



Semaphore

Volume 19, Number 8

May 1992

May Meeting

We won't be having a regular meeting at the church this month. Instead, we will have an outing at the Illinois Railway Museum in Union. You will be responsible for your own transportation

MEETING

May 17, 1992

11:00 am — 5:00 pm

Illinois Railway Museum

Union, Illinois 60180

in McHenry County

800-BIG-RAIL

to the museum. The doors open at 11:00 am, and with a valid NMRA membership card, you will get \$1.00 off the admission price.

To get to the museum from Chicago, take the Northwest Tollway (I90) to U.S. Rt. 20, Marengo exit. Drive northwesterly on Rt. 20, about 4½ miles, to Union Road. Take Union Road north and follow the signs.

The division will provide lunch (sandwich, chips and drink) at the Dining Car at 1:00 pm. Guests are welcome, but please call one of the

board members and let them know how many guests you are bringing. Otherwise, there will not be enough food for everyone.

Superintendent's Report

I write this report at a sad time for all of us. I have just returned from the wake for Doc Fritsch. While Doc was not a current member of our division, he was one of the founding members and was very active with us until he moved. Doc was one of those who always appeared wherever he was needed without any fanfare. Doc returned this year to help out at the door for High Wheeler '92. He will be greatly missed.

Next year, our division will move its meeting site to the Prospect Heights Park District located on Camp McDonald Road [see Schedule — Ed.]. We hope this facility will give us more flexibility with our Sunday meetings.

On the convention front, we received a shock when we learned that Forest View would be unavailable to us because of zoning restrictions. The current plan is to revert to our traditional High Wheeler show and have the convention at a hotel about the middle of May. We will go ahead with our plans provided we are able to secure a convention site.

I hope that you all have a good summer, and that you get lots of railfanning and railroading in when the weather is good. See you in September.

—Tom

April Contest Winners

The contest for April was open cars with loads. These are the winners from that contest:

- 1st: Dave Flebbe (HO)
- 2nd: Dave Flebbe (HO)
- 3rd: Phil Valenzo (N)

Congratulations to both of you.

Semaphore

Editor: Rich Sweet

The Semaphore is a monthly newsletter published by the Fox Valley Division of the National Model Railroad Association and is used to communicate information and activities to the members of the Division. Direct all comments and questions to the Editor.



Smilepost



Holiday Inn — Rolling Meadows April 30, May 1 & 2, 1993

Smilepost '93

The Fox Valley Division is pleased to be hosting the Spring Region Convention for the first time in many years. We hope the lineup of events we've scheduled will include something to interest you and your family.

Chicago is the crossroads of the nation and we intend to draw from the Chicagoland resources for our convention. Our convention site is the newly remodeled **Holiday Inn** in Rolling Meadows. Located near the junction of routes 53 and 90, it is perhaps the easiest convention site in the northwest suburbs to find. The cost of \$63.00 per night for a room for up to four people is exceptionally reasonable for the facilities and location. This is a **Holidome®** facility with all the amenities included from restaurants to parking. This hotel is incidentally the site of the largest regional convention to ever occur for the Midwest Region ("Highball '79") which was attended by over 700 people.



Home and Studio" and also view some of the homes designed by him and his contemporaries. The final trip during the day on Saturday will be to the *John G. Shedd Aquarium* and the *Field Museum* located on Chicago's beautiful lakefront. Be sure to bring your cameras as you will see one of the most spectacular views of the Chicago skyline. In the aquarium you will see our new oceanarium with a dolphin show and hopefully the Beluga Whales. We will then go on our own to the *Field Museum* where you will

be able to see the newly renovated displays including a model of an Egyptian tomb. If you have not seen this museum in a while I'm sure you will be amazed at the changes which have occurred here. With all of these trips plan on spending most of the day. Lunch will be on your own and your guide will suggest some places to eat or your bus will take you there.

For those family members who are interested in shopping we will run a shuttle bus from the convention headquarters to the local shopping centers/malls all day on Saturday. These centers will include Woodfield and One Schaumburg Place

Family Convention

Smilepost '93 is being planned to include activities for the entire family. The **Holidome®** location will provide swimming, gamerooms, and athletic facilities to occupy time which you spend at the convention center. We are planning activities which will keep you occupied away from the convention center.

Be aware that registration for various activities will be limited, so be sure to register early so that we can make arrangements for those who would like to go on tours!!!

Saturday will provide you with an opportunity to visit the *Village of Long Grove*. A turn-of-the-century village which has many antique and boutique shops which is very popular with visitors to the Chicago area. We are also scheduling a tour to the *Town of Oak Park* to visit the "Frank Lloyd Wright

On Saturday evening the whole family is invited to join us on a train ride around the Chicago Loop. Our rented train will depart from the Wilmette station and journey down the lake-shore line and turn onto the loop tracks for a trip around the Loop. We hope to return via the Ravenswood line which will take us on the street level tracks as seen on the *Wild Chicago* introduction. Our buses will pick us up at the Kimball Avenue Station for the trip back to the convention hotel. (Limited seating)

As a further incentive to bring the family, we intend to have a contest for the children. Special awards will be given for children participating in a **Railfan Safety Poster Contest**. We will have awards for first, second and third place and a ribbon for all children entering the contest. The subject of the contest is to make a poster (12" x 18" minimum) emphasizing safety when on or near railroad property.

Schedule

June

Summer Vacation

July

Summer Vacation

August 1 - 8

Discoverail '92

The NMRA 1992 National Convention
Columbus, Ohio

September 20

FVD Meeting

Gary Morava Recreation Center
104 W. Camp McDonald Road
Prospect Heights, Illinois

East Troy Electric Railroad Museum Father's Day Dinner Train

To celebrate Father's Day, the East Troy Electric Railroad Museum is

offering a special Father's Day Dinner Train on Sunday, June 21, 1992, aboard the Ravenswood from 6 pm to 8 pm.

The dinner will feature stuffed pork tenderloin with oven browned potato wedges, vegetable du jour, plate garnishes, iced relishes, croissants, mixed green salad, an apple compote for dessert and coffee, tea or milk. The Ravenswood will be open for boarding and cocktails (cash bar) at 5:30 pm with the departure at 6 pm. Tickets for the dinner are \$36.50 per person and includes all charges, tax and gratuity. The Ravenswood is the museum's effort to bring back the luxury of dining by rail. The Ravenswood's Art Deco styled interior offers a relaxing environment as you travel down the historic East Troy Railroad and along Phantom Lake on your two hour dinner trip.

The museum is located at 2002 Church St. in East Troy, Wisconsin, just off Interstate 43 and Highway 20.

Reservations are required and seating

is limited to 50 people. For reservations, call Matthew Gleason at 414-549-0139.

Fox Valley Division Officers

Superintendent

Tom Hoffman 708-299-6276

Asst. Superintendent

Dave Flebbe 708-439-1744

Chief Clerk

Irv Lange 708-577-0015

Paymaster

Dave Hamilton 708-253-1003

Fox Valley Division Trainmasters

Contacts

Frank Oldfield 708-640-1932

Fox Valley Railroad

Don Brynelsen 708-773-3932

Membership

Bob Carney 708-527-2401

Publications

Rich Sweet 708-459-1037

Public Relations

Art Roth 708-577-4430

Ways and Means

Ray Pettersen Jr. 708-259-3040

Fox Valley Division Semaphore

P.O. Box 1535
Arlington Heights, IL 60006-1535

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE PAID TIMED DELIVERY