

Module Maniacs

by Ed Smith

At 8:30 on September 25, the HUB Division, in cooperation with Northeast NTRAK, held a full day of module related activities. The day started off with the assembly of one of the HUB Division module "kits." All the necessary wood is pre-cut to the correct dimensions, the latches for the legs, screws, wiring, roadbed, track (HO) and even the sky board is included in the kit. It went together very nicely by lunch time, but there were a very large number of small wooden pieces for the open-top-grid type of module that the HUB module group uses. This type of module allows for a wide variety of scenery schemes from city to rolling country side and is relative light weight. The module "kit" is also available without the HO track and the luan roadbed for NTRAK use.

At lunch, Bruce showed a video about steam locomotive operations. It was similar to the B&O tape that was show during the Winter Workfest last January. Lunch consisted of do-it-yourself sandwiches of sliced ham, turkey and cheese on bulkie rolls with potato salad, potato chips, pickles, and a variety of soft drinks. Chris Alcock made two batches of absolutely killer chocolate brownies with walnuts for dessert.

After lunch, Bruce and I did a demonstration of N-scale track laying on a newly rebuilt module for James Raskob. He provided the track plan and the Peco switches and we provided the cork roadbed and some Atlas flex-track. This module was a standard 2x4 foot module with folding legs and a solid top. Steve Cappers provided the butane gas powered soldering iron. (A very nice tool.) By the end of the afternoon, the switches and all the track that we had was glued down on the module waiting for ballast (and more track.)

NER Convention

Our next show is at the Northeast Region Convention in North Conway, NH on Saturday, October 23. Our show coordinators are Bill Munroe (617-729-2432) and George Chaltas (508-485-5779) Please contact them if you are planning to bring modules. The show opens at 9 AM, so setup will be at 7 AM.

OHub Division Show

The next show is "The Great Marlboro TRAIN SHOW" on **!!!Sunday!!!** November 14 at the Royal Plaza Trade Center, 1 mile west of I-495, Exit 24B, Route 20. This is traditionally one of one biggest shows of the year. We always try to have a good size layout for the public to see. It is always a good show for purchasing train related items from the many dealers that are there. Our coordinators this year are Peter Wisniewski (508-658-0866) and George Chaltas (508-485-5779) Please contact them if you are planning to attend this show. Note that the show is on Sunday this year.

Northeast Spikers Railroad Club

Enclosed is the flier for their first annual train meet on October 31 at the Topsfield Fair grounds. Although Northeast NTRAK is not coordinating a layout at this show, it should be a pretty good show.

Membership List

Also enclosed is a current membership list.