

EASTERN NATIONAL ENTHUSIASTS GROUP

NEWS SHEET NUMBER 236

November 1983

EDITORIAL

Annual Subscription Renewals

Those members who have subscriptions running from January to December will find with this month's news sheet a Membership Renewal Advice (some are green, some white). Please return it with your cheque or postal order to the Membership Secretary as soon as possible. Should you not wish to renew your subscription it would be of help if you could notify the Group of your decision. Subscription rates have been increased by a small amount since last January but are being held at the new rates for the present. Membership Secretary, Bob Palmer, thanks all members, in advance, for their co-operation.

Essex County Council Publications

A new timetable booklet for the Brentwood/Chelmsford/South Woodham Ferrers/Maldon area (Area 4) dated November 1983 has recently been published by Essex County Council. Copies are available from the Administrative Officer (P.W. Harvey Esq., 37. Warren Chase, Thundersley, Benfleet, Essex. SS7 3DZ.) at £0.67 each, inclusive of postage and packing.

Southend Meeting - Wednesday, December 14th.

The Group's December meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 14th at the Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend commencing at 1930 hrs. (for 2000 hrs.). The evening will feature two illustrated talks; firstly, a talk by Frank Spence from Rochford District Council about the Rochford Leisure Bus (ex. Southend Transport WJN348J) and which will be illustrated by slides and a film, and secondly, a talk by Richard Delahoy on current developments regarding Southend Transport's X1 service and which will be illustrated by slides. All members are invited to what should prove to be an extremely enjoyable evening.

1983 Photographic Competition

This competition was held at the November meeting at Southend, and the standard of entries was extremely high. The winners were :-

- a) Slides - 1st : John Bath
2nd : Colin Sigston
- b) Prints - 1st : John Rugg
2nd : Peter Carr

Additionally, two entries by Fred Manning (print) and Graham Huggins (slide) were Highly Commended for their composition.

Annual General Meeting

The Group's nineteenth Annual General Meeting will be held in the Meeting Room, Central Library, Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea on Saturday, January 21st, 1984 commencing at 1300 hrs. (for 1400 hrs.). Full details will be published in next month's news sheet; in the meantime, please mark the date in your diary now.

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EASTERN NATIONAL OMNIBUS CO. LTD.

New Vehicles

1122	A6910HJ	Leyland Tiger	TRC/TL11/2R	8300841	Alexander TE	special DP	DP53F
1123	A6920HJ	Leyland Tiger	TRC/TL11/2R	8300842	Alexander TE	special DP	DP53F
1124	A6930HJ	Leyland Tiger	TRC/TL11/2R	8300886	Alexander TE	special DP	DP53F
1125	A6940HJ	Leyland Tiger	TRC/TL11/2R	8300939	Alexander TE	special DP	DP53F
1126	A6950HJ	Leyland Tiger	TRC/TL11/2R	8300941	Alexander TE	special DP	DP53F
1127	A6960HJ	Leyland Tiger	TRC/TL11/2R	8300946	Alexander TE	special DP	DP53F

Body Numbers : 1122-2TE/2383/1 1125-2TE/2383/4
 1123-2TE/2383/2 1126-2TE/2383/5
 1124-2TE/2383/3 1127-2TE/2383/6

Delivery dates : 1122-6 - November 1st.
1127 - November 8th.

These vehicles are all painted in the revised dual-purpose livery, which is known officially as Private Hire livery, and are thus similar to 1116-21. 1127 has been fitted with an Econocruise control unit.

Withdrawn Vehicles

NIL

Allocations & Transfers

11.83 1122 D/L, 1123 D/L, 1124 D/L, 1125 D/L, 1126 D/L, 1127 D/L, 3054 CF-BN, 3100 BD-CF, 3106 SD-CF, 3111 CR-BD, 3116 BN-SD, 3124 CF-CR.

1541 PL (P) is currently on temporary loan to MN for additional contract work. 2383/4 continue to remain licensed as Private vehicles, and 2384 was loaned to DT during early November for the Harwich Carnival (November 4th/5th). On this occasion, the vehicle was decorated as a Town Hall, and won 3rd prize amongst the decorated floats. During mid-November, 2383/4 were both noted at Central Works.

Vehicle Repaints

The Company has again kindly given the Group details of vehicles repainted during recent weeks, and this continues from the information published in NS235 :-

October : w/e 29.10.83 - No vehicles repainted.

November : w/e 5.11.83 - 1803 at CW, 3026 at CW, 3072 at CW (City 400 livery).

The correct title of the company which is incorporated in the 'UniBus' advertisements carried by 3034 and 3129 is Home County Insulation (correction to NS233-5) based at Wickford and Southend. It can also be reported that the advertisement contract in respect of Leyland National 1846 (Laidlaw) has been renewed for a further year.

Service Vehicles

Further to the notes published in NS233, the Atkinson recovery vehicle 0103 has now entered service at CF where it has replaced AEC Matador 0101, and this vehicle had been moved to Central Works by mid-November. The recently acquired Guy Big J4T lorry tractor unit has now been converted into a recovery vehicle by Wreckers International Ltd. This work has involved lengthening the chassis and the vehicle now carries a Wreckers International DOM 25 twin boom crane. This vehicle will be numbered 0104 and is currently in the paint shops at Central Works, prior to entering service at HH.

Temporary Loans

Colchester (CR) vehicles which worked on temporary loan to Harwich (DT) during October were 1547, 3001, 3030 and 3032. Additionally, 1705 CN operated on loan from October 20th, whilst 3045 PL (P) returned to DT on October 27th and still remained on loan during mid-November.

Other news concerning DT vehicles is that 1056 has recently been fitted with a lifting roof light, similar to that carried by coaches, whilst new service 423 (Harwich-Ipswich) (see also NS235) was initially being operated by Leyland Tiger 1113.

Publicity News

New publicity material published during recent weeks has been as follows :-

Timetable leaflet - a new timetable leaflet for services in the Tendring area, dated November 28th. This leaflet contains details of new and revised services 79, 80/A, 104, 105, 106 and 107 (see also under Service Developments for additional information), which are being introduced from this date.

Commuter services - a new timetable sheet dated October 24th with details of the revised timetables for services 191, 193, 194 and 195. Certain timetable revisions and adjustments have been introduced on certain journeys on services 191 and 193 from this date (see also under Service Developments), and this timetable sheet incorporates these changes.

Excursion leaflet - a further booklet for the Winter programme of 'Day Breaks' has recently been published for Southend and District (see also NS235).

Service Developments

The Company has applied for a number of revisions to stage services, and brief details of these proposed changes are as follows :-

- 40 - Mondays to Fridays : one journey to be withdrawn.
- 79 - Service to operate between Colchester (Bus Station) and Tendring (Cherry Tree) only, via Parsons Heath, Burnt Heath, Great Bromley, Hare Green, Little Bentley and Tendring Heath Hospital. Revised timetable to be introduced, with certain journeys operating via Little Bromley (Post Office), and certain journeys terminating at Great Bromley (Hare Green).
- 80 - Service to operate between Colchester (Bus Station) and Harwich (Bus Station) via Weeley, Tendring (Cherry Tree), Beaumont, Great Oakley, Little Oakley and Dovercourt, with revised timetable.
- 80A - NEW SERVICE from Colchester (Bus Station) to Harwich (Bus Station) via Little Bentley, Tendring Heath, Wix, Great Oakley, Little Oakley and Dovercourt.
- 96A - Summer Sunday service to be withdrawn. Two journeys to be withdrawn on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and two additional journeys to be introduced on Schooldays (and these revisions were introduced from November 28th).
- 97X/98X - All journeys (except the 0610 hrs. service 98X journey from Maldon to Bradwell) to operate via Maldon (Poets Estate), with route and timetable revisions (and these revisions were introduced from November 27th).
- 98A - Tuesdays and Thursdays : one journey to be withdrawn (with effect from November 29th).
- 99 - Service to be withdrawn (with effect from November 28th).
- 103/4 - Revised timetable.
- 105 - Revised timetable.
- 106 - Summer Sunday service to be withdrawn. Weekdays : one journey to operate via Weeley; Mondays to Fridays : one minor timetable change.
- 107 - NEW SERVICE from Colchester (Bus Station) to Walton (Bus Station) via Elmstead Market, Little Bentley, Tendring Heath and Thorpe Green.
- 120/1/2 - Revised timetable.
- 126 - Timing point at Tendring (Church) to be transferred to Tendring (Cherry Tree).
- 153 - Mondays to Fridays : one journey to be withdrawn.
- 410 - Schooldays : service to be re-numbered 311, and to operate via Chelmer Valley School with a revised timetable.

Short term licences have recently been granted for services 470, 471, 473 and 817 (see NS235).

Further development of the commuter services jointly operated with Grey-Green Coaches Ltd. has taken place, and timetable revisions and adjustments were introduced on certain journeys on services 191 and 193 from October 24th. Brief details of these revisions are as follows :-

- 191 - The 0632 hrs. journey from Colchester (Highwoods) now operates via Coggeshall, Bradwell, Braintree, Great Dunmow, Takeley and the M11 Motorway, arriving at London (Victoria Street) at 0922 hrs. The 1740 hrs. journey from London (Victoria Street) now operates via the same route, arriving at Colchester (Highwoods) at 2033 hrs.
- 193 - From October 10th, the 0605 hrs. journey from Silver End (E.N. Depot) and 1710 hrs. journey from London (Victoria Street) now operate via Chelmer Village, and the stops at Boreham and Hatfield Peverel have been withdrawn. From October 24th, the 0650 hrs. journey from Braintree (White Courts Estate) was advanced to 0640 hrs., arriving at London (Victoria Coach Station) at 0855 hrs.

Five Eastern National and five Grey-Green vehicles are currently required to operate the commuter services (191/3/4/5), and the Company has kindly provided details of

the Eastern National workings, which are as follows :-

- DE - 2 vehicles : 0640 hrs. service 193 from Braintree and 0650 hrs. service 195 from Braintree.
 1650 hrs. service 193 from London (Victoria Street) and
 1700 hrs. service 195 from London (Victoria Street).
- CR (or CN) - 1 vehicle : 0602 hrs. service 191 from Colchester (Highwoods) and 1740 hrs. service 191 from London (Victoria Street). This vehicle also operates the 1100 hrs. service 084 from London (Victoria Coach Station) and 1400 hrs. service 084 from Colchester (Bus Station) between the service 191 workings.
- HD - 1 vehicle : 0630 hrs. service 195 from Great Cornard and 1720 hrs. service 195 from London (Victoria Coach Station).
- SE - 1 vehicle : 0605 hrs. service 193 from Silver End and 1710 hrs. service 193 from London (Victoria Street).

Finally, with reference to the notes published in NS234/5 regarding National Express service 109, it should be noted that although the service is now licensed to the Company it is of course still an integral part of the National Express network, and it will continue to be marketed as a National Express service.

Unusual Workings

Details of unusual workings which have been supplied by members during recent weeks are as follows :-

- 2.10-3061 DT operated a rail replacement service from Ipswich to Shenfield and return.
- 16.10-3053 SD, 3065 SD, 3096 SD and Southend Transport 231/2/5 364 were additional vehicles operating a rail replacement service from Southend (Victoria) to Wickford (see also NS235).
- 21.10-1707 CF noted on service 58A (and on service 59 on 1.11); 3018 PL (P) noted on service 17, and subsequently at SD depot on 22.10; Southend Transport 360 noted having failed at Southend (Victoria Bus Station) whilst operating service 1.
- 22.10-1701 CF observed on services 62 and 64; 1794 BE and 1863 BE both noted on service 353; 1876 BD noted on service 251 (and again on 15.11); 3117 BN and 3120 BN both noted on service 400.
- 24.10-Former Eastern National 2944 (AVW403F) now owned by the Dengie Hundred Jubilee Bus Association was noted at MN depot.
- 25.10-1406 CN noted on loan to CR (and again on 26.10).
- 26.10-1415 CN noted on loan to DE; 1540 MN (P) observed on service 87.
- 28.10-1113 DT operated a return National Holidays feeder service from Dover.
- 29.10-1787 SD observed on service 38; 1823 BD and 1912 BD both noted on service 251.
- 30.10-3060 SE, 3080 CF, 3100 BD, 3123 SE and 3126 CF all noted on a rail replacement service from Chelmsford to Witham; 3099 HH and Southend Transport 231 noted on a similar service from Laindon to Pitsea.
- 31.10-1752 CF observed on service 262; 3061 DT noted on service 53.
- 1.11-1534 BD (P) noted on service 251; 1549 CF noted on service 11; 3111 BD (National Holidays overall advertisement livery) first noted on service 251 (and again on 4.11).
- 2.11-1732 BN observed on service 58B (and again on 7.11); 3121 SD noted on service 400.
- 5.11-1710 CR noted on service 353.
- 6.11-1414 BD observed at CF depot; 3003 CN noted on a rail replacement service at Walton-on-Naze; Southend Transport 236 operated a similar service from Southend (Victoria) to Wickford.
- 9.11-3115 BE and 3128 BE noted on a rail replacement service from Chelmsford to Witham.
- 10.11-Southend Transport 372 noted on service 1.
- 13.11-1937 SD observed on service 251.
- 15.11-1546 CF noted on service 22.
- 16.11-1929 BE noted on service 53.

COLCHESTER TRANSPORT

Acquired Vehicles

Further to the notes published in last month's news sheet, the Colchester fleet

numbers for the three former Tyne & Wear PTE Leyland Atlanteans were still unknown during mid-November. It can be confirmed however that their revised seating capacity, following conversion to single door configuration, is H48/34F. At the time of writing, the vehicles had not entered service although one was noted at the Magdalen Street depot on November 10th fitted with Colchester Transport destination blinds.

Vehicles On Hire

Southend Transport 224 (XTE224V) remains on hire to Colchester Transport, and this vehicle continues to replace Leyland Leopard coach 102 (DHK102T) which is on extended hire to Southend Transport.

A further interesting vehicle has also been on hire to Colchester Transport during recent weeks. This is the former London Transport Daimler Fleetline JGF321K (ex. DMS 321), now owned by Brockhouse Maxwell Bus Transmissions of West Bromwich, and it was first noted in Colchester during early-November. The vehicle is a demonstration bus for the new Brockhouse Maxwell gearbox, and it is painted in a blue and white livery. The vehicle remained on hire to Colchester Transport during mid-November, and has been allocated fleet number D13 during its period of hire. It has been noted in service on several occasions, chiefly on services 4/4A.

General

Leyland Atlanteans 50 (AVX 50G) and 69 (TPU 69R) were delicensed during early-November.

Many shops in the town centre will remain open for late-night Christmas shopping on December 7th, 14th and 21st, and the local Chamber of Commerce has agreed to meet the cost of reduced bus fares between 1900 hrs. and 2100 hrs. on these three evenings. The reduced fares will only apply to adult fares, but will include both Colchester Transport services (for passengers travelling into Colchester) and Eastern National services (for passengers travelling from Colchester).

SOUTHEND TRANSPORT

New Vehicle

Full details are now available regarding the recently acquired Leyland Tiger (see also NS235) :-

215 A215PEV Leyland Tiger TRC/TL11/2R 8102838 Duple Dominant IV C53F 334/5344

This coach entered service on November 1st, but had not been fitted with destination equipment by that time.

Acquired Vehicles

Leyland Leopard 213 (LAK303W) entered service on October 21st, and was subsequently noted on service X1 on October 28th. A destination box and roof dome has been fitted, together with a bulkhead behind the driver's seat.

The body number of 214 is 033/5156 (see NS233/5), and this vehicle was named 'Miss Pauline' whilst with Golden Boy, Roydon.

Vehicles On Order

Southend Borough Council's Transport Committee has recently considered plans to purchase a number of new and second-hand vehicles, and also to re-body five Daimler Fleetlines. It is proposed to purchase six new coaches and three second-hand coaches for operation on service X1, together with five new bodies for the Daimler Fleetlines. Further details regarding these plans will be published as soon as they become available.

Vehicles On Hire

Leicester City Transport 12-15 (PJF 12-15R), Colchester Transport 102 (DHK102T) and Bournemouth Transport 105 (FEL105L) and 107 (UTM 5K) remain on hire to Southend Transport.

Leicester City Transport 11 (OUT 11W) was returned to Leicester on November 14th; the chassis and body numbers for this vehicle are 8030608 and 8111LX507 respectively (additional information to NS235), and the vehicle was new in 3/81.

An additional five Leyland Leopard coaches have also been on hire during recent weeks, from Bournemouth Transport (1), Burnley & Pendle Transport (2), Fylde Borough Transport (1) and Leicester City Transport (1). Details are as follows :-

Bournemouth Transport

106 (UTM 4K) Leyland Leopard PSU3B/4R Plaxton C51F - on hire from October 29th.

Burnley & Pendle Transport

3 (YHG 3N) Leyland Leopard PSU3B/4R Duple C49F - on hire from October 29th.

12 (WRN 12R) Leyland Leopard PSU3D/4R Alexander DP45F - on hire from October 29th.

Fylde Borough Transport

42 (HRN 97N) Leyland Leopard PSU3C/4R Plaxton C53F - on hire from November 14th.

Leicester City Transport

9 (VUB394H) Leyland Leopard PSU3A/4R Plaxton C49F - on hire from October 21st,
but damaged in an accident on
November 2nd, and now out of
service.

The current situation is that Bournemouth Transport 105-107, Burnley & Pendle Transport 3/12, Colchester Transport 102, Fylde Borough Transport 42 and Leicester City Transport 9/12-15 are on hire to Southend Transport.

General

Withdrawn Daimler Fleetline 351 (WJN351J) is currently being cannibalised for spare parts. Similar vehicle 362 (WJN362J), which was sold to Eagle Coaches, Gainsborough in 9/82, has recently been at the Tickfield Road works for roof repairs.

Daimler Fleetline 364 (WJN364J) was on loan to Lesney Products & Co. Ltd., Rochford from October 24th to October 28th.

Leyland Tiger coach 209 (BHK209X) is the latest vehicle to be repainted in the new coach livery.

Four additional return journeys were introduced on service X1 between Southend (Central Bus Station) and Green Park on Mondays to Fridays from November 3rd. These journeys depart from Southend at 0550 hrs., 0620 hrs., 0650 hrs. and 0720 hrs., and the return departures from Green Park are at 1615 hrs., 1645 hrs., 1705 hrs. and 1715 hrs. A new timetable leaflet is now available with details of these additional journeys.

EASTERN NATIONAL DISPOSALS

Subsequent Disposals

- 357 (12 DLY) - Unknown preservationist, by 9/83, ex. Nationwide, Lanark. (This vehicle has presumably been re-registered, following the transfer of the registration number to a Volvo B58/Plaxton C50F - see NS234).
- 505 (BNO114B) - Owner is Tuplin, Nettleham, and used as a stock car transporter. Still owned 9/83. (additional information to NS187).
- 1204 (BNO690T) - Rhodes, Wawne, by 8/83, ex. dealer, Thurcroft.
- 1205 (BNO691T) - Woodcock, Buxton, by 9/83, ex. dealer, Thurcroft.
- 1324 (1262 EV) - Owner is Cementation Construction Ltd., Darlington (N-PSV). Still owned 9/83, and in an orange and grey livery. (additional information to NS231).
- 1357 (OWC 606) - Still with Thompson, Garforth (farmer, N-PSV), 11/83. (correction/ additional information to NS233).
- 1402 (VHK175L) - Is now C7F with Shaftesbury Society, Dovercourt, to accommodate wheelchairs.
- 1408 (XO0877L) - Cheltenham & Gloucester Omnibus Co. Ltd., 2091, ex. Bristol O. C. Ltd., 2091, 9/83. Still carries "Swindon & District" fleetnames.
- 1433 (JHK457C) - Still with breaker, Carlton, 5/83. (additional information to NS231).
- 1504 (CVW858G) - Still with dealer, Purfleet, 10/83. (additional information to NS231).
- 1510 (FVX612H) - Still with dealer, Purfleet, 10/83. (additional information to NS231).

- 236/7
- 1512 (FVX614H) - Still with dealer, Purfleet, 10/83. (additional information to NS231).
 - 1517 (FWC440H) - Was not acquired by Edmunds, Rassau. Purpose of the visit to their premises at present unknown. (correction to NS235).
 - 1520 (HTW178H) - Still with dealer, Purfleet, 10/83. (additional information to NS231).
 - 1521 (HTW179H) - Still with dealer, Purfleet, 10/83. (additional information to NS231).
 - 1522 (KHK414J) - Numbered L118 by Heddingham & District. (additional information to NS231).
 - 1543 (RPU883K) - Withdrawn by Lincolnshire Road Car Co. Ltd., 1215, 9/83.
 - 2358 (VNO 855) - Marshall, Ulceby Skitter, by -/75, and still owned 9/83. Used as a grandstand at gymkhanas etc. Last reported with dealer, Ingham, 10/70.
 - 2386 (WNO 484) - Named 'Skyrider 1' by South Wales, 7/83.
 - 2710 (90 FVX) - Still with King's Wood County Middle School (N-PSV), High Wycombe, 11/83. (additional information to NS216).
 - 2741 (EOO 583) - Breaker, Carlton, by 6/83, ex. Eagles, Crawford and Hughes, Mold.
 - 2751 (JWC 711) - Still with Rainworth Royals Jazz Band (N-PSV), 8/83. (see also NS213).
 - 2783 (934 LWC) - Exported to U.S.A., 6/83, reportedly ex. P.B.M. Ltd., Liphook. Last reported as dealer, Purfleet, 2/82.
 - 2802 (BVX678B) - Not used by East Herts Playbus Association and returned to National Playbus Association, Bristol, by 11/83. (correction to NS234).
 - 2837 (LWC663C) - Fidelity Radio (N-PSV), London N.W.10, -?-, ex. dealer, Grays. Subsequently to L.V. Carter (N-PSV), Colchester, by 7/83.
 - 2865 (RVW391D) - Also reported as still in disposal yard adjacent to Alexander (Northern) garage at Arbroath, 4/83, but breaker is believed to have scrapped vehicle in situ following acquisition by dealer, Carlton, 3/83. (see also NS233).
 - 2874 (STW762D) - Acquired by Sherrin, Carhampton, by 10/82. (correction to NS230).
 - 2882 (UEV220E) - Cliff Skey, Sturminster Newton (N-PSV), model railway exhibition, 8/83.
 - 2900 (WVX527F) - Still with dealer, Sherburn-in-Elmet, 11/83. (see also NS223).
 - 2905 (WVX532F) - Still with dealer, Sherburn-in-Elmet, 11/83. (see also NS223).
 - 2920 (AEV814F) - Hospitality and display bus for Gwyneth Hancock (ladies fashions), Greetland, Halifax, by 6/83, ex. dealer, Sherburn-in-Elmet.
 - 2930 (AVW399F) - Horsell Graphics (N-PSV), Morley, by 10/83, ex. dealer, Sherburn-in-Elmet.
 - 2940 (KNO949C) - Acquired by Argas Persicus, 3/83; shipped to U.S.A. for use on their American operations, 5/83. (additional information to NS229).
 - 3016 (SMS 42H) - Lambeth Inner City Consultative Group, London S.W.9 (N-PSV), 12/82 as "Info-Bus". (N.B. not the London Borough of Lambeth). (correction to NS226).
 - 3042 (LFS287F) - Re-numbered 904 by South Wales, 9/83.
 - 9017 (LFS289F) - Acquired by Argas Persicus (N-PSV), London S.W.5., 2/83. (correction to NS229). Argas Persicus became Top Deck Travel, 7/83.

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Finally, it is understood that the two remaining former Eastern National Bristol FLF6G's with W. Alexander & Sons (Northern) Ltd., NRD 2 (RVW393D) and NRD 5 (UEV221E), will be withdrawn from passenger service in the near future. A farewell trip is planned for Saturday, November 26th, when NRD 2 will operate the 0910 hrs. service 306 journey from Aberdeen to Elgin (63 miles) and it will return to Aberdeen on service 305 (via Macduff) (89 miles). Members wishing to participate in this trip are advised to contact Alexander (Northern) at Elgin beforehand.

News Sheet Contributions

Contributions to this news sheet were received from A.G. Osborne (C&F), M.L. Weyell (M10), W.J. Morrison (M131), R. Delahoy (M180), A.W. Meadows (M209), P.W. Harvey (M219), J.S. Wilby (M298), S.D. Barham (M313), D. Arnold (M379), W.S.M. Barlow (M395), J.G. Collins (M405), I. Ransom (M421), J. Rugg (M443), G.G. Toon (M452), K.M. Russell (M454), J.H. Preston (M512), C.M.J. Paynter (M515), C.D. Sigston (M523), G. Huggins (AM1) and the P.S.V. Circle. The December deadline is Wednesday, December 7th.