



Semaphore

Volume 20, Number 2

October 1992

October Meeting

The program for this month will be supplied by you the members. If you have a video that you took while on a fan trip or a vacation, bring it to the meeting. The subject must pertain to a

MEETING
October 18, 1992
1:30 p.m.

Gary Morava Recreation Ctr.
104 W. Camp McDonald Road
Prospect Heights, IL 60070
708-394-2848

prototype railroad and cannot be more than 10 minutes in length. VHS format only.

This month's contest is a wayfreight train. The train must consist of a locomotive, caboose and not more than five (5) cars. The train can be from any era (1850-1992) as long as it meets the above criteria.

Superintendent's Report

With the leaves beginning to fall, many model railroaders begin to shrug off their summertime hiatus from the hobby

and head for the nearest hobby shop. Besides heading for the nearest hobby shop, I hope many of you will join us at our meeting at the Prospect Heights Park District Center. This facility is quite nice and we enjoy many positive benefits from our change of location.

I made the last meeting after a madcap dash from the Reginal Convention in Manitowoc where I attended a Board Of Directors meeting. It was a good thing that I was able to make the meeting as I had just received Bill Lieder's award certificates that morning and was able to present them to him there. I also received Don Robinson's Golden Spike Award. Congratulations to both of you. Also, many thanks to Leon from Palatine Hobbies who gave us an excellent perspective of the hobby as seen through the eyes of a hobby shop owner. It is our hope to have other hobby shop owners visit us to share their views on the hobby and tell us what we can do to make it more profitable for them and us.

The Manitowoc convention was quite well done, and I wish that I had been able to spend more time there. I met only a few Fox Valley members at this Regional Convention and only one at the National Convention in Columbus.

It is a shame that more members do not attend these functions. Some of the nicest people I know, I met while attending regional and national conventions. This is one of the main functions of the NMRA, and those who do not attend the conventions are really missing out on a lot of fun with clinics, layout tours and shows of the highest caliber. The 1993 National Convention will be held in Valley Forge, a suburb of Philadelphia, which offers almost as much for the family as it does for the modeler. So, you needn't leave the family home and worry about abandoning them while you "play with trains." Of course, the Fox Valley Division will be sponsoring the next Regional Convention. We can make it one of the best conventions with 100% division attendance.

This month's injury report continues with Bert Ahrensfield still at the Moorings, and a new injury to Phil Valenzo. He spent most of August and September at Luthern General Hospital after a bicycle accident left him almost paralyzed. I'm happy to report that Phil's health has greatly improved and I hope to see him back at the contest table soon mopping up the awards.

Finally, Dave Hamilton will be moving

Board Of Directors

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Semaphore

Editor: Rich Sweet

The Semaphore is a monthly newsletter published by the Fox Valley Division of the Midwest Region of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) and is used to communicate information and activities to the members of the Division. Direct all comments and questions to: Semaphore, P.O. Box 1535, Arlington Heights, IL 60006

Paymaster was first offered to anyone on the Board who wanted it. I have offered to accept that position and with it increased responsibilities in the operation of the Division. As such, this issue will be my last as Editor of the *Semaphore*.

During the last year and one-quarter (ten issues), I have enjoyed publishing this newsletter because it gave me an opportunity to get involved with the members of this Division. Some months ago in a conversation with Bob Moskal on me being the *Semaphore* Editor he said, "Well Rich, you really got yourself involved." And, he was right. Publishing this newsletter every month is a big responsibility because it is the means of keeping the members of this Division in touch with each other. It is a means of communicating information and activities to all the members who "want to get involved."

So, the next issue of the *Semaphore* will bring a new Editor and a new look. The new Editor will be Jerry Hoffman. (If you remember back that far, Jerry was a previous Editor of the *Semaphore*.) I wish Jerry the best of luck and I hope you give him as much support as you gave me. And for that support, I thank you all.

—Rich

Schedule

November 15
WISE Division Trainfest
Bus trip to Milwaukee

December 20
Passenger Train Contest

January 17
2nd Generation Diesel Contest

February 21
Maintenance of Way Cars Contest

March 6 & 7
High Wheeler '93

April 18
To be announced

April 30, May 1, 2
Smilepost '93
Midwest Region Spring Convention

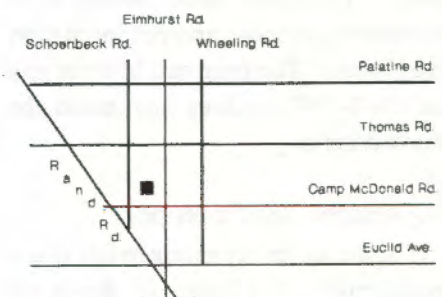
to Minneapolis at the end of this month. I wish him and Karen the best of luck and the thanks from our division for the many hours of work he has given us.

See all of you on October 18th.

—Tom

A Message From the Editor

With the departure of our Paymaster, Dave Hamilton, for Minneapolis, a vacancy was left on the Board of Directors. As is policy, the position of



Map of new meeting site