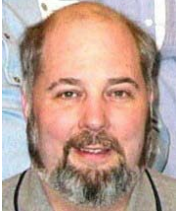


President - Mark Ferracane Vice Pres - Geof Smith  
Treasurer - Chuck Tremblay Editor - Roland Kelley

Editor - Northeast Ntrak, 41 Easy Street, Lowell, MA 01850-1731, or  
e-mail: [NortheastNtrak@msn.com](mailto:NortheastNtrak@msn.com) Web Site - [www.northeastntrak.org](http://www.northeastntrak.org)



### President's Message Mark Ferracane

Well, we had to cancel the Rochester, New Hampshire Show due to lack of Member participation.

I am NOT happy about it! We only canceled one show this year. Let's try to commit to all the Shows next year. We also need members to have Modules! Next season I hope we have more members with Modules. Our last show of the season is Hooksett, New Hampshire.

Welcome back Devin Afshin. We need your Modules! I hope over the summer more Modules will be built. We need Straights and Corner Modules. 4 foot Modules are easier to build and Transport.

As far as our Annual Meeting I have only had 4 replies to my suggestion of the Steaming Tender. 2 against 2 for. Come on Please let me know where you want to have the meeting. The meeting will be on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Frank Dignan made a suggestion that we have a club outing in Peabody. George Sellios "Franklin and South Manchester" layout is located in Downtown Peabody. If you have never seen it, it is Great! It has been featured in many Model Railroad Magazines. I will contact George and see when we can visit. We can also meet for Breakfast at the Little Depot Diner in Downtown Peabody. Brian Matthews, your bucket list will be almost complete! Lol.

I am working on the Schedule for next year. Let's make sure we can do ALL the Shows on the list. Email me with any Show suggestions.

Til next Month, Mark

The NVNTRAK will hold the 2014 Capitol Limited N Scale East Convention. The dates of the Convention will be from Thursday, August 7th through Sunday, August 10th, 2014. Start planning to attend. It is a great show and let me know if you might plan to attend as I am planning to. Hope to see you there. Roland

### Greenberg Show Wrap-up by Frank Dignan

GREENBERG show was held on March 23-24 and was a very successful show for Northeast Ntrak. For those that don't know there is always Friday setup at this show you can get in at 12:30 -7:30 . Saturday setup went well not to much shifting the modules around and no electrical issues thanks to Peter Wisniewski. The layout ran well with little or no track problems and lots of time to run trains . Thanks to all the module owners Bob Fallier, 8str +4cor Bob Pawlak 12 bridge module ,John Doehring 12 str, Dan Pawling 4 str , Mark Ferricane 4 str +3cor Frank Dignan 4str and 3cor and Peter Mathews club boxes lift bridge, yard and 3cor . I also want to thank new member George Michaels Sat setup and Toshi Abe who could not bring his modules but did showup on Sunday at 2:30 to assist in tear down and transport out to members cars. A couple of problems i see as a show coordinator the lack of stand alone 4ft modules with out them we loose our flexibility for differant layouts. Also its up to the members to call or Email the coordinator as soon as possible if they want to bring modules to a upcoming show . Sign up sheet should be posted for up coming show , Off the soapbox the next stop for this train I see will be Hooksett N.H. give Ron Wood a call see you there. Let me not forget to thank all that ran the trains at Greenbergs thats what the public come to see. THANKS Frank D



### Get ready to celebrate all things train

Mark May 11 on your calendar for the 6th annual National Train Day. From big cities to small towns, it's a nation-wide celebration of trains and train travel, featuring more than 100 events in communities around the country.

This free day of family-friendly fun will arrive before you know it, so find out more about National Train Day celebrations taking place near you and make your travel plans today. Additional festivities are always being added, so be sure to check the event schedule regularly.

**Spartanburg, South Carolina**  
**A trip to the "Hub City"**  
**by Ron Wood**

This year instead of attending Winterfest, I made a trip to South Carolina. My wife Carolyn and I visited relatives in the town of Inman which is about halfway between Greenville and Spartanburg. Spartanburg has the nickname as the Hub City due to the fact that at one time there were 6 rail lines radiating out of the city, (like the spokes on a wheel and Spartanburg as the hub).

A little tidbit on Inman, this town is on the Saluda line which runs between Spartanburg and Asheville, NC and featured the sharpest mainline grade in the country with grades between 4 and 5% ! Norfolk Southern closed the line as a through route several years ago but still operates local service on the line as far as Landrum, SC. We heard a couple of trains on that line in Inman but it was at night so we could not investigate further. At the Amtrak station in downtown Spartanburg is the Hub City Railroad Museum which is only open one or two days a week including Saturdays. It is a real gem and stuffed with all sorts of railroad artifacts from the south and the local area in general. It really is worth a visit. It was very helpful to also talk with the volunteer (docent?) who was incredibly knowledgeable about the local history of the area. A few more tidbits about the Spartanburg area. It had a large woolen and textile industry in years past as most of the companies in New England moved to that area due to lower costs and labor. There is lots of industry currently as there is a major BMW assembly plant that produces BMW SUV's. They also have their own dedicated Norfolk Southern Auto Rack train. Also, the area of Spartanburg county is the largest peach processing area in the country. Georgia may have been named the peach state but Spartanburg county alone produces more peaches than all of Georgia! There was a lot of train activity at the depot courtesy of Norfolk Southern. The line is part of their Crescent Corridor and runs From New York to New Orleans. Amtrak's Crescent stops but at 11:30pm and 4:45 am. The odd hours are to accommodate the arrival and departures times at the beginning and end of the route. The line is mostly a single track line but is currently undergoing a multi million dollar upgrade including adding a second track and upgraded signals among other features. Also an "inland port" is under construction so double stack containers and intermodal will continue to increase when that facility is up and running. If you ever find yourself in that part of the country it is definitely worth a visit. Ron.

