



THE BRIDGE

The Official Publication of the Kentuckiana Society of N Scalers
Hosts of the 2008 National N Scale Convention



KSONS

Bruce Goreham, Publisher
November 2009

Joe Martin, Editor
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KSONS Scheduled Arrivals (and Train Shows)

Visitors are welcome at all KSONS meetings

November 12th: Business meeting. Buechel Depot, Steve Simpson hosting. 7:30 PM. Voting for Charlie Hunt Award.

Down the Pike: KSONS Scheduled to Appear:

December 5th and 6th. Open house at the Buckner Fire House, with the K&I club. N-Trak and T-Trak layouts at the event.

December 10th: Christmas Party/Business Meeting. Buckhead's Restaurant on Bardstown Road at Gardiner Lane Shopping Center (NOTE New Location). Please RSVP with Dawn Jewell or Bobbi Hedge ASAP.

December 26th: Open House at John Voller's house. 11 AM—4 PM. Specific details in this issue.

January 9th and 10th, 2010: Great Train Expo at Convention Center. Details to follow.

Other Shows/Events:

November 14th: Model Train & Railroadiana Show, Thoroughbred Center, Lexington, KY. 3380 Paris Pike. 10 AM to 2 PM.

November 21st: NMRA Division 8 show and swap meet at Highland Post, American Legion, 2919 Bardstown Road. 10-3.

January 2nd and 3rd, 2010: Great Train Expo in Indianapolis.

January 16th and 17th, 2010: Bloomington Normal's Train Show.

April 10 and 11, 2010: Great Train Expo in Nashville.

April 30 to May 2, 2010: Second Annual Ohio N Scale Weekend. Franklin County Fairgrounds, Hilliard (Columbus), Ohio. Presented by Central Ohio Ntrak. [Http://www.centralohiontrak.org](http://www.centralohiontrak.org)

June 24th to 28th, 2010: N Scale National/NSC Convention. Houston (Sugarland), Texas.

July 11th to 18th, 2010: 75th Annual NMRA National Convention and National Train Show. Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



On the Cover: Don Kriegbaum of Dayton N-Trak is at it again! I saw this at the Lakota show in Cincinnati on October 24th. I wonder if my brother still has his acoustic guitar case?

October Meeting Minutes
John Knox Presbyterian Church
Hosted by Pat and Alicea Hardesty

The meeting commenced shortly after 7:30 PM. Superintendent Kevin Rose presided on what was a dark and stormy night.

Guests: Bob and Lucy Shenk, and Julius and Vivian Sims were in attendance at the meeting. They are members of the Church and are good friends with Pat and Alicea. Bob brought his collection of HO Scale Three Rail Marklin model trains for display.

Meeting Minutes: The September meeting minutes were approved as published in the October issue of *The Bridge*.

Financial Report: Dawn Jewell was not present to report on the financials. Kevin Rose reported on the finances. All current bills have been paid, including being up to date on the utilities at Buckner.

Old Business:

Clubhouse at Jeffersonville, Indiana, Station: Mark Hedge has no updated information. His frustration is showing as he is attempting to find out who actually owns the station. **Status: On-going.**

Christmas Party Update: Bobbi Hedge and Dawn Jewell have confirmed the location of the Christmas Party at Buckhead's on Outer Loop. They are working out final details. If you have extra new items that you would like to donate as door prizes, please contact either person. They also suggested an idea for a Christmas Gift Exchange. This will be finalized at the November meeting. Their idea is for the men to bring a gift and the women bring a gift and exchange male to male and female to female. Bobbi suggested a number for each person and a draw would be made for the selection. As mentioned, the final ideas will be presented at the November meeting. **Status: On-going.**

Convention Club Cars: A question was brought up about the status of the club car sales. Steve Shetter reported that Fred Hoxsie still had tons of inventory left for sale. The club's understanding is that a percentage of the sales will come back to the club. So, if you have not done it yet, subscribe to the N Scale Collectors and purchase these cars to help the club! **Status: On-going.**

Charlie Hunt Award: Kevin reminded the members that nominations for the Charlie Hunt Award will be accepted up to the November meeting. At that time, voting will take place. The recipient of the award will be announced at the Christmas Party. According to the rules, you need to consult with the person to whom you want to nominate. Nomination forms are on the website: <http://www.trainweb.org/KSONS>

New Business:

Thank you to Pat and Alicea: Kevin thanked Pat and Alicea Hardesty for hosting the meeting. Unfortunately, turnout was sparse because of the inclement weather

outside. Joe Martin displayed his T-Trak modules for the Church guests.

Old Magazines: Pat Hardesty had a bunch of old magazines that belonged to the KSONS and no longer has room for them because he is building a home layout. After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made to donate them to the NMRA Division 8. Motion carried. These were older Model Railroader and Railroad Model Craftsman magazines.

Status: Closed.

On-Going Business: Work Sessions:

Now that the New Albany show is complete, we need to hook up the modules at Buckner and get the layout ready for the K&I/KSONS open house in December. Kevin Rose said he would send out an email to the membership requesting assistance.

Upcoming Shows/Past Shows:

New Albany: Neither Craig Sawdo or Mike Wingfeld were in attendance to report on the New Albany show. Overall, the show was a success. The smaller oval layout was easier to manage and operate. To our knowledge, no official report from the Library was received, yet Al Knecht did talk to them and they seemed to like the show.

Detailed discussion proceeded on the problems of the layout: DCC not working on Monday, analog lines not working at all (new transformers are needed, if they are available), sky boards in need of repair, plus the modules themselves needing makeovers.

This discussion on the system and stuff led to a lengthy discussion on becoming an all DCC club or continuing to have DC available. There were not enough members to make a quorum on this issue, so think about what you want and communicate with other members. The Board will look into this and more discussion will be made later. Some points made were related to allowing new members and/or potential members who did not have DCC ready locomotives to run on analog to having the club obtain DCC locomotives for guests to run.

Pat Hardesty found something at the Library. If you think you've lost something, contact Pat with a description to see if it is what he found.

Steve Shetter was on the edge of high tech at New Albany. He purchased the new Digitrax DT402D Duplex throttle, and UR 92 receiver. Initial tests at New Albany proved successful.

K & I Buckner Open House: The open house is December 5th and 6th. The hours are Saturday 10-4 and Sunday 11-4.

Great Train Expo: The Great Train Expo is January 9th and 10th next year. Nashville has contacted us and expressed interest in bringing modules and hanging out. John Voller and Kenny Halgash have volunteered to coordinate the layout. A note was mentioned for someone from the Board to submit paperwork requesting space at the show. I'm sure there will be a get together of some type during the Saturday of the show. Oh, by the way, Nashville will be bringing their new yard to the show. Members were already drooling and were green with envy and they have not even seen the yard. Further details will follow.

Oldham County/LaGrange Library: Kenny Halgash was contacted from a representative of the library who was interested in getting us to display the layout at the Library. During the month of February, the L&N Historical Society will be loaning some memorabilia to the Library for a display, and the library thought that it would be a good

idea to have an operating layout sometime during the month. The initial dates proposed were February 5th to the 12th. The hours of the Library are Monday to Thursday 9:30 to 8, Friday and Saturday 9:30 to 5. The room they have available has an available capacity of 190 people (whereas New Albany only has 125 capacity), and a door that can be accessed without going through the library itself. The biggest concern, of course, is staffing the layout. We barely made it with New Albany. A motion was made to table the decision to November. The motion passed. In the meantime, Joe Martin will contact the person and check out the room to see if it would be feasible to put an oval layout similar to what we had this past month at New Albany.

Great Train Expo in Nashville: Nashville's GTE show is later than usual, April 10th and 11th. Considering that they are coming in January, it is recommended that we consider going to Nashville when this comes. More details will be available when it's closer. The biggest draw of this show is the massive 5,000 square foot HO Scale layout in Nolensville.

N Scale Weekend, Columbus, Ohio: Another show for consideration is the N Scale weekend in Columbus. It is April 30th to May 2nd. Of course, this happens to be Derby weekend. We have been invited to this event.

N Scale/NSC Convention, Houston, TEXAS: Also for consideration is the N Scale Convention in Sugarland, TEXAS, which is outside of Houston. The dates are June 24th to 28th. Details will follow.

NMRA National Convention/National Train Show, Milwaukee, Wisconsin: This is the 75th annual NMRA Convention and NTS, which will probably have huge participation. The dates are July 11th to 18th. An open invitation has already been sent out to any club or individual who wants to submit N-Trak modules at this show. N-Trak of Bloomington Normal's T-Trak division plans to have a T-Trak layout there. This show was brought up more or less as an alternative for those who cannot make it to Houston because of work schedule or travel distance.

As you can see, there are a lot of potential shows, not to mention New Albany may invite us back. It looks like a potential of one show a month from December to July. Kevin suggests that we consider all of these, but choose which ones we would really want to submit modules. As always, members are encouraged to attend as many of these events as they can afford. Members think about which shows they may be able to assist in participating. Details will follow the closer we get to the shows.

Future Meetings: November, at Buechel Station, Steve Simpson hosting. December, the Christmas Party at Buckheads, Dawn and Bobbi are coordinating the event. Note that the January meeting is scheduled the Thursday before setup for the GTE. No site or host has been determined yet. *[Secretary's Note: After coming home from the meeting, I found out the second Thursday will be after GTE.]*

Roundtable: Bobbi Hedge will gladly do sewing and will do the new KSONS club shirts. Please contact her if interested. John Voller mentioned that when Mike Curtis called him to confirm the GTE here that he and Brandon are looking at some weekend dates for us to come to Nolensville, Tennessee, to run on the Salt Lake Route. Dates will be provided soon.

Birthday Boy: Before adjournment, Kevin recognized that the host of the meeting was also celebrating his birthday. Pat Hardesty is 39 and still holding! After adjournment, the members were asked to circle around the birthday cake to sing Happy Birthday to Pat.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned. Then the members celebrated Pat's

birthday by singing and eating cake and other goodies Pat and Alicea provided.

Respectfully submitted (whew!),
Joe Martin, new Secretary

Secretary's Note: I have decided to fill in for Phil Minch for the Secretary position until either he comes back and wants it or someone else wants it. Since I am doing the newsletter, might as well do the minutes.

Super's Dispatch

A lot has happened in the past few weeks, if you received my e-mail about Robert Belton then you know some of the things going on. If not, let me explain; Robert is no longer welcome to participate in any KSONS event. We cannot bar him from attending public functions, but if he enters the interior of a layout it would be considered trespassing. If he is at Buckner, it's the same thing. There were some issues that arose at Scale Reproductions that led me to the decision to bar him from the club. I am not at liberty to say what had happened but will say that it is in the best interest of all members to not associate with him, or purchase anything from him. If anyone would like to discuss this more please bring it up at the next meeting.

Shows, shows, shows: We have the potential to attend or host shows every month from December to next June! There are several that I am particularly looking forward to. This means that we will need coordinators, operators, set-up and tear-down volunteers. Please keep in mind that we don't have to try and do every show just because we can, we should be trying to give our best at shows that we are doing. This means if we need to refuse a show, then we will. But, this should also mean that the shows we commit to we are giving our best!

The nominations for the Charlie Hunt award are as follows; the entire board for the 2008 N-Scale convention, Steve Shetter for the work he did as chair for the convention, Craig Sawdo for the effort he put into the NAFC Library show and Joe Martin for his continued support of promoting n-scale through T-Trak. The nominations will be read in their entirety before voting at the November meeting. The winner(s) will be announced at the Christmas party in December.

The model railroading season is upon us. And it's time to start thinking shows, and trains and layouts and is it too early to put my Christmas list in here?

Thank you,
Kevin Rose
KSONS Superintendant

Editor's Notepad

In the past two months, I have been very frustrated. I may have vented my frustrations on members at shows and stuff. If I have, I apologize. I thought Prozac was to keep me from doing that! Just kidding. As you all know, or mostly know, I have been down in my back for several years. Sometimes it's really bad, like it is now. Sometimes it's okay. So I apologize for any outburst or anything like that. I'm blaming my back.

As you moaned and groaned about the number of show opportunities that have come up for the N-Trak next year, let's think about all of them in one way or another. If we can at least have member representation at these events, that will go a long way. Yes, it would help if we could take a module or two, but I have noticed two things about the N-Trak modules: One, we're getting older. Two, they're getting heavier. Does foam and plaster get heavier the older they are out there? I'll see what I can do to help.

From the T-Trak perspective, setting up at the October meeting was fine, except for the rain. Next time, I may not bring all of the modules, just enough for one table. But overall setup, tear-down and loading was fine. Thanks to Kevin for helping me load back up in the rain and Pat for unloading and inviting us to the Church.

We have had a couple of clubs express interest in receiving the electronic version of the newsletter. Paul Downs invited the N Scale Partnership members to receive the electronic version in lieu of printed versions. CIN-Trak from Indianapolis and Northwest N-Trak of Palatine, Illinois (Chicagoland area) have sent me their electronic newsletters. For the partner members of clubs that send out electronic versions of their newsletters, I would be happy to receive them. Just email me at jbm6401@earthlink.net

For the current KSONS members, if you want a copy of these clubs newsletters, please let me know and I'll gladly send them to you.

In the world of T-Trak, add another country to the list of countries with T-Trak groups: Switzerland. On October 10th and 11th, the convention of the American Railroadfans was held near Zurich. Members of the N-Trak Swiss Division had extra room and decided to show off the T-Trak modules. The first show, possibly in Europe, was a rousing success.

Josh and I just got back from the first day of the Division 7 show at West Lakota High School in Cincinnati. Paul Musselman invited us to come to the show, which was received after the meeting. I brought four of my modules and Josh and I brought our trains. The layout was well received by the public. You just saw the latest work from Don Kreigbaum on the cover of this newsletter.

Josh counted 13 or 14 different layouts at this show. I ran out of fingers. If you have never been to this show in the fall, you will need to make sure you do it next year. I'll let you know when next year's show is scheduled. This and Dayton appear to be the best shows in the region for variety of layouts in a variety of scales.

New Albany Show Review **By Craig Sawdo and Joe Martin**

Author's Note: I basically interviewed Craig and compiled his and my comments into this written review. A formal review was provided to the Board as more of information than anything else. I will incorporate other members' comments about this show either in the Minutes to the October meeting or provide them at the end of this article. So here we go:

Background: The New Albany Library show is one of the most popular shows the KSONS put on twice a year. This time was the fall show running from September 26th to October 3rd, 2009. Craig Sawdo volunteered to coordinate the show with Mike Wingfeld's help. Craig coordinated the operators, setup, and teardown. Mike designed the layout and helped Craig with coordinating the setup.

Setup: The show almost did not happen. There were some people who committed to load the bus Thursday night at Buckner, but only Mike and Phillip Johnson

showed up. An All Points Bulletin was issued late Thursday for people to help, or the show would not happen. Fortunately, there were enough people to load the bus on Friday and set up the layout. Because of the few people, though, the layout was not as big as in previous shows. Instead of an “L” shape configuration, a rectangle shape was made with the modules. This actually came out to be an advantage, for it only took 2 hours to set up Friday and 45 minutes to complete the setup Saturday morning.

Operations: The first Saturday of the show had a few operators. Joe Martin volunteered to send a note to the membership that night saying we were up and running for fear that the message Mike Wingfeld sent that if we don’t get enough people to setup there would be no show kept the members’ from showing up on Saturday. When you consider that Saturday s are the best in member attendance, the people running that day felt weird that no more members were there.

Overall, the operations were okay. Details on operational problems are listed below:

The track was extremely dirty on Saturday. Operations were possible, but a lot of track cleaning was done. Joe and Craig spent the first hour on Sunday trying to clean the track with alcohol. By the end of the show, the track did have some dirty spots, but running the trains during the week helped the track.

On the red main at the hole in the wall module at the siding, the voltage dropped real badly on Saturday. For some reason, this appearance was more prevalent on Kato locomotives, but noticeable on other brands. This continued on Sunday as well.

Because of the alcohol track cleaning on Sunday, there were a lot of derailments of passenger equipment that was running. Further inspection revealed several gaps in the connector tracks between modules. This wreaked havoc on low profile wheels on the passenger cars and the locomotives.

The yellow main overloaded easily in analog mode. One locomotive operating would be okay. But, depending on the manufacturer, it was hard to run more than one locomotive on the yellow line. The other lines ran mostly on DCC throughout the show.

There were plenty of small hills and valleys between the modules. There were some minor operational problems from this.

As usual, radio reception was a problem at the Library, especially on the Friday and the second Saturday of the show. It seemed like if you were near the control box, you would get radio reception.

Attendance: As mentioned earlier, there was concern the first weekend of the show that there would be enough operators running the layout. As the week progressed, more people showed up to operate. However, from the public attendance, there seemed to be a significant reduction in them showing up this time.

As always, good weather means poor attendance, both from the club operators to the public. The Library people seemed happy that we were there. Everyone who came by was happy we were there. A few people were seriously interested in joining the club. The blue box next to the power box had flyers in there. Even though they are a year old, they do have the club’s website address and Joe’s email address for the newsletter.

Teardown: Teardown was a breeze, even though it appeared that there may not have been enough people participating. The modules and everything were out of the

auditorium waiting for the bus to arrive. Enough people made it over to Buckner to unload the bus after the show.

Suggestions: Obviously, care does need to be used in attaching the track pieces between the modules. Maybe we got rushed too much to get the layout done caused this. It seemed like the dryer sheets did not work by the end of the show. A simple solution at least is to replace the dryer sheets during the mid-point of the show. As for the electrical problem on the module, whoever knows the electronics may want to look at it. Does anyone know if it was working okay at Buckner?

Craig would like to thank everyone for setting up, running, and attending. Thanks to Mike Wingfeld for the layout design as well. The New Albany show, no matter how big or small, is a fine show. We cannot afford to lose it.

Christmas Party at Buckhead's Update

Dawn Jewell just sent an email out to everyone that the Buckhead's restaurant on Outer Loop will be closed before our December meeting. She has contacted the one on Bardstown Road at the Gardiner Lane Shopping Center (Across from Sullivan University) and they have confirmed a room for us.

Your KSONS Board

Please call on us!

Kevin Rose, Superintendent: (502) 296-5084

Mike Wingfeld, Assistant Superintendent: (502) 767-8513

Paul Downs, Membership: (502) 895-6578

Kenny Halgash, Show Liaison (502) 348-6119

Dawn Jewell, Treasurer: (502) 523-3474

The KSONS website is <http://www.trainweb.org/KSONS>. Contact Dawn Jewell at ddjewell7@yahoo.com for any suggestions to the site. Please indicate in the heading of the email "KSONS website changes".

Your bonus picture for this month was the one rejected at the last second by Don Kriegbaum's guitar case layout. Jerry Harris took this picture of Mike Wingfeld derailing his train to the delight of a visitor while Steve Shetter and Josh Caudill were encased in conversation (photo on next page):



Well. Since we have room and another page, here is a picture of Bob and Lucy Shenk with Bob's collection of Three Rail HO Scale Marklin trains:



Join The KSONS!

Membership in the KSONS is open to anyone who is or wishes to become actively engaged in N scale model railroading. Dues for Full Membership are \$50 for one year and should be included with your application. Affiliate Members (non-voting, \$25.00) are available to a Full Member's immediate family and those under 18. Applicants under 18 must have an adult sponsor who is a member of KSONS.

With over 35 N Scale modelers, the KSONS are dedicated to the advancement and enjoyment of N scale model railroading. Business meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month in the Louisville and Southern Indiana area. Public shows are held at various times throughout the year, including the shows held at The New Albany-Floyd County Public Library in the spring and fall and the Christmas Gift and Décor show in December at the Fairgrounds.

The KSONS are leading the way in the Louisville area with digital command control (DCC), a switching yard almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of a scale mile in length, 100+ car trains, and award winning models and modules.

KSONS Membership Application

C/o Paul Downs, Membership Chair
209 Gibson Road, Louisville, KY 40207
(Enclose a \$50 check made payable to KSONS)

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Time in N scale: _____

Do you own a Module? _____ Roads/Eras modeled: _____

Interested in: Shows? ___ Work Sessions? ___ Operating Sessions? ___ DCC? ___

___ N-Trak Modules? ___ Models? ___ Scenery? ___

T-Trak Modules? ___ FreeMo N Modules? ___ Home Layouts