



L.E.N.S.

6051 Harrison St.
Mentor, OH 44060

Monthly publication of the
Lake Erie N Scale Society

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

N-TRAK
N SCALE MODULAR RAILROADING

February, 2004

First Class Mail

Welcome!

LENS is a group of people with a common interest in modeling N scale railroads using the "NTRAK" modular concept.

Any time we meet and/or display our work and promote this hobby, we would love to have you join us.

This means that ALL of us have chances to participate in the hobby by helping with any or all of the following:

- Setting up/tearing down**
- Running trains**
- Sharing your knowledge**
- Learning something new**
- Answering questions**
- Hosting a meeting**

Notice that NONE of the above requires a module. We need your help... so bring yourself, your enthusiasm, your interest and your trains.

Thanks in advance for helping! Hopefully, we will continue to see you at the meetings and display events.

Come and join in the fun!

The Lake Erie N Scale Society newsletter is published monthly for the sole use of its members by a crew of volunteers.

Opinions published here are solely those of the editor and/or the members of the Lake Erie N Scale Society.

This publication is intended to be a monthly newsletter describing the business, events and the common interest in N scale model railroading enjoyed by the members of the Lake Erie N Scale Society.

www.geocities.com/lensohio/

For information or questions regarding our Society, you may contact Dennis Lloyd at 440-352-7081 - or - (dlloyd@apk.net)

Meetings normally start at 8:00 p.m., the fourth Friday of each month.

Lake Erie N Scale Society

February, 2004

August is not that far away!

You may have heard some members talking about the upcoming convention in Chantilly, VA in August, 2004.

It is called the “N Scale East 2004—Capitol Limited”. With over 30,000 sq. ft. of floor space available for a layout, the organizers are planning the largest gathering of N Scale models ever! You may remember the record setting layout in New Jersey a few years ago. This is being touted as the challenger.

Several of the members of LENS are planning to attend (along with several modules). Rumor has it the host hotel is now sold out, but there are still other hotels in the area that have available rooms.

Check the web site for detailed information on registration. By the way, the \$ 10. discount on the registration is due to expire on May 15th; don't miss out.

In addition to the N-trak layout, there will be layout from all other scales and over 100 vendors to offer model railroading supplies, rolling stock, memorabilia, etc.

The new “T-TRAK” table top, two track type (say that 5 times quickly) standard will be included in the layout. This was developed in 2001 to provided “table top” layouts, that could also be linked to standard modules.

Last Month's Meeting

...held at Dave's house, but he wasn't there. We moved to Denny's, but he wasn't there either!

January's meeting was held on the **FOURTH** Friday (23rd) of the month at Dave Neff's, *at least for awhile!*

After knocking and waiting on the back porch in bitter cold, several member elected to step inside the back door; after all, the door was ajar—but no one was home. Dave had mixed up his dates and was out for the evening. By the time 8:30 rolled around and 16 people were huddled in the kitchen and basement stairway, we elected to move to Denny's Restaurant nearby (Denny L. was ill and not there).

The members present discussed the upcoming layout setup at the Wickliffe Library to determine the size of the display and who would be available to set up and run trains. In addition, we talked about the recent set up at the Lake County Farmpark, and the upcoming 2004 Railfest to be held at Lakeland Community College.

In Dave's defense, he contacted as many people as he could and held an impromptu meeting the following Friday night. Those present were able to see the layout that Dave is building, and his collection of (what seemed to be) 400 building kits! He'll need to live to 152 in order to complete assembling and decorating all of them.

This is "the stuff of legends", Dave. No need to feel bad, the people in this group only hold grudges for 30 or 40 years!

This Month's Meeting

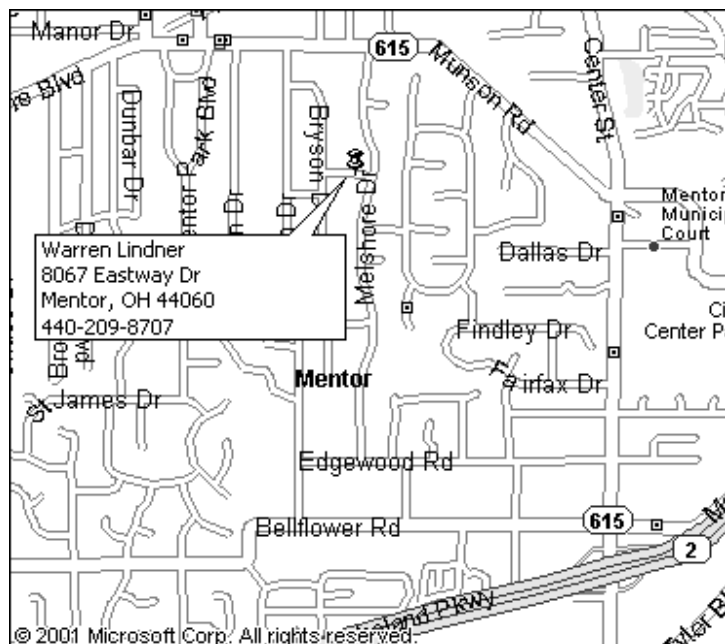
Dave's house — no; traded with Chuck...

Chuck's house — no; construction...

Warren's House???

Yes! However, Warren is also under construction (well, no Warren, but his house).

We don't have a particular theme for this meeting, but the planning for Railfest will be wrapped up in the discussions. Also, we will be reviewing the recent layout that we provided for the willowick Library.

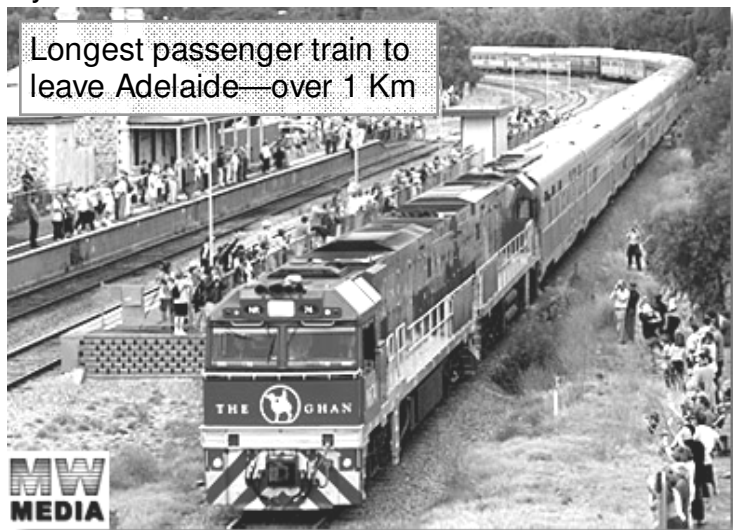


Hope to see you there!

Learning From Prototype

100 Years In The Making **First Gahn Train To Darwin From Adelaide**

On a very historic February 1, 2004 at 12:10 pm at The Keswick Passenger Rail Terminal, a Ghan passenger train left for Darwin. This was no ordinary train as previously the railway line terminated at Alice Springs which is only half way to Darwin from Adelaide.



More than 100 years after the rail line to Darwin was suggested, the new 1420 km line from Alice Springs was completed ahead of schedule and it is now possible to travel from Adelaide to Darwin by rail.

After Speeches by South Australian Premier Mike Rann, Northern Territory Chief Minister Clare Martin, and other dignitaries, the large crowd was entertained. Finally the

"All Aboard" signal for the passengers was given on the inaugural Ghan passenger train.

Hundreds of well wishers turned out at the North Adelaide Railway Station to wave and cheer as the record breaking Ghan passenger train slowly made it's way out of Adelaide.

At points along the railway line, at each country town, and railway crossing, hundreds and sometimes thousands of well wishers were waiting to greet the Ghan on it's historic journey to Darwin. Some of the locals set up bar-b-ques and picnic settings while they waited for the historic train. Out on the main highway to Port Augusta there was extra traffic as rail enthusiasts followed the journey by motor vehicle.

As the Ghan passenger train approached Port Augusta at Stirling North, Pichi Richi Railway's Afghan Express joined it to run alongside into Port Augusta. To commemorate this historic event, the Pichi Richi train carried vintage motor vehicles making it representative of a 1920s - 30s Ghan train.



Our "Annual Swap Meet", is now available at every meeting!

If you have surplus engines, buildings, rolling stock, modules, etc., bring them to any of the meetings to offer great deals to your fellow members.

Next Month's Meeting

March is a special month for the membership of LENS. We participate in the NMRA Division 5's Railfest held at Lakeland Community College (see page 9). Because of the amount of time spent at Railfest, we do not have a "monthly meeting" at someone's house.

We once again have a large (12' x 40') space to fill, and a "Sale Table" where you are welcome to bring items to offer for sale to the public.



We will need all of the help we can muster for the set up and tear down efforts—the more hands, the lighter the work. Contact Denny Lloyd if you intend to bring a module so we can finish the layout design.

If you intend to offer items for sale, also plan on spending some time sitting at the table to monitor the items. Don't assume someone else will do it for you—you are expected to help in the effort.

If you have never been to Railfest, it is the "east side's best model railroad show". There will be several operating layouts and over 100 vendors, "waiting to liberate your dollars"!

Layout Planner

Venue	<i>Railfest 2004</i>				
Set up	Friday	3/19/04	6:00	to	10:00
Oper.	Saturday	3/20/04	10:00	to	4:00
	Sunday	3/21/04	10:00	to	4:00

Venue	<i>Lake Farmpark</i>				
Set up	Friday	4/30/04	TBA	to	TBA
Oper.	Saturday	5/01/04	9:00	to	5:00
	Sunday	5/02/04	9:00	to	5:00

Venue	<i>"Capitol Limited" - 2004 N Scale East</i>				
Set up	Friday	8/06/04	TBA	to	TBA
Oper.	Saturday	8/07/04	TBA	to	TBA
	Sunday	8/08/04	TBA	to	TBA

Don't forget to register yourself and maybe one or more modules, for the "Capitol Limited" convention in August!
www.bigtrainlayout.org

“web.page”

N scale groups you may find to be helpful:

N Scale (N Gauge) Model Railroading

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/n_scale

Unofficial Micro-Trains Release Report

<http://www.irwinsjournal.com/umtrr>

N Scale Modelling in the UK

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nscaleuk>

N Scale + DCC

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ndcc>

Japan Rail Forum

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/JRForum>

Japanese Model Rail News

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/JapaneseModelTrainNews>

Trainboard's N Scale Forum

<http://www.trainboard.com/cgi-bin/ultimatebb.cgi?ubb=forum:f=9;DaysPrune=30>

N Scale Trains at MSN

<http://groups.msn.com/NscaleTrains/home.htm>

DigiTRAKN

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DigiTRAKN>

KatoModelTrains

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KatoModelTrains>

INSMA

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/INSMA>

NEWNScaleProducts

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NEWNScaleProducts>

NSCALECARS

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NSCALECARS>

NScale-1949-1970

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NScale-1949-1970>

N-Military

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/N-Military>

N-Scale_Parts_Exchange

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/N-Scale_Parts_Exchange

N-scaleVarnish

<http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/N-scaleVarnish>

N_FineScale

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/N_FineScale

n_scale_stuff

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/n_scale_stuff

n_tutorial

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/n_tutorial

nbay <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nbay>

ngauge

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ngauge>

nn3

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nn3>

ntrak

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ntrak>

NtrakTalk

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NtrakTalk>

ntrak-announce

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ntrak-announce>

ntrakandmodularrailroads

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ntrakandmodularrailroads>

NTrakDCCSIG

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NTrakDCCSIG>

OKltrak

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/OKltrak>

T-Trak

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/t-trak>

N Scale Traction

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nscaletraction>

From the desk of: Denny Lloyd

I have received a number of requests for ready – to – install lumber loads. I do not intend to go into a side business. However, anyone wanting a completed load may get one in exchange for any deLuxe Innovations 20 ft or 45 ft container, undec or any paint scheme. Contact me with your needs at dlloyd@aok.net. Thanks!

Visit our web site at www.geocities.com/lensohio/

“F.R.E.D.”



See you at the next station!

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