



Volume 1, Number 4

Week of September 3, 2023

Newsletter of the CEN-TEX Division 4, Lone Star Region, NMRA

Superintendent's Report

Greetings Division Four members,

I can not believe that the summer is almost over, and we are headed into fall. Of course, the temperature is still feeling like the dog days of summer and will most likely stay that way for a while. It was great seeing all the D4 members at the National Convention in Grapevine TX. In every clinic that I attended, I picked up some new ideas or information that I can use going forward. I think the thing that I enjoy the most is shooting the breeze with people I have not seen in a while and catching up on what they have been doing. I want everyone that attended to think of one item that left a lasting impression on them. Let's talk about it during the show and tell portion of the meeting. If you have pictures from the convention please put them on a thumb drive or email me them so we can have a screening.

The next meeting will be on Saturday September 9th at 10:00. The address is 2913 Northland dr. 78757. During this gathering we will have a short demonstration on hand laid track, the objective is to show that it is not as daunting as might seem to be. It is part of the civil engineering portion of the achievement program. There will be a clinic on the basics of soldering wiring and rail. We will then put that knowledge to practical use as any member can practice soldering on the Goldwaite and CenTex railroad layout. There is plenty of work to do so anyone can give it a try. Bring your projects to the meeting for show and tell. Our membership does some great work, and we can learn a lot from them.

Since we have a Keurig coffee maker at the meeting, if you prefer your own brand, you can bring it and enjoy.

Looking forward to seeing you on September 9th at 10:00.

Sincerely yours,
Bob

Final Markers

John Richard Sowash ('Dick')

Sept. 30, 1933-July 18, 2023.

Once again, a member has marked up for the last time. Dick Sowash who did great dioramas work passed away in late July. Dick was a great friend and teacher who loved to train watch and drive the back roads. While driving down some country road he would just stop the van and tell me to look at a tree and ask "what do you see. His eye for detail was incredible and he could make a scene come alive. He was a true friend and will be sorely missed. -Bob



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NMRA National Convention “The Texas Express” a huge success!

“The Texas Express” pulled into Gaylord Station in Grapevine Texas on Sunday, August 20th. When it departed on Saturday, August 26th, it left a very satisfied group of passengers at the station. From prototype tours, to operating on layouts, to layout tours, to clinics, to the Linus Project, to the Celebration of Models, to SIGs, to getting scanned so you can populate your own layout, to the Banquet, to the National Train Show, there was something for everyone!

Your editor attended from Wednesday to Friday with a break Friday morning for a Zoom court testimony. It was great seeing all the Division 4 members and a few spouses at the convention.

The clinics were excellent and I learned about LCC and signaling, Judas goats, The James E. Strates Carnival train, and a lot about making scenes on your layout. Riley, Jerry, and Joel gave clinics.

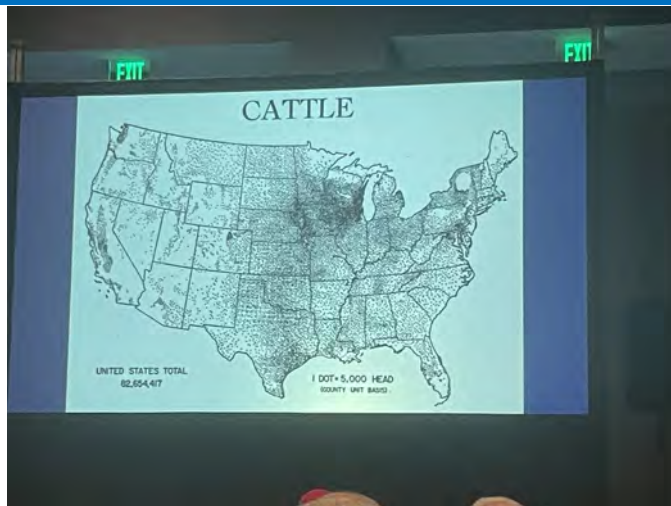
I expected to see more models in the model room though. After going to the International Plastic Modelers Society National Convention in San Marcos at the beginning of August where there were over 3000 models on the tables, the tables at the Texas Express were empty. I did notice one of Steve Jakobs’s kitbashed motive power units on the table. Kato had a N scale mini-diorama contest going. It was great to see what some of the modelers were doing. The National Train Show was impressive with many manufacturers showcasing their new products. I picked up a working PRR dwarf position light.



The Gaylord Atrium with Full scale Alamo! LGB in the atrium.



LGB in the Atrium

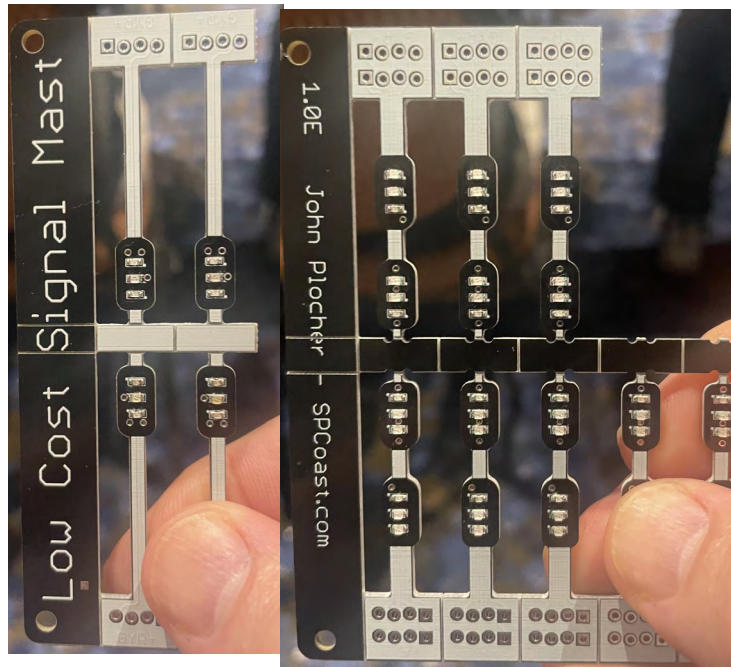


A clinic on stock traffic on the Santa Fe.



A Judas Goat ↑

Low Cost Signals, if you don't care what they look like or need some stand ins before you spend big bucks on the real ones! →



A Z scale scratchbuilt operating Ingersoll Rand Diesel!!



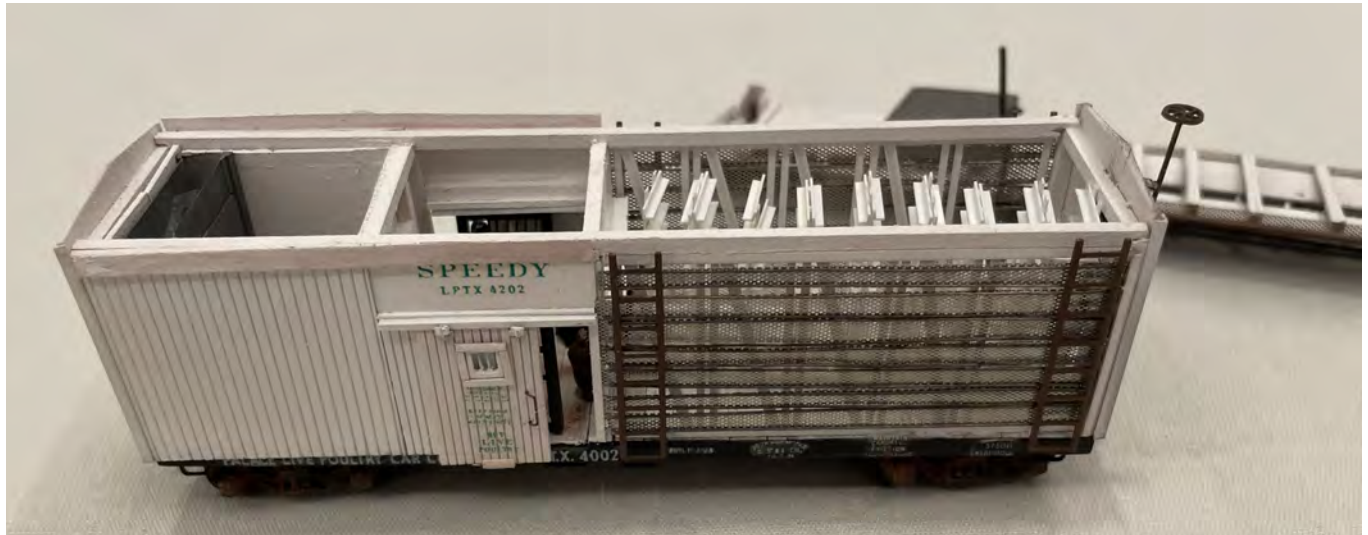
Steve Jakobs's kitbashed EMD Switcher ↑



One of the "Texas Model Contest" entries →



A nicely done upgrade to a Tyco/Mantua Pacific.



A scratchbuilt Poultry car

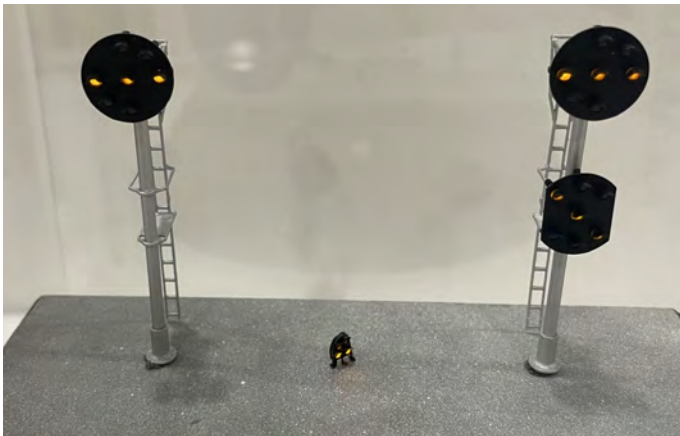
NATIONAL TRAIN SHOW HIGHLIGHTS



Comanche and Indian Gap F-units and Passenger Car



Walthers's New Buildings Display



East Coast Circuits PRR Position Lights



LEGO Trains!





A modular club from Michigan brought a complete and nicely detailed layout!



Kato's build your own N-scale Modular Layout contest entries. The brown Sequoia in the center was built from items pulled from the trash bin. Maybe something the Division could try?

TIMETABLE

DIVISION MEETING

Saturday, September 9, 2023 10:00AM
 Centex Division Meeting
 Austin Parks and Recreation Northwest Rec Center
 2913 Northland Drive, Austin
ZOOM Info to Follow

Program:
 Soldering Clinic
 Track Laying Clinic
 Goldweight and Central Layout update
 Show and Tell
 Deals or Duds
 Lunch
 Layout Tour Brian Helms's Dallas and Western

TRAIN SHOW

Saturday, September 16-17, 2023 10:00AM
 Temple Model Train Show
 Frank Mayborn Center
 3303 N 3rd Street, Temple

TRAIN SHOW

Saturday, October 21, 2023 10 am – 5 pm
 Sunday, October 22, 2023 10 am – 4 pm
 The New Braunfels Railroad Museum Train Show
 New Braunfels Civic Center
 375 South Castell Avenue
 New Braunfels, Texas 78130

DIVISION MEETING

Saturday, November 11, 2023 10:00AM
 THANK YOU , Veterans, for your service!
 Centex Division Meeting
 Austin Parks and Recreation Northwest Rec Center
 2913 Northland Drive, Austin

Program:
 Clinic
 Goldweight and Central Layout update
 Show and Tell
 Deals or Duds
 Lunch
 Layout Tour (need a Volunteer)

ADVANCED PLANNING
 Division Meeting Saturday January 13, 2024

Nametags



We will take orders at the September Division Meeting.
 Cash or check please.
 An order form is at the end of the newsletter.

Logo Pin Back: \$8.00
 Logo Magnetic Back: \$10.00
 Badge Frame: \$3.00

Model Railroading Historical Artifact

So no actual artifact this time just an abstract of the clinic given by John Lowrance, MMR at the convention.

Vintage Metal Freight Cars, Our Gift From the Past!

Vintage metal freight cars manufactured in the 1950s offer authentic paint schemes, unique and plentiful car numbers, details that rival expensive ready to run cars, and weight to fight derailments. Vintage metal HO scale freight cars are a gift from the past. This clinic will look at a quick History 101, the pros and cons of metal cars, buying and upgrading tips, and examples of some of the presenter's favorites to look for.

Call for articles

The goal for the Eagle is to be published approximately the week before our bi-monthly meetings with the hope of lightening some of Bob's work. In order to do that we need your help. If you have a favorite tip, something from the good old days of Model Railroading, went to a hobby shop out of town that was awesome or just want to show some picture of your layout, please contact me at the email address in the Masthead.

THE MASTHEAD

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Cen-Tex Nametag Order form

Hand in at the Division meeting. Cash or check please.

Your choice of size:		1x3	1 ½ x 3 ½	Number	Total Price
Logo Pin Back:	\$8.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	\$_____
Logo Magnetic Back:	\$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	\$_____
Badge Frame:	\$3.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	\$_____

Your name for the badge: (Print clearly)

Phone or email: _____