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President's Message Frank Dignan

Hello everybody Frank here going to try to cover a lot of ground this month. First let me thank the volunteers that made our Winterfest a success. Dan Pawling show coordinator, Bob Pawlak the money man, Geoff Smith contest operator and Bob and Diane Fallier show chairman also members that brought modules. THANKS again.

Next I had a chance at Springfield to talk to other clubs about there meetings and how many do they have a year. It ran about one a month for the most part. I asked this because its time we consider more than one a year a lot of things go by the way with just one. We don't need a monthly meeting maybe three or four a year. I am looking for a location to hold meetings on the north shore of Boston where most members live. So if you know of a location like Elks hall , School hall ,restaurant with private room please let me know. Here are some things we have to consider for now we need to find a home for three modules that belong to Steve Cappers that he is lending to the club these are excellent modules. They were part of Northeast shows for many years again let me know. We also have to consider a couple of new shows one in New Hampshire the Connecticut Valley Modelrailroaders in North Sutton on April 13. Next we have been asked if we are interested in doing the Hub Division Show next September in Palmer Mass contact John Doehring this would be a great show for us we don't have anything in Sept I am in for this one. One more is the NTRAK EAST CONVENTION in August they need to know if you are planning to bring modules so they can make up the layout. This will be held in Chantilly Virginia Aug 7-10 our contact again Roland K . One more thing I had a talk with our President no not that one I am talking Bruce Alcock about our DCC program that we seam to consider a toy for the children .His suggestion was we need a DCC captain or master to be responsible for it to set it up and maintain and keep it with them when not in use. This I think is a good idea as we left Springfield it was in a pile on the table no one knowing who owned what, Any volunteers? The next show for us will be in Lexington this is a great show for us no pressure nothing to buy no dealers .Just run trains it has a carpeted floor lots of spectators what else can you ask for and Sunday you can sleep in it dose no open till

Winterfest Wrap Up From the "Chairman's Chair"...

Well folks, Winterfest 2014 has come and gone and it was a pleasure to meet and greet our members and the many people who support us with their products.

Headline News: If you missed the show, or couldn't make the banquet on Saturday, you missed a wonderful presentation by Bruce Alcock, the new president of NTrak. Bruce gave us quite a history of NTrak and for many of the members present it was a real "old home days" event getting reacquainted with old friends. Bruce and his charming wife Chris spent many hours at the show with us in multiple conversations. A real surprise were his gifts to us, part of his personal collection of cars, which were offered to members in lieu of the "table" prizes. Congratulations to those of you who were lucky enough to receive part of his collection. I was exceptionally pleased to give Bruce a litho copy of original art from Cam Sargent. Many of us from the Mass. & NH area have seen Cam at work at Greenberg and other local shows. Incredible detail! Thank you very much Bruce and Cam!

Page 2: A very special Thank You to my wife Diane. I could not do my job without her help right through the weekend. While the contest committee is tabulating votes, Diane is organizing and sorting the special awards with the correct certificates.... and trying to keep me focused at the end of a long day (and for someone as A.D.D as me, that's a real task).

A Special Thanks to Dan and Chris for master-mining the layout and getting everything running! Thank you to Bob P, Geof, & Steve for hours of labor both before and during the show for all the prep work on the On-Line Registration and contests, hotel billing and too many other things to list. To Mark F. for providing the lap-top and projector. And to Chelsea M. for her "production line" assistance on Friday while we stuffed late arriving literature into the registration envelopes. Thanks to everyone for a job well done!

Not to be forgotten are our clinicians. Rob Selberg who presented a hand's on demo for applying paper graffiti. Geof Smith who put logic into designing a shelf layout, and John Doehring who really "hit home" with "Making the most of your modules". John went way beyond just the title and addressed the road blocks many of us face in building both

(continued) noon . Bob Pawlak is our coordinator help him out. That's it for now that's enough for now Frank D

modules and home layouts.

We already have three possible clinics on the list for 2015 and if you have one you would like to do, please let me know. Chris O should do one on making miniature street lamps!

We had some very notable - make that "Outstanding" Modules this year and my apologies for not being more attentive on Saturday, but the business of garnering goodies takes precedent over oogling. It seems that every year the level of imagination and quality of workmanship just keeps getting better. Frankly I'm a bit jealous of your talents.

Toshi Abe won Best of Show and the Richard Marko Award for Animation. Bob Gatland won the Paul O'Hegyi Award for Scenery Excellence! Richard Brown, John Bingle, and Roland Kelly also had wonderful modules. Since I've installed "miles" of catenary on my home layout, I can truly appreciate the very detailed and demanding work that Chris O did on his module. There were many other great modules, models, and photos to enjoy.

Tid Bits Show Attendance: 21,118 visitors NE NTrak 81 "Primary" registrants plus family/other guests. Over \$700 in engines given for top awards, plus limited runs from NSE, Exact Rail, Intermountain, Rapido/Prairie Shadows, and \$40/\$50 certs for N Scale Architect. Roughly \$1500 in total give aways, plus the MicroTrains and ARS cars given to every primary registrant. New vendors included on the prize tables and awards included:

Dallee Electronics, MBS (Model Builder Supply), Evan Designs (various LEDs), Rapido Trains, Prairie Shadows, a 96" pair from Backdrop Junction. I hope everyone picked up a 20% coupon from Con-Cor. If you left the show before receiving your ARS car you should get that in the mail by mid-February.

We have lots of extra coffee mugs and I know you would really like to have a matched set - special \$\$\$.

And finally, a hearty thanks to our hosts at the Hilton Garden Inn and the Amherst Railway Society.

Happy Rails,
Bob Fallier

Toshiyuki Abe won received "**The Richard Marko Commemorative Award**" left for his new module for automation.



Award Winners at Winterfest 2014



Toshiyuki Abe won "**Best of Show**" for his new module above. He also received "**The Richard Marko Commemorative Award**".



A new module by Richard Brown won "**First Place Module**".



An other new module one "**Second Place Module**" by John Bingle of an old steam round house and turntable.



1st Place Motive Power - Diesel - Jim Selberg



1st Place Structure - On Line - Charles Davanzo



1st Place Motive Power - Steam - Jean-Francois Chaput



1st Place Structure - Off Line - Rob Selberg



1st Place Motive Power - Other - Jim Mayer



1st Place - Humorous - Bob Lavoie



1st Place Rolling Stock - Passenger - Chris Oliva



1st Place - Vehicle - Stan Houpt



1st Place Rolling Stock - Freight - John Bingel



1st Place Rolling Stock - MOW - Jim Mayer



1st Place - Parade of Trains - Rob Selberg

2013-2014 NENtrak SHOW PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

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 27, 2014 Hooksett Lions Club, Cawley Middle School, Hooksett, NH

Set-up: 8am - Show 10am to 4pm
 Coordinator: Ron Wood - 603-206-5572

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.

Northeast Ntrak and National Ntrak Dues
By Bob Pawlak

Due to some misunderstanding, our National Ntrak Newsletter stopped coming for a while several months ago. As compensation for this mishap, membership in National Ntrak for all Northeast Ntrak members was extended to end March 1, 2014 instead of September 1, 2013. Usually, we have been asked for annual dues starting in June in hopes of gathering them in time to pay for National Ntrak dues for all members of Northeast Ntrak by September 1.

Henceforth, annual dues for Northeast Ntrak membership will be announced about October 1 in hopes of gathering them by the following January 1 so that they can be paid well in advance of the drop dead date of March 1 so that no one will miss an issue of the National Ntrak Newsletter. Most of what you pay for in dues to Northeast Ntrak goes to pay for your dues to National Ntrak.

I apologize for becoming too involved as Registrar for Winterfest 2014 and have been negligent in soliciting dues for 2014 which should have been due to me before January 1, 2014. Many of our members who attended our annual meeting last June paid their 2014 dues at that time. The rest of you have hopefully responded to my e-mail of Sunday, February 2, 2014, and are included in the list of renewals I sent to Ntrak National before this Newsletter was published about February 20, 2014.

Therefore, the next time you should hear about dues is about October 1, 2014, which will be due to me by January 1, 2015.

Annual dues for Northeast Ntrak are \$20 to receive a black and white hard copy of the National Ntrak Newsletter in the mail. Annual dues for Northeast Ntrak are \$11 to receive an e-mail color copy of the National Ntrak Newsletter. You can choose to receive both a hard copy and e-mail copy by paying \$20 + \$11 = \$31 for your dues. If you choose this option, it is my understanding that you will be assigned a second Ntrak number for the other subscription.



1st Place Photo - Model - Eric Seidelmann



1st Place Photo - Prototype - Eric Seidelmann



Winterfest 2014



Set-up

Show open





Bob Fallier starting off the meeting.



Bob Fallier presenting a gift to Guest Speaker Bruce Alcock.



The Head Table. (left to right) Bob Pawlak, Geoff Smith, Jim Mayer, Editor, NTRAK Newsletter, Bruce Alcock, President NTRAK and Diane Fallier.



Best of Show prize going to Toshiyuki Abe.



Some of the award winners from (l to r). Chris Oliva 1st Place Rolling Stock Passenger, Chris Oliva, 1st Place Motive Power, Diesel, Jim Selberg, 1st Place Motive Power Steam, Jean-Francois Chaput, and 1st Place Parade of Trains, Rob Selberg.