



MINI-BUNCH NEWSLETTER

The Mini-Bunch newsletter is usually published 4 times a year on an irregular schedule. Membership and a subscription to the Newsletter are \$8.00 for 2 years or with Registration at a recent Mini-Bunch meeting.
Website: <http://www.narrowtracks.com/minibunch>

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Editor's Comments

Hi,

This is late - I thought it would be out in November, but work on a new shed (full size) and then Christmas sidelined my work on this.

Michael Yoakam wrote a great article on the Portland Convention, so I decided to dedicate nearly an entire issue for his personal view of the Convention.

In about two weeks, an additional newsletter will provide information on the spring meet, an On30 Meet in May in Indiana and the Fall Meet in Dayton, Ohio.

In case anyone is interested, I made a DVD with Charlie Getz' talk and some other video of the trains in Maine. I've sold 50 copies so far. If you are interested, send me \$10. Proceeds go to the Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation.

Ted

2007 Convention in Portland, Maine

by Michael Yoakam

This was the second NNGC that I have attended. My first one was Detroit in 2005.

Since I don't have many experiences to compare it with, I am going to give you an overview of my trip, and not just the convention.

I was fortunate to travel with a good friend, Terry Hansley. We flew out of Columbus, Ohio around

6:00 a.m. and arrived in Portsmouth, New Hampshire an hour and a half later. We picked up the rental car and headed to Portland. Being so well prepared once we got to Portland we hunted down the visitor information center. We acquired some maps and the location of the hotels. While we were on the waterfront we took a walk out on some of the piers. There were many restaurants and plenty of shopping opportunities. After we checked in at the convention hotel and then our hotel we headed for Wiscasset.

As we arrived at the Wiscasset, Waterville & Farmington we were greeted with the smell of steam and cinders. This was my first time to Wiscasset and I was very impressed. This is a neat little railroad and is definitely worth the stop if you ever get to Maine. First off the staff was very pleasant and knowledgeable. The trains were well maintained and clean. The line is built on the same roadbed as the original. In fact when you look to the right of the station you can see the grade where the rails continued on to the other side of the road.

