

Winterfest 2020

26th Annual Northeast NTRAK Convention, January
25-26, 2020

General Information for NTRAK & T-TRAK Registrants.

NTRAK Layouts will be in the Better Living Center (BLC) & Mallory Building. T-TRAK will be in the Young building. Registered NTRAK modules in all buildings can be entered into the Module Contest. T-TRAK will have its own Module Contest sponsored by Kato.

Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn, 800 West Columbus Avenue, 600 feet south of the Basketball Hall of Fame A convention rate of \$109 plus tax (currently 12.45%) per night has been negotiated, single or double occupancy. Reservations should be made before January 1, 2020 by calling **800-774-1500** or **413-886-8000**. Please identify yourself as a member of "NTRAK".

Pre-registration: On-Line registration **and** your printed registration with your check are expected before January 2, 2020. Send the printed registration and check to Bob Pawlak per the on-line instructions.

Setup: The buildings will open at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, and 6:30 a.m. Saturday, for layout set-up. Please plan to arrive before 1 p.m. on Friday and have all modules in place, clamped, and connected before 5:00pm.

Parking: \$5.00 per day on Saturday and Sunday. Hang-tags available for \$10 for both days. The tags may be purchased on Friday afternoon.

Badges: Everyone **must** have a badge issued by the ARS to gain entry to the show buildings. Winterfest registrants will receive an "exhibitor badge". **Registration checks** received **postmarked** after January 1 will cost you an additional **\$15**. **Checks received after January 22 will be subject to an additional late fee of \$10 for a total of \$70 for registration.**

Badges will be available after 11:00 a.m. Friday next to the Show Office - Better Living Center (door #7). Tell them you are an NTRAK or T-TRAK layout participant.

Each Winterfest registrant will receive a separate Winterfest 2020 badge in their registration package on Friday night. This badge should be placed in the other side of the ARS badge holder and displayed when inside or around the layouts for security purposes.

Registration & Mini-Show

- Friday 7:00 p.m. in the hotel elevator lobby. Once you have received your registration materials, swing into the large conference/banquet room for the **Third Annual Manufacturer Mini-Show**.

Starting at 7:30, select manufacturers will be present to show off their newest N scale products in this private showing just for Winterfest registrants.

- Saturday morning doors will open at 6:30. Please arrive early to help with track cleaning and final testing. Doors open to the public at 9:00 a.m. (10 a.m. Sunday).

Model/Photo/Module Contests

- **Model Contest & Photo Contest:** *You must be a Winterfest registrant to enter.* Refer to the model entry form for other details. Entries will be received Friday as soon as the table is operational, and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. Model and photo contest entry forms should be filled out *online and printed* for each of your contest entries. Please *clearly indicate which category* your model is entered in.
- Photo entries are limited to **2** for each category – **per person.** (4 photos max)
- Model entries are limited to 1 per category, with a max **of three model entries per person.** Models must exhibit the work of the person entering the model. No “out of the box” entries will be accepted.
- Any 1st place **model** entry winner may not be re-submitted in any following year.
- **Modules**, however, may be re-entered every year, regardless of past contest results.
- The “Parade of Trains” competition will be held from 1:00pm to 2:00pm at the BLC NTRAK layout. Registration must be complete by 12:30pm on Saturday.
- Voting in the model, module and photo contests **must** be completed before 2:00pm, Saturday. Votes will be collected then.
- Sunday - **Please pick up model and photo entries between 1-2:00 p.m..** The show closes at 5pm.

Banquet

The Banquet is on Saturday Night - The price for the banquet and appetizers is just \$23.00 per person. Everyone at the banquet will receive a coffee mug or glass with the Winterfest 2020 logo. Extra mugs/glasses will be available at \$5.00 each as part of the registration process. This year we will be trying out a dinner buffet. We heard that some people were displeased with the plate service last year so we are going to try changing it up as an experiment and see how people like the new format.

Evening Schedule: 6:30: Happy Half-Hour. Please don't come to the banquet hall before 6:30. We need to set up. You will be in the way if you try to get in before 6:30. This is a cash bar.

7:00: Dinner Service. For those who purchased the dinners, you will be served your food between 7pm and 8pm. **DO NOT ASK TO BE SERVED BEFORE 7PM. This will cause CHAOS. We don't like CHAOS.** You must bring your Meal Ticket obtained at registration.

8:00 – 10:00: Model Contests and Raffle. **If you registered but did not attend the banquet**, you may now join us in the dining room for the prizes and raffle. Seats will be available. Sit wherever you find a free spot.

Modules

- Contact the Layout Coordinators: NTRAK: Dan Pawling Jr. (781)-801-6480 (BLC) or John Bingle (917)-662-5378 (Mallory) as soon as possible to reserve space for your module. For T-TRAK modules, please contact Fay Chin at (978)-604-0473 or email nttrak@gmail.com
- DCC (Digitrax) on the Red & Blue lines, please bring your DCC radio throttles with your name clearly marked on them (& don't forget fresh batteries). T-TRAK can have DC tracks for those do not have DCC equipped locomotives.

Track Time: will be allowed based on the following priorities:

- 1st Priority - Winterfest registrants **with** modules
- 2nd Priority - Registrants without modules
- 3rd Priority - Non-registrants are *guests* and may be given track privileges **if** a Time Slot is open, or a scheduled registrant is willing to share his/her allocated time. **Under 16 guests MUST be accompanied by an adult. No Exceptions please.**

Organizers:

Chairman: George Michaels – gdm@trovestar.com 469-682-1729

Co-Chairman: Bob Fallier – bfailler@email.com 603-465-3785

T-Trak Chairman: Fay Chin – nttrak@gmail.com 978-604-0473

Email: chairman@nenscale.org