



NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION SPECIAL EDITION, Number 1 August 5, 2024

Newsletter of the CEN-TEX Division 4, Lone Star Region, NMRA
www.centexnmra.org

Greetings from Long Beach California!

Your editor arrived in Long Beach CA on Monday around 12 noon, coming down from the mountain at Big Bear Lake. The temperature was certainly a lot hotter then at 7000 feet. After quickly checking in, I headed towards the elevator to get to my room and proceed to the convention. Before I got to the elevator I ran into Jack and Carol Merkel! The first clinic I went to was Seth Neumann’s Model Railroad Communications (Phones for Ops). I learned a lot about setting up a telephone system which will be used for the model railroad I am building. After that I went to operations on the Pennsy Southern by master model railroader Bob Weinheimer. Well, I went to this clinic with the hopes that I would see something Pennsylvania railroad related content, but Bob set the Pennsy Southern in 1980. He does use 2 ex-PRR branches for his model railroad mainline. However I did learn a lot about setting up operations on a model railroad. After that I went to DR. Dana Zimmerli’s “Clocks, Lighting and LCC”. Now, I’ve been a scientist for 44 years and have a pretty good technical background when it comes to instrumentation however this LCC stuff seems to turn my brain to mush.

After dinner, I went to Buildings and Boxcars a clinic about America’s industrial growth and how the railroads that helped move it along. Greg Johnson took a lot of awesome photos of old brick factories mainly used in the making of cast valves. After that (9:30 at night!!) I went to a clinic on the Carrie Blast Furnace in Homestead PA. Bob Frankone took the tour of the National Historic site and took us along

for the ride. After that it was off to bed because Tuesday was starting at 8AM!



Smiling faces at registration!!

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Southern California in N-scale

Pennsy Southern Ops.

Train Descriptions

- **Through Trains – Road Locals**
 - ◆ 5 in each direction
 - ◆ Run from staging to staging
 - ◆ Drop blocks of cars for processing at Pittsburgh and Washington yards
 - ◆ Pick up cars for their destinations at Pittsburgh and Washington
 - ◆ May shuttle cars blocks of cars between Pittsburgh and Washington
 - ◆ Do no other switching en route

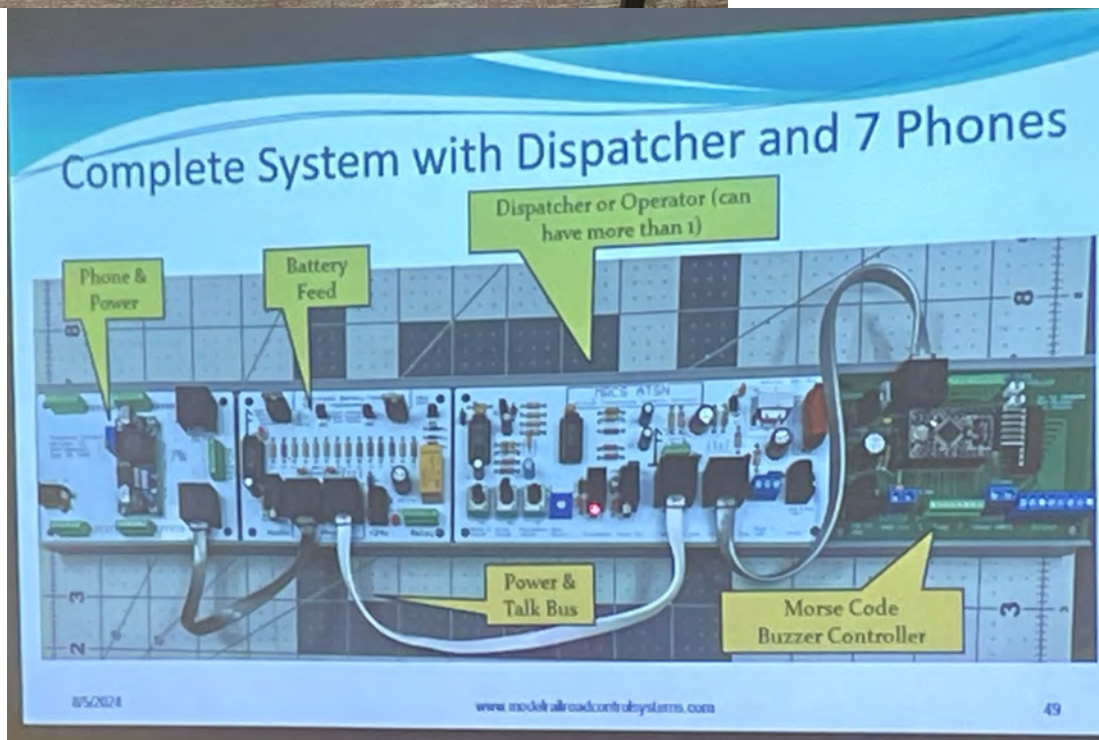
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Modeling with the Masters session

Phones for OPS



TIMETABLE

NMRA “Surfliner” National Convention

August 4-11, 2024
Long Beach, California



Russ T. Rale will be there! I know Jack will be there! If you are going let Russ know!

Saturday, August 17, 2024 9am to 4pm
AMRS Meeting

New Location!

St. Matthews Episcopal Church
Steck Ave.
Austin, TX

Train Show prep meeting!

Train Show

Saturday-Sunday, Aug 24-25, 2024
AMRS Train Show
Palmer Events Center, Austin

ADVANCED PLANNING

Saturday September 14, 2024
Centex Division Meeting 10 AM
Austin Parks and Recreation
Northwest Rec Center
2913 Northland Drive, Austin

Program:

Opening discussion
Clinic(s) Need a Volunteer(s)
Goldweight and Central Shelf Layout update
Show and Tell
Deals or Duds
Lunch
Layout Tour: How about yours?

Saturday-Sunday September 21-22, 2024
42nd Annual Temple Train Show and
2nd Annual RPM Meet

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

Ongoing Events

Austin Steam Train
[Make Reservations - Austin Steam Train Association](#)

Temple Railroad and Heritage Museum
Tuesday—Saturday 10Am to 4Pm

2025-NMRA 90th Anniversary!

So guys, what are we going to do for the NMRA's 90th anniversary??!!!!

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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 Masthead.

Thanks.

Russ T. Rale

THE MASTHEAD

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