



the Semaphore

April 1994

Volume 21, Number 7

APRIL 17th PROGRAM

At our April meeting we will be fortunate to have Bob Roundy with us to present his clinic on *Weathering with Chalk*. Bob, who is associated with Iron Horse Hobbies in Bensenville, will demonstrate how to add an extra touch of realism through weathering. He has presented his clinics at shows and conventions over the years.

You will want to take this opportunity to brush up on Bob's weathering techniques at this clinic.

The April meeting is also our annual business meeting. We will elect our officers for the next two years at this meeting. If you haven't mailed your ballot you can bring it to the meeting and turn it in before the meeting begins.

Our Contest Trainmaster, Frank Oldfield has announced a *Weathered Freight Car Contest*. Be sure to bring a piece of track on which to display your entry. Frank will not be with us at the meeting, so the awards will be presented at a later date.

Looking forward to seeing you all on April 17th.

Art Roth

In Memoriam

**It is with deep regret that we
announce the passing of**

Alex McCornack

Long-time, active member

Wife of David Trucksess

*The Officers and Directors
extend our deepest sympathy to the families
of Alex and Mrs. Trucksess.*

*May their spirits live on in
the hearts of those who remain*

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

In this month's issue of *the Semaphore* you will find your ballot for electing the new division officers who will guide the directions which our division will chart over the next two years. All of the men who are running have had experience in running the division as elected officials and have shown themselves as people of vision tempered with the proper amount of practicality.

Ray Pettersen has co-ordinated the High Wheeler show for the past three years which have seen new records in attendance and continuing improvement in quality. His organizational talents are precisely what is needed to keep the division moving in the right direction.

Art Roth is a dynamo of energy who can be counted on to be sure that the job gets done, and done right. He has the uncanny ability to be in the place where he's needed most at any given time.

Rich Boettcher has helped to organize many of the improvements seen at High Wheeler in the past two years. He is a people person who has demonstrated an amazing talent to organize the manpower at High Wheeler so that the door is always manned by smiling faces which greet our guests to the show.

Rich Sweet has capably filled the office of Chief Clerk for the past year and one half. He has asked to move over to the office of Paymaster which more closely matches his interests and I'm sure that we will keep our present strong financial position as a result of his efforts.

These people have volunteered to undertake the task of guiding the division's fortunes for the next two years. Please, give them the support which they need beginning with returning your ballot so they can begin their terms with the knowledge that they have the confidence of the membership in their efforts. It makes a great deal of difference when the officers know they have your support because it sometimes seems like they are the only ones who care what happens to our division. It is very lonely at the top. Please show these men who care about the division that you also care about the division by casting your ballot and supporting the whenever you have the opportunity.

Next Month: An End and a Beginning.

Tom

Your Candidates for Officers of the Fox Valley Division

Raymond Pettersen, Jr.

Ray has been active in the Fox Valley Division for the past six years, and has been involved with the High Wheeler show at Harper College for the past five years. He has been Ways and Means Trainmaster and on the board of directors for five years. As trainmaster (plus the immediate past year not on the board) he has been responsible for all aspects of the High Wheeler from the initial registrations of exhibitors all the way through the cleanups on Sunday evenings. The total expenditure of time involved is intense for a six month period, but actually involves the entire year. Ray has received a tremendous amount of help from many division members throughout this time in all facets of involvement.

As your new superintendent, Ray will continue the good works and times spent by your previous superintendents, Tom Hoffman, Jerry Vojtko, and predecessors. Ray is, however, looking forward to instituting some basic changes in certain areas such as the manner in which the monthly meetings are run; in the area of membership to increase activity and balance the membership rolls with that activity; in boosting the Fox Valley Division Modular Railroad to promote usage, publicity, and increased division member involvement; in the area of continued fine programs at the meetings and special outings on a separate basis; in the area of public relations with not only hobby dealers, but with the general public to promote model railroading through the use of our Fox Valley Division Modular Railroad and the High Wheeler; and in the area of continued membership publicity by increasing the already splendid *Semaphore* to aid in all of the above.

Ray has been involved with his own HO gauge model railroad for many years and is currently also building two modules to be part of the Fox Valley Division Railroad. As your new superintendent, Ray will be earnestly soliciting your help to accomplish the many facets involved in performing and operating a model railroad division as part of the National Model Railroad Association. Thank you.

Arthur Roth

Ray Pettersen asked me to run with him as his assistant. I think Ray will make a good Division Superintendent and I would like to help to make the division stronger and more fun for all of our members. So far, Under Tom Hoffman's leadership, I have held two Trainmaster positions. Tom first asked me to run for Public Relations Trainmaster because of my interests in our High Wheeler shows. Then, as we picked up a few new Trainmasters, he reassigned me to Programs Trainmaster. I'm not sure I've always done the best job, but, I've always tried to do what's best for the division and its members.

Goals — To try and make the division more fun and more interesting for everyone. To make the division more like a club for all its members and to promote fellowship and friendship for all, and maybe someday to have a permanent meeting place. Some place to set up the Fox Valley Railroad and meet a night or two a week to play railroad together as friends.

Richard Sweet

I have been a member of the NMRA since 1975 and an active member of the Fox Valley Division for the last four years. During those years, I have held positions as Publications Trainmaster (*Semaphore* editor), Chief Clerk and Paymaster. I have worked on the last three High Wheelers (the first two at the contest table and the last one helping to build the HO railroad that was raffled off) and on last years' Midwest Region Spring Convention — Smilepost.

I would like to continue my participation as an officer in the Fox Valley Division. That is why I am running for the office of Paymaster. I feel that this division has a lot to offer its active members and I believe I can contribute to that end.

Richard Boettcher

The Fox Valley Division is more than a model railroad club. It stands like a control switch tower at the entrance of a freight yard. Its job is to promote railroading in all its facets, switching ideas from one track to another, and building a train for the main line.

Model railroading has been my hobby for over twenty years. I felt a need to be with people who, like myself, enjoyed the thump, thump of a diesel locomotive, the clang of a trolley, the clickety-click of a passenger car or the roar of a huffing and puffing steam engine.

I collect trains of all scales and model in HO.

As ways and Means Trainmaster I've enjoyed working on the High Wheeler program.

I'm still mesmerized by the sheer size and magnificence of the Iron Horse and everything to do with it.

Drawing a picture with paper and pen is difficult for me, but I can build a picture on my layout and be proud of what I have accomplished.

I am a tracklayer, a bridge builder, a mountain maker, a river creator, a carpenter, a factory builder, an electrical contractor, a photographer, and a writer. I am a model railroader.



**Be sure
to
VOTE!**

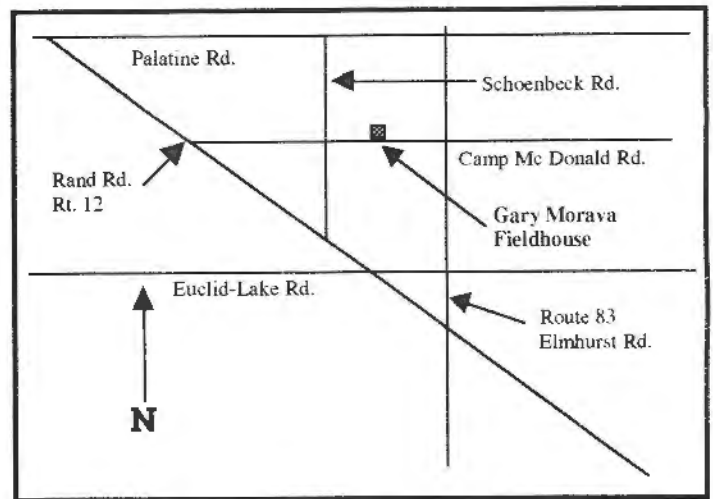
Fritsch Estate Sale

The Arlington Heights Society of Model Engineers are in the process of selling the estate of W. K. "Doc" Fritsch. Doc had been a member of AHSOME for a long time. Doc's hobby was a long one of some forty or more years, thus his estate contains many rare and unusual pieces.

The items will only be available at AHSOME on Friday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00. All sales are cash and carry. We are located in the basement of the Pioneer Park fieldhouse, 500 S. Fernandez, Arlington Heights, Illinois.

April 1 will see Motive Power and miscellaneous on sale, April 8 structures and other items. After April 8, Estate will go to flea markets and others. Fridays from April 15 to April 29 only as available.

WHERE WE MEET



Historical Societies Part of a Continuing Listing

ACL & SAL

Annual Dues: \$15.00
Quarterly News Magazine
c/o Joseph L. Oates
4007 Paddlewheel Drive
Brandon, FL 33511

Anthracite Railroads

Annual Dues: \$20.00
Anthracite Railroads Historical Society
PO Box 519
Lensdale, PA 19446

Baltimore & Ohio

Annual Dues: \$18.00
B & O Railroad Historical Society
PO Box 13578
Baltimore, MD 21203

Boston & Maine

Annual Dues: \$18.00 / \$30.00 foreign
B&MHRHS, Inc.
PO Box 2936
Middlesex, Essex
GMF Woburn, MA 01888-9998

BN Historical Society

Annual Dues: \$20.00 reg. / \$40.00 sust.
PO Box 2480
Monrovia, CA 91017

Canadian National

Arthur R. Thomas
RD 1, Box 295
Alum Bank, PA 15521-9658

Central Vermont Railway

Annual Dues: \$15.00 reg. / \$20.00 sust.
c/o John Haropoulos, Secretary
1070 Belmont St.
Manchester, NH 03104



I was deep in thought, as I walked between two modular model railroad layouts at the '94 High Wheeler show at Harper College. The attendance was down this year and I asked myself if I had done enough. From somewhere behind me I heard a voice: "Hey Dad! Look at this one!" "Yeah, that's neat isn't it."

I don't know who said "Hey Dad!" There were fathers and sons and mothers and daughters everywhere you looked. From that point on I started listening to the people.

One young man leaned out of his stroller and said, "Train Daddy." He wiggled his tiny fingers and grabbed at the air trying to reach the G scale trains as they puffed around the track. I heard people behind the tracks explaining, with pride, how they built a bridge, or constructed a mountain. I heard a grandmother say, "I once rode a train like that to St. Louis."

As a van pulled out of the loading dock one of the exhibitors signaled a thumbs up and said "Good job guys."

Yes, we did enough. We put on a good show. We are the winners. We, the people who created this extravaganza, and the thousands of people who laid down the three or four bucks to see the show.

Yes. There is always room for improvement. In this case I think we need more people not better people.

Did we do enough? Definitely.

Thank you for letting me be a part of the High Wheeler Train Show.

Richard the Lionhearted

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 708-577-0015
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 708-459-1037

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 Art Roth Programs
 708-577-4430
 Rich Boettcher Ways and Means
 815-653-3146
 Scott Hicks Public Relations
 708-438-9109
 Frank Oldfield Contests and Achievement
 708-364-0153
 Bob Carney Fox Valley Railroad
 708-587-6213
 Jerry Hoffman Publications
 312-725-9159

**THE
 NORTH SHORE & WESTERN
 DIVISION**

*has invited the members of
 The Fox Valley Division
 to a*

Layout Tour

on

Sunday, May 22, 1994

*The easiest way to go is to get to the intersection of
 Waukegan and Golf Roads (located on the map).
 Then head north on Waukegan to Overlook Drive,
 then right on Briar to the Fieldhouse.*

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