

Publicity Column
2008:3

One thing we all talk about is high gas prices. People tend to think twice now before taking a long, multi-state trip. Although we have members across the country and in several nations, the bulk of our membership is spread out over the upper Midwest states that the Chicago & North Western served. For many of us, attending the May annual meet involves a longer drive, in addition to costs such as hotel rooms. As someone who has attended 11 of the past 14 of these, I can testify that they are well worth going to. Dana Grefe and his crew are putting together another great event in Des Moines for this coming May, and I highly encourage each of you to do your best to attend.

There is another option for those wanting to participate in society events. We have 5 one-day divisional meets.

Minnesota Division: Saturday September 13. 10 AM – 5 PM. Terry Davis has put together a great program. We are meeting at the End-O-Line railroad museum in Currie. There will be a tour of the museum, box lunch, and two presentations, including one by Norm Priebe of Alexandria, Minnesota. The day will conclude with a visit to the Wheels Across the Prairie museum in nearby Tracy. Cost is \$17. Send check to: Terry Davis, 1380 Jefferson St. S.E., Hutchinson, MN 55350. (320) 587-7820. If possible, send by September 3, so we can have counts for the lunch.

Wisconsin Division: Saturday, October 4. Jerry Krug is hosting this one at the Cudahy Historical Society, located inside the restored ex-C&NW depot in Cudahy, Wisconsin. The doors open at noon, and will include lunch, several presentations, and admission to the museum. <http://www.cudahyhistoricalsociety.org/depohist.html>

Western Wisconsin Division: Saturday, October 25. Menomonie, Wisc. This is a new group, inspired by those who worked on the Eau Claire meet. This division covers the area served by the Omaha Road's Eastern Division. Details have not been worked out yet at press time, but look for information on the society's web site. Also society members who live in western Wisconsin and the east Metro of the Twin Cities will receive a mailing. The tentative plans are to meet in early afternoon, and do a tour of Menomonie. There are three depots still standing there, plus the truss bridges over the Red Cedar River. We will then have dinner, followed by presentations and open slide viewing. Things will wrap up early enough for those wishing to drive home that night. For information, contact me. Davem1385@Comcast.net (651) 994-0366.

Chicago Division. Saturday, November 15. Batavia, Ill. Dave Phillips is once again setting up this long-standing meet. Details will be available soon.

Iowa Division. Saturday, March 21. Oelwein, Iowa. The Hub City Railroad museum is hosting this spring's gathering. Details to follow here, also.

All five of the division meets will have the company store set up. We also try to include door prizes and/or raffles. Feel free to bring any photos, models, etc, that you would want to display.

