

President - Mark Ferracane Vice Pres - Dennis Yip
Treasurer - Chuck Tremblay Editor - Roland Kelley

Editor - Northeast Ntrak, 41 Easy Street, Lowell, MA 01850-1731, or
e-mail: NortheastNtrak@msn.com Web Site - www.northeastntrak.org



President's Message

Hey, its show time again. We did our first show in Concord, NH on September 10th. It has been a few years since we did this show, mainly because of conflicts in our show schedule. The layout was 22x14, a small layout but it ran very well. We could have had more modules at the show but, we need more member participation.

Dan and I will be working on making module kits, Bob Pawlak has volunteered to do the wiring kits. The modules will be 4 foot straight modules with mountain division. Also, if you have a module and wish to show it make sure that Bob Pawlak has your correct information as far as what you can show.

Northeast NTRAK has been asked by The N-Scale Collector if we would be able to coordinate the convention in Hartford, Connecticut in August. This will require more participation of our club. I have sent e-mails to Brooklyn NTRAK and Valley NTRAK asking them if they would like to join us.

GOOD NEWS.... We hope to have the club cars ready for Winterfest. Mark



Concord NH show at the Everett Arena. From l to r Dan Pawling, Dick Brotherton, and Doug Lawson.

Wiring Harness Kit For Sale for New Modules *by Bob Pawlak*

I have made up 4 wiring kits and have the wire and parts to make more as needed. The kit consists of: a wiring harness with Cinch Jones plugs soldered and color coded on the ends; a terminal strip in the middle connected to the wires; 8 screws to connect 3 harness mounting blocks and the terminal strip to the underside of a module; and a sheet of instructions with a diagram to get the harness mounted correctly. The harness is designed for a 4' straight module but I think it is also long enough to be used to curve around a 3' corner. After installing the harness with the 8 screws, you solder power feed wires to the tracks and connect the other ends of these wires to the appropriate screws on the terminal strip to complete the wiring of a module. ***(A 120 VAC power strip is no longer part of the module wiring process because "daisy chaining" such power strips is now against the new fire code.)***

The 5 wire kit for Mountain Division modules (red, yellow, blue, green, and white wires) is offered at \$27 and the 4 wire kit (no Mountain Division green wire) is \$24. Note that this is cheaper than a set of 5 pairs of Cinch Jones connectors from Ntrak for \$32.50 (*not to mention the additional cost of the wire and terminal strip*) because I utilized used connectors that I got from Hub Division when their HO module group converted to Powerpole connectors. I opened them up, unsoldered the wires, cleaned the connectors, etc. I realize the preferred Ntrak approach for new modules is to use Powerpole connectors and heavy gauge wires to help DCC operations on large layouts. The people in Raleigh, NC, Northern Virginia, etc. have converted to do things this way. However, since nobody in our club (to my knowledge) has built a new module using Powerpole connectors or converted their old module to Powerpole connectors, I can't see offering wiring harnesses with Powerpole connectors that won't connect to the rest of the club. To be politically correct, those building new modules should use Powerpole connectors and the heavy wire but should also build a set of Powerpole to Cinch Jones converters to be able to connect their module to our existing club modules.

Wheel Cleaning Idea *found by D. Pawling, Sr.*

Someone in the U.K. has a wheel cleaning idea that I have not seen in the U.S. mode RR press. He claims to use a battery powered, hand-held, rotary toothbrush on metal and plastic wheels. The brush is nylon, washable and replaceable. He says it will not scratch the wheels. Gee, this might be a way to get back at the one who shaves legs with your razor???

"MTL special run #951-070 - Pacific Fruit Express R-70-12" by Paul Azevedo



I should say I am a "dyed-in-the-wool" railfan, having been bitten by the model railbug at 6 years of age. In 1970 I inherited a Lionel train set from my cousin Jack Azevedo. It was that train set, with the ubiquitous F-3 in Santa Fe Warbonnet livery, that drew my interest to the west. The UP, SP, and the ATSF are still my favorite railroads.

The twilight of steam, 1950-60, is the period that I model. Naturally, I considered a car from that time period. My choice of the R-70-12 was influenced by the fact that Micro-Trains Line, Co. already had produced this model.

The R-70-12 mechanical reefers were built by the Southern Pacific Equipment Co., from April of 1960, throughout the rest of that year. The cars are painted PFE reefer orange, w/ black ends, an aluminum roof, and equipped with "load dividers" as noted by the "LD" on the doors. Pacific Fruit Express is printed in black Gothic font on the car sides, w/ white end print. The UP/SP heralds are in black outline. The cars are fitted w/ Micro-Trains Line, Co. roller bearing trucks and couplers. The Pacific Fruit Express Company was incorporated in Salt Lake City, Utah on December 7th, 1906. That being said, you could say my special run #951-070 is a "centennial" production.

This special run will be advertised in the upcoming *N Scale Collector*. The price of \$60.00 / 2-pk includes USPS Priority shipping w/ insurance. You may send a check / money order to:

Paul Azevedo
P.O. Box 2041
Fall River, MA 02722-2041

**** NEW MEMBER ****

Paul Azevedo, 7 Jefferson Court, Fall River, MA 02720
email: paul.azevedo@hotmail.com
Phone: 506-679-8810

Paul is an ATSF buff. Focal point is southwest - ATSF, Union Pacific, and Southern Pacific. He is building a partial mushroom layout in 9' x 11' spare bedroom.

Show Schedule for 2006 – 2007

Sep 17, 2006, Old Colony Model Railroad Show, Taunton, MA

Holiday Inn, 700 Myles Standish Blvd, Taunton, MA
(Exit 9 off I-495 onto Bay St., go south to first right which is Myles Standish)
Set-up 7am Show 10am to 3pm

Coordinator: John Dunne - 508-697-7635

Sep 24, 2006, Pepperell Siding Show, Pepperell, MA

Varnum Brook Elementary School, Pepperell, MA
Set-up 7AM Show 10AM to 4PM

Coordinator: Ron Wood - 603-889-0741

Nov 5, Bedford Boomers, Bedford, NH

McKelvie Middle School, Liberty Hill Rd/ Gault Rd, Bedford, NH
Set-up 7am Show 10am to 4pm

Coordinator: Ron Wood - 603-206-5572

Nov 12, 2006, Wells Maine Show

Wells Elementary School, Rt. 109, Wells, ME (Maine Tpk exit 19 on Rt. 95, left off ramp about 1 mile on right)

Set-up 8am Show 10am to 4pm

Coordinator: Mark Ferracane - 781-245-3886

Nov 18-19, 2006, Great Train Expo

Shriners Auditorium, Wilmington, MA

Set up Sat 7:30AM Show Sat 10AM to 4PM - Sun 10PM to 4PM

Coordinator: Dan Pawling - 617-244-5261

Dec 2-3, 2006, Hub Division Show, Marlboro, MA

Best Western Royal Plaza Trade Center, Marlboro, MA. (Rt. 20 exit off I-495)

Set up Sat 7:00AM Show Sat 10AM to 4PM - Sun 10PM to 4PM

Coordinator: Peter Wisniewski - 978-658-0866

Jan 26 to 28 WINTERFEST 2006

Big "E" Exposition Center, W.Springfield, MA

Set-up Fri noon to 5pm and Sat 7am * Show Sat & Sun 10am to 5pm

Coordinator: John Dunne - 508-697-7635

Winterfest Coordinator: Bob Pawlak - 781-862-2485

February 17 & 18 Museum of Our National Heritage, Lexington, MA

Set-up Sat 8am Show Sat 10am to 5pm - Sun noon to 5pm

Coordinator: Bob Pawlak - 781-862-2485

February 25 Mystic Valley Show, Foxboro, MA

Christina's Function Facility, Rte 1, Foxboro, MA

Set-up 8am Show 10am to 4pm

Coordinator: Dennis Yip - 617-964-5311

Mar 24-25, 2006 Great Train Expo,

Shriners Auditorium, Wilmington, MA

Set up Sat 7:30AM Show Sat 10AM to 4PM - Sun 10PM to 4PM

Coordinator: Fay Chin - 978-657-7913

Apr 15, 2006, CVMRR Show, Lebanon, NH

Coordinator: Doug Lawson - 603-543-0226

Apr 22, 2006, Hooksett Lyons Club

Cawley Middle School, Hooksett, NH

Set-up 8am Show 10am to 4pm

Coordinator: Mike Walker - 603-426-8620

May 10 Children's Hospital, 300 Longwood Dr, Boston, MA

Set-up 7am Show 9am to 3pm

Coordinator: Bob Pawlak - 781-862-2485

August 9 - 14 N-Scale Collector Convention, Hartford, CT