



American Flyer “S” Gaugers of the St. Louis Area

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AFSGSLA NEWSLETTER July 2024

AFSGSLA Club Events and Related Activities:

As with the last several newsletters, we are combining the planned club events and the other related activities. Although we will not necessarily participate in some of the following events as a club, they are included in this somewhat comprehensive listing for your information. We suggest you keep this newsletter for your future reference and attend our club meetings for full details.

Saturday, July 20, 2024: Bob Bretch invited us to a meeting at his Troy, Missouri house. Bob said come at 3 PM and has supplied a map to his Home (see end of newsletter). It will be a great time to get everyone acquainted with what has already been accomplished for his year's SFEST. It will also be an opportunity to invite everyone to volunteer for the remaining tasks that need to be covered before, and during the S Fest to make it successful. By the way, if all goes as planned, the meet cars will be in St. Louis by the meeting at Bob's.

Thursday, August 29, 2024: Scale Tains Road Show from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM, Sponsored by MVNG at the Webster Groves Masonic Temple #12

East Lockwood Avenue, Webster Groves, MO 63119. Come meet ScaleTrains President Shane Wilson and Bear! During a Meet & Greet, they will share our story, show how model trains are made, and answer any questions attendees may have. They will also display their latest products and have giveaways such as T-shirts and hats. The presentation/discussion is live and supported with visuals (photos and video). Everyone receives a gift bag as well. Depending on the number of questions, the presentation usually takes up to an hour. Scale Trains, the current producer of the old S-Helper -Service line (later MTH) of S gauge trains.

Friday, September 6, 2024: Cliff Saxton once again invited us for our September club meeting. Plan in arriving at the usual 7:00 p.m. time. **Cliff** has made our visit to his home an annual event and it is always an exciting and fun filled event.

Saturday, September 7, 2024: Boeing Railroad Club swap meet at Queeny Park. We will display our sectional layout.

Saturday, September 28, 2024: Pacific Eagles Train Show. 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 707 Congress Street, Pacific, Missouri. Admission is \$4.00.

Saturday & Sunday, October 5 & 6, 2024: Mississippi Valley N Scalers (MVNS) show it will again be at the Meramec Community College Gym, Kirkwood MO. It is anticipated that we will be displaying our sectional layout this year.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 25, 26, and 27: 2024 S Fest – hosted by us at the Doubletree Westport, the same hotel as the last couple of times. See below for more details.

Saturday, November 16, 2024: The Dupo Train Show. 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 200 South 5th Street, Dupo, Illinois. Admission is \$3.00. It is anticipated that we will be displaying our double-helix layout this year.

Saturday & Sunday, December 7-8 2024: Great Train Show: Collinsville (Illinois) Convention Center. We anticipate submitting an application.

Saturday, December 28, 2024: After the Storm Train Show: 10 am - 3 pm Arnold Eagles Club, 1725 Jeffco Blvd. Admission \$3.00, 12 and under FREE. We will anticipate displaying our double helix.

Saturday and Sunday, January 25-26, 2025: Great Train Show, St. Charles convention center. We anticipate submitting an application.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 31, November 1 and 2 2025:
2025 S Fest – hosted by the Badgerland S Gaugers in 2025. Many of the details will come out prior the FSF 2024 in St' louis. A facility has been chosen and reserved for October 31st thru November 2nd. The banquet planning is in progress and the hotel choices are being arranged. Due to the Milwaukee County and Waukesha area facilities availability and cost, it is nearly impossible to hold all events in a hotel. Some arrangements will be very similar to the 25th anniversary of BSG and FSF. Both the location and the banquet provider will be the same.

AND

Most of this year is available!

Fellows, please consider hosting a meeting in 2024. See note from Dave Stevens further down in the newsletter.

What's been happening?

Friday, April 12, 2024: Club meeting hosted by **Joel Weber**. Last year we got to see his in-progress layout. This time we can see the changes that he has made since last year. **THIS WAS A MOST IMPORTANT MEETING!** We discussed the 2024 Fall S Fest hosted by us. Much planning has already been done. Hotel contract has been negotiated and signed. We reviewed the sample cars from American Models.

Saturday, May 11, 2024: After the Storm Train Show: 10 am - 3 pm
Arnold Eagles Club, 1725 Jeffco Blvd. Admission \$3.00, 12 and under FREE. We will display our double helix. Craig Tarpoff had have tables next to the DH to sell AF Starter Sets.

This and That

St. Louis Lionel Railroad Club – The Lionel club moved in to their new

location on Watson Road, otherwise known as historic route 66. The club is now located in the same shopping center where Grant's Cabin restaurant used to be, although it is at the opposite end of the shopping center. The location is 8460 Watson Road Suite 120 (But you must enter the purple doors Marked 130 go inside and turn down hall to the left. Club door is 2 doors down on RIGHT.

2024 Fall S Fest – THIS IS US!! As previously announced, it will be October 25 to 27. We will return to the Doubletree Westport, the same hotel as last couple of times. There will be two cars from American Models, both TOFC's (trailer on Flat Car). One decorated for Missouri Pacific and the other one decorated for the Chicago and Eastern Illinois. Many more details will be available at Bob Bretch's meeting.

Midwest Money Layout Open House - Sponsored by the Midwest Money Company, on the First Sunday of every month from 11:00 A.M.to 4: P.M. They are located at 5901 Hampton, St. Louis MO just across Holly Hills Street. The layout is rather large, fully developed scenery 3 rail O-Scale layout. This rather large layout may be one of only a very few which can be claimed to be 100% complete. This location is in South St. Louis City, roughly halfway between Chippewa and Gravois.

Special notice from David Stevens: As you know we are hoping to get back to our monthly in-person club meetings. So far, we have had only 3 club members who have volunteered to host meetings this year. David tells us that we still need volunteers to host a club meeting in the future. He says that if you have not hosted a meeting recently---or ever---please consider doing so. It is a great way to "pay your dues" and the club pays the host a modest fee to offset expenses for refreshments. We have often said (and our hosts have agreed) that there is no surer way of getting your train room shaped up than hosting a club meeting. David Stevens will help you with the details, if you just contact him at telephone: 314-921-1127 (landline, no text) or stevens8128@sbcglobal.net.

Notes from your Co-Coordinator!

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That's it for now, more later:

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

