



NMRA 90th Anniversary!

NMRA President Gordy Robinson in his most recent President's Car column in the May NMRA magazine wrote:

As we look ahead to next year and the NMRA's 90th anniversary the celebration will extend far beyond just the 2025 National Convention in Novi MI near Detroit... However the NMRA recognizes that there is always room for more celebration and involvement from the grassroots level. Local divisions and regions are encouraged to brainstorm and plan events and activities to commemorate the significant milestone.

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

Superintendent's Report

Greeting Division Four Members,

Spring is upon us and the next division meeting is approaching quickly. The main topic for this meeting will concentrate on putting down the basic scenery on the shelf layout. We will demonstrate the use of Sculptamold for giving texture and contours to a flat surface. We will discuss ballasting technique and ground cover. If possible, we will have a demonstration on installing static grass. I would like to have the people who volunteered to build structures for the layout to bring them to the meeting. They do not need to be complete; but I do want to do a building placement plan and get an idea for determining the street layout. Each builder can talk about the construction of their building and what challenges they encountered.

During our last meeting we had a good discussion about designing a track plan for Diana Jacobs. After the meeting I put out some further information about the room size and rolling stock. I have not heard from anyone about concepts that could be used for the design. Please activate your brain cells and think about what we could do to restore Dave Jacobs vision. If you need the information on room size, equipment, and structures, please email me and I will send all the data.

I have a great layout tour scheduled for after the meeting. It is the Shasta Route Railroad built by Tex Copsetta. I was so impressed with Tex's design of scenery and the concept of depth perception with the use of mountains. While talking with Tex recently, he stated that he has made many improvements in the last year. I also have a restaurant picked out for us to eat at.

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As always bring your projects and items of interest for the show and tell portion of the meeting.

Take care and I will see you soon.

Bob Thiele



Live Steam Updates

-Russ T. Rale

UP Big Boy will travel to Texas

Union Pacific has announced that the Big Boy will be touring this summer with stops in DFW and Houston. The first part of the schedule out to California has been announced but the Texas schedule has not been finalized yet.



Canadian Pacific 2816, North to South Transcontinental

Canadian Pacific has issued a press release for an April through June tour of Royal Hudson, The Empress 2816.

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) is pleased to announce the schedule dates for its historic Final Spike Anniversary Steam Tour, which will kick off April 24 at the company's global headquarters in Calgary, Alta.

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and culminate June 4 in Mexico City. The tour will bring the story of CPKC's uniquely North American railway history and compelling future to life for rail fans and visitors as it travels across CPKC's network. The Empress 2816, a 4-6-4 Hudson-type steam locomotive built in 1930, will make 11 stops between Calgary and Mexico City:

Calgary, Alta. | April 24
 Moose Jaw, Sask. | April 28
 Minot, N.D. | April 30
 St. Paul, Minn. | May 3
 Franklin Park, Ill. | May 8
 Davenport, Iowa | May 10

Kansas City, Mo. | May 18
 Shreveport, La. | May 24
 Laredo, Texas | May 28
 Monterrey, Mexico | May 31
 Mexico City, Mexico | June 4

Public events will be held in multiple cities across the network, kicking off in Calgary on April 24. Steam tour events will be held in Moose Jaw, Minot, St. Paul, Franklin Park, Davenport, Kansas City, Shreveport, and Laredo. At these stops, the public will have the opportunity to see the 2816 up close, learn more about the locomotive and CPKC's history and enjoy the Puffer Belly Express mini-train, a quarter scale steam locomotive model. In Mexico City, the 2816 will be spotted for public display.

For more information and to view the full schedule, visit <https://www.cpkcr.com/en/community/final-spike-steam-train>

Videos of it speeding across the prairies of Canada are already on YouTube. The Texas route looks like it will be through Beaumont to Houston to Laredo.

Sneak Peak: Tex Copsetta's Shasta Route!



NATIONAL TRAIN DAY “TRIPLE HEADER”

Saturday, May 11, 2024

9-4 PM



ROCKDALE I&GN DEPOT

11 Main St.
Rockdale, TX 76567
512-446-2020
rockdalehistoricalsociety@gmail.com
<https://www.rockdaledepotmuseum.org/>



HEARNE DEPOT

130 W. 9th St.
Hearne, TX 77859
806-790-4659
www.hearnedepot.org



MILAM COUNTY RAILROAD MUSEUM

110 W. 1ST ST.
Cameron, TX 76520
254-697-7055
www.mcrm-otc.org
jlanson@milamcounty.net

TRIPLE HEADER NATIONAL TRAIN DAY FAMILY FUN

The Rockdale I&GN Depot, Hearne Depot and the Milam County Railroad Museum in Cameron would like to invite everyone to our celebration of National Train Day. National Train Day marks the anniversary of the establishment of the Golden Spike in Promontory, Utah, at the Promontory summit.

Each museum will be hosting their own celebrations throughout the day. You will be able to purchase as many \$5 tickets as you want at the first museum you visit. Have the tickets punched at each museum and then deposit your ticket into the last museum in a box for a chance for a \$100 gift certificate.

Each museum will be awarding a \$100 gift certificate. You might win the prize from the last museum you visit! **You must visit all three museums and have tickets punched at each museum to be eligible.**

There will be family fun and food at all three museums.



TIMETABLE

DIVISION MEETING

Saturday May 11, 2024 National Train Day!

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

Program:

Opening discussion
Goldweight and Central Shelf Layout
update
Show and Tell
Deals or Duds
Lunch
Layout Tour Tex Copsetta's Shasta
Route , Burnet TX

NEW DATE: AMRS Meeting May 25, 2024
9AM

Saturday, June 15, 2024 9:00AM
AMRS Meeting

Saturday, July 13, 2024 10:00AM

Centex Division Meeting
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

ADVANCED PLANNING

NMRA "Surfliner" National Convention

August 4-11, 2024
Long Beach, California

Saturday, July 20, 2024
AMRS Meeting

Saturday, August 17, 2024
AMRS Meeting

Train Show

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

Saturday September 14, 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

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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