

## President's Message



Are your dues paid? Mine are. It's that time of year again. With the **annual meeting set for May 22nd** it would be nice to have your dues paid. We picked that date due to some of our members will be away for the other dates that were suggested. As for shows. There was talk last month about doing less shows. But to build our membership base we need to do more shows. There is a possibility of doing 13 shows this year. Starting in August and ending in May. There is a new Greenburg Show on the 27th and 28th of August. We have gained some new members, and the return of some former members. You can tell when you are getting old, the son of a returning member used to look up at you. Now we have to look up at him. There is a new link section on our website. It will be for other clubs and organizations that are not NTRAK. We are listed on other sites, its time we returned the favor. Starting in April I have asked Ed to keep track of the number of hits the site receive after we do a show. Since we are giving out the WGH flyers and business cards with our web address on it would be nice to see whom is taking the time to learn about us. BTW, we are going to get a new banner made with our web address on it. For the Greenburg show I went to Staples and bought some stick on letters and put our web address on one side of the banner. The letters peeled a bit but this is only temporary until we get the new banner made. Out of the 11 shows we did last year I was able to attend at least 9 of them. There is a number of items we will be discussing at the meeting. We have had thoughts about doing a club car. Club members would get the cars at cost and we can sell the others through NTRAK and The N-Scale Collector. Dan and I would like to see as many members as possible attend. This is your club too. As I said last month, PLEASE let Bob know what you have for modules that are show ready. Last year when I went to the convention in Chantilly, you had to have a inspection form and a sticker on the back of your module saying that is was SHOW READY. If you did not the module was not allowed in the show. In my honest opinion, our club has the best looking

Northeast Ntrak, 41 Easy Street, Lowell, MA 01850-1731, Web Site - [www.northeastntrak.org](http://www.northeastntrak.org)

*(President's Message continued)*  
modules around. The summer is a time for fun, lets get some new modules built and have more available for shows.  
Thanks, Mark

## Peter Wisniewski Wins Master Modeler Award



The 10th annual gathering of model builders from around the country in what is known as Tamiya/Con was held on April 16 & 17. Each year modelers gather at the corporate offices of Tamiya America in beautiful Orange County, California to show off their hard modeling work. All participants ranging from all sorts of ages and skill levels compete for the grand prize known as the Tamiya Master Modeler Award. This award is bestowed to the person who's work Mr. S. Tamiya himself will judge to be his favorite work. This year our own Peter Wisniewski won the Master Modeler Award. Along with the Master Modeler award three other awards were given out. They are Best Finished to Daniel PerezVertti, Most Creative to Jim Wechsler and Director's Choice to Brian Joslyn. These four lucky winners won a paid trip to Japan to be honored guests of Tamiya and to partake in the annual Shizuoka Hobby Show on May 13-15, 2005. The four trip winners will take their winning works and display them at the show, so all of Japans modeling community may see. Once those festivities are concluded the honored American winners will take a tour of the inner workings of Tamiya as well as take in the sights of Japan. Congratulations Peter from everyone in Northeast Ntrak. More next month.



**Peters Model a1:6 scale 94 Harley Davidson  
FLSTF Fat Boy. Kit made by Tamiya**

## More Modules and Show Participants Needed by Bob Pawlak

As always, one of the topics at the annual meeting will be: What shows should the club plan to do next season? The consensus among show coordinators of the current season seems to be that: it is getting harder and harder to gather enough participants and people with modules to do shows; club members don't usually call coordinators to volunteer to come – coordinators must usually call members to ask them to come; it is typically the same relatively small set of people who bring modules and participate in shows.

What can each of us do to improve this situation? Everyone reading this article should ideally do some soul searching and make a renewed effort to pursue the basic objectives of the club – build modules and bring them to participate in shows. If you haven't started your first module yet – get busy and start one! If you have started a module – get busy and finish it! If you have a mental block preventing you from getting past some aspect of the work, pick up the phone and ask somebody for help! If you have a module but it needs repair or needs some refreshing – just do it! If you already have a module and regularly bring it to shows, build another module! If you have an old module you don't use, perhaps you would consider selling it to a new member who would bring it to shows.

Dan Pawling has been gracious enough to hold frequent Tuesday night work sessions in his cellar and has hosted a clinic recently to help various people who are working on modules. If you need help building a module, call Dan at (617) 244-5261 as a first step. If you have built a module, please consider offering your experience to help the newer members work on theirs. Please call Dan and offer to show up and pitch in to help new members. Perhaps those with experience could pair off with a new member who lives close by to help them.

It might seem that the most obvious  
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approach to the originally stated problem is that we need to find more "new" members. I think, however, it is much more important for us to collectively develop and improve the module building skills of the members that we already have. I personally think it is reasonable to expect a new member to produce a finished straightforward module in a year or two. We built 7 starter modules and I know of at least 3 other modules under construction or revision. That is a "pipeline" of at least 10 potential modules in the works! Some of these have begun to appear as "plywood planes" in recent shows. I think as first priority for the club we should all work together to get top quality finished modules out of the pipeline as quickly as possible.

### **Napa Valley Wine Train** **A Gourmet Dining Excursion** **by Roland Kelley**



***The Wine Train headed up with two PA's and they were not smoking.***

Went out to visit my Nephew and his family in Granite Bay, CA. Seeing he lives only a short drive from the Napa Valley Wine Train it was a must do trip. So on April 1st we took the Weekly Vintners Luncheon trip in the Vista Dome Diner. It was a 4-Course Gourmet meal & paired Wine. It is a three hour round trip through the wine country. The lunch, wine and train ride were great. It was a little early to see much in the vineyards along the way as the vines were just starting to bud.



***This is our Dome Diner waiting at the station in Napa, CA for boarding.***



Here is a little history of the Napa Valley Wine Train. If you are ever in the area take a ride and enjoy.

The Napa Valley Railroad Company was founded in 1864 by Samuel Brannan. In 1885 the Southern Pacific Railroad Company purchased the line and it continued in operation for the next 102 years until sold to the Napa Valley Wine Train, Inc. in 1987.

Vincent DeDomenico, Chairman and principal shareholder of Napa Valley Wine Train, is a veteran of more than 50 years in the food business. His success with the Golden Grain Macaroni Company and its most famous product, "Rice-a-Roni," is legend. The pasta dishes served are "Mama" DeDomenico's old family receipts.

As a principal shareholder and President of Golden Grain, Vincent acquired Ghirardelli Chocolate Company of San Francisco from the family of Domingo Ghirardelli, who founded the company in 1852. The present Ghirardelli Chocolate factory was built alongside the Golden Grain pasta plant, equipped with 100 year old cocoa bean roasters and mills remains in Ghirardelli Square and hosts over 1 million visitors per year in this San Francisco landmark. It is famous for fine chocolate, ice cream, and soda fountain.

Vincent DeDomenico was Vice President of the United States for the Confrerie de la Chaine des Rotisseurs, the world's foremost Wine and Food Society with chapters in 122 countries around the world. Vincent received the Gold Medal of Honor in Paris for his efforts to promote the marriage of good food with great wine.

That is what the Wine Train is all about, good food with great wine. Try it out the next time you are in the Napa area.

## **Annual Dues are Due**

**Make checks payable to:**

**Northeast Ntrak for \$20**

**Bring to Annual Meeting or Mail to:**

**Northeast Ntrak**  
**c/o Mr Chuck Tremblay**  
**4 Biggar Ave**  
**Wilmington, MA 01887-4001**

## **Annual Business Meeting** **May 22, 2005 @ 1PM**

**Suggest you bring your own lawn chairs.**

**If you would like to bring some food please coordinate with Bob Pawlak at 781-862-2485.**

### **Directions to Annual Meeting** **(Bob Pawlak's House)**

#### **From Rt. 128 South or North:**

Take **Exit 32 B (Middlesex Turnpike)**. At bottom of ramp, turn **left on Middlesex** (Sign to "Arlington"). (Middlesex Turnpike becomes Lowell Street at Lexington line.) **After about one mile from Rt. 128, turn right on Thoreau** (just after long solid wooden fence on right). **First left along Thoreau is Burroughs Road. 18 Burroughs Road, Lexington**, is gold with brown shutters on your right. (If you miss Thoreau, turn at next right - traffic light at East Street. First right along East Street is Burroughs Road.)

#### **From the far north use Rt. 3 South:**

At the end of Rt. 3 use **Rt. 128 North**. Take **first Exit 32 B (Middlesex Turnpike)** before ever getting onto Rt. 128. Follow rest of instructions as above.

#### **From anyplace else:**

Use a map to get to intersection of Middlesex Turnpike (Lowell Street) and East Street. Burroughs runs between East and Thoreau parallel to Lowell Street.

### **Show Schedule**

**May 19 Children's Hospital, 300 Longwood Dr., Boston, MA**  
Set-up 7am Show 9am to 3pm  
**Robert Pawlak, 781-862-2485**