

the SEMAPHORE

VOLUME 18

NO. 7

APRIL MEETING

April 21, 1991, 1:30 p.m.
Faith Lutheran Church
Arlington Heights, Illinois

Program

The first item on our agenda will be our annual meeting and the election of division trainmasters.

The first presenter shall be our own Jim Otis who will do a presentation on "How We Designed and Built the Fox Valley RR Club Modules." As most of you are aware the yard modules and the connecting wye module that the club owns was built by Jim and his helpers, and he kept a running photographic record of their construction.

This helpful presentation should be of great interest to those of you who are planning to build a module of your own to be used on the Fox Valley RR.

Our concluding presentation will be the showing of the latest VCR titled "90 Years of Chicago Traction." This starts with the early horse, cable and electric railways and ends with the latest subway line to O'Hare Airport. In between you are treated to the sights of the red streetcars, the green hornets and the Skokie Swift. This is one of the best nostalgic presentations of Chicago traction around and is accompanied by "Big Band" music.

April Contest

Contest Trainmaster Brynelsen has announced an April Fools contest for this month. Bring your weird, your strange, your unusual to our April meeting.

ELECTION OF TRAINMASTERS

The ballot for the election of Trainmasters is enclosed. Please take a minute to check the candidates and vote for your choices. These are the people who will run the Fox Valley Division for the next two years. Your vote does count.

MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR TRAINMASTER

Some of the candidates for trainmaster have supplied us with short biographical sketches. We present them to you with a minimum of editing.

DON BRYNELSEN

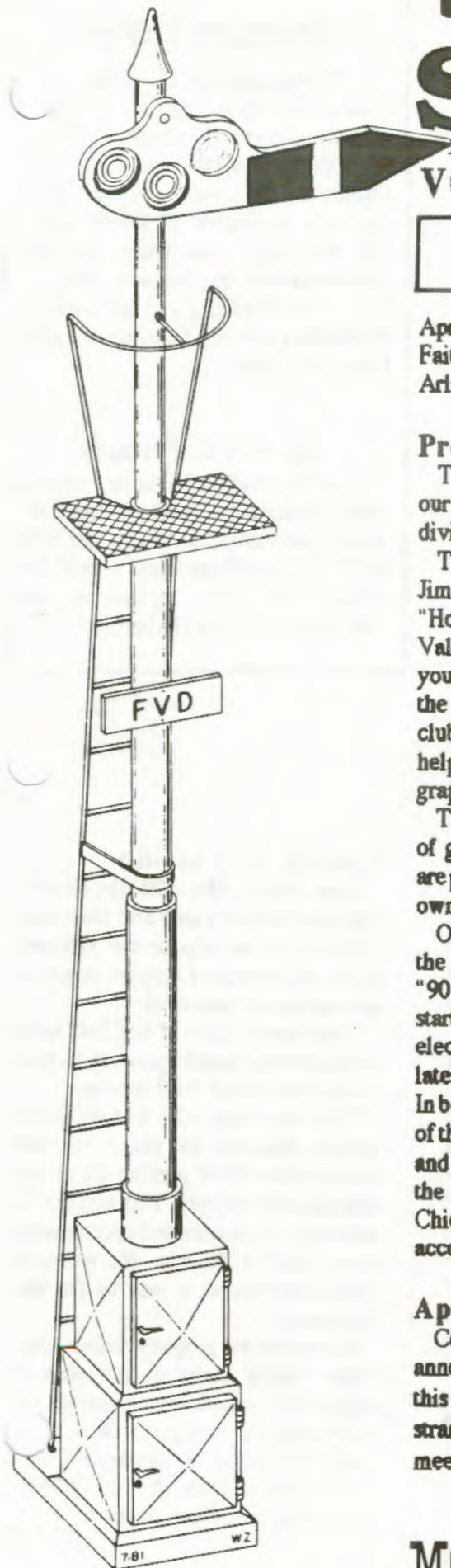
A member of the NMRA for 3 years, Don models in HO scale. He is interested in the turn of the century (1890-1910) and models it primarily. He is a member of A.H.S.O.M.E. and has modules which he adds to theirs.

Don says, "I'd like to see some programs in which to get young people into the hobby. I'd also like to see a sub-division within the organization aimed at Junior modelers (10-15 yr. olds). I feel there are several out there who got into the hobby through their parents but cannot take part in some of the division's activities because of their age."

Don has been our contest trainmaster for the past two years.

FRANK OLDFIELD

Frank has been a member of the NMRA for 4 years. He has been more of a collector and builder of HO car kits and structures most of the time.



MODEL RAILROADING IS FUN . . .

He enjoys weathering and detailing, especially in structures.

Frank says, "I have been going to the meetings now for 3 years, and I still hardly know anyone's name. I would like to see name tags made up and distributed to all in attendance. This would help the newer members and guests get to know people on a more personal basis."

Frank has assisted with the set-up and operation of High Wheeler for the past few years.

RAYMOND L. PETTERSEN, JR.

Ray has been a member of the NMRA for 4 years. He models in HO scale and hopefully will have two modules to add to the Fox Valley RR.

Ray says, "I would like to see greater income from High Wheeler. I would also like to see more participation by members, possibly through door prizes, drawings, discounts, certificates, etc."

Ray has been the ways and means trainmaster for the past two years. In that capacity, he has directed High Wheeler '90 and '91.

ART ROTH

Art has been a member of the NMRA for many years. He has lent his time to High Wheeler for the last few years.

BOB CARNEY

Bob has been a member of the NMRA for the past four years. He models in HO scale and belongs to the Fox Valley Model Railroad Club.

Bob says, "I don't think you have to be a master modeler to be involved with the hobby. We should share our knowledge of the hobby with other modelers."

Bob has been membership trainmaster for the past two years.

Superintendent's Report

April brings a sense of winding down of division activities for the year. High Wheeler has come and gone with a record-setting attendance this year. Thank you to those who have contributed their efforts to its success, the division owes you its gratitude.

While the attendance did increase, the profits going to the division were the lowest in about five years. Most of you have heard some talk about the possibility of not doing High Wheeler next year, and quite honestly, that is one option under discussion at the board meetings. If we are to have the show next year we will have to get some new personnel taking over several positions on the High Wheeler committee. We may also need a new site as Harper's costs continue to increase while our benefits decrease. There is also the feeling that our enthusiasm is burning out for the show. If you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer please respond to the advisory referendum on the enclosed ballot.

The division will have its annual business meeting this month and I hope to keep it as short as possible. If any member has anything they would like discussed, please contact me before the meeting so that I can include it in our agenda.

One item which will be included will be the election of new Trainmasters. As of this writing you only have five members running for the seven authorized positions. The Trainmasters have the responsibility for the following areas of divisional operations: Programs, Publications, Contest and Achievement, Membership, Ways and Means, Promotion and Public Relations, and the Fox Valley Railroad. If you are interested please let me know. Each individual area is not difficult to manage and will give you a voice in division affairs.

See you at the meeting.

Tam

Journey's End

Jacqueline C. Otis

The Fox Valley Division reports with deep regret the death of Jackie Otis, the wife of our former superintendent Jim Otis. Jackie died suddenly on Friday, February 15th. She was buried from Faith Lutheran Church on Monday, February 17th.

Our condolences go to the family. Memorial gifts may be made to Faith Lutheran Church.

Grace M. Fritsch

The Fox Valley Division reports with sadness the death of Grace M. Fritsch on March 13. Grace, the wife of W. K. (Doc) Fritsch had been ill for some time. Our condolences are extended to Doc and the family.

Coming Next Month

Save Sunday, May 19th (the Sunday between Mother's Day and Memorial Day) for a car trip to the Illinois Live Steamers in Lockport for a visit and our end-of-year-bash.

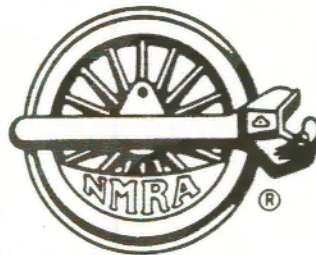
They have 1-1/2", 1" and 3/4" scale livesteam and diesel operating layouts to show us at their 7-1/2 acre site.

This meeting will not be held at the church, but rather, we will meet at the CNW parking lot at the Arlington Race Track. This will not be a bus trip. We recommend you arrange a car pool for the trip. We welcome your better halves to join us for this excursion.

Please let the program trainmaster, Norm Smith know if you plan to attend this special May meeting. Put your name on the sign-up sheet at April meeting or by telephone (708) 255-4503 in order that the refreshments may be ordered properly.

The Golden Spike Award

The Fox Valley Division announces with pride the receipt of the Golden Spike Award by Ray Pettersen. Those of you who have seen Ray's layout can appreciate the care and attention to detail Ray has put into his layout.



Fox Valley Division



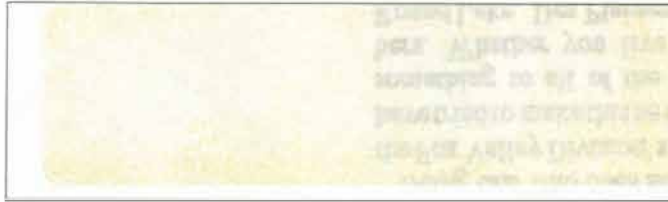
THANK YOU

As my term as publications train-master comes to an end, I wish to thank all those who made this post a joy to hold.

Being one who does not live within the Fox Valley Division's boundaries I have tried to make this newsletter mean something to all of the Fox's members. Whether you live in Elgin or Round Lake, Des Plaines or Cary, the *Semaphore* is your link to the other modelers in this area.

Special thanks to Joe Russ of the WISE Division for his generosity in plugging High Wheeler.

To all the members of the Fox, thanks for reading the *Semaphore*.



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SCHEDULE

April 21

**Annual Business Meeting
and Election of Trainmasters
How We Designed and Built the
Fox Valley RR Club Modules
by Jim Otis**

Contest: Humorous

May 19

**End-of-Year-Bash
Illinois Live Steamers**

September 15

TO BE ANNOUNCED

Faith Lutheran Church
431 S. Arlington Heights Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60005

EMERGENCY PHONE: (708) 253-4840