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President's Message Frank Dignan

Hello everybody Frank here now I know how Obama feels he cant get anything done and as president of Northeast Ntrak neither can I. Approximately eighteen years ago I was invited to a meeting by the senior members of this club and put a list of improvements that I thought could be made to this club. I did come up with about three or four things and they were mostly shot down for one reason or another. Now I am one of the senior members and current president and I put a list of improvements together that I think would make the club more enjoyable to the members and more professional in the public eye with the same results nada. Being president here is like a ships captain with out a rudder just go with the tide and don't make waves.

Next one thing I have done is get name badges for new members and replacements for lost ones .I will have them at Springfield see me there I believe I got all active members covered.

Springfield is less than two weeks away I have no information on what is going on .So at this time all I can say is if you are bringing a module get it ready by cleaning it and make any repairs . Bring your best or favorite train check couplers and clean and check the wheels. Most of all we are in this for fun and enjoyment see you all at the end of the week.

Frank D

Another AMTRAK NorthEast RegionalTrain at South Station, Boston

Story and Photos by Dan Pawling, Sr.

At first look this locomotive seems to be Acela power. The nose slope seems the same, but wait, there is a cab on each end. That makes No. 654 an HPP-8 and I finally get to see one close up rather than speeding past. This train started in Washington DC and arrived in Boston at 2 PM. The ride was comfortable, the on-board snack and coffee excellent and the scenery spectacular. PS: On the left is the cab car on an MBTA commuter train.



A cab on each end increases the utility of the engine, but one would have to run around one's train to reverse the train for any distance. I am not aware that AMTRAK has cab cars in the Northeast service. I have seen a valve on a hose connected to the air brake line. When the train is being backed a short distance the operator can signal the engineer by flicking the valve.



Here's how the engine supplies head-end power to the passenger cars, nine of which followed 654 north. Wikipedia has an interesting write up on this engine -- just type HPP-8 on Google search. It was a replacement for the tired old GG-1's that AMTRAK inherited from PRR, later Penn-Central.





Happy New Year from **Capitol Limited N Scale East 2014** and www.bigtrainlayout.org.

It is a little over 200 days until Capitol Limited N Scale East 2014 (August 7 – 10, 2014) opens in Chantilly, Virginia. The Capitol Limited N Scale East 2014 is more than just a train show for the public. It is four days of events for the N scale model railroad community. Among the planned events are:

- Tours for rail and non-rail fans including a visit to the National Air and Space Museum's Stephen F. Udvar-Hazy Center and a local vineyard;
- "How-To" Clinics;
- Home layout tours;
- Auction and swap meets;
- Breakfast with convention sponsors;
- And a big train show

Now is time to bookmark www.bigtrainlayout.org on your internet browser. Registration for the convention can be made online or by mail. Online registration is at <http://www.bigtrainlayout.org/news/onlineregistrationnowavailable> Hurry, because the "Early Bird" registration rate of \$75 goes up to \$90 on March 1st (No Exceptions).

Hotel accommodations are being posted on www.bigtrainlayout.org. Presently, arrangements have been made with the Westfields Marriott and the Chantilly Hampton Inn. More accommodations will be posted shortly.

It is also time to get your modules ready for the show! Layouts will include NTRAK, Mountain Division, oNeTRAK, T-TRAK, nN3, Bend Track, and N scale operations layouts. Trains will run using DCC and analog controls. The online registration of N scale modules will be available at www.bigtrainlayout.org shortly.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Chantilly, Virginia, in August.

JB Weillepp
Capitol Limited N Scale East 2014 Co-chair
capitollimited2014@gmail.com

Pennsylvania Railroad GG-1



Obtained from the Washington University Public FTP Archives in 1995 Any photo credit or captioning information would be most appreciated.

2013-2014 NENTrak SHOW PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

Jan 24-26, 2014 Winterfest, Springfield, MA Amherst Railway Society - Big Railroad Hobby Show

Big "E" Exposition Center, West Springfield, MA

Set-up: Fri noon to 5pm & Sat 7am to 9am

Show Sat 9am to 5pm - Sun 10am to 5pm

Layout Coordinator: Dan Pawling Jr., 617-244-5261

Winterfest Chairman: Bob Fallier - 603-465-3785

Feb 15-16, 2014 National Heritage Museum, Lexington, MA

Set-up: Fri 1pm - 4:30pm & Sat 7:30am to 10:00am

Show Sat 10am to 4:30pm - Sun noon to 4:00pm

Coordinator: Bob Pawlak - 781-862-2485

March 22-23, 2014 Great Train Expo, Shriners Auditorium, Wilmington, MA

Set-up: Sat 7:30am - Show Sat 10am to 4pm

Set-up: Sun 9:00am - Show Sun 10am to 4pm

Coordinator: Frank Dignan - 508-866-9660

April 20, 2014 Hooksett Lions Club, Cawley Middle School, Hooksett, NH

Set-up: 8am - Show 10am to 4pm

Coordinator: Ron Wood - 603-320-0639

June 2014, N-Scale Enthusiast Roanoke, VA

August 7-10, 2014 Capitol Limited N Scale East Convention, Dulles Expo Center, Chantilly, VA If you are interested go to:

www.bigtrainlayout.org

Show Dates **Subject to Change**...Check Newsletters for Updates. Please check schedule for errors and send up dates to Roland at: northeastntrak@msn.com Thanks for your help.