

Train Show ~~Committee~~ Report:

It's that time of year again...*Train Show time!*

After what seems like a very quick break since the last show in February; it's now time to start planning the show that will be held November 17th & 18th 2012 at the Event Center in Hamburg, NY.

If you are wondering why the title of this article has the word "committee" struck out, it is because it does not accurately reflect how the show is currently run. We need to restore the "committee" to the function of the show. A look at the history of the show and its various chairmen will reveal that from time to time a committee actually worked on getting the show ready to run. More often than not, the committee would end up being the Chairmen and their immediate friends and family.

That was not necessarily a bad thing, as coordinating vendors, dealer contracts, inquiries from the general public, publicity and advertising involves attention to detail, the ability to multi-task and an extreme amount of patience. Having the support of your immediate family and friends makes it a manageable task, especially when an emergency arises; all you have to do is meet around the dining room table and not venture out in the weather to get to a committee meeting.

As the show has grown, we have been fortunate to have the support of many Society members who have volunteered their time and LABOR to set up the shows. Without these great individuals, the "Greater Buffalo Train and Toy Show" and the "WNYRHS Winter Train and Toy Show" would not be possible. Our volunteers go out of their way to assist the dealers and have made it possible for many of our dealers to continue doing shows. Turnover is always a concern as situations always are changing.

November will mark the 15th time that my family and I have headed up a show for the Society. Hard to believe it has been seven years since my dad, Joe Kocsis Sr., passed on. It will also mark the last show that Katie and I will officially be the co-chairmen of.

As a Trade Show and Marketing Coordinator for Caplugs, our company growth has significantly impacted my availability during the critical times preceding our shows. Last February, I was in California at a Trade Show while our show was being set up. This year, I will be on the road again for both of our upcoming shows. Katie has similar constraints on her availability as she assumes greater responsibility in her career at Niagara University. We have decided that it is time to step down as Co-Chairmen and help bring on the next generation of leaders within our Society.

With that goal in mind, it is time to put together the "Show Committee". We will have a meeting of all interested people at the Heritage Discovery Center on Lee Street in September.

Please look for details on the web site or our Facebook page for the date and time. Or call us at 716-743-0945 to let me know of your interest in the committee.

Note from Katie...

Of course, Dad and I still want to be involved in the shows, but just don't have the time to commit to them 100% anymore. I have enjoyed getting to know everyone that has been involved with the shows for the past seven years; it has been a fantastic learning experience for me.

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of the vendors, dealers and volunteers that have participated in our Shows; without you, there wouldn't be a show. I encourage anyone that has an interest to join the committee.