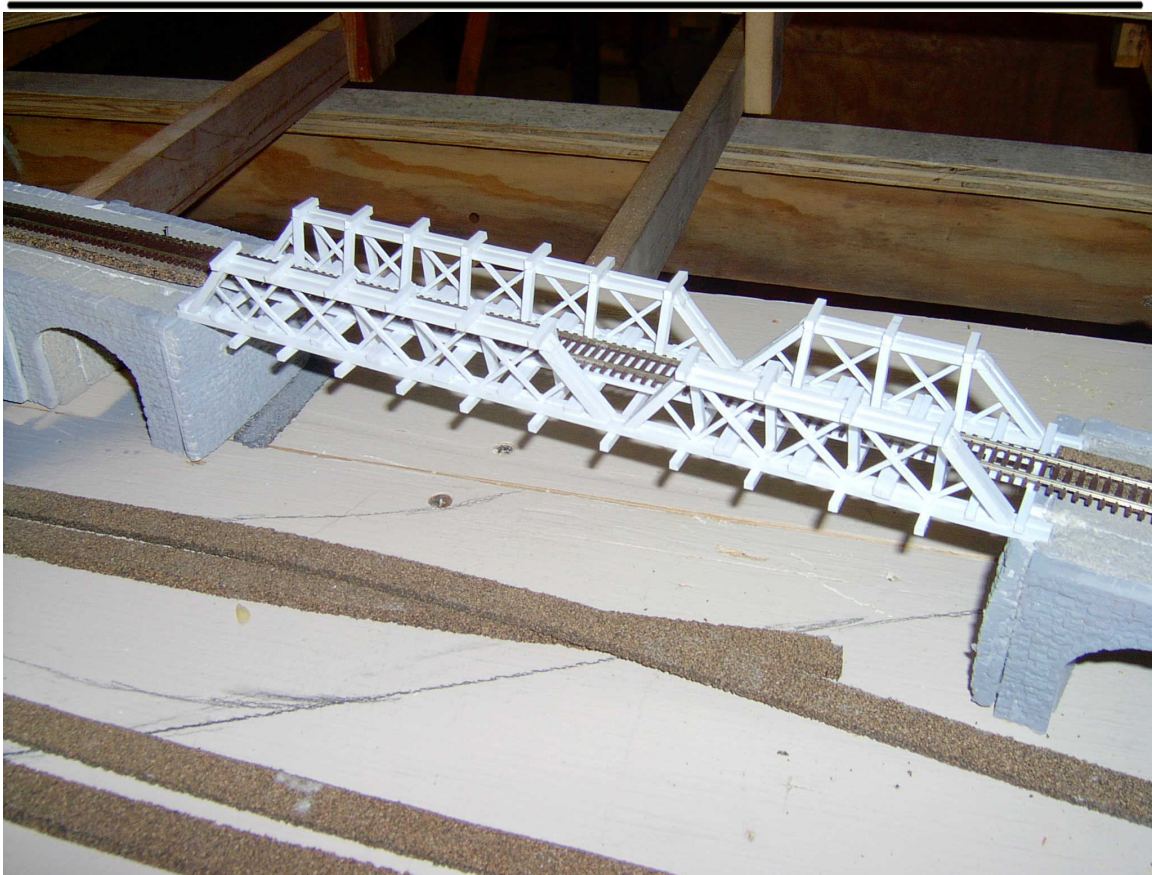


# THE BRIDGE

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



# KSONS

Bruce Goreham, Publisher  
December 2009

Joe Martin, Editor  
Volume 24, Number 12

## ***KSONS Scheduled Arrivals (and Train Shows)***

*Visitors are welcome at all KSONS meetings*

**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. Voting for Charley Hunt Award. Arrive at 6 PM for dinner. Meeting at 7:30.

### ***Down the Pike: KSONS Scheduled to Appear:***

**December 26th:** Open House at John Voller's house. 11 AM—4 PM. Bring what Santa left you the day before. BYORB (Bring-Your-Own-Root-Beer).

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

### ***Other Shows/Events:***

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

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

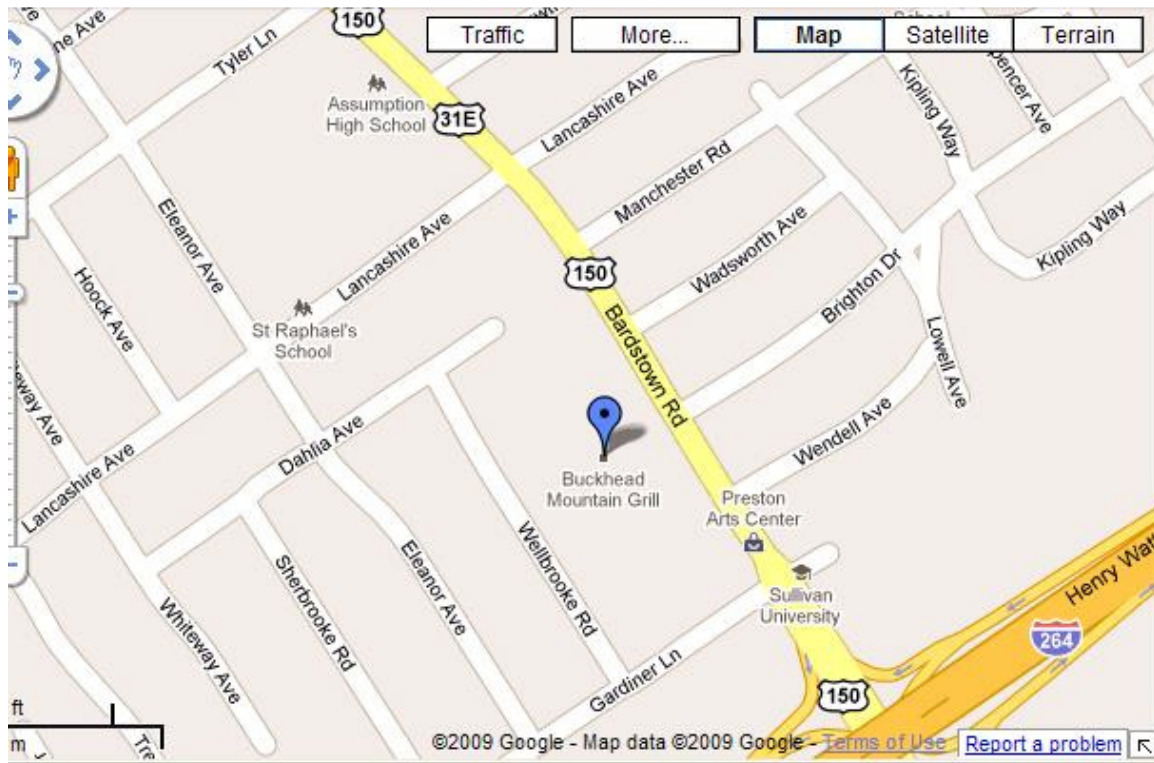
**April 10 and 11, 2010:** Great Train Expo in Nashville.

**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.

**September 24th to 26th, 2010:** 2010 National N-TRAK Show and Danville Old 97 Rail Days, Danville, VA. Website: <http://www.trainweb.org/nrmrc/2010show/index.html>



*On the Cover: Jerry Harris has been hard at work on his layout. Here is his scratch-built straining beam truss bridge. Jerry says work is still ongoing. Jerry also took the picture.*

## **November Meeting Minutes Hosted By Steve Simpson at Buechel Station**

**Introduction:** Superintendent Kevin Rose called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The only guest at this meeting was former member Lee Pearson.

**Housekeeping Stuff:** The minutes to the October meeting as published in the November issue of *The Bridge* was motioned for acceptance and was so moved. The Treasurer's report was provided by Paul Downs in Dawn Jewell's absence. All of the bills are paid and the KSONS is in liquidity. A motion was made to accept the report as read and was approved.

**Old Business: Jeffersonville.** Mark Hedge is still working on trying to find a location in Jeffersonville, Indiana. The initial place was a lost cause. He knows of another place just about 10-15 miles further and will investigate it.

**Christmas Party Update:** Dawn provided an update to the Christmas Party via Kevin and Bobbi. The gift exchange will be for men and women and will be handled separately. A question was raised about the price limit for a gift. The answer was "a boxcar". Generally, the gift exchange has run roughly \$15-\$20 as the limit. In addition to the exchange, Dawn suggested that we arrive by 6 PM to eat dinner, then have the meeting afterward so people would not starve. A consensus amongst the attending members confirmed the suggestion.

**Joining the Duplex Age:** The Board discussed acquiring a Digitrax UR92 Duplex Radio Receiver to have at shows. As more and more members discover the secret that Steve Shetter has discovered about the UR92 and the new DT402D throttle, there will be a need to have the Duplex receiver. Kevin will research the costs and will provide that information.

**An All DCC Club?** A lengthy discussion was made both at the Board meeting and at today's meeting regarding the KSONS being an "all-digital" club. General history has concluded that shows with other clubs have had to be all digital because of the members there doing DCC, the larger size of the layouts may or could not support analogue operation, and the mere number of DCC operators at a time would definitely limit operation. Shows like New Albany would allow analogue operations depending on traffic. The Board has determined that they do not want to be referred to as an all DCC club for the fear that this may drive away new recruits. Someone mentioned having the club have available DCC locomotives and throttles for newbies to experience the operation of DCC. That has been taken under consideration by the Board.

**New Business: Changes in the By-Laws.** Paul Downs discussed some changes to the club By-Laws. Minor organizational changes, classifications, and membership status changes were briefly discussed.

The proposed changes will be provided on the club website soon in the members section for input from the members.

**Club-Owned Modules:** Another lengthy discussion was about club owned modules. There was a consensus amongst the attendees that the N-Trak modules have become old and worn out, possibly beyond repair.

The Board has discussed this and they believe that the only club owned modules should be the yard and the corners. And that members provide the rest of the modules. This harks back to the original concept of N-Trak that was created over 30 years ago: That individuals with modules can maintain them at home and provide transportation to shows to be used in larger layouts.

For the non club owned modules stored at Buckner, the club will contact these people via mail and allow them time to arrange pick up of the modules or they become abandoned property. If they become abandoned property, then the club will sell these modules to individuals if they want them.

For new modules, the Board would like to see the alternate blue line and the mountain line. Start thinking about what you would like to have on your modules and start constructing! If you need any help, there's a lot of talented people in the club that can help you.

**Ideas for Display Layouts:** Another lengthy discussion arose regarding what to do for shows in terms of layouts. It seems that several members have enjoyed operating sessions on the N-Trak layout, but seem to be limited because of the format. Some suggested two track mains, other suggested OneTrack, FreeMo, and other modular formats. Bruce Goreham reminded us that the original intent of the N-Trak format was to have just trains running in circles. Consensus was determined to have the N-Trak be a show layout and, if we ever have a clubhouse, consider other formats, including a permanent layout.

**A side note here:** Kevin mentioned that he talked to Nat King of the K&I club. Funds have been approved to widen KY 146/KY 393, so it is only a matter of time before the fire house at Buckner will need to be vacated.

**Charley Hunt Award:** The Charley Hunt Award was discussed. Voting was to commence at this meeting, but Kevin ran out of ink on his printer. The ballots will be provided at the Christmas Party and the winners will be announced in January or at the end of the Christmas Party.

Here is a quick synopsis of the nominees and why they were nominated. Craig Sawdo for his work on making sure the New Albany in September was adequately staffed and operational, thus potentially saving the show. Joe Martin, for his work with the newsletter and coordination of the T-Trak layouts at the small shows. The 2008 Convention Board for their work on making the Convention the best that there ever was. And, to Steve Shetter, for his work as Superintendent of the club from 2002 to 2008, including his work as Chairman of the 2008 Convention.

This time, you can vote for all nominees, one or two, or none of them. To qualify for the win, the nominee must receive 66% of the total ballots casted. So make sure you make it to the Christmas Party and cast your vote!

**Train Break:** Just before Kevin read the nominees to the Charley Hunt Award, the first train came through. So we took a train break for about four minutes.

**T-Trak Shows:** Joe Martin asked the Board and membership for a blanket authorization to have the T-Trak layout at the NMRA Division 8 show. Kevin suggested that this blanket authorization happen to all the shows, as long as the Board is at least notified. A motion was made to the effect and was approved. There was additional discussion about the KSONS being at the Division 8 show.

**Train Break 2: The Sequel.** The discussion of the KSONS at shows was interrupted by another train. There will be brochures advertising the KSONS at the Division 8 show and at other shows.

**Work Sessions:** Work sessions are needed to get the N-Trak layout together in time for the open house on December 5th. One was scheduled for November 22nd.

**Upcoming Shows:** Buckner Open House December 5th and 6th. Great Train Expo January 9th and 10th. There was discussion about the LaGrange Library show in February. Due to the distance of the location and the potential staffing problems similar to the New Albany Library, the motion to do this show was turned down. No word yet on the spring New Albany show. In April is the GTE in Nashville. April 30th and May 1st is the N Scale weekend at Columbus, Ohio. June 24th to 28th is the NSC convention in Houston. July 11-18th is the NMRA 75th Anniversary Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**Future Meetings:** Kevin thanked Steve Simpson for hosting this month's meeting. January's and February's will be at Buechel Station. Joe Martin will host the January meeting and Don Smith will host the February meeting. March is penciled in for New Albany, depending on schedule.

**Roundhouse:** Joe Martin has been scanning in old issues of *The Bridge* and will notify the members to check to see if they have old issues he is missing. Bruce Goreham mentioned the Division 8 Christmas Party on December 18th. Don Smith has some locomotives for sale. Bobbi has some club shirts for sale. Steve Simpson apologized for being late. Jim Prentice wanted to know when we can have a swap meet at the meeting so we can sell each other our junk, at which Kevin suggested we get a table at the next Division 8 swap meet and sell excess KSONS stuff and members stuff. And, finally, John Voller mentioned his after Christmas open house on the 26th at his house.

A motion was made to adjourn, and, after lengthy discussion, was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Martin,  
Secretary

**Christmas Open House**  
**December 19, 2009**

“Come join Bob Irmscher and Harry Munzer as they open their homes to celebrate the holiday season. Enjoy several different train layouts at each location. If you have any questions or need directions, call 812-923-1537. Times and locations are as follows:

**11 am to 2 pm:** Bob Irmscher’s Train Layout, 5541 Buck Creek Road, Floyds Knobs, IN, off of Hwy 150.

**1 pm to 5 pm:** Harry Munzer’s Swift Creek Railroad, 6265 Buttontown Road, Greenville, IN off Hwy 150.”

*[Editor’s Note: Harry Munzer gave me a note at the Division 8 show about his open house. Each year, he opens his G Scale layout to the public close to Christmas time.]*

**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](mailto:ddjewell7@yahoo.com) for any suggestions to the site. Please indicate in the heading of the email “KSONS website changes”.

The electronic version of *The Bridge* is now available. It will be available on the website. If you do wish to receive the newsletter electronically, please contact Joe Martin as soon as possible. If you do not want a paper copy sent, please let Joe and Bruce Goreham know.

**Special Message from The Editor**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It has been a great pleasure to have provided this newsletter to you this year. I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas or Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year.

If you have not noticed, this issue will end volume 24. That means January starts the 25th anniversary of the KSONS and *The Bridge*. As space permits, I’ll present little facets from the past issues of this newsletter. I hope you enjoy.

Joe

Your bonus picture for this month is actually three pictures. Hey, it's Christmas!

The first one is from Jerry Harris. This is one of RJ Corman's new GenSet locomotives:



The second one comes from me from my most recent trip to Paducah. The Paducah & Louisville is leasing some ex-Oakway Leasing SD60s now being leased by GATX. Here is a pair of them waiting to deliver coal in the South Yard at Paducah:





Lastly, this came from Jakob Jewell last year at the Christmas Gift Show T-Trak layout display. He decorated his flat car. I took the picture:



The message says it all: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!!

Joe

## 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