



**NTRAKAGE Writes**  
**The New Mexico Rail Runners**  
**Club Newsletter**



**FEBRUARY ISSUE**

**NMRR, Issue 155**

**February 2003**

The March business meeting and annual elections will be held at 7pm on Tuesday, March 4th at Shoney's, at the corner of Louisiana and Menaul NE (across from Coronado mall). Those planning to eat first should arrive at 6pm.

**The President's Lines**

by Kathy Steplowski

The time has come to say so long...

We will be electing a new President and Directors at our March meeting that will be held at Shoney's located on the corner of Louisiana and Menaul. Bob Prestridge is running for President. Chris Friedman, Kirt Hickman, Buzz Lenander and Steve Stein are running for the Board.

The Great American Train Show was once again very successful. The club took the blue ribbon and the cash prize for the best layout. Four clinics were given both Saturday and Sunday, bringing in a few more dollars. Tickets were sold for the drawing module and we are off to a good start! No major malfunctions were reported and everyone seemed to have a good time.

Our next show is scheduled for April 11, 12 and 13, 2003 in Amarillo. I have requested a minimum of 25 ft. X 25 ft. and a maximum of 40 ft. X 50 ft. for our layout. A block of rooms have been reserved at the HomeGate Studios and Suites with a discounted rate of \$27.50 per night. I have the information and will give it all out at the March meeting.

The Roswell show seems to coming together. It will be May 30, 31 and June 1, 2003.

The drawing module is almost finished. Thank you to the many members of the club that have participated in the assembly of this project.

In closing, I would like to let all of you know how much I have appreciated your support during the last 20 months. I hope I have been an asset to the club as President. I have thoroughly enjoyed it!

For Additional Information about NMRR Contact:

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Secretary	Steve Stein	898-2933
Director	Dayton Molzen	243-2672
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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Deadline for submission of articles and reports for inclusion in *Ntrakage Writes* is no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. This will allow enough time to get the newsletter distributed in a timely manner.

## GATS Show Report

by Buzz Lenander

The GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW was held at the Creative Arts Building on the State Fairgrounds on February 8-9, 2003, with set-up beginning at 3:00 pm on Friday, February 7th.

Paul Sturtz and I arrived shortly after 3:00 pm, to find Dayton and Den, along with Carl from El Paso, already mapping out the layout on the floor. Uncle Steve had to revise the layout plan Friday morning due to the fact that Howie, Doris, Dave, and Neddie were not able to make the trip up from Roswell, due to icy roads. Thanks to Uncle Steve and his computer for designing the layout, several times, before the final plan was established.

We were able to set up Carl's 32 feet of modules, and McPherson, in their approximate locations before the rest of the layout began to arrive some time after 5:00 pm. Debra brought the modules she and George bought from Randy and Phyllis, and soon afterward the vehicles arrived with the club modules. A big THANK YOU to Ken Martinez,

John Lisica, Richard Henry, and Jason Stein for transporting modules and assorted boxes for the layout.

Many hands made setup go rather smoothly. By 9:00 pm all modules were clamped in place, and connector tracks were being installed. Saturday morning at 7:00 am, a number of members were present to continue installing connector tracks, and by 9:10 am the first Rail Cleaner Train was running. A broken solder joint on the Blue Line on the Belen Yard caused a dead section of track, but after soldering everything was up and running. The usual tweaking of connector tracks smoothed everything out, and the layout operated very well for the weekend.

A table was set-up outside the layout to display the Drawing Layout, and provide space for the four clinics we provided each day. Thanks to all who helped with the clinics, Steve, Kathy, Charlie, and Buzz; we made \$80 for the Club Treasury, and provided a number of folks with some valuable and interesting information. Den spent many hours

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NTRAKage Writes  
February 2003  
Issue # 155

FY 2002 Board of Directors:  
Buzz Lenander ..... Bob Prestridge  
Richard Henry

### Officers:

President ..... Kathy Steplowski  
Secretary ..... Steve Stein  
Treasurer ..... Jay Norman  
Editor..... Kenneth Martinez

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Opinions expressed herein are those of the author where signed or of the editor if unsigned.

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## Board of Directors Meeting

February 18, 2003

Attendees were Kathy and Kurt, Jay, Buzz, Steve, Richard and Bob.

Kathy began the meeting at 7:10 pm at the clubhouse with the following items to be considered at our next meeting, which will be at the Shoney's at Menaul and Louisiana. Dinner is at 6 pm, the business meeting starts at 7:00. The agenda was as follows;

1. The elections at the business meeting will have ballots. So far Bob is running unopposed for president. Three board members will be filled with Steve, Buzz, Chris F., Kirt and Richard as candidates. Blanks for write-ins will be on the ballots. Kathy will provide them.
2. The Amarillo show is on March 11th is the deadline to reserve rooms at the Home gate Studios at \$27.50 per

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## Secretary's Report - Meeting Minutes

by Steve Stein

This month's meeting was held at the home of Paul Sturtz. Attending were Paul, Steve and Jason, Kirt, George and Debra, Dayton, Chuck, Bob, Chris F., Margaret, Richard, Kathy, John, Tom, Norm, Den, Mickey and new member Kit Luke. Kathy brought the meeting to order at 7 pm.

1. The January secretary's report was accepted. Jay was absent so no treasurer's report was given.
2. The drawing module although unfinished, will be ready to run at the GATS.
3. Amarillo has space for us. You need to commit to go or not at the March meeting,
4. Bob Prestridge will run unopposed for President unless someone else is interested. Three board positions will need to be voted on. Running for those will be Chris Friedmann, Buzz Lenander, Kirt Hickman and myself. Any of you that want to run for these offices are more than welcome. Just make your wishes known at the next meeting, which is our annual business meeting.
5. Don't forget to bring your cash or check and application form to renew your membership for the following year.
6. The meeting originally scheduled to take place at Marie Callender's on Eubank and Spain has been changed to the Shoney's at Menaul and Louisiana. If that doesn't work out we will have any changes in the next newsletter.
7. We voted to participate our usual five days at this year's state fair (Setup on September 12th, running through Tuesday the 16th) instead of a proposed four day event. Now

is the time to think about taking vacation time then.

8. For the GATS setup we are to meet at the clubhouse at 4:30 on the 7th to load trucks and trailers and then proceed to the creative arts building on the fairgrounds for setup.
9. Bob will be in charge of purchasing three more wastebaskets for the clubhouse.
10. Trains West donated three \$10 gift certificates. The winners were George, Richard and Bob.
11. The meeting adjourned at 8:00. I then gave a clinic on building Masonite cleaning pads for rolling stock. Snacks and camaraderie followed.

### *GATS Show Report, from page 2*

running the train on the Drawing Layout, and a well deserved Thanks to all who helped sell Drawing Layout Tickets, many of the wives helped out here!

For the most part, trains ran rather well, with most members getting to run an hour each day. I was unaware of any major problems with operations. During the day on Sunday the GATS staff presented the Club with the Blue FIRST PLACE ribbon, and a check for \$480, \$400 for first place, and \$80 for the clinics. We also sold \$270 in Drawing Tickets, so the Club banked a cool \$750 for the weekend!

At 5:00 pm on Sunday we began teardown. Again thanks to many members were able to get everything packed away in an hour and a half, and were back down at the Layout room on Carlisle by 6:45 pm. It took about 20 minutes to move everything back into the building and we were on our way home.

The following Saturday the layout was set up in our

*Board of Directors Meeting, from page 2*

night. Layout size is still to be determined. So far the following have signed up to go; Bud, Jay, Tom, Dayton, Kathy and Kurt, Doug and Chris, John, and Carl. Howie, Doris, Dave and Nettie are maybes. Run times are 9-5 on Saturday, April 12th and 11-4 on Sunday the 13th. We still need more people to go, so if you are interested, please sign up at the meeting.

3. Howie is coordinating the Roswell show at the end of May and June 1st. He proposes the following:
  - a. Admission -- \$2 for adults, \$1 for students 13-18 and free admission for kids 12 and under. The BOD proposes cash only and admission \$2 for everybody over 12.
  - b. We divide the earnings 5 ways. NMRR will count for 2/5ths because we are sponsoring.
  - c. The building is free this time, but will be about \$170 per day in the future.
  - d. We may do this show every other year, alternating with the Miniature Show.
  - e. Howie and his crew will provide coffee and donuts in the morning, soft drinks and sandwiches in the afternoon and will have an open house Saturday night at the Whiting home.
  - f. They have spent \$27 on fliers, envelopes, etc. that we will reimburse.
  - g. Like the Amarillo show, sign up at the next meeting if you are interested.
4. The new power packs/throttles are in as well as the one throttle that needed repair. The fans are not here yet. Wiring is still an issue, but should be completed very soon.
5. Blocking the layout is something we can now do with the new transformers/throttles, especially at larger shows. DCC is still in the works. Make your feelings known about this to the BOD if you want to pursue it.
6. Don't forget to bring your dues and fill out an application at the upcoming meeting.
7. The meeting adjourned at 8:05.

*GATS Show Report, from page 3*

location on Carlisle and trains were running in less than two and a half hours. Thanks to those who helped!

One suggestion for future shows that we should consider is "Blocking" the layout into halves. After the new power supplies, and transmitters are put into operation, we should be able to divide each line in half, so that two trains, and operators, can run a train on each line. This would provide more "Run time" for our members, and provide the viewing public with twice as many trains to see.

A great and profitable weekend for the New Mexico Rail RunNers, thanks to all who helped, we hope everyone had a GREAT time!

GATS Coordinators,  
Dayton Molzen  
Buzz Lenander

**What's New in N-Scale**

by Bob Prestridge

**Manufacturer**

**Product** \_\_\_\_\_ **When Due?**

**Athearn**

F59PHI (Metro, Sounder,  
Coaster, West Coast Express,  
Dallas-TRE) 02/03

Bombardier Cab Control Coach  
(Metro, GO, Coaster, Sounder  
West Coast Exp., Fl Tri-Rail,  
Dallas-TRE, Metro 10th Anniv.)  
05/03

Bombardier Coach (Same lines as  
Above) 05/03

**Atlas**

International Car Co. Extended Vision  
Cabooses (Undec, Chessie, CSX, Frisco, & RF&P)  
04/03

53' Evans Box Cars (Undec, BC Rail,  
IC, Ill. Term, Jeld-Wen, La. Pac.,  
Mtn. Pine Lumber, Multnomah Ply.,  
ATSF) 04/03

RS-1 (New Haven) 03/03

RS-1 (PRR, Rock Island, Soo) 05/03

U25B-2A (Undec, L&N, SP)	03/03
U25B-2B (Undec., CB&Q, GN, PC)	03/03
Kaolin Tank Cars (Undec., ACFX, ANGLO-AMERICAN CLAYS, CYPRUS, GEORGIA KAOLIN, ONTARIO CARBONATE, SHPX)	04/03
<b>Bachmann Spectrum</b>	
2-8-0 (ATSF, MP, Undec.)	03/03
Dash 8-40C(C&N, Conrail, CSX, N&S Undec., UP)	Fall/03
Dash 8-40CW(BNSF, Conrail, Conrail Quality, CSX, LMS/Lease, ATSF, Undec., UP)	Fall/03
SD-45 (BNSF, Conrail, GN #400, Pennsylvania Reading, ATSF, Undec.)	Fall/03
4-8-2 (Frisco, MP, NC&SL, NH, NYO&W, Undec., Southern, SP, UP)	Fall/03
<b>Challenger N Scale Hobbies (Brass)</b>	
Passenger Car Kits (ATSF Horse Express) ????	
<b>Con-Cor</b>	
Tri Level Auto Rack (SP, CPR, TTX, Amtrak, CSX, NS)	03/03
MHC (Amtrak Express)	03/03
American Freedom Train PA1 & PB1, 1948 Scheme	05/03
PA-1A (ATSF, Pennsy, GN, SP, UP, D&H, NPR, B&O, NH (McGinnis), Erie, Amtrak, Southern, EL, DRG&W, MP, NYC)	05/03
Intermodal Containers 40' Sea (SeaLand, Evergreen, Hanjin, NOL, Y.M. Line, Genstar, Hyundai)	06/03
Intermodal Containers 45' Sea (Maersk, NYK, K-Line, CP Rail, ATSF)	06/03
Amtrak CA Surfliners (Coach, Diner, Coach/Baggage, Sleeper, Lounge/Café)	03/03
1948 Freedom Train Car Set	05/03
<b>deLuxe Innovations</b>	
Amtrak Road Railer Trailers.	
Swift Road Railers	03/03
<b>Des Plains Hobbies</b>	
ACF 85' postwar coaches	????
<b>Fine N Scale Products</b>	
Pioneer Zephyr re-release	04/03
<b>GHQ</b>	
Passenger Cars (MILW Road 1938/42)	03/03
<b>Kato</b>	

P42 (Amtrak Ph. IV, Ph. V, Via Rail)	04/03
Superliners & MHC in Phase IV	06/03
SD70MAC (BNSF, Alaska RR, TFM (Mex.))	04/03
<b>Life-Like</b>	
2-8-8-2 2nd Run (N&W, UP, PRR)	06/03
<b>LBF</b>	
<b>Coming Soon</b>	
Hicube Boxcars (Can Am, CAN, CHTT, C&NW, IBT, LW, NOKL, Undec.)	
Flatcars (GN, BN, ATSF, SP)	
<b>MDC-Roundhouse (RTR 4-Packs)</b>	
50' Modern Tank Cars (Domino Sugar, BASF Wyandotte, Dry Branch Kaolin, Elcor Chem. Co.)	02/03
<b>Micro-Trains</b>	
FT-A units "State of the Union" to ship in	09/03
USA Caboose order 03/03 ship	09/03
<b>N Scale of Nevada, LLC</b>	
Multi-Track Signal Bridge	03/03
Cantilever Signal Bridge	03/03
6" & 12" Stainless steel N-Scale Rulers	03/03
Tunnel Liners & Tunnel Portals	Summer
Lumber loads for Red Caboose 73' Center Beam Flatcars	4 avail 12 to come
Articu-Kupl 01/05 units for articulated double Stacks	available
<b>Red Caboose</b>	
<b>Coming Soon</b>	
62' PC&F Beer Cars (DRGW, Golden West, Golden West Service, Manufacturer's Railway, ATSF, SP, Tropicana, UP, BN, Conrail, Lamb Weston, MP, ATSF "Q")	
THRALL all-door boxcars (TCAX, AD&N, Bennett Car Co., Brooks-Scanlon, CanFor, LUNX, Georgia Pacific, Green Bay & Western, Idaho Forest Products, MacMillan-Blodel, Masonite Corp., MN&S, Sacramento Valley Molding, SCL, USLX, St. Regis Paper)	
57' Mech. Reefer (B&A, BNSF, EL, MC, MP/N&W, NP, PFE UP/SP, UPFE)	
73' "Opera Window" Center-beam flatcars)	03/03
Steel Side Plug-Door Reefer (BREX, FGE, PFE, RATH, WFE/GN)	
<b>Yesteryear</b>	
<b>Coming Soon</b>	
FT A-B-B-A Boxed Set (EMD Demonstrator In Pullman Green & Cream).	

# CALENDAR

NMRR Layout Setup

NMRR Involved

FYI Only

Amarillo Show  
Apr 11-13

Roswell Show  
May 30 - June 1

Tucumcari Show  
Jul 25-27 (?)

State Fair  
Sep 12-16

March Meeting / Elections  
Mar. 4, 6pm  
Location: Shoney's  
Louisiana & Menaul NE

Rio Grande Valley  
MRR Club Open House  
Mar 16

Albuquerque RR Fair  
May 18

20th Anniv. Ntrak  
Houston, June 4-8

N Scale Collector Conven.  
Tulsa, June 25-28



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