



NORTHERN VIRGINIA

NTRAK

Northern Virginia NTRAK

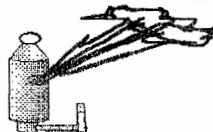
P.O. Box 1951 Herndon, VA 22070

Northern Virginia NTRAK Officers:

President: Charles Greenacre 703-620-4588
Secretary: Phil Lebet 703-525-3686
Treasurer: Rodney Smith 703-644-6359
Superintendent: Matt Schaefer 703-978-2946

March 1995

Volume IV, No. 3



THE PRESIDENT'S



Other News

Recently, Obie has offered to donate to the club, assuming I remember his words correctly, a trailer to be used to haul club modules, skirts, poles, etc. At this meeting, the membership expressed their thanks, but made no decision. Most everyone at the meeting liked the idea, and no negative comments were made. As president, I like the idea and think the club should accept the offer. However, as a club we have to consider all the ramifications.

First, we could store the four club three foot corners, the poles, the skirts and ropes, the signs, the club throttles, the club bridge modules in one place. This would make it easy for a small group of members to go to a small setup, such as Manassas Railfair Days and RUN TRAINS.

Second, as I understand what Obie said, we would have to put four walls and a roof on. We would also have to add running lights and electrical connections. This could be accomplished in a weekend by a small group of club members.

Third, we need to find a place to store the trailer fully loaded. Some of the members are legally not allowed to store trailers. If you own a townhouse or a condo, or live in an apartment, chances are, you don't have permission to store a trailer in your parking lot.

Fourth, the club would have to purchase insurance. We would need liability insurance if the trailer caused an accident. We cannot depend on the driver to use their liability insurance. We would also want to insure the contents of the trailer. We don't want to lose out if items are stolen from the trailer or are damaged in an accident with an uninsured motorist.

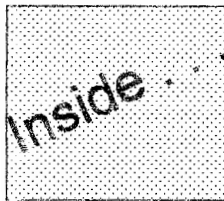
This is a very nice gesture on Obie's part. I think the club should accept his offer. However, have I covered everything? Can you think of anything that was not discussed in this column? If so, please let a board member know.

If you are planning to go to the 1995 NMRA convention in Atlanta and are planning to take a module, contact Brian Brendel, if you haven't already talked to him about modules.

Brian and Colleen are now proud parents as of 3PM Feb 21, 1995. The future engineer and conductor, Jacob (aka Jake) weighed in at 9lbs 8 oz. The baby inherited a Brendel trait of too large a head (Brian's words--no kidding) requiring a C section (Ouch!) Mom, Dad, and Jake are doing well.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Table with 2 columns: Date and Event Name. Includes dates from March 18 to Nov 11&12 and event names like Regional Mini Convention, Greenberg Show-Timonium, etc.



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RUNNING TRAINs IN '96

NTRAK East Convention

Convention Corner

by Rodney Smith

February has been a slow month for the convention committee. We started the convention business this month with our monthly meeting on the 13th at Prince of Peace Church. The primary focus of the meeting was status reports on the various committees and preparation of a draft registration packet.

All committee reported steady progress on planning for the convention. The excellent work by Obie, Bernie and Brian in their areas was very noteworthy. Obie has space planning almost complete for the commercial and vendor exhibits and his draft contract required only minor changes. Bernie is right on top of the outside activities with quotes from local bus companies, Gray Line tours and Amtrak. Brian started our publicity campaign with a ream of leaflets for Timonium and the Landmark show. I wasn't able to make Timonium but I can vouch for significant public interest at Landmark. I think we have made a good start in all these areas.

We made good progress on putting together a draft of our registration packet. Charles put a draft in front of the committee and we added here, trimmed there, modified that until we had a least a rough idea of what we needed to say. It will require further work but we made a good start.

The January - February edition of the NTRAK newsletter contained hotel information on the Albuquerque convention, and our price of \$79 a night for a room at the Radisson is not excessive. The price at the Quality Hotel at N'Chantment '95 is \$58 for a single and \$63 for a double room. Our rebatable rate down to \$65 a night makes us a better bargain than that and we have a lot more to offer families and conventioners than Albuquerque.

While things are looking up we still have a lot to do. Bernie is looking for local model railroad layouts of any scale for the layout tours. Obie is still looking for names and addresses of vendors and manufacturers. As we go along we will need willing hands to help with mailings, flier distribution, packet preparation, and a whole raft of other tasks, great and small. Contact a committee chief and lend a hand if you can.

Our next meeting will be Monday, 13 March at Prince of Peace Church. All members are invited to attend and participate. The meeting will start promptly at 7:00 p.m. The key agenda items will be space allocation in the Radisson and further work on the registration packet. See you there.

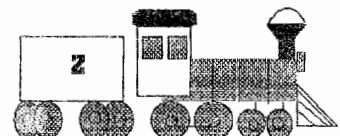
Treasurer's Report

by Rodney Smith

It's time for my quarterly report to the members on the status of the club's finances. This will be a short report because I have been busier than a set of twins for weeks now and haven't had a chance to think up anything witty or thought provoking to put in here. I just want to take this opportunity to let everyone know that the club is in good financial shape.

It is brought to my attention that I wrote the last Treasurer's Report and didn't mention how much money the club has. The club made \$94 in donation at the Landmark show, we currently have over \$2,000 with no major expenses on the horizon, and we will shortly receive \$400 from Landmark Mall for our November show. There are 26 members with paid up dues as of this date. Please make sure that you get your dues to me at or before the next meeting or, unfortunately, this is the last newsletter you will see. We presently have three newsletter subscriptions paid at \$10 for a year. This subscription is right at postage and printing cost for us and is open to any and all interested parties that wish to keep up with what the club is doing. We went to this option when we incorporated and were no longer able to offer associate membership. We thank all our previous associate members for their support and hope to hear from you again.

I have included the latest membership roster and subscriber information for this newsletter. Please review all data and let me know if there has been any changes or errors. This is the best information I have as of this date. If I have not given you credit for your dues, please let me know. I have new membership cards for all members ready. I handed them out to all members with paid dues at the last meeting and at Landmark. I have them prepared for all other paid up members. If you are not at the next meeting, I will arrange to have yours sent out before the next newsletter.



Proposed ByLaws Change by Brian Brendel

This article will serve as notice of a proposed bylaws change which will be voted on at the next membership meeting.

Creation of the position of Vice President

During the last two years our club as experienced tremendous growth. There are now over 30 of us, and we gain new members at every public show. We are hosting THE convention of 1996, and our future is very bright. It's a fun and exciting time to be involved with Northern Virginia NTRAK.

In preparation for larger future membership, and in an effort to correct some minor administrative problems we've experienced in the past, the position of vice president should be created. A larger club will require larger and better organization to have successful events, and an additional position to help plan and run meetings and events will be a help.

In the past there were a few occasions where most of our officers were absent from important membership meetings. This caused delays in votes on critical (read: "money") matters. It also caused long drawn out meetings. Increasing the depth of the club at this level will be a further safeguard against meetings that don't get things accomplished. And we need to get things accomplished so we can do what we do best: RUN TRAINS!

Landmark Mall Setup Report by Fred Obermeyer

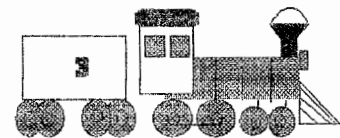
Friday turned out to be an easy setup with 2 hours to run trains. Not Bad!! Members with modules included: Gil, Matt, Leonard, Charles & David, Chester, John, Jim, Ed, Alan as substitute, Dennis and Obie, other members showed up to either run trains or help with the layout. Long trains ran all weekend long, including two double headed steamers on Saturday. Even an army train came by from A.P. Hill. WOW!! Whose was that? Corkey the Clown and Barnum and his boys stopped in Old Town on Saturday for a glass of Iced Tea, Santa Fe and U.P. diesel were very colorful on the layout. CSX engine roared by with lots of cars covering one third of the layout. Keith had 108 cars out at one time and they ran great. Sound from Chester's module brought out the farm scene very well, except I could hear a couple of extra moos on the other side of the layout or was that a cricket or something. Some members added more lights to the modules and that helped a lot. The layout covered about 3/4 of the usual area we use. Landmark mall has offered to pay us for November and to help us get setup in center court. It was also discussed with Mr. Garvis that we might be able to get a store front. He would like to have us back in the fall for a Giant layout in center court. Maybe we could invite a couple of other clubs for our convention kick off show, that would be nice, anyhow it was a nice show and everybody had a good time.



The Northern Virginia N-TRAK Newsletter is produced for and by the members of Northern Virginia N-TRAK. Membership is \$30/year or a Newsletter subscription for continental USA residents is just \$10/year for twelve issues. Send check: Treasurer, Northern Virginia N-TRAK, P.O. Box 1951, Herndon, Virginia 22070.

Submissions should be sent to the editor, Jackie White, 137 Jasper Place, Alexandria, VA 22304, by electronic mail to PNUM72A@Prodigy.com or faxed to 703-370-4871 (call first).

Please send articles for the April 1995 Newsletter by March 25, 1995. Thanks.



CURRENT EVENTS
FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S CAR

BY Matt Schaefer

FIRE ACADEMY - I will try to contact everyone to determine interest in the three March shows. The NMRA Potomac Division has it's Mini-convention at the Fire Academy Saturday Mar 18 only (7AM set up 4PM tear down). The space in the Fire Academy is in the high bay garage and Clint Smoke says the doors will be left closed after all the modules are unloaded. N-TRAKERS may be charged two dollars to defray expenses. Lunch will be available on site. This is another chance for us to get involved with the NMRA and the boys with the bigger trains. The HO modular layout will also be in the high bay.

PRINCE OF PEACE - The Club monthly meeting will be the day after the Fire Academy on Sunday March 19th at 11PM with clamp up at 2PM and tear down the next day Monday. We will not run all night and you can come back Monday at 6PM for tear down. Individually members have a choice of both or either or all three shows in March, take your pick.

UPPER MARLBORO SHOW, Mar 25-26 - If there are enough members still wanting to run some more trains we are invited to the Equestrian Center the following week end but we do need to inform them ASAP. They are not familiar with paying for displays but they can provide us 14 feet by 50+ and up, if the space is still available. This is the first show given by the Southern Maryland RR, Inc. and the turnout may be light.

SIGNS - If we want let people know we are open to visitors at the Prince of Peace Church and at other shows we could put signs out on the adjacent roads saying N-TRAK Train Show >> with an arrow.

BALTIMORE COLLECTOR CONVENTION, Sept 21-24 - April 1 is the deadline for the \$30 early bird registration which goes to \$45 after Apr 1st. All registrations include a Micro-Trains sponsored buffet reception Thurs 7-p and a tour to the B&O Museum Friday. There is an optional all day sight seeing tour to DC for \$25 and a Sat night banquet for \$25. Do any Club members want to share \$85+T rooms at the Holiday Inn? Anticipate your needs.

ATLANTA CONVENTION - If couples want to Save on hotels in Atlanta the Hampton Inn at the airport is \$58.30 total for 2 in a single bed with breakfast. Parking is free whereas parking is \$15 downtown at the Hyatt which is \$88 for the rooms without breakfast. The subway connects the airport with downtown.

GREAT HISTORIC DISTRICTS - As many of you know I took another drive across the Southland from Corpus Christi through Bastrop, TX, Natchez, Birmingham and Nashville. All of these towns and many other small towns are developing their Historic districts. But none of these or any I have seen in the northwest or BC, Canada is up to the level of Alexandria ... location for the Exciting '96 Convention.

TRANSPORTING MODULES - Trailing a 5X8 all the way with ease behind a compact I could not help but think of the 4X8 trailer Paul Fulks uses to haul the whole Cannington

Railroad. It is nice to be ready for the next show when you load the trailer from the last show! No storing of modules, no removing 500# seats from vans. (The new '96 Chrysler minivan has wheels on the seats) And wouldn't a trailer with a great big NV N-TRAK logo look great and markers bringing up the rear? Several members are interested so everyone keep an eye out for a deal on a 5x8 or longer.

COMMENTS ON THE LANDMARK SHOW - As usual the New River was a rough stretch of track and the deferred maintenance policy is showing. When the weather breaks we'll bring the rail gang up from the south for a estimated \$4 million dollar track and bridge realignment project in the Gorge. Meanwhile we may need slow orders and in particular restrictions on long rigid frame steamers that are pounding those rails! There are no set N-TRAK policies but yellow is best for long drags because it has less turnouts and has a 36" radius in New River. The allowable 18" radius and grades make the blue line tougher for long trains.

OPERATIONS - Some say we need more sidings for operations but we had sidings on 11 different modules at the Landmark show. It just takes getting them all operational and trainmen to handle switching cars in and out, like Pete and Tom. Some asked if the loop was too small to run two trains but three passenger trains were a breeze on the red using one slowing block. Maybe someday we will be up for running trains in opposite directions using passing sidings! Dave?

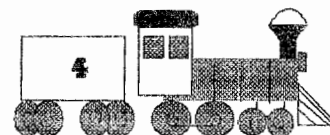
SCHEDULING ACTIVITIES - I am still depending on helpers to smoke out mall shows. Obie, Brian, Ed, Chester and others have made contacts with Landmark, Manassas, Worldgate Mall and Springfield but we still need to contact more malls so we can attract more members and advertise the great '96 Convention.

TRAIN WATCHING - The moss is turning green on my brick patio and that means the weather is getting great for hanging out around your favorite train watching spots. The cameras can see more before all the leaves come out and the sky gets hazy. As we may want to include a section in our convention booklet for train watchers take notes on accessibility, safety, train traffic, scanner frequencies photo opportunities and get some good shots as well.

CLUB CORRESPONDENCE FILE - Members are receiving newsletters and various inputs from everywhere. I am putting all the correspondence I receive in a loose leaf notebook and will make it available at all meetings. Others can add their stuff or start similar notebooks. Presently our Club reciprocates newsletters with BANTRAK (Baltimore), Long Is N-TRAK, Valley N-TRAK, Tinplaters, National N-TRAK and others. Lets be sure all this reading material is made available to all members.

SUGGESTION - To improve club communications, minutes of all club meetings should be published in our newsletters like we are doing for convention meetings.

"LIFE IS SHORT, RUN-N-TRAINS"



Incident at the Landmark Loading Dock

By Dave Greenacre

While loading our vehicles after the show at Landmark on Monday evening, 2/20/95, a Landmark Security officer ordered Charles to move our van, said we were blocking his loading dock, (which wasn't in use). Charles & I responded that we were actually loading our van, (just in case he couldn't see that he stopped us from loading it to tell us to move it.) The security officer said that we couldn't park there, we would have to park somewhere else.

CG "Where?"
SG1 "Park in that over there." [Points to marked fire lane.]
DG "You want us to park in a fire lane?!?"
CG "You want us to block that fire hydrant?!?"
SG1 "Yes."
DG "You want us to block traffic while we load rather than use this loading dock area?"
SG1 "Yes."
CG "Sorry, I'm not moving my van."
SG1 "Then I'm going to call a tow truck."
CG "Go ahead. I want your name."
[Name stated & radio call made requesting assistance.]
[Another officer appears on the scene & gets facts.]
SG2 [calmly] "Can you move your van over there?"
[Points to space just vacated in front of trash dumpster bay door.]
CG "Yes." [DG moves van.]
DG "Is this OK?"
SG2 "Yes. Thank you."

The conversation continued, but, wanting no more of it, I left the area and continued with the loading process. The above conversation is simply a representative of the actual confrontation, I cannot recall the exact words used. I add that we were in almost constant attendance of the van. We were only using the space in front of one of the four bays that exist.

Folks, these are my thoughts on the matter, I could be wrong and if such, do request constructive or corrective response. That officer was badly out of order. When a fire lane is signed "NO PARKING OR STANDING, FIRE LANE", it usually means it is there by order of the Fire Marshal of the municipality in which that area exists, in this case, Alexandria City. The authority of the Alexandria City Fire Marshal in this case far exceeds the authority of that security officer.

For future shows we would be putting our club at considerable risk here, consider these three scenarios:

1. Emergency units responding to a call coming down that access road will find it illegally restricted. Yes, we are in attendance & hopefully can move our vehicles prior to the arrival of the emergency units, but my point is that we would be restricting access of other vehicles trying to get out of the way of the same units.

2. The police would be well within their orders to issue a

citation to us for parking there. The penalty for that citation in Alexandria is \$100.00 plus impoundment of the vehicle. The Alexandria City Fire Marshal does conduct unannounced fire lane inspections & will impound an illegally parked vehicle on the spot. (And some of us were parked there -loading, but PARKED.)

3. A child runs out from between two of our parked vehicles & gets hit by an unsuspecting driver. The distraught parents sue the club as a contributor to the accident. I wonder how high that one could go?

The club does not need any ONE of these situations. I didn't need this one.

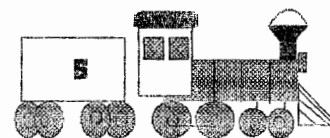
With the above incident in mind, I will vote no to further shows at Landmark & will not support nor participate in any unless we are given permission to use the loading dock area.

I will not park in a fire lane nor do I have any desire to cart all my stuff and half the club stuff in from the parking lot across two lanes of traffic.

I said at the beginning of my first term on the Board that I would vote no to shows if they could be detrimental to the club. At that time I could not think of anything that could be so, but this incident has shown me one.

If I come across strongly, keep in mind that I do feel very strongly about this matter, as the incident could easily be termed a confrontation. (What else do you think got me to sit down and type this out?)

Sincerely,
Dave Greenacre
Director at Large



Obie's Corner



KATO

10-327 "Eurostar" 8 car set \$230.00
 10-328 "Eurostar" 4 car set \$85.00

INTERMOUNTAIN RAILWAY COMPANY

#60508-02
 12-40-23
 Steel sided ice bunker \$12.95
 Fruit Growers Express
 MDT w/NYC Herald

LIFELIKE E-8
 \$35.00 while they last.

E-R MODEL IMPORTER

New Releases: Rock Island and Erie
 Bay Window Cabooses
 40' Swift Reefer
 40' Morrell Reefer
 Cars available with two road numbers.

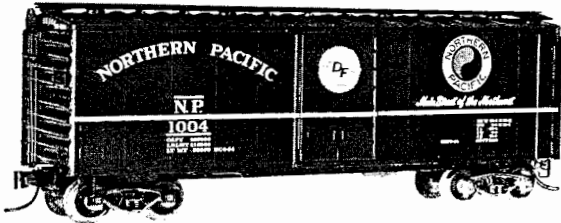
PRECISION MASTERS

#1705 B.N 1st & 2nd Run
 3 pack covered hoppers

Still awaiting N scale containers from Walthers

MICRO-TRAINS NEW RELEASES - MARCH 1995

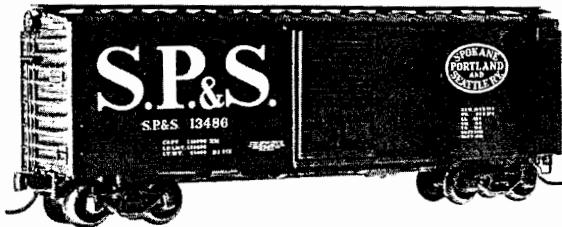
MERGER 4 - PACK \$55.65 BURLINGTON NORTHERN



NORTHERN PACIFIC #20236
 ROAD NUMBER NP 1004



GREAT NORTHERN #20226
 ROAD NUMBER GN 2530

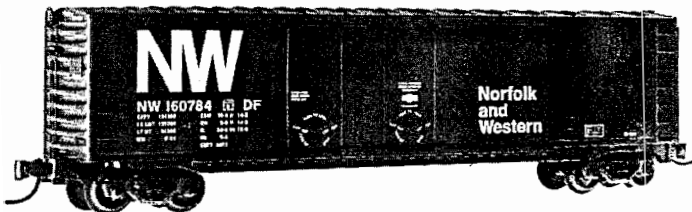


S.P.&S — #20246
 ROAD NUMBER SP&S 13486



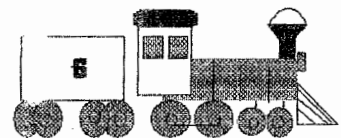
CHICAGO, BURLINGTON & QUINCY #92070
 ROAD NUMBER CB&Q 183925

NEW NORFOLK & WESTERN ROAD NUMBER NW 160784 \$11.20



FOR SALE!!!

Old Town Modules with mountain division and Yellow set up lines \$200.00 plus walkaway. Ready to Run. Call 703-971-1590. Obie



NORTHERN VIRGINIA NTRAK
Membership Roster

Last Name	First Name	Address	City, State	Zip	Home Phone	Work Phone	Mbr_Type
Aldridge	Eugene	5331 Taney Avenue, Apt. #101	Alexandria, VA	22304	703-212-7640		F1995
Allen	Kenneth R.	2204 N. Pickett St #204	Alexandria, VA	22304	703-751-3830		F1995
Alsop	Scott	6513 Braddock Road	Alexandria, VA	22313	703-354-8171		
Austin	Dennis	314 Argus Place	Sterling, VA	22170	703-444-7198	202-501-1523	F1995
Berger	Richard	4303 Marquis Place	Woodbridge, VA	22192		703-367-5670	F1995
Braithwood	Edd	2017 Wethersfield Court	Reston, VA	22091-3602	703-860-2899		F1995
Brauch	Gil	6111 Lorcom Court	Springfield, VA	22152	703-569-7985		F1995
Brendel	Brian	10503 Manor View	Manassas, VA	22110	703-257-0493	703-820-2345	F1995
Budens	Robert	5345 Taney Avenue, #201	Alexandria, VA	22304-5920	703-823-6717	703-308-2960	F1995
Cook	John	15913 Brawner Drive	Dumfries, VA	22026	703-670-9700		F1995
Durden	Chauncey	7702 Trammell Rd	Annandale, VA	22003	703-560-1706	202-273-6363	F1995
Freedenthal	Chester	7449 Brighthouse Court	Alexandria, VA	22310-3835	703-922-3778	703-274-4018	F1995
Gervais	Albert	2310 N. 10th Street, Apt #202	Arlington, VA	22201	703-524-8737		F1995
Greenacre	Charles	11565 Woodhollow Court	Reston, VA	22091	703-620-4588		F1995
Greenacre	David	11565 Woodhollow Court	Reston, VA	22081	703-620-4588		F1995
Griggs	William A.	830 Hope Road	Stafford, VA	22554	703-659-0819	703-720-4470	F1995
Hawker	Tony	8009 Cardiff Street	Lorton, VA	22079	703-339-5645	703-355-2799	F1995
Holzappel	Keith	9332 Frostburg Way	Montgomery Village, MD	20879	301-869-3726	301-670-0381	F1995
Jackson	Don	P.O. Box 639	Locust Grove, VA	22508-0639	703-972-3138		F1995
Judkowski	Greg	6609 Benson Drive	Alexandria, VA	22306	703-768-2796		
Kempinski	Bernard	1801 North Beauregard Street	Alexandria, VA	22311	703-922-9137	703-845-6929	F1995
Krehmke	James W.	5907 Ambassador Way	Alexandria, VA	22310	703-719-6187	703-325-8202	F1995
Krekel	Lyman	614 Knollwood Drive	Falls Church, VA	22046	703-532-0128	703-553-9700	F1995
Lahnstein	Joe	4335 Rincon Place	Dumfries, VA	22026	703-670-8570	703-482-6952	
Lebett	Phil	P. O. Box 10681	Arlington, VA	22210	703-525-3686	202-387-4011	
Martin	Bruce	3301 Walnut Manor Way	Falls Church, VA	22042	703-532-4034	202-639-5583	
Matthews	Peter	4416 Longworthe Square	Alexandria, VA	22309-1226	703-360-2313	703-360-2313	F1995
McQuade	Sam	1667 Parkcrest Circle #400	Reston, VA	22090	703-834-0052		F1995
Obermeyer	Fred	6012 Leewood Drive	Alexandria, VA	22310	703-971-1590	703-922-8845	F1995
Perry	Bruce L.	P. O. Box 15133	Arlington, VA	22215	703-578-9571	703-413-1600	F1995
Schaefer	Matt	4301 Stair Jordan Drive	Annandale, VA	22003	703-978-2946		
Smith	Rodney L.	6401 Gregory Court	Springfield, VA	22152	703-644-6359	202-479-1919	F1995
Steitz	John	3325 Valley Drive	Alexandria, VA	22302	703-845-0695	202-778-0163	F1995
Stewart	Monroe	4908 Woodland Boulevard	Oxon Hill, MD	20745	301-630-7565	301-630-7565	
Wagner	Roy	5400 Landmark Place	Fairfax, VA	22032	703-278-8005	301-590-1392	
White	Leonard	137 Jasper Place	Alexandria, VA	22303	703-370-9682		F1995

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Last Name	First Name	Address	City, State	Zip	Home Phone	Work Phone	Mbr Type
Bauer	Rick	6365 Tisbury Drive	Burke, VA	22015	703-455-4850		
Grutzmacher	Ralph E.	13306 Overbrook Lane	Bowie, MD	20715	301-805-8612	703-285-9014	
Harvey	Graham K.	12207 Meadowstream Court	Herndon, VA	22070	703-742-3368		
Leahy	Evelyn	2230 Cocquina Drive	Reston, VA	22091	703-758-2238	703-487-3003	
Mason	Edward L.	4880 Old Dominion Drive	Arlington, VA	22207	703-538-4531		
McDonald	Dr. Ian	14505 Gilpin Road	Silver Spring, MD	20906	301-598-4544		A1995
Parker	Dan	3252 Ledbury Court	Annamdale, VA	22003	703-573-7822	703-557-2985	A1995
Plant	John	252 Murray lane	Guilford, CT	06437	203-453-3291		A1995
Riddick	Chris	604 Third Street	Herndon, VA	22070	703-437-9247		
Robinson	Richard V.	P.O. Box 217	Lovettsville, VA	22080	703-822-5073		
Sherman	Jack & Sharon	8932 Braeburn Drive	Annamdale, VA	22003-3905	703-978-5622	301-763-4626	INDEF
Fitzgerald	Jim	2424 Alturas Road	Atascadero, CA	93422			INDEF
NATIONAL CAPITAL TINPLATE TRACKERS							
				15145 Wetherburn Dr	Centreville, VA	22020	