

THE SEMAPHORE

The Newsletter of
ROCHESTER CHAPTER - NATIONAL RAILWAY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Vol. XXXIII No. 2

October 1991

PROGRAM NOTES

By: Jack Matsik

This month's general membership meeting will take place on Thursday October 17 at the 40&8 Club, 933 University Avenue, beginning at 8:00 p.m. October 26, 1991 marks the 100th anniversary of the inaugural run of New York Central's "Empire State Express", therefore, this month's program will be spotlighting the NYC. In addition to the program the committee is planning, we are asking any members or friends wishing to share any slides, home movies, prints or memorabilia of the "Empire State Express" with the membership to bring it along to the meeting or contact one of the members of the Program Committee. Movie, slide and video equipment will be available on the night of the program for any individual wishing to participate.

We welcome volunteers or ideas for our monthly programs and ask that you contact any of the program committee members.

Jack Matsik (Chairman)	(716) 442-6269
Bill Limburg	(716) 586-9470
Dan Cosgrove	(716) 352-6931
Roy Wullich	(716) 426-5619
Dave Luca (Board Liaison)	(716) 288-0318

AN INTERVIEW WITH RAND WARNER

By Historian Keith Blackall

As many of our members are aware, during 1991 we have honored two of our Chapter Members by naming a piece of historic rolling stock in their honor. The first member to receive this tribute was the late Richard Tickner, for whom the Chapter excursion coach has been named. Details are being concluded to apply Dick's name to the car exterior and to install his picture inside the car. At our Chapter picnic in September,



a second member, Rand Warner, was honored in the same fashion. Our Eastman Kodak Switcher, EK-6 has been named in Rand's honor. I recently spent a couple of hours trackside with Rand discussing his 30+ years of involvement with the Rochester Chapter and his railroading interest in general.

Rand was born in 1935 in Gloversville, NY, received his first train (electric) at age three and by age 8 was riding the Fonda, Johnstown, and Gloversville Railroad "for the fun of it". He grew attached to the local road and when dieselization occurred in 1945, he and a companion looked after the stored steam engines for several years. With the scrapper's torch due to arrive the next day, Rand and a friend decided they should have a remembrance of the steam engines of the FJ&G. Despite a brush with the local authorities that night, Rand still has a marker light, whistle, and throttle from his favorite road. His first experience with railroad historical publications came while in high school in Gloversville where he published and sold a manuscript on the history of the FJ&G to a railfan group riding the line.

Following graduation, Rand attended Union College in Schenectady, earning his degree in Electrical Engineering and accepting a job with Bell Aircraft in Niagara Falls. Within several months, he had the opportunity to join Eastman Kodak in Rochester, the beginning of his 32 year career at the "Big Yellow Box". Within the same timeframe, he married his high school sweetheart. Rand and Marge were married in August of 1957 and settled in Rochester. I asked about Marge's interest in trains, she doesn't share his level of passion for the railroad but is supportive and enjoys the fun that involvement brings.

Rand's involvement with the Rochester Chapter began almost immediately as he started attending meetings first at the NYC station and later in a meeting room on South Clinton Avenue. He joined in 1958 and became gradually more active in the Chapter while continuing with Kodak and helping to raise their 3 children.

He has served as Chapter President several times during the 60's, 70's and 80's, becoming involved in all facets of the Chapter's activities. He has served as Program Chairman, worked on the Trip Committee, on the Seamphore and Library, as well as the Chapter Store and finances. Rand also played a role in securing our non-profit incorporation, has been involved with book publishing, the acquisition of the Depot at Industry and development of the New York Museum of Transportation. His recent efforts have included the procurement of rolling stock, construction equipment, and track materials.

While he prefers to work quietly locating resources for others to put to use, his accomplishments speak of his dedication to the Chapter's efforts. Since retiring from Kodak in August of 1989, Rand has continued his volunteer efforts at Asbury First United Methodist Church, at a church outreach project in the inner city, as a member of Friends in Service Here and as a volunteer doing work with youth at BOCES and the Industry School. He is also a Co-Director at NYMT and operates a management consulting service from his home. When I asked him about future plans, it was obvious that his family is very important to him. His children are grown and still living in this area. Rand and Marge have 5 grandchildren and Rand noted that several take great delight in the hi-rail layout in the basement which is based on the Fonda, Johnstown and Gloversville.

Looking to the Chapter's future, Rand looks forward to fostering the development of all facets of the Chapter's activities including the rail link between the two museums, of possible electric operation on that line, and of expansion of the museum to the area south of Route 251. When reflecting upon the progress made by the Chapter over the last decade, Rand ponders the future responsibilities; excursions on the Mortimer Secondary, under wire?, our library and publishing arms moving forward, trolleys running between museums, and a steam locomotive being turned on the table, ready for service.

**ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY
MUSEUM WORK PROGRESS
REPORT**

-Chmn. Rand Warner - 248-8889

GENERAL

Commitment

"Until one is committed, there is hesitancy...the chance to draw back...always ineffectiveness...the moment one definitely commits oneself, then providence moves too...all sorts of things occur to help one that would never otherwise have occurred...a whole stream of events, issues from the decision, raising in one's favor all manner of unforeseen incidents...and assistance which no one could have dreamed would come one's way. Whatever you can do, or dream you can do begin it. Boldness has genius, power, magic in it."

I don't know the author of these prophetic words, but I sure do know they work for us and for our Museum.

Cottage Industry

Our Museum has been greatly benefited over the years by our "Cottage Industry", that is, people taking things home to repair, paint, or refurbish, or making things at home that our Museum needed. Names that come to mind - Curt Boyer for signs, doors and steps, Norm Shaddick for MU coach seat parts, Dave Luca for MU coach lights, Mike Dow for signals and lanterns, Neil Bellenger for weldments, bob Miner for passenger car battery charger, Dick Holbert for radio work, Bill Reid for track blocking, Chris Hauf for caboose parts, and I'm sure there are many others. Anyone with any skill can be of great help to our Museum if you would be willing to develop your own local cottage industry.

Subway/River/Aqueduct

Larry Fenessee is co-chairing the 1991 Rochester event for recognition and celebration of our city's resources for the City of Rochester and Downtown Coalition on Saturday afternoon, October 12. Our Chapter is participating through Tom Way/Membership, Jack Matsik/Program, Tom Bauman/Stores, Don Schilling/Displays, Keith Blackall/History, Dave Shields/Publicity, Shelden King/Films, and Dave

Luca, Charles Harshbarger and Rand Warner for support and coordination.

Ted Strang and Jim Dierks are coordinating NYMT participation by Paul Monte/Photos, Eric Norden/Displays, Tom Kirn/Films, Charles Harshbarger for hardware and Rand Warner for support.

Larry also envisions an on-going Steering Committee to be formed, to help guide the City and other interested groups and organizations, in the future planning for actual revitalization and new uses and enjoyment of our historic resources which revolve around the Genesee River, Broad Street Aqueduct and former Rochester Subway System. Here is a marvelous, made-to-order opportunity for our NRHS and NYMT organizations to make a real, tangible and living contribution to our community. Call Larry at 924-3096 if you'd like to help out on this worthy effort.

MOTIVE POWER

-Supt. John Redden - 594-2227

New Locomotive - Through the efforts of many chapter members, Rochester Gas & Electric, and Conrail, we acquired a new engine on September 9, 1991. We first heard of the possibility in the Spring, when RG&E began making arrangements for a new engine at Russell Station. This would displace the (then) current Russell engine down to Bee Bee Station, which made that engine surplus. Dave Shields, chapter member and RG&E employee, lobbied on our behalf, and RG&E management agreed to sell the engine for a very nominal fee. In anticipation of the move, the Preservation Committee made use of some of Dave's many contacts inside Conrail to set up a nominal historic "move" rate for transporting the engine from Bee Bee down to our museum. Late in August, we received word from chapter member Duncan Richards that he had noticed two engines at Bee Bee. We confirmed with RG&E that the engine was then available to us. This set in motion an intense effort to get the engine moved to the depot before the Chapter Picnic on September 8, in order to surprise Chapter members. Unfortunately, due to various mechanical and other problems, it did not get moved until the day after the picnic. Thanks to

all of the Chapter members who worked on this project, including Dave Shields, Dave Abell, Dick Holbert, Neil Bellenger (all RG&E employees) Rand Warner, Duncan Richards, and John Redden.

History of R&GE, Bee Bee Station Loco:

Built: August 1941 by General Electric Company, Schenectady, NY for use by GE-River Works as their number 1.

Sold: (Date unknown) to Pittsburgh, Allegheny and McKees Rocks as their number 2.

Sold: (Date unknown) to Groveton Paper, Inc., Groveton, NH as number 1.

Sold: September 1964 to Livonia, Avon & Lakeville as their number 97.

Sold: April 1965 to Rochester Gas & Electric for use at Bee Bee Station, downtown Rochester (no number).

Sold: September 9, 1991 to Rochester Chapter, National Railway Historical Society for use at the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum at Industry, NY.

Miscellaneous notes: Engine is a 300 h.p. 45 ton diesel-electric center cab loco, serial number 13057. Built in 1941, it is one of the oldest diesels in the country, and (perhaps) the oldest in NY state. Of its fifty years of revenue service, twenty-seven have been in the immediate vicinity of Rochester. The unit was considered too light for service on the LA&L, thereby explaining its short career on that line. However, RG&E found it to be entirely suitable for switching coal cars at the BeeBee power generating station. It is equipped with siderods similar to those found on steam locomotives; a rare feature for diesels. It is powered by two Cummins six cylinder engines which are practically identical to those used on large trucks of the era.

EK-6 Dedication

The other big news was the dedication of locomotive EK-6 as the "R.L. Warner", in honor of long time member and Preservation Committee Chairman Rand Warner. We managed to surprise Rand at the Chapter Picnic by having previously installed a plaque on the EK-6. Considering the amount of time that he spends at the depot, and his near perfect record of attendance at board meetings, the surprise was

a difficult one to achieve. Vice President Dave Luca made the presentation in the yard outside the depot, with about 75 members and guests looking on. Both EK-6 and LV-211 performed well at the picnic, making many trips to the e of track hauling chapter members.

Other News

NKP-79 moved closer to active service again through the efforts of many chapter members. Bob Cowan went to Gowanda, NY to pick up the replacement turbocharger on September 9. Thanks Bob. On September 22, Wayne Morrison brought in his crane to perform the swap of the turbos. Many chapter members helped out that day, including Neil Bellenger, Jeff Carpenter, Dick Holbert, Charlie Harshbarger, and Rand Warner. A special thanks goes to Joe Scanlon for making arrangements for the crane. We accomplished the heavy lifting in a surprisingly short time, and are currently reinstalling the smaller pieces on the turbo. Thanks to Wayne Morrison and all of the chapter members who helped out on that project.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

-Supt. Dave Luca - 288-0318

If you haven't been out to the depot this summer, you're in for a pleasant surprise! Under the direction of Joe Scanlon, the crew of Carpenter, Cowan, Harshbarger, Holbert, Pappalardo, Redden, Reid, Richards, Shaddick, Warner (and others...) completed the drainage project and the installation of new concrete aprons around the depot. In addition, track #3 was relocated away from the depot 6 feet to the east. The depot and surrounding area looks fantastic and I personally want to thank everyone associated with this project.

During the summer and early fall, the upgrading of the electrical service in the depot and underground in the yard continued with Neil Bellenger, Jim Johnson, Mike Dow and Charlie Harshbarger providing much of the manpower.

Plans for converting the north waiting room to an office/technical library area moved forward this month when the Community Affairs/Financial Aid Committee for Xel granted our request for a donation of surplus office furniture.

Plans for the next few months include upgrading the floor in the north waiting room and setting up the office/technical library area. Acquire and install a 32" steel door and casing for the depot basement entrance and construct a set of stairs and protective railings leading to this entrance on the east side of the depot. Begin converting the basement into a workers locker room with shower. Other areas which need attention if we had the manpower or resources are the parking areas, the land south of Rt 251 and a general building and grounds cleanup. If you would like to help out with any of these projects or have additional ideas, please contact me or attend one of the museum/operations planning sessions held at the depot on the second Thursday of the month.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE REPORT

-Supt. John Kernan - 671-8719

I wish to thank two generous individuals for donations made to the Chapter's library: member Sam Grover and nonmember Paul Raynor. A large quantity of RAILROAD MAGAZINE is now in our possession, along with lesser quantities of the NRHS BULLETIN and TRAINS MAGAZINE.

When all issues of RAILROAD MAGAZINE have been sorted, I will be able to compile the listing of duplicates available for sale and will have this in a future issue of the SEMAPHORE.

I am in the process of trying to obtain a donation for the use of a dumpster for a one month period at the Depot. If successful, I will be soliciting help for the purpose of cleaning and organizing the center waiting room.

WANTED

Track & Right-of-Way

- Good sets of switch timbers for yard tracks off switch #6.
- Good relay or No. 1 ties for track extension to NYMT.

Buildings & Grounds

- Chain link fence, 300 ft.
- Vertical wrought iron fence, 250 ft.

- heavy duty outside stair for basement Depot entrance.
- Heavy duty 32" steel door and casing for Depot basement entrance.
- Partition panels for offices in Depot worth waiting room.
- Fine crushed stone for parking lots and walkways.

Signals & Communications

- Insulated joints for 80# Dudley rail - need six pairs.
- Rail bond wires and bond welder or bond drill.
- Overhead trolley wire and associated brackets & hardware.

Construction Equipment

- Gasoline fuel
- Hydraulic fluid
- Good 13.00x24 or 14.00x24 road grader tire
- Good 18.00x25 tubeless 16 ply loader tire

Maintenance-of-Way

- Hydraulic fluid for Jackson Tamper
- Hydraulic trouble shooter for Jackson Tamper

Motive Power

- Good 8 volt, 4 cell battery for LV#211
- Fuel filters for EK#6
- Cooling system conditioner, non-polluting type

Passenger Equipment

- Sand blasting sand
- Pressurized air mask for use when sand blasting & spray painting
- Metal worker to repair outside skin on west side of PINE FALLS

Freight Equipment

- 5/4 tongue and groove cedar or fir siding for cabooses
- 3 x 10 or 3 x 12 hardwood or pressure treated 10 ft. planking for NYC flat car

Tool Car

- Masonry tools, especially bull float
- Electrical crimping & conduit bending tools for large sizes

Museum Store Operations

- Coordination help
- Volunteer staff help

Museum Train Operations

- Professional, qualified trainers
- Willing, dedicated, committed trainees

Museum Tour Operations

- Coordination help
- Volunteer staff help

THANKS TO

- Rochester Gas & Electric Corporation, Howard Rowley and Karl Kittelberger for making 1941 General Electric 45 ton diesel locomotive available to our Chapter for our Museum.
- Consolidated Rail Corporation, Alan Schimel and Elizabeth Maggio for very nominal charge move for RG&E locomotive coordinated through CONRAIL Corporate Contributions Committee
- Jim Deane for offer of structural steel cutoffs and structural bolts to repair turntable.
- Joe Scanlon and Raymond E. Kelly & Co. for arrangements and sealing of platform concrete joints.
- Chuck Riedmiller for offer to contribute paint for Erie Caboose restoration and for donation of 10 gal. of roofing sealer.
- Dave Monteverde for information on vertical wrought iron fencing for our Depot platform.
- Bill Reid for arrangements with Morgan Grain Co. for trucking railroad ties.
- Rand Warner for arrangements with A&K Railroad Materials for release of railroad ties.
- Charles Harshbarger for continuing to supply weekly gasoline fuel for our construction equipment.
- Joe Scanlon for special arrangements with Manitou for concrete and for expert concrete finisher.
- George Bauerschmidt of City Tank & Pump for multiple loans of professional mason's bull float.
- Rand Warner for ladders, books, barbecue tools and mason trowels donations.
- Steve Huse for hardwood timbering for NYC flat car deck framing.
- Dave Shields, Neil Bellenger, John Redden, Dick Holbert for support to RG&E locomotive acquisition and relocation.

- Xerox Corporation Community Affairs/Financial Aid Committee for willingness to donate requested office furniture.
- Jim Johnson for arranging for loan of insulation resistance tester for checking H.E.P. wiring.
- Rick Ashman for offer of 18.00 x25 loader tire donation in emergency.
- Lynn Heintz for information on several sources of wood poles for trolley wire and signal lines.
- Curt Boyer for offer to spearhead repainting of Erie Lackawanna MU Power Car.
- Jim Deane for donation of overhead crane trolley fixture for building crane on I-Beam.

OFF THE WIRE

Southern Tier Line Coalition - headed by Meadville, Pa. Mayor Tony Petruso - would acquire 220 miles of former Erie Railroad mainline between Pymatuning Tower Transfer, Pa. and Hornell, NY and have P&LE operate line. Trackage rights over Conrail would connect Pymatuning with Youngstown, OH, and P&LE proper. Conrail has price caps of \$15 and \$25 million on sale, depending on tax consequences of sale, and has extended deadline for purchase agreement to January 15, 1992. (Shenago/604)

Cape Cod Railroad RS1 30 - former Genesee & Wyoming Bi-Centennial locomotive - had major engine failure in late August, and reportedly will not be repaired. (Narragansett Newsletter)

Myron B. Phipps, the last president of the Nickel Plate Road, prior to its merger into Norfolk & Western, died on August 5, 1991. He was 91 years old, and in failing health for the past year. (Semaphore)

On July 21, one mail car between Chicago, IL and Boston, MA and one between Chicago and Springfield, MA were discontinued, reducing head-end consist of Amtrak's *Lake Shore Limited* from five to three cars. (Bulletin)

Membership Committee Report

Thomas A. Way, Chairman

July 18, 1991

Current Statistics

National Members held through Rochester	219
Local Membership (National affiliation elsewhere)	11
Family Memberships	26
TOTAL:	256

New Members

Bernard M. Agins
115 Cattaragus Drive
Rochester, NY 14623
Phone: 359-2947
Membership: Regular

Gregory P. Ames
82 Elmerston Road
Rochester, NY 14620
Phone: 473-0388
Membership: Regular

Howard E. Rowley
230 Farmview Drive
Macedon, NY 14502
Phone: 377-5096
Membership: Regular

Gale Eugene Smith
299 Seneca Park Avenue
Rochester, NY 14617
Phone: 544-6221
Membership: Regular

Department of Corrections

Edwin R. Mueller
7 Harvest Hill
Rochester, NY 14624

Burt Vane
31 Terrace Drive
Fairport, NY 14450

Rand L. Warner
58 Park Circle Drive
Fairport, NY 14450

The New Member Survey was sent out late last month. Of the 80 sent out, I have had 37 replies. By next month, I should have a tally of the replies and an analysis to present to the board. (One of the replies I received is interesting in that although they express a sincere interest in Chapter activities, and desire to get involved; I cannot read their signature). For those who have no completed your survey, please do. To those who did not receive one, if you have been a member of the Chapter for four years or more, you weren't sent one in the first place!

WARNING; WARNING; WARNING; DUES INCREASE ON THE HORIZON!!!

The National has increased their dues by \$2.00 for 1992. The Trustees of the Rochester Chapter are proposing to increase the Local portion of our Regular Dues to \$16.00, bringing the total amount of the Regular Dues to \$30.00. HOWEVER; to offset the Local increase, we are offering a discount of \$4.00 to those who pay their dues each year by February 1. (For Retirees/Students the increase on the local level would bring the total to \$25.00. A discount of \$4.00 would be offered to those paying by February 1.) This proposal is meant to encourage the approximate 10% who are routinely late with their dues. Again, for those paying by the February first deadline, the discount would negate the Local increase. The membership will vote on this

proposal at the November membership meeting and the Trustees are recommending to the membership at this time to vote in favor of this proposal.

Notes from the Department of Corrections. I do not have the new phone numbers for either Edwin R. Mueller nor Burt Vane. On the other hand, the situation with Rand Warner is interesting. The new address listed is technically incorrect; he hasn't moved yet. (As of September 20, anyway). Rand expresses a hope that they will move by the middle of October. His new address will be the one listed. His new phone numbers have been assigned, though. He will have two of them: 425-8586 and 425-8587. The 425-8587 will be attached to a FAX machine. But, there will be no answer at these numbers until he does move. Until then, you can reach him at his old number: 428-8889.

Conrail to Double Stack Railcars in DeWitt

Conrail is making its DeWitt yard a hub for double-stack railcars, replacing smaller operations in Albany, Buffalo and Rochester, Conrail officials said Friday. The cars being stacked are called intermodal trailers, which means they can be transported by either railroad flatcars or trucks, said Conrail spokesman Robert T. Sullivan.

The DeWitt hub will both load double-stack trains and convert double-stack trains to single stacks to extend service to points which cannot accommodate double-stack trains because of height restrictions. The new hub will open March 1, Sullivan said. Operations at the yard should continue uninterrupted until then.

"Conrail picked DeWitt for the hub because it afforded the easiest access to the State Thruway and the interstate highways," Sullivan said. "It's all in location. When you're trying to put in a centrally located hub, Syracuse is the logical choice," Sullivan said.

The DeWitt yard will continue to handle conventional shipments, and no work is being transferred out of the area. Conrail employs about 350 people in the Syracuse area. "It's too soon to tell what the impact on local employment will be, although the volume of cars coming through DeWitt is expected to increase", Sullivan said.

Impact on employment at the other upstate yards is expected to be minimal because Conrail is installing bulk commodity transfer terminals in Buffalo and Rochester and may expand its car transfer facility in Albany, Sullivan said.

There will be some physical changes at the DeWitt yard, but details on when construction would begin and how much it will cost were unavailable.

This is the second phase of Conrail's program to increase its use of double-stack containers. The first phase was Conrail's five-year, \$47 million program to increase vertical height clearances along key lines east of Chicago.

Conrail's announcement isn't good news for the trucking industry, an official of one area trucking firm said. Jack Miller, president of D&J Transportation Specialists Inc., of Syracuse, said anything the railroad does to compete with the trucking industry could hurt firms like his. "What they're going to do is take a container by truck from here to DeWitt, put it on a train and send it to California or someplace else," Miller said. "I'd much rather see that container go all the way to California by truck."

(From the Syracuse Post Standard, Saturday, August 31, 1991)

ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM STORE

-Operation Supt. Tom Bauman - 458-4289

In October, we'll have many of the books and videos available that have been sold out. In addition, the following new Pentrex videos will be available (Rochester Chapter NRHS members subtract 20%):

Steam to Sacramento	\$30.00
Steam to Huntington (1991 NRHS Convention)	\$30.00
Huntington Steam Celebration (Same)	\$30.00
Special: Both Huntington Tapes	\$50.00

ROCHESTER CHAPTER - NRHS CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 10 - Operations Session - Industry
- 12 - Excursion-Tully to Norwich - Central New York-NRHS
- 12,13 - Southern Tier Train Show - Binghamton, NY
- 13 - Excursion-Tully to Chenango Bridge - Central New York-NRHS
- 13 - Fall Foliage Excursions - Omid RR-Sodus, NY
- 17 - Chapter Membership Meeting - 40&8 Club
- 19 - North Country Rail Adventure - Central New York-NRHS
- 20 - Fall Foliage Excursions - Omid RR-Sodus, NY
- 27 - TTOS Niagara Frontier Division Meet - Hamburg, NY

NOVEMBER

- 1,2 - Train Convention - Duluth, Mn.
- 3 - Trustee Meeting - 40&8 Club
- 10 - Genesee Society of Model Engineers Meet - Batavia, NY
- 14 - Operations Session - Industry
- 21 - Chapter Membership Meeting - 40&8 Club
- 28 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

DECEMBER

- 5 - Trustee Meeting - 40&8 Club
- 12 - Operations Session - Industry
- 14 - Santa Claus Train - Omid RR-Sodus, NY
- 19 - Chapter Membership Meeting - 40&8 Club
- 21 - Santa Claus Train - Omid RR-Ontario, NY
- 25 - MERRY CHRISTMAS!

ROCHESTER CHAPTER
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 664
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THE SEMAPHORE

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ROCHESTER CHAPTER*

ROCHESTER CHAPTER NRHS OFFICERS:

President - Ted Miller
Vice President - Dave Luca
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National Director - Phil Schulp

THE SEMAPHORE STAFF:

Editor - Vacant
Typing - Theresa Grevell
Layout & Printing - Dave Luca

THIS MONTH'S CONTRIBUTORS:

Tom Bauman, Keith Blackall, John Kernan, Dave Luca, Jack Matsik, John Redden, Rand Warner and Tom Way.

SEMAPHORE DEADLINE:

Deadline for the November issue is November 4.
Please send your articles to Dave Luca at 983
Winton Rd., N., Rochester, NY 14609.

CHAPTER MEETING:

October 17, 1991 - 8:00 p.m.
40&8 Club

