



Volume 2 Number 10

Week of Mar. 2, 2025

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



## Superintendent's Report

Greetings Cen-Tex Members,

With the recent weather I think Mother Nature is throwing a temper tantrum! Hopefully everyone is keeping safe. The next meeting for the division will be March 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 6<sup>th</sup>.

We recently had a very good meeting on the 2026 Convention and had quite a few folks step up to help make it a success for all of us. However, there is still room for more to volunteer. Please keep in mind that the Regional Convention is a benefit for the entire Division.

David Nicasro will be doing a clinic on "*17 Ways Not to Make Snow*". Phillip Sharpnack has volunteered his layout for a tour. 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 8<sup>th</sup>!

Doug

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The Bullock Museum



## SPRING BREAK: TRAINS AT THE BULLOCK

**March 14–17, 2025 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Explore the world of trains over Spring Break at the Bullock Museum.

### Event Details

Hear train whistles blow and axles grind as Tinsplate Trackers of Austin and the Austin Model Railway Society's miniature locomotives chug along tiny rails set in intricate scenes.

The model train display and demonstrations are free with Museum admission and will be on view daily from Friday, March 14th through Monday, March 17th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### About the Partners

**The Tinsplate Trackers of Austin, Texas** is a 3-rail O-Gauge Model Train Club located in the Austin area. The club participates in a number of model railroading activities and events in Central Texas.

**Austin Model Railway Society** is an HO scale model railroad club located in the Austin area. They welcome all who share a love for trains to visit or become a member. Their 51x24 foot modular layout features the Austin area.



**Registration Is Open At**  
**[www.BluesExpress2025.com](http://www.BluesExpress2025.com)**

**For the LSR Annual  
Regional Convention  
June 26 - 28, 2025  
Model Railroad Clinics**

**Layout Visits  
Operating Sessions  
... and more.**

**Early Bird Discounted Registration Now Available.  
Register Today !**

**Hosted By The LSR Bayou Division**

## LSR Convention

Join us for this this year's annual Lone Star Region convention. Hosted by the LSR Bayou Division, the Blues Express 2025 convention will take place in Baton Rouge, LA, on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025. This will be the first time in over thirty-years since we have had a regional convention in the Bayou Division, which provides the opportunity to visit and operate on layouts that you may not have experienced before.

The Blues Express 2025 convention clinic schedule will feature clinicians from three different NMRA regions, some traveling as far away as six-hundred miles to present to the members of the Lone Star Region. Clinics will include topics that have never before been presented at a LSR convention.

The Non-Rail schedule will include fun-filled activities that will appeal to both Rails and Non-Rails. Ask your medical questions to a licensed medical professional, or learn the insights of playing poker from a professional poker player that has participated in national poker tournaments. Other activities will include touring iconic Baton Rouge attractions, as well as other fun activities at the convention hotel.

The Blues Express 2025 convention will take place at the Holiday Inn Baton Rouge South. Overnight accommodations and convention meeting rooms are all under one roof, for convenient access. Hotel amenities include an on-site restaurant, lounge, room service, exercise facility, and swimming pool. Hotel reservations at the conventions group rate can be made at the [www.BluesExpress2025.com](http://www.BluesExpress2025.com) website, by selecting "Book Hotel Rooms".

The city of Baton Rouge has a rich and diverse history, and the hotel's group convention rate is available starting on Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> and including on Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, allowing for time to enjoy both the Blues Express 2025 convention and Baton Rouge. Simply change the arrival/departures dates at the top of the hotel page and make time to experience the many splendors that Baton Rouge has to offer.

Come to reunite with old friends, and to make new ones. NMRA members and non members are all invited to attend. The Early Bird Registration discount is currently available at [www.BluesExpress2025.com](http://www.BluesExpress2025.com). Book today to enjoy the savings! Then periodically check-back to learn about convention activities as they are finalized.

See you in Baton Rouge at the Blues Express 2025 LSR Annual Regional Convention.

**[www.BluesExpress2025.com](http://www.BluesExpress2025.com)**

## 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

**Start Planning Now!**



**The 90th NMRA National Model Railroad Convention,  
STATION No. VI**

July 14-19, 2025 – Novi, Michigan

The convention is being hosted by the NORTH CENTRAL REGION of the NMRA. Our goal is for [A Convention Like No Other](#). We are planning a great week of model and prototype railroading, just for YOU!

This convention is open to ALL model railroaders! You do not have to be an NMRA member to attend!

Come and join us for the MAXIMUM model railroad FUN!

LOCATION

[Convention HQ is the Sheraton Hotel  
21111 Haggerty Road, Novi, MI 48375](#)

Website: [2025 NMRA National Convention – Station No. VI – hosted by the North Central Region of the NMRA](#)

# TIMETABLE

## Division Meeting

Saturday March 8, 2025

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

Agenda;

Clinic: How not to make snow. Dave  
Nicastro

LSR Convention 2026

Show and tell

Deals and Duds

Lunch

Layout tour "The P.H.I.L."- Phil Sharp-  
nack's layout in Liberty Hill.

AMRS and Austin Tinplate Trackers Display at  
the Bullock Museum.

Friday-Sunday March 14-16, 2025

## Train Show

April 12-13, 2025

New Braunfels Train Show

Civic Center,

## Division Meeting

Saturday May 10, 2025

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

Agenda;

Clinic: How about giving one?

LSR Convention 2026

Show and tell

Division Meeting con't

Deals and Duds

Lunch

Layout tour: How about yours?

## ADVANCED PLANNING

### LSR Region Convention

June 26 - 29, 2025

Holiday Inn Baton Rouge South

9900 Airline Highway

Baton Rouge, LA 70816

## Division Meeting

Saturday July 12, 2025

Centex Division Meeting 10 AM

Austin Parks and Recreation

Northwest Rec Center

2913 Northland Drive, Austin

## NMRA National Convention

July 14-19, 2025

Novi, MI

## 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 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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