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President's Message Mark Ferracane

Well our season is winding down. We have 3 more shows left to do this year. Greenburg's, Hooksett Lions Club and the NMRA Convention in Hartford, Connecticut. Ron Wood is the Coordinator for the Hooksett Show. Please contact him via phone or E-Mail if you can bring something.

I am still looking for participation from the club on who is going to attend Hartford. So far John Dunne, Ron Cavanaugh and Roland Kelley are the only 3 who have expressed interest in attending. I know that a lot of us are on Vacation during the Summer and are OUT OF TOWN. But if you plan your Vacation around the show it would help. The show runs from July 8th to 12th. The Hotel that we are staying at is the Crown Plaza in Hartford and the Convention rate for rooms is \$110 per night. Mention the NMRA when reserving a room for the Lowest rate.

Do we have any Volunteers for who would like to host the Annual Club Meeting?

The agenda for the meeting is the following:

1. Review of last Season
2. Financial Report
3. Club Car Sales
4. New Business: Shows for next season
5. Purchase of a Trailer for the Modules. (Yes I know it is a DEAD issue, but If someone volunteers to purchase one it would help out the club alot.)



THE NATIONAL
MODEL RAILROAD
CONVENTION



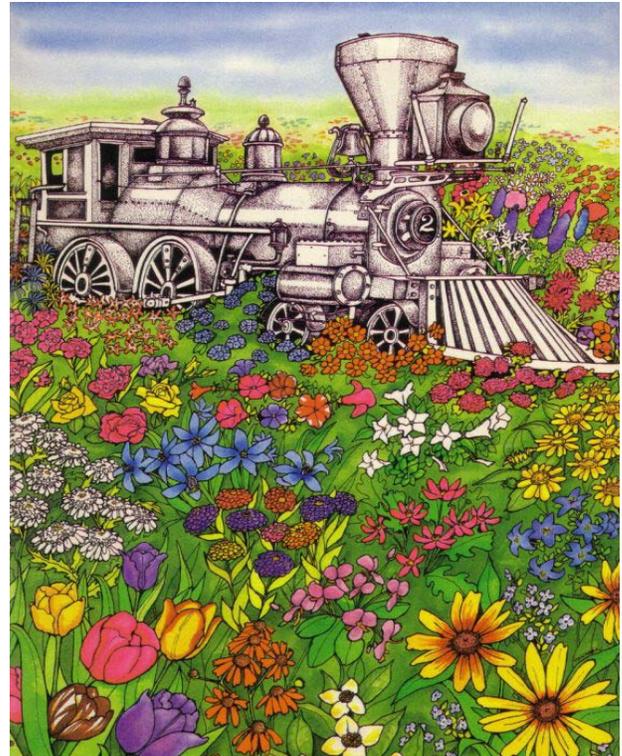
National Model Railroad Association

Hartford National 2009, July 5 - July 12, 2009, Hartford, Connecticut

Go to there convention web site for more details:

www.hn2009.org

An April Puzzler?? by Dan Pawling, Sr.



Many years ago I found a greeting card I thought would delight a train loving friend. As I wrote my message, I kept looking at the picture. I liked it so much that I got another card and framed it. The picture is what you see here -- an ancient 4-4-0 American locomotive surrounded by a lush field of many different colorful flowers. Overtime, I came to believe that the picture has a "secret" message. But what is the message, if any?? That's the puzzle!! I will share my thoughts next month in this paper. In the meantime I ask that you study the picture closely and ponder its possible hidden meaning.

Then send your thoughts to me at 140 West 58th Street,, Aptmnt 6B, New York NY 10019, to arrive before April 10th, or use the E-mail at:

dpawlingsr@mailstation.com. I will include your answers with mine. (The artist is Sharon Tondreau for In Touch Cards; forgive me if I have violated the copyright to share her vision).

Wonderful Winterfest by Victor Brown

Danno - I wanted to thank all the nice folks who we met at the Big E last month. Feel free to send this to the NTrak members as well as the members of the other clubs that were with us in Springfield. You are welcome to re-print it if you think it is something that would be appropriate for the newsletter.

My 10 year-old son, Jack Brown and I recently returned from this year's Winterfest show at the Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Mass and I would like to say a word of thanks to all the very kind members - both the Northeast Ntrak club as well as the many other clubs - who attended the show and let us hang out and talk trains all weekend!

Jack joined Northeast Ntrak last year thanks to the encouragement of Dan Pauling. Since then, I have seen Jack grow and develop skills that are uniquely suited to model railroading. These include the obvious fields of study such as basic electronics, wiring, design, and mechanics, not to mention history. Then there are the intangible life skills like patience, sharing, working in close quarters with others, care of tools and equipment, etc.

As parents, we try to teach our kids all these valuable life lessons. However, the reality is, sometimes young people will listen to another adult better than they will to their own Mom or Dad. It's a beautiful thing! Jack is highly motivated to learn all he can about this wonderful hobby. It's obvious to me that it's more than just playing with trains. It's the terrific people who make it such a great way to spend a day together!

Victor and Jack Brown



Linda and Rick Spano.

Winterfest Wrap-Up Omission by Bob Pawlak

I must apologize for a serious omission from the excellent coverage of the Winterfest Wrap-Up in last month's newsletter. It should have included the following information: Our guest speaker this year was Rick Spano, a regular participant of Winterfest for many years. Rick is the proud owner of the Sceniced and Undecided Railway, an excellent N-scale home layout. Rick and his wife Linda attended the 2003 Australian N Scale Convention. The title of Rick's presentation was "A Touch of Model Railroading and Model Railroading in the Land Down Under." Rick did an excellent job of quickly presenting more than 250 pictures of layouts and modeling efforts in N, 2mm, Nn3.5, HO, and On30 scales of several Australian friends. He gathered and edited digital pictures and still shots captured from his videos onto a single CD. Thanks Rick for a job well done!

He's from the wrong side of the tracks!!



Where does this phrase come from?

Steam trains were the main source of transport back in the olden days and created a lot of pollution. They ran on coal which, of course, produced heavy smoke and soot. Naturally the wind would blow the smoke to one side of the track. This would be the side that the poor people lived on as the richer people would not want to breath in such air! Therefore if you were from the wrong side of the track you unfortunately lived on the dirty, polluted, poor side.

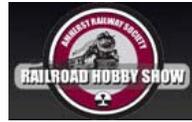
Show Schedule for 2008 – 2009

Mar 28 & 29, 2009 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 19, 2009, Hooksett Lyons Club, Hooksett, NH
Cawley Middle School, Hooksett, NH
Set-up 8am Show 10am to 4pm
Coordinator: Ron Wood - 603-206-5572

July 5-11, 2009, Hartford NMRA Convention
Start planning now. Need many modules
Coordinator: Mark Ferracane - 781-587-3996 (cell 617-938-0385)

Winterfest 2009



Winterfest and the Amherst Railway



by Dan Pawling, Sr.

Module Contest Winners



**1st Prize John Dunne
Cable Stayed Bridge**



**2nd Prize Bill Pontin
Logging Camp**



**3rd Prize Harry Smith
Ore Dock**

Northeast Ntrak knows the Amherst Railway Society (ARS) as the sponsor of the Annual Big Railroad Hobby Show to which the club has been invited to operate an N-Scale layout for many years. While the members may be most familiar with ARS through the Big Show, the Society has a broader purpose: to educate about railroads and railroad history. The ARS is a non-profit organization able to receive tax-deductible gifts and to make grants to other non-profit railroad oriented organizations. Proceeds from the Big Show are a major source of these grants. According to ARS records, over \$32,000 was given to 29 groups in 2007, and in 2008 "...full or partial funding of 22 projects for over \$42,000..." was made.

This writer is familiar with some of the recipients, for example: Danbury (CT) RR Museum, turntable repairs; Branford (CT) ERSA/Shoreline Trolley Museum, renovation of 1905 Wason car; Flying Yankee Restoration Group; Palmer (MA) Public Library, equipment for RR Research Center; Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum, track and overhead rehab and extension. Others receiving grants have mostly been in New England, with others in NY, PA, and Chama, NM. Grants have been made for research facilities, rolling stock, infrastructure and buildings, all with that educational purpose in mind.

Northeast NtraK, and the many clubs contributing time and effort to the Winterfest portion of the Big Show, which has attracted about 20,000 visitors over each of the past several years, can take satisfaction and comfort in knowing that that effort goes well beyond the walls of the Better Living Center to promote interest in railroading, both model and prototype.

(i got my info from the Society's website www.AmherstRail.org. You can, too.).

It's all in the way you say it!

A 7-year old and a 4-year old are upstairs in their bedroom. "You know what?", says the 7 year old, "I think it's about time we start swearing. The 4 year old nods his head in approval. "When we go downstairs for breakfast I'm gonna say hell, and you say ass, OK?" "OK", the 4 year old agrees with enthusiasm.

The mother walks into the kitchen and asks the 7 year old what he wants for breakfast. "Aw, hell Mom, I guess I'll have some Cheerios." WHACK!! He flew out of his chair, tumbled across the kitchen floor, got up, and ran upstairs crying his eyes out. She looked at the 4 year old and asked with a stern voice, "What do you want for breakfast, young man?"

"I don't know", he blubbers, "but you can bet your ass it won't be Cheerios"



Shirt Call in Order Form 2009

The shirt orders that some club members have made need to be redone.

I will be returning your checks & old order forms if I see you at the Wilmington Greenberg Train show or I will be mailing them back to you. There are instructions below on how to order the shirts directly from the Unifirst Company. When you call the number below please ask for Brandi Atwell she is aware of the order. The logo & your name should be included the cost listed below. I apologize for this inconvenience. Dan Pawling

Logo does not have white back ground as shown



Long or short sleeve blue oxford with button down collar

Constructed of 60/40 cotton/poly for durability and tailored with a full cut for extra comfort. Other features include a topstitched, button-down, banded collar; back box pleat; seven-button front; and a single chest pocket. Machine wash. Imported.

Short & Long Sleeve Oxford Size Chart

Size	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
Neck	14-14½	15-15½	16-16½	17-17½	18-18½	19-19½	20-20½
Short Sleeve	SS						
(Reg) Long sleeve	33	33½	34	34½	35	35	35
(Long) Long sleeve	35½	35½	36	36	36	36	36



Its time to get your new shirts. I really like this polo shirt!

Shirt Sizing Instructions:

- A. Neck Size: Hold tape snugly around neck and measure.
- B. Sleeve Length: Measure from the bottom center back of neck (top of spine) down the arm across the elbow to the wrist bone.
- C. Chest Size: Men measure around the fullest part of chest, under arms.
- D. Bust/Chest Size: Women measure around the shoulder blades, under arms and around the fullest part of the bust.

Polo Size Chart

Size	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
Chest	34-36	38-40	42-44	46-48	50-52	54-56	58-60

Gray Polo with black trim 60/40 Cotton /Poly mesh pique knit Soil-Release and fabric protector Three button placket and straight bottom hem

(Women order by men's chest sizes)

For orders call Brandi Atwell Unifirst at 1-888-786-4347 brandi_atwell@unifirst.com

The costs below are subject to change, plus shipping and local tax

Order by product number listed by each type of shirt

Grand Total Shirt type	Shirt Size	Cost Per Shirt	
Long Sleeve Blue Oxford 0111 (09)	Small to XL Necks 14 1/2 to 17 1/2	\$24.34	
	Same shirt size Extra Long Sleeve	Add \$2.00	
Long Sleeve Blue Oxford 0111 (09)	2XL to 4XL Neck 18 to 18 1/2	\$ 25.74	
	Same shirt size Extra Long Sleeve	Add \$2.00	
Short Sleeve Blue Oxford 0211 (09)	Small to XL 14 1/2 to 17 1/2	\$ 22.94	
Short Sleeve Blue Oxford 0211 (09)	2XL to 4XL Neck 18 to 18 1/2	\$ 24.34	
Gray Polo Shirt 02DE (IC)	Small to XL	\$ 20.84	
Gray Polo Shirt 02DE (IC)	2XL & 3XXL	\$ 22.24	
Gray Polo Shirt 02DE (IC)	4XL	\$ 24.34	