

BANTRAK News

A Monthly Newsletter for BANTRAK Members • Volume 35 • Issue 07 • July 2022



The Engineer's Cab: Chris Quinlan

Hello BANTRAK Family,

I hope this message finds everyone enjoying the beginning of summer. In the Quinlan house, we have been wrapping up school, going to Scout camp, girls camp, yard work, housework, work work, and everything in between. We are off to a great start with no signs of things slowing down. Yet, it feels like the summer will be over before we know it.

I have found a little time to model in between all the craziness! I spend at least one hour each day in the basement working on something or doing research online or in books. Working on my trains gives me time to unwind, think about the day, and work through problems. It's a win-win: trains and life balance. I have made it a point not to spend more than an hour on the hobby to ensure I have enough time for my family and other essential things. Of course, sometimes I go over on my train time, and that's okay too! Haha!

I look forward to our BBQ/Picnic on Saturday, 16 July at noon. It will be here at the Casa de Quinlan (500 East Maple Road, Linthicum Heights, MD 21090). Bob is getting ready to (or maybe did by the time this is published) an email with a link to sign up for side dishes and other potluck-oriented items. The club will provide meat, buns, and drinks. Enjoying one another's company and eating good food will be nice. Please let me know if you have any dietary restrictions; I will make arrangements.

I will close by officially announcing that I pre-ordered two B&O SD40-2s from ScaleTrains... so the western railroad stranglehold on my modeling interests is slowly loosening.

Happy Modeling

Chris



Free-moN: Eric Payne

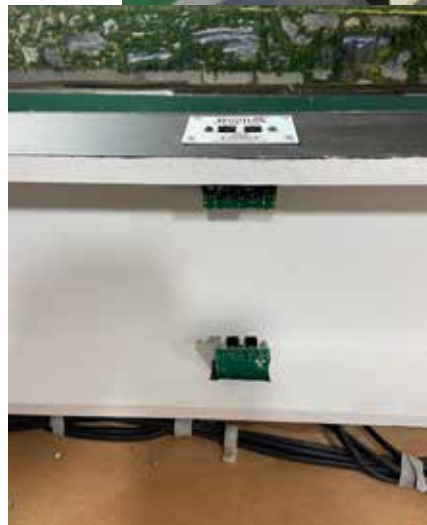
Lately I've been working on some new modules (plain old four footers) that are single tracked. They are basically going to enable us to "get some length" in the set-up and they don't have any switches on them. I've installed some UP5's on them, and the next step is wiring them up.

The legs are coming along nicely and I've put a few coats of flat black on them. If anyone would like to see these (and purchase) or has interest in building some new ones or adopting some other "partially completed modules", let me know.

In total I have completed (sans scenery) a wye, a straight, a curve, and now these two straights. I also want to retrofit my old one-trak modules to FreeMoN.

Looking forward to the Altoona show to see old friends and the October show for our first set up.

Eric



T-Trak Update : Lauren Baker

Fellow club members, just a small update on T Trak. Tim has acquired the zephyr and the UR93. I have acquired twenty 3-way extension cords and ten extension cords. I had an additional ten extension cords in the budget but will not purchase until after the October show. I anticipate some longer modules for that show and that will tell us if additional extensions are required.

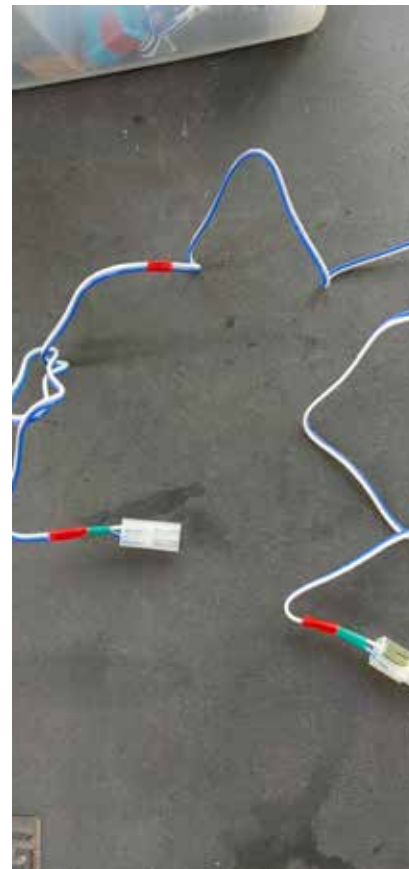
So far we are below the approved budget as anticipated. I was able to get the cabling through Klein's when it came back in stock. I did not want to wait until the Memorial Day sale in case they sold out quickly. The 3 way extensions were \$99.80 plus tax and the extensions were \$32.90 plus tax. Currently I am using a spare container from around the house with some cardboard separations until I can find something better to store them.

I have painted a green bar on the 3-way end to signify Bantrak ownership. I also painted a portion of the connector on both ends of the extension green, being careful not to affect the electrical connection. Anticipating that this could easily be scratched off I also added green electrical tape to both ends.

Additionally half of the 3-way extensions have been identified with yellow tape and half with red tape. Same for the extensions. Both ends have been identified for easy visual during setup. Unfortunately I think the tape will be an on-going maintenance issue. The ends are already loose in some cases.

My next mission is to locate a suitable container for the trailer to take the zephyr, UR93, 4 corners and the cabling.

Respectfully,
Lauren



N-Scale Weekend:



AAMR
THE ALTOONA ASSOCIATION
OF MODEL RAILROADERS
EST. 1949 **PRESENTS...**

Mike Phillips' 2022
"N-Scale Weekend"
Altoona, PA™
www.n-scaleweekend.com

Blair County
Convention Center
(new location)

- Saturday 9/17 9am to 5pm
- Sunday 9/18 9am to 3pm
- \$7 for Guests over 12
- \$10 for a 2 Day Pass

11+ Operating Layouts
Vendor Tables
(\$45 to Reserve a Table)
Contact: president@theaamr.org

The show IS BACK at a NEW LOCATION following the Covid hiatus. Bigger and Better than EVER!!



B&O Mini-Con

Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Historical Society

2022 Eastern Mini-Con

Saturday, July 23, 9:00 AM EDT

Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Historical Society Building
5745 Bartholow Road, Eldersburg, MD

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Name(s) of additional attendee(s): _____

Pre-registration: _____ x \$10.00 each = \$ _____

Admission the day of the Mini-Con is \$12.00 each

Make All Checks Payable to: The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Historical Society

Please send your completed registration form to the following address:

B&ORHS Eastern Mini-Con Registrar
Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Historical Society
P.O. Box 1608
Sykesville MD 21784-1608



BANTRAK 2022 Calendar

August 6, 2022

Newsletter content deadline

We need content please submit your articles by the deadline.

July 16, 2022

Club Meeting / Picnic

Location: Chris Quinlan's House,
500 East Maple Road, Linthicum Heights, MD 20109
12-4 PM ***Time is subject to change***

August 21, 2022

Club Meeting

Location: TBD

September 17&18, 2022

N-Scale Weekend

Martin Myers, Cordinator

Location: Blair County Convention Center
One Convention Center Blvd. Altoona, PA 16602
Setup: Friday the 17th.

BANTRAK Membership: Al Palewicz

BANTRAK does a significant amount of charitable activity, although we rarely think of it that way because we get pleasure out of it. When you think about it, that is as it should be with all giving from the heart.

What is our charitable activity? Our major participation is in the B&O Museum's (which is a charitable organization) Annual Festival of Trains. Our display has been a major draw for people to come to the Museum for many years, both recent and in the past. There are plenty more examples, this is just one.

Please contact Treasurer [Tim Nixon](#) for more information regarding your membership status and roster questions or contact [Al Palewicz](#) with general questions.

Member Benefits:

- Sharing of your knowledge (railroading and modeling) with others of similar interests
- Access to railroading and modeling knowledge of other members
- National exposure and recognition of your endeavors in modeling
- Hands on activities: Club modules - track, wiring and scenery. Raffle layout - track and scenery Members' layouts
- Recognition as being part of a Nationally known club.



Train Spotting: Bob Bunge



East Broad Top Mt Union yard, June, 2022. The hopper cars have not moved in 66 years. The yard was dual gauge, standard and narrow gauge, thus the three rails.

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.

The BANTRAK Newsletter is the official publication of Baltimore Area N-TRAK (BANTRAK), Inc. This is **your** newsletter! Please send articles, photos, and suggestions to newsletter@bantrak.net
Editor: David Betz

