



THE SEMAPHORE

July 2018 Special Edition

FOX VALLEY DIVISION • MIDWEST REGION



Announcing!

The NMRA Fox Valley Division's Summer 2018 Layout Tour

This summer's FVD event is a tour of *Twelve* great layouts at nine locations in the northwest and western regions of the division. The layouts vary in size, theme, and degree of completion. All are worthy of a visit by FVD members.

The layouts will be open 1:00 to 5:00 pm Saturday, July 21 only.

Our Summer Layout Tour is **FREE** to all members of the FVD. Members may bring non-NMRA guests on the tour. Travel to the layouts is the responsibility of each member. Car pooling and use of your GPS is highly recommended.

NMRA members have access to the layout locations by referring to the Google Maps link provided in the email announcement. Contact the FVD Webmaster at: website@foxvalleydivision.org if you need additional help.

See the photos & descriptions of the layouts on the tour below:

Headlining our FVD Summer Layout Tour is Pete Walton's gorgeous HO scale **Great Midwestern**. This layout recently appeared in Model Railroader Magazine's *Great Model Railroads 2018*. It is large, fully scened, has lots of structures and bridges, mountains, urban scenery, rural scenery, and numerous mini-scenes. The layout is set in the mid 1950s and showcases Pete's passion for mid-west, long haul passenger trains, and big steam. Pete is moving soon and this will be your last chance to see this outstanding layout. Please go see it!



FVD Summer 2018 Layout Tour layouts



Layout Tour Special Offer! Cook Orchards Reefer \$20.00

Get the FVD custom run Cook's Reefer at this special price!

- Available only at Jim Osborn's layout
- Discounted price only during the FVD Layout Tour
- Limited supplies available
- Exact change required
- Photo taken on Jim Osborn's CNW layout



Jim Osborn's HO **Chicago Northwestern Western Division** is one of the mid-west's most complete and well done large layout's. Every aspect of the layout—bench work, track work, wiring, signaling, scenery, structures, etc.— is done to a very high standard of excellence. This is an operations oriented railroad set in the early 1960s with a wide variety of CNW yellow and green power roaming the rails. Come see what true craftsman has produced in his basement.



Steve Fields's "side job" is installing electronics in model railroad locomotives and he loves doing this kind of work. His HO **LITH Lines Railroad** is a showcase for his electronic wizardry not only in the locomotives seen on the layout, but also the tons of other electronics Steve has installed all over the layout. You'll see working signals, all kinds of lighting effects, special effects, and clever lighting ideas on the LITH Lines. Not only that, Steve's scenery and structures are very well done as well. Be sure to check out this layout, and Steve's extensive work benches where he does his modeling magic.



What if the **New York Ontario and Western Railway** never was liquidated back in 1957 and continued existing through to the present day? That is the premise Harry Schildkraut has been working with since starting his HO version of the NYO&W in 1985. Harry's is a double deck, basement sized, operations oriented layout set in the present day. Harry's NYO&W functions as if it never stopped running back in 1957. Operating sessions are held regularly with Harry's local AMRAIL operating group. You'll find large industries, large yards, lots of local switching and a lot going on in Harry's 30 x 50 foot layout room!

FVD Summer 2018 Layout Tour layouts

KV&EC Club layouts

The KV&EC Club has four layouts in four scales, all conveniently located in and behind its clubhouse in Sun City, Huntley. All of the KV&EC layouts will be open and running for our FVD Summer Layout Tour.



The KV&EC's fully scened, HO layout occupies an irregular space of about 24 x 48 feet. The layout depicts a generic mid-western, class I railroad with a long mainline, large yard, large industrial switching area, and several smaller town switching sites. The layout is operated frequently by members using NCE DCC wireless and tethered throttles.



The KV&EC's 15 x 26 foot fully scened N scale layout takes up one side of the club's layout room. The layout features DC control on three main lines and a trolley line, large mountains, a city scene, small town scenes, and rural farm scene.



Who doesn't like the nostalgia of tin plate trains? The KV&EC club's hi-rail O scale layout mixes modern Lionel and MTH with classic Lionel O and standard gauge operations. Four separate main lines and a trolley line have been laid on the 24 x 27 foot, fully scened layout. The layout's most popular feature is its large, operating and lighted carnival scene complete with rides, ferris wheel, roller coaster, miniature (N) train ride, and more.



The KV&EC club is blessed with a huge back yard and members have taken advantage of this by creating a sprawling G gauge layout under the canopy of two majestic, mature oak trees. A variety of different types of trains roll on three main and one trolley line. More than four dozen structures along with numerous bridges are positioned throughout the layout. Sawmill, large and small town, and rural scenes are surrounded by beautiful landscaping.

FVD Summer 2018 Layout Tour layouts



Sun City Huntley resident Larry Schumacher is 86 years young. Last November Larry decided to build an HO model railroad for his autistic grand son who loves Metra trains. Despite having no model railroading experience, but with the help of several friends, Larry has produced in eight months, a very nice 4 x 12 foot model railroad patterned after the **Santa Fe in Iowa**. Think you are too old or unskilled to build a model railroad? See this layout and think again!



Fred Soop has created one of the most unique HO model railroads you'll find. Fascinated by modern passenger train operations, Fred models **Amtrak in Chicago**, and he's done it amazingly well. Seen on this basement sized layout are the Chicago Post Office, Union Station, Harrison Street Tower, and many of Amtrak's Chicago yard and servicing facilities. Also modeled are Amtrak's Chicago operations in detail, and a bit of Metra as well. *Really* interesting stuff here!



Robert Teuber's HO **Central Division of the Union Pacific** currently occupies about half of his large basement. In the next year or so it will be occupying *all* of it. This layout is a work in progress with minimal scenery. But, you are invited to come see what is here now and what the future holds for this very large modern railroad.



Greg Bedle's HO **Great Northern Pacific** is huge and about 90% scened. The layout is set in the 1970s and has excellent western, mountain, urban, small town and rural scenery on its main line which goes from Chicago to the Pacific Northwest. This is an operations oriented layout and fully signaled with computer screen CTC control. You'll see long freights and passenger service, as well as industrial switching, yard switching and local freights. **Do NOT** miss this one!