



2025 December Issue

Members win attendance: . (10) Members

Ray Puls. Ron Schlicht, Jeff Madden, Bob Blomberg, Larry Blank, Tom Patterson, Doug Stoll, Roy Meissner, Jerry Ponewicz and Wayne Friedrich

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

Roy Meissner gave the treasurers report:

Old Business:

At the previous meeting, most of the business was centered around what was the upcoming Fall S Fest preparations and the financial status of the club.

New Business:

Roy Meissner gave a favorable treasurer's report. Regarding the recent Fall S Fest, the income was greater than the expenses. Basically, the FSF was profitable.

The successful Fall S Fest on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1, 2025 was discussed. It was successful overall.

Ron Schlicht mentioned that the HO club added a number of can lights to their area. Their president offered to install additional lighting in our area. Ray Puls purchased the lights, he will be reimbursed for the cost. They will be installed in the near future. This will greatly improve the lighting on the east side of the layout.

Ron Schlicht suggested that the club purchase a step stool for work on the layout. With the addition of some of past members modules, the depth went from the 30 inches to 60 inches deep. This will provide the two additional loops of track.

Tom Patterson discussed ordering more of the sold-out Fall S Fest Milwaukee Road boxcars from American Models. The minimum re-order would be 50 cars. Tom also volunteered to take complete control of all phases of this project.

One downside during the Fall S Fest was the interest in the raffle tickets. The total number of items were six or seven. The income was minimal.

Ron Schlicht reported that the auction of some special Milwaukee Road boxcars went very well at the Machine Shed banquet on Saturday night.

Roy Meissner reported that our membership total is around 30 members.

Ron Schlicht noted that there still are a lot of estate items remaining to be sold.

(CASG) member Joel Lebovitz was also in attendance at our general, Chicago will be hosting the next upcoming 2026 Fall S Fest, in November. Some details were in the last newsletter

The Gandy Dancers (HO) and Badgerland S Gaugers will be hosting an open house at the clubhouse on Saturday, Dec. 6th.

The BSG club will meet at the Merton Community Center on Sunday, Dec. 14th for the annual Christmas party. It'll be pot luck.

Doug Stoll mentioned he has a power point projector for sale if the club wants it. Doug also mentioned the additional help that we are getting regarding our club and the possible reorder of the 2025 fall S Fest cars. There are a lot more resources that just the BSG website. Doug has been exploring the options.

Dues will be due (\$30) by the January, 2026 meeting.

Ron Schlicht mentioned that many of the nice scale structures from our late member Gary Children have been donated to the club.

Some officers are to be elected at the December meeting. Any nominations should be presented at that time.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Clubhouse Clatter

So, what's happening with the Badgerland S Gaugers The passing siding has been completed and the revisions to the proposed inner loops are being started. With the Fall S Fest preparations, there was not a lot of progress on the layout. The trackwork for the additional two loops is the most pressing issue.

Our membership lost another long-time member Gary Children. Gary was originally into HO, but redid his layout and selected S Gauge as his choice of preference. He was a scale enthusiast and had a lot of S gauge scale structures gracing his layout. His intentions were to downsize his layout and as a result, during that process he donated a number of structures to our club.

After his passing his son and daughter have offered to donate all remaining train related items to BSG. All of these will greatly enhance the Badgerland S Gaugers modular layout. In addition, there are some invaluable items that will be donated to the East Troy Trolley Museum. Again, many thanks to his son Scott and daughter Lura.

Footnote: Incidentally, Scott designed one of the most unique Fall S Fest patches, the 1996, 21st Annual, Badgerland FSF, featuring the front of an Amtrak engine with the rear of the Olympian Hiawatha observation car, and the bell tower in the background.



Fall S Fest 2025 Report

The original "moderate estimates", based on the facilities expense and all other cost factors, plus the numbers from the past three Fall S Fests, made the forecast for BSG marginal when it came to the financials.

Between unanticipated car sales, vendor table sales, an unexpected turnout, and a number of other elements, BSG far exceeded expectations. We are thankful to all of the attendees and vendors and those who helped us make this year's event a success.

Considering that all did not go as planned, plus some of the mistakes that were made, we are more than satisfied with the results. Originally, the forecast was for a "**hope to break even**" Fall S Fest. With the popularity of the car and the underestimated number of walk-ins, BSG exceeded expectations.

Although we have limited resources, due to a shrinking number of members, there was priceless assistance

available. As the chairman of FSF 2025, I don't believe that we could have pulled off this venture without it.

Bill Cantrell of CASG did an absolutely fabulous job on the registration forms and the mailing. This alone took a load off of our club. I had him virtually on speed dial and he offered a number of suggestions that we incorporated into our planning.

Joel Weber from AFSGLA not only furnished invaluable information from the 2024 FSF, when I called him, which was a lot, but gave me moral support when I needed it.

John Mann, Joel Lebovitz, George Sorenson and others pitched in offering advice based on their experiences with past Fal S Fests.

Bob Ristow, a non-member, was present every hour of the event helping out at registration and other duties.

Last but not least, the Badgerland S Gaugers Fall S Fest Committee, all 8 of them. In addition, a small number of the other BSG club members who helped out with the hall arrangements and other tasks when needed, to make FSF 2025 possible.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You "ALL".

Footnote:

One final comment on this years Fall S Fest. In our promotional literature we used the phrases: Keep the tradition alive and renew old friendships and possibly make new ones. On a sad note, there were some individuals who have been in attendance there, for as long as I can remember. They were not there this year and were truly missed.

God bless them all.

2025 Fall S Fest Car Reorder

Due to the unprecedented response to the 2025 Milwaukee Road box car, there were individuals who didn't register prior to the two orders of the cars and as a result did not get this years' FSF car.

BSG is investigating the possibility of a reorder of two of the cars, the 4851 Black Roof and Ends and the 4852 Silver Roof and Ends.

For more information on the possibility of this project go to the Badgerland S Gaugers website and follow the instructions below.

[Click here to see how to get your 2025 Fall S-Fest commemorative car.](#)

There is an American Models minimal amount manufacturing requirement. If the preorder quota is not reached the order will not take place and the cars will no longer be produced.

It's that time of year again. In the last newsletter there was a notice regarding our annual BSG officer's elections. Basically, the usual response was expected.

Election update: ???????

So, in the small world of BSG we are threatened with another "**a threat to democracy**". There will, no mail-in ballots, the BSG "**elite aristocracy**" will decide who your officers will be.

Ray Puls will be stepping down as President and will "**grasp**" the office of Vice-President. His arm was nearly broken in order to accept the position.

Ron Schlicht will be hoisted to the position of President by "**fiat**" of those present at the "**conclave**" at the last meeting. This was also due to a long period of total silence in the room.

Roy Meissner will gain "**take control**" of the office of the treasurer, a power of which he has held for the past couple three years or so.

Jeff Madden will remain a Secretary for BSG, an office which "**no one wants**". His minutes will continue to appear in the newsletters along with other "**selected opinions**".

Ron Schlicht will once again maintain the position BSG as the newsletter editor of "**propaganda and misinformation**" to poison the minds for S Gauge indoctrination.

Tom Patterson and Wayne Freidrich have offered to join the "**coup**" of influence in BSG, as directors in the club "**oligarchy**".

Am I watching too much news?

No. I'm not going to mention that your dues are due.

It's that time of year again.

Over the past years BSG used to have annual Christmas parties. They were hosted by individual club members at their homes. This put a bit of a burden on the members wives and at times there was a space factor With Covid and other issues, there were years that there was no party. we also missed last year.

It's party time Again. This year, as it was two years ago, it will be held at the same location.

BSG's Christmas Party

December 14th at 1:00 pm

Location:

Merton Community Center

W282 N6996 Main St.

Merton, WI.

Access to the hall will be at 12:00 noon for setup and preparation of the goodies.

Roy Meissner will give a power point presentation after the meal.

Let us know whether or not you plan to attend and if you will bring a dish to pass.

Please respond to Ray Puls by Email at raypuls@yahoo.com or by Phone (262) 720-1012

Last time we had a number of members who volunteered to bring items to feast upon, examples of which were:

Ham and Rolls, Punch, Cheese and Crackers, Brownies, Deviled Eggs, Baked Beans and Vegetable, Bean Salad, Potato Salad and Sweet Potato Casserole.

This has been a fun event in the past. Come early and stay late.



Editors Comments

It's that time of year again.

Last year I wrote an article on my first train set the A.C. Gilbert American Flyer 48T set. My first layout if you could call it that, was a loop of flyer track set up on a linoleum floor in an enclosed porch. (linoleum, now there is a word from the past) The first structure almost every boy got was the Plasticville station with the loading and maybe some crossing gates. Times have changed. What child of today, would watch a train going around and around for hours. Forward, reverse, stop go and dream.



Odds are if a young boy got a train set for Christmas, it would be from a grandfather or great grandfather. It just might be followed by a look of disappointment. After all what he really wanted was a video game in which he could destroy all humanity. I don't know about him, but some of the creatures would keep me up all night cowering under my bed.

I was raised by a strict grandmother. The train went up with the tree and came down with the tree. It was then packed away until next Christmas. We added sugar and to the water base so that we could keep up the tree as long as possible, which was when the needles really started dropping.

Every Christmas I would receive another PV building. A fire station was the first. In addition, one of my aunts let me use "her" PV houses and the church. Eventually I was allowed to set up my train under the Christmas tree. Thus, below is the first real layout that I ever had.

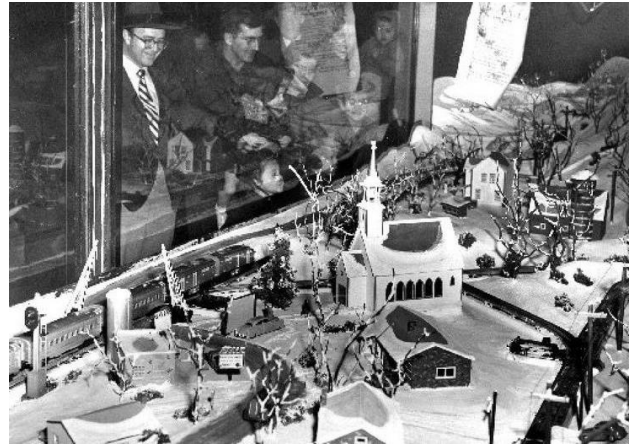


Cotton matting on top of the "linoleum" floor. Another one of my aunts was the best applicator of tinsel, known to mankind. Every single piece was perfectly applied hanging flawlessly.

One of my favorite signs in my train room.



It's that time of year again. The season when department stores have train layouts in their front windows or "NOT". Gome are those days also. The closest to train displays are all of the shelves with model railroad structures at Menards and ceramic buildings on the other side. Every once and a while some of the structures are halfway decent and very close to "S" gauge.\\



Another sign of the times, the term "department stores". In all of the "black and white" photos that I have looked up, the train layouts had virtually mobs of people gathered around the displays.

In our area the shopping malls are nearly empty. Computers and online buying are the main sources of purchasing Christmas gifts. I live in a dead-end cul-de-sac, hardly any traffic. I take that back, my everyday hazard is the possibility of being run over by a multitude of delivery trucks traveling at near highway speed.

It's that time of year again. The holiday season is approaching which means that we will again have a Christmas display in the upstairs storefront windows. There are pictures of what we had last year on our website. If you have any suggestions or can offer some items to add to the display, feel free to do so.

After that display is taken down, quite frankly, the floor display is somewhat unimpressive. We are looking at ways to make it look more like a train layout rather than a train running on carpeting. It's "G Gauge" and any items that you might be able to contribute would be appreciated.

We need to draw more attention to the clubhouse in order to increase interest, with a goal of possibly increasing or membership. There is still a bit of disappointment in how few members have even been to the clubhouse and seen what we are doing.

***Have a Joyful & Peaaceful
Holiday Season
By the way it's called *Christ*mas.***

Editors Lament

After being the BSG newsletter editor from 1984 to 2011, approximately 27 years, for personal reasons, I took a hiatus for about 10 years, occasionally writing an article here and there. I started up as the editor again in June of 2021. This month's letter will be the 30th issue since then.

Enthusiasm runs hot and cold. After the initial issue #1, and continuing thru issue 9, there were six contributing articles by members. Those were pretty decent newsletters, thanks to those members.

Since then, there have been **four....four**. Actually, there were six, I was granted permission to steal two from another newsletter that I receive.

Not only should the newsletters be informative on club activities, but perhaps a bit entertaining, whether you like my humor or not.

Feel free to send in anything entertaining, (no suggestive photos of family members), modeling techniques, tips on products you used and suggest.

Help to make it your club newsletter.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PRETTY PLEASE.

Remember my door is always open, you know why my door is always open, someone stole the hinges. Answers the question: I think the BSG editor is unhinged. My how-to skills are very limited.

The BSG Searchlight

WANTED: SHS wood-sided reefers SHS #02123 Carling Black Label (CBL 799) and SHS #02124 Carling Black Label (CBL 812). New or Like New in Original Box; scale wheelsets installed or with scale wheelsets in box.

Contact: Tom Patterson

email: tpatterson31@wi.rr.com.

WANTED: Plasticville Cape Code House, Salmon Color, Brown Roof, Brown Doors and Windows.

Contact: Ron Schlicht email: rons48tblue@gmail.com

For Sale, "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.

With what BSG has on hand, it's like a Mini-S Gauge Swap meet. A lot of items have been sold already

There were **six, eight-foot tables** at fall S Fest of items for sale that are in the clubs' possession. Items are available at all meetings or call or email Ron Schlicht when clubhouse will have staff there, other than the general meetings. There is a multitude of rolling stock from the Brad Nelson collection, most of which is American Models, S-Helper and various other manufacturers. Older FSF cars. Scenery supplies. More is being sorted all the time.

Local Area Meets

*In the event that any of our members are aware of an event that they believe would be of interest to other club members please contact your newsletter editor and we can post the event.

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 | December | 21 |
| 2026 | January | 18 |
| | February | 15 |
| | March | 15 |

Check website: www.milw-lrrc.com

or call 262-754-9900

Open House November 29th & 30th

Wisconsin Southeastern Division Midwest Region (WISE) Meets)

***New Berlin Public Library**

15105 Library Lane

New Berlin, WI

1:00 pm

***Admission Free**

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|---------|
| | *January | 10 |
| Mad-City Train Show | February | 21 & 22 |
| Location TBA | *March | 21 |
| | *April | 18 |

Check website: <https://wisedivision.org>

Great Midwest Train Show

DuPage County Fairgrounds Wheaton, IL

9 am to 3:00 pm

Admission \$8.00

| | | |
|------|----------|---|
| 2025 | December | 7 |
|------|----------|---|

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

| | | |
|------|----------|---|
| 2025 | December | 7 |
| 2026 | January | 4 |
| | February | 8 |
| | March | 8 |

Women and Children 12 & Under FREE
More Information? Call 262-331-0392

BSG Inventory

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

2021 Fall S Fest Hoppers (Hi-Rail Only) \$50.00
EachFurnished with Coal Loads



Special Offer: Pair for \$90.00

Shipping \$10.00 on 1st car. \$3.00 ea. additional car.
The cars are also available at the BSG clubhouse

Next BSG Meeting

Remember the Christmas Party

Date: Sunday December 14th

Time: 1:00pm

Next BSG Meeting

Date: Sunday January 18th

Time: 1:30 pm

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

Notice:

It's that time of year again.
Annual dues is \$30.00 a year.

Badgerland S Gaugers Club Officers

President

Ray Puls
W334 S5362 Red Fox Way
North Prairie, WI 53153
262-409-3496
rpuls3@yahoo.com

Vice-President

Ron Schlicht
5274 S. 49th
Greenfield, WI 53220
414-477-7866
rons48tblue@gmail.com

Treasurer

Roy Meissner
P.O. Box 1
Merton, WI 53056-0001
262-538-4325
rmeissner@wi.rr.com

Secretary

Jeff Madden
Bron Derw Ct.
Wales, WI 53183
262-968-3729
nasgdispatch@gmail.com

Directors

Larry Blank
Fred Vergenz
Bob Blomberg

Newsletter Editors

Jeff Madden
Ron Schlicht

Badgerland Website:

Doug Stoll: Omaha@frontier.com
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



Hosting this year's 2025 Fall S Fest was not exactly a **Piece of Cake.** But the sheet cake at the banquet was a really good **piece of cake.**

