



THE CHICAGO FLYER
Newsletter of the Chicagoland
Association of S Gaugers, Incorporated
www.casg-trains.org
www.fallsfest.net
July, 2017

THE NEXT MEETING:

The next monthly meeting of C A S G will be held **Saturday, July 22, 2017**. It will be convened at Bruce Lorence's home, 17843 65th Avenue, Tinley Park, Illinois. See the map below. If you have any trouble finding the house, call 708-429-3623.



We can start arriving at 1:00 P. M. There will be snacks and beverages while we run trains from 1:00 to 3:00. The formal business meeting will begin at 3:00 P. M. After the business meeting there will be more time for running trains and also pizza!

JULY MEETING FEATURE:

Of course, the meeting feature is running trains at Bruce's house. His layout will be ready for any conventional AC or FlyerChief trains members might choose to bring. We will also have a chance to see if Bruce has expanded his layout in any way since last Fall.

JUNE MEETING FEATURE:

At the May meeting we had the chance to see a number of specialized tools for our S model railroading activities. The variety included truck side frame spreaders to remove wheels set for American Flyer trucks, a wheel gauging tool to precisely re-gauge wheels sets for proper gauge, special pliers, special tweezers and much more.

C A S G OUTING:

Several C A S G members made the Journey to East Troy, Wisconsin to visit the East Troy Railroad Museum. The museum use right of way that was originally The Milwaukee Electric Railway and Light Company (TMER&L) between Milwaukee and East Troy.

In addition to the trolley/interurban rides we took, we receive a behind the scenes look at the restoration project of one of the



The TMER&L Line Maintenance Car (Left) Alan Z and others in the East Troy Station (below)

museum's two Milwaukee trolley cars; only three remain in existence in the country. After arriving at the Elegant Farmer stop on the eastern section of the track, we received a tour of the museum's recently completed maintenance shop. We saw the wood shop, the metal shop and the electric shop, getting a close up look at traction motors being rebuilt.

After lunch at the Elegant Farmer, we rode back to west and then had ice cream at the old time soda fountain in East Troy.

C A S G members attending included **Bob Brown, Dick Bukowski, Ron Haubenstriker, Will and Kelly Holt, Joel Lebovitz, Leigh Maginniss, Jeff Papaierz, Roman Papierz**

and **Alan Zielinski**. Coming along with Bob Brown was **Ken Voight**. There were also some six members and two spouses from Badgerland S Gaugers.

MEMBERSHIP

A few late renewals have come in. The updated roster, with some corrections as well, is included with this newsletter. The latest renewals have brought our membership to 74, so the net change from 2016 is zero.

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 will be presented to the membership for consideration at the July meeting.

The board is beginning work 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.

HOME MEETINGS:

The remaining dates for 2017 are:

July 22, 2017
August 19, 2017
October 21, 2017

July, as noted above, will be at **Bruce Lorence's** home in Tinley Park. 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 was included with the May 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.

LIONEL AMBASSADOR PROGRAM:

The Lionel Ambassador Program program year is complete. We expect to be 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; We still need more members to be involved. 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 power system for the layout allows the use of trains running on conventional AC, conventional DC, Lionel Legacy, FlyerChief and N M R A Digital Command Control (DCC).

Participating with the club at shows helps build our membership and to promote S, 1:64 model railroading. Both of these are important.

NEW MODULES:

Mike Klawitter's module is complete, as are **Jeff and Roman Papierz's** two modules each. Brendan Sheehy, who joined us last November is completing his second module based upon a team track theme. We expect all of these modules to make their premier outing at one or more of the shows this fall.

When we have a show with enough set up time (5-6 hours) we are now capable of a layout 59-feet by 19-feet.

It is anticipated that the next time we will begin work on new modules will be early in 2018. If you are interest in building a module contact **Will Holt** at williamholt@comcast.net or

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 club has selling tables for any members wishing to thin out their collections.

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

- August 13, 2017
- September 10, 2017

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.

HIGH WHEELER TRAIN SHOW:

Plans for a 2018 show are under way. When we have details, they will be in the newsletter.

HOMEWOOD 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 probable dates for the Southland show. The show will be early October, the 7th and 8th with set up on October 6th. Since that will be a four-day weekend for the school, we can expect to be able to start set up on Friday afternoon, probably about 3:00 P. M.

We will keep members up to date on the planning for this show.

TRAIN FEST:

For decades, the Wisconsin Southeastern Division of the N M R A has sponsored Train Fest. Usually drawing 18,000 or more attendees, it is among the largest trains show 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.

With the recent changes within the WISE Division, it is now possible for a larger S layout to be at the show. So, 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 and 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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 Chicagoland Association of S Gaugers, Incorporated
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UPCOMING S SCALE & C A S G EVENTS

C A S G MONTHLY MEETING

July 22, 2017
 Bruce Lorence's Home
 Tinley Park, Illinois

C A S G MONTHLY MEETING

September 15, 2017
 Hinsdale, Illinois

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF S GAUGERS CONVENTION

August 8-12, 2017
 Timonium, Maryland

SOUTHLAND MODEL RAILROAD SHOW

Set Up – October 6, 2017
 Show – October 7-8, 2017

GREAT MIDWEST TRAIN SHOW

August 13, 2017
 Wheaton, Illinois

GREAT MIDWEST TRAIN SHOW

October 8, 2017
 Wheaton, Illinois

C A S G MONTHLY MEETING

August 19, 2017
 Will Holt's Home
 Hoffman Estates, Illinois

C A S G MONTHLY MEETING

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

GREAT MIDWEST TRAIN SHOW

September 10, 2017
 Wheaton, Illinois

! ! I L L I N O I S ! !
! ! T I M L E Y P A R K , I L L I N O I S ! !
! ! B R U C E L O R E N C E ' S H O M E
! ! J U L Y 2 2 , 2 0 1 7
! ! N E X T M E E T I N G ! !