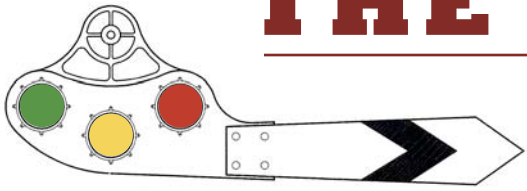


THE SEMAPHORE

SEPTEMBER 2010

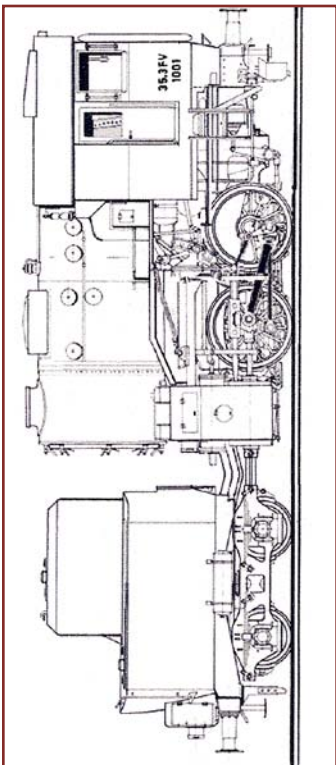
FOX VALLEY DIVISION • MIDWEST REGION



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FUN STUFF!



New Semaphore Staff

Art Paton and Jim Allen are now writing, editing and publishing the Semaphore. This issue reflects a new format and philosophy of publishing what members want to know. The Semaphore will try to differentiate a bit from the website and will carry some information

duplicated on the website. See an article on page three with proposals on changes to how the Semaphore is made available to you. Printing and mailing the Semaphore is the largest expense the club has outside of expenses for Highwheeler. You can help with this.

High Wheeler 2011, March 5-6, 2011

This is the 33rd year of the show and this one will be the best ever. Jim Osborn has a prototype of the flyer for the show with a great layout and key marketing information. Walt Radtke is asking for people to fill several roles to ensure the show will go on even if he is hit by the Special Express. Some of the roles needed are: Show Manager, Volunteer Manager, Set Up/ Teardown Manager. Walt has job descriptions and lots of encouragement. Please sign up today.



A unique way for the little guys to see the show. Taken at High Wheeler 2010.

Clinics, Programs and Contests

Dave Leider Clinics and Programs Trainmaster, has a great list of programs for the coming season. John Cloos is working on a layout visits schedule and has a tentative list of over 30 layouts offered for visits and operations. Visits would occur on non meeting evenings or on weekends. First visit will be October 10-11 at Sun City in Huntley. Dave Crement will host the tour. Jim Landwehr, the Contests Trainmaster, has posted the preliminary schedule in the May Semaphore and on the club website. Jim Allen was thinking of starting Novice and Experienced categories since some of the same expert modelers have won repeatedly. In order to encourage novices and the lesser skilled, the Novice category would provide another level of opportunity and would spark a number of discussions on modeling methods between novices and experts.

continued on page two

Job Opening!!

The role of Assistant Superintendent is open. Harry Sorensen, Assistant Superintendent is recovering nicely from surgery, but has resigned his position. We now need someone to take over Harry's position. One of the Assistant Superintendent's duties is to get the refreshments set-up for each meeting; coffee, drinks and items to eat to keep the meeting on track and bring good cheer to the room. Contact Walt Radtke at 847-255-2977 to fill this position and keep us awake at meetings.

Clinics, Programs and Contests

(continued from page one)
 Jim proposed hands on clinics where participants could take home a completed structure or piece of rolling stock or details reflecting new modeling skills learned. Examples might be card stock buildings and weathered rolling stock. Contact these people if you can help.

The schedule through the end of the year is here:

**Meeting & Activity Timetable
 September 19, 2010**

This is the first meeting of the 2010/2011 modeling year and a joint meet welcoming the North Shore Division membership. The Trainmasters will introduce themselves and discuss division activities and their roles in the division. Jeff Jarr will also bring everyone up to speed on the NSW modular group activities. The Contest Category is a "New" loco or piece of rolling stock that just came off the paint track. The meet will then move to Walter Radtke's home for a tour of his G Scale garden RR. Refreshments and contest certificates will be presented.

October 17, 2010

The clinic this month will feature a discussion about on how to apply and use static grass, and the realistic results possible. It will be followed by a hands on demonstration by Mr. Static Grass himself, Dave Leider. Dave will also report on the National Convention activities. Contest Category is an "Oddball" piece of rolling stock or structure. Refreshments and contest certificates will be presented.

November 21, 2010

The clinic presentation on casting model parts will be lead by Jim Allen. Contest Category is a "Lighted" piece of rolling stock or structure. Refreshments and contest certificates will be presented.

December 12, 2010 -- Note: 1:00 PM start time.

Jim Darnaby will present his clinic on Scenery Techniques directly from the national convention.. Contest Category is a "Diorama" including a structure and a piece of revenue rolling stock. Refreshments & Lunch provided. Contest certificates will be presented.

Last year's division trip to Pullman village.

Left: The restored clock tower and building.

Right: Roof truss detail inside remaining assembly hall.



Membership

As part of ongoing recruiting into the hobby and continuing the growth of FVD and NSD, John Cloos proposed the idea of everyone bringing a friend to one of the meetings. This might be a friend involved in the hobby but not affiliated with any club or someone new to the hobby. John is also raffling one free 6 month Rail Pass to non member visitors. Also, be sure to continue extending a warm welcome to North Shore members. Introduce yourself and describe your interest in the hobby. Inquire about their interests, layouts and areas of modeling. Involve them in your activities and vice versa. Every hobbyist and modeler has a wealth of experience and some outstanding examples of the hobby to share. Lets get to know all of them.

Current membership is: Aug 2010
FVD-165, NSW- 119 Combined-284



John Cloos, on left, discussing his trolley models and memorabilia at IRM, July 4, 2010.

Also, beginning September 12, John Cloos will have a table the Great Midwest Train show at DuPage fair grounds to showcase FVD/NMRA and the NMRA. He is hoping to have volunteers share the table duties. Contact John to sign up. Table monitors get into the show 3 hours before the public and have first access to all the items for sale!

Semaphore Delivery

Beginning in January 2011, the FVD Board decided delivery of the printed version to your home by mail will cost \$8 per year as a subscription. Many members have indicated they prefer reading the Semaphore on line or by email. We want to encourage digital access in order to lower the costs of printing and mailing. The annual subscription fee reflects the actual cost of annual printing and mailing for a single copy. At the September meeting we will have a discussion on this topic and begin the process of surveying each member for their preference. As a side note, the North Shore club had a 100% digital delivery to their members. For members without computer and internet access, the club will continue to provide a printed and mailed copy of Semaphore to those who need it.

Welcome Aboard to New Members from The North Shore and Fox Valley Division Clubs:

Steve Anderson, Great Lakes
Brian Cole, Highland Park
James Ford, Evanston
Richard Jacobs, Northbrook
Kurt Kennedy, Wilmette
Barry Kessler, Highland Park
Jeffrey Varney, Waukegan
Mark Brodsky, Lake Zurich
Michael Ciesiellca, Wheeling
Maryalice Desalvo, Crystal Lake
Paul Desalvo, Crystal Lake

George Hellmann, Richmond
Fred Jankowski, Crystal Lake
Arthur Johnson, Richmond
Andrew Kirby, Palatine
Mark Marusich, Grayslake
Mike Musich, Arlington Hts
Bob Perrin, Long Grove
John Smith, Carpentersville
James Strezewski, Buffalo Grove
Roman Urbanski, Oakwood Hills
William Westfall, Lake Zurich

NMRA Fox Valley Division Board Contacts

Superintendent, Walter Radtke	wagx2@email.com	847-255-2977
Chief Clerk, Leif Hansen	lhansen@comcast.net	847-437-7124

Look for all FVD Board members contact information
on line at the division's website
www.foxvalleydivision.org



Fox Valley Division
Midwest Region-NMRA
P.O. Box 1535
Arlington Heights, IL 60005-1535

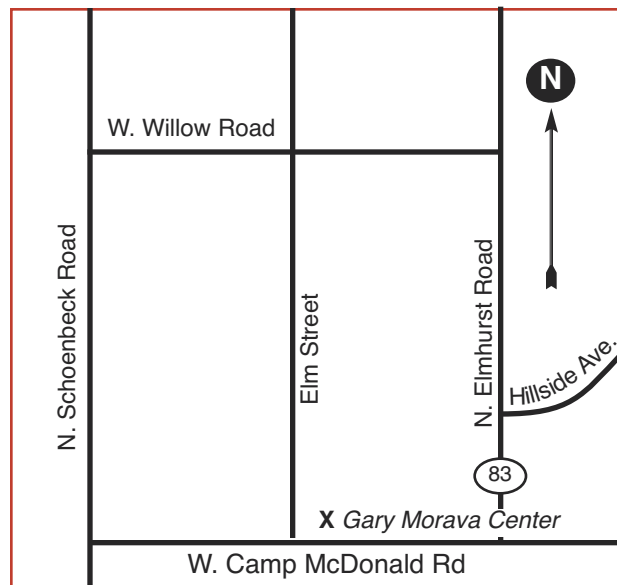
About the fox valley division

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 or any board member listed on page three of this newsletter. We are here to help you!



Next Meeting

The Fox Valley Division and the North Shore Division will hold their first joint meeting of the 2010-2011 season on September 19th, 2010, from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm, at the Gary Morava Center, 110 W. Camp MacDonal Road, Prospect Heights, IL