



Volume 2, Number 6

Week of Nov. 3, 2024

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

Happy



What are you doing to promote our great hobby?

Bob sent this out as an email to the membership on October 23rd. In case you missed it I have reprinted it here. ~ed

An Open Letter to the Division 4 Membership

Div 4 members

Over the last couple of weeks, I have been talking to members about the replacement of the director. I can speak with confidence that the position of director does not take a rocket science degree. The amount of time involved in this position is not great and the personal reward is fulling. Let's break down the position into its components.

- Conduct Division meetings 6 times a year.
- Schedule a meeting place
- Attend by Zoom or in person two LSR board meetings yearly
- Plan the division meeting clinics and layout tour and snacks
- Supervise the finances and communication to the membership
- Receive current roster info from LSR and update Division roster
- Ensure website is maintained
- Set goals and direction for the Division

There has been a great reluctance to tackle this job and I can understand the reasons. That is why I am proposing that the division have a Director and one or two assistant Directors. The two or three people can work together and divide the tasks into manageable assignments. The division already has an excellent treasure and information coordinator. The time involved performing the duties would kept to a minimum.

Members need to step forward to ensure that the division functions properly

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and can reach out to the public. I would like to have several members contact me so that we can come up with a plan. The election for a new director would be in March of 2026. I think you will find that the job is not so difficult or time-consuming and that you will enjoy the journey. Please think about it.

Sincerely yours,
Bob



Superintendent's Report

Greeting Division Four Members,

October is gone and the Holiday season is almost upon us. Our next Division meeting will be Saturday, November 9th at 10 am. As always we will gather at the Ausin NW. Rec Center at 2913 Northland Dr. 78757. I am still looking for someone to sponsor the layout tour and a couple of members to give short 20-minute clinics. I will wrap up the Goldweight and CenTex railway shelf layout. I am putting together a short PPT explaining how the layout followed the "Dream, Plan and Build" axiom. This will be an example of the presentations I talked about to encourage people to try their hand at building their own.

I will send out the Zoom info for the meeting on Thursday night.

See you on the 9th of November.

Take care,
Bob Thiele

TulsaRail Operations Weekend

Tulsa, OK is well known for its operations-oriented model railroads. For over a decade we have hosted Tulsa Layout Design and Operations Weekend (LDOP) each spring. Since 2020, LDOP has become a biennial event, occurring in even numbered years. Beginning in the spring of 2025, we will begin hosting an operation only event called TulsaRail, which will occur biennially in odd numbered years (alternating with LDOP in even numbered years.) We would like to invite you to the inaugural session entitled TulsaRail 2025 to be held this coming spring on Friday through Sunday, March 21st - 23rd 2025.

Information for this event is now available online at www.tulsarail.org. On this site you can find information on the layouts, session times, social gathering and dinner, open houses, hotel information and registration procedures.

There are a limited number of slots available, and they will be filled on a first come first serve basis. Please share this invitation with your friends and acquaintances.

Please note that registration is not through the website. Follow the instruction below to register.

TulsaRails con't

To Register, send an email to tulsa.rail.2025@gmail.com containing the following information.

Send a separate email for each registrant.

First and last name (name you want on your name tag)

Home address (including city and state)

Email address for registration confirmation

Phone number for ride-share contact

A ranked list of your top eight layout choices

Answer YES or NO on whether you will attend the Saturday evening social and dinner AND, if so, will you have a plus 1?

Will you be here for the Friday evening session starting at 7:00 PM?

Will you be here for the entire Sunday morning session ending at Noon?

Do you want to be grouped with specific others as an operating team? If so, who are the others on the team?



By Sean Martin

I have a model railroad YouTube channel. I do have layout tours of two local model railroads:

Steve Nelson's MKT Lines located in Cedar Creek: <https://youtu.be/FDaHeivottg?si=gIV5ORXNhjU-Yt82>

Three of Bob Gretch's Western Pacific themed layout. Bob lives in George Town. Plus, Bob has been

featured in Model Railroader and Great Model Railroads, 2021:

<https://youtu.be/KQRGQ-0nlzg?si=pOmsKK65d0XqMjX7>

<https://youtu.be/9Pd7tRpp28g?si=DBTYLsUQa3UZReM4>

<https://youtu.be/2Rf7E7DUy60?si=XC16wIXcXITwzeab>

I also found a video of Brian Helm's Dallas and Western: ~ed

[Brian Helms' Dallas & Western](#)

Start Planning Now!



The 90th NMRA National Model Railroad Convention,

STATION No. VI

July 14-19, 2025 – Novi, Michigan

hosted by the North Central Region of the NMRA

Final Markers

While not a member of our division, Brady was a member of the LSR and well known O scaler. Brady was born in Sankertown, PA, a stone's throw from Cresson PA. His dad worked at the PRR engine facility there. At some point in high school, he started using a notebook to write down, while train watching, the direction, date and time, engine numbers, type of consist and number of cars. He continued that until this day. His O-scale PRR Laurel Valley Secondary hosted over 750 operating sessions and Brady made arrangements for the sessions to continue as long as the operating group existed. Brady was a good friend of mine and his knowledge of the area I am modeling was invaluable.

Brady John McGuire

Born May 29, 1945, in Sankertown, PA.

Passed away September 12, 2024, Denison, TX

Son of the late Earl Edward and Marie Antoinette (Lynch) McGuire, he is preceded in death by his wife, Beverly Jane (Tucker) McGuire, by brothers, John Terry of York, PA and Lynn James of Dover, PA and sister, Brenda Marie M. Wallace, Beaver Falls, PA.

Survived by brothers Eric Charles and wife, Marcia, York, PA; Curtis William and wife, Maxine, Ormond Beach, FL; Kelsey Paul and wife, Debbie, Red Lion, PA. Sisters Mary Joe Vukmanic and husband, Frank, Red Lion, PA; Gaile Ann Eckenrode and husband, Brady, Portage, PA; and Janice Louise McGuire of Timonium, MD. Also survived by brothers-in-law Jonathan Wallace, Beaver Falls, PA; Hugh Tucker, Monroe, LA; and 21 nieces and nephews and numerous great and great, great nieces and nephews.

Brady was an avid rail fan and model railroader. His love of railroads (and the Pennsylvania Railroad (PRR) in particular) started in his boyhood while the family lived in Cresson PA, a town on the western slope of the Alleghany mountains. Cresson was a busy railroad and mining town on the PRR mainline, with multiple railroad branch lines serving the many local coal mines. Graduating from high school, he pursued and achieved his degree in mechanical engineering from Penn State. He worked as a Process Engineer at Proctor & Gamble for 27 years, developing the novel production line process for Pringles potato chips. Later he worked for Kwikset, retiring in 2000 to spend time with Jane and his hobby of model railroading and traveling to various train meets and conventions, where he became very well known for his modeling skills and generous spirit. Brady was the dispatcher of the "Laurel Valley Secondary", a large O-scale model railroad. Brady's layout, which represented of an actual region of the PRR Railroad, was located in the "Depot", an outbuilding in his backyard. For many years, Brady hosted regular operating sessions there with his fellow model railroaders. Brady was active in several railroad-related organizations including the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical and Historical Society, the National Model Railroad Association, the DFW O-Scalers and the Southwest O Scale Group. He was a published author in "O Scale News" and "O Scale Resource" magazines, writing numerous articles about the hobby.

Brady was cheerful and friendly to all, quick to encourage, slow to anger (mostly) and first with a kind word. He enjoyed good company, a good story, and a hearty laugh. His positive attitude in the face of his health issues provided comfort and optimism to those who knew and cared for him. Those that knew Brady would often tell him that the smartest thing he ever did was to marry Jane, and he was the first to agree. We are all comforted knowing that they are together again, and that the track is clear, and all signals are three vertical. *

Brady in his native habitat. On the front porch of the Station Inn in Cresson Pa. Dress cowboy hat, Dr. Pepper, Train Log and counter.

* PRR position light for Clear Track Ahead.





Save the Dates!

The 2025 Lone Star Region Convention will be held in Southern Louisiana for the first time in thirty years and you won't want to miss it! There will be layouts and other railroading opportunities you've probably never seen, in a region rich with interesting and exciting sights. (And food!)

June 26 - 29, 2025
Holiday Inn Baton Rouge South
9900 Airline Highway
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

Stay tuned to the Marker Lamp and the LSR web site as more details become available and registration opens.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend!

TIMETABLE

Division Meeting

Saturday November 9, 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)
Show and Tell
Deals or Duds
Lunch
Layout Tour: How about yours?

Train Shows

Saturday-Sunday November 16-17, 2024

Houton Area Model Train Show,
Pearland TX

Saturday-Sunday January 18-19, 2025

43rd Annual Plano Train Show

Toy Train Show

Saturday-Sunday January 4, 2025

Gulf Coast Chapter TCA, Seabrook TX

Division Meeting

Saturday January 11, 2025

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

ADVANCED PLANNING

Saturday-Sunday January 25-26, 2025

Amherst Railway Society Railroad
Hobby Show

Division Meeting

Saturday March 8, 2025

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

LSR Region Convention

June 26 - 29, 2025

Holiday Inn Baton Rouge South
9900 Airline Highway
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

NMRA National Convention

July 14-19, 2025

Novi, MI

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????!!

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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