



Volume 4 Number 2

Week of July 5, 2026

Newsletter of the CEN-TEX Division 4, Lone Star Region, NMRA

www.centexnmra.org



Superintendent's Report

Greetings Division Members,

Well, it's over. The annual LSR Regional convention has left the Austin station and is headed up the tracks to DFW. The journey was exciting and terrifying, challenging and rewarding, and stimulating and exhausting all at the same time. I am honored to have been able to showcase the hard work and dedication of the convention committee and volunteers. Likewise, I cannot thank enough those great members who offered up their great layouts for tours and operating sessions, with special thanks to the AMRS and the Austin T-Trak folks for setting up and running at the convention site. We hope that all had a good time. Now it is time for us to recover and get back to playing with trains!

We currently do not have a clinic or presentation for this upcoming meeting. Please let me know if you have something to share. Bill Middlemass has graciously offered his layout for this month's tour. Don't forget to bring your projects to show off your hard work!

The next meeting for the division will be July 11th at the Austin NW Rec center. The meeting will start at 10:00AM and as always, it will be broadcast live on Zoom. As usual, we invite all to our meetings in person.

Doug

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LSR 2026 Connections Convention a Success

By Russ T. Rale

June 18th-20th saw the Lone Star Region Convention return to Austin. Hosted by the Cen-Tex Division 4, 187 NMRA members, special guests, spouses, and friends attended. Highlights of the convention were the clinics given by Steve and Cinthia Priest, the Op sessions on the inhouse layouts, the many OP sessions and layout tours, Dean Smith's rendition of the legend of Morty the Mega Mouse, and Bruce Blalok's after dinner presentation. "Dispatch, I have good news and bad news," Dispatch: "What's the good news?" "Dispatch, the Derail works!!"

Our guest clinicians, Steve and Cinthia Priest, gave very enlightening talks. I particularly liked Steve's "So You Want to Build a Model Railroad?" which looked at the mental processes that occur when deciding to build a model railroad. (Why are you reading this when you should be working on your railroad). Cinthia's "A Gondola Please...With a Side of Waffles" explained how she built 2 models toward the Achievement program "Master Builder Cars" and her "Story of Us" took a look at the "family" of model railroaders.

There was an impressive model room and the silent auction had something for everyone.

Next year's convention is up in DFW. See you there!



Cinthia putting her "Story of Us" talk together at the convention.



Tom Weaver, Convention Registrar and Treasurer, and Joe Leising, LSR Convention Coordinator share a laugh.

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Wayne Jones and Joe Dumas working the Contest Room.



Div. 4 Superintendent Doug Taylor and
Banquet Speaker Bruce Blalock



Cliff Scherer (Publications), Steven Priest, Cinthia Priest, and John Larson (Clinic Chair)



◀Where's Lunch?



Mazza's Arts and Crafts Best of Show Painting

More Pictures in the next issue!

Eli Beams wins the NMRA Lone Star Region Youth Award



Don Winn, LSR Youth in Modeling Chair presents Eli with his award at the LSR Convention at the Saturday night banquet. Congratulations Eli, it is well deserved!



Items for Sale

Cindy Sharpnack sent the club the following:

Hello, Everyone,

I am going to have a PHIL (Pacific Hauling & Industrial Line) garage sale at my house on Friday, July 31 and Saturday, August 1.

The sale will be from 10:00AM - 4:00PM on both days.

Everything is priced to sell- from rolling stock, to track, to scenery, to just about everything model RR connected. I even have a brand-new Airbrush Spray Booth and accessories, including paint, that a lucky buyer will take home.

Please pass the word to the AMRS members as well as to anyone else who knew Phil & knows his extensive inventory or even to those who didn't know Phil but would be interested in filling in their layout.

My address is:

609 Wild Spur Lane

Liberty Hill 78645

I am in the Butler Farms subdivision off Hwy 29, west of the Liberty Hill HS.

Thank you for your help getting the word out. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone!

Cindy Sharpnack



Chad Callas sent the following to the club:

I have the following for sale as a lot. I've had these for years after they were handed down to me - they've been stored in their boxes for ~50 years. They are in great condition with no known issues...just a bit dusty with some track lint on their axles. I don't have a way to test the engine.

- Tyco (engines & rolling stock - boxed)
 - Diesel F9 "A" Unit - C&O Lighted - T224E
 - Diesel F9 "A" Unit - Non-Pwr'd C&O - T225E
 - Refrigerator Car - Swift - T329A
 - Chemical Car - Diamond Chemical - T324A
 - Box Car - Chesapeake & Ohio - T311S
 - Stock Car - Denver & Rio Grande - T312D
 - 8-Wheel Caboose - Chesapeake & Ohio - T327C
 - Gondola - Pennsylvania - T310B
- Athearn (late 50's kit - not boxed)
 - 1355 HO Nickel Plate Road

I'll entertain all fair offers. Looking for these to go where they'll be appreciated and hopefully run.

If you are interested email Chad at chadcallas@gmail.com



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AUSTIN MODEL RAILWAY SOCIETY HO MODULE CLUB SUMMER 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.)

Saturday, July 18, 9-4	St. Matthew's Episcopal Church 8134 Mesa Drive Austin
Saturday, August 15, 9-4	St. Matthew's Episcopal Church 8134 Mesa Drive Austin
Friday-Sunday, August 28-30	Austin Train Show, Parmer Events Center, Austin
September 19, 9-4	Hope Presbyterian Church, 11512 Olsen Drive, Austin

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



Donate your Tyco!

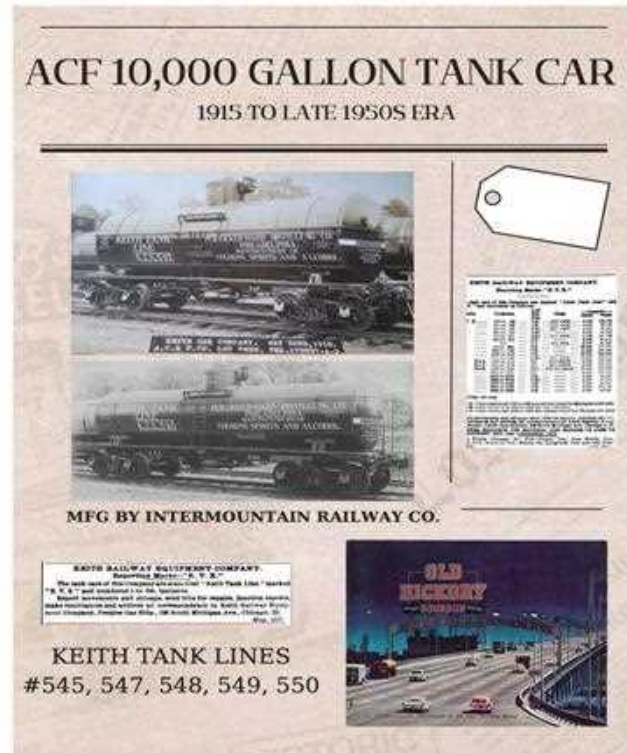


The Austin Model Railway Society is assembling “Starter Train Sets” of donated, pre-2000s components for sale at King’s Hobby and Lionheart Hobbies. The aim is to provide an affordable entry into the hobby.

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



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

If you 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

NMRA Division Meeting

NMRA Division Meeting

Saturday, July 11, 2026

Centex Division Meeting 10 AM

Agenda: Clinic: How about giving one?

LSR Convention 2026 Wrap-up

Show and tell

Deals and Duds

Lunch

Layout tour: Bill Middlemass's
C&O

Train Show

July 24-26, 2026

East Texas and Gulf Summer Train Show

Port Arthur, Texas

Info: Leslie McMahan at

lmcmahan@GT.rr.com

Cotton Belt Symposium

August 1, 2026

Texas A&M Commerce, Commerce Texas

Austin Train Show

August 29-30, 2026

Palmer Events Center

Layout set up on Friday Aug 28th.

NMRA Division Meeting

Saturday, September 11, 2026

Centex Division Meeting 10 AM

Agenda: Clinic: How about giving one?

Show and tell

Deals and Duds

Lunch

Layout tour: How about yours?

Abilene Railroad Festival 2026

September 11-12, 2026

Info: Abilenepreservation.org

TCA Swap Meet

August 12, 2026

Lone Star Division TCA

McKinney, Texas

Info: tca-lonestardivision.org

Train Show

Sept. 19-20, 2026

Temple Train Show

Temple, Texas

Info: centramodrr.com

Train Show

Sept. 26-27, 2026

Plano Train Show

Plano, Texas

Info: DFWtrainshows.com

Ongoing Events

Austin Steam Train

Temple Railroad and Heritage Museum

