

Flying Scotsman Tour Remembered

Thursday September 21st, 2023

Our next public meeting will be held on Thursday September 21st, 2023 beginning at 7pm at the Heritage Discovery Center, 100 Lee Street, Buffalo, NY. After a brief business meeting, Devan Lawton will present a program detailing his 3200 mile trip from Buffalo to the West Coast 52 years ago in September 1971 on board the famous Flying Scotsman.



In 1969, a uniquely British steam locomotive named the Flying Scotsman began an epic tour across the US and Canada. After winter storage in Toronto, the 4-6-2 Pacific Type steam locomotive came to Buffalo in the summer of 1971. This is where Devan's story begins. Devan, along with Peter Gores and Gary Youngberg volunteered to assist the train crew on their 3200-mile excursion across America.

Built in 1923 for the London & North Eastern Railway, the locomotive is celebrating its 100th Anniversary and is still running excursion trains across the UK. Devan's program will detail the trip

from Buffalo to Oroville, CA traveling across the Norfolk & Western, Elgin, Joliet & Eastern, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, Northern Pacific, Great Northern, Spokane, Portland & Seattle and Western Pacific Railroads.

Trustee Elections

September is here. The Holidays are not far behind. January 2024 will be here before you know it. The January 2024 Public Meeting will be time for the annual election of Trustees. As of the end of this year, seven Trustee positions will be expiring. All Regular and Life members, who are in good standing, and have been members for at least one year, are eligible to run for a Trustee position. The deadline for nominations will be December 15, 2023.

As is often mentioned, the Society can always use new volunteers. This is one of many opportunities available to the membership. As a member almost since the Society's beginning in 1981, I can not tell you how many times members have come to me and started their discussion with the phrase: "...you guys should do this or that..." Frankly, I no longer listen to this "advice." My retort to these individuals is always: "...would you help us do this or that..."

Unfortunately, their answer often is that they are too busy with work, family, illness, or some other reason. Well guess what. Your Trustees are NOT immune from these same exact reasons. Despite this, they nevertheless have found the time to volunteer their services. If you want the Society to move forward with its goals, much less continue to exist, please consider volunteering. Trustees are the guiding force of the Society. They make decisions, both easy and hard, about how the Society operates.

If you have ideas about how the Society could operate better, the Trustee position is your "cup of tea." Please consider stepping forward and volunteering. Just contact me at: orchardparkdepot@gmail.com or talk to me at the public meeting,, train show, or at the Orchard Park Depot, and I will guide you through the process.

Jim Slominski, Nominating Committee Chairman