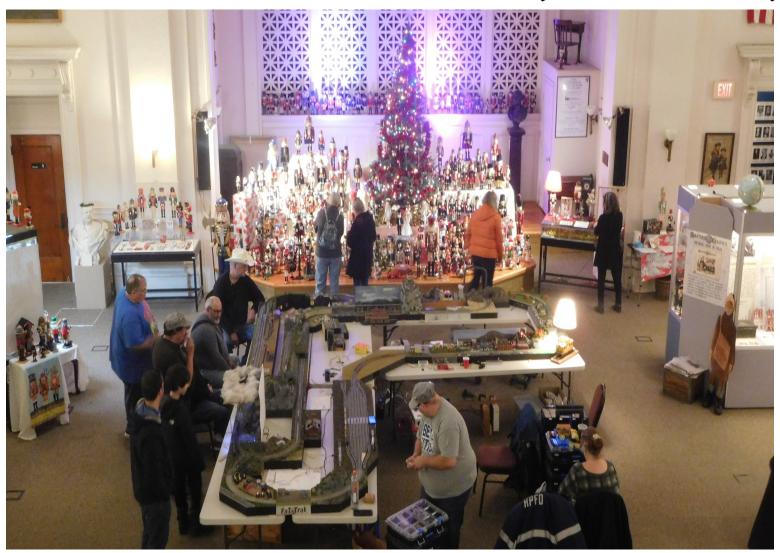
FUNTRAK Times!

Volume 33 Number 1

January 2025

FREE

ONEIDA COUNTY HISTORY CENTER



FUNTRAK provided its annual Holiday layout at the Oneida County Histiory Center from December 26th through December 28th again this year. This display regularly draws large crowds of railroad fans of all ages and is eagerly anticipated each year. Spectators from eight to eighty and everywhere in between come out to admire FUNTRAK members efforts at creating scenes on these tiny modules that fascinate folks with the imaginative ideas presented in miniature. The bird's eye view above shows the layout for this year 9n the new "L" shaped mountain design. The new shape allows for longer trains on the mountain line and more intereest than the traditional oval. Powering two line with conventional DC power and two other lines with digital command control makes it possible to run multiple trains at the same time. With this arrangement there is almost always a train to follow somwhere on the line. This keeps the small children occupied as they walk around the layout following their train as it traverses the miniature world. Best of all, this show is free! If you missed this year's show, plan for next Decvember and bring the family.

From the Desk:

Welcome to 2025! FUNTRAK has officially finished its annual shows for the previous year and is now moving on to the new year. First up is Union Station in Utica on January 19th. annual event is day a one affair with a relatively small layout. We have been asked to supply a little larger layout this year, and naturally, were happy to accommodate this wish. FUNTRAK now has over 140 modules available for just about any occasion and size requested, so making a larger, or smaller, layout is not much of a problem. There is a new show in the works for February there will be more information forthcoming next FUNTRAK is looking forward to engaging in this new show as it is in a new time for the shows **FUNTRAK** typically attends. There is a meeting scheduled at Fat Cats for March and following April will be the Oswego Valley Railroad Association show Volney. May and the summer months slow down a little and the we return to the usual model railroading season with shows schedule throughout the fall and winter months. The layouts for this year promise to be very exciting as there many new modules being constructed as well as older being updated. These modules are incorporating many new features that were not

available in times gone by. For example, Adam Pratts is working on some sound effects for his fire module that should attract attention at the upcoming shows. Animation of any kind adds interest to a module and gets many people thinking asking questions about these feature are designed and made. Many of the newer items being used on the newly built modules are being done with 3D printing. This process allows products that are otherwise commercially available. The "temporary" bridge with supports used the Rome station module to make it compatible with line mountain is example of 3D printed products that enhance the layout. More new technology that aids our modeling include the use of the newest microprocessors provide programs to operate various kinds of hardware and control sounds, lights, and movements of the features the modules. FUNTRAK has taken advantage of many of these technologies newer incorporated them into numerous modules. Our club remains on the leading edge of innovation and will continue with this in future. Ιf any of interests you, contact any club member and they will be happy to help you. Until next month, happy model railroading!

Brian

FAT CATS





OCHC









EVENTS

Big 2024 Railroad Hobby Show

Sponsored by
The Amherst Railway Society
Located at The Eastern States Exposition
1305 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield, MA 01089
Saturday, January 25, 2025
9am – 5pm
Sunday, January 26, 2025
10am –4pm
ADMISSION: Adults - \$18.00 Under 15 – FREE
PARKING - \$5.00

44th Annual Utica Show

Union Station, Main Street
Utica, New York 13502
Sunday, January 19, 2025 10:00am to 3:00pm
Admission: Adults \$5 Children 5-12 \$2 Under 5-FREE

Information: Adam Brunet (315) 725-2889 E-Mail: CNYTTCS@YAHOO.COM

The Great Holiday Train Show

New Castle Historical Society
Horace Greeley House
100 King Street
Chappaqua, NY 10514
Saturday, January 4, 2025
1:30pm to 4:00pm
Admission: Members \$11.49
Non-Members \$16.74
Children Ages 2-8 \$9.39

FUNTRAK Officers

President: Lorenzo Franchi (315)867-4976 Vice President: Greg Brockway Treasurer: Brian F. King (315)292-7066

Schedules

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Oneida County History Center
December 2014

MONTHLY QUIZ

How much freight do railroads haul annually?

more product.

In a typical year, freight railroads haul about 1.7 billion tons of raw materials and finished goods. Improved rail car designs are making it possible for trains to ship