



Volume 1, Number 7

Week of November 12, 2023

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

Happy



Superintendent's Report

Greetings Division Four members,

Here is a follow-up on the latest meeting and some of the information that was put out:

- * The meeting's video is being broken into segments so that you can view the information you want. You should find the segments on the Division website shortly,
- * What Chuck Marlin and I tried to show you was that hand laid/hand made track and switches, although a challenge is obtainable. With the proper tools and jigs any modeler can get satisfactory results right from the start. Hand laid track is not hard but takes a patients until you find your rhythm.
- * The Fast track system helps guide you through the process of building a switch. After building a few you can start being creative and make other types of switches. Between the Division and I, we have all the necessary jigs to make a switch. This will be available to any member who wishes to take on the experience.
- * I am including the Fast Track YouTube video link which will take you through every part of the build. (youtube.com/user/fasttracktools).
- * Thanks to Bill Middlemass, there is a list of other track laying tools on page 12.
- * In the January meeting we will start finishing the shelf layout. First off is to make the buildings that will populate the layout. The list can be found on page 12.

Let me know which one you would like to build, and I will supply the footprint and any drawings or plans that I have. Any material that you need will be supplied by the Division.

Have a good holiday season.

Sincerely yours,
Bob

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November Meeting is in the Books!

Twenty members on site and six Zoomers gathered at the NW Rec Center for the 2023 edition of the November meeting. The meeting started with a clinic by Bob and Chuck on how to lay track by hand. Bob gave a demonstration of the basics of laying straight track on bass-wood ties. Both Chuck and Bob explained the secret and mysterious world of building turn-outs. Demonstrations were given in filing points, filing and soldering frogs, and using both homemade and manufactured jigs to build turnouts.



Bob and Chuck demonstrate Fast-Track jigs before the soldering stand melted.

Show and tell



Wayne displayed some nicely detailed home-made trees that will soon end up on his layout set in Pennsylvania in the fall.

Show and tell continued....



Paul brought in some resin freight car kits. He will be giving a clinic at the January meeting on building resin freight cars. He also talked about reinforcing structures to ensure that they don't get damaged by little hands (or big hands) or inadvertent trips to the floor.



Tim has been finishing up building models that his Dad bought 50 years ago. He brought in two Campbell kits. One was a freight station where he used paper printed with corrugated roofing for the roof. The second one, Ayres Chairs Factory, was complete with a detailed interior and lights and Campbell Models metal corrugated roofing.



Nice job on the weathering! The chair just inside the loading dock is also a nice touch.



Layout Tour

Wayne Jones's Commonwealth of Pennsylvania based layout



Wayne's layout is set in Pennsylvania in Autumn during the steam to diesel transition. It is full of buildings with detailed interior and exteriors, most with lighting. This is the view when you first enter the layout room.



The beautiful fall foliage will be bringing out the leaf peepers this weekend!

Two old codgers are enjoying a spirited game of checkers on the Mercantile's porch.





The fall harvest is available at the Fensters Farm Fresh Produce stand.

It's a busy day at the Texaco Station.





Two guys on their way to the Texaco Station passing Uncle Tony's Meat Market.

A young couple gets one last cruise on the river before the snow arrives.





Hamburgers, Fries, and Shakes at the diner.



John Armstrong's Nighthawks has a prominent corner in the city.



WHERE THE EAGLE MEETS THE CHIEF
THE 2024 NMRA LONE STAR REGION CONVENTION
HOUSTON/PASADENA, TEXAS

LSR Convention

February 15 -17, 2024

Web Site For Registration & Hotel Live

<http://www.turbotrains.com/2024lonestar/>

The Lone Star Region 2024 Convention will be held at the Pasadena Convention Center. It will be held in conjunction with the San Jacinto Model Railroad Club train show on Saturday February 17. All convention attendees will get FREE admission to the train show and by showing your convention badge you will be able to get in 1 hour before the general public.

We will have all of the normal convention activities, Contest Room, Operations, Layout Tours and plenty of activities for the spouses.

The registration will be \$80.00 for the primary registration and \$50.00 for spouse and children. All registrations include a BBQ Dinner on Saturday night and admission to the train show. Please go to the website www.turbotrains.com/2024lonestar

We have secured a special rate at the LaQuinta on Sam Houston Parkway at a guaranteed rate of \$87.00 per night for a King Room or Double Queen room. To get the special rate you need to email Michelle at lq53239tx@gmail.com giving her your phone number and that it is for the **LSR Convention**. Michelle will call you back to book the room. If folks reserve through Michelle the rate could drop to \$75.00 per night if over 15 rooms are booked so please book early.

Goldweight and Cen-Tex Layout Update

We are looking for a herald for the Goldweight and Cen-Tex. Send your ideas to Bob. We also need volunteers to build the structures for the layout. Some of the structures will be kit-built, others kit-bashed and the rest scratch-built. If you are looking to complete your Master Model Railroader Master Builder Structures, this would be a good place to complete some of the requirements. Here is a list of buildings that need to be built. Review the list and select one you would like to try. No experience required; this is a learning process. Contact Bob to reserve your choice.

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Passenger and freight station, have pictures and plans. | Stock yard |
| Small grain house | Cotton warehouse have pictures. |
| Several backdrop store buildings - have pictures | Goldthwaite oil mill – Cliff claimed. |
| Cotton seed gin have pictures. | Magnolia petroleum co. |
| Turntable – Tim claimed. | |

Austin Model Railway Society Update

AMRS is looking for 4 Caboose Industries 202S ground throws by Saturday November 18th. Their order hasn't arrived yet, and they will gladly replace the ones donated once their order arrives. If you have them and are willing to donate them, see Bob.

Division Elections

If anyone would like to run for Division Superintendent, see Bob.

Suppliers and Resources

Roof Walks: <http://www.planomodelproducts.com>

<https://www.yarmouthmodelworks.com>

Scale Rivets and Other Hardware: <https://www.modelmotorcars.com>

The following are available from Micro-Mark:

#91005 Micro engineering 3 pt. track gauge 83, x2 16.95

#90841 Ho model train track engineering kit, 4 pc 19.95.

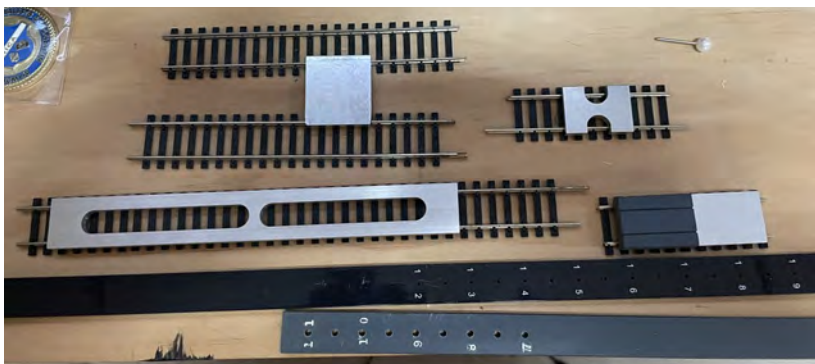
#84114 Ho model train track engineering kit, 7 pc 34.95

#82840 Micro Mark spike insertion pliers, 24.50

#17111 Micro Mark Tix soldering flux, 2 x 1oz. bottles, 12.95, last forever.

Wire Connectors capable of track isolation for chasing shorts:

<https://www.Posi-products.com/posiplug>, for our use #ex-255 works.



Clockwise from upper left: Parallel Track Tool, Soldering tool, Cutting tools (old-grey, new silver) Radius tools, Straight track tool. Missing Ballast tool. The new ones are aluminum the old were plastic.

TIMETABLE

DIVISION MEETING

Saturday January 13, 2024 10:00AM
 Centex Division Meeting
 Austin Parks and Recreation Northwest
 Rec Center
 2913 Northland Drive, Austin

Program:

Clinic; Building Resin Freight cars
 Goldweight and Central Layout update
 Show and Tell
 Deals or Duds
 Lunch
 Layout Tour (need a Volunteer)

TRAIN SHOW

Saturday-Sunday, January 20th - 21st, 2024,
 Plano, TX

Plano Center. Hours 10am-5pm Saturday,
 10am-4pm Sunday. 2000 East Spring Creek

Advanced Planning

February 15-17 2024, Lone Star Region
 Convention

Saturday February 17th 2024
 Greater Houston Train Show

Saturday March 9, 2024 10:00AM
 Centex Division Meeting
 Austin Parks and Recreation Northwest
 Rec Center
 2913 Northland Drive, Austin

Saturday-Sunday, April 20-21 2024
 New Braunfels Train Show April 2024

Saturday May 11, 2024 10:00AM
 Centex Division Meeting
 Austin Parks and Recreation Northwest
 Rec Center
 2913 Northland Drive, Austin

Saturday-Sunday, Aug 24-25 2024
 Austin Train Show

Nametags



We will take orders at the January 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

Call for articles

The goal for the Eagle is to be published approximately the week before our bi-monthly meetings (with a follow-up edition shortly after) 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

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: _____