

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



Museum Show Wrap Up by Bob Pawlak

The National Heritage Museum show was held Saturday, February 17 from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. and Sunday, February 18 from noon to 5 P.M. The layout consisted of a 19' x 23' rectangle with junction modules at both ends of the yard (see photo above). Each junction module led to a peninsula consisting of a 4' straight with mountain, 3' corner with mountain, and a 6' long end loop (see photo below). The Yellow and Blue Line loops were about 74 feet long. The trip out and back around each end loop peninsula was about 36' so the total Red Line loop was about $74' + 36' + 36' = 146'$. The complete 23' x 29' layout filled the center of the Farr Room leaving only 7' to 8' aisles all around the layout. Another 4' of modules in either direction would have made the layout too big for the room.

Two corners and 44' of straights were delivered and set in place on Friday afternoon. Set up continued again on Saturday starting at 7:30 A.M. But because we were short handed by two or three people, only one train was rolling on Yellow Line when the doors opened at 10:00 A.M. The layout was finally operating at close to full capacity by about 10:30 A.M. and the Red Line was converted to DCC operation a short time later. As usual, we ran classy passenger trains, 60-car unit coal and grain trains, the ever popular Thomas the Tank engine and his friends, long freights, steamers, bullet trains, and everything else in between.



President's Message

Well, the good news is that the club cars will be shipped to us on the 17th of April. So far we have sold 10 cars. The cost of cars for Northeast NTRAK club members will be \$23.00. **There will be no shipping available.** You can pick up your order at a show or at the annual meeting. As far as the annual meeting, I would like to know where we should have it this year.

Remember that it must be in a place that members can get to easily. If all else fails we can have it at **The Bay State Model Railroad Museum** in Roslindale, Massachusetts, or a members home. Its for you to decide. Also, we decide what show we can do for the following season. I know we had a few shows this year we had to back out of due to **POOR** club participation. I would like to have the meeting on June 3rd. Is tat date good for everyone?

The N-Scale Collector convention is in August and I would like club members to participate. I have received a number of e-mails from other clubs wishing to show at the convention. The cost of registration for the convention is \$75. People who show modules will get a rebate for participating. Unfortunately I do not

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There were 877 visitors during the 7 hours on Saturday and another 1308 visitors came during the 5 hours on Sunday. People were often standing two or three deep around most of the layout (see photo above). Since the museum charged to see just our trains, families seemed to stay put at a step stool for 10 – 15 minutes at a time before moving on to another part of the railroad. At most other shows, people tend to dwell for no more than about 5 minutes in any one spot before moving on since there is so much else (other layouts, dealers, etc.) to see. In general, families with kids of all ages seemed to enjoy themselves and had a good start to the February school vacation week. (photo's by Mark Ferracane)

Convention Time in Hartford

by Dean Daughenbaugh

Director of Conventions N Scale Collector

Gee, we had a great time, Bill Parks and I, with many of you at the Amherst Train Show and Winterfest. Our thanks for your hospitality.

The East Coast and particularly the Northeast is a new experience for me. I appreciate the opportunity provided by the N Scale Collector / National N Scale Convention to experience your part of the country.

You see the Collector has a system of rotating our annual convention from west, mid-west and them to the east. We are due in the east after successful conventions in Denver last year and San Diego the year before.

Because I have been fortunate to attend every one of the last 14 Conventions I have visited many places that I might otherwise had missed. Not only would I have missed the host city but also, I would have missed many fine railroad places of interest (museums, excursion train rides, and a ride on the Pike Peak Cog Railroad to a breath taking 14,110 feet.

So it is with great enthusiasm I look forward to the 2007 National N Scale Convention in Hartford. I expect that a large number of N Scalers share this enthusiasm to visit with you and to have you show us around and show off the modeling that you do.

Many of you got an overview of the convention plan if you attended the Winterfest banquet. Speaking of which – wasn't that a great meal!

For those of you that missed the Banquet I'd like to review what is planned for Hartford. First off we have found so many fun and exciting things to do we have added two more days to the typical Wednesday to Saturday convention.

We start off Monday August 6 with a bus ride to Hampton, NH for a lobster feed, ride on the 7 ¼ gauge Swamp & Timber RR, tour though Neal Carnby's train shop and tour Model Tech Studios.

Long a Convention feature is a tour of a railroad museum and Tuesday we once again retain this feature with two tours. The Danbury Train Museum and the Shoreline Trolley Museum. In addition we tour GHP Media, the company responsible for printing our Collector Magazine.

Wednesday is the official convention start with registration set for 1:00 pm. At 7:30 we open the doors to the Grand Ballroom for the Micro-Trains hosted desert reception. This is chance to meet old friend and hopefully make a few new ones.

With the success of the silent auction in Denver we plan to repeat this during the reception.

Thursday we are fortunate to have more prototype railroad action with a ride on the Essex Steam Train. We are very near the Groton Sub Base so we will take time to see this as well.

Thursday evening finds us engrossed in the popular live auction and as added last year the 2nd silent auction of the Convention.

Thursday also kicks off the Northeast NTRAK activities with layout set up going on in the 23' X 135' Town Suites display rooms. Model contest room is receiving models for judging in the afternoon as well.

Friday is Swap – A – Rama day – over 100 tables of N Scale and products supporting N Scale. Doors open to the convention at 9:00 am and close at 2:00 pm.

The NTRAK layout is operating, clinics are going on and if Winterfest is a true indicator outstanding contest models will be on display.

Saturday we share our love on N Scale with the public as we open the swap, clinics, model contest and the layouts to the public.

7:00 pm find us gathered for the convention banquet, guest speakers and the now famous raffle prize drawing.

Sunday 8:00 am we return to the Grand Ballroom to have breakfast with the manufactures. Look for Atlas, Athearn, Intermountain, Kato, Micro-Trains (to name just a few) who will share what's new and field your questions.

After breakfast, the time is yours to spend with friends, sight see on your own or return home. The possibilities have me excited and I hope to see you in Hartford.

Show Schedule for 2006 – 2007

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

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

Coordinator: Mark Ferracane - 781-245-3886

know how much it will be. The layout will be set up on Thursday morning and taken down after the public show on Saturday. The public show will be from 10am to 3pm on Saturday. The layout has to be gone by 6pm so they can set up the room for the banquet at 7pm.

The N-Scale Collector magazine has a feature called the "Collector in the Spotlight", I was asked if I would be interested. The March/April issue will feature me as the collector in the spotlight. Membership to the Collector is \$40 per year and you get a special run collectors car. If you do not like the car, put it up on auction. (I have seen them on EBAY selling for over \$50.) And you can make a profit and get membership.

The Great Train Expo Show (Greenburg) is March 24th and 25th. Dan Pawling is the coordinator for the show. We have received a invite from a club in Lebanon, New Hampshire to show on April 15th. Doug Lawson will be the coordinator for that show. He is checking with them to see if they are still interested in us and how much room they can give us.

Until Next Month
Mark

It's going to happen again this year, "Layout Tour 7"

This is just an early reminder that on Sat. April 7, 2007 there will be a FREE self guided Layout tour from 10am to 4pm. (See below for additional information). There will be 8 layouts this year at 7 locations.

Many of these layout owner's have been busy with updates, additions and details. Bill Robertson has put together a self guided model railroad tour again this year of 8 exceptional southeastern Mass. and northern Rhode Island layouts on April 7th of this year.

Layout Tour 07 (Self-guided model railroad Open House 8 Layouts, Saturday April 7, 2007 from 10am to 4pm.

Tour 1 - New England and Western

Bill Robertson, 63 Frontier Drive, Attleboro, MA Tel: 508-222-7776
The New England and Western is a large freelance HO scale railroad, which models New England prototypes of the steam era with numerous interesting line side structures suitable for that period. The layout is operated by Dynatrol command control and features car card freight operation. The scenery is about 50% completed with some very interesting scenes depicting life in the early to mid part of the 20th century. (cont next page)



Advance Order Form Northeast Ntrak Club Car



Preliminary art is shown - final graphics may change slightly.

Northeast NTRAK has commissioned Micro Trains Line to produce a covered hopper in recognition of it's 25 years of model railroading excellence. The car will be painted in B & M blue with bright white graphics. The cost of each car is \$29.00 plus \$7.50 for shipping and handling per order for up to 6 cars. Availability will be Spring 2007. More information on how to order and the status of the project will be posted on our website at www.northeastntrak.org

Send Orders to: Northeast NTRAK
c/o Mark Ferracane
51 Cordis Street
Wakefield, MA 01880

Ship To: _____

Make Checks Payable to NORTHEAST NTRAK

Tour 1A - Narragansett Bay Railway and Navigation Co.

An On30 Modular Group from the Little Rhody Division will have their layout set up in Bill Robertson's garage. One stop at Frontier Drive will allow you to see two layouts. This On30 modular layout depicts a fictional narrow gauge short line operating along the fringes of Narragansett Bay in the early twentieth century. It features many scratch built building and unique kit bashed motive power. Control is NCE DCC and sound equipment locos will be running.

Tour 2 - Old Colony & South Shore Railroad

Cliff Coutinho, 1097 Marlborough Street, New Bedford, MA Tel: 508-896-7616

The HO scale Old Colony & South Shore Railroad is an early 20th century era layout located on the second floor above the garage/workshop and features superb scenery and multi-train operation. Cliff's layout has many scratch-built and super detailed structures from many manufactures with beautiful city and town settings. The scenery is 70% complete. The layout was featured in the October 2004 Model Railroader. The OC&SS is DCC with an NCE system and can be operated with conventional DC also.

Tour 3 - Ed Sylvia's Aquidneck Valley Railroad

Ed Sylvia, 232 Honeyman Ave., Middletown, RI Tel: 401-846-3436

The AVRR is a large HO railroad occupying two rooms, one 20x24 and the other 26x10. The minimum radius is 30 inches and all the track work is complete. The scenery is about 90% complete. The total track laid is about 1300 feet. Trains are powered by diesels and controlled by a Digitrax DCC radio system with sound. The railroad has two large freight yards, numerous industries including 3 coalmines and ore mine and gravel processing plant, many bridges in an eastern mountainous setting. The layout was featured in the November 2004 Model Railroader.

Tour 4 - Providence & Worcester

Donald Itrace, 11 Road C., North Scituate, RI Tel: 401-647-2455

The layout is 42x25, double decked located in the basement. It is a fictitious track plan between Worcester, MA and Fresh Pond Yard in Queens, NY. It models the Providence & Worcester Railroad as a regional freight carrier with trackage rights on the Amtrak's northeast corridor. Commodities include paper goods, coal, stone, plastic resins, and much more. Interchange is made with CSX, Sea View a shortline RR located in Davisville, RI and the New England Central RR in CT and the Gilford Rail System in Gardner, MA.

Tour 5 - Quebec & New England Railway

Jim Reddington's and Associate's, 17 Mia Court, Warwick, RI (Please enter through the garage) Tel: 401-738-6899

The HO scale layout which, when completed, will occupy a basement space of 44x26'. Approximately 60% of the trackwork is in place of which 15% is scenicked. The layout is mostly freelanced, freight only, operating from the Springfield, MA area to St. Johnsbury and beyond in the 1969-1980 period all with diesels. There is also a considerable Canadian Pacific presence. Control is NCE DCC, a combination of tethered and radio modes in the walk-around style with several sound equipped locomotives.

Tour 6 - Connecticut River Line

Neil Schofield, 24 Rye Street, Seekonk, MA Tel: 508-336-1390

The layout is loosely based on the CP/BM Connecticut River Line operations, circa 1980. Most of the benchwork is built in the 20'x24' room and a 2'x16' section approximately 90 percent finished. The layout includes scratchbuilt structures and prototypically correct rolling stock. Staging yards representing Famham and Sherbrooke, Quebec allow limited operations on the DCC controlled layout.

Tour 7 - Atlantic Great Eastern Railroad

Jeff Leonard, 184 Jerrold St., Holliston, MA. Tel: 508-429-6546

(Due to a family illness Please call Jeff on the day of the tour prior to visiting)

The Atlantic Great Eastern Railroad is an HO scale railroad modeling the Northern New Jersey area in 1958. It is a point to point design with continuous running through a large staging yard. The staging serves as both ends of the railroad which runs around the walls, with a 115' mainline and 2% maximum grade. Most of the track is hand laid; and the scenery is 30% finished. The railroad is powered by DC, and features both steam and diesel motive power. The layout is operated with a car card system.

For maps go to Google. Type address in Google search and enter, Go to Google maps, enter the address and map will appear.

Bill has asked me to acknowledge the people from whom he got this idea. They are Bruce Robinson and the late Bill (Guido) Borrelli who together conceived "Tour d'Chooch", as a great way to spend the weekend after Thanksgiving touring northern Mass and southern NH layouts.