

# The Semaphore

Fox Valley Division • MWR • NMRA

## Join Us at High Wheeler!

*A Chance to see Train Layouts in all scales, sponsored by FVD*

On March 6-7, the Fox Valley Division will be hosting HighWheeler '04 at the Wellness and Sports Center at Harper College in Palatine, Just North of Algonquin Road and just East of Roselle Road. With half a hundred exhibitors, this is sure to be the best show to date.

This is not a swap meet. There will be many layouts, large and small, to help give you ideas for your own layout. Don't have a layout? You'll be amazed at how many model railroad clubs are so close by! Scales run from N to G for the clubs, and there's even a Lego Railroad club. Most of the clubs will be showing their modular layouts, so you'll get the chance to see how much you can fit in a 2'x4' space. See if you can find the "layout-within-a-layout" - a z-scale "garden railway" inside a G-scale layout.

We'll be showing railroading videos on two large screen television sets, and there'll be a snack area where you'll be able to purchase beverages, sweet rolls, sandwiches, and desserts.

In addition, there will be many historical societies and railway museums, so you can plan a few

weekend trips later in the year. The very large scale trains (life size) are just as interesting as the models, although they are harder to keep in the basement.

And, if you insist on spending money, there will be hobby suppliers, railroad book sellers, as well as railroad photos and paintings available. So you can pick up some starter sets, as well as some hard to find items.

The doors open at 9:00am each day, and we'll stay open until 5:00pm. Hope to see you there!



## February's Meeting

This Month's meeting will be February 22 at the Gary Morava Recreation Center in Prospect Heights. We will have two clinics from our friends at the Rock River Valley Division: one on open loads and another that is yet to be determined. The Rock River Valley Division has provided some interesting clinics in the past, so mark the date!

The February contest will be on-line structures, so bring your favorite bridge and win a prize.

The meeting schedule is posted on our web site, [www.mwr-nmra.org/fvd](http://www.mwr-nmra.org/fvd). Go on the internet and take a look. If there are changes to the schedule, or if additional

- 1** Join Us at High Wheeler!
- 1** February's meeting
- 2** Run for Office - FVD Board of Directors
- 2** Hints, Tips, and Innovations – A case for Small Scale
- 3** FVD Board of Directors
- 3** Call for Layouts!
- 4** Location for General Meetings

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

information needs to be disseminated to the Fox Valley Division membership, you will find it there.

## RUN FOR OFFICE - FVD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

When you look at the names in the box showing the FVD Board of Directors, do you ever wonder, "Hey, who put them in charge?" Well, it could be you! You can help keep the Fox Valley Division moving in the right direction. Elections will be held at the April 18 meeting in the Gary Morava Center. Start by contacting our Events Trainmaster, Steve Martinak (mart832@attglobal.net or call him at 847-854-7545). He can put you on the ballot. Send a short Bio, we'll put it in the April Semaphore, and before you know it, you may be a part of the group that plans next year's activities for the Fox Valley Division!

## Hints, Tips, and Innovations

*Share your expertise with other members*  
 - Rick Saviano- Publications Trainmaster

Walter T. Radtke sent in an article for the December issue entitled "A Case for Large Scale." I was hoping someone

would write in for the opposite side of the coin. Well, I haven't seen anything come across my email mailbox, so I'll take the challenge. Considering that I model in Z, you couldn't get more opposite!

The most important question I ask is "What's more important, accuracy or feeling?" The large-

## Estate Sale

The HO Railroad and Collection  
 of the late Joseph A. Flores  
 Is for sale

All locomotives [steam, diesel, brass and plastic] freight cars [kits, built up; and RTR] automobiles, trucks, buildings, detail items, spare parts, power packs, track, switches, paint, tools, scenic supplies and Much, much more must be sold.

Sale Dates are

Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 5pm  
 Sunday, February 29<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 5pm

Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 5pm  
 Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 5pm

Directions to selling site:

In Mt . Prospect, take Euclid Ave east from Hwy 83 to Wheeling Road. Turn right [south] to Cedar Lane [one block], turn left to 604 Cedar Lane. It is the third house on your left.

## Model Railroad Show . . .

Not a Swap or Flea Market

Saturday & Sunday  
 March 6 & 7, 2004

9 A.M. - 5 P.M.

High Wheeler '04



PRESENTED BY THE  
 FOX VALLEY DIVISION  
 OF THE  
 NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

- Modular Railroads
- Private Layouts
- Hobby Shops
- Club Layouts
- Distributors
- Videos
- Clubs
- Museums
- Manufacturers
- Technical Groups
- Historical Societies
- Clinics • Door Prizes • Snack Bar

Harper College  
 Wellness and Sports Center  
 Algonquin & Roselle Roads  
 Palatine, Illinois

DONATION	
ADULTS	\$5.00
CHILDREN 5 THRU 12	\$3.00
UNDER 5: FREE	



*Call for Layouts!*

**Share Your Layout with Others**

Did you enjoy the layouts we've visited last year? Have they provided inspiration for your own layout? Here's the perfect opportunity to share your layout with the rest of the Fox Valley Division.

Contact our Events Trainmaster, Steve Martinak at 847-854-7545 or email him at [mart832@attglobal.net](mailto:mart832@attglobal.net)

scale modeler may use glass for windows, but that 1/32" glass scales to over an inch thick! As you asked, "How accurate is that?"

Many modelers need to use selective compression to get the right "feel" in their layouts. I'm modeling a portion of downtown Chicago, so "The Loop" winds up being about two blocks long and wide, and I am removing the "boring" buildings, ones that don't destroy the feeling of the area if they're not there. If I wanted to include the Sears Tower, it would be 8 feet tall without selective compression. Most outdoor railways have

buildings three stories high or shorter. As you asked, "How accurate is that?" And I can take the equivalent one of those 4'x8' layouts from Model Railroader and fit it in a 25"x40" space. Or, I can have an 8-track classification yard on a 2' wide area, and still have room for scenery.

Where do you stand? Large scale, small scale, or in between?

Feel free to email me at [saviano@att.net](mailto:saviano@att.net) and I'll include them in future issues. Please include "FVD Semaphore" in the title of your email.

**This Year's Remaining Events**

**February 22, 2004**  
**1:30pm, Morava Center**  
**General Meeting**

2 Presentations by Rock River Valley Division  
 Contest- Open Loads

**March 6-7, 2004**  
**9:00am-5:00pm, Harper College**  
**High Wheeler**

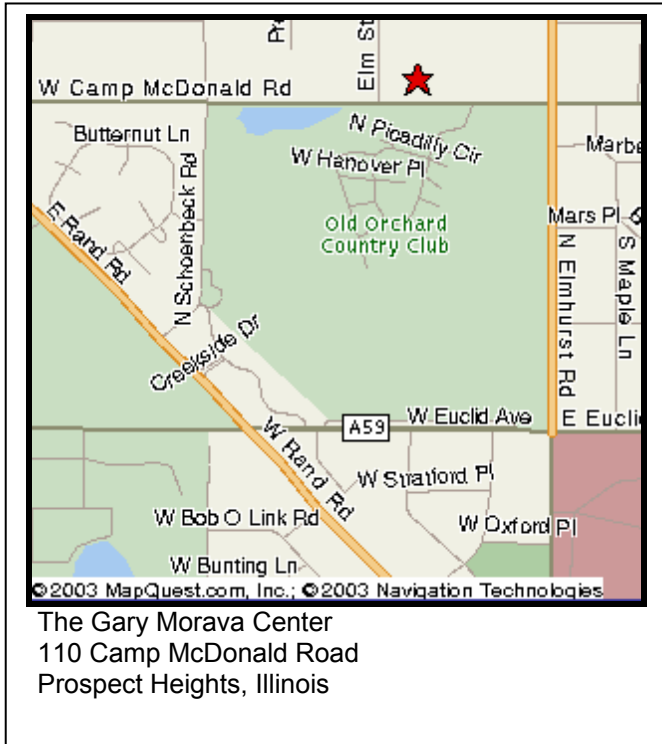
**April 18, 2004**  
**1:30pm, Morava Center**  
**Annual Business Meeting**  
 Election of Board of Directors  
 Clinic - Details to be announced  
 Contest- Tank Cars

**May 16, 2004**  
**Time to be announced**  
**Field Trip- to be announced**

Fox Valley Division Board of Directors	
Superintendent	
Richard Sweet.	847-550-1399
<a href="mailto:rsweet@pactiv.com">rsweet@pactiv.com</a>	
Assistant Superintendent	
Tim Kliemeyer	847-426-4732
Chief Clerk	
Harry Sorenson	847-259-2906
Paymaster	
Walter Radtke	847-255-2977
Public Relations Trainmaster	
Paul Kimball	847-742-4147
Membership and Publications Trainmaster	
Rick Saviano	847-429-0804
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Lief Hansen	
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Steve Martinak	847-854-7545
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R.R. Display and Way and Means Trainmaster	
Richard Sweet.	847-550-1399
<a href="mailto:rsweet@pactiv.com">rsweet@pactiv.com</a>	

Location for General Meetings

General meetings of the Fox Valley Division are held at the Morava Center in Prospect Heights (See map at right).



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Midwest Region - NMRA  
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED