



## Superintendent's Report

Greetings Division Four members,

It was an enjoyable time at the meeting with members having the opportunity to work on the shelf layout. Joel Davidson did a great job giving a clinic on basic soldering techniques and the tools needed to do the job. You will be able to get the information that Joel presented soon on the division website. We put that knowledge to use when we did some soldering on the layout track. I am including the name of the company and product for the circuit board ties. The product is called Gapmaster and the company is American Tie and Timber. The email address is [americantieandtimber.com](http://americantieandtimber.com). The cork sheets that were used was purchased from Hobby Lobby in the picture frame section. Basically it is cork for peg boards and comes in 1/16 or 1/8 thickness.

I want to thank the modelers who brought in their projects to present at show and tell. Steve Blackwell, MMR, showed and discussed some of the projects that helped him complete his Master Modeler achievement certificate. Jerry Wilson came with examples of hand laid track and switches. The switches were made using the "Fast Track system which will be demonstrated at the November meeting. Wayne Jones has been working on updating the scenery on his home layout. He has been building trees which are more realistic and lifelike. He will be bringing in the finished product at the next meeting. Tim Giraud showed us an inexpensive way to make trees.

Cliff Scherer has been working diligently on improving the Division website. One of the main improvements is the tab titled Topics. This will cover a variety of subjects from clinics to layouts, events/announcements, newsletter to any project that we have going on. I hope to have the site filled out by the end of the year. The address is: [www.centexnmra.org](http://www.centexnmra.org)

The next meeting will be on Saturday November 11 at 1000 am. Hope to see you there.

Sincerely yours,

Bob

## Another Successful Meeting!

Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, saw twenty-six plus Cen-Tex members descend on the Northwest Rec Center for the bimonthly meeting. After Superintendent Bob Theile opened the meeting, Joel Davidson gave a clinic on soldering. He concentrated on soldering wires to decoders and track.

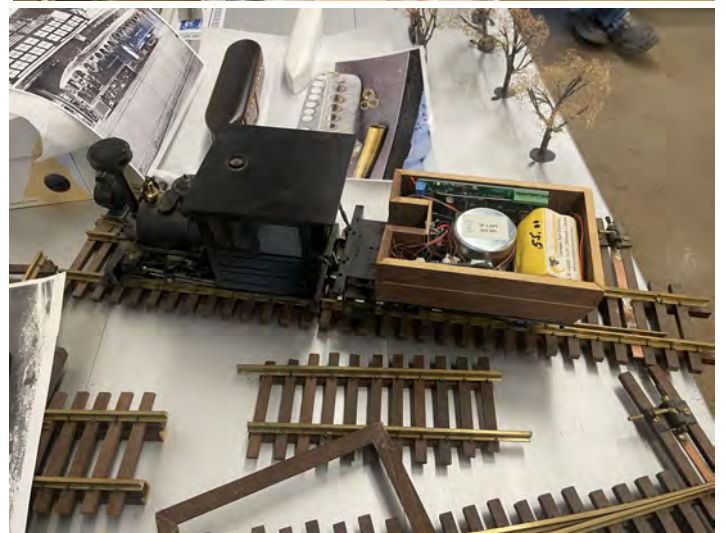
### Inside This Issue

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT	1
MEETING WRAP-UP	1
BRIAN HELM'S LAYOUT TOUR	5
AMRS MEETING	7
ROAD TRIP	7
MEETING NOTES	8
TIM'S TREES	8
Soldering Supplies	9
Timetable	9
Nametags	10
The Masthead	10
Nametag order form	

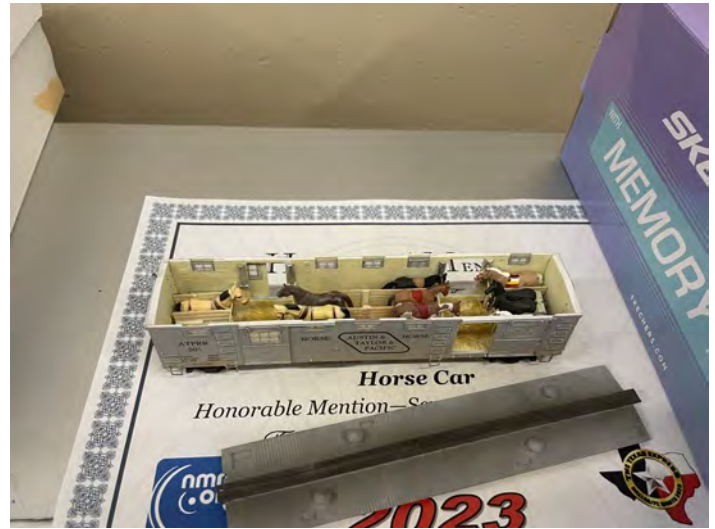
After that Bob Theile demonstrated some track laying and soldering on the Goldweight and Cen-tex Layout and then let the rest of the members try their skills.



Steve Blackson MMR showed some scratch bill G gauge switches, a crossover and crossing. He also brought a G scale Porter locomotive with work car that contains all DCC the electronics.







Steve Jacobs brought a Canadian National horse car that he scratch built and renamed for his layout the Austin & Taylor & Pacific. Steve also picked up five Merit awards at the National Contest. 1 for Motive Power for his EMD repowered switcher SW10. 4 for Cars – 1 horse car, 2 cabooses, and a 40-foot mechanical reefer.



Wayne Jones brought in some of the trees he is building for his layout.

**Next Meeting:**  
**November 11th 2023 at 10 AM!**

Jerry brought in a McKeen car kit that he bought on eBay and then scratch built a Sn3 version for his layout using the kit as a template.



Tim showed a new and inexpensive way to make trees.





# Meeting Layout Tour Brian Helm's Dallas and Western Railroad (Reading)





## Brian Helm's Dallas and Western Railroad (Reading)



There really is a Dallas Pa. It was first settled in 1797. It was later incorporated as a borough on April 21, 1879, from land entirely within Dallas Township. The township had been formed in 1817 and was named for Alexander J. Dallas, who was the 6th United States Secretary of the Treasury and the father of George M. Dallas, the vice president of James Polk.

SO that makes it older than Dallas TX:

Three years after Texas achieved independence, John Neely Bryan surveyed the area around present-day Dallas. In 1839, accompanied by his dog and a Cherokee he called Ned, he planted a stake in the ground on a bluff located near three forks of the Trinity River and left. Two years later, in 1841, he returned to establish a permanent settlement named Dallas. The origin of the name is uncertain. The official historical marker states it was named after Vice President George M. Dallas of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. However, this is disputed. Other potential theories for the origin include his brother, Commodore Alexander James Dallas, as well as brothers Walter R. Dallas and James R. Dallas. A further theory gives the ultimate origin as the village of Dallas, Moray, Scotland, similar to the way Houston, Texas, was named after Sam Houston, whose ancestors came from the Scottish village of Houston, Renfrewshire.

## AMRS Doings

### Meeting by Steve Jackobs

The AMRS meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 23, from 9am to 3pm at Hope Presbyterian Church, 11512 Olson Dr, Austin, TX 78750 – just off Anderson Mill Road a few miles west of US 183. We set up from 9 to 10, fun run in the morning til lunch. After a brief business meeting, we set up an operating session on the inner track serving downtown Austin and continue fun run on the outer track. We start tear-down at 3 and leave by 4 pm.

Have folks doublecheck our website to confirm the meeting and sign up for our email notices. Sometimes the church needs the hall at the last minute and we have to reschedule. <https://austinrailway.org/>

### ROAD TRIP! By George Zapalac

On Saturday, October 14, the Austin Model Railway Society will visit the 4,000 square foot San Antonio & Northern Railroad layout of the San Antonio Model Railroad Association. Please join us! They are hosting a visit and operating session from 10 am to 3 pm. We appreciate them providing a tangible experience of what the AMRS could build in Austin some day.

The address is 7702 Narrow Pass, Live Oak, 78233, a northeast suburb of San Antonio. We will carpool and arrive no later than 10 am. After the briefing, we will operate/observe until shortly before noon. We will break for a pizza lunch -- and, for some of us, experience the solar eclipse peaking in San Antonio between 11:52 and 11:56 (but not visible in Austin!). We resume ops around 1:00 and leave no later than 3:00. You can check out a 28 minute video on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tc4gHy89-uE&t=1498s>. Their website: <https://samratx.org/>

In addition to operating SAMRA locomotives, you are welcome to bring a locomotive of your own (so long as it is DCC and with an address other than 3).

Please let us know if you will join us by emailing [georgezapalac@gmail.com](mailto:georgezapalac@gmail.com) by October 11. We will give them a count on Thursday, October 12. You can email with questions.





## Meeting Notes

Some products mentioned at the meeting, and where to find them.

Cork road bed material is available from Hobby Lobby in the bulletin board section. Self-Adhesive Cork Roll - 12"

[Self-Adhesive Cork Roll - 12" | Hobby Lobby | 569434](#)

- Length: 48"
  - Width: 12"
- Thickness: 1/25"

Home Depot or Amazon  
Con-Tact Brand Cork Roll,  
Cork Roll, Multi-Purpose  
18" x 4', Brown, Pack of 1



Self-Adhesive  
Cork Shelf Liner,

Fine lumber has a thicker cork used as underlayment that is 4 feet in one dimension and available per foot in the other dimension.

The PC board ties are available from American tie and Timber. [Home - American Tie and Timber -- makers of The Gapmaster](#)



## Tim five step process for building trees using Nandina bush



1. After the berries get eaten by the birds, cut off the stalks.
2. Soak them in a solution of matt medium and water to preserve them. Paint either Gray or Rustoleum camouflage earth brown
3. Using a static grass applicator flock with two millimeter static grass. Spray the armature with Elmer's spray adhesive and then flock. You can use either a light or a heavy application of the two millimeter static grass.
4. Reapply Elmer's spray adhesive and then use conifer green, lime leaves, or Birch leaves to fill out the tree. You can also use NOCH Fir needles.



Joel's list of suppliers and resources for soldering.

### Suppliers and Resources

Digikey	digkey.com
Mouser	mouser.com
Newark	newark.com
Marlin P Jones	mpja.com
Electronics Goldmine	theelectronicsgoldmine.com
Home Depot	
Harbor Freight	
Amazon	
Ebay	
Aliexpress	aliexpress.com
Banggood	banggood.com
DCC Specialties has a nice adjustable wire stripper for decoder wires	

2023 Texas Express

# TIMETABLE

## TRAIN SHOW

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

## 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

## 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

### Program:

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

## TRAIN SHOW

Saturday, September 30, 2023, 10:00AM-5PM  
 Sunday, October 1, 2023, 10:00AM-4PM  
 Annual Fall Plano Train Show  
 Plano Center  
 2000 E. Spring Crekk Pkwy, Plano, TX

### ADVANCED PLANNING

Division Meeting, Saturday, January 13, 2024  
 Dallas Area Train Show, January 20-21, 2024  
 Amherst Railway Society Railroad Hobby Show,  
 “The Springfield Show” January 27-28, 2024

# Nametags



We will take orders at the 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 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

Superintendent:

Bob Thiele

[director@centexnmra.org](mailto:director@centexnmra.org)

Editor, Publisher, Reporter, Photographer and Copy Boy:

Russ T. Rale

[RussTRale@gmail.com](mailto:RussTRale@gmail.com)



# Cen-Tex Nametag Order form

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

Your choice of size:		<b>1x3</b>	<b>1 ½ x 3 ½</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Total Price</b>
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:** \_\_\_\_\_