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News Release

New owner for Naperville Prototype Meet

Martin Lofton, who previously expressed plans to retire as sponsor of the annual Sunshine Prototype Modelers Meet, has announced that an agreement has been reached with Joe D'Elia to take over the popular event held annually at the Holiday Inn in Naperville, Illinois.

D'Elia owner of A-Line, Proto Power West and New Rail Models, has considerable experience in managing events and has for many years been facility coordinator and a committee member of the Western Prototype Modelers Meet held each year in Southern California. He is also one of the founders of the Railroad Prototype Modelers movement (RPM).

The Thursday through Saturday format for the event remains the same, with model displays, clinics, vendor show and social gatherings. The International Hobby Show being held at the Donald E. Stevens Convention Center in Rosemont, Illinois is an added feature for those who would like to attend on Sunday. Free tickets will be available to all preregistered attendees and vendors.

D'Elia assures everyone that the familiar format of the highly successful meet will continue, while he will strive to make the four day event more enjoyable for all that attend. The event will be identified as the Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet, an annual National RPM event. A contract has also been signed by D'Elia with the Naperville Holiday Inn with the next meet scheduled for October 21 through 24, 2010. D'Elia said that a website now under development would indicate all pertinent details of the meet including a list of the dates and hours of individual clinics, registration, vendor table and I Hobby Show info.

Although Martin Lofton and his wife Tricia will no longer be involved in managing future meets, they are expected to attend and promote Sunshine products. Perhaps Martin will finally have time to present a clinic.

Richard Bale, Model Railroad Hobbyist Magazine