

# NEWSLETTER

## Steve Haug hosts September

Nineteen club members showed up at Steve's house in San Jose to check progress on his layout which now sports *American S Gauge* switches and track. He has long touted the virtues of the nickel silver track with its superior electrical conductivity and now that switches have become available he is converting his entire layout to this system. A quick climb up the ladder to his American Flyer hideout confirmed that Steve has indeed been busy.



*Our fearless leader, Jake Jacobsen, showed us the latest addition to his stable of rare American Flyer pieces; a 1948 translucent green 641 gondola. It's a very rare piece of rolling stock in excellent condition and it cost him more than I paid for my 1948 Chevrolet Fleetmaster coupe!*

The business meeting lasted for about one hour. Jake called the meeting to order, gave a brief treasurer's report and asked that those individuals who had ordered trains through the club to please make arrangements to pick them up. He has also received new 2008-2009 catalogues from American Models.

Don Matthies and Vern Brooks are coordinating an effort to provide a static S Gauge layout to the San Francisco Airport Museum. The museum has been working on an exhibit representing model trains from 1900 to 1960 and was lacking a representation of the perfect (S) gauge so Don and Vern are working to fill that void. Their plan is to have two loops of track and a couple of switched legs into the middle area on which to display four or more sets of American Flyer freight and passenger trains. Jake has already sent out a list to club members of accessories that Don would like to borrow for the display and anyone who would like to assist can contact Don directly.

**For "Show and Tell", Paul Guaraglia brought a beautiful American Flyer 21115 Pacific locomotive that he recently acquired and Richard Ridgeway displayed a 3734 SP locomotive by River Raisin.**



Paul also had this A.C. Gilbert Electric Eye for sale. A few of us looked over the suggested experiments and decided that they could quite possibly remove some of the slower witted individuals from the gene pool since there seemed to be a lot of exposed brass terminals and 120 volt connections involved. Still, it was a pretty ingenious use of photocells and relays to stimulate the young tinkerer of yesteryear.

**Next year's Flyer Fest West event will be hosted by the Sacramento Valley American Flyer Club and they sent word that the date has been set for Saturday, May 2, 2009 at the SES hall in Elk Grove. This is the same location as the 2007 event but there will be twice as much floor space available in 2009. Gilbert historian, Andy Jogle, is scheduled to be the guest speaker at the event's banquet.**