

President's Message



As another season comes to a close we must look back and reflect on the past. Some of the show we did this year were a waste of time, but we had fun. The shows were too small and did not draw the big crowds. I have put together a list of shows that are potential. We will be discussing the schedule at the annual meeting on June 27th. Not all the dates are final. I look forward to any input you may have. Here is the list:

September

date? Concord, NH
19th Pepprill Siding Show (Hollis, NH)
or
Old Colony Show (Taunton, MA)

October

23rd Northshore Model Railroad club show

November

7th Bedford Boomers
? Hub Division Show in Bolton, MA
? Mystic Valley Show in Auburn, MA

December

18+19th Greenburg Show, Wilmington, MA

January

28-30th Winterfest 2005 Springfield, MA

February

19+20th Museum of Our National Heritage
? Mystic Valley Show Braintree, MA

April

2+3 Greenburg Show Wilmington, MA

I look forward to our next season. Hope to see you at the annual meeting.

Module Building Update: by Ernie Poole

Ed smith and I have been building seven new modules as our time permits. Here is where we are as of mid-May. The five 4' straight modules are all built and assembled with the exception of one that is a kit. Mark Ferracane wants to do a video of the assembly, so the finish date of that module will depend on that project. We are doing the mountain division on four of them now, and should be done this month. The non-mountain division module is with Bob Pawlak getting it's wiring.

The two corner modules are kits at the moment. Assembly and finish of those is a bit farther away. Sorry to keep you waiting, but I think you will like the finished product.

Northeast Ntrak, 41 Easy Street, Lowell, MA 01850-1731, Web Site - www.northeastntrak.org

Annual Dues

It is that time of year again. The annual dues of \$20.00 should be sent in by **August 1st 2004**. Make checks payable to "Northeast N-Trak" and mail to: Chuck Tremblay, 4 Baggar Avenue Wilmington, MA 01887-4001

Or bring the check to the Annual Business Meeting on June 27.

Children's Hospital Show

by Bob Pawlak

Modules for the 11 x 19 layout were brought by 6 members and another 3 members came to help with the show. A 15 x 23 layout is the goal for this show as the largest that will fit in the space available, but it is hard to muster people to do a week-day show in downtown Boston with a 7:00 A.M. set up time. Thanks again to all those who came and contributed to making it a brighter day for the children and those who brought them to the show area.

We were set up and finished running test locos 10 minutes before the promised 9:00 A.M. start time and Dennis Yip launched his bullet train to heat up the Red Line. (I recommend this new approach as an immediate attention getter and jump start for possible use at future shows.) We switched the Yellow line over to DCC almost immediately and followed with DCC on the Red Line when Dennis pulled the bullet train. This meant that 2 radio throttles were then available for use by the children to run their own train. As a result, I would say we initiated at least 50% more first time Ntrak engineers at this show than at any of the past five shows at Children's Hospital.

New members John Consigli and his son Steven provided most of the energy for the show. Steven got checked out on the Black Hole corner and spent most of the afternoon running trains around the reversing loop on the Mountain Division. He also learned how to bring blocks of cars from the private track at Black Hole out onto the Blue Line and over to the yard to make up a longer train which he then ran.



Here is part of the gang at the Hooksett Show on April 25th. The layout looked great with Bob Pawlak's Bridge Module as the star of the show. Attendance was on the light side.



Bob P. replacing the spacer tracks after changing the module trying to find a problem. Dick B. is helping by holding the tool box. As it turned out the problem was located somewhere else.

We Wish You Well

Malcom Frazier said goodbye at the Hooksett Show. He and his wife will be moving to Florida. They have sold their home in Center Harbor, NH. He has been a member for some time and will be missed. He and his wife have had some up and downs health wise and are both feeling well at this time. Just a little too much work with two places. We wish them well. Good luck and good health. He gave his module to a member of the club. If you are in Florida in the Orlando area say hello to Malcom and visit the Nscale club. He will be glad to see you.