At this time a lot of our efforts will be focusing on the upcoming Fall S Fest. It is hopeful that the registrations material will go out in May or early June. We have posted the renderings of the 2025 FSF cars in past newsletters.

To keep up with the costs of hosting FSF prior to the registrations coming in, we are hoping that some of our BSG members will preorder and prepay for the cars that they would like to purchase. This year the cars will be \$60.00 each. For BSG members, who have paid their dues , the price will be \$55.00 each.  
(The cars will not be delivered before Fall S Fest.)

It has been stated that one of the reasons for not going to Trainfest was the lack of desire for members to go to the downtown location. I have recently received news which indicates that there are plans to make Trainfest bigger and better. It was pointed out that the West Allis location does not have the room for the future expansion. Trainfest is planning to utilize the Baird Center , which will host Trainfest in 2025, in the future. With the lack of BSG membership participation, it will jeopardize our club ever having a presence at the largest model railroad show in the state.

## *Fall S Fest 2025*

A lot of information on what is going on in preparing for Fall S Fest 2025 is in the general meeting notes.

## *The Photo Shop*

“Once again”, Wayne Friedrich brought along some trains for a playtime session. Below is his like-new, Comet set. On other occasions that we have held open house events, Fred Vergenz, Tom Patterson, Don Goeke and Ray Puls has brought some of their engines and cars to run on the layout.



## *The BSG Searchlight*

**For Sale:** As mentioned above, there is 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](mailto:rons48tblue@gmail.com).

## Upcoming Train Events

**NMRA Convention –**

**Novi MI (Detroit) July 14-19, 2025**

The convention is being hosted by the NORTH CENTRAL REGION of the NMRA. Our goal is for “A Convention Like No Other”. We are planning a great week of model and prototype railroading, just for YOU! This convention is open to ALL model railroaders! You do not have to be an NMRA member to attend!

-----  
**Great Midwest Train Show**

**DuPage County Fairgrounds Wheaton, IL**

**9 am to 3:00 pm**

**Admission \$8.00**

2025	May	4
	June	1
	August	3
	September	7
	October	5
	November	2
	December	7

-----

## *Next BSG Meeting*

*Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup>\*\**

**Club Location:**

**Time: 1:30 PM**

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

**In addition, on May 4<sup>th</sup> is the  
Milwaukee Miniature Motors  
Model Car, Toy & Racing Memorabilia  
Spring Show from 10 am to 2 pm.**

**It will be held in the same building that we  
will be hosting the 2025 Fall S Fest  
Waukesha County Exposition Center  
1000 Northview Road Waukesha, WI 53188**

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

## **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  
There is a **"BSG Members Discount Rate"** on the  
above hoppers. Contact Ron Schlicht.

### ***Badgerland S Gaugers Club Officers***

Ray Puls

W334 S5362 Red Fox Way

North Prairie, WI 53153

262-409-3496

[rpuls3@yahoo.com](mailto:rpuls3@yahoo.com)

Ron Schlicht

5274 S. 49th

Greenfield, WI 53220

414-477-7866

[rons48tblue@gmail.com](mailto:rons48tblue@gmail.com)

#### **Treasurer**

Roy Meissner

P.O. Box 1

Merton, WI 53056-0001

262-538-4325

[rmeissner@wi.rr.com](mailto:rmeissner@wi.rr.com)

#### **Secretary**

Jeff Madden

Bron Derw Ct.

Wales, WI 53183

262-968-3729

[nasgdispatch@gmail.com](mailto:nasgdispatch@gmail.com)

#### **Directors**

Larry Blank

Fred Vergenz

Bob Blomberg

#### **Newsletter Editors**

Jeff Madden

Ron Schlicht

#### **Badgerland Website:**

Doug Stoll, [Omaha@frontier.com](mailto:Omaha@frontier.com)

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

Send any comments or suggestions to:

Ron Schlicht - [rons48tblue@gmail.com](mailto:rons48tblue@gmail.com)

