

DISPATCH

VOLUME THREE NO. 5 NASG NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1980

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dick Cataldi

Now is the time to register for next year's election. A notice, with address, is located elsewhere in this issue of the Dispatch. The letter of nomination should include a list of qualifications. Don't worry about the prose and grammar, as a member of the elections committee will work with candidates to put together information on each candidate for publication prior to the election.

One last time: the positions up for election in 1981 are President, Treasurer, and Regional Vice Presidents (Eastern, Central, and Pacific.) A small change in regional boundaries was recently approved by the Board of Trustees and appears in this issue so that you will know for sure which region you live in. The only people affected are those who live in states that have two time zones in them.

In addition to the election of officers, the 1981 ballot will include two motions to amend the NASG constitution. These are also shown elsewhere this month. Motion 1 would transfer the establishment of annual dues from the constitution to the by-laws. The by-laws can be amended by the Board of Trustees, making it possible for the Board to raise (or lower) the dues in response to economic conditions and organization programs. As a practical matter, the Board would very probably raise the annual dues as soon as this amendment takes effect if it passes.

Motion 2 would make winners of the Bernie Thomas Memorial Award prior to 1976 lifetime members of NASG, Inc., like those winners of the award since 1976, when the organization was incorporated.

If you have an opinion on one or both of these constitutional amendments, please write to the editor and share your opinions with the membership.

Several manufacturers are cooking up a great way to ease the pain of higher dues. When they get the details worked out, we'll

have a report on it. Another area of revenue raising being explored is advertising space in this newsletter. We've started this with the booster club and are considering selling institutional-type ads for manufacturers and suppliers. It would be nice to be able to make the Dispatch self-supporting, especially if it can be done without making it look like the neighborhood advertiser. Any ideas or comments?

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CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT QUESTIONS

There will be two proposed amendments to the constitution of the National Association of S Gaugers, Inc., to be voted on in the ballot that will be mailed to all members of the NASG, Inc., on April 15, 1981. Both proposed changes come under Article II - Membership, and Section 1 of that article, describing types of membership.

Question 1 proposes changing paragraphs A and B from the following wording:

A. Regular Membership: Any individual S Gauger may become a Regular Member of the NASG upon application to the Treasurer and payment of dues of five dollars per year.

B. Contributing Membership: Any individual, or S Gauge affiliation such as a club, manufacturer, supplier, or publisher may become a Contributing Member of the NASG upon application to the Treasurer and payment of dues of ten dollars per year. to the following wording:

A. Regular Membership: Any individual may become a Regular Member of the NASG upon application to the Treasurer or his representative and payment of dues as set forth in the By-Laws..

B. Contributing Membership: Any individual or group such as a club, manufacturer, supplier, or publisher may become a Contributing Member of the NASG upon application to the Treasurer or his representative and payment of dues as set forth in the By-Laws.

The net effect of this proposal would be to drop the unenforceable requirement that members be S gaugers, allow the Treas-

urer to have a representative collect the dues, and move the dues to the By-Laws, which can be amended by the Board of Trustees.

Question 2 proposes changing paragraph C from the following wording:

C. Honorary Membership: In recognition for meritorious service to S Gauge or the NASG, any person may be elected as recipient of the Bernie Thomas Memorial Award by a vote of the majority of the Board of Trustees. This award shall be presented annually and carry with it conference of Honorary Membership in the National Association of S Gaugers, Inc., which shall be good for life.

to the following wording:

C. Honorary Membership: (1) In recognition for meritorious service to S Gauge or the NASG, any person may be elected as recipient of the Bernie Thomas Memorial Award by a vote of the majority of the Board of Trustees. This award shall be presented annually and carry with it conference of Honorary Membership in the NASG, Inc., which shall be good for life. (2) In recognition of their past accomplishments and meritorious service to S Gauge, any recipient of the Bernie Thomas Memorial Award previous to the incorporation date of NASG, Inc., shall be granted an Honorary Membership in NASG, which shall be good for life.

The effect of this proposal, to grant life membership to 8 individuals who won the Bernie Thomas Memorial Award prior to 1976.

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

This announcement is the only official announcement requesting nominations for the offices of President, Treasurer, and Vice Presidents for the Eastern, Central and Pacific Regions.

Nominations, accompanied by a summary of the candidate's qualifications, must be mailed to the Elections Committee Chairman, by November 15, 1980. Address all nominations to:

NASG Election Committee
c/o Robert E. Moore
1314 Forest Hill Drive
Mobile, Alabama 36618
205-344-1720

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REGIONAL ORGANIZATION

The Board of Trustees has approved the following new wording of Article IV of the Corporations By-Laws:

ARTICLE IV -- REGIONAL ORGANIZATION

1. There shall be three NASG Regions as follows: A. Eastern Region -- The states of Alabama, Delaware, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia District of Columbia, Maritime Provinces, Quebec, Ontario, and Europe.

B. Central Region -- The states of Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wisconsin.

C. Pacific Region -- The states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, and the provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan, the Yukon, and Australia.

2. The Board of Trustees shall reserve the right to apportion members of the NASG located in areas not supportive of a regional organization into existing regions.

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STANDARDS COMMITTEE REPORT

Wayne L. Pier

Last call for the Standards survey. A decision has to be made soon and it will be based on the information I've recieved from the survey. So, if you haven't filled out and sent it in - do so NOW. The deadline is November 30, 1980. If I don't have your name, address and comments by then - well, any complaints on the new standards received after Nov. 30 will be promptly handled by my Royal Raspberry and Round File Department. Need I say more.

I want to thank those who have participated thus far. Your comments and suggestions are very helpful, but please - the mailman has made a special request that no more dead fish be sent.

Back to the serious side, I've heard rumors that all is not so well established in Hirail land. It seems some of you are quietly using standards modified from the NMRA s-13. So I'd like to hear from you. If they're better or it's just a matter of error, tell me and we'll make the necessary changes.

Just a thought to all - there's nothing more discouraging or confusing to newcomers to S gauge when you tell him "This is what we gauge our track and wheels to but". There are three things I, along with your help want to eliminate from the vocabulary of a S gauger. (1) BUT (2) Non-participation (3) That guy everybody knows who says "Gee, that's nice, can't figure why S gauge doesn't have a bigger following."

It's your gauge, so let's be hearing from you. Next time we'll talk standards and answer some of those questions you may have.

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CLUB GOINGS ON

From the Heart of Dixie S Gauge Association "I am still trying to form an R-V club along the Gulf Coast. I know there are some S gaugers along the coast of Mississippi Alabama and the panhandle of Florida. Question is, where are they? Contact Robert Moore, 1314 Forest Hill Drive, Mobile, Alabama, (205) 344-1720

August 16th brought the first annual picnic of the Central Jersey S Scalers to life with members and their families. The picnic was held at Wayne Pier's home. Those members attending were Mike Ferraro, Don Thompson, and Jeff Wilson. After careful negotiations (with spouse), the members did manage to sneak off for a look at the progress on Wayne's Port Allegany Railway. The high - point of the day came from Wayne's neighbor Larry Lyford, and his 1½" scale Lyford Lines which circles his half acre home (and you thought you had problems with environmental impact statement and the wife). Larry had two diesel switchers working, and he showed us the progress on his 4-4-0 live steamer. The kids enjoyed the rides on the engines and cars when they had a chance to beat the old men to the controls. The fighting was furious and several little people were almost tied to the rails but in all a great time was had and a special thanks to Larry and the Lyford Lines. Wayne Pier, 2821 Asbury Ave Wayside, NJ

August meeting of the Deleware Valley S Gaugers was held at the home of Clifford and Aleta Brown in Palmerton, Pa. The members gathered earlier at the home of their recently departed member, Bob Christ, to help dispose of his Piedmont & Northern Railroad effects. This took the greater part of the day.

When the group finally assembled at

Cliff's place of residence, Aleta had a scrumptious hoogie repast waiting along with all the trimmings. Cliff reminisced about his first meeting and how he had planned to serve the group with a six foot long hoogie prepared by a local shop till his plan went astray. By this time everyone had already eaten and all they could comment with was a loud moan.

The rest of the meeting was spent viewing the very noticeable progress made on Clifford's Lehigh Valley Railroad in the basement.

The DVSG and both the Central Jersey S Scalers and the Hershey group of S Scalers have joined to have a annual secret project get together. This looks very, very promising.

At the conclusion of the business meeting each and every member present received a shock when Elwood Whitworth announced his resignation. Elwood has been treasurer since the club was first formed. The club now has a total of eight members. If you live in the area and would like to join our group please write to Frank Titman 1225 N. Arch St., Allentown Pa. 18104

September was an active month for the Central Jersey S Scalers. It included a trip to Long Island to visit with the Long Island S Gauge Association, in addition to our regularly scheduled monthly meeting. The Sept. meeting was hosted by Jeff Wilson. Most of the meeting was spent having the more talented members assist in converting some of Jeff's American Flyer to scale. Mike Ferraro brought pictures he took on a recent trip to the Black River & Western RR in Flemington N.J. with Wayne Pier. Scott Zederbaum also brought pictures, taken at various locations during a passenger service tour of Conrail's N.J. trackage. Don Thompson brought several of his new S gauge track gauges that Trainstuff is now producing. Also discussed were plans for displaying our modular layout at several local shows in October and November. Secret project envelopes were turned in for our projects which we expect to complete in time to take to the Delaware Valley S Gaugers secret project meeting next spring.

Jeff Wilson

The August meeting of the Bristol S Gauge Railroaders, our annual family cook out was held at the home of John Medland in Lynnfield Center, MA. There were 31 in attendance including 12 members. The meeting

started with a flea market, plus a good session watching John's interesting AF layout. His electrical control system could rival the CTC headquarters of a major railroad.

It was voted to accept the applications for membership of Rollain Mercier and Ronald Koch.

New member Ron Koch brought along a tape recorded by Rollie Mercier, NASG Vice-President. There were personal messages included, but the main thrust was for greater support of NASG - 100% club membership in NASG, plus a membership for the club itself. The latter request was moved and passed unanimously. Rollie suggested that the Bristol club consider hosting the 1983 NASG convention. This suggestion is now under consideration by the club. The club also voted unanimously to go on record as favoring the month of May for future NASG conventions.

Announcement of prize winners in our model building contest followed. The winners and their models: are 1st prize Bruce Russell - Quality Craft caboose, 2nd prize Henry Gowey - passenger car, 3rd prize John Medland - Mini Structure switch towers, Hon. Men. Kenneth Marble - diorama.

The delicious cookout prepared by our hosts Edie and John Medland and freinds was greatly enjoyed by all. The October meeting will be at Henry Gowey's and election of officers will take place at this meeting.

Tom Coughlan 84 Morgan Street
Melrose, MA 02176

The Inland Empire S Gaugers Assn. (IESGAPN) is preparing to participate in the Spokane & Inland Empire Model Railroad Show and Railroad Swap Meet. This event will be held in November in conjunction with National Model Railroad Month. IESGAPN will have the club modular layout in operation plus showing the club slide show program, IESGAPN Presents.

The group is very happy to welcome back Capt Roger Ingbretsen who has returned from a tour of duty in Korea. Roger kept busy painting and detailing many of his AF locomotives and rolling stock.

Ernie Horr W 1307 Dalke
Spokane WA 99208

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FROM THE MAIL SACK

I guess you've gotten my Newsletter by now, with the comments on the S gauge standards.

One thing should be added to the comments. In the past, these discussions have consistently missed is the utter dependency

of S scale on the existing inventory of hardware. Unlike HO, or even O, the flow of new products is slow and erratic. The typical HO hobbyists has few items over 5 years old; the typical O gauger will have a fair amount of material up to 10 years old. By way of contrast, a considerable percentage of S gauge material sold is 10 to 20 years old. How long will it take to phase in a "new" standard, if that standard were not wholly compatable with the "old" standard? There is a real danger of ending up with a third faction in S gauge - HiRail, "Old timers", and "the new wave" all of them incompatible in operation and outlook?

The S scale market is marginal now; split it in half and you may well kill it.

J.A. Lorenzen, Locomotive Workshop

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1981 NASG CONVENTION NEWS

The big news this issue is that arrangements have been made with Lionel to produce a special American Flyer Convention Car.

The following ad will appear in the November-December issue of the S Gaugian. 'In conjunction with the 1981 National Association S Gaugers (NASG) Convention, the Central New York S Gauge Association, Inc., host for the convention, is pleased to announce that arrangements have been made with Fundimensions, manufacturer of Lionel and American Flyer, to produce a special American Flyer S gauge box car for the Convention. To our knowledge, this will be the first factory made American Flyer S gauge convention car ever produced. The car will be orange with black and white markings and feature sliding doors, die cast trucks with knuckle couplers and be in an American Flyer box. The car will be presold, as most organizations do with their convention cars and be distributed at the NASG Convention next July in Syracuse. For those unable to attend, the car will be shipped to them in late July, after the convention has concluded. Total production will be limited to the amount of cars presold. You DO NOT have to be a member of the NASG to order the car. The cost of the car is \$22.00 and limited to one car per person. All orders must be received by December 27, 1980 with full payment enclosed.'

While we would have liked to limit the purchase of the car to NASG members only, there are just not enough members to do this and at the same time sell enough cars. You'll note that there is a limit of one car per person mentioned in the ad. This DOES NOT apply to NASG members. NASG

Okay all you Hi Railers, now the spotlight's on you! Here comes the "Hi Rail Survey". And for the sake of definition, a "Hi Railer is any one modeling in S Gauge who builds and operates in a prototypical manner, but who uses American Flyer wheelsets or track, and/or wheelsets with large or "Hi Rail" flanges which will not operate on smaller "scale" track So get out those pencils and send your completed survey to me: Steve Butler, 32 Elsom Parkway, So. Burlington, VT, 05401 by December 15th.

--NASG SURVEY #5 : "THE HI RAIL SURVEY"--

(1) Which of the following phrases best describes you? Active Hi Railer___ Inactive Hi-Railer___, Tinplate operator planning to change to Hi Rail operation___, S Gauger willing to help promote Hi Rail modelling___.

If you have checked one of the above, please continue with survey.

- (2) Which best describes your layout? Test track___, Loop type___, Point to point___.
- (3) What size is your layout? ___by___ feet in area. ___ Actual feet of mainline track.
- (4) What type(s) of rail and ties do you use? (check all that apply) AF Pikemaster___, Gargraves___, Code 172 rail___, Code 125 rail___, Other rail size: (specify) ____, Hand laid ties___, Miller Tie Strip___, Other types of ties: (specify) _____.
- (5) What type of wheels do you use? AF wheels___, Commercial Hi Rail Wheels___, other (specify) _____.
- (6) What type of couplers do you use? AF link couplers___, AF knuckle couplers___, Kadee couplers (specify type) _____, Other (specify) _____.
- (7) How do you uncouple your equipment? AF uncoupling ramps___, Kadee uncoupling ramps___ Manually___, Other (specify) _____.
- (8) Which best describes your mode of operation? Operate trains "to watch them run"___, Car card operation___, Waybill operation with timetable___, "I have my own system" (specify) _____.
- (9) Would you like to share your modelling ideas with other Hi Railers?_____.
- (10) If the answer to question #9 is "yes", then please give the following information:

Name _____
Address _____
Name of your model railroad _____

-----CUT-----CUT-----CUT-----CUT-----

1981 NASG CONVENTION CAR ORDER FORM - NASG MEMBERS ONLY

QUANTITY	RATE	EXTENSION
___ NASG Convention Car	\$22.00	_____
Shipping per car	\$2.00	_____
NYS residents sales tax per car	\$1.54	_____
TOTAL ENCLOSED		_____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO - CENTRAL NEW YORK S GAUGE ASS'N
SEND TO - Walt Danylak, 115 Upland Road, Syracuse, NY 13207

Name _____ NASG # _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

members may purchase as many cars as they wish. While many members may not get too excited over an American Flyer car, we felt this was the only way we could offer a convention car that would sell in large quantities. The reason for selling a large quantity of cars is obvious - money. The NASG stands to make a substantial amount of money from the convention car sales, but we need EVERYONES support. Even if you aren't an American Flyer operator or collector, your money won't be wasted. Being a factory

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made car, the value of the car should increase, so you should be able to get your money back, and more if you decide to sell the car.

Use the order form included on page 5 for purchasing the car. This form MUST BE USED if you want to purchase more than one car. No copies of this form will be accepted for more than one car. Remember, all orders must be received by December 27, 1980 with full payment enclosed.

Walt Danylak, Convention Chairman

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The following is the end of year financial report for fiscal year 1980.





Balance 1 July 1979			
Checking	\$ 251.86		
Savings	2095.41		
Petty Cash	<u>5.63</u>		
Total		\$ 2352.90	
Income during the year			
Dues	\$ 1195.42		
Pre-paid dues	120.00		
Miscellaneous	<u>852.87</u>		
Total		\$ 2168.29	
Total Cash available during the year			\$ 4521.19
Expenses during the year			
Postage	\$ 552.43		
Printing	515.75		
Miscellaneous	<u>634.17</u>		
Total		\$ 1702.35	
Ending Balance assets less expenses			\$ 2818.84
Ending Balances 31 July 1980			
Checking	\$ 474.53		
Savings	2336.56		
Petty Cash	<u>7.75</u>		
Total Current Balance		\$ 2818.84	

The above reflects the income and assets of NASG for the past year. For information purposes most of the miscellaneous income and expenses is a result of the convention at Princeton in August 1979.

Respectfully Submitted

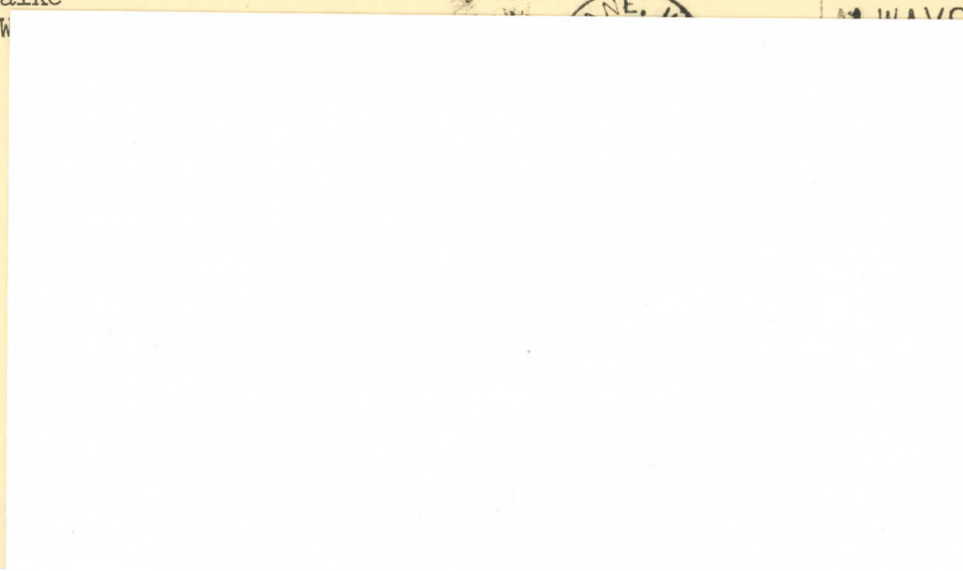
Bill Oertly
Bill Oertly

We are now taking orders for your pike information in this new section of the DISPATCH. Now you can advertize your railroad with a logo and help support NASG at the same time. One year subscription is \$3.00 for six insertions, two years or twelve insertions is \$5.50 and three years or eighteen insertions is \$8.00. Send pike information and money to NASG, c/o Rollai. Mercier, 910 S. Patrick St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

 <p>Shenandoah Northern D. C. GILBERT</p>	 <p>EKB RAILWAY JIM BASSETT, SUPT.</p>	<p>With Compliments</p>  <p>WHITEFIELD RR</p>	 <p>PENN CREEK VALLEY</p>
<p>Potomac AND Falls Church RR DREAM DIV. WAYNE SHIPP</p>	<p>PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD SYSTEM J. H. SUDIMAK, Pres. Home Office: "SHORTY" 90 Lucy Lane, SUDIMAK, Northfield, Veep. Ohio LAKE "ERIE" DIVISION</p>	<p>GREAT EASTERN RAILROAD "Safe Service With Steam" EUGENE FLETCHER</p>	<p>Route of the "NORTH" "WIND" SAM POWELL</p>
<p>CENTRAL NEW YORK S GAUGERS</p>	<p>DICK CATAEDI'S W O D</p>	<p>DELAWARE VALLEY S GAUGERS 100% N.A.S.C.</p>	<p>POTOMAC VALLEY & CHEAT RIVER DIV. BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD America's Grand Old Railroad ED. & SCHUMACHER, PRES.</p>
<p>THE TIN PLATE ROAD TAP ERNE HARR</p>	<p>MW STILLBERRYLYS MARYLAND WESTERN</p>	<p>Dover & Atlantic R.R. Systems DICK SCHLOTT 1033 N.W. 6th ST. MIAMI, FLORIDA 33136</p>	<p>MARYLAND • VIRGINIA • D.C. POTOMAC VALLEY "S" GAUGE ASSOCIATION PVSA</p>
<p>FOR RENT</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p>

There are many more spaces available at this time. Act now....don't be left out!

NASG 'Dispatch
c/o Ernie Horr
1307 W Dalke
Spokane W



WAYS USE
ODE