



Lake Erie
"N"
Scale Society



"L.E.N.S."

FEB., 2007

News and Opinions
Monthly Meeting Info
Web Sites of Interest
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Show Schedules
and more!



N-TRAK
N SCALE MODULAR RAILROADING

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!

www.geocities.com/lensohio

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.

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

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

Lake Erie N Scale Society

Feb., 2007

- * Many of you saw my e-mail asking the question, "is this group dying?". I am happy to report the "patient will live". That e-mail went out because we have a new opportunity to set up our display. However, no one responded to my request for modules. We seem to have plenty of people at the meetings, so I was surprised by the lack of response. The second e-mail produced a better reply. Don't forget one of the purposes of LENS is to set up our display in public in an attempt to teach and encourage others to appreciate model railroading, especially as it pertains to N-trak.
- * We have been invited by the folks at the Perry, OH public library to set up our display. They have a 24' x 26' room that will allow us to set up a square of modules. Please contact Denny L. if you are interested in bringing a module, or if you can volunteer some time to run trains. We will need 8 straights and 4 corners. (I know some of you wrote to me in an e-mail, but please contact Denny to be sure you are on the official list - thanks)
- * The library (Perry, OH) has a glass display case built into the wall, behind the main desk. It is approximately 4' x 4' x 1' deep. They are asking us to fill that case with model railroad related material, to be displayed for the month of April. I am looking for a team of folks to volunteer their time, talent and materials to design and assemble a display to fill the case. Please contact Lou D. if you wish to help.

Last Month's Meeting

The First Annual - "Meet & Greet", was held at Dave N.'s home. Members, families and guests brought plates of Hor'dours to share and Dave supplied some beverages. In fact, Dave was actually there!

While we still discussed our hobby, it was done in a less formal atmosphere. We took time to tour Dave's home layout which has grown since the last time we saw it, and were able to see some trains running through the sections that are under construction.

We did stop at one point to quickly go over an agenda of subjects, because we had some new & old business to attend to regarding upcoming displays and planning for the Railfest in March.

Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves & had a good time.



Boxcar with a folding door?

This Month's Meeting

The February meeting of LENS will be held in the home of a new member, Joe Y. Joe lives in an apartment, so the parking is limited. He requests that you try to car pool in order to help solve the space limitation. There are some spots near his home and more at a "guest parking area" nearby.

Joe is looking for some critique of the module he is building (poor guy - doesn't know this can become a two day meeting with this group!). He is hoping to have the module complete enough to be able to bring it to Railfest.

The meeting starts at 8:00 p.m., on the forth Friday of the month (February 23, 2007).



Something interesting to model...

Learning From Prototype

WASHINGTON, DC -- Several leading chemical manufacturers recently announced plans to replace their entire U.S. and Canadian chlorine tank car fleets by the end of 2017 with new rail tank cars that will feature significantly enhanced safety and security attributes.

Occidental Chemical Corporation (OxyChem), The Dow Chemical Company, US Magnesium LLC and Bayer MaterialScience reaffirmed their drive for continuous improvement in the safe and secure rail transportation of chlorine through this aggressive rail tank car replacement commitment and announced the formation of a Chlorine Rail Tank Car Development Coordination Panel.

This new effort is a logical progression to the next generation of safe and secure rail tank cars. Multiple safety enhancements have been incorporated into the current generation of tank cars and they are performing well, with a strong record of performance in accident situations. In the spirit of Responsible Care® and continuous improvement, the industry is preparing to break through to the next level of safety and security performance-based improvements.

The primary goal of the Coordination Panel is to accelerate the chlorine industry's development of enhanced tank car designs that can be leveraged across the chemical industry in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation and Transport Canada. The Panel welcomes the participation of other chlorine shippers willing to commit to the same rail tank car replacement plans.

Panel participants believe that enhancing chlorine transportation safety and security is a shared responsibility

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between shippers, railroads and the government and must go beyond rail tank car design to include a comprehensive review of all the factors involved, including train operations, human factors, routing and track conditions .

Rail transport is the safest mode of transportation for chlorine and other hazardous materials that are critical to the U.S. economy and national security. Although chlorine is best known as a disinfectant for drinking water, it also is essential to the manufacturing of 93 percent of all pharmaceuticals, numerous life-saving medical devices, nearly all crop protection chemicals, and the production of polyvinyl chloride (PVC), mostly used as building and construction materials -- not to mention advanced materials critical to protecting our armed forces.

The Next Generation Rail Tank Car project is focused on the design and implementation of a next generation rail tank car for highly hazardous chemicals that provides a step change in safety and security performance. This project is part of a much larger set of initiatives to drive improved rail safety and security that include efforts to address operational safety, material sourcing and routing, implementation of advanced tracking technologies and emergency preparedness.

- PRNewswire, Source: Dow Chemical Company

Our "Annual Swap Meet", is 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

We have been invited to participate in the NMRA Division 5's Railfest, held at Lakeland Community College. Because of the amount of time spent at Railfest, we will not have a "monthly meeting" at anyone's house.

We have a 12' x 48' space to fill with our layout. As of "press" time, **there is still room** for modules. Again, we will have access to a "Sale Table", where you are welcome to bring your surplus items to offer for sale to the public.

If you intend to offer items for sale, also plan on spending some time sitting at the table to monitor those items; you are expected to contribute to the effort. Also, don't forget to fill out an Inventory Sheet for your items (available from Matt K. via e-mail or phone).

We will need all of the help we can muster for the set up and tear down efforts; please try to be available.

Contact Denny L. if you intend to bring a module so we can include your module/s in the layout design.

If you have never been to a 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"!

Stewart's Hobbies & Collector's Toys

38033 Euclid Ave.

440-942-6632

Microtrains Dealer

You've seen Rob & Sandy at Railfest — why not visit their store in Willoughby when you get a chance.

Event Planner

	RAILFEST '07	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Times</i>
Set up	Friday	03/16/07	7 p.m.
Event	Saturday	03/17/07	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Event	Sunday	03/18/07	1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

	Perry, OH Library	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Times</i>
Set up	Friday	04/20/07	6:30 p.m.
Operate	Saturday	04/21/07	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Operate	Sunday	04/22/07	12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

	RR In The Parks	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Times</i>
Set up	Friday	05/04/07	7 p.m.
Event	Saturday	05/05/07	T.B.A.
Event	Sunday	05/06/07	T.B.A.

	Louisville "N" Convention	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Times</i>
Set up	Wednesday	6/25/08	T.B.A.
Operate	(from) Thursday...	6/26/08	T.B.A.
Operate	...(thru) Sunday	6/29/08	T.B.A.

Looking for LENS apparel?



Contact Karen **(440-347-0938)** to order your favorite items. Quality, prices & selection to fit every budget!



2008 N scale Convention - Help Wanted

I received an e-mail from Paul Downs of the KSONS group; they are hosting the 2008 N scale convention in Louisville, KY. Here are some excerpts from the document that was attached - I will send more information in a separate e-mail, as the job list is too large to publish here.

*“The Derby City Express is in need of qualified and enthusiastic individuals to step forward and support the 2008 National N Scale Convention with a commitment of a most valuable resource – **time.**”*

“It is now time for the Partners to provide the resource of time. We need workers to fill in the second tier of the committee. These positions represent the nuts-and-bolts of the Convention – this is where the work is done. Some of these sub committee positions will be handled by only one person, others will require additional committee members to do the job.”

“Please understand that local support will be available for nearly all of the positions listed below. The overseeing committee chair will work with you to ensure that you have all of the resources you need to do the job. Even areas such as local tour coordinators can be done by an out-of-towner – we’ll help guide you in the right direction.”

“So take a look at what we need, see where your strengths lay, and jump in to what will be one of the most fun “jobs” you’ve ever had!”

From the N-trak web site...

The N Scale Information Book

Our replacement for the "N Info Booklet" is an 8-1/2" x 11", 40 page book with over 1/2 new material. Chapters include N Basics, Planning a Layout, Building a Layout, Tips and Tracks and a chapter on Early N Stuff.

"The N Scale Information Book" is just \$6.00, including postage.

The N Scale Information Book

The 2006 Revised edition with all the recent electrical changes. The NTRAK Module "How-to" Book contains detailed "How-to" information and examples of some of the best NTRAK modules, photos, track plans, & "how-to" information on building NTRAK modules. One chapter explains the basic reasons for using modules and how the standards developed. The NTRAK Module Manual is reproduced in a larger size for easy reading. Track plans and photos of over 50 top modules are shown. A chapter gives tips on converting your own ideas into a working plan and then other chapters cover details of building the module frame, laying track, wiring, scenery, and setting up an operating layout. 8.5" x 11", printed on heavy and durable paper. Newly revised and expanded 2006 version now available, updated and with 36162 pages! \$14.00

(I can't "weight" to see that edition! ---- Ed)

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

“F.R.E.D.”



See you at the next station!

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