

Short Track *Gazette*



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Tractor Show Prep

We are making preparations for the June Tractor Show. At the beginning of the year we set some project deadlines that needed to be completed and operational by the show. We are on track for completion. Those that haven't seen the layout since the Fall show will see quite a few changes. We will be operating many trains on both the permanent layout and the NTrak modules. For the children, we will have games with prizes.

Club Membership

We are up to 37 members. Since the first of the year, we have added 5 new members.

Member Activities

Our members contributed to the Flower Fields again this year, both as tractor drivers and volunteers.

One of the things our club members like to do is teach other member and guests their techniques for building better models. We have started offering educational clinics before our monthly meeting on the first Thursday of the month.

One of our biggest needs is trees. We will need thousands of trees over the next few years. Paul Schmitt has given his tree clinic to members and guests the last two months. After the clinic, members take home the materials and return with completed trees.

NMRA Participation

Eric Bradford gave a speed-matching clinic to the San Diego Division of the National Model Railroad Association during their Spring Meet. His techniques were well received by the attendees. Eric showed members how to make 2 different locomotives run at the same speed. The hills on our Donner Pass layout require that trains be powered by more than one engine. It is essential to have multiple engines running at the same speed when pulling long trains. Eric made an electronic device complete with track that will set engines to run at the same speed. Check out the table with the circle of track and the notebook computer. Members will be happy to explain how the table works.

Eric Bradford presenting a DCC Engine Speed Matching clinic at the NMRA San Diego Division Spring Meet.



Modelers like to see their hard work rewarded. Some of our members are involved in the Achievement Program from the NMRA (National Model Railroad Association). The goal of the achievement program is to reach Master Model Railroader. The attached photos show certificates awarded to 2 of our members, Don Ham and Don Fowler. Paul Schmitt and John Sigurdson are already Master Model Railroaders. Other club members are working on their certificates. More on the Master Model Railroader program in another issue.



Paul Schmidt and Don Ham (left photo)
 Don Fowler and Paul Schmidt (right photo)



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/>