

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

JUNE MEETING FEATURE:

Many of us have one or more specialized tools for our S model railroading activities. Bring your special tool to the June meeting.

At about 7:30 we will pause the gab fest for anyone with one of those specialized tools to present the tool. And remember, to have information available on how to obtain that tool.

MAY MEETING FEATURE:

At the June meeting, **Will Holt** presented some techniques for scenery, particularly for modules or portable layouts.

While the basics are the same for any layout, there are extra steps needed when a layout is going to be portable. Will highlighted these special considerations..

CONGRATULATIONS:

This is the first time in decades, if not the very first time, that the C A S G extended congratulations to one of its members for graduation from high school. **Tim Fron** graduated from Maine West High School at the end of May.

Tim plans on working through the summer at his job at Des Plaines Hobbies. In the fall he is contemplating starting college classes at Oakton Community College.

Bravo, Tim!

HOMEWOOD RAIL FEST 2018:

The day after the May meeting, several C A S G members set up a small layout and a Lionel Ambassador Club display at the annual Homewood Rail Fest. Each year the village celebrates its railroad heritage with a day of events including a model railroad show, a railroad equipment display and other rail related activities.

C A S G used **Will Holt's** small portable layout. Among the C A S G members participating were **Mick Blidy, Dick Bukowski, Wayne Grassel, Will Holt, Bob Lucas and Ray Signorini.**

Also representing S was Stateline member **Dave Wilma** with his American flyer layout. Assisting Dave were C A S G/Stateline members **Cathy and John Bukauskas.**

The Homewood Pack District Auditorium was packed with attendees from opening until early afternoon, plus we remained busy talking to attendees until closing.

FALL S FEST 2018:

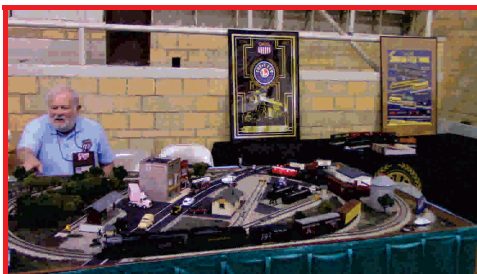
Preparations are under way for the when we next host the Fall S Fest in 2018.

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

The car committee is holding its first meeting during the first half of June. It is most likely that the car will be from American Models. Several types of cars are under consideration.

The theme for 2018 will be "S Curves in Illinois." A logotype design is underway and will be completed when the location and dates are set.

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.



Above-Will's Layout and the LAP display
 Below-Dave Wilma's Layout

HOME MEETINGS:

All of the home meetings are set for 2017.

The remaining dates for 2017 are:

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

July 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:

The 2017 Summer C A S G outing is to the East Troy Railroad Museum at 1992 Church Street in East Troy, Wisconsin. There is an interesting collection of operating traction equipment plus other railroad items. We will be given a guided tour of the museum and maintenance facilities.

The trolley ride will end at a small berg to the east where there is a very good restaurant for lunch, the Elegant Farmer (or bring you own lunch; picnic tables are available). Lunch is on your own. Deserts will be available upon return to East Troy at J. Lamber's Ice Cream Parlor. All of this will provide a great opportunity for members, spouses, children and grand children.

The date will be July 8 with the gathering time at 11:00 A. M. The group rate is \$ 10.00 per person and includes unlimited trolley rides. Mention "S Gauge Group" to receive the discounted admission.

If you need additional information, contact Alan Zielinski at 847-967-7070 or alanwzee@aol.com. (Coincidentally, we just learned that the Fox Valley Division of the N M R A is planning to visit the museum the same day.)

Some of the members also showed interest in a non-official club outing to the Galesburg Railroad Days, June 22-25. It is possible to catch an Amtrak train from either Union Station or downtown Naperville that arrives in Galesburg around 11:00 A. M. and a return train leaves Galesburg about 6:00 P. M. The fare is estimated at \$ 20.00 each way. If you are interested in taking this excursion, let us know.

Also, several members indicated that they will be taking advantage of this year's visit to Chicago by the Nickel Plate Berkshire #765. It will be doing two daily round trips between Joliet and LaSalle Street Station on June 17 and 18.

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 Ambassador Program is going well. This membership year will run through June. Now that the new American Flyer catalog is out, we will be looking at the items we will select for the 2017-18 program. We understand that we will be invited to participate for 2017-18.

Mike Klawitter has joined the Ambassador Program committee.

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:

All C A S G members should know that whenever the club takes the modular layout to a show, all members are welcome to participate, even if they do not have a module of their own. You are welcome 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. That means 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. It features a small hill with a country church and typical rural graveyard.

Jeff and Roman Papierz are doing two each. Jeff's will feature a factory with mill pond, a road crossing from front to back and a lake with a pier. Roman's are themed with a tunnel and city scape with traction running on the city scape.

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 630-881-9025.

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.

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Chicagoland Association of S Gaugers, Incorporated

Founded 1969

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UPCOMING S SCALE & C A S G EVENTS

C A S G MONTHLY MEETING

June 16, 2017
Hinsdale, Illinois

C A S G SUMMER OUTING

July 8, 2017
East Troy Trolley Museum
East Troy Wisconsin

C A S G MONTHLY MEETING

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

GREAT MIDWEST TRAIN SHOW

August 11, 2017
Wheaton, Illinois

C A S G MONTHLY MEETING

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

GREAT MIDWEST TRAIN SHOW

September 10, 2017
Wheaton, Illinois

C A S G MONTHLY MEETING

September 15, 2017
Hinsdale, Illinois

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF S GAUGERS CONVENTION

August 8-12, 2017
Timonium, Maryland

*HINSDALE, ILLINOIS !!
HINSDALE VILLAGE HALL
JUNE 16, 2017
NEXT MEETING:*

Chicagoland Association of S Gaugers, Incorporated
% 2186 Cabrillo Lane
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60192-4633