

# Welcome to the Lionel Railroad Club, Inc. Milwaukee, Wisconsin USA

## — About the MLRRC —

The **Lionel Railroad Club, Inc. Milwaukee** (MLRRC) was founded in Milwaukee, Wisconsin during The Great Snowstorm of January 1947 by five youngsters, the oldest eight and the youngest four, to pass the time while they were snowbound. This makes the Club the second oldest model railroad club in Wisconsin and the oldest Lionel® club in the world.

The Club currently has over 200 members, most of whom are active in the Club's many volunteer programs as well as in train running sessions.

The clubhouse is located at 2721 South Calhoun Road, New Berlin, Wisconsin. In addition to a massive layout with loops nearly 200 feet in circumference, the facility offers a meeting area, a comprehensive railroad library, and a social activity center.

In addition to providing members weekly access to the layout to run their trains, the Club sponsors a monthly swap meet on the third Sunday of each month October through March, it's held on the fourth Sunday in February. Consult our website [www.milw-lrrc.org](http://www.milw-lrrc.org) for full details.

The club contributes to the awareness of the hobby and railroad-related issues by regularly taking one of its three portable layouts to local shopping centers, schools, museums, nursing homes, and other locations to demonstrate toy train operation and enjoyment.

The club also has an extensive collection of prewar and postwar era trains in both standard and O-gauge. The collection is prominently displayed on the club's walls for all to view and enjoy.

## — Regular Membership Benefits —

- Use of the permanent layout
- Operate portable layouts at shows and appropriate events
- Participation in NMRA-WISE Trainfest to run trains
- Free admission to the MLRRC swap meets
- Participation in Club Open Houses, Car Show, Round Robin Member Layout Tours, and other planned outings
- Participation in monthly business meetings
- Trouble shooting tips from members
- Assist members to solve layout and train problems
- Repair services from members who specialize in such work
- Trade and swap equipment with other Club members
- Opportunity to meet other enthusiasts who attend train shows and swap meets
- Assist in Boy Scout merit badge clinics
- Use of the video and print library
- Opportunity to see the whole range of toy trains, from prewar toys to postwar classics to modern scale equipment in action

## — Membership Application and Tax Exempt Donation Form —

Regular Membership	\$55.00 per year
Junior Membership (no voting or office-holding rights)	\$30.00 per year
Our email newsletter is included with membership. I don't have email. Please mail the newsletter to me.	Yes    No
Optional donation to help support the club	\$ _____
Total enclosed including: membership and donation	\$ _____

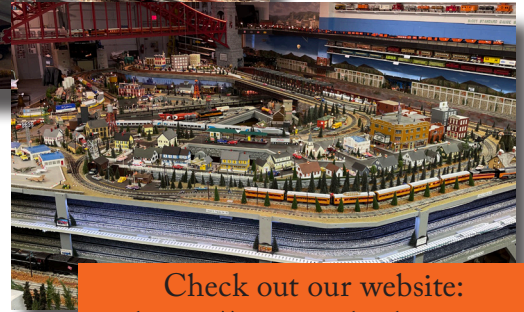
Print Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*Mail (with check) or deliver  
(with cash or check) this  
completed form to:*

*Lionel Railroad Club, Inc.  
Membership Chairman  
2721 S Calhoun Rd  
New Berlin, WI, 53151*

*If you wish to pay by credit card  
visit our web site at [www.milw-lrrc.org](http://www.milw-lrrc.org)  
an additional cost applies.*

**The Lionel® Railroad Club, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Wisconsin and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service. All donations are tax deductible.**



Check out our website:  
<https://www.milw-lrrc.org>



Lionel Railroad Club, Inc. - Milwaukee  
2721 South Calhoun Road  
New Berlin, WI 53151



Click the QR code above to visit our website where you will find complete information about the MLRRC, including current hours of operation.



Click the QR code above to visit our facebook page, which is updated often.

Here's Lionel Railroad Club, Inc.—Milwaukee Membership Information!

## MLRRC History Timeline

- 1947 - The club forms on January 30th and the first layout is begun in the basement of the founder Jerry Brettschneider's parents' home.
- 1949 - Joshua Lionel Cowen grants permission for the group to call itself The LIONEL® RAILROAD CLUB
- 1958 - Lionel® Railroad Club basement layout opens to the general public
- 1965 - The club begins activities with the Society of Model Engineers at MSOE
- 1971 - The club participates in the first Milwaukee area "Trainfest" show sponsored by the local division of the National Model Railroad Association.
- 1972 Organizes first shopping center-based model railroad show at Southgate Mall.
- 1975 The club move's from founder's home to rented quarters at 7933 W. Burleigh St
- 1976 The Lionel Railroad Club, Inc. incorporates in Wisconsin as a "not-for-profit" educational organization.
- 1977 Holds first "Round Robin" tour of member's home layouts.
- 1982 Club President organizes "Association of Model Railroad Clubs" (A.M.R.C) to promote and coordinate local model train shows.
- 1984 Club moves from Burleigh Street to larger space at 10236 West Fond du Lac Avenue. Constructs and scenics a large layout for simultaneous operation of five trains.
- 1996 First participation in local public television's annual fund drives.
- 1997 First participation in local museum and zoo holiday exhibits.
- 1998 Club receives 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status for all donations.
- 2002 Club purchases and moves to a permanent location in New Berlin, Wisconsin.
- 2007 Layout construction continues in new quarters with three large layouts, including a standard gauge loop and Hellgate Bridge. The design enables the operation of 17 trains at once on the permanent layouts. The club celebrates its' 60th Anniversary with various events throughout the year.
- 2009 Acquired 500+ piece vintage toy train collection.
- 2017 The club celebrates its 70th anniversary and replaces its old portable layout with a new modular system that allows four trains to run at once.
- 2019 The MLRRC celebrates the 150th anniversary of the driving of the golden spike at Promontory Point, Utah completing the trans-continental railroad in 1869.
- 2021 MLRRC founder Jerry Brettschneider passes on July 3rd.
- 2022 On January 29th the MLRRC celebrated its 75th Anniversary. It is the world's oldest Lionel club.