

# BANTRAKNews

A Monthly Newsletter for BANTRAK Members • Volume 35 • Issue 03 • March 2022



## The Engineer's Cab: Chris Quinlan

Happy March, BANTRAK Family,

I can't believe we are already in the third month of 2022. A few more days and it will be spring! I hope everyone is excited about our upcoming show in April. A massive shout out to Alan, Eric, and Lauren for their leadership in putting together what I believe will be a fantastic experience for our team. Please give these three as much support as possible to maximize the enjoyment we get out of our hobby.

At our last meeting, we discussed a good way ahead to make sure our set-ups and tear-downs go smoothly, painlessly, and quickly. I think we will see the fruit of that conversation at this upcoming show. Please remember to be open, honest, humble, and receptive to instruction/feedback. At our April meeting, we'll recap our wins and where we need to adjust our practices. Remember, the most important things are having fun and enjoying our friendships.

Speaking of having fun and enjoying model railroading, I went home to Albuquerque and met up with some of my friends who helped me in the hobby early on in my life. I took photos of my old N-Trak layout and one of my N-scale mentor's home layouts. This part of my visit helped me remember why I got into this hobby and stayed.

I can't wait to see everyone at Eric's house on the 20th! Thanks for all that you do!

Chris



New Mexico RailRunNer's Layout - Northern New Mexico prairie lands

## The Engineer's Cab: Chris Quinlan



New Mexico RailRunNer's Layout - Laguna Pueblo



New Mexico RailRunNer's Layout - McPherson, KS. Built by Buzz Lenander



New Mexico RailRunNer's Layout - Desert scene still under construction



New Mexico RailRunNer's Layout - McPherson, KS. Built by Buzz Lenander



## The Engineer's Cab: Chris Quinlan



New Mexico RailRunNer's Layout - Milagro, NM



New Mexico RailRunNer's Layout - Canyon module



New Mexico RailRunNer's Layout - Milagro, NM



Doug Gary's home layout. Featuring Belen to Barstow. West of Albuquerque.

## The Engineer's Cab: Chris Quinlan



Doug Gary's home layout. Featuring Belen to Barstow. Colorado River bridge, scratch built and a perfect match of the prototype. Built by Buzz Lenander.



Doug Gary's home layout. Featuring Belen to Barstow. New Mexico desert river.



Doug Gary's home layout. Featuring Belen to Barstow. Going into Flagstaff



Doug Gary's home layout. Featuring Belen to Barstow.



## The Engineer's Cab: Chris Quinlan



Doug Gary's home layout. Featuring Belen to Barstow. West of Albuquerque



Doug Gary's home layout. Featuring Belen to Barstow. Small stream.



New Mexico RailRunNer's  
Layout - Old Mine



## Blast From The Past:

August, 2000

Issue 7

Volume 13

# BANTRAK Newsletter

*The Official Publication of the Baltimore Area N-Trak Club*



## *N-Scale — Realism in Miniature*



### Round House View

*by John Darlington*

**LAST CALL  
FOR  
NORTHEAST  
2000  
Edison NJ  
August 10-13**

#### Inside This Issue:

- **Round House View**
- **RIP Track – Vandals Strike!**
- **Scanning the Web – New N-Scale Products**
- **Welcome New Members**

### Boy! That's A Load off of My Axle!!!

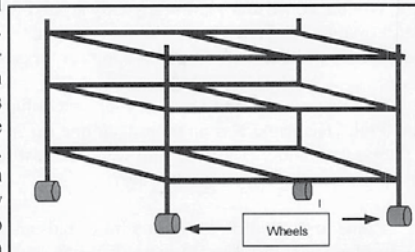
That is probably what our Club Trailer said when it was unloaded at Skip's house during our July meeting. With the arrival of our second trailer, we have now been able to redistribute the weight much more evenly between the two. Furthermore, it has allowed us to store a basic or "Greenberg" set up in one trailer and use the second as an overflow to house the excess equipment and modules that we would use for a Scale Show or our upcoming show in Havre de Grace.

We had a good turnout for the meeting which enabled us to make relatively short work of unloading and reloading. Each tote, case and box was emptied and re-packed with the "basic" and "overload" idea in mind. All of our equipment is now distributed between these two trailers including two skirting and electrical totes. The containers holding the equipment for the basic layout are identified by a white marking. Obviously, the whole idea is to simplify the process that we all hate the most, loading and unloading the trailers during setup and teardown. Not only will it ease the strain on our backs, but also the strain on our dispositions, as well!

Another feature of our two trailer system will be the use of metal "roll on/roll off" racks. These racks, which Skip has been putting together, will be made of steel angle-iron with particle board shelving (see diagram). This will enable us to easily unload and load the racks before rolling them on or off the trailer. Skip and I tested one of these racks and with the trailer ramps that we made and it was easy for two people to maneuver the rack into place. Additionally, the straight modules can probably be un-boxed which will save considerably on weight while still being protected within the rack.

It goes without saying that we have spent a lot of the Club's hard earned money, but saving wear and tear on both man and module seems well worth the \$\$\$\$\$\$.

At least, that is one man's opinion.



#### Our Next Meeting

##### OUR NEXT MEETING

Our next Club Meeting will be held at Phil Peters' home in Littlestown, PA. On August 20th 2-5 pm. Map Enclosed, Car Pooling Recommended

## Blast From The Past:

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### RIP Track VANDALS HIT TIBER CREEK YARD RAIL CARS SPRAY PAINTED!

*Phil Peters*

A strange thing happened out in the railyard the other night. When the Tiber Creek train crew arrived to make up the day's local turns, Pete the brakeman, noticed we'd had some vandalism overnight. Someone, or some ones, must have come onto our property during the night and "personalized" a few cars. We know it happened overnight, because the cars had just been brought in the noon before from CSX interchange, and they sure didn't have the rainbow of colors and names on their sides then. We're not big enough to work three shifts up here, you know. So, that leaves the yard unattended at night.



Lord! They had hit cars up and down the whole length of the yard. On every track, it seemed. Everywhere they looked the crew saw bright neon-glo designs, squiggles, and graffiti. Pink, purple, green, yellow, blue! You name it; it was there! There were drawings on most near every car. The crew walked the whole yard. The little dickenses must have had a fun time! Besides the spray cans there was a surprising number of beer bottles. The only one we know

around here that can consume that much beer in a sitting is our engineer, Phil. But it couldn't have been him. He religiously follows Rule G and has never been known to touch a drop within 24 hours of reporting for duty. Says he doesn't want to get in trouble with the authorities when they take those little samples when he puts a car through the wall over to the Allied Car Shops or nudges one of our fine citizen's cars parked too close to the track that crosses Charles St. in town. (He's a little impatient, so don't park on the track when you're here. He & Pete'll just sort of move it, if you know what I mean.)

You know Old Windy, our conductor and part-time superintendent. Well, he theorizes that the vandalism must have been done by a gang. He says one person couldn't have "tagged" all them cars, pardon me, those cars. Windy's got more education than the rest of the crew. That's why he's the conductor. We don't want just any fool tellin' our crew what to do. We've got an educated one, which is how he got the part-time superintendent's job; he can read better than they can.

Tagged is what he called it. And he oughta know. He came from down toward Balamer where he worked for the BeanO. Picked up some of that city lingo there.

Windy made a list of the initials and copied some of the colorful drawings. Trouble is, we don't know anybody around town with the initials "TW," "SV," or the rest. And Kilroy! We don't think there's anyone in town old enough to remember that. 'Cept our engineer, of course, And he knew him!



The gang leader and chief "tagger" according to Windy must be a certain "Phil." His name was on more than one car in big fancy letters, outlined in fluorescent colors. The only Phil we know just fueled the diesel and is sittin' up there in the cab turnin' her over.

Come to think of it, he's got a lot of kids and grandkids whose names we don't know! Naw! All that beer, he wouldn'ta been able to see, let alone in color! The only reason he can spell his name is because it's a four-letter word!

Hmmm! Could Phil have learned the whole alphabet?  
Gawd! How're we going to explain all this to CeeSex?

The mystery in the yard isn't hard to solve. Yep! Phil did it! He followed the suggestions in the July issue of Model Railroader. Seth Puffer's article, "Modeling modern graffiti," p. 78, gives excellent advice and a simple technique for popularizing your cars.



He uses gel pens to paint on the graffiti. I purchased a set of Gripper Gels at Wal-Mart for \$5.47. They have five shades plus white. I found that they didn't dry very readily on plastic; it took 3 days! So I purchased a set of Pentel Milky Gel Roller pens at Staples. These are the ones shown in the article. These write with a fade-proof, 0.4 mm line. They come in a pack of seven pastel colored pens including



## Blast From The Past:

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white, plus a pencil for \$5.98. There is another set of bold colors for a similar price. Try out the pens on an old car or a piece of scrap plastic first, not on your favorite Micro Trains car, as I did. These pens dry rapidly, in minutes, and do not need to be Dull-Coted. One piece of advice, apply one color at a time and let it dry before adding another. This way there will be no excessive build-up or puddling of ink. Follow up with a coat of chalks, and you have a car that has been through the 'Hood.



### Club Car Update

During our July Club Meeting at Skips, Ralph Grutzmacher advised that he has come to final financial terms with InterMountain Railway Company on the production of our 3-Pak Club Car project. As reported in last month's BANTRAK Newsletter, it was decided by the membership to have InterMountain produce a three car pak of AC&F Type 21 Tank Cars for our Club. The cars will be produced in three colors, Yellow, Green and White and will bear the "Baltimore Belt Lines" logo centered below the dome. BANTRAK's cost per car would be \$12 - \$13. This is significantly below the estimated figure of \$18 reported in July. The only possible hitch would be the cost of the art work which was estimated to be between \$100 and \$150. InterMountain requires a 50% deposit up front before starting work, and therefore we need to get an indication of how many 3-paks to produce. Our estimate right now is between 70 and 100. Due to a recent draw down on our treasury, the members attending the meeting agreed that each member pay a deposit of 50% of their total order. Please advise Ralph, John D. or Skip if you are interested in purchasing one or more of these 3-paks.

### Treasurer's Report

*A copy of the Treasurer's Report provided by Bob Mohr is enclosed for review. This report includes the expenditures for our new trailer, the Club Cook Out and the purchase of the Train Engineer throttles from Star Hobbies. In respect to the latter item, you will note that the throttle cost is listed as \$250. However, one of these throttles belongs to John Darlington, the cost of which was reimbursed to the Club as indicated.*

### Scanning The Web – What's New in N-Scale Land ?

Here is what is New in N-Scale on the Web

**LifeLike Products** – (Limited Release) EMD E6 A&B Units

Road Name	Item Number	Color
Atlantic Coast Line	7344 & 7345	Purple & Silver
AT&SF	7346 & 7247	War Bonnet
Baltimore & Ohio	7348 & 7349	Blue & Gray
Chicago North Western	7350 & 7351	Green & Yellow
Illinois Central	7352 & 7353	Orange & Brown
Louisville & Nashville	7355 & 7356	Blue & Cream
Milwaukee Road	7356 & 7357	Orange, Maroon & Gray

Seaboard Air Line	7358 & 7359	Citrus
Seaboard RR	7360 & 7361	Green
Union Pacific	7362 & 7363	Standard
Undecorated	7364	N/A

#### KATO E8 & 9

Road Name	Item Number	Color
Pennsylvania A+A Set	106-2001	Tuscan
Pennsylvania A Unit	176-5001	Tuscan
CB&Q A+A Set	106-2101	Silver

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# Blast From The Past:

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*N-Scale – Realism in Miniature*



## BANTRAK Organization

Skip Hayes President (410) 592-5733  
Bob Mohr Treasurer (410) 529-0841  
Harry Chavez Membership (410) 538-7384

*The BANTRAK Newsletter is the official publication of the Baltimore Area N-Trak Club. The reproduction of the BANTRAK Club Logo without the express permission of the Baltimore Area N-Trak Club is prohibited*

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(410) 252-5909  
jjdjr@erols.com

**We are on the Web! Try "route 108.net"**

### MAIL BAG HOBBIES

Model Trains & Accessories– Retail and Mail Order

**Harry and Nancy Spicer**  
Hampstead Village Shopping Center  
4508-H Lower Beckleysville Road  
Hampstead, Maryland 21074  
' (410) 374-1005 – 1-800-821-6377

### COMING EVENTS

- ♦ Northeast 2000 Convention, Edison, NJ  
August 10 – 13 (*This Is A BANTRAK Event*)
- ♦ Club Meeting – Phil Peters' Home, Littlestown, PA . August 20th – 2 to 5 pm
- ♦ Club Meeting – September 17th (Location to be announced)
- ♦ Scale Show – Timonium Fairgrounds (Dates to be announced)

CB&Q A Unit	176-5101	Silver
CP A+A Set	106-2201	Block Lettering
Southern A+A Set	106-2301	Green
Southern A Unit	176-5301	Green
AT&SF A+B Set	106-2401	Red, Silver WB
AT&SF	106-2402	Red, Silver WB
AT&SF	176-5304	Red, Silver WB

**MSRP \$184 (Two Unit Set) \$92 (A Unit)**

**Atlas Model Railroad Company**  
**SD-35 (Second Release)**

Road Name	Item Number	Color
<b>HIGH NOSE</b>		
Norfolk & Western	49430 & 49431	Black & White
Norfolk & Western	49432 (NRN)	Black & White
<b>LOW NOSE</b>		
Jersey Central	49433 & 49434	Green & Yellow
Jersey Central	49435 (NRN)	Green & Yellow
Penn Central	49436 & 49437	Black & White
Penn Central	49438 (NRN)	Black & White

Atlantic Coast Line	49439 & 49440	Black, Silver, Yellow
Atlantic Coast Line	49441 (NRN)	Black, Silver, Yellow
CSX	49442 & 49443	Gray & Blue
CSX	49444 (NRN)	Gray & Blue

**MSRP 90.00**

### SPIKES AND SLEEPERS

#### Welcome New Members

The Baltimore Area N-Trak Club would like to officially recognize two new members who have joined our Club during the last few weeks

**Frank Hogarth**  
41 00 Granate Ave  
Baltimore, Md. 21206

**Mark Bandy**  
8312 Jumping Field Court  
Ellicott City, Md. 21043

**WELCOME! It is great to have you**



## Club Dues Invoice :



# Baltimore Area Ntrak Inc.

## Dues Invoice

Invoice Date:  
13 February 2022

Remit to:

Mr. Timothy Nixon  
719 Mount Alban Drive  
Annapolis, MD 21409

Due Date:  
01 May 2022

Annual Club Dues  
(Including National Ntrak Newsletter)

\$45.00

Make checks payable to Baltimore Area Ntrak

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please print a copy of this invoice and submit with payment.**

For Treasurer's Use

Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_



## 2022 N Scale Convention :

*28th Annual*

**N Scale**  
ENTHUSIAST

2022  
**National  
N Scale  
Convention®**

Pre-Convention Trip - Tuesday June 14th  
Convention - Wednesday, June 15 to  
Sunday, June 19, 2022

**Sheraton Music City**  
777 McGavock Pike  
Nashville, TN 37214  
615-885-2200

Make  
Plans  
Now



**NASHVILLE**



**NATIONAL  
- N - SCALE -  
CONVENTION**  
JUNE 15 - 19, 2022

**TENNESSEE  
RAIL ROAD  
LOCOMOTIVES**

Pre-Convention  
Tuesday, June 14th



**CHATTANOOGA, TN**



## 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!!**



## BANTRAK 2022 Calendar

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### April 6, 2022

Newsletter content deadline

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

### March 20, 2022

Club Meeting

Location: Eric Payne TBD

### April 2nd & 3rd 2022

Great Scale Show

Eric Payne and Al DelGaudio are coordinators for N-Trak & Lauren Baker is coordinating T-Trak

Location: Timonium Fairgrounds

Setup: Friday the 1st.

### April 17, 2022

Club Meeting

Location: TBD

### May 15, 2022

Club Meeting

Location: TBD

### September 18&19, 2022

N-Scale Weekend

Martin Myers, Coordinator

Location: Blair County Convention Center

One Convention Center Blvd. Altoona, PA 16602

Setup: Friday the 17th.

## 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: David Betz

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Curtis Bay, MD

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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