



Monthly publication of the

# Lake Erie "N" Scale Society

"L.E.N.S."

July, 2007



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



**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](http://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.

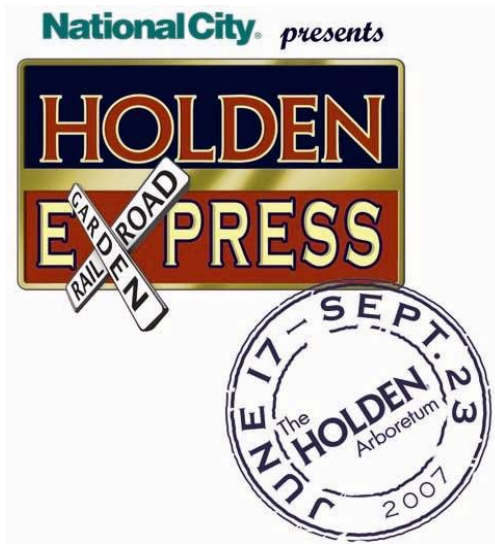
This publication is intended to be a monthly newsletter describing the business, events and the common interest in N scale model railroading enjoyed by the members of the Lake Erie N Scale Society.

**For information or questions regarding our Society, you may contact Dennis Lloyd at 440-352-7081 - or - (denlloyd@gmail.com)**

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

# Lake Erie N Scale Society

July, 2007



**The Holden Express**, open through September 23rd, features G-gauge model trains traveling over 2,000 linear feet of track, over replicas of some of the area's landmark bridges and past Holden's historic barns. Everything in the exhibit, with the exception of the trains and the track, will be created with natural materials by landscape architect Paul Busse and the team at Applied Imagination. The Kentucky based firm has created garden railroads for botanical gardens across the country, including Atlanta, New Orleans, and the U.S. Botanical Garden. Visitors will be invited to walk into the world Busse is creating and take a closer look at a garden in motion. Hundreds of plants will be used to create the landscape for the trains.

For the complete story, and hours of operation, go to:  
[www.holdenarb.org/Event/holden\\_express.htm](http://www.holdenarb.org/Event/holden_express.htm)

## Last Month's Meeting

Joe Y. hosted the June meeting which was well attended. The following subjects were discussed:

- A decision was made to move our annual picnic to the third weekend of the month to alleviate the conflict caused by the folks at the Bedford, PA, "N-Scale Weekend" held on the fourth weekend. This way our members will have the opportunity to attend both events.
- The RP (recommended practice) of using the new Anderson Power Pole connectors was brought up. We now have modules in the group that use this new connector - those members are using a conversion pigtail if set up next to a module that uses the Cinch-Jones style..
- It was suggested that existing modules could be altered to contain both styles by running a second buss wire and new feeds to the tracks. That way they would work for either style. However there was concern for the unused cable end during a set up (it would be "live"). This discussion will continue later.
- We need to contact Paul D. of KSONS to find out what requirements there will be regarding power & low voltage connectors for the 2008 convention. We will need plenty of time to make any corrections.

### *Looking for LENS apparel?*



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



## This Month's Meeting

Mike & Mandee B. invited us to view his home layout, the Grand River Railroad. They will be hosting the July meeting of our group on Friday, July 27, 2007, starting at 8:00 p.m.

In the last issue, we failed to acknowledge a very nice, new module that Mike brought to the set up in May. This means that four new modules (or sets of modules) have been added to our layout in recent months.

*Thanks Mike!*

**3<sup>d</sup> Annual Model Train Show  
"N-Scale  
Weekend"**

**By N-Scalers for N-Scalers**

August 25 & 26, 2007

**Saturday August 25th, 10 AM till 5 PM**

**Sunday August 26th, 9 AM till 3 PM**

ProCare "SPORTSPLEX"

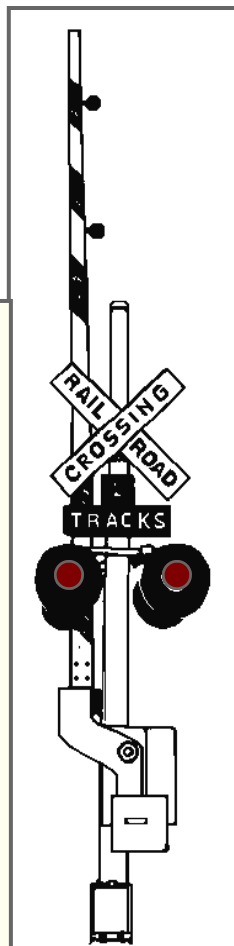
125 Willow Grove Drive, Everett, PA 15537  
(Rt. 30) East of Bedford, Pennsylvania. 3 mile

East of Bedford, PA &

6 miles west of Everett, PA PA Turnpike  
Exits, Bedford or Breezewood

General Admission: \$4

Under 12 Free w/ adult



[www.pennscalers.org/Bedford%20Info/N%20Flyer%202007.doc](http://www.pennscalers.org/Bedford%20Info/N%20Flyer%202007.doc)

## REFERENCES

This month we will look at four reference sources for our modeling efforts. The first is Railcar Photos [www.railcarphotos.com](http://www.railcarphotos.com) which, as the name implies, is a collection of photos from railfans across the country. You may search for a particular car by reporting marks and number, or fine cars of a particular type (covered hopper, box car, etc.) or choose a particular reporting mark from a long drop down box. If you join the list (which is NOT necessary to view the pictures) you may also submit pictures. One of the things that impressed me were the familiar names of some of the photographers; David Casdorff, probably the leading freight car historian in the country today, Paul Graf of Atlas Models, and Tom Stolte of Oddballs Decals. Remember, there is nothing better for lettering, painting, and weathering a car than a good photo. On the flip side, there is nothing worse than your memory.

Many of us purchase books to use as references. However, books of color photographs are becoming increasingly expensive. There are three individuals who are producing books on disk in the PDF format. The first of these is David G. Casdorff, who offers free publications through his two web sites, D.G. Casdorff <http://dgcasdorff.com>, featuring The Freight Car Journal, Freight Car News and Notes, and The Journal of Railway Tank Cars, and Intermodal Transport [www.intermodaltransport.com](http://www.intermodaltransport.com), which includes International Transport History and Technology.

The second individual is Eric Neubauer, who has a few books on paper, but sells numerous PDF format books on disk. These include:

### **Books on Freight and Passenger Cars:**

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PDF formatted e-books composed for viewing on computer monitors. High quality photographs can be magnified for close examination. Printing by the user is fully allowed. The books are also searchable for specific words or numbers. Each copy is registered to the owner. The books can be opened with Adobe Acrobat Reader (5.0 or later) which can be downloaded from Adobe for free. Books are provided on CDs. Prices of e-books include shipping worldwide. The listing also includes some older e-books and print books.

### **Railroads:**

#### **Lehigh & New England Railroad Freight Car Diagram**

**Book** (print book, 1993) includes 56 pages of rosters, photographs and diagrams. Charts show yearly quantities in service. Lists of passenger and maintenance of way equipment are included. \$18

**Norfolk Southern Coal Gons 2005** is a pictorial roster of the Norfolk Southern coal gon fleet in 2005. \$15

**Triple Crown Services 2006** (updated version) is a pictorial roster of the Triple Crown RoadRailer fleet. Triple Crown is a subsidiary of Norfolk Southern. \$20

**Northampton & Bath Freight Cars** (print book, 1994) is a pictorial roster of this U.S. Steel subsidiary. Includes detailed drawings of their 1923 NYC design box cars and a map of the railroad. \$14

**Philadelphia & Reading Freight Cars: 19th Century** (print book) includes 94 pages of rosters, photographs, diagrams and drawings. This is the only comprehensive work available on Reading cars of this period. \$25

**Philadelphia & Reading Freight Cars: 1900 to 1914** (print book) includes 120 pages of rosters, photographs,

***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

## Annual Picnic

***NOTE THE CHANGE OF DAY & TIME:*** *the picnic will be held on the **3rd** SATURDAY, August 18, 2007 starting at 6:00 p.m.*

Traditionally, we have not had a meeting in the month of August. Instead, we have a “cookout / pot luck” picnic. It is a chance for our members to bring a guest and/or families, to meet with other members in a different setting (although we still talk about trains of course!).

This year's picnic will be hosted by Lou & Donna D., which is also the home of the (G scale) Basemont Valley Northern RR. The “Golden Spike” was recently set and trains will be running - guest consists welcome.

You will need to bring something to grill, something to share, plates and utensils, and a folding chair. Lou & Donna will supply soft beverages (coffee, pop, water).

It may get cold after the sun goes down— so don't forget a jacket or sweatshirt if you hang around for conversation after dinner.

### **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

	Annual Picnic	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Times</i>
<b>Event</b>	Saturday	08/18/07	6 p.m. - ???

	N-scale Weekend Bedford, PA	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Times</i>
<b>Event</b>	Saturday	08/25/07	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
<b>Event</b>	Sunday	08/26/07	9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

	Div 5 HO Modules Willoughby	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Times</i>
<b>Event</b>	Friday	09/07/07	T.B.A.
<b>Event</b>	Saturday	09/08/07	T.B.A.
<b>Event</b>	Sunday	09/09/07	T.B.A.

	Sept. Meeting	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Times</i>
<b>Event</b>	Richard F's	09/25/07	8 p.m - ???

	Div. 4 Trainshow Berea Fairground	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Times</i>
<b>Event</b>	Saturday	10/06/07	T.B.A.
<b>Event</b>	Sunday	10/07/07	T.B.A.

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

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diagrams and drawings. It includes exquisite scale drawings of 19 different freight cars done especially for this book. \$30

**Southern Railway Car Roster** includes an illustrated roster of cars used from 1982 to 1991 and a guide to Norfolk Southern classification of Southern cars. \$20 (*Replaces Southern Railway Car Roster/Norfolk Southern Classification of Southern Cars.*)

**Southern Railway Car Roster/Southern to Norfolk Southern Renumbering** (2006) covers the period from 1991 to present. \$15

### Private owners:

**Carbon Black Cars** (print book, 1990) and includes rosters, 15 scale diagrams and 48 photos of designs built between 1933 and 1989. This is the definitive work on carbon black and fumed silica cars. The majority were built by American Car & Foundry or Thrall. \$25

**National Railway Utilization Corporation** (2006) explores the acquisition and liquidation of the NRUC fleet of box cars. \$25

**Pennsylvania Power & Light Coal Cars** (2006) is an illustrated roster and also includes a variety of HELM and other non-PPLX cars currently used in PP&L trains. \$15

**Railbox 2006** is a pictorial roster of the Railbox fleet since 1974. \$20

### Car builders:

**A History of the Center Flow** (2007) is an extensive, illustrated guide to this covered hopper design built by ACF and ARI from 1961 to the present. \$40

**ACF Center Flow CF4600** (print book, 1994) is a fully illustrated guide to this particular covered hopper design. \$20

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**Evans Products Company Freight Cars** (older e-book, 2003) is an overview of the Evans Products family of companies and their involvement with freight cars. \$15

**Evans Products Company Freight Car Roster Notes** (older e-book, 2004) is a detailed listing of freight cars built, rebuilt and leased by Evans Products and subsidiaries. \$25

**Evans Products Builders Photographs** (2006) reproduces the James A. Kinkaid collection. \$25

**Pullman-Standard Freight Car Production Including Predecessors** (older e-book, 2002) is a detailed listing of about 10,000 freight car orders from the 19th and 20th centuries. \$20

**Related subjects:**

**Bethlehem Steel, Fall of 1995** is primarily collection of detailed aerial photographs taken of the Bethlehem plant taken just before the last blast furnace shut down. A map of the plant, photographs from ground level and railroad equipment photographs are also included. \$20

**Upcoming titles:**

**A History of the ACF Center Flow** updates the highly prized book of the same title published in the 1980s. This book will probably exceed 1,000 pages and will cover designs, design evolution, production and dispositions in great detail. Release planned for April 30.

**Center-beam Flat Cars** documents all Center-beam flat cars built since 1969. Release planned for later in 2007.

*(Continued next issue)*

Visit our web site at [www.geocities.com/lensohio/](http://www.geocities.com/lensohio/)

**“F.R.E.D.”**



***See you at the next station!***

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