



# American Flyer "S" Gaugers of the St. Louis Area

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## AFSGSLA NEWSLETTER January 2026

### AFSGSLA Club Events and Related Activities:

As with the last several newsletters, we are combining the planned club events and the other related activities. Although we will not necessarily participate in some of the following events as a club, they are included in this somewhat comprehensive listing for your information. We suggest you keep this newsletter for your future reference and attend our club meetings for full details.

**Monday, January 12, 2026:** CMB bank layout take-down at 1:00 PM

**January 24 and 25, 2026: Saturday and Sunday: Great Train Show: St. Charles** 10 am - 4 pm. We submitted an application and anticipate setting up the portable layout. As usual, we will not know until closer to the show.

**January 30, 2026:** Glenn Mehlich desires to host a January 30th Club meeting to meet and purchase trains, etc. Glenn is the son of long-time

member Pete Mehlich, who had to move into a nursing home. The meeting will be at 5 Shawnee Drive, St. Charles, MO, 63301. NOTE: We do not yet have a time, watch for a future email,

**Saturday, February 14, 2026: Sons of the American Legion Train Show**  
10:00 am - 3:00 pm, Dupo American Legion Post #485, 200 South 5th Street, Dupo IL 62239 Admission \$3, Children 12 and under FREE

**Saturday, March 7, 2026: Boeing Railroad Club swap meet** at Queeny Park. We anticipate we will display the 11x26 layout. The show runs from 10am-3pm. Set-up is 7:30am.

**Friday, April 10, 2026:** Club meeting hosted by **Joel Weber**. Joel's address and contact information is 1124 Pinrun Drive, Ballwin, MO 63011. His phone number is 630-977-9323 and email is [weber1b14@gmail.com](mailto:weber1b14@gmail.com). He said parking in the driveway is fine. He also encourages carpooling, just to limit the number of cars on the street. Last year we got to see his in-progress layout. This time we can see the changes that he has made since last year.

**Saturday, April 11, 2026:** Train show at the American Legion in Lemay, 4305 South Broadway, 63125. This is a new show. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Saturday, April 18, 2026: 11th Anniversary Railroad Swap Meet**  
Sponsored by the Iron Spike Model Train Museum, Washington City Auditorium, 211 High Street, Washington MO 63090. Admission \$8, includes same day admittance to Iron Spike Museum. Show time is 10 am – 3 pm. For more information call (636) 283-5163/5166 or email [info@ironspike.org](mailto:info@ironspike.org) or check out the [Iron Spike Model Train Museum website](http://www.ironspike.org)

**Saturday, May 23, 2026: After the Storm Train Show:** 10 am - 3 pm  
Arnold Eagles Club, 1725 Jeffco Blvd. Admission \$3.00, 12 and under FREE  
We anticipate that we will display our double helix at this show.

**Saturday, June 13, 2026: 12th Annual A.H.R.R Train Show** to benefit the

American Heritage Railroad, 10am - 4pm, American Farm Heritage Museum, 1395 Museum Avenue, Greenville IL 62246. I-70 at Hwy 127 - Exit 45 for Greenville IL Admission \$7.00 with 1 mile train ride (Children under 12 FREE) Operating toy and model railroad displays, concession stand on site.

**Saturday, August 29, 2026: Boeing Railroad Club swap meet** at Queeny Park. We anticipate we will display the 11x26 layout. The show runs from 10am-3pm. Set-up is 7:30am.

**Friday, September 11, 2026:** Club meeting hosted by Cliff Saxton. More details as it gets closer, but hold the date.

**Friday, Saturday & Sunday, November 13th, 14th & 15th:** The 2026 Fall S Fest (the 49<sup>th</sup>) hosted by the Chicago Area S Gaugers to be in Orland Park, Illinois at Georgio's Quality Inn and Suites (same as 2023).

AND

Most of 2026 meeting dates are available!  
Fellows, please consider hosting a meeting in 2026. See note from Dave Stevens further down in the newsletter.

### **What's been happening?**

**October 4, 2025:** Club meeting hosted by Charlie Albeitz and co-hosted by Gary Mueller at Charlie Albeitz house. We got to see the magnificent layout built by Charlie.

**October 11 & 12, 2025:** Mississippi Valley N Scalers (MVNS) show. We displayed our sectional layout at this show.

**October 31, November 1 and 2, 2025: 2025 S Fest** – hosted by the Badgerland S Gaugers. Several of us made the trip up north to the last ever S Fest hosted by the Badgerland S Gaugers. First the criticism, and only one, was that the venue was poorly marked. A number of us had been to the Waukesha center before and thought we knew where it was, but it was moved to a building out back, we had to ask people coming out if

this was the correct place. Once we got there, it was great. Lots of vendors with lots of stuff for sale, model contest, what you would expect from an S Fest. Prices were consistent with past fests, lots of very inexpensive common items and the scarcer items holding their price. The cars were sold out and another additional order placed. The banquet was excellent and overall, a great S fest, even if somewhat sad that this will be the last one to be held in Milwaukee. The hosting club was pleased with the attendance and financial outcome. If you are still interested in a car from this year's S Fest or their past S Fest, call or email Ron Schlicht (414-477-7866) for more information and indicate which car or cars that you wish to order.

As a benefit to being in Milwaukee, a number of us ventured to TrainFest. I had been to it last year and this year was even bigger. As usual there were manufactures, vendors (over 500 tables) and over 50 layouts displayed.

**November 7, 2025:** Club meeting hosted by Tom Schnur.

**November 15, 2025:** The Dupo Train Show. We displayed our double-helix layout.

**Saturday & Sunday, November 28-29 2025: Great Train Show:** Collinsville (Illinois) Convention Center. We displayed our portable layout.

**Saturday, December 6, 2025:** Club meeting hosted by Bob Bretch at his Troy Missouri Home.

**Monday, December 15, 2025:** Club installed the 8 x 8 layout at Citizen's National Bank in Maplewood. (Take down to be Monday, January 12, 2026 at 1 PM.)

**Saturday, December 27, 2025: After the Storm Train Show:** We displayed our double-helix layout.

### **This and That**

**New Club Roster: Thanks to Cody LaFata:** Please see the attached club roster. Also, please identify any corrections, etc. It has been

a LONG time since we had a new roster. Again, Special Thanks goes to Cody LaFata.

**New Train Store in South County - Target Model Trains.** Store is owned by Steve and Glenda Mantia, the people who put in the After the Storm Train Show in Arnold. The store is on Lemay Ferry, west side of the road, about halfway between Mehlville high school and Lindberg. Easiest thing to look for is a BP gas station right north of it. It is in a 3-store strip mall, a coin store is to the immediate left.

**St. Louis Lionel Railroad Club –** The Lionel club moved in to their new location on Watson Road, otherwise known as historic route 66. The club is now located in the same shopping center where Grant's Cabin restaurant used to be, although it is at the opposite end of the shopping center. The location is 8460 Watson Road Suite 120 (But you must enter the purple doors Marked 130, go inside and turn down the hall to the left. Club door is 2 doors down on RIGHT. The club can now operate O, S and Standard Gauge trains.

**Special notice from David Stevens:**

Periodic meetings of the entire club are important. If you have not hosted a meeting recently, or ever, please consider doing so. You can host whether or not you have a train layout; a meeting can even be outdoors. David Stevens will help you with the details. Just contact him at 314-921-1127 (landline, no text) or 314-651-0856 (cell). Or you can email him using [stevens8128@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stevens8128@sbcglobal.net).

**Notes from your Co-Coordinators!**

**TOM SCHNUR**  
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That's it for now, more later:

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**-And remember, "It's just for the fun of it!"**