



**February 2008
NEWSLETTER**

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President's Message

Winterfest 2008

**See you at Winterfest
January 25 to 27, 2008**

Well, Winterfest is here again!!! Let's get psyched up for the fun weekend. In a few days we will be together having fun. The layout will start being assembled on Friday starting at Noon. This year there will be a new building added to the show. The Mallory Complex will add new layouts and vendors to the show. There was a six year waiting list for vendors to get into the show. Well, I hope that there is more bargains this year, good luck shopping. The layout will be up and running on Saturday morning. Please help out running the layout. We need tower operators and volunteers to run the layout. Also, get your entries for the contests ready. (To save time print out your entry forms before entering your entries.)

**Eastern States Exposition
"The Big E"
1305 Memorial Avenue
West Springfield, MA
Convention hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn
800 West Columbus Avenue
Springfield, MA**

Our next two shows will be in February, National Heritage Museum in Lexington and the Mystic Valley show in Foxboro. The dates are 16th and 17th and 24th respectively. Lets have a good showing of members at these shows.

My wife works at a Nursing/ Rehabilitation Center, I was thinking we could do a semi-private show for the patients and their families. The show would be on a weekend and it could run from 10am to 3:30pm. We could make it the last show of the season.

Speaking of the season we need to plan our annual meeting. I am open to any suggestions please give you your ideas.

Thanks, Mark

New Address for Chuck & Sue Tremblay:

59 Greenside Way Phone: 978-984-5535
Methuen, MA 01844

We wish them well in there new home.

Date change for GTE Show in Wilmington:

March 29 - 30, 2008

Date change for Hooksett Show:

April 20, 2008

Welcome Back to Christopher Spampinato

PO Box 1677 Phone: 207-646-6828
Wells, ME 04090-1677

Welcome Two New Members

John Doehring 978-433-6337
34 Hadley Road
Pepperell, MA 01463 jddoehring@yahoo.com

John works as a Management Consultant. He would like to build a module right away.

Ray Houlihan 207-443-3192
35 Woods Crossing
West Bath, ME 04530 oxdriver48@suscom-maine.net

Ray is one of the MaiNetrak club members that is bringing 8 or more 4' OneTrak modules and 4 2' corners to the Winterfest show to set up a rectangle within our 30' x 80' Ntrak space.

BIG SKY: The Fifth Day
Montana or Bust. Do or die!
by Dan Pawling Jr. & Sr.



Photo bottom of first column and above concentrate on the train nearest the road. In this same area we saw an open pit coal mine feeding a power generating station directly via a long conveyor.

Following a real cowboy breakfast in Sturgis, SD, we took a short tour of the Bad Lands country: rugged and beautiful; roadway excellent. Then into Wyoming on I-90. About noontime we began to see evidence of BNSF rail and equipment on the south (left) side of the highway. (photo above). We had entered the Powder River Coal Basin and for about the 20 miles between Moorscroft and Gillette, WY, had an almost constant view of railroading. The RR runs east-west here paralleling the highway. We did not have the time to stop for pictures, so our shots while moving tend to be a bit blurry.

We saw more BNSF track work from I-90 as we approached Billings, MT. By 6:30 PM we were at Billings Airport to meet with family who had flown in. About two hours later we had driven through our first rain storm and reached our goal -- the Gans family's camp (photo below) -- after 5 days, 2,700 miles, many photo ops, on time, in good condition, to a green valley, clusters of 50' tall lodgepole pines and best of all a warm family welcome.



Two rail yards are in this stretch. Separating the east and west yards are branches which run directly north and directly south to the coal mines. Both the north and directly south to the coal mines. Both the north and south branches are connected to the mainline by individual wyes about half a mile apart, providing maximum flexibility for routing empty and loaded trains. We left the I-90 for a local road that runs along the south side of the mainline. Here we saw five train sets headed by double and triple power units (photo above).



Show Schedule for 2007 – 2008

Jan 25 to 27, 2008, [WINTERFEST 2008, West Springfield, MA](#)

Big "E" Exposition Center, West Springfield, MA

Set-up Fri noon to 5pm and Sat 7am * Show Sat 9am to 5pm - Sun 10am to 5pm

Coordinator: John Dunne - 508-697-7635

Winterfest Coordinator: Bob Pawlak - 781-862-2485

Feb 16 & 17, 2008 Museum of Our National Heritage, Lexington, MA

Set-up Sat 7:30am Show Sat 10am to 5pm - Sun noon to 5pm

Coordinator: Bob Pawlak - 781-862-2485

Mar 29-30, 2008 Great Train Expo, Wilmington, MA

Shriners Auditorium, Wilmington, MA

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

Coordinator: Dan Pawling - 617-244-5261

Apr 20, 2008, Hooksett Lyons Club, Hooksett, NH

Cawley Middle School, Hooksett, NH

Set-up 8am Show 10am to 3pm

Coordinator: Mike Walker - 603-426-8620