



THE LAKESHORE SPECIAL

President's Message for June 2019

When Lionel, under General Mills MPC, first started producing the American Flyer brand of S gauge trains, the numbering system was simple with 4-9XXX numbers for rolling stock and 4-8XXX numbers for locomotives. This series of numbers was in use from the first introduction of three freight cars in 1979 until 1986 when Richard Kuhn bought the Lionel division. Richard Kuhn envisioned a growing market for S gauge where the company under his tenure changed the numbering system to 6-4XXXX. The six digit number ran from 6-41000 all the way through 6-49991. Looking through the latest Greenberg pricing guide shows just how much was made by Lionel since 1986. They were just about out of available numbers as well. Starting in 2018, Lionel initiated a new numbering system as 191XXXX for the American Flyer S gauge trains. This got me to thinking about the numbering system used by the AC Gilbert Company.

American Flyer S gauge trains had a three digit catalog number until 1957. The company went to a five digit catalog number beginning in 1957. Based on available information, just about every number from 1 to 999 was used up. Some of the numbers in that range were used for their HO trains. The three

digit number limited how many new items they could introduce. The five digit number opened up what the company could potentially produce.

The five digit numbers used by the AC Gilbert Company are often referred to as IBM numbers because that is what they called them. Perhaps the company considered a computer but the computers of that time were complex arrays of what are called main frames where data was stored on magnetic tapes that required someone to retrieve and mount on a tape drive. And the heat such a computer generated required a dedicated air conditioning system to keep it cool. The first hard drive that was developed for use with a main frame computer was so heavy that a fork lift was needed to lift it and it was limited to only 5 megabytes. That is not a lot of capacity by today's standards where a modern PC has in the realm of gigabytes and even terabytes. A main frame computer was probably out of the question back then because they were expensive to own and operate for a company that was starting to fall on hard times.

See you all at the meeting.

Jim Futules

Election of officers was to have taken place in March. It was postponed until May following the S Spree but May was a tough month with the Spree falling in the middle between Mother's Day and the Memorial Day weekends thus no meeting. It will take place at this month's meeting.

The slate of officers is as follows.

President	Jim Futules
Vice President	Ken Vendlinger
Secretary	Open
Treasurer	Gregg Melzer

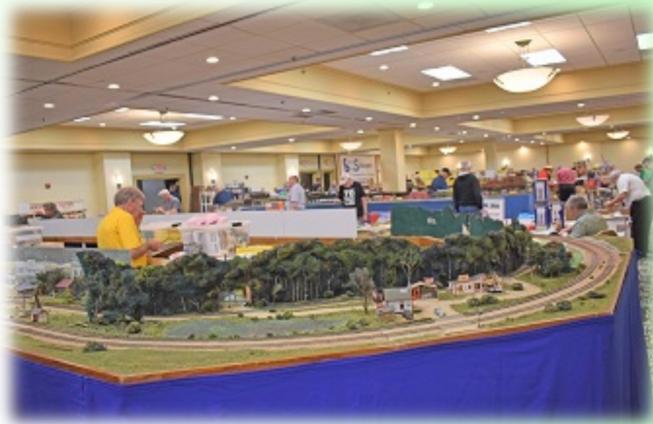
If you wish to be considered for one of the positions, **especially** secretary, please let Lee McCarty know. He can be reached at 440-526-9864 or 440-665-0243. You can also email him at MACSIR@aol.com.



S Spree

The 2019 S Spree is now behind us with mixed results. There was a good turnout of vendors but not a lot of people through the doors. Those who did come enjoyed the weekend and the camaraderie that went with it. Those who didn't missed out on the fun and some of the bargains that turned up.

The meeting of club presidents took place at 1:00 PM on Saturday at the Spree. Among the things discussed were the Spree attendance, how to get parents with young children involved, and who will be doing the upcoming S Sprees. The 2020 S Spree will be hosted by the Central Ohio group. Jon Knox of the Pittsburgh group informed us that they are now officially a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization and wants to do the 2021 Spree. They are also considering the 2022 NASG convention. This will push the S Spree rotation to every four years with the Dayton group in 2022 and ours in 2023.



Upcoming Shows:

July 20, 2019 Jefferson Train Show
 July 27, 2019 Hobo Day, Painesville Railroad Museum.
 August 10, 2019 Painesville Railroad Museum Fundraiser at Harry Buffalo.

Be sure to check www.cleveshows.com for the most complete list of NE Ohio Train and Toy Shows!

PAINESVILLE RAILROAD MUSEUM FUNDRAISER

Saturday, August 10, 2019 4 to 6 p.m.

HORS D'OEUVRES & DRINKS

Come and join us for an evening of great Hors d'oeuvres and the fellowship of railroad enthusiast at:

Harry Buffalo
 2119 Mentor Ave.
 Painesville, Ohio 44077



Chinese Raffle

Menu: All you can eat and drink for 2 hours

- Smothered Chicken
- Sheet Pizza
- Bonesless Wings
- Salad - Fries



50-50

All you can Drink - Domestic Draft Beer, House Wine & Well
 Liquors from 4 pm to 6 pm

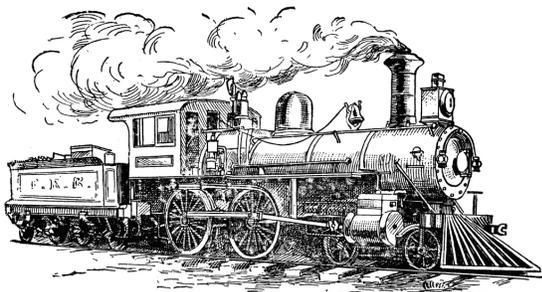
Cost:
 \$20.00 Each Pre-Sale
 \$25.00 Each at Door

contact:
Staci Jacob
 4742 Stanhope Kelloggsville Rd.
 Andover, Ohio 44003
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www.painesvillerrailroadmuseum.org
 501(c)3 non-profit

Proceeds to help the restoration and preservation of the historic Painesville Depot and bring her back to its glory days of the NYC.



HOBO DAY

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2019

10 AM TO 8 PM

At the
 Painesville Railroad Museum
 475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Ohio 44077

Admission: \$5.00 adult, \$3.00 child (3 to 12 year old)
 \$12.00 Family (max 2 adults, 3 children)

Food and Refreshments available for small donation
 Hamburg's and Hot Dogs (Noon to 8 pm)
 Hobo Stew and Hobo Beans (4 pm to 8 pm)



Live Music by
 The Miracle Band
 1 to 3 pm

RAILPANNING

The Depot is located on CSX Main Line, with plenty of rail traffic to take pics of.
Be sure to bring your Camera!

COSTUME CONTEST

Get into the spirit of the Day
 Win a prize



www.painesvillerrailroadmuseum.org
 A 501(c)3 Non-Profit



Come and join us for a day of fun at Hobo Day at the Painesville Railroad Museum on July 27, 2019 from 10 am to 8 pm. We will have a Hobo Stew and Hobo Beans being cooked over a open wood fire, just like how the hobos of days gone by would have done.

Hamburg's and Hot Dogs will also be available.

Enjoy the sounds of live music by the Miracle Band from 4 pm to 7 pm.

There will be Free face painting for the children.

Come in the spirit of the day and get in Costume and be part of our Costume Contest.

And don't forget a day of railfanning.

Admission: \$5.00 adult, \$3.00 child (3 to 12 year old)
 \$12.00 Family (max 2 adults, 3 children)

Food Donations extra.



NEXT MEETING: Sunday, June 23, 2019 , 6:00 p.m.

at the home of Gregg and Sandy Melzer, 19230 Saratoga Trail, Strongsville, Ohio. June 16 is out due to it being Father's Day.



CVSG

Jim Futules,

PO Box 291

TALLMADGE, OH 44278