



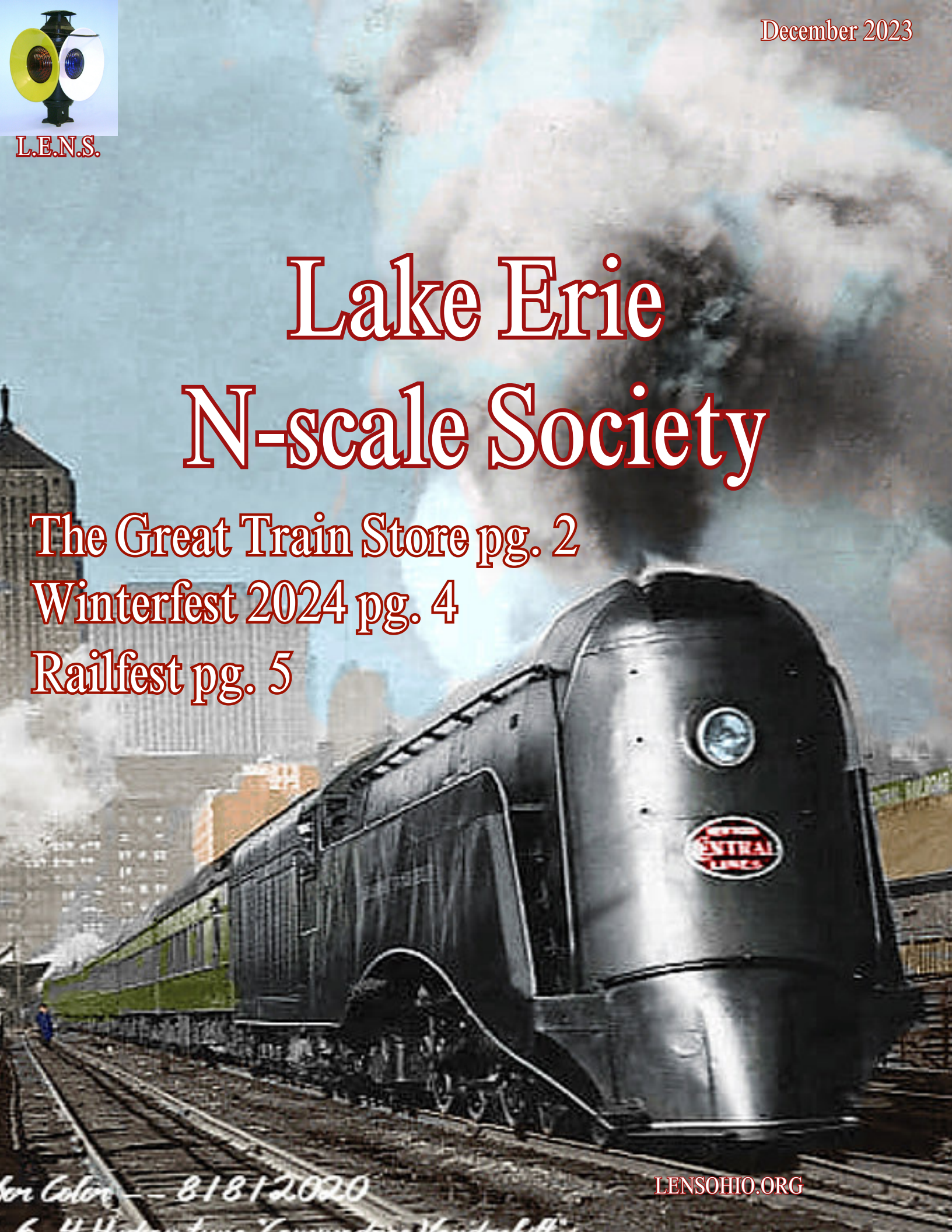
L.E.N.S.

# Lake Erie N-scale Society

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Don Colton - 81812020

# Promoting Model Railroading For Over 40 Years

Welcome! LENS is a group of people with a common interest in modeling N scale railroads using NTRAK and TTRAK modules. 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 organization. This publication is intended to be a monthly newsletter describing the business, events and the common interest in N scale model railroading enjoyed by its members.

For information or questions regarding our Society, please visit our website by scanning the QR code or visit us at

[LENSOhio.org](http://LENSOhio.org)



# The Great Train Store

The Friday following Thanksgiving the wife and I took a trip down near Youngstown. We went to visit Kraynak's, a holiday/gift store, which is just across the OH/PA border. While we were down there I, of course, was looking around for any stores selling model trains. showing up



The caboose and front of the store

on my Google maps search was the Great Train Store. It wasn't far from where we were just a quick twenty minute drive to North Lima, OH. As we approached I was excited to see three railcars attached to the store. Two of which were box cars and the other a caboose. Enthusiastic to see what all could be inside I quickly parked the car and rushed in. Upon entering I became very confused. Beside two displays near the entrance it just looked like a regular hardware store. Shelves filled with tools, paint supplies, and other DIY materials. Where were all the trains? Walking a tad further a wall of O-scale caught my eye. Thinking there surely must be more than just O we entered the caboose connected to the store. The caboose also connected to the box cars formed a long hall only filled with O-scale trains. Pressing down the hall I hoped to see an assortment of N scale models. To my dismay the only N scale to be found was a small five foot section that had maybe five to ten items. Even the HO section paled in comparison to the vast...



Box cars alongside the store

....amount of O-scale. Hoping there might be more we went up the stairs nearby that led to a large assortment of.....G-scale. With extreme disappointment we decided left, the only thing of interest being found was a striped railroad hat that was big enough to fit my large head. It was not anything like I had hoped given the name “The

Train Store.” Sure if you are a fan of O or G-scale this store is for you but any other scale don’t waste your time.

Thankfully, our trip was not specifically for this it just so happened to be in the area. If you do find yourself in North Lima drive by to see the equipment but continue past the store, you won’t be missing out.

-Cody C.



## WANT LENS APPAREL?

Contact Karen (440) 347-0938 to order your club attire! Good quality, good selection, and prices to fit every budget.



# LENS 2024 Winterfest

The club is restarting an old LENS tradition of having a social get-together in January, which hasn't been done for a number of years. There was no clear direction from the quick survey done and since there wasn't a lot of time to plan this year's event. It was decided to do it the same way it had been done in the past. The event will be held on the date of our normal monthly meeting in January, which is Sunday afternoon, January 28, 2024. The club was unable to get a public venue that would suit us and not cost anything. With that, LENS will be taking Lou up on his offer to hold the event at his house. This event is for members and their spouses and/or guests. There will still be a **SHORT** meeting during the event since there are some Railfest items we need to discuss. This will be an in-person meeting only. **No Zoom option will be available.**

## Details

**What:** LENS 2024 Winterfest Social Gathering

**Who:** Members, spouses, guests

**When:** Sunday, January 28, 2024, 1:00 pm to ?; LENS meeting will be held around 3:30pm

**Where:** Home of Lou and Donna D. (Note: the party will be in the basement and there are stairs)

**RSVP:** Please use the meeting RSVP feature on the LENS website under the Members section. Please remember to click multiple times to show how many people will be coming with you.

**Parking:** There is room for six to eight vehicles in Lou's driveway. There is lots of parking along the street in front of the house. Park on the north side (non-hydrant side) of the street which is the side the house sits on.

**Food:** Bring a snack to share. Cookies, chips, and candies are welcome, but, since we aren't serving a meal, it would be nice to have some less sugary things such as a veggie tray, cheese & crackers, little meatballs/sausages, etc. Don't go overboard.

**Activities:** There will be a Jeopardy game, which is optional and a chance to just hang out. There will be a **BRIEF** LENS meeting around 3:30pm to go over some items for Railfest 2024.

# Railfest

LENS has been invited once again to set up N-Trak and T-Trak layouts at Railfest. Cody C. will be the N-Trak coordinator and Ray N. will be the T-Trak coordinator. They will be sending out separate emails asking who will have modules for the layouts. Start thinking about whether you will have modules available. Finish any repairs and have them ready to go by the time of Railfest which will be March 16–17, 2024. Layout setup will be on the Friday afternoon/evening before the show, Friday, March 15. We will start putting a list together of modules at the January meeting.



**RAILFEST 2024**  
Saturday and Sunday  
March 16 & 17, 2024  
10 am to 4 pm  
New & Collectable  
Located at:  
**Lakeland Community College**  
7700 Clocktower Dr.  
Kirtland, Ohio 44094  
(Closes 8:00 PM at Lakeland OH - and 10:00)

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**Admission \$9.00**  
Two Day Pass \$14.00  
Family (couple) \$14.00  
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Food Service available at reasonable prices

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Available  
NTR

**Free Parking**  
Free Shuttle Bus  
5:00am - 4:00pm

**For Information Write:**  
NORCA NCR Division II  
P.O. Box 3081  
Mentor, Ohio 44060  
Phone: (440) 331-8800  
Phone: (331) 478-5786

## Sales Table

If you are planning on selling items at the LENS sales table at Railfest, you need to fill out a sales item form and list

each item you are selling along with what the minimum price you are willing to accept. The form (Fleamarket Table Items) is on the LENS website under the Members section (Documents tab). We will try to email a copy of the form out a month before Railfest. Detailed instructions are listed on the back of the form. Also, those selling items at the LENS table are expected to spend at least a couple of hours manning the table during the show.

### Pre-sales

Traditionally, at our February meeting, we ask people that are planning on selling items at Railfest, to bring at least some of those items to the February meeting and give LENS members first dibs at buying your items. Also, those attending the February meeting should bring some extra money along to take advantage of these pre-sales.

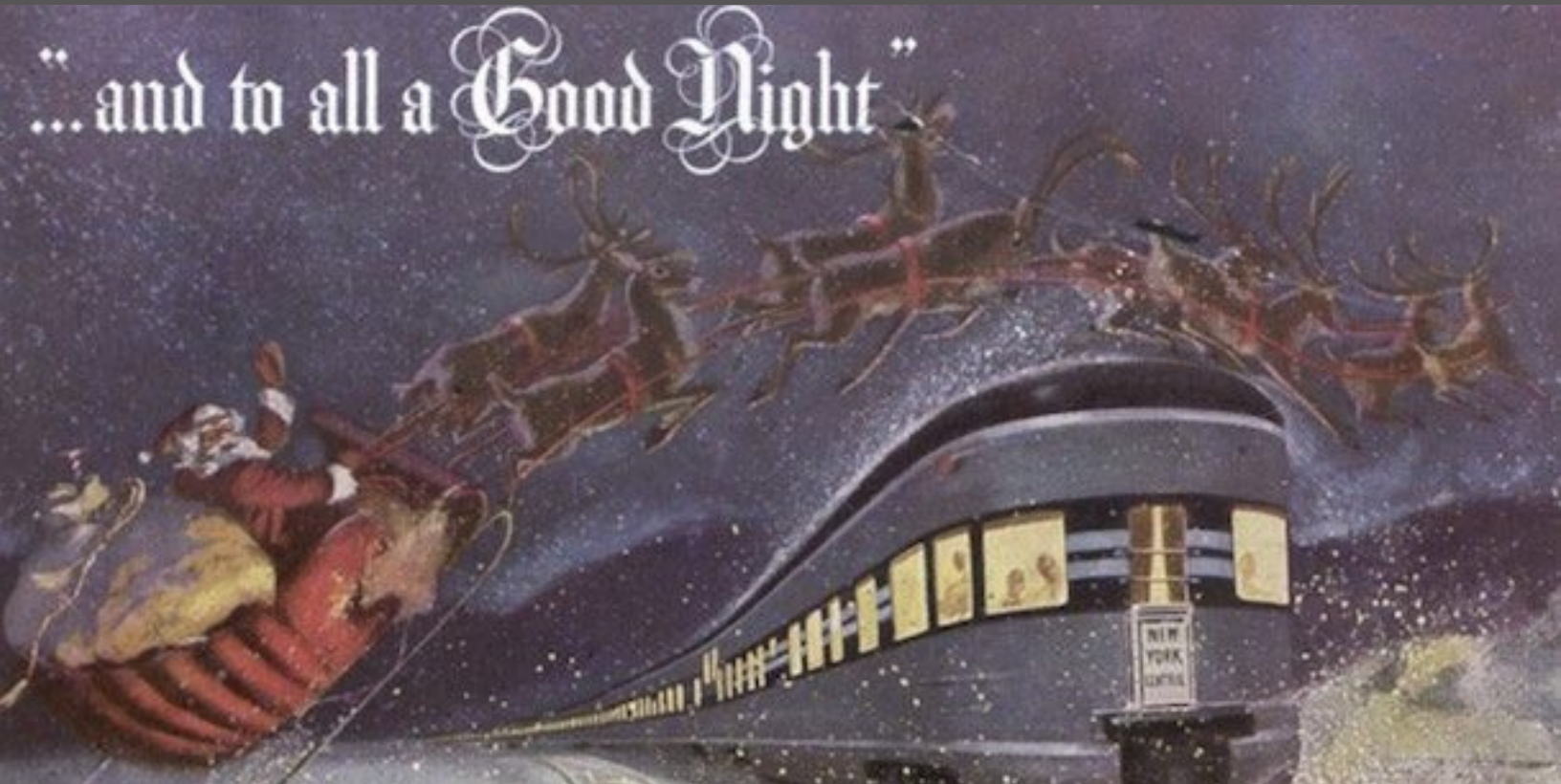
Matt K.

## **Want to be in the LENS Newsletter?**

Email Cody C. to have your articles, photos, or other train related content posted!

“Merry Christmas to all...”

“...and to all a Good Night”



SEE YOU  
AT THE  
NEXT  
STATION!

F.R.E.D