



Happy New Year from the Amherst Belt Lines!

We closed out 2009 with the Belt Lines attending the New England Model Train Expo in Marlborough, MA, sponsored by the HUB Division of the NMRA®, at the beginning of December. We assembled a medium size layout of 24 feet by 44 feet, and could have used more room! For those who are interested, the track plan will be posted on the web.

The next event is our own show at the Big E. This year's layout promises to be one of the largest we have assembled recently, and additional space has been allocated from the Show Committee to accommodate the layout. Many new modules will make their debut this year, with some older modules that haven't been in the layout for several years returning. If you are looking for something to do during setup on Friday, stop by the Belt Lines in the Better Living Center – we can probably find something for you to do. If you'd like to run a train (or two) during the show, stop on by and we'll get a throttle in your hand, or just stop by to see what has changed. One way or another, we hope to see you at the show.

After we are done with the Railroad Hobby Show, the Worcester Model Railroaders' Show in Auburn, MA will be next on our plate. The Belt Lines brings a small layout to this one day show at the Auburn Elks Club. Setup starts at 7AM on Sunday with the show starting at 10AM! The show has expanded to use both levels of the Elks Club, and is a great little show to attend if you are looking for something to do to cure your cabin fever at the end of February. This year the show is February 28 and will run from 10AM to 4PM. Come on out and help support our fellow modelers!

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### **Show Schedule Update**

The Belt Lines attends about six shows per year from September through April. Our schedule as we know it through April of this year is below. If you would like to mark your calendars for shows we will be attending, here are the dates for the rest of the winter and spring seasons in 2010:

- January 30-31, 2010: Amherst Railway Society Railroad Hobby Show – West Springfield, MA
- February 28, 2010: Worcester Model Railroad Club Train Show – Auburn, MA
- April 11, 2010: Nashua Valley Railroad Association Show – Shirley, MA