



the Semaphore

FOX VALLEY DIVISION • MWR • N.M.R.A.

January 1995

Volume 22, Number 5

JANUARY 15th PROGRAM 1:30 P.M.

Building Bridges of Corrugated Cardboard

CONTEST

Open to All Models

Gift Certificates Awarded to Winners



Superintendent's Notes and Quotes

The December 18, 1994 general membership meeting of the Fox Valley Division turned out to be a highly successful gathering of thirty model railroaders. Quite a bit of discussion took place about the status and condition of the Fox Valley Division itself. A plea for additional trainmasters was issued by several board members and was answered by the membership with three possible candidates who will be at the January 4, 1995 board meeting. The meeting will be held at Palatine Hobby Shop on the corner of Euclid and Quentin Roads. If any member would like to come to these meetings, PLEASE feel free to come and participate. Board meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month. We really do need your help and input to make this the best Division in the area. REMEMBER, the only thing that remains the same is the fact that everything changes. We must accommodate and assimilate those changes. It is apparent that time available to individuals is always at a premium. We must make our Division interesting enough for all members to help them give us some of their valuable time.

An important notice is the following. During the month of March, 1995 following the High Wheeler show of March 4-5, 1995 at Harper College, The Fox Valley Division will be hosting a dinner party for members, their spouses and guests. The details will be coming in future *Semaphores*. Any member who works on the High Wheeler show will be eligible to receive a free dinner for themselves and one guest. ALL MEMBERS can come to this dinner meeting at a cost of \$5.00 per person. But any members who work on High Wheeler will be recognized and honored with a free evening to be paid for by the Fox Valley Division. If you want to help at High Wheeler contact Rich Boettcher or any of the board members and we will put your name down and contact you with

information about where we need the most help. REMEMBER, it takes many people to put on a successful show. And the High Wheeler has become a very successful show. We are currently full with exhibitors already at this early date except for a few tables in certain areas. So, we are well on our way to another successful High Wheeler.

MARK DOWN ON YOUR CALENDARS the January meeting of the Fox Valley Division. There will be a clinic on building bridges made of corrugated cardboard, of all things. These structures will surprise you with their authenticity and originality. Also the contest for January has been changed slightly. The contest is open to any display you wish to bring, from engines and cars to structures and dioramas. So please come out and participate. Also at the High Wheeler the contests are open to all our members. And there will be cash prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in all contests. Please contact Frank Oldfield if you have any questions about these contests.

ALSO, the February meeting will be special and unique for this administration. The membership meeting will be devoted to the High Wheeler after the Chief Clerk's minutes and the Paymaster's report. This will allow everyone present to offer their ideas and help to make this one of the best. We have planned some very pleasant experiences to take place at this High Wheeler. Come on out and discover what's going on in your model railroad club.

Another item that received quite a bit of discussion was the Fox Valley Modular Railroad. We discussed from selling the club modules to giving them away. And we slowly discovered that the FVD needs to continue to own and be responsible for six of the eight modules because of the track layout in the corners and yards. The High Wheeler is the time for you to see this modular setup for the first time at the show. We need your input in exactly how to continue to handle this modular railroad and establish a working schedule not only for operation but the entire gamut of problems that may arise, such as storage, transportation to and from exhibits and shows. PLEASE come out and help us make these decisions. Remember you do not have to own a module to operate on your Fox Valley Division Railroad. This is your layout. Bring your equipment to operate and enjoy yourself.

PLEASE come out and join us for the fun and games. And have a happy New Year and God Bless You!

Raymond L. Pettersen, Jr.

Assistant Super's Report

November was Model Railroad Month. The Fox Valley Division was fortunate enough to have displays at Mt. Prospect, Rolling Meadows and Elk Grove Village public libraries. The Elk Grove Village exhibit also ran through December. We are hoping to get a few more displays in February. We will use these to promote High Wheeler. If you can help, contact me at 708-577-4430.

Many thanks to Ken Kitzing, Frank Oldfield and all of the other Division members who assisted us in setting up the displays.

For all those who missed the November program with Wayne Wesolowski, it was a fascinating presentation. Wayne is "one of our own." We will try to have him back again. Don't miss him the next time. Thanks Wayne, your program was outstanding.

Thanks to all who came to the Auction. We appreciate your support.

High Wheeler is getting closer. If you can help us contact Rich Boettcher. I need your help to get posters to parochial schools. If you attend a church with a day school please call me with the name and number of a contact person. We will ask them if we can send them High Wheeler flyers for distribution to the students. Be a participant!

Eileen and I wish you a happy and healthy New Year. Stay warm.

Art Roth

Welcome New Trainmasters

We welcomed two new trainmasters to the board of directors on January 4, 1995. Brian Lingner was named to the post of Ways and Means Trainmaster. Donn Branstrator was appointed Telecommunications Trainmaster. We are happy to have them on our team.

February With The Fox

The program for February will be a series of layout tours. These layouts will be announced in the February *Semaphore*. The contest for February is **Depots**.

Santa's Helper

I would like to thank those members that were at our December general meeting. I brought up a motion to take a name off of a Salvation Army Angel Tree of a child that was asking Santa Claus for a train set.

We were able to get a great deal from Palatine Hobbies and give a child the joy of model railroading for Christmas.

O Scale Meet

On Saturday and Sunday, March 18 and 19 O Scalers will meet in convention. The meeting will be held at the Arlington Park Hilton. There will be contests and Layout tours.

Watch the *Semaphore* for more information.

HIGH WHEELER '95

Your assistance is requested in the operation of our annual model railroad show. Please contact Rich Boettcher for more details.

This year in the main exhibit hall we will have a stage. Our clinics on "Beginning Model Railroading" will be presented from the stage. We will also present Mark Dvorak, singer of railroading songs. We hope you will enjoy these extra added attractions. Tell your friends.

Achievement Trainmaster Frank Oldfield announces there will be four separate contests at High Wheeler '95. They are steam locomotives; 1st, 2nd and 3rd generation diesels; refrigerator, stock and tank cars and dioramas.

Winners will be awarded ribbons and gift certificates to Palatine Hobbies.



10%

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

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get your courtesy card for *10%
discount at Palatine Hobby.

*Not Valid On Sale Items



MARCH 4 & 5, 1995
9 A.M. — 5 P.M.
HARPER COLLEGE

BRASS TACKS

Let's get down to brass tacks. I don't know what brass tacks have to do with anything, but when my father said, "Let's get down to brass tacks," whatever he was going to tell me was very important.

High Wheeler is very important to the Fox Valley Division for all the obvious reasons; we promote model railroading; we put on a family-oriented show; we make money for the division; and we have fun doing it, together as a team.

If you talk to someone who has worked for a real railroad like the Chicago and North Western or the Milwaukee Road, or someone who had a relative that worked for one, they always talk about that job with pride. It was always more than just a job.

Ever since the little Tom Thumb engines pulled not one coach, but three or four at unheard of speeds, people have been mesmerized by the Iron Horse.

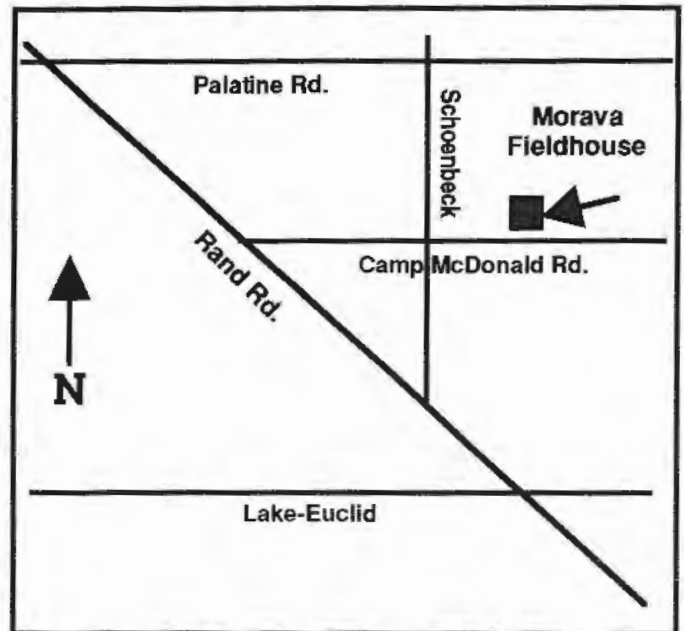
The railroad industry has always been bigger than life, and, the High Wheeler has always been bigger than life too.

At High Wheeler we have some of the best model railroaders in the world. You and I can step into that bigger than life arena by helping with the nuts and bolts of putting the show together.

A railroad train will rust and die without people to maintain it. A train club needs people to keep it oiled and running. Join us in maintaining the High Wheeler at it's usual high standard of performance.

Richard Boettcher

WHERE WE MEET



Historical Societies Part of a Continuing Listing

Northern Pacific Railway

Annual Dues: \$17/\$32 sust./\$10 NP Veteran
\$23 Can./\$32 non North American

Norm Snow, NPRHA Records
13044 87th Place N.E.
Kirkland, WA 98034

Northwestern Pacific

Annual Dues: \$20
Northwestern Pacific RR Hist. Soc.
PO Box 667
Santa Rosa, CA 95402--0667

Ontario & Western

Annual Dues: \$30 incl. NRHS \$16 subscription
Ontario & Western RY Hist. Soc.
Box 713
Middletown, NY 19082

Pennsylvania Railroad

Annual Dues: \$25
PRR RR Tech. & Hist Soc., Inc.
Box 389
Upper Darby, PA 19082

Railway & Locomotive Hist. Soc.

Annual Dues: \$18
Railway & Locomotive
Bruce W. Kleinschmidt, Membership Secy.
115 "T" St. - Milepost 1
Sacramento, CA 95814-2204

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Ken KitzingMembership
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Scott HicksPrograms
708-438-9109
Brian LingnerWays and Means
708-639-6393
Erich RussPublic Relations
708-867-0223
Frank OldfieldContests and Achievement
708-364-0153
Jerry HoffmanPublications
312-725-9159
Donn BranstratorTelecommunications
708-381-6183
Dave FlebbeAt-Large
708-439-1744

Contest Winners

**There was no contest
at the December
General Membership Meeting.**

**Be sure to enter
the January Contest.**

Bring your favorite model.

**The Contest is open to
all models.**

the Semaphore is published monthly by and for the members of the Fox Valley Division, Midwest Region, National Model Railroad Association. There are no issues for June, July and August. Articles and drawings 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.