



Volume 3 Number 5

September 26, 2025

Newsletter of the CEN-TEX Division 4, Lone Star Region, NMRA  
[www.centexnmra.org](http://www.centexnmra.org) [www.Connections2026.com](http://www.Connections2026.com)



Greetings Cen-Tex Members,  
The AMRS had another great train show this year, congratulations to all of the volunteers who made it happen. Great things can happen when dedicated people put their minds to the task. The next meeting for the division will be November 8th at the Austin NW Rec center. The meeting will start at 10:00 and as always it will be broadcast live on Zoom. I will send out the link on Thursday the 6th.

We are making good progress on the 2026 Convention and opened up Early Bird registration at the meeting. Peter is hoping to have the online registration ready by the end of the month. So keep an eye on the Convention website so you can get the best registration prices. ([www.connections2026.com](http://www.connections2026.com)) Please keep in mind that the Regional Convention is a benefit for the entire Division and we still have room for more volunteers. As an added bonus, you can earn AP credit for volunteering!

At our last meeting, Lou Adler gave a very interesting presentation on "Creating Time." Brian Helms graciously open up his amazing layout for a tour this month. If you ever get the chance to go see it I can highly recommend it! (There is a tour on youtube: [Brian Helms' Dallas & Western](#) ) We also had a number of members already volunteering for future layout tours. I now have tours planned through May of next year! Where we could also use some help is with clinics or presentations. If you have any interest, please contact me and let me know. I'd love to get those booked out through to the convention as well.

For those who are working on their AP certificates, the new Division Chair is Wayne Jones. Please reach out to him when you have your items ready to go! Get working on those projects so you can bring them for the show and tell portion of the next meeting.

Take care and I hope to see you all on the 8th !  
Doug

## Inside This Issue

Superintendent's Report	1
AMRS Train Show	2
Steve Jackobs earns MMR	5
Meeting Photos	6
Brian Helm's Dallas & Western Layout Tour	11
Russ T. Rale's Road Trip	17
AMRS Page	22
Limited Edition Tank Car	23
Limited Edition	24
TIMETABLE	25
CALL FOR ARTICLES THE MASTHEAD	26

OUR BIGGEST  
ISSUE YET!  
26 PAGES!

## AMRS Train Show a Big Success!

~Russ T. Rale ~photos by Tom Weaver

Well, the numbers are in folks and this years Austin Model Railway Society's train show was a huge success, with numbers equaling or slightly surpassing the 2024 show! There were over 3,600 attendees and 2,400 paid admissions. Because of the lighting issue on Sunday which caused the show to open late, the events center credited AMRS an amount for the show and for next years show. The Centex Division's test track got a workout both days and the improved South Plains Layout has a line of kids waiting to try it out all weekend. Planning has already begun for next years show!



◀How many Cen-Tex model railroaders does it take to test a locomotive?

The South Plains Switching Layout gave kids a chance to operate and use DCC ▼►



# The Cen-Tex Eagle

Volume 3 Number 5

September 26, 2025



Tim manning the layout raffle table. The layout was won by a twelve year old who loves trains!





The AMRS layout kept visitors and club members entertained.



## Steve Jackobs is Master Model Railroader # 807!



On August 22, 2025 the NMRA Achievement Program National Executive Vice-Chair signed off on Steve's Statement of Qualifications, conferring on him the title of Master Model Railroader.

Steve earned the following AP Certificates:

- Author
- Electrical
- Structures
- Cars
- Scenery
- Motive Power
- Chief Dispatcher

## CONGRATULATIONS STEVE!

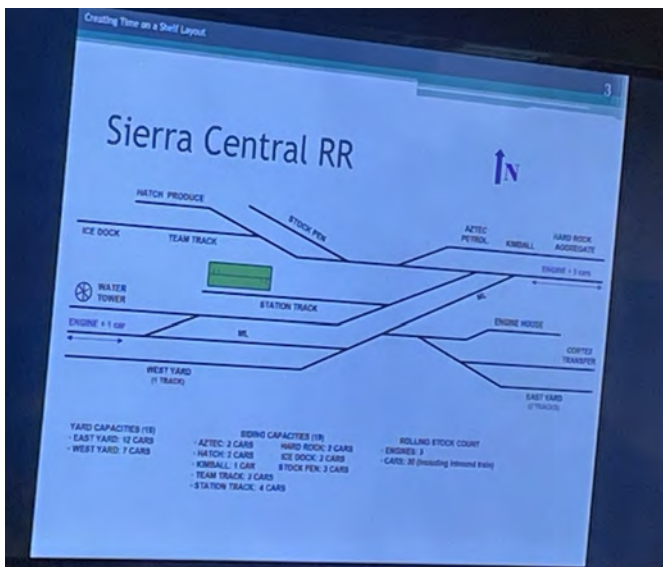
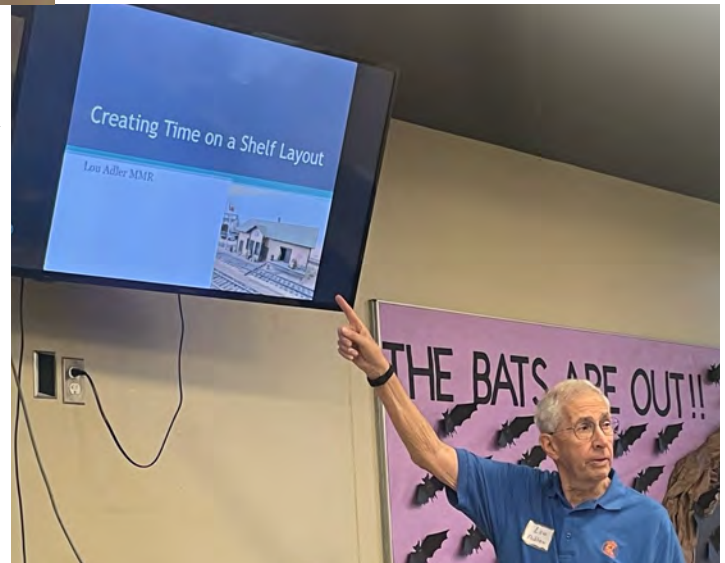
## September 13th Meeting Photos



The “usual suspects”

◀photo by Tom Weaver

Lou Adler MMR gave an informative clinic on “Creating Time on a Shelf Layout.” Lou showed how you can expand operating session times on even a small shelf layout (below).



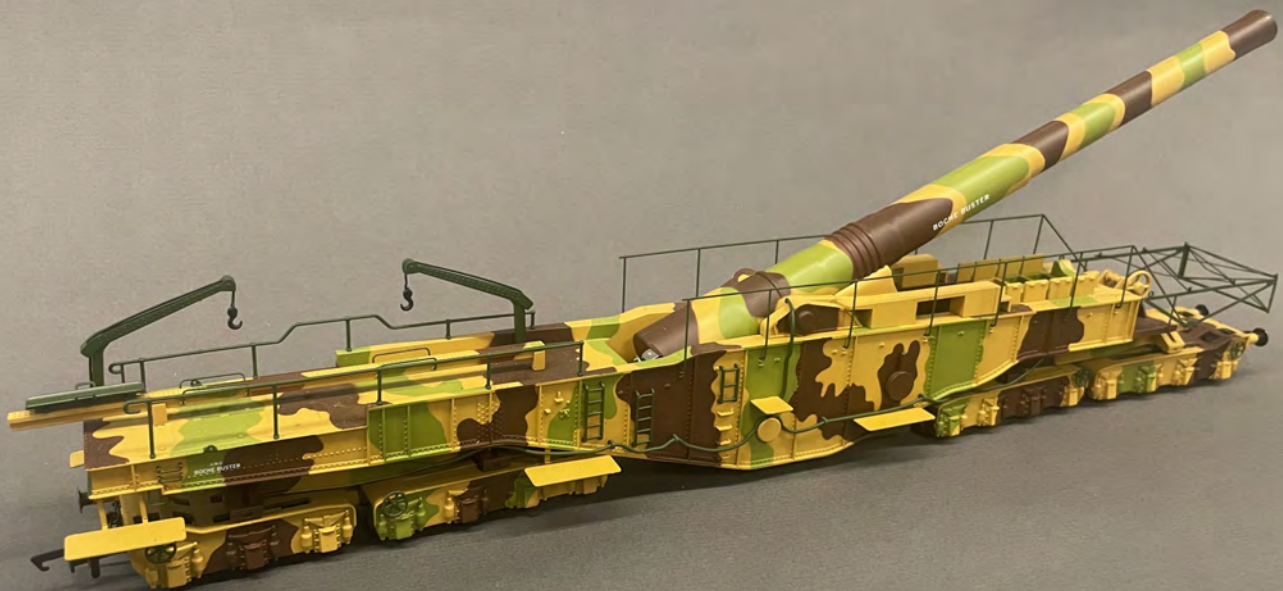
# The Cen-Tex Eagle

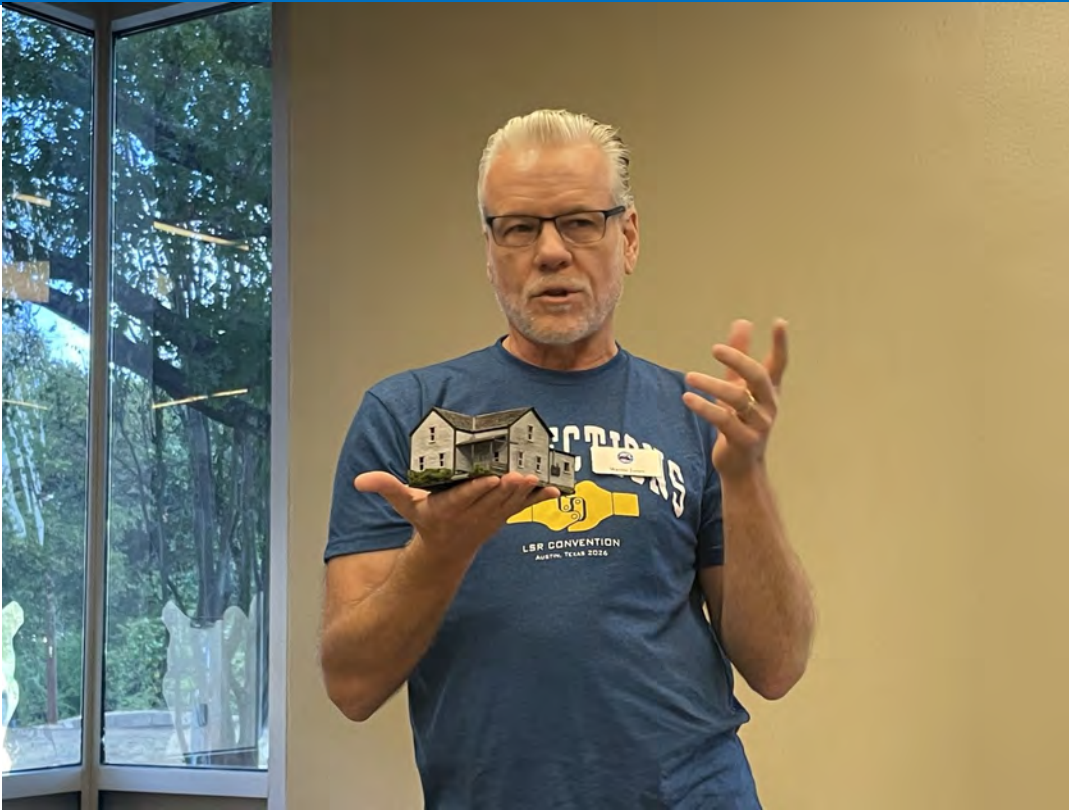
Volume 3 Number 5

September 26, 2025



Michael with his collection of British Royal Engineers Railway Operating Division (ROD) models. WWI





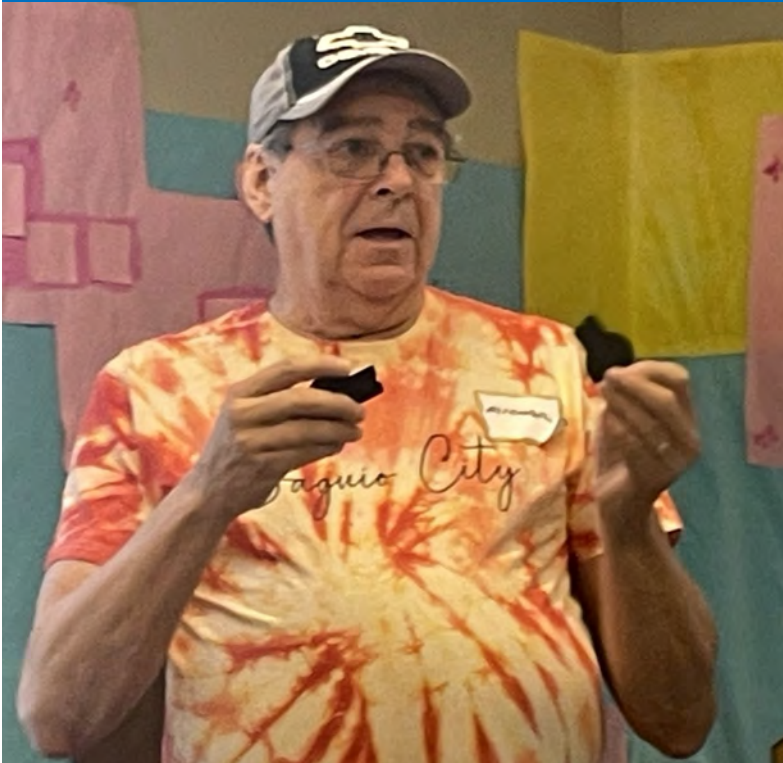
Wyne Jones brought this farmhouse he modeled from a photo.



# The Cen-Tex Eagle

Volume 3 Number 5

September 26, 2025



Michael brought some 3-D printed models his son made including this nice tunnel cell phone holder.





Paul brought a box car and overhead crane.



## Brian Helms's "Dallas and Northern" Reading Layout

The pictures speak for themselves!



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Volume 3 Number 5

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September 26, 2025



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Volume 3 Number 5

September 26, 2025



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Volume 3 Number 5

September 26, 2025



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## Russ T. Rale visits the Inland Empire Module Railroaders Club Layout and makes an appearance on Virtual Railfan's Flagstaff camera

Last July and August while at our summer house in Big Bear Lake California, my wife Shi Nee and I decided to visit the Inland Empire Module Railroaders Club Layout in Lake Arrowhead. It is in a two level strip mall right next to a McDonalds which is great for traffic flow. The layout is large, maybe a little larger than the AMRS layout and is well detailed. On the way home from Big Bear we took the northern route to avoid the dust storms on I-10 and went through Flagstaff AZ. After eating at an In-N-Out, we made our way to the Flagstaff Santa Fe station. They have a nice museum and gift shop (got the t-shirt) and then we went out on the platform to catch a westbound stack train and wave at the Virtual Railfan camera!



▼ They have a scavenger hunt for the kids ,check out Santa on the Caboose platform.



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# DONATE YOUR TYCO!



The Austin Model Railway Society is assembling “Starter Train Sets” of donated, pre-2000s components for sale at King’s Hobby and Lionheart Hobbies. The aim is to provide an affordable entry into the hobby.

Consider donating any out-of-date, Tyco-quality rolling stock and engines – old X2f couplers, pizza cutter wheels, truck-mounted couplers, etc.

Contact George Zapalac at [secretary@austinrailway.org](mailto:secretary@austinrailway.org) or Steve Jackobs at [president@austinrailway.org](mailto:president@austinrailway.org) for info.  
[www.austinrailway.org](http://www.austinrailway.org)

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September 26, 2025

## Schuylkill River MRR limited-edition, HO scale 10,000 Gallon ACF Tank Car



**ACF 10,000 GALLON TANK CAR**  
1915 TO LATE 1950S ERA

**MFG BY INTERMOUNTAIN RAILWAY CO.**

**KEITH RAILWAY EQUIPMENT COMPANY.**  
SPECIAL MARKING: "R.T.S."

The tank cars of this company are marked "Keith Tank Lines," marked "R.T.S." and numbered in the 1900's.

Report measurements and weights, send bills for repairs, insurance reports, make maintenance and address all correspondence to Keith Railway Equipment Company, P.O. Box 1010, 1010 North Main Street, Chicago, Ill. 60610.

**KEITH TANK LINES**  
#545, 547, 548, 549, 550

Normal Retail is \$49.99 to \$54.99 each.

If they mention the CODE Div4 we will let them go for \$43.99 plus applicable shipping OR \$199 plus applicable shipping for ALL five road numbers.

Contact info would be:

Brian Good  
Schuylkill River MRR Club  
215.582.6983

[B3good1@verizon.net](mailto:B3good1@verizon.net)

## Cincinnati Division 7's limited-edition, HO scale N&W HC-46 ACF 2-BAY COVERED HOPPER



The Cincinnati Division 7's limited-edition car is a HO scale, N&W HC-46 ACF 2-Bay Covered Hopper cars . This car is unique in that it is a repaint scheme with patched-out data.

The following link provides details about it as well as pricing, shipping and ordering information.

<https://division7mid-centralregionnmra.godaddysites.com/car-projects>

It would be greatly appreciated if you would make your membership aware of this limited-edition freight car by publicizing it in your Region's and/or Division's web page, newsletter or email blast.

We thank you in advance for your support!

Paul Maciulewicz  
NMRA; MCR; Cincinnati Division 7  
Car Projects Chairman

# Still Available

# TIMETABLE

Galveston County Model Railroad Club's  
Annual Train Festival  
October 4, 2025  
Texas City, TX

New Braunfels Model Train Show  
October 25-26, 2025  
New Braunfels, TX

## Division Meeting

Saturday, November 8, 2025  
Centex Division Meeting 10 AM  
Austin Parks and Recreation  
Northwest Rec Center  
2913 Northland Drive, Austin

Oklahoma City Train Show  
November 15-16, 2025  
Oklahoma City, OK

Houston Area Model Train Show  
November 15-16, 2025  
Pearland, TX

East Texas and Gulf Rail Modelers  
Association Fall Train Show  
November 21-23, 2025  
Port Neches, TX

## Division Meeting

Saturday, January 10, 2026  
Centex Division Meeting 10 AM  
Austin Parks and Recreation  
Northwest Rec Center  
2913 Northland Drive, Austin

Need clinicians!

## ADVANCED PLANNING



**LSR Convention**  
**Hosted by Division 4 CenTex**  
[www.Connections2026.com](http://www.Connections2026.com)  
Wyndham Garden Inn, June 18-20,  
2026  
Volunteer Now!

## Ongoing Events

**Austin Steam Train**  
Check their website for operations.  
[www.AustinSteamTrain.org](http://www.AustinSteamTrain.org)

Temple Railroad and Heritage Museum  
Tuesday—Saturday 10am to 4pm



To give a clinic or host a layout tour, or OP session and volunteer for the convention!

## 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 Doug'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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