

Volume 36, No. 10

Editor's Note. *This special one page edition of the Semaphore is being sent to all Fox Valley Division members with the important announcement of a proposed merger of the Fox Valley and North Shore and Western Divisions. We invite your comments and questions. These will be addressed in the September issue of the Semaphore. Please email your comments and questions to:*

wherricks@yahoo.com

This special edition was mailed to all members via U.S. Postal Service.

The Semaphore

June 2010

Special Edition

Divisions to Merge

North Shore Division will combine with Fox Valley

On June 1st, the Fox Valley Division's Board of Directors voted to merge with its divisional neighbor to the east, the North Shore and Western Division.

The merger is expected to be approved by the NMRA's Midwest Region Board of Directors at its fall meeting October 3, 2010. The resulting division will comprise about 265 members with 150 coming from the Fox Valley and 115 coming from the North Shore and Western. The new division would geographically encompass all of the current Fox Valley Division and North Shore Division territories.

The idea of merging the two divisions came from the North Shore Division in order to pool our collective resources and enhance membership activities similar to what we have seen at our past joint meets. Informal inquiries about merging were made to a FVD Board member at the Spring Midwest Region Board meeting in Bloomington, Indiana. The concept was expanded upon in a subsequent FVD Board discussions and a joint FVD/NSW Board meeting. On May 23rd, at their annual meeting, the North Shore and Western membership voted to merge into the Fox Valley Division pending FVD and Midwest Region Boards approval. The FVD Board unanimously passed a motion to proceed with the merger at a June 1st BoD meeting.

It is expected the current Fox Valley Board of Directors positions will be subject to future discussions. It is also expected Fox Valley's name and by-laws will be retained as well as its Semaphore newsletter. Monthly divisional meetings will continue to be held at the Fox Valley's current meeting place, the Gary Morova Center in Prospect Heights.

In coming FVD Superintendent, Walter Radtke noted that, "This is an excellent opportunity for both divisions. We look forward to working with North Shore members for a bigger and better division." Additional communications will be made from the divisions as needed to outline further details that become available.

Next FVD Monthly Meeting: Sunday, September 19th 1:30—4:30 p.m. at the Gary Morova Center in Prospect Heights. **Contest:** Something "new"—a new or newly painted loco, structure, etc. **Clinic:** TBA. See you Sept. 19th!



Fox Valley Division

Midwest Region - NMRA

P.O. Box 1535

Arlington Heights, IL 60005-1535

***Special Edition with
important information***

About the Fox Valley Division

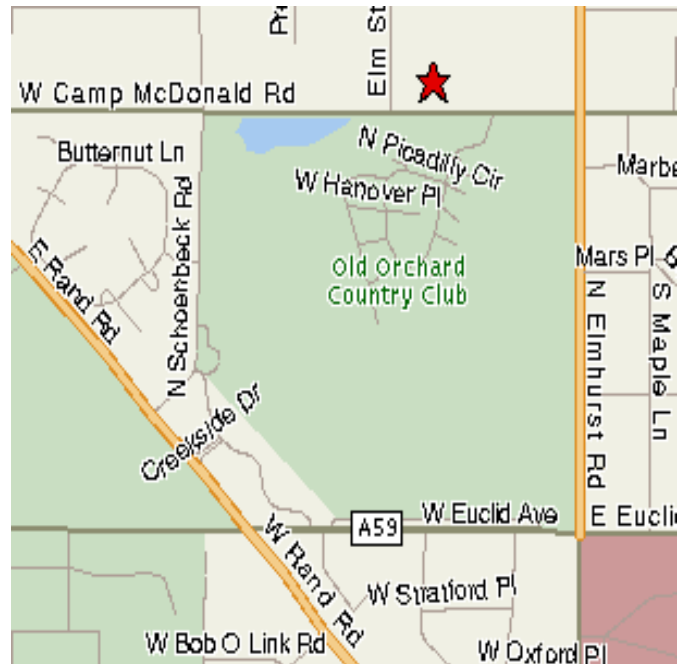
If you receive this newsletter you live in the Midwest Region and Fox Valley Division of the National Model Railroad Association or NMRA. The Fox Valley Division (FVD) includes McHenry and parts of Cook, Kane, and Lake Counties in northeast Illinois. About 150 members of varied ages and modeling ability levels belong to the FVD. Almost all modeling scales are represented in our division. Membership in the division is free as are the Semaphore newsletters.

FVD general meetings are held September through May at the Gary Morava Center in Prospect Heights from 1:30 to about 4:30 pm. Each meeting features a clinic, model contest, information of interest to the membership, and a time for socializing. Outings, layout tours, and operating sessions are also held periodically in addition to, or instead of, the general meetings. To promote the hobby of model railroading, the FVD sponsors and runs a large train show, High Wheeler, in early March each year at Harper College in Palatine, Illinois.

We encourage you to take advantage of all the FVD has to offer. We are here to help answer your questions, help improve your modeling, and help you better enjoy the great hobby of model railroading. Join us at a FVD meeting or outing. We'd love to see you. Or, visit us on the web at: www.foxvalleydivision.org.

Questions?

Contact FVD Superintendent, Rich Sweet at 847-550-1399 or any board member listed on the division's web site. We are here to help!



General Meeting Location: Gary Morava Center, 110 Camp McDonald Road, Prospect Heights, IL

General Meeting Time: 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Next meeting: September 19, 2010. Have a great summer!