



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

Website: www.trainweb.org/afsgsla/

E-Mail: afsgsla@sbcglobal.net

AFSGSLA NEWSLETTER

September 2009

AFSGSLA Club Events:

Friday, September 11, 2009, Cliff Saxton has invited us to his home to host our September club meeting and kick off our 2009-2010 season. **Cliff's** home is located at 12363 Federal Drive in Des Peres, Missouri, and his telephone number is 314/ 821-7917. We have written much about **Cliff's** outstanding collection and most interesting and extensive layout. There is not much else to say except plan on attending this meeting, the visit to **Cliff's** is not to be missed. Also, see the anticipated agenda for this important meeting.

Friday, October 16, 2009, Charles Taylor has asked us to hold our October club meeting in his home, which is located at 423 Woodview Manor Lane in Kirkwood, Missouri and his telephone number is 314/ 966-0737. **Charley** is yet another club member who has an outstanding and most interesting layout. In fact, many consider **Charley's** layout to be somewhat a "Club Layout" since so many club members have help him with it. **Please note that Charley's meeting will be 1 week earlier than previously announced, "to insure the domestic tranquility."**

Friday – Sunday, November 6-8, 2009, Fall S Fest-2009, Clock Tower Resort, Rockford, Illinois. The new "CoCo Key" water park is on the hotel property, so this could be a great family event, in addition to being the usual outstanding FSF event.

November 13, 2009, Gary Brandenburger has offered his home for our November club meeting. **Gary's** home is located at 58 Cynthiana Court in Florissant, Missouri and his telephone number is 314/ 838-1476. (A word of caution: Be sure to check your Mapquest.com® very carefully. Our Co-Ordinator reports that the last few times he drove to **Gary's** home, he somehow ended up in the neighboring subdivision.)

Friday, December 4, 2009, Jim Anderson has invited us to his St. Charles, Missouri home for our December club meeting. **Jim's** home is located at 6 Dixie Way in St. Charles, Missouri and his telephone number is 636/ 922-4224. We understand **Jim** has been putting a considerable amount of effort in modifying and improving his layout, and we are anxious to see it. We plan to provide more details later.

Friday, January 8, 2010, Norm and Ione Pilarski, once again, have generously offered their Ballwin, Missouri home for our annual Christmas Party. More details will be available in later newsletters.

Friday, February ??, 2010, Barry Dolan and Marc Brabb have offered to host our February club meeting. We will send details at a later time.

Future Club Meetings:

Thank You David Stevens! At this time, all of our club meetings have been scheduled through February 2010. **David's** service is a most valuable contribution to our club's activities and

success. Please contact **David** (at 314/ 921-1127) to volunteer to host a meeting; we will need a host for the various club meetings starting in March 2010.

Other Scheduled Events:

Saturday, September 12, 2009, Boeing Show – Queeny Park 10 AM

Saturday, September 19, 2009 – New Switzerland – Highland, IL 10 AM

Saturday, October 10, 2009 – Indianapolis S Show hosted by the Hoosier S Gaugers.

Saturday & Sunday, October 10 & 11, 2009 – N Gaugers – Kirkwood Community Center – 10 AM

Friday – Sunday, November 6-8, 2009, Fall S Fest-2009, Clock Tower Resort, Rockford, Illinois

Saturday, November 7, 2009 NMRA – Trinity Lutheran Church – 14088 Clayton Rd. 9 AM

Saturday & Sunday, November 28 & 29, 2009 Great Train Expo – Collinsville, IL 10 AM

Saturday, December 5, 2009 TCA Show – Life Christian Center 9 AM. **Be sure to mark your calendars, as we have been invited to display our large layout at this show**

Saturday, January 30, 2010 TCA Show – Olivette Lutheran Parish Center 9AM. **We have been invited to display our small (or double helix) layout at this show; mark you calendars.**

Sunday, June 20, 2010, Museum of Transportation's 30th Anniversary Celebration. We are honored that the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation has invited us to participate in this special celebration. They have told us that, in the past, they had received many favorable comments regarding our display layout. We will be working out the details and reporting at a later date; but, **please mark your calendar and save this date.**

This and That”:

AFSGSLA's History to be written. A number of club members have been asking for the club's history, fearing the many great accomplishments and stories will be lost. **Gary Brandenburger** has agreed to undertake the first phase; to assemble photographs of the many club activities. **BUT**, your assistance is needed. Bring or send your photographs to **Gary**. He assures us he will return them just as soon as he has reviewed and copied them. With the collection of photographs prepared, we will be able to start preparing the written history. **We need you to do your part.**

Ralstoy trucks - Scott Pilarski, Mark Hieger, Dave Stone and Gary Mueller are on a “truck committee”. **Mark** has ordered American Flyer decals for the trucks. We hope to have samples on display at **Cliff Saxton's** meeting.

Custom Decals – from **Mark Hieger** - Hello all, I just wanted to share with everyone some info you may find useful. First, if anyone likes to model and/or decorate your own rolling stock the club can now receive a 25% discount on decals you order from LBR Enterprises, Inc. The club has recently purchased a sheet of decals from Dave Benson at LBR for a club project. Dave is in the business of serving the S gauge community through sales of American Flyer repro decals and self designed decals for your fantasy road names and the like. You may have also seen some of LBR's eBay auctions of repro cars. They do a nice job on all their work. If you decide to purchase any decals from LBR include the club code "SLTC61609". This code is available for the use of all the AFSGSLA members. You can view all the decals available at www.lbrenterprisesllc.com or you can contact Dave Benson direct at dave@lbrenterprisesllc.com, LBRenterprisesllc@yahoo.com, or by phone at 502-292-1872. Dave is an easy guy to work with and will make nearly any decal you can provide an image for.

Downtown Macy's – A recent article in the St. Louis Post Dispatch indicated that Macy's plans to remodel the downtown store and reduce it to 3 floors of retail sales from the current 7 floors. This would make it more in line with their typical mall store operations. We understand that **Moe Berk** will be contacting Macy's later in September to begin the planning for the 2009-2010 Holiday Great Train Window.

Rodney's Trains & Toys is open for business at 9622 Gravois Road in South St. Louis (Afton), Missouri. **Rodney Dreifuss** tells us that the store is open Tues.-Fri. 10:30 am to 6:00 pm, Sat. 10:30 am to 5:00 pm, and closed Sundays & Mondays. Telephone: 314/ 638-8250, Fax: 314/ 638-6250, and E-Mail: rodneystrainstoys@swbell.net. Of particular interest to AFSGSLA club members, Rodney says he has tons of AF parts, many in the original A.C. Gilbert envelopes. Welcome to the neighborhood, Rodney!

Indianapolis S Show – Hosted by the Hoosier S Gaugers on Saturday, October 10, 2009. It is located at the Hamilton County 4-H Grounds – Winks Building, 2003 East Pleasant Street, Noblesville, IN 46060 (10 miles north of Indianapolis / I 465). Time is 10 AM to 3 PM – Admission \$5.00 per person – dealer tables –

door prizes – operating layouts and clinics. Contact Charles Malinowski at (317) 566-1748 or bmry1905@yahoo.com or <http://www.hoosier-s.org/> for more details. This is a long, but very doable, day trip from St. Louis.

Model Train and Military Toy Display – Jefferson Barracks Park – 533 Grant Road, St. Louis, MO 63125 – See operating HO and O-gauge model trains along with many toys that will bring back old memories. Troop trains, passenger trains and freight trains will run through cities and countryside settings while military toys, dolls and games will also be featured. November 27, 2009 – January 3, 2010.

Union Station Project – Over a year ago our club was approached about taking over an aborted project to finish an O-Gauge model railroad layout being constructed in St. Louis Union Station (SLUS). For various reasons, our club declined, and referred SLUS to the Lionel Club. Subsequently, the Lionel club considered completing the project. For various (and mostly the same) reasons, the Lionel club also declined. There are now a few members in the Lionel Club who are also members in the Big Bend O Scale Club. The Big Bend Club has decided to take this project on. They have presented a proposal to Union Station and work is supposed to resume soon. If there is any club member of AFSGSLA who would like to volunteer to help, please contact **Gary Mueller** and I will get you the name and contact information.

OTHER NEWS ITEMS:

Special Projects and Anticipated Agenda for Cliff Saxton's Meeting:

The items of the various special projects have been received, everyone was notified about that, and almost everyone has received their order. **Moe Berk** will have the various items at **Cliff Saxton's** September meeting. The status is as follows:

1. **The AFSGSLA Club Shirts** have been ordered and are expected to be available at **Cliff Saxton's** Meeting. The shirts were pre-paid, so all you have to do is pick yours up.
2. **The AFSGSLA Club Roster** was published in an electronic format and sent to all of our members in July 2009. For the few members who had a problem opening the electronic file, or don't have e-mail, **Moe Berk** will have some paper copies. As always, it is your responsibility to inform **Moe** of any corrections or changes to the Roster.
3. We will discuss the details of our participation in the many upcoming events. Those events include the local train shows, the Indianapolis S Show, the FSF-2009 in Rockford, Illinois, and the 2009 Great Train Expo, among others.

That's it for now, more later:

GARY MUELLER
AFSGSLA Newsletter Editor
gmatmueller@aol.com

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

MOE BERK,
AFSGSLA Co-Ordinator
afsgsla@sbcglobal.net