

Short Track *Gazette*



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CHRISTMAS PARTY

Quite a bit has been happening in the Short Track Railroad Section House. We had a well-attended Christmas Party in December. A great potluck was followed by a "White Elephant" Christmas ornament exchange. A good time was had by all.

Short Track Railroad Attends the Great Train Expo

Short Track took our Boy Scout modules to the Great Train Expo at the Del Mar Fairgrounds on Saturday and Sunday December 12 and 13. The GTE is a large model train show that features model layouts, vendors selling trains, and clinics. During that weekend we talked to many current and future model railroaders. We also showed our new video that was edited by Charlie Irey. It shows both our Donner Pass layout and our N Trak modules. The audience really liked the scenery. We invited them to visit the museum and see all it has to offer. In addition to the videos, some of our members gave "How to" clinics for the audience.



Short Track Railroad Elects New Officers

At our January meeting we elected new officers.

Larry Mangum is our new Superintendent

Eric Bradford - Assistant Superintendent

Paul Schmitt – Paymaster

Pete Steinmetz – Crew Clerk

We wish to thank our outgoing superintendent, Dave Cobbe, for his years of service. Dave is still around and now will have more time to talk to visitors.

Golden Spike

In other news, We had a “Golden Spike” ceremony marking the completion of our main line. Both reverse loops were removed and the main line was completed. This has presented us with a new set of operating challenges. Mostly it’s learning how to operate the layout with two main lines. (*See more about the Golden Spike in our last issue of Short Track Gazette,*)

DPE Report

With the main line completed, scenery and buildings are the main focus of our construction crew. Currently we are concentrating on the “back wall”. Once this is complete, we will move to other areas. Our building crew is busy making buildings on our laser cutter. There has been quite learning curve, but we are now able to create accurate museum quality buildings. Currently we are concentrating on the accurately reproducing the downtown area of Colfax, CA. We work from photographs, creating a scale drawing, and then enter it into a CAD program. Once in CAD, it can be used by the laser to create an exact replica of the original photograph.

Operating Sessions

We have just started monthly prototype operating sessions. Train crews have timetables and switch lists. Two person crews make up trains. Cars are picked up and set out at various industries along the route. We operate local and through freights. We will operate both our N Trak and Donner Pass layouts. Operating sessions are the second Thursday of the month at 7:00PM. Visitors are welcome. Come operate with us. No experience necessary. We will pair inexperienced operators with seasoned veterans.

Other News

The National Model Railroad Association – PSR- San Diego Division Winter Meet will be held at our facility on Saturday February 13. We plan to have a swap meet with many vendors, clinics, operations, and lunch. Everyone is welcome. You do not have to be a NMRA member to attend.

We are open to the public every Saturday from 9:00AM – 1:00PM. Visitors are always welcome. Visit our web site at www.shorttrackrr.org



N Scale is fun

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SHORT TRACK RAILROAD

Organized in 1991, The Short Track Railroad is an N scale model railroad club in north San Diego County, California, USA.

We are located in our own Section House on the grounds of the Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum.

We have a nice, large and dedicated building, lots of NTRAK modules, a permanent layout under construction, and a great bunch of fun-loving members.

We welcome beginners, families, visitors and people of all ages. No equipment or experience is required. All skill levels are welcome and there's always something for everyone to do.

For more information about items in this issue check out:

<http://www.shorttrackrr.org/>

<http://www.agsem.com/>

<http://www.ntrak.org/>