



### President's Message Geof Smith

#### Playing Nice

Let's face it; we all want to do it at least once: just come to a show and have the modules magically functional and set up, so we just run our trains and go home. Nice, but it doesn't work that way. We've all joined a club for fun, but fun comes with some responsibilities. So beginning this Fall, here are some basic expectations we will all share:

- We'll all help our Show Coordinators by responding quickly when the call goes out for modules for a show.
- If you're coming with a module, come at the time asked for and help set up not only your own module, but help others too so everything can be set up before the doors open. Show Coordinators are looking for those coming to a show to help put in connector tracks, cleaning track, set up the DC and DCC power cords, hang skirting, clamp modules together, and check that all is level and plumb. Many hands make light work!
- If you don't have a module for the show, but plan to come run trains, we still need you to help run the railroad: plan to help set up or take down, or take a turn as a tower operator. We need you to do more than just run your train and leave, and if we find that's all you do, don't be surprised if you're not running a train at the next show. Remember too that those who brought a module, those who helped set up or break down at the end of the show, and those who have served an hour or more as tower operator will have first dibs on when they operate.
- To run a train, sign up on the train signup schedule, and then be there on time! If we're using the 16' yard, there are shelves at each end to enable you (continued on page 4)

#### 2015 Annual Meeting Notes by Geof Smith

Larry Lockwood hosted the 2015 Annual Meeting at the club house of his townhouse association in Millbury, MA, on Sunday, May 31. We enjoyed good food, and a spacious, comfortable setting, followed by a layout tour of Larry's impressive home layout. A special thanks to Larry and his wife for their hospitality!

Those present elected new officers for the 2015/2016 year: Geof Smith as President; Bob Fallier as Vice President; and Bob Pawlak was re-elected as Treasurer. A special shout out to Frank Dignan for serving this past year as President. Show Coordinators volunteered (or were volunteered), and the list of shows will be published in this and future newsletters. Please take note that T-trak and MaiNtrak shows will be included in the schedule this year – so even if you can't bring a module, please do help out by lending a hand for these shows. They help us set up, operate, and break down, and we should do the same for them.

Mark your calendars now for a module clinic and tune up session planned for Saturday, October 3, from noon to when we're thrown out. This will be held at the middle school in Pepperell the day before the show. This is your chance to make sure the electronics and track on your module meet club standards and are show-ready. Once the electronics are checked out, you'll also have the chance to get help working with DCC, scenery, or any other aspects of your module you'd like an extra set of hands or eyes to help with. Even if you're not planning on your module being part of the Pepperell show, you need to come to this and get your module tuned up and checked out!

Even if you can't participate in the show on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup>, please attend the workshop/tune-up on Saturday. If your current module(s) has Cinch-Jones connectors, we would like to either add or replace them with the current standard Power Pole connectors. Bob Fallier will work with you. Please let us know well in advance so that we can purchase materials. The cost for Power Poles is marginal, about \$7.50 for Red/Yellow/Blue/White connectors, and \$9.00 including Green, to replace Cinch-Jones. Call it an even \$10 to add 6" jumpers with Power Poles and you can use either C-J or Power Poles for hook up. Bob will check for proper polarity on all modules with Power Poles. An easy way to remember which end is which: "The color is always **Right on Top**" - obviously on the bottom on the left.

**2014-2015 NENtrak SHOW PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE**

**August 15, 2015 Hobby Emporium Show, Tyngsboro, MA (Still in Planning Stages)**

Coordinator: Bob Fallier - 603-465-3785

*Cancelled*

**October 3, 2015 - NENtrak Module Workshop, Varnum Brook Elementary School, Pepperell, MA**

Workshop and set-up for next day show - Noon to 4:00 pm (Bring your lunch)

Coordinator: John Doehring - 978-433-6337

**October 4, 2015 Pepperell Siding Show, Varnum Brook Elementary School, Pepperell, MA**

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

Coordinator: John Doehring - 978-433-6337

**October 24-25, 2015 South Shore Model Railroad Club Show, 19 Fort Hill Street, Hingham, MA.**

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

Coordinator: Frank Dignan - 508-866-9660

**November 21-22, 2014 Great Train Expo, Shriners Auditorium, Wilmington, MA**

Set-up: Fri 1:00pm - 5:00pm - Sat 7:30am

Show Sat 10:00am to 4:00pm - Sun 10:00am to 4:00pm

Coordinator: Frank Dignan - 508-866-9660

**Jan 29-31, 2016 Winterfest, Springfield, MA Amherst Railway Society - Big Railroad Hobby Show**

Big "E" Exposition Center, West Springfield, MA

Set-up: Fri noon to 5:00pm & Sat 7:00am to 9:00am

Show Sat 9:00am to 5:00pm - Sun 10:00am to 5:00pm

Layout Coordinator: Dan Pawling Jr., 617-244-5261

Winterfest Chairman: Bob Fallier - 603-465-3785

**Feb 13-14, 2016 National Heritage Museum, Lexington, MA**

Set-up: Fri 1:00pm - 4:30pm & Sat 7:30am to 10:00am

Show Sat 10:00am to 4:30pm - Sun noon to 4:00pm

Coordinator: Bob Pawlak - 781-862-2485

**March 19-20, 2016 Great Train Expo, Shriners Auditorium, Wilmington, MA**

Set-up: Fri 1:00pm to 5:00 pm - Sat 7:30am

Show Sat 10:00am to 4:00pm - Sun 10:00am to 4:00pm

Coordinator: Carl Mesrobian - 978-578-5374

**MaiNe TRACK**

**Nov. 7, 2015,** Auburn Middle School, 38 Falcon Dr., Auburn, ME  
Set-up 8am Layout 8x16 ft.

**Dec 4-6, 2015** Hub Division Model Train Expo, 181 Boston Post Rod, Marlborough, MA Set-up Friday 3pm 12x24 ft layout to include 16 ft of Northeast NTRAK straight modules (see Hub Division web site for Hotel info and discounts).

**Jan 29-31, 2016** Winterfest at the Big E (details depending on Layout coordinators needs)

**Apr 23, 2016** Mount Ararat High School, 73 Eagles Way, Topsham, ME Set-up 8am Layout 12x20 ft.

\*\*\*For the 2 Maine shows contact us ahead of time as we try to meet for breakfast. Times and locations of that may change.

**T-TRAK Train Show Schedule - 2015 & 2016**

If you wish to be part of the T-Trak layout contact Fay Chin Show Coorinator at e-mail [faywchin@gmail.com](mailto:faywchin@gmail.com)

**August 23, 2015,** Concord Model Railroad Club, Concord NH

**September 27, 2015.** Old Colony Model Railroad Club, Taunton MA

**October 4, 2015,** Peperell Siding Model Railroad, Pepperell MA

**October 10, 2015.** North Shore Model Railroad Club, Wakefield MA

**November 21-22, 2015,** Greenberg's Train and Toy Show, Wilmington MA

**December 5-6, 2015,** NMRA, HUB Division, Marlboro MA

**January 30-31, 2016,** Amherst Railway Society Railroad Hobby Show, West Springfield MA

**February 2016,** American Heritage Museum, Lexington MA

**March 2016,** Greenberg's Train and Toy Show, Wilmington MA

**April 2016,** NMRA Spring Training, Taunton MA

**April 2016,** Hooksett Lions Model Train Show, Hooksett NH



General view inside the Club House at the condo complex where our host, Larry Lockwood, lives and where the meeting was held.

**Would like to thank everyone that sent me all the articles about the Annual Business as i was unable to attend because of a wedding. Thanks, Roland**

## Northeast N-Trak Annual Business Meeting, May 31. 2015



From left to right the people are: Fay Chin, Bob Fallier, George Michaels, Paul Azevedo, Bob Pawlak, Peter Wisniewski, Mark Farracane, Geof Smith, David Mesrobian, Carl Mesrobian, Ron Wood, and Larry Lockwood.



George Michaels, Fay Chin, and Peter Wisniewski getting a close look at part of Larry Lockwood's basement layout.



host Larry Lockwood talking with newly elected President Geof Smith in the layout room with David Mesrobian in the background

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to set up and take down your train quickly and safely.

Feel free to use this space, but then clear your containers for the next person.

- Like the real railroads, if you're running a train, stay with your train! Don't walk off to tour the show. Be ready to deal with derailments and stop or start your train when needed. The equipment you save may be your own!
- If you're a tower operator, don't abandon your post! Wait for your replacement and tell them of any problems you've seen on your shift.
- If a guest to the show is touching the layout or otherwise creating a hazard (it seems adults often are more grabby than kids), ask them politely to stop. We want to encourage folks to enter the hobby, not make it seem like it's run by old grumps.
- Come help MaiNtrak or Ttrak set up or take down at a show they're running. They do this for us!

The more helpful to each other and create a fun and relaxed atmosphere, the more folks who come to shows will want to join us. Thanks for listening.



### High Speed Rail Travel in Tawan

Above is a picture of the Taiwan high-speed hourly express trains on the scenic eastern line. From late 2007 the new 'Taroko express' high-speed (130km/h) electric tilting trains were introduced, providing an hourly service between Taipei and Hualien, with several services continuing along the scenic valley to Taitung.

## Hi Fellow NENtrak Members,

As our new webmaster one of the first things I wanted to do was highlight our modules on the NENT website. I was able to obtain a list of the modules we currently have access to and the list can be found here: [Northeast NTRAK Module List](#)

If you visit the page, you will see a lot of blank space. I need your help in making this blank space go away. To accomplish this, I need as much of the following as you can provide about your modules.

- (1) Images.
- (2) A name for each of your modules.
- (3) Youtube video coverage.
- (4) PDF's (see Roland's Carnival for an example).

You probably have none of the above, so here is what you can do.

A) Name your module and tell me what the name is.

B) Whip out your phone and take a picture of each of your modules (with a flash please) and either message me the picture (469-682-1729) or email it to me: (g2.systems@yahoo.com).

If your module has been featured somewhere in a PDF, just let me know where to look. If you have taken any video coverage of your module, mail it to me. I can upload it to Youtube.

I have already set up pictures and a youtube video for Roland's Royal American shows. Please be sure to visit the [http://www.nenscale.org/NTRAK/module\\_list.php](http://www.nenscale.org/NTRAK/module_list.php) link to see how they appear. This stuff is good for the club as it makes the web site more alive and more interesting, so please lend me a hand and send me what you can.

Thanks!

George Michaels