

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NORTH TEXAS ZEPHYR NEWSLETTER



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VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR

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Chapter Meeting

November 4, 2014 – Founders Bldg., Grapevine, TX

7 pm meet'n'areet, 7:30 pm meeting.

Founders Building, 701 South Main St. Grapevine TX. Where

Program Annual Chapter Auction.

Map at http://go.dallasnews.com/places/founders-building/



North Texas Rail Events

2nd Annual FW Media-Slide Show & NRHS Open House

First ...

Fort Worth Area Train Show -- November 8 & 9, 2014.

Hours: **Saturday**, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Sunday**, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Amon Carter Exhibit Hall at the Will Rogers Colosseum complex in Fort Worth, Texas

Admission \$8.00 per person Children 12 and under are FREE.

More info at http://www.dfwtrainshows.com

Followed by ...

2nd Annual Ft. Worth Area Media-Slide Show and NRHS Open House!

Saturday 6 p.m.* - 10:00 p.m., November 8th, 2014, (*Train Show closes at 5:00pm).

Hosted by the North Texas Chapter at..

Saginaw Heritage Center (the depot), 301 S. Saginaw Blvd., Saginaw, Texas 76179

More info at: www.saginawtxchamber.org

Show Admission is FREE!

Please eat before you arrive. NO outside food allowed (house rules).

This is our second show to be hosted every year at this time by the North Texas Chapter, NRHS. We hope you plan to attend!

WE NEED Presenters! If YOU would like to be a presenter, please reply directly to me, Skip Waters <wgcrush@swbell.net>, NOT to any email group, NO LATER THAN 12:00 noon CST on Sunday, October 26, 2014. If you know the subject of your presentation, please tell me (having a subject is not mandatory). List type of media you plan to show: 1) Slides, 2) Digital photos, 3) Video tape or 4) DVD. After all presenters have identified themselves, I'll let them know A.S.A.P. how much time each will have at the show. You can go ahead and start putting your material together now, but keep it adjustable so you can make it fit the time allotted when I announce it after October 27th. You'll still have about two weeks to finalize it after I make that announcement.

Please limit Videos or DVD's to 15 minutes. Slides will only be limited by the available time divided by the number of presenters. Remember, the DEADLINE for getting your name on the PRESENTATION LIST is 12:00 noon CST on Sunday, October 26th. Don't miss the train. Thanks for your interest! Please pass this on to anyone that might be interested in the show. Best regards, Skip Waters, Vice President, Trips & Events, North Texas Chapter (National Railway Historical Society)

214-987-2888 office, wgcrush@swbell.net





Cotton Belt Symposium - A Quick Look

by Skip Waters, Chapter VP Trips and Events

A look back at the terrific Cotton Belt Symposium held at TAMU Commerce campus on Oct. 3 and 4, 2014. The North Texas Chapter sponsored the program of Joe Strapac, renowned railroad author and historian. Mr. Strapac is well known for his book, **Cotton Belt Locomotives**, the definitive guide to motive power on the St. Louis South-western Railway.



SP authors, Joe Strapac and Dave Bernstein.



Keynote speaker, Joseph Strapac.



Tony Wilson and John Winfield - Winfield's new Cotton Belt painting commissioned by Tony Wilson.



Dave Bernstein and Michael Palmieri - Mlke will be one of the proof readers for the new book.



Live band played during the Luncheon.





North Texas Chapter News & Views

North Texas Chapter NRHS 2015 Dues Notice

by Jim King, Chapter Treasurer

From Jim's recent postcard on how to pay 2015 Chapter dues:

- For 2015, dues for membership in chapters of the National Railway Historical Society are being solicited directly by each chapter. You will receive a separate mailing for national dues directly from NRHS.
- Please return this postcard with your payment of 2015 dues for the North Texas Chapter NRHS. Thank you! Jim King, Treasurer, North Texas Chapter . **INDIVIDUAL:** \$16 FAMILY \$16 + \$2 per added member. Your account is identified by the mailing address on this postcard. If you have any changes to your address or other personal information, please correct it on the other side.
- Make checks payable and return this postcard to: North Texas Chapter NRHS, P O Box 600304, Dallas TX 75360
- Our new chapter email address is: northtexaschapternrhs@gmail.com

Jon's History Corner

by Jon Shea, Chapter VP Programs

Here is a picture of a postcard of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad of Texas building in downtown Dallas. It is from the Arcadia Publications book. "Dallas Landmarks". I have been looking for a postcard of this building for a long time without success but at least I now know one exists. Maybe someday I will find it, Jon.



MKT Building.

For more than 50 years, this seven-story, terra-cotta and masonry building at 701 Commerce Street provided office space for the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas (MKT or "Katy") Railway Company headquarters in Dallas. This distinctive building, completed in 1912, was owned by Col. John N. Simpson and designed by H.A. Overbeck, Although the MKT occupied most of the building, space was allocated for other businesses. Considered modern for its time, the reinforced concrete building was fireproof and had a power plan in the basement. The use of dark brick, gilded ornamentation, and detailing at the projecting cornice, however, gave the building a stately appearance. The MKT Building was renovated in 1978 by Thomas E. Woodward. By 1989, the MKT Railway Company had been absorbed by other railway companies, and thus no longer existed. The MKT Building still serves as a reminder of the important role of railroads to the city's growth.

Source: Preservation Dallas., & Dallas Heritage Village. (2008). Dallas landmarks. Charleston, SC: Arcadia Pub.

Cotton Belt Railway, as reported by Trinity Valley

by Valli Hoski, VP Communications

The Sept. 2014 issue of *The Bulletin Board* provides excellent coverage of the Cotton Belt Railway in Fort Worth and the North Texas area. A timetable shows the long-time (but still relevant) schedule stops for the Cotton Belt Route. Given recent developments to bring commuter rail service on the Cotton Belt Line, "the old becomes new again" as one reads these stops on the schedule: Greenville, Josephine, Nevada, Lavon, Wylie, Murphy, Plano, Renner, Addison, Carrollton, Coppell, Grapevine, Smithfield, Fort Worth.

Also of interest to NTC members are the Cotton Belt resources listed in the issue: Cotton Belt Locomotives by Joseph Strapac, Railroad Stations and Trains Through Arkansas and the Southwest by Clifton Hull, and Texas Railroads by Zlatkovich.

Source: 10/19/2014, November 2014 issue, *The BULLETIN BOARD*, the monthly newsletter of the Trinity Valley Railroad Historical Association & The South Central States Chapter of the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society.

President's Roundhouse

by Wayne Smith, Chapter President

Facts and Trivia

- The Adamson Act: The eight-hour workday for railroad workers was introduced in 1916. It was called the Adamson Act and was signed by President Wilson the day after it was passed. It went into effect on January 1, 1917.
- **Hog Law**: The federal statute which provides that all train and engine crews must be relieved of duty after 12 hours of continuous service.





- Brownies: Demerits. This system is traced back to George R. Brown, general superintendent of the Fall Brook Railway (became part of
 the New York Central) in 1885. He thought the then current practice of suspending men for breaking rules was unfair to their families
 and substituted a system of demerit marks. Too many demerits in a given period resulted in dismissal. The Brown system, with many
 variations, has been widely adopted by the railroad industry. A superintendent's private car is called brownie box or brownie wagon.
 This is one proposed etymology of the slang expression "brownie points."
- By 1874, the **B&O had reached Chicago**, the ultimate destination for Eastern American Railroads. Nearly every major railroad had a route to Chicago. It was a more important destination than even New York.
- The Carrolton Viaduct is the oldest operational railroad bridge in the world. It currently bears load many times the size for which it was originally built. CSX Transportation intends to double-track it in the near future as its role expands.
- Mogul locomotives were originally rather unpopular, especially compared to the American type. After an improved forward truck was
 invented to make them more stable, they found acceptance. One particular engine won a prize at the 1876 Centennial Exposition held
 in Philadelphia.
- During the anti-Japanese sentiment of WWII, some railroads renamed their Mikado-type engines to **MacArthur Locomotives**, named after General Douglas MacArthur.
- **Sun Kink**: A condition in which high temperatures cause the rail to over expand and push the tracks sideways. Such conditions could cause a derailment.

Chapter Business Meeting Minutes, October 7, 2014 NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MINUTES, DATE: October 7, 2014, Sokol Hall, Dallas, Texas.

The membership meeting was held at the SOKOL Hall in Dallas, TX. President Wayne Smith called the meeting to order at 7:30pm with 12 members in attendance.

VP – Programs Jon Shea reported on several items. Our next meeting on November 4 will be at the Founders Building in Grapevine with the program to be the annual member's auction. All members should dig through their Railroadiana and bring along some of their items that they wish to enter into the auction. Funds raised from the auction go towards the chapter's bank account to provide for grants and other chapter work. President Wayne will have donation forms available if you wish to claim a tax deduction for your donation.

The January 6, 2015 meeting will also be held in Grapevine with the program to be the annual election of Chapter officers for the 2015 year. If you are interested in running for any position on the chapter board, contact Nominations chair Jerry Nunn.

December's meeting will be the annual chapter Christmas party. Babe's in Frisco will be the fallback choice if no other location is found. Jon will check with the T & P Depot Tavern as well as the Babe's in Arlington and report back at the next meeting.

Jon also passed out new 2015 UP calendars to those requesting one and showed a book from the Arcadia series, "Dallas Landmarks", showing the original Santa Fe building complex, the old state fair monorail, Dallas Union Station, the interurban building, and the old 1890's Santa Fe station, long ago demolished. He also showed a book, 'The Track Going Back' containing a picture of Dallas and a quote by the photographer lamenting the loss of named trains, various buildings in Dallas and other long lost landmarks.

VP- Events & Trips and National Director Skip Waters reminded the attendees of next month's annual train show in Ft. Worth, November 8-9, 2014, and the chapter's hosting of the 2nd Annual Slide Show and Open House at Saginaw Depot on the Saturday evening of the show weekend from 6-10 pm. During the train show, the chapter has 6 hours to work, manning the Ticket sales table, Back door monitoring and monitoring the 'Thomas' area. He passed around a worker sign-up sheet for members to volunteer.

Chapter Council Rep Dave Podhrasky reported on the council's search for a replacement location for the Ft. Worth train show. The Hurst convention center was considered. It has approx. 40,000 square feet, that could fit the show with some serious tweaking, but the rental cost would be \$20K, almost \$7K more than our current location at the Will Rogers Complex. Unless a different location in the Ft. Worth area is found soon, the 2015 season will have 2 shows at Plano Centre, one in September and the usual January show. Dave also reported we will need a table at both shows to promote our SP book undertaking. Pre-publishing book sales have gone well with over 20 books sold so far. We received good publicity at the Commerce, TX Cotton Belt Symposium and according to member Bob Kennedy the event was excellent. Skip reported that for now, dues will be billed separately by National and the chapter. Members can go online to pay their National dues and Treasurer Jim King has sent a postcard chapter dues reminder to all current members. Skip also reported the National Advisory Council is still active and that our chapter needs a representative on that council. All members were requested to contact Skip for any additional information they required on the current scene at National.





Chapter Directory

North Texas Chapter Officers, 2014.

- President, Wayne Smith, 940-300-4407.
- Vice President/Programs, Jon Shea, 972-948-2413...
- Vice President/Trips and Events, Skip Waters, wgcrush@swbell.net.
- Vice President/Communications, and NTZ editor, Valli Hoski, ntx.news@yahoo.com
- Secretary, Dave Gramm, dgramm@sbcglobal.net
- Treasurer, Jim King, jgking@swbell.net

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North Texas Chapter History

Chapter Business Address

North Texas Chapter, NRHS,

P.O. Box 600304

Dallas, Texas 75360

North Texas Zephyr Archive

http://www.gogeocaching.com/gorailfanning/Home/northtexaszephyr.html

North Texas Chapter @ Facebook

http://www.facebook.com/groups/409467244127/

Founded and chartered in 1996, the North Texas Chapter is one of the newest chapters of the National Railway Historical Society*. The chapter is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) educational organization incorporated under the laws of the state of Texas. Emphasis of the chapter is activity, history, and enjoyment of railroading past and present. Meetings are held 7:30-10:00 PM, first Tuesday of each month, usually (but not always) at the Grapevine Tourist & Visitor Information Center at Main St. and the FWWR railroad tracks. Visitors and newcomers are welcome. As of October 2014, chapter dues (\$16, plus \$2 per additional family member) should be sent to the Chapter PO Box. Chapter membership includes our monthly chapter newsletter, the North Texas Zephyr. National organization dues and their payment are being updated. More news when available. Chapter mailing address: North Texas Chapter NRHS, P.O. Box 600304, Dallas, Texas 75360. Reach the NRHS at National Railway Historical Society, 100 N 20th Street, 4th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1443.

North Texas Calendar

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Tues. Nov. 4, 2014.	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m . Location: Founders Building, Grapevine, TX <i>Program:</i> Chapter annual auction.					
Sat. Nov. 8,	Fort Worth Train Show - Location: Amon Carter Exhibit Hall, Will Rogers Memorial Center, Fo					
Sun. Nov. 9, 2014.	Worth TX. Admission: \$8. Details at http://dfwtrainshows.com/					
Sat. Nov. 8, 2014.	2d Annual Fort Worth Slide/Media Show and North Texas Chapter Open House – 6:00 p.m.** to 10 p.m. Location: Saginaw Heritage Center (the depot), 301 S. Saginaw Blvd., Saginaw, Texas 76179. ** Train Show closes 5 p.m. More info at www.saginawtxchamber.org					
6-10 p.m.						
Tues. Dec. 2, 2014.	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: to be confirmed. Program: annual dinner.					
Sat. Dec. 6,	Oklahoma City Train Show - Location: Cox Pavilion, Oklahoma State Fairgrounds, Oklahoma City,					
Sun. Dec. 7, 2014	OK. Admission \$10. Details at http://www.okctrainshow.com/					
Tues. Jan. 6, 2015.	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: Founders Building, 701 South Main St. Grapevine TX. Program: Chapter annual election.					
Sat . Jan. 17,	Dallas Area Train Show - Location: Plano Centre, 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway. Go East fro					
Sun. Jan. 18, 2015	Central Expressway (Exit 31). Admission: \$8. Details at http://dfwtrainshows.com/					
Tues. Feb. 3, 2015.	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: to be confirmed. Program: to be confirmed.					
Tues. March 3, 2015.	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: to be confirmed. Program: to be confirmed.					

The North Texas Chapter is proud to sponsor David Bernstein's new work on the Southern Pacific's Eastern Lines!

Want a copy? See form below.

