



Volume 3 Number 10

Week of March 1, 2026

Newsletter of the CEN-TEX Division 4, Lone Star Region, NMRA
www.centexnmra.org www.Connections2026.com

STATION CHANGE!

The March 14th meeting of the NMRA Cen-Tex Division meeting will be held at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum. The start time will be as usual at 10 AM. We will be meeting in the 1st floor classroom. After the meeting you can visit the AMRS and Austin Tin Plate Trackers layouts. At 2 PM you can get tickets to the IMAX showing of Train Time. If you haven't seen it, I am sure you will enjoy it. Tickets are only \$10, \$9 for Seniors and College students, and \$8 for youth.

Parking is free in the museum parking lot. Please follow the following directions.

Parking is free for AMRS, NMRA, and Tinsplate Trackers. When they arrive at the parking garage attendant, they should tell the attendant which group they are with and they will let them in for free. The groups will have free parking from Thurs 3/12 through Monday 3/16. Admission to the museum is also free.



Superintendent's Report

Greetings Cen-Tex Members,
The next meeting for the division will be March 14th at a different location than normal. This month we will be meeting at the Bob Bullock Museum in their first floor classroom. The parking will be free for our members. When you arrive at the parking garage, you should tell the attendant you are with the NMRA and they will let you in for free. As this is a special location for the meeting if

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The Cen-Tex Eagle

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you haven't attended for a while (or ever) this would be a great opportunity to come and network. 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 12th.

Progress on the 2026 LSR Convention is picking up steam. There are quite a number of clinics lined up, interesting prototype tours, layouts to tour, operations sessions and so much more! Just go to www.connections2026.com and bookmark it to register and stay up to date. We'll try to provide more details at the meeting also. If you are interested in volunteering, but don't know what you can or could do, just contact Joe Dumas our volunteer coordinator. As an added bonus, you can earn AP credit for volunteering!

Jack Merkel is going to present the clinic, *You Can Take It With You* at the meeting. The AMRS is setting up right there at the Bullock in conjunction with the "Trains at the Bullock event and will be used as our tour this month. The Tin-Plate Trackers will also be there. Please contact me if you would like to do a presentation or tour now or in the future.

Remember to bring your projects that you are working on for the show and tell portion of the meeting. Take care and I hope to see you all on the 14th !

Doug





LSR Convention
Hosted by Division 4 CenTex
www.Connections2026.com
Wyndham Garden Inn, June 18-20, 2026

What's on the Timetable?

Clinics

Clinics given by Master Model Railroaders
Guest Clinicians Cinthia and Stephen Priest

Prototype Tours

Contest Room

Operating Sessions

Layout Tours

Raffle/Auction

Fellowship

B-B-Q

Banquet Guest Speaker Bruce Blalock.

Union Pacific Steam Club Update No. 44 - Feb. 24, 2026



Union Pacific's legendary Big Boy No. 4014, the world's largest operating steam locomotive, is steaming up for the western leg of its coast-to-coast tour to celebrate America's 250th birthday with 27 whistle-stops and four public display days scheduled during its journey across four western states.



Details of the eastern leg of the coast-to-coast tour – including whistle-stops and public display days - will be released at a later date.

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Four public display days are planned for this mighty steam locomotive during the western leg of the tour, with two days each in Roseville, California, April 10-11 and Ogden, Utah, April 18-19. In addition to public stops, Union Pacific employees and their families will be invited along the route for special family-day events.

As part of the tour, the Union Pacific Museum will be auctioning off two cab rides in the locomotive on April 17 in Utah, with proceeds going to the nonprofit museum. The auction starts Monday, March 2, and ends Thursday, March 19. Interested riders can register and view auction details at <https://rarauctions.com/upm>. There will **NOT** be any passenger excursions offered on the western leg of the tour.

Big Boy will leave its home base in Cheyenne, Wyoming, on March 29, traveling across Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and California, where it will stop near historic Mile 0, the site where Central Pacific Railroad laid the first rail ties for the transcontinental railroad in 1863.

In addition to the public display days, rail fans can see this historic machine in action at whistle-stops in communities along its journey. Whistle-stops are generally 15- to 30-minutes long. Complete details of the western leg schedule can be found at UPsteam.com



Building an HO Layout

A gentlemen in San Antonio contacted the Austin Model Railway Society about getting a layout built.

“I would like someone to build me a 14x7 HO Gauge Layout. I am in San Antonio. I will pay a premium for this work.”

Selling a layout

A gentlemen contacted the Austin Model Railway Society about selling a layout.

I'm 82 years old and have been modeling since I was 10. I have a 5x20 foot, two sided layout that I've been working on for about 10 years. My poor eyesight and hand tremors have gotten to the point where I can't do the detailed work anymore. Also, my wife has decided she would like the space back. So, I've decided to sell everything. I was planning on offering it to a broker but thought I would see if any of your members would be interested in buying it.

If you are interested in either building the gentlemen's layout or buying the other layout, contact Chris Chany secretary@austinrailway.org



AUSTIN MODEL RAILWAY SOCIETY HO MODULE CLUB SPRING 2026 SCHEDULE



Come visit the Austin Model Railway Society and our 51x24 foot modular, Central-Texas-themed layout.

(Scheduled, but always check www.austinrailway.org the Wednesday before to confirm. Sometimes the church needs their hall for an unplanned event such as a funeral.)	
Friday to Monday, March 13 to 16, 11a-4p "Trains at The Bullock"	Bullock State History Museum, 1800 Congress Avenue
Saturday, April 18, 9-4	Hope Presbyterian, 11512 Olson Dr, Austin
Saturday, May 16, 9-4	Hope Presbyterian, 11512 Olson Dr, Austin
Thurs-Sun, June 18-21	Lone Star Region NMRA Convention Wyndham Garden Hotel 3401 S I-35 Frontage Road

Sign up on our email list at <https://austinrailway.org/contact-form.html>



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 Christopher Chany at secretary@austinrailway.org or Steve Jackobs at president@austinrailway.org for info.
www.austinrailway.org

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.
Shipping Weight: 21,500 lbs.

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

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

Division Meeting

Saturday, March 14, 2026

Centex Division Meeting 10 AM
Bob Bullock Texas State History
Museum

Agenda;

Clinic: How about giving one?

LSR Convention 2026

Show and tell

Deals and Duds

Lunch

Layout tour: AMRS

Movie: Train Time 2 PM

Train Show

Sat., March 14, Sun., March 15, 2026

12th Annual Train-a-Palooza

Grapevine Convention Center

1209S Main St

Grapevine TX

Sat 10AM-5PM-Sun. 10AM-3PM

Lonestarhtrailers.com

Train Show

Sat., April 11, Sun., April 12, 2026

Rocky Mountain Train Show

National Western Complex

Denver CO

Rockymountaintrainshow.com

Train Show

Sat., April 25, Sun., April 26, 2026

New Braunfels Annual Train Show

Jamboree

New Braunfels Civic Center

New Braunfels, TX

Sat 10AM-5PM-Sun. 10AM-4PM

Railfest

Sat., April 25, Sun., April 26, 2026

Galveston Railroad Museum Railfest

Galveston TX

10AM-5PM

Division Meeting

Saturday, May 9, 2026

Centex Division Meeting 10 AM

Agenda;

Clinic: How about giving one?

LSR Convention 2026

Show and tell

Deals and Duds

Lunch

Layout tour: Tim's Goose Creek,

Sour Lake, and Western

Ongoing Events

Austin Steam Train www.AustinSteamTrain.org

Temple Railroad and Heritage Museum

ADVANCED PLANNING



LSR Convention
Hosted by Division 4 CenTex

www.Connections2026.com

Wyndham Garden Inn,

June 18-20, 2026

Volunteer Now!



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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