



THE CHICAGO FLYER

Newsletter of the Chicagoland
Association of S Gaugers, Incorporated

www.casg-trains.org

www.fallsfest.net

September, 2017

THE NEXT MEETING:

The next monthly meeting of C A S G will be held **Friday, June 16, 2017**. It will be convened in the American Legion Room, second floor of the Hinsdale Village Hall, 19 East Chicago Avenue, Hinsdale, Illinois. Use the North (Maple Street) entrance to the building. The gathering time will start around 7:00 P. M. – the formal business meeting at 8:00 P. M.

AUGUST MEETING FEATURE:

The August meeting was the annual family picnic day at **Will and Kelly Holt's** home in Hoffman Estates. Trains starting running at about 1:00 P. M. After the business meeting everyone enjoyed the cook out. After the cook out, trains ran well into the evening.

Kelly's craft for this year was making wreaths with pine cones. The ladies present took full advantage of the craft

Besides the members in attendance, guests and family members included **Tim Collins, Sue Fron, Carol Grassel, Megin Holt, Sheila Lorence, Alice Signorini and Margaret Zielinski**.

FALL S FEST 2017:

The Fest will be in Janesville, Wisconsin this coming October 27-29. It will be in the Holiday Inn Express at the junction of Interstate 90 and U. S. Highway 14.

If you have not already done so, you should register soon. There will not be any extra tables so if you are planning on selling at the show, do not delay any longer.

FALL S FEST 2018:

Preparations are under way for the when we next host the Fall S Fest in 2018.

A site selection committee, chaired by **Dick Bukowski**, has made a number of inquiries with potential venues. Some have been ruled out for one reason or another, and additional possibilities are still being sought out or reviewed. A couple of locations are beginning to seem likely contenders.

The car committee held its meeting at the end of June. The field was narrowed to the Illinois Central Railroad to match the theme of "S Curves Through Illinois." Three possible cars were presented to the membership for consideration at the July meeting. The car choices were all from American Models. They included the 40-Foot insulated plug door box car, the 50-Foot insulated plug door box car and the 50-Foot gondola with cover.

Further discussion of the cars will be deferred until the September meeting. American Models is finishing their move to new, larger quarters and will not be able to get us firm price quotes for a couple more weeks.

The board is working on a Fall S Fest manual. If you have any records concerning how a Fest is done, be they electronic or hard copy, please see that they are shared with the board.

INDIANAPOLIS O SCALE SHOW/S SCALE MIDWEST SHOW:

For many years there has been a combined O scale and S scale meet out west in California and for decades there has been an O scale meet in Indianapolis. This year for the first time there will be a Midwest O Scale/S Scale meet. It will be held September 21-23 at the Wyndham Indianapolis West Hotel.

More information can be gleaned from the event web site, www.sscaleresource.com.

HOME MEETINGS:

The remaining dates for 2017 are:

August 19, 2017
October 21, 2017

August will once again be the annual family day and picnic at **Will Holt's** home in Hoffman Estates. And the October meeting will be at **Dave Wise's** home in Naperville. Details on each meeting will be in the newsletter the month of the meeting, including the location map and final details.

We are now looking to plan for 2018. If you can host one of the 2018 meetings, please contact **Dick Bukowski** at 847-338-1336 or e-mail, basstrek@hotmail.com.

C A S G OUTINGS:

We are looking ahead to plan outings for 2018, spring and summer. If you have any ideas bring them to the meeting or let Alan Zielinski know, 847-967-7070 or alanzee@aol.com.

THE C A S G EXCHANGE PLACE:

The latest sale list for this quarter was included with the August newsletter. To purchase from the list, indicate an item that you are looking for or list an item for sale, contact **Wayne Grassel** via e-mail at wgrassel@comcast.net or telephone at 847-256-4834.

C A S G member **John DiMilio** is continuing to liquidate his extensive collection of American Flyer. The collection includes Gilbert era and Lionel era. In many cases, there are duplicate items in John's collection. Make your initial contact with Wayne about John's collection.

Art Gneuchs is going to sell his layout. This is the one we saw at the July meeting last year. Art is downsizing and does not have room for the present layout as he relocates. Details are in the sale list and contact will be initiated through Wayne.

LIONEL AMBASSADOR PROGRAM:

The Lionel Ambassador Program for this program year is complete. We anticipate being invited back for the next program year. However, there will be a six-month break. Lionel has opted for the program year to follow the calendar year. This would make sense since the catalogs come early in the year so products for the Ambassador Club year can be ordered and delivered in the program year. This also fits with Lionel's fiscal year.

IMPORTANT: While we are in this break, we should take the time to get more members ready to participate. Contact **Dick Bukowski** if you are willing assist with the program. Call him at 847-338-1336 or e-mail at basstrek@hotmail.com.

MODULAR LAYOUT:

Whenever the club takes the modular layout to a show, all members are welcome to participate, even if the member does not have a module of his own. Come for set up and/or for one or more show days; bring trains to run if you wish. We always need a number of members to participate in each show since we usually have three to four trains operating at all times. We need both operators for the trains and, more importantly, members to be available to talk to the attendees.

The current count on modules includes the eight corner modules, two six-foot staging track modules, one four-foot staging track modules, one four-foot modules and one four-foot bridge modules owned by the C A S G.

Individual members own modules as well, all four-foot. These are; Dick Bukowski, 1, Will Holt, 3, Mike Klawitter, 1, Joel Lebovitz, 3, Chuck Mosier, 1, Jeff Papaierz, 2, Roman Papierz, 2, Roy Plotnick 1, Alan Roman, 1, Brendan Sheehy, 2, Kurt Zahnle, 1 and Alan Zielinski, 1.

That totals out to 100-feet of straight modules.

CLUB SHIRTS, CAPS AND BADGES:

Wayne Grassel, 847-256-4834 has started another waiting list for club shirts. The polo shirts are \$ 28.25 for sizes S through XL and additional \$ 2.25 for XXL or \$ 4.50 for XXXL. The dress shirts are \$30.50 for S through XL; add \$ 2.25 for XXL or \$ 4.50 for XXXL. Add \$ 4.00 for your name embroidered on the shirts.

The caps are a one-size-fits-all and available at every meeting for \$ 10.00. If you want one, just be ready to purchase it at a meeting or call Wayne.

Name badges are provided at no cost to new club members when they join. For existing members needing to replace a name badge, contact **Dick Bukowski**, 847-338-1336 or **Dave Wise**, 630-548-4090.

TRAIN SHOWS:

ALL AMERICAN RAILROAD SHOW:

The DuPage Division of the N M R A sponsors this show. We will be watching for the announcement of the dates for 2018.

GREAT MIDWEST TRAIN SHOW:

Cathy Bukauskus continues to coordinate club participation in this show. To participate contact Cathy at 708-606-7015, mombukauskas@aol.com or **Dick Bukowski** at 847-338-1336, basstrek@hotmail.com or put your name on the sign-up sheet at each meeting.

Those participating with the club at the G M T S receive free admission to the show.

The schedule for the remainder of the third quarter of 2017 is:

September 10, 2017

The schedule for the fourth quarter of 2017 is:

October 8
November 12
December 10

THE GREAT TRAIN SHOW

We have received word that the Great Train Show in Grayslake will be held the weekend between Christmas and New Year's, December 30-31 with set up on December 29. The first Great Train Show was held this weekend four years ago. It produced an attendance of about 6,000, at least double that of the two shows that were held the weekend before Thanksgiving. They are hoping that this greater attendance will resurface by returning to that final weekend of the year.

Since this year the Sunday is New Year's Eve, they anticipate having shorter than normal hours that day, possibly closing at 2:00 P. M.

We have indicated to the show management that we will plan on a 32-foot by 16-foot version of the modular layout. We will receive a \$ 150.00 honorarium for participation.

A sign up sheet has been started and will be available at all of the meeting through December.

HIGH WHEELER TRAIN SHOW:

We have received an update from the Fox Valley Division of the N M R A. They do not anticipate being ready to host the show this coming spring. They do anticipate hosting the show in 2019 and having it in the renovated spaces at Harper College.

HOMWOOD RAIL FEST:

This one day show has been a good event for us. When we have the dates for 2018, we will post them in the newsletter.

SOUTHLAND MODEL RAILROAD SHOW:

We now have the confirmed dates for the Southland show. The show will be mid-October, the 14th and 15th with set up on October 13th. Set up will be on Friday evening, probably about 6:00 P. M.

We are planning on a 40-foot by 19-foot version of the modular layout.

A sign up sheet will be available at the September meeting. If you are planning on participating in Southland, we definitely need to know by your signing up at the meeting or, calling or e-mailing no later than September 11.

TRAIN FEST:

This show, sponsored by the Wisconsin Southeastern Division of the N M R A, annually draws 18,000 or more attendees. It is among the largest train shows in the country. **Badgerland S Gaugers** take their modular layout yearly and C A S G members **Will Holt** and **Joel Lebovitz** have taken a couple of their modules to the show for the past several years. Also several C A S G members make the trip to the Milwaukee area each

year.

This year we have committed to a combined layout with Badgerland. The setup is anticipated to be on November 10 at approximately 9:00 A. M. with the show itself on November 11-12 from 9:00 A. M. until 5:00 P. M. The show is held in the Wisconsin Exposition Center, Wisconsin State Fair Park, West Allis.

The layout will be a total of 17-feet by 49-feet. The plan is that Badgerland will operate on the inner track of the double loop, C A S G will operate on the outer loop. We will be taking four of the club corners to make S curves on the sides of the layout along with all of staging modules plus four member owned straight modules.

A sign up sheet will be at the meetings now through October. If you are planning on more than one day, note on that sign up sheet and whether you are willing to share a hotel room.

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Founded 1969
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UPCOMING S SCALE & C A S G EVENTS

C A S G MONTHLY MEETING

September 15, 2017
Hinsdale, Illinois

**INDIANAPOLIS O SCALE SHOW/
S SCALE MIDWEST SHOW**

September 21-23, 2017
Indianapolis, Indiana

GREAT MIDWEST TRAIN SHOW

October 8, 2017
Wheaton, Illinois

SOUTHLAND MODEL RAILROAD SHOW

Set Up – October 13, 2017
Show – October 14-15, 2017
Oak Lawn, Illinois

C A S G MONTHLY MEETING

October 21, 2017
Dave Wise's Home
Naperville, Illinois

FALL S FEST 2017

October 27-29, 2017
Holiday Inn Express
Janesville, Wisconsin

TRAIN FEST

Set Up – November 10, 2017
Show – November 11-12, 2017
West Allis, Wisconsin

C A S G MONTHLY MEETING

November 17, 2017
Hinsdale, Illinois

C A S G MONTHLY MEETING

November 17, 2017
Hinsdale, Illinois

THE GREAT TRAIN SHOW

Set Up – December 29, 2017
Show – December 30
Show – December 31

**NEXT MEETING:
SEPTEMBER 15, 2017
HINSDALE VILLAGE HALL
HINSDALE, ILLINOIS**

Chicagoland Association of S Gaugers, Incorporated
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