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

The Semaphore

Fox Valley Division • MWR • NMRA

April's Meeting

*Take a bite,
Cast a vote!*

This Month's meeting will be April 17 at the Gary Morava Recreation Center in Prospect Heights. This will be our annual business meeting, and we will include reports from the Board of Directors and Trainmasters in addition to the voting for re-electing existing and/or electing new trainmasters. In order to make sure you have enough energy to cast your votes, pizza will be provided. To fit all this in, we will be starting a half hour earlier than usual. So join us at 1:00pm at the Gary Morava Center and learn more.

This Month's Contest

What's the difference between a static diorama and an operating layout? That's right, motive power! As stated in the events column for the last few months, the April contest will be on detailed engines. Whether it's a Shay, a Hudson, a Zepher, a Streetcar, or a handcar, if it moves people or things, it counts for this contest. Our Achievements and Contests Trainmaster, Donn Branstrator will provide you with a uniformly (sceniqued? sceniced? sceniked?) decorated standard track so that the setting doesn't influence the vote. He'll provide for all

scales, so whether your engine is in G or Z you'll have a nice setting for your engine.

I'm looking forward to seeing all your entries in April!

Running For Office - FVD Trainmasters

Your vote in last year's April meeting elected the people who ran for the offices of Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Clerk and Paymaster. You can help keep the Fox Valley Division moving in the right direction by electing the Trainmasters who are running. Trainmasters are elected at large, then are assigned their specific positions by the Superintendent. The positions open are Public Relations, Clinics and Programs, Publications and Membership, and others as needed. Elections for Trainmasters will be held at the April 17 meeting in the Gary Morava Center. The trainmasters hoping to get re-elected and the prospective new trainmasters have included a small biography to help you in your voting.

Biography of Candidate for Trainmaster, Paul Kimball
I have been an FVD member from the beginning of the division. I have been involved with the High Wheeler show for many years. I have been the Public Relations Trainmaster for the last 2 years, handling the

publicity for High Wheeler and also the division at large. I am willing to continue as a trainmaster for the next 2 years.

Biography of Candidate for Trainmaster, Rick Saviano

I had my first layout when I was 9 months old and have been in the process of redesigning and rebuilding my father's layout since 1963 and my own layout since 1973, changing scales from HO to N and finally Z. I've only been a member of NMRA and the FVD since 1997, and have used all I've learned since for my "final" redesign. I've been the Publications and Membership Trainmaster, keeping you all informed (and occasionally misinformed) for the last 2 years, hopefully with a bit of humor and different perspective along the way. I look forward to serving as a trainmaster for the next 2 years.

Biography of Candidate for Trainmaster, Jim Osborn

Like many of us, my fascination and interest in trains continues from my first childhood glimpses of the C&NW activities at the Proviso yard near Elmhurst, IL. A number of layouts later, I am currently in the scenery modeling phase of a 10 x17 foot dual level HO scale layout modeled around the C&NW railroad of the 1960's. I enjoy, and continue to practice, model making & detailing of locomotives, rolling stock and structures. As a retired electronics industry employee, I now find that I have the time to further expand my association with others interested in the hobby. As a long time NMRA member, I look forward to serving with and learning from

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

the members of the Fox Valley Division of the NMRA.

Biography of Candidate for Trainmaster, Dave Leider
(Not available at this time - due to an email malfunction of the publications Trainmaster)

Be sure to attend the April meeting and help Fox Valley Division grow strong!

Hints, Tips, and Innovations

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

Three topics this month:

A Small Obsession: the Punchline
In the February/March issue, I told you about a made-for-TV movie a few years ago where a murdered man's layout played a pivotal part in the movie's plot. I told you about one of the many resources that are available (www.imdb.com), and the name of the movie is *Dangerous Heart*, starring Tim Daly. I also mentioned that if there was time at the February meeting, I'd show the 15-20 minutes that might have been interesting to FVD members.

So, the punchline of the story is that I taped the movie, and,

although it had a train layout in it, it was not the movie I was looking for. I'm sure that as soon as I forget about it completely, it will be on one of the cable networks and I'll be able to tape and share.



New Arrival on Track 2-07-05
The latest addition to my family's roundhouse is Tyler Louis Sternberg. I've promised his Mom and Dad (my daughter and Son-in-Law) that he'll have his own layout.

Membership Update
Is this the first time you've received the Semaphore? Are you wondering why? I received this letter from the Membership director of the Midwest Region of the NMRA:

*March 14, 2005
Hello,
I have good news and bad news.
First the bad news; I have still not*

received accurate reports from National. The problem continues to be the bad zip code tables they are using to assign members to divisions. Now the good news, I did receive a roster updated through February 28, 2005. Although the division assignments were not correct in a number of cases, I was able to correct those division assignments based on the zip code table I created, and sent to National, which reflects the definitions as given in the new regulations. For those of you having division borders with other regions, some of your eventual members will not be included in the attached reports. These will show up when National gets around to using new zip code tables for all regions. Please carefully review the enclosed reports and let me know if you see any problems. If you have any question with regard to this matter, feel free to contact me.

Have fun,
Ron Scharping

Worried about not getting your Semaphore? I'll keep the

existing list and send out to all until after the "real" list is solid for a few months.

Do you have any tips, hints, suggestions, or train-related quests that you'd like to share with your fellow NMRA members? Feel free to email me at saviano@att.net and I'll include them in future issues. Please include "FVD Semaphore" in the title of your email. I get a few hundred emails a day, and it makes the important ones easier to find.

-Rick Saviano, *Publication and Membership Trainmaster*

Next Month's Meeting

Next month, we'll have a field trip to the Prairie State Model Railroad Club in Big Rock, IL. It's a Live Steam and Diesel club, and is sure to be fun! More details in the May issue.

This Year's Remaining Events

April 17, 2005

1:00pm, Morava Center
Annual Business Meeting

Election of Board of Directors
Clinic – Scratchbuilding with Extruded Vinyl
Contest– Detailed Engines
(steam, diesel, or traction)

May 15, 2004

10:00am, Regency Shopping Plaza
Field Trip- Prairie State Model Railroad Club, Big Rock, IL (details to be announced)

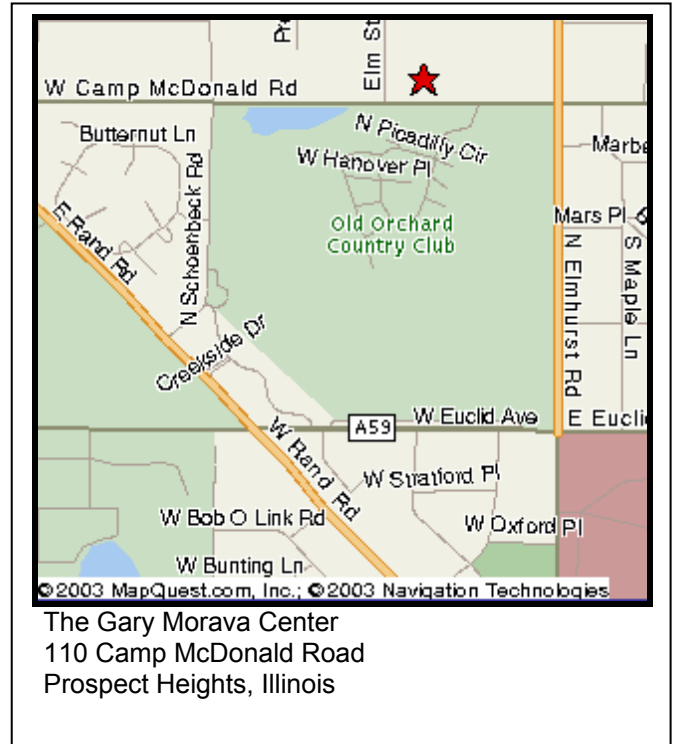
No Contest
No Clinic

Fox Valley Division Board of Directors

Superintendent Richard Sweet Rsweet@pactiv.com	847-550-1399
Assistant Superintendent Harry Sorenson hrcconsult@juno.com	847-259-2906
Chief Clerk Leif Hansen lhansen@D211.org	847-437-7124
Paymaster Tim Kleimeyer kleimeyert@comcast.net	847-426-4732
Public Relations Trainmaster Paul Kimball	847-742-4147
Membership and Publications Trainmaster Rick Saviano Saviano@att.net	847-429-0804
Achievements and Contests Trainmaster Donn Branstrator donnandanneb@aol.com	847-381-6183
Clinics & Programs Trainmaster Steve Martinak Mart832@attglobal.net	847-854-7545
Ways and Means Trainmaster Walter Radtke wagx2@email.com	847-255-2977

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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Arlington Heights, IL 60005-1535

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED