



Volume 2, Number 4

Week of Sept. 1, 2024

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

Superintendent's Report



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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS!! PLEASE read this first and to the end!-ed

Greeting Division Four Members,

This will be an action-packed edition of the newsletter, so let's get to it. First, I want to recognize the accomplishments and hard work that Peter Kazmir and Riley Triggs put into the 2023 National convention. I am going to let the LSR president, Donna Orr sing their praises.

Dear Bob,

Cen-Tex Division members Peter Kazmir and Riley Triggs both made huge contributions of time and skills that were Instrumental in the overall success of the 2023 Texas Express NMRA Convention. The convention's host divisions would like to express their appreciation for everything that Riley and Peter did, and the positive impact that they made on the convention. On behalf of the LSR's Cowcatcher Division 1 and the Trinity River Division 3, enclosed please find a check, payable to the Cen-Tex division 4, with special thanks to Peter Kazmir and Riley Triggs.

Sincerely, Donna Orr – 2023 Texas Express Convention Chairman

Damn fine job gentleman

As I took stock of the upcoming September 14th division meeting, I suddenly realized that most of the people who put together and direct the meeting will not be in town. After a few conversations I am now trying to reschedule the meeting for September 28th. I just heard from the director of Austin NW Rec center, and we have rescheduled the September division meeting. **The meeting will be held on Saturday, September 28th at 10:00**

Last weekend the AMRS held their annual train show at the Palmer convention

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center. I do not have the final figures, but I know that attendance was at an all-time high. As for the division's role in the train show, we set up David Barrow South Prairie switching layout. The attendees could try their hand at operating a model railroad and get hands on experience. I was there both days and we had a constant line of participants. People of all ages enjoyed playing the role of engineer and a division member was the brakeman/conductor. Girls and boys had a great time moving equipment around the layout simulating railroad operations. Everyone walked away with a big smile on their face.

Now it's time to drop the bomb shell. Some of the members know that I have had a really bad time with my sinuses and a busted lung thrown in for good measure. My convention trip to Albuquerque was two folded, have a great time at the convention and see how my body reacts to the environment. Railfanning and the convention was great, and my body reacted very well to the environment. My second trip confirmed that New Mexico is the place for me to be to improve my health and get a semi-decent night of sleep. It is with extreme regret that I will be moving to NM and that I will tenure my resignation as Division 4 Director at the end of November. It has been a greatest pleasure to work with all of you and to enjoy the hobby. I should still be in the area for a few months so that I can help the new director get his feet wet and get up to speed. Before we start running around saying the sky is falling, let's look at what we have. Tom Weaver, Cliff Scherer and Chris Chany make up the core of the Division administration. Tom is the treasurer and does an excellent job of keeping the finances of the division in order. The books are in excellent shape, and he is always on top of the non-profit status. Cliff is the webmaster, Zoom coordinator and takes care of items that keep the division running smoothly. Chris is the division editor and gets out the newsletter to keep the members informed on what's happening with the division and the hobby. All three help the division to function properly and should stay put. They will ensure that the new division director will transition into the job smoothly.

Let's take a look at what the director's job is with the help in place:

Update the divisions roster monthly from info the LSR provides

Line up clinicians , speaker and layout tours for the division meetings.

Communicate with members and answer questions from the public

Pick up the material and snacks for the meeting.

Work with the AMRS to promote the hobby

Attend two LSR meetings per year as a board member. Most are Zoom meetings but can be in person. There are other small details but that will happen with some experience.

The job takes some time but is not overwhelming. I must say that be director of the Division has been one of the most rewarding things that I have done.

If you would like to volunteer for the position, please contact me and we can talk about the experience. I will be approaching a few of you and see if you are interested. I will see you at the division meeting on the 28th or at the AMRS gathering and we can talk.

Take care,

Bob



Austin Model Railway Society Show a huge success!!

It Takes Volunteers!

Tom Weaver took some photos of the club members working at the train show. Well I think they are working... It looks like they are having a great time! -ed



The Head Honchos

Train Show Wrangler

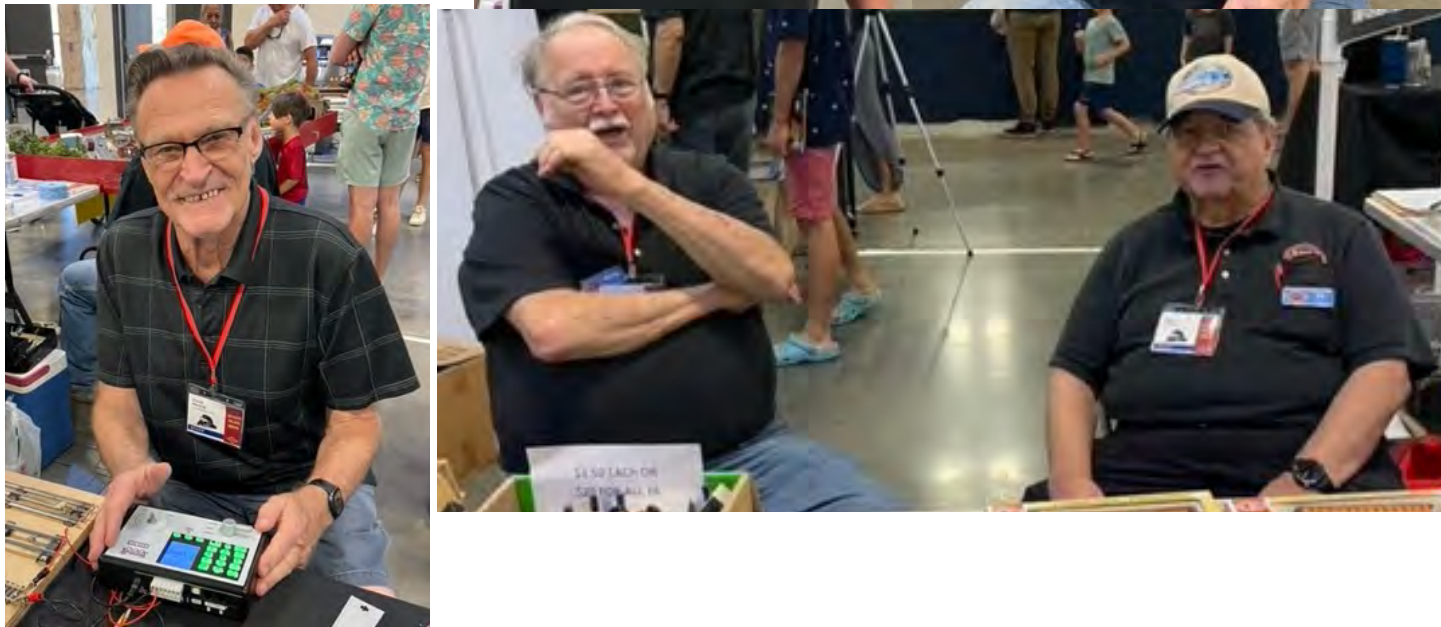
Division Superintendent



The Cen-Tex Eagle

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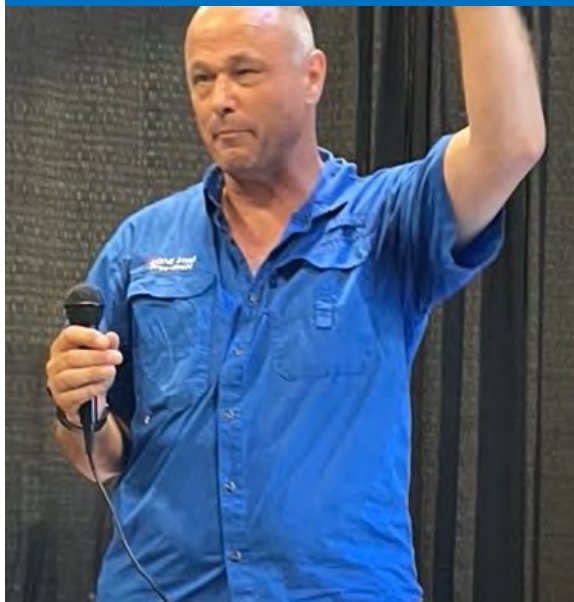
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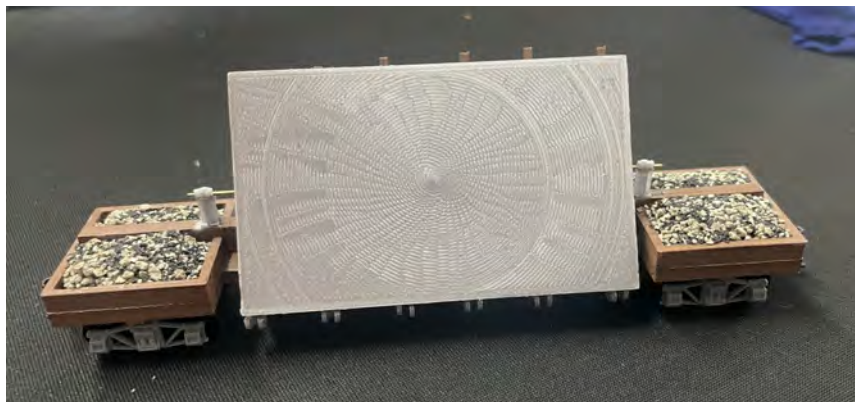
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Speed Mueller giving an electronics clinic



In the late 1800's when New York City was in a building boom, each skyscraper tried to outdo the last one. This usually involved a lot of large granite and marble slabs. The problem was delivering them from the quarries to NYC. This car was used to transport those slabs. The slab was loaded flat and then raised to an angle allowing larger slabs to be transported. The model was built by David Peterson and was happily running through Austin on the MRS layout.



This year's raffle layout. The club member who built this did a magnificent job. It is a very detailed layout!

LEGO Trains!



Boy Scouts helping a little old lady across the road! Not only does the detail of a Lego layout amaze me, the amount of work to set it up and take it down is mind boggling.

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From the train show head honcho:

Hi folks,

I wanted to share the preliminary results of the Train Show:

We didn't just break our attendance record, we *shattered* it. It looks like the final paid attendance was 2,642, with an estimated additional 1,127 children, for a grand total of 3,769 attendees (not counting staff and exhibitors).

While I won't have final financial numbers for a week or so (I need to get the final bill from the Palmer Events Center), I can say we were definitely profitable. In addition, the raffle brought in over \$1,500 and our sales table brought in an incredible \$5,000+. (Before taxes and credit card/PayPal fees.)

I understand we also handed out hundreds of flyers about the AMRS, so perhaps we'll see a number of new faces at meetings soon as well.

Thank you ALL for doing such a great job to make the show a success. The income from the train show goes towards our mission of education, our permanent layout fund, and helps to enhance our existing layout.

I will share the final results at our next meeting. If you have any suggestions or questions please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thanks again,
Peter

Peter also sent us some photos.



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AMRS Layout always attracts smiling faces.

The Raffle Layout.



The Cen-Tex Eagle

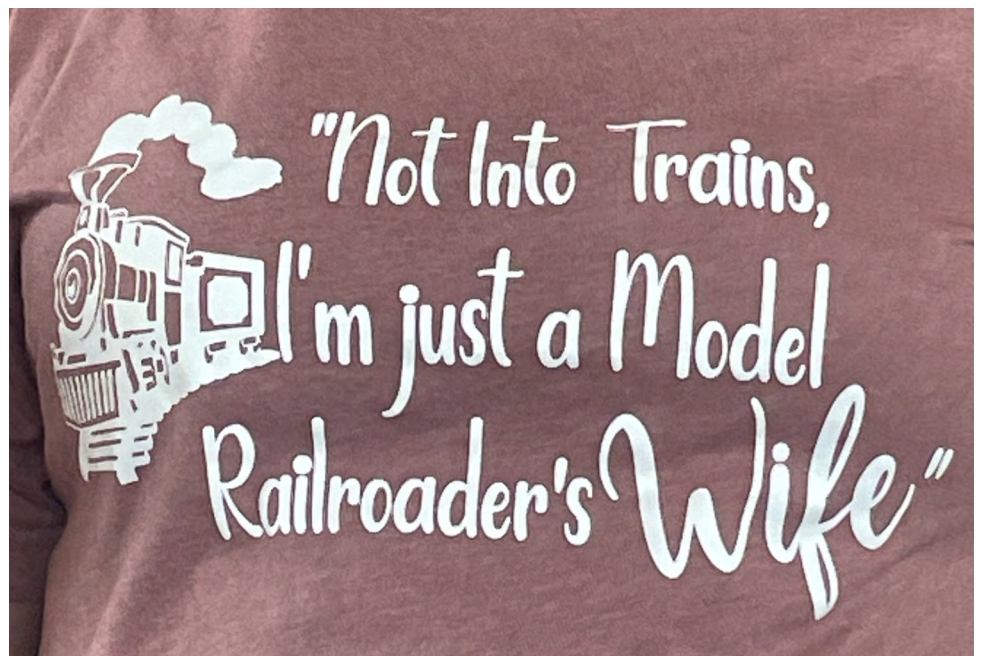
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Thanks to Dave Barrow, Bob got to stay on his feet showing people how to operate the switching layout.

Best T-shirt seen at the show.



UP Big Boy on it's way to Texas



Heartland of America Tour

Big Boy No. 4014 will depart on the "Heartland of America Tour" on Thursday, Aug. 29 from Cheyenne, Wyoming, and travel across nine additional states: Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas. The eight-week tour concludes in late October.

Tuesday, Sept. 17

Texarkana, Ark. (9:00 a.m. departure) to Dallas, Texas

Big Sandy, Texas	Arrival	1:00 p.m. CT
Pearl St. Crossing	Depart	1:45 p.m. CT

Wednesday, Sept. 18

Dallas, Texas Private Union Pacific Event
NO PUBLIC ACCESS

Thursday, Sept. 19

Dallas, Texas (9:00 a.m. departure) to Hearne, Texas

Mexia, Texas	Arrival	12:45 p.m. CT
East Commerce St. Crossing	Depart	1:15 p.m. CT

Friday, Sept. 20 – Thursday, Oct. 3

Locomotive Maintenance
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Friday, Oct. 4

Hearne, Texas (9:00 a.m. departure) to Houston, Texas

Navasota, Texas	Arrival	11:00 a.m. CT
E. McAlpine St. Crossing	Depart	11:30 a.m. CT
Hempstead, Texas	Arrival	12:15 p.m. CT
Wilkins St. Crossing	Depart	12:45 p.m. CT

Saturday, Oct. 5

Houston, Texas Private Union Pacific Employee Event
NO PUBLIC ACCESS
[Employee Event Information](#)

Sunday, Oct. 6

Houston, Texas On Display: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. CT
 Houston Amtrak Admission to see the Big Boy is Free and Open to the Public.
 902 Washington Ave.

Monday, Oct. 7

Houston, Texas (9:00 a.m. departure) to Bryan, Texas

Spring, Texas	Arrival	11:00 a.m. CT
Elm Street Crossing	Depart	11:30 a.m. CT
Navasota, Texas	Arrival	1:30 p.m. CT
E. McAlpine St. Crossing	Depart	2:00 p.m. CT

Tuesday, Oct. 8

Bryan, Texas Viewing Only
 Wellborn Road and F & B Road
 Crossing

Wednesday, Oct. 9

Bryan, Texas (9:00 a.m. departure) to Fort Worth, Texas

Marlin, Texas	Arrival	11:45 a.m. CT
Wood St. Crossing	Depart	12:15 p.m. CT
West, Texas	Arrival	1:45 p.m. CT
Broadway St. Crossing	Depart	2:15 p.m. CT

Thursday, Oct. 10

Fort Worth, Texas On Display: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. CT
 275 W. Lancaster Ave. Admission to see the Big Boy is Free and Open to the Public.

Friday, Oct. 11

Fort Worth, Texas On Display: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. CT
 275 W. Lancaster Ave. Admission to see the Big Boy is Free and Open to the Public.

Saturday, Oct. 12

Fort Worth, Texas Private Union Pacific Employee Event
NO PUBLIC ACCESS
[Employee Event Information](#)

Sunday, Oct. 13

Fort Worth, Texas (8:00 a.m. departure) to McAlester, Okla.

Durant, Okla.	Arrival	1:15 p.m. CT
Louisiana St. Crossing	Depart	1:45 p.m. CT

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Seen in the Galveston deadline on Wednesday August 29th 024



▲ GP30s (Phase 1a) built May 62 as 1207 now BNSF GP30u 2407 and GP30s (Phase 1a) built June 63 as 1279 now BNSF GP30u 2469. Not looking bad for 60 years olds!



▲ BNSF 1294 Genset built June 2010 on the deadline after 14 years!

▼ SD70MAC 9493 Executive paint scheme (green and cream) built October 1994 with other denizens of the deadline.



TIMETABLE

Train Show

Saturday-Sunday September 21-22, 2024
42nd Annual Temple Train Show and
2nd Annual RPM Meet

Toy Train Show

Saturday-Sunday September 21, 2024
Gulf Coast Chapter TCA, Seabrook TX

Division Meeting

Saturday September 28, 2024
Centex Division Meeting 10 AM
Austin Parks and Recreation
Northwest Rec Center
2913 Northland Drive, Austin

Program:

Will be published in a special edition
of the Eagle.

Train Show

Saturday-Sunday September 28-29, 2024
5th Annual Plano Fall Train Show

Division Meeting

Saturday November 9, 2024
Centex Division Meeting 10 AM
Austin Parks and Recreation
Northwest Rec Center
2913 Northland Drive, Austin

Program:

Opening discussion
Clinic(s) Need a Volunteer(s)
Show and Tell
Deals or Duds
Lunch
Layout Tour: How about yours?

Train Shows

Saturday-Sunday October 26-27, 2024
New Braunfels Model Train Show,
New Braunfels Civic Center,
New Braunfels TX

Saturday-Sunday November 16-17, 2024
Houton Area Model Train Show,
Pearland TX

Saturday-Sunday January 18-19, 2025
43rd Annual Plano Train Show

ADVANCED PLANNING

Toy Train Show

Saturday-Sunday January 4, 2025
Gulf Coast Chapter TCA, Seabrook TX

Saturday January 11, 2025

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

Saturday-Sunday January 25-26, 2025
Amherst Railway Society Railroad
Hobby Show

Ongoing Events

Austin Steam Train
[Make Reservations - Austin Steam Train Association](#)

Temple Railroad and Heritage Museum
Tuesday—Saturday 10Am to 4Pm

2025-NMRA 90th Anniversary!

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

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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