

President - Frank Dignan Vice Pres - Geof Smith
Treasurer - Robert Pawlak Editor - Roland Kelley

Editor - Northeast Ntrak, 41 Easy Street, Lowell, MA 01850-1731, or
e-mail: NortheastNtrak@msn.com Web Site - www.northeastntrak.org



President's Message Frank Dignan

A New Look for NE NTRAK? by John Doehring

Hello Everybody Frank here let me start this month by turning back the clock to when I joined Northeast Ntrak. You made out your application paid your twenty dollars then you could run trains at the next show. Not so fast at the next you were taken aside and given the talk (no not that) but the talk on what you had to do as a member before you could run a train. You were told to show up early for the next show to assist members in the transportation and setup of the modules. Then you were shown how to operate the tower as you would be required to take at least a hour on each operating session. When you got to run you were told to stay with your train while operating on the layout. You were also encouraged to build a module to join in the fun. I bring this up because our newer members especially the younger ones need guide lines . As we have adopted the Youth In Model Railroading members I encourage as they are the future of the hobby . We still need to bring in adult members and they won't join if we are running a playground with running yelling and being rude to the public. Its all about the public perception that get us members.

As president I want to make changes with the members approval I want to clean up our act and get the members out with the public.

1. The tower will be on the outside the layout and manned.
2. When running red line on DCC it should be operated from the outside you don't know what your train is doing while sitting at the table inside the layout.
- 3 it is the most important that we keep the tables inside the layout clear of articles of clothing, train boxes and tool boxes form the outside the layout it looks like we are running a rummage sale.

Members take a look at the layout from the outside you will see what I mean. One thing I do as a member when a non member asks me a question about "n" scale (he or she) I invite them to bring there trains down to run on our layout as a guest you might get a member out of it. I will be looking for suggestions from you members to make things better. That's all for now that's enough.

Thanks Frank D.

In Frank's first column as our new President, he's suggested we consider getting some new shirts (in new colors) as a part of freshening up our presentation to better promote our hobby. I agree. This move could be part of a larger makeover of our identity and image as a club. Certainly NE NTRAK has many quality modelers (and quality people), but we're in need (I think) of some new energy and direction. Freshening up our image is a part of this, and new shirts are a good place to start.

After reading Frank's message, I sent to him some ideas on shirts, colors, and possible logos, and he suggested I share them with the club. So here are my thoughts – just a few possibilities for a new look that come to mind:

- 1) Green and Grey – I'm thinking here of a Celtics-like green. This is a color that fits well in the Boston scene with its Irish heritage. I don't believe many train clubs sport green shirts. Perhaps the logo could be updated to include a new/different lettering font, even a four leaf clover!
- 2) Black and Gold; - Again a sports connection, it's the colors of the Bruins, popular in the area but still I think unique for train groups. And maybe our own "HUB" style spoke logo?
- 3) Blue and Black – I'm picturing the colors of the Boston and Maine RR during the McGinnis era. Admittedly, I'm not much of a B&M modeler myself, but this does fit well in our region. I can imagine also a new logo with the 'NE" done in the McGinnis B&M cross.
- 4) Blue and Red- Of course I'm back to sports, this one the Red Sox colors. This is a very common color scheme in the area, so this option might not stand out as much.

These are just a few ideas I've had. I'm in favor of some bolder colors, and a bolder look for the club logo. (Those of you who attended our last Winterfest celebration probably saw the new shirts sported by the Brooklyn NTRAK club – bright electric blue, with a new Brooklyn Dodgers inspired logo). Nice stuff! ([continued page 2](#))

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Perhaps you'd like to see something entirely different, or maybe this doesn't seem to be much of a priority at all? That's OK, I get that. Still, if our mission is not only to have fun playing with trains, but also, to promote our hobby, grow the club, and connect with other modelers in the northeast, then I believe that new shirts (and a new logo) can make a difference. First steps in a larger identity makeover for the club.

That's what I think, how about you?

Drop me a note at john@jdoehring.com and share your thoughts – preferences for shirt colors, and ideas for logos. I'll gather feedback from the group and report back to everyone – and we'll see where it takes us! Cheers!

Northern Virginia NTRAK Show

(We have members planning to go to this show next year and we are looking for a show coordinator. Anyone interested? If so contact Frank)

This is to invite you and members of your NTRAK club to join with Northern Virginia NTRAK next August 7 - 10, 2014, as we help celebrate 40 years of NTRAK and 50 years on N scale model railroading in North America.

I am serving as the layout coordinator for this event. We are planning on several different N scale layouts to celebrate the various modes that N scale railroading may take. In addition to several traditional NTRAK loops, we are anticipating layouts featuring Operations, Bend Track, oNeTRAK, and Nn3.

Attached is information about the Convention and a Module Registration Form that must be completed for all modules in the show. We urge your members to begin planning now for next year.

Questions may be addressed to my attention at capitollimited2014@gmail.com.

We are looking forward to seeing you.

JB Weilepp
Capitol Limited N Scale East 2014 layout coordinator

(If you are interested in going to the show let me know and I will send you the Convention and Module Registration Form. Roland Kelley)

Additions to Membership List Page 2: Name Modules

Devin Afshin 4 ft straight, 4 ft straight

2013-2014 NENTRAK SHOW PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

October 6, 2013 Pepperell Siding Show, Varnum Brook Elementary School, Pepperell, MA

Set-up: 7:00am - Show 10am to 4pm

Coordinator: John Doehring - 978-433-6337

October 26-27, 2013 South Shore Model Railroad Club Show, 19 Fort Hill Street, Hingham, MA.

Set-up: 7:00am - Show 9am to 4pm

Coordinator: Geof Smith - 781-214-9401

November 23-24, 2013 Great Train Expo, Shriners Auditorium, Wilmington, MA

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

Coordinator: Frank Dignan - 508-866-9660

Dec 7-8, 2013, Hub Division, Royal Plaza Trade Center, Marlboro, MA

Set-up: 7:00am - Show 9am to 4pm (HOURS)

Coordinator: John Doehring - 978-433-6337

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 Co-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 - 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

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

New Module in the Works

Joe just started a new layout (12feetX 3feet) mid 50's era late summer/early fall in New England looking @ Brattleboro VT for the city location?

Hope to see the group this January at the show.
Joe Brown

Carl Mesrobian 3 ft outside transition corner (Red Line turns right)