

Northern Virginia N-Trak

Interest in N-Trak in our area has grown so much that an informal phone chain isn't going to hack it anymore! At our last meeting on 2 Feb, the active members of the Club voted to establish a more formal organization. Our Club size and the variety of modules has forced us to have some coordination of who is going to be at a setup and what they are bringing. The mailing list has grown to the point where we need to provide funds to cover these expenses. Finally, the Club would like to construct several "Club" modules to fill in critical spots such as layout corners.

We decided to keep the organization simple and elected a president, secretary/treasurer, and a setup coordinator. Besides setting up dues, we have some "Club Commandments":

You do not run your trains in a setup or connect your module unless you have contacted the setup coordinator by Wednesday night before the setup.

Annual dues are \$10 using the calendar year from January through December. Membership runs concurrent with the calendar year.

In any month that the Club has a setup session, either as a Club by itself or as a Club participant in a convention or train show, there will be a \$5 participation fee assessed against each member bringing a module or trains to run. The participation fee permits a member (with dues paid) to connect as many modules as desired at any Club setup during that month. On months that the Club does not setup, no participation fee will be assessed. Members may pay the participation fee each month or they may pay ahead several months and receive credit for those months in which we do not setup. (Note: The March participation fee has been waived for all Club members.)

The participation fee was established in order to cover certain anticipated expenses such as room rental, materials, and insurance. We can keep the basic dues low for those who do not have modules or trains, but who wish to be on our mailing list for setup announcements.

We plan to send out regular newsletters announcing planned Club activities. We will also try a special for "members only" in our next issue. A buy/sell classified section will be included for those members looking for that special locomotive or with some equipment no longer needed.

Membership is open to anyone interested in N scale, N-Trak, or just running long trains. We will try to schedule meetings on different days to enable more members to participate. Our usual meeting day is Sunday evening for setups and weeknights for short business meetings. Even if you do not join the Club, all are welcome to come and watch the action at our setup sessions. A membership registration form is attached to this newsletter. Please complete it and mail to Chris Riddick with a check for your dues. We will keep you on our mailing list for a few months to give you a chance to join. Unless we hear from you and receive your dues, we will drop your name from the mailing list. Please join and receive our newsletter.

The Club is in the process of setting up a Post Office box and a Club logo to go on all of our mailings. Stay tuned for info on our progress.

Officers for 1992 are:

President	Dennis Austin 314 Argus Place Sterling, VA 22170 703-444-7198
Secretary/Treasurer	Chris Riddick 604 Third Street Herndon, VA 22070 703-437-9247
Setup Coordinator	Tom Reid 1105 Criton Street Herndon, VA 22070 703-742-8720

Upcoming Events:

8 Mar	Tentative date for layout tour of Monroe Stewart's 20x40 foot basement layout featured in the Feb '92 <u>Model Railroading</u> . Call Tom Reid for details.
15 Mar 6:00PM - 9:00PM	Construction project at Tom Reid's house. We are going to build a 4' corner module and test members' new modules. Call Setup Coordinator if you plan to attend.
21 Mar 8:00AM - 4:00PM	NMRA Dixie Division Mini Convention at Fairfax County Fire Training Center on West Ox Road. This is a Club setup. Call Setup Coordinator.
4-5 Apr 11-5 Sat, 12-5 Sun	Club setup at the Greenberg Toy and Doll show at Lake Braddock High School. Call Setup Coordinator.
23 Apr 7:00PM - 9:00PM	Business meeting at Chris Riddick's house.

Note: For those looking for the best-stocked N scale dealer in the area, check out Obie's Trains at 6461 Edsal Road, Suite 405, Alexandria, VA (just behind the Quality Inn). 703-658-9520. Fred Obermeyer, owner and operator, also handles HO.

=====

Northern Virginia N-Trak
Membership Registration
(Please Print)

Name _____	Address:	Street _____
Home phone _____		Apt # _____
Work phone _____		City _____
Prototype Modeled _____	Era _____	State _____ Zip _____