

*FUN*TRAK Times!

Volume 32

Number 12

December 2024

FREE

MAGIC MOUNTAIN



In an effort to better utilize the available resources that *FUNTRAK* already possesses, the 3D printed bridges and supporting pylons were added to an existing module to enhance its usefulness. This allows *FUNTRAK* to enlarge the mountain line without necessarily having to build entirely new modules. The newly constructed inside mountain corner modules make it possible to extend the mountain line around corners and extend the overall length of the mountain circuits. This is illustrated in some of the pictures of the layouts assembled in Volney as well as Syracuse. More of these pictures are inside this issue. Other new members modules are also pictured at the most recent shows. November was an exciting month for *FUNTRAK* and the upcoming months promise to be just as exhilarating. We will be looking for you at the shows!

From the Desk:

Here we are right in the middle of the model railroading season with Thanksgiving on the horizon followed by Christmas and New Year. In between these traditional "holidays" we have some traditional model railroad shows. **FUNTRAK**

manages to participate in some of these as well as being the highlight of a few. The beginning of December sees shows in Rochester at the Rochester Institute of Technology at their annual Tiger Tracks Show and another show in Albany at the "Egg".

FUNTRAK members have decided not to participate in these shows this year for many reasons. It is becoming more and more expensive to both travel and find boarding at these shows as well as being more physically demanding for many of our aging members. On the other hand, **FUNTRAK** does plan to set up at the Oneida County History Center for our annual display between Christmas and New Year. With Christmas coming on Wednesday it does make the show times shorter but the public still manages to support this exciting show in spite of the reduced times. The middle of January finds **FUNTRAK** setting up in Union Station to support the National Railway

Historical Society and the Toy Train Collectors Society annual show. As Spring approaches, the largest model railroad show in the Northeast comes along in Springfield, Massachusetts. Again, the same reasons for avoiding some of the other shows apply here also, expense and physical demands. Weather has also been an issue for this show in some of the years in the past.

FUNTRAK has become more selective in its choices of which shows to attend and which to pass on. Fortunately, other smaller venues have attracted **FUNTRAK** members attention to display the wonderful modules folks have constructed for the public's enjoyment. Small setups at Fat Cats and Dave's Diner at car cruise ins have become popular because they are less strenuous, closer to home, and easier to set up and tear down. This "quick and easy" makes it convenient and enjoyable for the attendees. Everyone "wins" with these small gatherings and **FUNTRAK** intends to continue with these activities. Watch the newsletter for announcements of these local displays. Meanwhile, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year. See you next year!

Brian

REMSEN ARTS CENTER



49TH ANNUAL GREAT NEW YORK



STATE MODEL TRAIN FAIR



HOLIDAY EXPRESS



MODEL RAILROAD SHOW



EVENTS

Oneida County History Center

Sponsored by:

FUNTRAK Model Railroad Club

1608 Genesee Street
Utica, New York 13501

Thursday, December 26, 2024 through

Saturday, December 28, 2024

10:00am to 4:00pm

Information: (315) 735-3642

RIT Model Railroad Club Tiger Tracks

RIT Gordon Field House, Rochester, New York 14623

Saturday, December 14, 2024 10:00am to 4:00pm

Sunday, December 15, 2024 10:00am to 4:00pm

Adults-\$10:00 Seniors-\$8:00 under 12 FREE

Information: (585) 475-4121

Christmas in Mexico

Sponsored by:

Mexico Chamber of Commerce and the

Oswego Valley Railroad Association

Village Court

3245 East Main Street

Mexico, New York 13114

Saturday, December 7, 2024 10:00am to 4:00pm

Sunday, December 8, 2024 11:00am to 3:00pm

FREE

Information:

<https://www.facebook.com/ovrra.com>

FUNTRAK Officers

President: Lorenzo Franchi (315)867-4976

Vice President: Greg Brockway

Treasurer: Brian F. King (315)292-7066

Schedules

December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	5	12	13	14
15	16	17	Fat Cats	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	OCHC	OCHC	OCHC
29	30	31				

January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Union Sttion	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Great Train Extravaganza 2023

Empire State Plaza Convention Center

279 Madison Ave

Sunday, December 8, 2024

10:00am to 4:00pm

Adults-\$10:00 under 12 FREE

Information: (518) 727-2009

MONTHLY QUIZ

What is the high-speed train that travels under the English Channel?

The Eurostar connects Britain with France, Belgium, and the Netherlands via a tunnel under the English Channel known commonly as the Channel — a marvel of modern engineering. For four years, 13,000 workers dug a 95-mile tunnel 150 feet below the surface for \$13 billion. Although the two ends met in December 1990, it would take another four years before the Channel was ready for service.