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### President's Message

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.)

Our next two shows will be in February, National Heritage Museum in Lexington and the Mystic Valley show in Foxboro. The dates are 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> 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

# Winterfest 2008

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

**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**

### 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](mailto:jddoehring@yahoo.com)

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

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**Ray Houlihan** 207-443-3192  
35 Woods Crossing  
West Bath, ME 04530 [oxdriver48@suscom-maine.net](mailto: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**