

# **The Spur**

FOR THE HIGHLAND PARK SOCIETY OF MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEERS, INC.

VOL 1

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NO 52

Please note the masthead. Vol 1, No. 52. This is the last issue for the year and next week we start Vol 2 and our new year. Time marches on, our railroad progresses. Hopefully this coming year will be our biggest and best yet. We have the ball rollin' and it could easily be. Time'll tell.

Got all the switch machines into Bayshore, got em all wired up and checked out, on time, according to our new schedule. Barely! Almost didn't make it. Jefferys had more than he could do after taking time out for our meetin on clean up, so a bunch of us jumped in and polished it off, so we could operate next week. After all the wiring was completed, Jefferys, Devaney and Naff fiddled around gettin it all checked out till about 1:30 a.m. and it all works with some minor fixin'. There still remains a switch (written up two weeks ago as Bad Order) that's badly out of gauge and a jumper across a gap at the east end of that same switch which we could not get soldered on successfully. Rail needs to be ground away to get down to basic steel and then soldered. At 1:30 a.m. we gave up for the lack of a Dremel motor and grinding point. Hope these two defects get fixed before we try to run next Wed.

Got the last switch machine into the east end of the Freight Yard, Hill, jumped in and wired it and now all the momentary machines in this area are replaced and workin and this job is complete one month ahead of schedule, and in time for operating next Wednesday. Yow. That's action for you.

Deveney is laying out the hardware on Freight Yard Panel B and so this project is moving and the way Geo plugs away, it should be ready for hangin soon. This one isn't scheduled for completion, that is, in and operational, until the end of December. The way things are goin, I'll bet we run it in October.

Leupold and Ferrero are hacking away on gettin track layed over in Deka Industrial and that's beginning to take form.

Weis finished rewiring Cabs 3 and 4 and that sure looks good now. Sez he's got Cab 2 fixed up so it won't blow out any more. Jeffery's sez he can't find the toggles to throw the right switches up there any more now that they are all lined up on a logical schematic. (This guy is too much).

Deka and Naff got the switch machines installed in the baggage trackage in the Passenger Terminal and it should be a pushover to change a couple of relays, make the necessary alterations in the panel and have this ready for operation in August which will be one month ahead of schedule.

Got our shipment of 200 switch machines. The Jr. Members inspected them for shipping damage and stowed them away in the cabinet under the south end of the Storage Yard.

Erichsen and Deka have been meeting up at Naff's Monday nights and going at it til wee hours fixin up switch machines and makin linkage for them and have a small stock ahead now. Another 3 or 4 Monday nights and we will have about 60 units completed. With the arrival of the new machines we will not have to rebuild and rework those old machines and the preparation time per machine should be about cut in half and that's quite a relief. I often wondered if it was really worth while rebuilding these old machines.

Decided to forego showing of pictures in favor of finishing up bayshore so we could operate next week, but had a short meeting on the clean up program that was presented in the Spur last week. There were some objections raised, but by far, the majority favored giving it a go, as presented. Decided to go a round with it, that is, progress through the roster once, so everyone will have a chance to work it and then meet and decide if it's really the way to go or not. Deka volunteered to take the first schedule - June 30 - July 7, so that starts the alphabetical sequence going and you can pretty well tell when to expect to get zapped. (Lookout Devaney, I'm using last names.) Randy Brown is Deka's Jr. Member so now Jr. Members can also figure out when, for themselves also. (Boy, watch the shuffling now). Had some expression of not liking to work alone on the part of a couple of members and there's no reason why these people can't agree to help each other when they receive assignments. Do a little brain storming as this deal works along. Might come up with some pretty good ideas and satisfy everyone in the end. If you have a vacation coming up or another period when you will not be able to take on your clean up assignment, let me know, so I can steer in the right direction.

Budgets are on us again. So, Dept. Heads, figure up what you are gonna be needing in the next quarter and give them to Jefferys next Wednesday.

Operation next week! Watch what you bring in. Clean up the wheels, check up on coupler height, make sure you are weighted correctly.