



# the Semaphore

FOX VALLEY DIVISION • MWR • N.M.R.A.

December 1994

Volume 22, Number 4

**DECEMBER 18th PROGRAM  
1:30 P.M.**

## **AUCTION • AUCTION**

Bring those items that you are not using to the December membership meeting. Bring money also, to buy, of course. Over the years many great buys have been made. Not only do you benefit, but the Division realizes a 10% profit from the total amount of each sale.

Come on out and join us at this bargainfest. This is always a fun event.

### *Superintendent's Notes and Quotes*

Although only about twenty people attended the WISE Division Trainfest in Milwaukee, everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly. At our November membership meeting four hobbyists from the WISE Division paid us a visit and enjoyed the marvelous program presented by Wayne Wesolowski. His program offered a complete demonstration on the private 16 wheel Abraham Lincoln Car and an engine scratch-built in 1 inch scale. The Lincoln Car was used only for the 20 day funeral trip for Lincoln coming home to rest in Springfield, Illinois.

The WISE Division members announced that their show was highly successful with over 17,000 visitors. They also plan a special anniversary show and hope to secure the use of the entire building which would double the size of the show.

**AUCTION! AUCTION! AUCTION!** Yes, we are having our renown auction at the December 18, 1994 Sunday meeting following the membership meeting. Come on out and purchase your railroad needs for a miniscule price. Or, bring your unused railroad items and offer them for sale. The Fox Valley Division takes 10% off the top and the balance is yours. In conjunction with the auction, the estate sale will continue. These are going like hotcakes. You must come to the meeting in order to be able to purchase the many fine new and used items. A partial list of items for sale appeared in last month's *Semaphore*. Here's hoping you find what you need.

Don't forget, when you come to our membership meetings you will receive a 10% DISCOUNT CARD from Palatine Hobby Shop when you purchase any item except sale items. The card is good for a three month period.

If you haven't as yet seen any of our Library exhibits, please check them out. These displays will be at several libraries until our High Wheeler show in March, 1995. While on the subject of High Wheeler, we lost a trainmaster, and need to fill the spot with someone who would like to help Rich Boettcher (815) 653-3146 in running this fabulous show at Harper College. Come on out and put your two cents in on what you like done in your Fox Valley Division. We need your expertise, so come join the fun and fellowship of other model railroaders. There is no better time to join us than at Christmas when railroading is at its most popular.

It has been decided that the Fox Valley Division will have a dinner meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 23, 1995 to recognize the efforts of all the people that work on the High Wheeler and any other member who would like to join us. The dinner will be open to all model railroad enthusiasts and their spouses in the Fox Valley Division. Mark this date on your calendar, and watch the *Semaphore* for more news about this special event that we have scheduled for your benefit in March, 1995.

We have experienced a fair return of our membership registration forms from the members. Your officers and trainmasters will be contacting you to help you become involved in spreading the joy of model railroading. We hope to see many more of you at the meetings and other events that we schedule throughout the year. So, come out to the meetings and see the new format and programs. Our trainmasters are eager to tell you about everything that is taking place in your Fox Valley Division.

Remember, you are also welcome to join the board of directors at any board meeting. The board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at Palatine Hobby Shop near the corner of Euclid and Quentin Roads at 7:30 p.m.

Another item of interest is that the Fox Valley Division will have their modular railroad on display at the High Wheeler show in 1995. Now is the time for you to express an interest in helping to run trains, build structures, and make scenery for the modules. The FVD railroad will be approximately 20 by 40 feet.

May each and everyone of you and your families have a wonderful and healthy holiday season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. And may God bless you one and all

*Raymond L. Pettersen, Jr.*

## The Return of the Fox Valley Railroad

Over the last few years you have read about the Fox Valley Railroad in the Semaphore. Unless you attended High Wheeler two years ago, or attended Division meetings, You may never have seen it. Thanks to Leon Waldack of Palatine Hobbies, the Fox Valley Railroad has returned to the public eye. He invited our Division to show our modular layout at the Chicago Model & Hobby Show in Rosemont. The railroad went up fast and was running one hour before the end of set-up October 12th.

We were asked to run two engines during the show. The first one was the new Big Boy by Rivarossi. Yes, it can make the curves on our layout. The second was a TGV Bullet Train by Jouef. This train ran very well on our layout. Centerline Products donated to the Division one of their track cleaning cars.

We were also asked to run a TT layout for one of the manufacturers, but we had no idea who was going to show up to help on the layout.

We had many people stop and say how nice our layout looked. I, for one, had a great time running the layout and visiting with the people that stopped by. I hope we are asked back next year. Next stop...High Wheeler '95. Stop and check out the Fox Valley Railroad.

Full Throttle Forward  
Dave Flebbe  
Trainmaster-at-Large

## Our November Meeting

We welcomed Wayne Wesolowski, one of our own, as guest clinician. He brought a sample of his handy-work in the form of the recently completed engine and tender of the Lincoln Funeral Train. The slide presentation on the journey was riveting. Wayne's hints on urethane casting will prove to be a boon to a number of modelers.

Among the 28 attendees at the meeting was Tim Laren, attending for the first time. Thanks for coming out Tim. We hope to see you at future meetings.

Joe Russ, a member of the WISE Division, and three of his fellow members also were present. Joe reported that Trainfest had a record attendance of 17,404. Congratulations WISE. The dates for the 1995 Trainfest are November 11 and 12.

During the business meeting it was announced that there will be a Dinner Meeting for the general membership on Thursday, March 23, 1995. Watch your *Semaphore* for more details.

There will be no contest at the December 18th meeting. The contest for January will be Open Loads.

## The Mystery Layout

Thank you... Mike Ritschdorf and his crew were the first group to host the mystery layout tour. A two-level, 25 x 50 foot HO layout. This well scenicked layout is the product of many talented hands. Mike has created a layout operator's dream.

Again we wish to extend our thanks to Mike for opening his layout to the Fox Valley Division.

## Help!

We need somebody...not just anybody...we need you. I would like to apologize for any misunderstanding or breakdown in communication. As I stated in the other article, the Fox Valley Railroad is back. I also said that we were at the Chicago Model & Hobby Show.

As I said it was fun, but it was also hard work. There were only three of us from our Division. In fact there are just a few people involved. We need more volunteers. If you are good with electronics, building kits, repairing engines, or general maintenance just call 708-670-2019 and volunteer. We also need help storing and transporting the modules.

The Fox Valley Railroad Committee  
Dave Flebbe



# 10%

## That's what you can save at Palatine Hobby, Ltd.

Join us at the monthly meetings and  
get your courtesy card for \*10%  
discount at Palatine Hobby.

\*Not Valid On Sale Items

### PARTLY PERSONAL

This is directed mainly to the hobby shops on our mailing list. The Semaphore is published for the benefit of the members of the Fox Valley Division. If a retail hobby shop is conducting classes in a branch of model railroading or has a sales promotion to direct to our members please let us know. We are here to serve our members.

You may contact us at the address on the mailing face of this newsletter. All requests will be reviewed by the Board of Directors.



## HIGH WHEELER '95

All Aboard! High Wheeler is the major fundraiser of the Fox Valley Division. The show will be held on March 4th and 5th, 1995. It is held in Building M on the campus of Harper College. The college is in Palatine, Illinois at the corner of Algonquin and Roselle Roads.

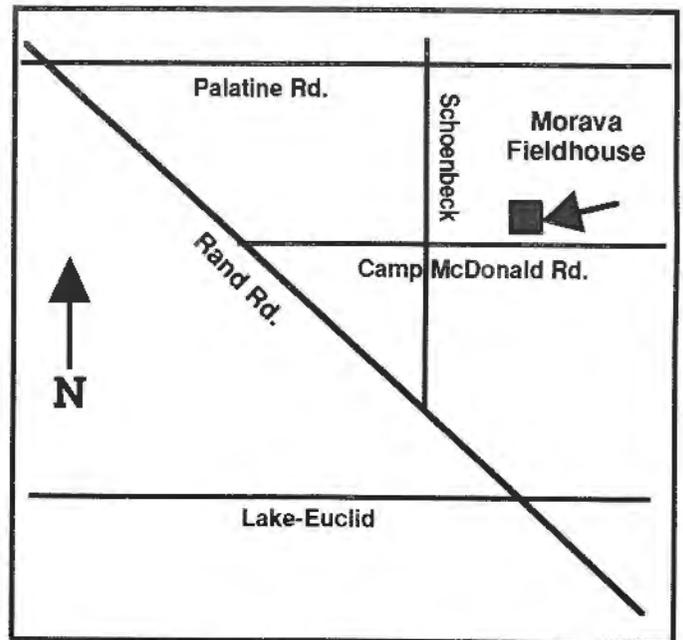
Many people are needed to run the show. Our coordinator is Rich Boettcher (815-653-3146). Our volunteers are the heart of the show. When the show is history they can look back and smile with the knowledge that they helped make the show a success. Won't you join us?

### WANTED TRAINMASTERS

Must enjoy modeling, have desire to  
contribute time and expertise for the  
betterment of the  
*Fox Valley Division*

Call any officer listed on back page.

### WHERE WE MEET



## Historical Societies Part of a Continuing Listing

### MP / TP

Annual Dues: \$15.00/\$20.00 sust./\$23.00 for./\$18.00 surface  
Missouri Pacific Historical Society  
PO Box 187  
Addis, LA 70710

### New Haven

Annual Dues: \$25.00/\$35.00 sust.  
Membership Chairman  
NHRHTA, Inc.  
PO Box 122  
Wallingford, CT 06492

### New York Central

Annual Dues: \$20.00/\$25.00 for./\$30.00 contrib/\$50.00 sust.  
New York Central System Historical Society  
PO Box 24817  
Lyndhurst, OH 44124

### Susquehanna

Annual Dues: \$18.00  
PO Box 272  
Netcong, NJ 07857

### Nickel Plate Road

Annual Dues: \$18.00  
NKPHTS  
PO Box 54027  
Cincinnati, OH 45254-0027

### Norfolk & Western

Annual Dues: \$17.00/\$30.00 sust./\$30.00 for.  
Norfolk & Western Historical Society  
PO Box 201  
Forest, VA 24551-0201

**FOX VALLEY DIVISION**  
**PO Box 1535**  
**ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL 60006-1535**

**FOX VALLEY DIVISION OFFICERS**

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 Rich Boettcher .....Chief Clerk  
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 708-459-1037

**FOX VALLEY DIVISION TRAINMASTERS**

Ken Kitzing .....Membership  
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 Scott Hicks .....Programs  
 708-438-9109  
 Steve Martinak .....Ways and Means  
 708-854-7545  
 Erich Russ .....Public Relations  
 708-867-0223  
 Frank Oldfield .....Contests and Achievement  
 708-364-0153  
 Jerry Hoffman .....Publications  
 312-725-9159  
 Dave Flebbe .....At-Large  
 708-439-1744

*Contest Winners*

**November 1994  
 Trailer Car Contest**

*First Place*  
**Fred Klinger**

*Second Place*  
**Tim Kleimyer**

*Third Place*  
**Ron and David Wesolowski**

*Congratulations to you all. Thanks for participating  
 in the contest.*

*the Semaphore* is published monthly by and for the members of the Fox Valley Division, Midwest Region, National Model Railroad Association. The September and April issues are mailed to all members. There are no issues for June, July and August. All other issues are mailed to members who attended at least one meeting the previous year or requested copies by mail. Articles pertaining to the model railroading hobby are solicited subject to editorial review. Address all inquiries and manuscripts to: Fox Valley Division, Publications Trainmaster, P.O. Box 1535, Arlington Heights, IL 60006-1535.