

Left Hand Running

The October 2006 Newsletter of The British Train Society
Illinois

A View From The Footplate

First a thank you to John Derler for creatively filling in with "A View from the Platform" last month as my traveling schedule caused me to overlook my newsletter responsibilities.

Despite the fact I am traveling to Canada again this week (3rd trip this year) we will have a meeting at my place in October. The last meeting at Harry's was very well attended and it was interesting to see the progress he has made on his good sized layout.

Also this month John Derler issued an updated membership list and I must say that when I reviewed the total it came home to me how much we have progressed from our humble beginnings. I think our efforts are in the right direction and hopefully we can maintain that with the mini layouts we are planning for Trainfest in Milwaukee in November and at Harper College in Palatine next spring. I passed along to the group at the meeting that I have arranged for a motel room for the nights of November 10th and 11th and I intend to stay two nights for the Trainfest event. Help will be needed for set up on the 10th and take down on the 12th (two people as a minimum). I already have received offers from three possible partners in crime but please keep the dates in mind and if you can make it sharing a room will keep the cost down.

On a more mundane front it was decided earlier this year that it would be desirable to hold elections for certain offices. In an attempt to keep our organization free of legalese as possible I have drafted a procedure that will be circulated to all for comment, modifications etc. We will discuss this at the October meeting and after adoption will proceed with elections in November.

Modelling is still alive and well as you will see at the October meeting. I have been working on a large station model, with John Derler's, input that will sit on his modules at the spring show. Harry has acquired, on E bay, a handsome Metcalfe foot bridge to match the model and I think you will find the results quite pleasing and there is more planned than has been done so far. Hope to see you at the Swap Meet in October and if you have station accessories and/or people for a station setting please bring them along. Cheers for now and Happy Modelling,
Don Buchanan

The Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the British Train Society will be on Saturday September 16th. This meeting will be hosted by Don Buchanan his home in Clarendon Hills. Our special program will be the annual Swap Meet and a previewing of the BTS presentation video produced by Don B. So don't be late!

October Swap Meet

Our annual members' Swap Meet will take place at our October meeting. So sort through your model railway stuff and bring your unwanted goodies. That old wagon or kit or whatever now gathering dust in your collection may be just the thing that another member would like. So bring model trains of any type, scale or origin. Bring kits, parts, accessories, magazines, catalogs, and books. This is your golden opportunity to clear out the old trains [and dust] freeing up valuable space for new trains [ready for new dust]!

Calendar of Coming Events

October 8th, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm
Great Midwest Train Show
Wheaton (DuPage County Fairgrounds)

October 14th, 1:30 pm
BTS Regular Meeting
Clarendon Hills [Don Buchanan]

October 21st & 22nd
International Hobby Expo
Rosemont (Stevens Convention Center)

November 11th – 12th
Trainfest
Milwaukee (State Fair Park, West Allis)

November 12th, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm
Great Midwest Train Show
Wheaton

November 18th, 1:30 pm
BTS Regular Meeting
Clarendon Hills [Don Buchanan]

December 9th, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Wisconsin Train Expo
Milwaukee [Serb Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave.]

December 10th, 9:30 am – 3:00pm
Great Midwest Train Show
Wheaton

December 16th, 1:30 pm (*tentative*)
BTS Regular Meeting
[location & host to be determined]

BTS On Tour

The British Train Society is planning on attending Trainfest in Milwaukee as an exhibitor. We will display a module from the layout, distribute our brochures and enlighten the public on the many plusses of modeling British railways. Our goal for this activity is spread the word and enlist new members. The show is open to the public Saturday and Sunday, November 11th and 12th. We will set up our display on Friday the 10th. Volunteers to assist are needed.

Election of Officers

At the November meeting we will choose our officers; footplate guy and fireman; for 2007.

The proposed election procedure which Don referenced in “A View From The Footplate” will be forwarded to each BTS member.

