

KATY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2019 ANNUAL CONVENTION • MAY 2-5 ROUND ROCK, TEXAS



During April 1986, the Georgetown Railroad's innovative Dump Train was making two trips a day between Georgetown and Smithville, TX. – Ray George photo

On May 2-5, 2019, the Katy Railroad Historical Society returns to the Austin, Texas, area and nearby Round Rock for its annual convention. Convention headquarters are the Holiday Inn Austin-North Round Rock, 2370 Chisholm Trail, Round Rock, Texas 78681, phone: **512-246-7000**. Our block of rooms is set aside until April 15th at a special rate of \$95 + tax per night that includes breakfast. When making reservations be sure to mention the KRHS and our special room rate. See reverse for more convention information.

THURSDAY: Registration and a 6:00 PM meet & greet session will be followed by a fascinating presentation by the new Texas Central high-speed rail company. Reserve vendor and display tables from Chairman Bruce Blalock at texspl@austin.rr.com. An executive board meeting will be held during the afternoon or evening.

FRIDAY: Our motor coach tour leaves the Holiday Inn exactly at 8:00 AM. We will see the repair facility and dispatching office of Capital Metro commuter rail operations on Austin's North Side. We then tour the Georgetown Railroad and Texas Crushed Stone. The GRR was one of the most important shippers on the Katy Railroad in later days. After our motor coach returns to the hotel, lunch will be on your own. There are eight restaurants within walking distance. A car caravan leaves at 2:00 PM to see Katy business car No. 400 at Georgetown and the Austin Steam Train Association's Cedar Park Yard. Former M-K-T equipment at Cedar Park includes the *NEW BRAUNFELS*, a flat car and a steel framed 1920s-era single

sheathed wood box car. Five (5) clinics and presentations will be held at our hotel Friday evening.

SATURDAY: An early board meeting is followed by the annual business meeting at 8:00 AM. Our Austin Steam Train ride on the Katy's restored and recently painted *NEW BRAUNFELS* departs Cedar Park promptly at 10:00 AM with return by 3:30 PM. At 6:30 we gather at the hotel for our delicious buffet style dinner.

The KRHS welcomes Harvey Putsche as our after dinner speaker. From a well-known Katy family, Harvey worked up through the ranks starting in the car department, later as an agent-operator, train dispatcher and finally, after the 1988 merger, as the Union Pacific's Director of Train Management. More slides and videos afterwards.

SUNDAY: Breakfast and farewells at the hotel, then tour on your own to see three amazing Katy model railroad layouts by Jim Zwernemann (O), Steve Nelson (HO) and Mike Barrett (HO).



Katy's *NEW BRAUNFELS* at Dallas, TX, June 26, 1965. – John Charles photo



Mail this registration form AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE, or no later than April 22nd to: KRHS Convention, 22016 Senna Hills Drive, Garden Ridge, TX 78266. If you have questions or concerns, contact Convention Chairman Bruce Blalock by e-mail at texspl@austin.rr.com, or call 512-237-2228.

Name(s) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone or e-mail _____

Registration fee: (\$99 per person) includes all the Thursday through Sunday activities and annual KRHS banquet. Number attending Thursday–Sunday _____ Number for Saturday dinner only (**\$25 per person**) _____ **Total amount Enclosed** _____

Make your check payable to "KRHS." No confirmation can be mailed prior to the convention. For schedules, maps, etc., pick up your packet(s) at the KRHS' hotel registration table. Make room reservations with the hotel EARLY.

HOTEL HEADQUARTERS INFORMATION
HOLIDAY INN AUSTIN-NORTH ROUND ROCK
 2370 Chisholm Trail
 Round Rock, TX 78681
 Direct Phone: **512-246-7000**

To receive our special room rate, call our Holiday Inn headquarters and ask for a room in the Katy Railroad Historical Society's block. Rooms are \$95.00 per night and includes breakfast. This rate is good only until April 15th. **BE SURE to ask for your breakfast coupons when you check in.**

If you have questions regarding your room accommodations, contact the hotel directly. All other questions concerning the convention may be directed to Convention Chairman Brice Blalock by e-mail at texspl@austin.rr.com. Phone (512) 237-2228.

On the way to or from our meet, the following nearby railroad museums are offered:

Coupland Katy Depot Museum, Hoxie at Broad, Coupland, TX 78615

Elgin MKT/H&TC Depot Museum, 14 Depot Street, Elgin, TX 78621

LaGrange Katy Depot Museum, 260 North Washington Street, La Grange, TX 78945

Smithville Railroad Museum, Northeast First, Smithville, TX 78957 (Bruce will be sure this is open on Sunday)

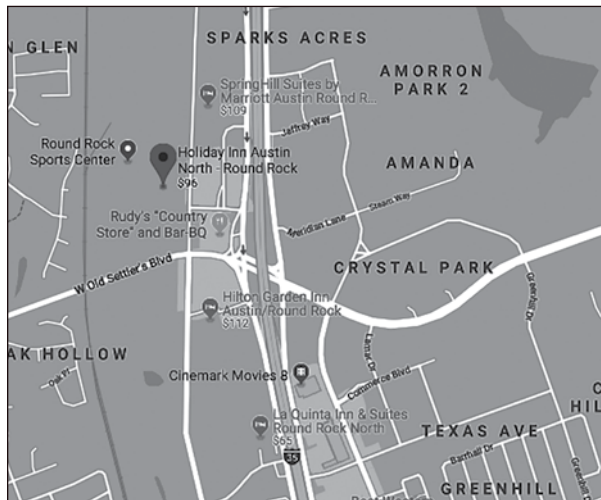
Rockdale IGN Depot Museum, 11 Main Street, Rockdale, TX 76567

New Braunfels IGN Depot Museum, 401 W Coll Street, New Braunfels, TX 78130

Bruce Blalock's Artifact Collection will also be available on Sunday at his home: 307 Colorado, Smithville TX 78957, noon through 6:00 PM.



Above: The Holiday Inn Austin-North Round Rock is our 2019 KRHS convention headquarters.



FROM THE NORTH: From Interstate 35 take exit 254 East to Chisholm Trail. Property is on the East Side of Chisholm Trail.

FROM THE SOUTH: On Interstate 35 take exit 254. Turn West upon exiting. Turn North on Chisholm Trail and arrive at 2370 Chisholm Trail.

TRAVEL TIPS

AIR TRAVEL:

Austin - Bergstrom International Airport (AUS): From Airport, take 70-West, then 183-North for 7 miles. Exit onto I-35 North for 12 miles and take exit No. 254. Turn Left at exit and immediately right onto Chisholm Trail. Hotel will be on the left side.

AMTRAK:

The Taylor depot is reasonably close (18.9 miles) with opportunities to travel on Nos. 21 and 22, the Texas Eagle. Rental cars are not available, so transportation to and from the hotel will have to be arranged.

SPECIAL THANKS GO TO THE FOLLOWING:

- Paul Phalen – Capital Metro
- Bill Snead and Mark Dixon – Georgetown Railroad, Texas Crushed Stone
- Charles Turner – Loram/GREX tour of MKT No. 400
- John Charles – Austin Steam Train charter
- Wade Todd – motor coach transportation
- Steve Nelson – model railroad tours
- Don Scott – registrations and accounting
- Bruce Blalock – Convention Chairman

Select one (1) Saturday evening banquet entrée: _____ Roasted Pork Tenderloin, or _____ Boneless Chicken Breast.

Please check or complete all that apply.

- _____ I would like to reserve space to sell Katy or other train memorabilia or models on Friday evening or Saturday.
- _____ I will be entering the Friday Model Contest.
- _____ For Thursday, Friday or Saturday nights I plan to bring: _____ Slides; _____ Videos; _____ Movies. A Carousel slide projector, digital projector, and video equipment will be available each night.
- _____ I would like to contribute a door prize(s) for the banquet. Description: _____
- _____ I require special assistance. Please explain: _____
- _____ **I want to volunteer to help during the KRHS' Round Rock, Texas, Convention. (Thank You!)**