



Volume 23
Issue 11

November, 2010

BANTRAK Newsletter

The Engineer's Cab

Alan Del Gaudio



Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Looking back on the past two years, we've had some nice accomplishments; 2 very nice raffle layouts, a much-needed yard upgrade, a rebuilt corner and 2 refreshed corners and several very successful shows, albeit one or two were opportunities with a short fuse.

And, we did our 2nd major club project in the past 5 years with world visibility (okay at least Baltimore Area visibility): the MB Klein N-scale layout.

We've added several new members who have been there to readily contribute and have had a wardrobe enhancement (new shirts and hats). We've seen the introduction of several new modules and promise of more. While I'm partial, the club picnics/seminars have been a nice relaxed addition.

We haven't changed the logo (a good thing) and steered clear of trying to solve world hunger (in keeping to a much focused yard upgrade) but one thing I had hoped for, a club railfanning road trip, never materialized. As Brooklyn Dodgers fans used to say, "Wait till next year".

The Bedford weekends have always been an enjoyable time and I'm hoping we can extend that next year when we do the N-Scale Convention in Harrisburg/Hershey Pennsylvania.

The enabling factor in all the accomplishments listed above is people who will take on the project responsibility. It's a case of if you think there is something we need to do, think of a plan, talk to some fellow members and bring it up at a meeting. It's always interesting how most planned jobs are done better than the original concept.

Some needs for next year; more places to meet, more modules and as our new editor (whoever steps forward) will say – more articles!

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TBA

On the web...

News, information, and
forums are all at:

<http://www.bantrak.net/>

The Engineer's Cab (continued)

In the next month we have plenty of time to run trains, so tune up your locomotives, organize your rolling stock and for you DCC fans, add decoders and get ready for the holidays and trains!

This holiday season, please be thankful for friends and family, our service men and women all around the world. and let's not forget the dedicated individuals toiling away in the many volunteer organizations that preserve our hobby through historical societies, maintaining retired rolling stock, facilities and the fabled iron dragons of yore.

Alan

Where's the Newsletter?

Matthew Davis

You can't fail to notice this is a rather slim (and very late) issue of the newsletter. What's going on? Several things, actually.

The main thing is that it's become difficult for me to find time to work on the newsletter. This is why we need a new editor to step forward ASAP.

I'm also trying to improve our on-time performance to at least Amtrak standards. To that end, I decided to focus on getting a good December issue out on time instead of working on the November issue.

So keep your eye out for an improved – and on time – December newsletter pulling into the station in just a few days!

BANTRAK was founded in 1983 as the Greater Baltimore N-Scale Associates. Begun as a "round robin" group to share skills and experiences, we have expanded our focus to include participation in many diverse activities to promote model railroading in general and N-Scale model railroading in particular. Activities include participation in local, regional and national shows, meets and conventions. BANTRAK membership includes membership in the national NTRAK organization.

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BANTRAK Calendar

12/15-1/2/2011 — Festival of Trains, B&O Museum, Baltimore, MD (setup 12/15-17; teardown 1/2)

The BANTRAK Newsletter is the official publication of the Baltimore Area N-TRAK organization.

This is your newsletter! Please send articles, photos, and suggestions to newsletter@bantrak.net.

Editor: Matthew Davis

