

## President's Message



Its that time again, Winterfest. This year hopes to be another fun time. The Amherst Railway Society has given us more room this year for the layout. We have 83x33 this year as opposed to previous years 70x30. If all goes well it will be another great show. Hopefully we will have good weather. Please go to the website and read the letter Bob Pawlak has written on the use of the layout. We have more than enough people to cover the layout. To save time on Saturday please print out the entry forms for the contests. I want to thank in advance the people behind the scenes who make Winterfest happen. Thank you Gentlemen.

I heard a large scale dealer tell someone the N-Scale will be dead in a few years. Yea right. I have been N-scale since 1968 and a member of this NTRAK group since 1991, and the variety and quality of items being produced is amazing. Twenty-five years ago DCC would have been a fantasy. Now its a reality. Every year the technology is getting better. Decoders are getting smaller and doing more. More companies are redesigning there engines to be DCC friendly. Plug and Play makes installation easy. Atlas's new SHAY locomotive is DCC ready, and it runs beautifully. The one thing I wish would be that there MODERN locomotives produced. We wind up with too many companies doing the same locomotive. I would like to see Kato or Atlas produce the AC6000. Overland does, but we all cannot afford a pair of them.

Our next show will be in Foxboro on February 13th. I am the show coordinator. Look forward to seeing you there.

And last but not least, GOOD LUCK!  
GO PATRIOTS!

Mark

Northeast Ntrak, 41 Easy Street, Lowell, MA 01850-1731, Web Site - [www.northeastntrak.org](http://www.northeastntrak.org)

## Winterfest 2005

Springfield, MA January 28-30

**This is your last call for Winterfest 2005.** There is still time to register and join in the fun of Winterfest 2005, the Eleventh Annual Northeast NTRAK Convention to be held in conjunction with the Amherst Railway Society's "Big Railroad Hobby Show" at the Eastern States Exposition Center, the Big "E", in West Springfield, MA on January 29-30. Winterfest 2005 will feature a series of clinics on Friday night; large layout operations and model, module, and photo contests at the Big "E" on Saturday and Sunday; and the traditional Saturday evening banquet with **guest speaker Sam Posey, author of a new book "Playing with Trains,** presentation of contest awards, commemorative British pint glasses and T-shirts, door prizes, etc. The Hilton Garden Inn, Springfield's newest hotel and our convention center, is directly across the street from the Basketball Hall of Fame and minutes away from the Big "E", downtown Springfield, and Springfield's AMTRAK station. The "Big Railroad Hobby Show" offers three buildings full of layouts, exhibits, manufacturers and dealers in what, without a doubt, is the largest annual train show in New England. For more information and reservation forms see the "Winterfest Information" section at Northeast NTRAK's website,

[www.northeastntrak.org](http://www.northeastntrak.org).

See y'all there!....Bob Pawlak

## Show Schedule

**Jan 28 to 30 Winterfest, Amherst Railway Society, Big "E" Exposition Center, Springfield, MA**  
Set-up Fri Noon to 5pm, and Sat 7am.  
Show 10am to 5pm on Sat and Sun.  
**John Dunne 508-697-7635**

**Feb 13 Mystic Valley Show, Braintree, MA**  
(Point to point w/end loops)  
Set-up 8am Show 10am to 4pm  
**Ron Wood, 603-889-0741**

**Feb 19 & 20 Museum of Our National Heritage, Lexington, MA**  
(Normal layout w/end loops)  
Set-up Sat 8am Show 10am to 5pm  
Sun noon to 5pm  
**Bob Pawlak, 781-862-2485**

**Apr 2 & 3 Greenberg Show**  
Shriners Auditorium, Wilmington, MA  
Set-up Sat 8am Show 10am to 4pm  
Sun 9am 10am to 4pm  
**Dan Pawling, 617-244-5261**

**Feb 13 Mystic Valley Show, Braintree, MA**  
(Point to point w/end loops)  
Set-up Show  
**Mark Ferracane, 617-489-2159**

**?? Hooksett Lions Club, Hooksett Memorial School, Hooksett, NH**  
Set-up 8am Show 10am to 4pm  
**Ron Wood, 603-889-0741**

**May 19 Children's Hospital, 300 Longwood Dr., Boston, MA**  
Set-up 7am Show 9am to 3pm  
**Robert Pawlak, 781-862-2485**

## Try out this Website

Here is a web site with thousands of pictures. They are grouped by category. If you are looking for train pictures this is the site to visit.

<http://chicago.railfan.net/cgi/photos.pl/?page=index>

**NYS&W Railroad**  
**150th Anniversary**  
**by Mark Ferracane**



The weekend of October 16th and 17th the NYS&W Railroad celebrated the 150th anniversary of the Railroad. They had a mixed train of passenger cars pulled by a steam locomotive with diesel assist. The train traveled from Binghamton to Syracuse, New York. We followed the train staying ahead of it 90% of the time.



We started the day in Binghamton at the Canadian Pacific yard. We saw one train arrive and one go through. The weather was not cooperating for us, we would have periods of rain followed by sun. Later that day we went to the Dewitt yard in East Syracuse. If you have ever been to Selkirk and were disappointed by not being able to see any action, Dewitt is for you. There is a 5 mile long road that parallels the east end of the yard. Plus there is a signal bridge and a grade crossing. In an hour we saw 5 freight trains and 2 passenger trains.



The next day we spent 4 hours at the Amtrak Station in Syracuse. In the time we were there we saw 10 freight trains and 2 passenger trains (Buffalo Bills Express and the east bound Lake Shore Limited). The freight trains averaged 80+ cars. They sure move a lot of freight in the area. I hope to go back there in the summer and hopefully have better weather.



*General Electric 70-ton diesel-electric as rehabilitated by the Providence & Worcester Railfan Club, Inc in New Haven Colors, Nov 25, 2004*

**PROVIDENCE &**  
**WORCESTER RAILFAN**  
**CLUB HQ ??**

*Story, Photos by D. Pawling, Sr.*

Returning to NYC from Boston following Thanksgiving Day I went looking for evidence of a rail/freight station in Webster MA. The Worcester- Norwich line had been built about 1835 and passenger service lasted until about 1970. My track profile diagram for the Providence & Worcester RR (P&W) suggested a location by the very absence of symbols for a station, road crossing, signals or detection devices. Here was a blank space bearing only the name "Webster" at a great location right off the north side of Main Street, about 500 feet long, more than adequate for an early passenger train. What did I find? A large, long and wide, partly cobble-stoned open space. The single track of the P&W Norwich line and fenced off from that a single isolated track with a collection of rolling stock which included the GE (?) Ton diesel-electric as re-habed by the P&W Railfan Club in New Haven colors. Also seen was the P&W caboose which is apparently the Club's HQ. There may be evidence of the old structures which I did not search further for. I was pleasantly surprised to find this well cared for equipment.

**Worcester Model Railroaders**  
**Annual Model Railroad Show**  
**and Sale**

**Sunday February 27, 2005**  
**10:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

Our annual Model Railroad show and sale will be held this year at the [Auburn Elks Club](#), 745 Southbridge Street, Auburn Massachusetts. The show features Model Train dealers, exhibits and displays.

Admission is expected to be \$4.00 at the door, children under 12, Free. (Family Maximum: \$12.00)

- Over 20 dealers, multiple scales!
- Rolling entertainment provided by the Amherst Beltlines Modular Layout.
- 4' x 6' layout to be raffled off, including finished scenery, Peco turnouts, Proto 2000 locomotive, and appropriate rolling stock.
- Ample free parking.
- Handicapped Accessible.



*P&W Caboose, Hq for P&W Railfan Club, Webster, MA Nov 25, 2004*