

# BANTRAK News

A Monthly Newsletter for BANTRAK Members • Volume 36 • Issue 07 • July 2023



## The Engineer's Cab: Chris Quinlan

Happy July BANTRAK Family!

We missed our May newsletter, so the first thing I want to say I'm grateful for is that our sister Vicky Diley pulled through her health scare a few months ago and seems to be doing really well. For those who don't know, she ended up in the hospital the week before our May show for a few days, including the show's duration. Vicky and Paul were so thankful that our club members reached out frequently and aided where they could. The love, prayers, and well-wishes paid off. Despite the health struggles, the Dileys still pulled off one heck of a show! Paul was our coordinator and found a way to balance Vicky's health and ensure we had a world-class presentation.

Also, the team came together to make our multiple displays awesome. John coordinated our Free-moN, and I heard it was excellent, and many kinks have been worked out since our last show.

After that, we had a show on May 29th (Memorial Day) at Germantown! LeRoy coordinated that event, and while attendance was light, we made a huge impact on the overall celebration commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad. We featured our T-Trak layout. Thanks, LeRoy and team!

Spring has passed, and summer has already been busy. On July 16th, we'll have our annual picnic/BBQ at Alan DelGaudio's house. Here are the particulars:

What: BBQ! The club will provide meat, buns, and drinks. We would ask each family to bring a side to share with everyone else. We'll have a small club business discussion and show and tell as well.

Who: BANTRAK members and their families.

When: Sunday, July 16th at 1 pm (that's one hour earlier than our usual meeting time)

Where: Alan's house, 2905 Montclair Drive, Ellicott City MD 21043. Thanks, Alan!

Why: To enjoy the fellowship of our members and break bread.

Thanks to everyone for stepping up to help get our shows and meetings together. I know I've been absent frequently with a challenging work schedule and family issues. So many people have picked up the slack for me, and I am personally super thankful. It's great to be part of a club where everyone does their part and goes above and beyond when needed. Keep up the excellent work and stay safe! I hope to see everyone soon.  
Chris



## N-Scale Weekend: Martin Myers

N Scale Weekend is approaching. I hope all of you are having a good summer so far. The weather finally went to blazing hot and the drought seems to have broken.

This year will be the same as past years. A trailer raid will be done to get what modules and/or equipment will be needed for the weekend. Volunteers to do the raid and also transport the equipment will also be needed. Right now that date will most likely be Labor Day. Our trailer is stored in the same location on Southern Avenue.

Our layout space is the same as last year. Modules will be needed and all are welcome. The plan will be adjusted to fit all member modules first and filled in with club-owned modules as needed. If you are planning to supply module(s) let me know by email ASAP. Last year we had to make some last minute changes to work around a couple of columns. I foresee having to do so again this year. Mike Phillips warned me about this possibility last year.

We can meet up as last year at the Chick-Fil-A which is just off the Interstate on Rt 220 at Parkview LN. Noon is our target meet up time. Quick lunch and on to our set up just down the street.

Anyone who would like to unload earlier can do so starting at 10am.

In the next column is an email from Carl Haslett who is the front man for the Altoona Association of Model Railroaders. It includes the link to Altoona N Scale Weekend's website. Links to register and lodging info can be found there.

See you at the cookout,

Martin

Hello to all,

I hope everyone is having a good summer. Things are going well here in Altoona despite the minor drought conditions and the Canadian wildfire smoke.

With only 11 weeks until the Altoona N-Scale Weekend, I wanted to touch base with all the layout superintendents on a couple of topics. So far, the schedule of events for that weekend will be the same as last year, with load-in on Friday starting at 10AM and show hours of 9-5 on Sat and 9-3 on Sun.

Specifics on load-in locations will be sent out closer to the show date. We anticipate having the same team of Altoona club members as last year to assist with load-in if needed.

For most groups, your layout size and location is the same as last year, with whatever changes have been discussed with Dave Westley or me over the last few months.

On Sat. and Sun., we expect both breakfast and lunch to be available for purchase at the convention center. Further details on this will be sent out closer to the show date.

Finally, please encourage members that are coming to Altoona to preregister, if they have not already done so, at the show website:

[Altoona Association of Model Railroaders - N-Scale Weekend \(theaamr.org\)](http://theaamr.org)

Participants must be preregistered to be eligible for door prizes and to order T-shirts. Hotel information for reduced-rate lodging is also available on the show website.

Looking forward to a great show again this year!

-Carl Haslett



# BANTRAK 2023 Calendar

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## August 06, 2023

Newsletter content deadline

***We need content, please submit your articles by the deadline.***

## July 16, 2023

Meeting / Picnic

Location: Al Del Gaudio's house

## September 18-19, 2023

NScale Weekend

Blair County Convention Center

Altoona PA.

Cordinator: Martin Myers

Buy your ticket here:

<https://www.theaamr.org/n-scale-weekend>

## October 14-15, 2023

Great Scale Show

Location: Timonium Fairgrounds

Cordinator: ?

# BANTRAK Membership: Al Palewicz

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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



Florida Portland Cement 0-6-0T #7 at the New Braunfels, Tx Railroad museum.

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](mailto:newsletter@bantrak.net)  
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