



VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR

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Chapter Meeting & Announcements

April 1, 2008 – Chapter Meeting, Sokol Hall, Dallas

Program: **Transit & Traction Doubleheader**

Speakers: **Roy King and Steve Siegerist** will jointly give a slide program on the Texas Electric and the Dallas Railway and Terminal which we hope will bring some new information to each of you.

Where: Sokol Dallas Center, 7448 Greenville Ave, Dallas. Map: <http://www.sokoldallas.com/id13.html>

Driving? Go east on Walnut Hill, at Greenville Ave. Turn south into the driveway just past the restaurant on the southwest corner.

DART? DART RED LINE to Walnut Hill Lane Station. Board **506** or **582** bus in the bus lane **facing east**. Ride to second stop after the train station and **get off before bus turns right on Greenville**. Walk across Greenville and into the driveway past the restaurant.

Special Feature – Lone Star Rails 2008 Programs Announced!

Come To The “Best Of The West” Rail Events & Programs!

Get your tickets and come on board! The highly anticipated and long-awaited schedule of excursions and events is now available! Tickets went on sale for Lone Star Rails 2008 with the February 29 mailing of the convention ticket book. Did you preregister? Then, look for yours in your mailbox. Not yet preregistered? Sign up fast as tickets will go quickly. Registrants are sending enthusiastic fan mail with the launch of the ticket book and sales.

- ◆ I got my Lone Star Rails information guide today and you've really done a great job in event planning and in the booklet layout. It's easy to find things. (LSR 2008 pre-registrant, 3/3/08)
- ◆ I received my program booklet in the mail yesterday and it looks great! Very Impressive! Great Job! (Wayne Smith)
- ◆ The ticket book design and layout looked great, and the color will grab attention when it hits the mailbox. Good work Skip, and thanks to all for the stuffing and stamping! (Terry King, 3/1/08)

Skip, LSR 2008 Chair says:

Now the real fun begins...We have reached a huge milestone with the mailing of the book, thanks to everyone who has helped us thus far... Fasten your seat belt, 'cause the next three and a half months will go by quick and June 16th will be here before you know it. Thanks again for serving and your continued support to the success of Lone Star Rails 2008! It will be a rewarding ride for all!



Special Feature – Texas Transit Revisited

Get Some Traction on Texas Transit With Roy & Steve

Roy King writes – Enjoy a unique presentation pair at this month’s meeting – Steve Siegerist and Roy King will give a joint program using slides from both their collections on the Texas Electric and the Dallas streetcar system. We hope that we can provide new information on the Dallas Interurban Terminal, some new facts to some of you on the on the history of the Texas Electric and on the rolling stock of the Dallas Railway. We will make sure that you know what a “Peter Witt” car was and what a “Stone and Webster” car was. Many of you, of course, already know these things but we are sure that all of you don’t. We hope to have a lively after show discussion.

To get in the TER mood, Jon Shea generously shares these Texas Electric Railroad photos (below) taken on March 10, 2002.



Left: **Texas Electric Freight Motors, Van**
 Alstyne, Texas.
 (Photo credit: Jon Shea)



Right: **Station, Allen,**
 Texas.
 (Photo credit: Jon Shea)

The Historical Marker at the Allen Station shares this background: *The Allen Station of the Texas Electric Railway* – The community of Allen, founded in the 1870s, experienced a surge of growth after the arrival of the Texas Traction Company in 1908. The town was a stop on the interurban line between Dallas and Sherman, service daily by hourly passenger cars from 6 A.M. to 6 P.M. Two daily freight deliveries brought mail, produce and railway express packages. After first operating from a farmhouse, Texas Traction bought this property in 1912 and built this brick depot in 1913. The railway became the Texas Electric in 1917, with service from Denison to Waco until it was abandoned in 1948.

Special Feature – National Train Day

Amtrak Celebrates First Annual National Train Day on May 10, 2008

To raise awareness of the vital role rail plays in our nation’s transportation system, Amtrak will celebrate its first annual National Train Day during six weeks of celebrations culminating on Saturday, May 10, 2008.

“With ridership growing to record levels, we continue to see a strong demand for rail travel as a link between growing communities,” said Alex Kummant, President and CEO of Amtrak. “Passenger and freight service is on the rise, and there’s never been a better time to celebrate the railroad industry and passenger rail service in the U.S.” Amtrak’s celebration of National Train Day will begin six weeks prior to May 10 with special promotions, events, partnerships and advertising campaign. On May 10 Amtrak will host events at four of its largest stations, Washington, New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, where visitors may take part in a variety of activities including live musical performances, exhibits, trip planning, VIP appearances and trip giveaways.

The date of National Train Day, May 10, holds special meaning as it is the anniversary of the completion of the first transcontinental railroad at Promontory Summit, Utah in 1869. At Promontory, the east coast and west coast were connected for the first time by rail. From Promontory in 1869 to the creation of Amtrak in 1970 to the launch of Acela Express in 2000, Amtrak employees across the country will celebrate the history of train travel while looking towards the future on National Train Day. For more information on National Train Day and planned events, visit www.NationalTrainDay.com

Amtrak’s ridership and revenue have never been stronger. During fiscal year 2007, more than 25.8 million passengers traveled on Amtrak, setting a record for the most passengers ever since Amtrak began operation in 1971. Total ticket revenue for fiscal year 2007 was more than \$1.5 billion, an increase of 11 percent over the previous year. It was the fifth straight year of increases for Amtrak, and the trend continues. For the first quarter of fiscal year 2008, more than 7 million passengers traveled on Amtrak, an increase of 11 percent, and revenue was up 14.6 percent to more than \$434 million. Source: 3/3/2008, **Amtrak Press Release** at http://www.nationaltrainday.com/downloads/NTD_Press_Materials.pdf

North Texas Rail News

Mid-Cities Commuter Rail Service Examined

As reported in the [Dallas Morning News](#), Frisco, Carrollton, Farmers Branch, and Irving are examining ways to accelerate commuter rail service to their communities. They are considering a study for service along the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) corridor, which is 25

miles long, as an alternative to DART’s longer-term transit development. The cities could contract with another party to operate the service, or with DART, or seek other build options. The intent is to start service sooner than DART’s plan, but not to compete or replace that future planned service. The cities are considering both local funding, communities contributing on the basis of their population, as well as other funding sources. Source:



3/8/2008, The Dallas Morning News, by Stephanie Sandoval at:
http://www.railwayage.com/breaking_news.shtml

DART Long-Range Financial Plan Sent To Member Cities

Following more than three months of study, the DART Board of Directors voted to send a draft long-range Financial Plan supporting future rail projects to its 13 member cities for a 30-day review. The Board is scheduled to adopt a final version of the plan as early as April 8. The Plan supports the construction of a 14-mile Orange Line northwest to the Las Colinas Urban Center in 2011 and to Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport in 2013, and a 4.75-mile Blue Line extension to Rowlett in 2012. The Plan supports the Downtown Dallas Transit Study, including a second rail line through the Dallas Central Business District, revenue service scheduled for 2014 and a Blue Line extension from Ledbetter Station to I-20 in 2018. Combined, these projects are projected to cost approximately \$2.3 billion. Funding strategies have been identified to address the shortfall. DART's 28-mile Green Line project, connecting Pleasant Grove and Carrollton, remains on schedule and on budget. The \$1.8 billion project began in late summer 2006. The first phase, Downtown Dallas to Fair Park, is scheduled to open in September 2009 in time for the State Fair of Texas. The rest is scheduled to open in December 2010. Source: 3/5/08 DART News Release. Original article at <http://www.dart.org/news/news.asp?ID=786>

Dallas Logistics Hub Gains FTZ Status

The Dallas Logistics Hub will be part of a Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) expansion in Dallas that could become one of the largest FTZs in the nation. The Allen Group, developer of the 6,000 acre multi-modal logistics park, learned in late February about the hub's FTZ designation, which will enable customers to defer and exempt freight from federal customs duties. A specified site designated by the Foreign Trade Zone Board, a FTZ allows goods to be processed, repackaged and handled within the zone prior to entering the U.S. consumer market. Freight exported to other countries is exempt from duties.

The logistics park is adjacent to a Union Pacific Railroad intermodal terminal, a proposed BNSF Railway Co. intermodal facility, four interstate connections and a proposed airport. The hub will receive freight from ports in Los Angeles and Long Beach, Calif., Houston and western Mexico, and distribute the goods regionally and nationally. Source: 3/14/2008, **Progressive Railroading News** at:
<http://www.progressiverailroading.com/news/article.asp?id=15444>

Ethanol Rail Terminal Opens In Arlington

The Dallas Fort Worth Rail terminal announced March 13, 2008 that it has started operations on a 15-acre site in Arlington, Texas, served by Union Pacific, and is beginning to receive and offload ethanol railcars and unit trains. The new facility is owned by Dallas Fort Worth Rail Terminal, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of J.S. Development Corp., which is based in Pasadena, Texas. The terminal has dedicated storage capacity for 139,000 barrels, an 84-car high-speed offloading facility, and outbound truck and pipeline capabilities. Source: 3/13/2008, **Railway Age Late Breaking Rail Industry News** at:
http://www.railwayage.com/breaking_news.shtml

General Rail News

10.3 Billion Public Transit Trips Taken In 2007

The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) announced that Americans took 10.3 billion trips on public transportation in 2007, the highest level in 50 years, representing a 2.1% increase over the previous year. Public transportation use is up 32% percent since 1995, a figure that is more than double the growth rate of the population (15 percent) and up substantially over the growth rate for the vehicle miles traveled (VMT) on our nation's highways (24%) for that same period.

Light rail (modern streetcars, trolleys, and heritage trolleys) had the highest percentage of ridership increase among all modes, with a 6.1 percent increase in 2007. Commuter rail posted the second largest ridership increase at 5.5 percent. Heavy rail (subways) ridership increased by 3.1%. Bus service saw an increase of 1.0, but in communities with a population of less than 100,000, bus services saw an increase of 6.4% in 2007. Source: 3/14/2008, **American Public Transportation Association News Release** at: http://www.apta.com/media/releases/080310_ridership.cfm

J.S. Reed, Former SF Chairman Has Departed This Earthly Station

John Shedd Reed, former chairman and chief executive officer of Santa Fe Industries, died in March, 2008. Born in 1917 in Chicago, Reed, a 1939 Yale graduate, applied to the Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe Railway to become a locomotive engineer. He was offered a spot in the Santa Fe's Topeka, Kan. test department. Following World War II service, Reed returned to the Santa Fe's Operating Department in Amarillo and Slaton, Tex.; Pueblo, Colo.; and Marceline, Mo. Reed ultimately became chairman and CEO of the Santa Fe and later holding company Santa Fe Industries; he coordinated railway, natural resources, and energy divisions until his 1983 retirement. Prior to retirement, he had explored a possible merger of the Santa Fe with Conrail and then Norfolk Southern, and finally a merger with the Southern Pacific. John Schmidt who led the proposed Santa Fe-Southern Pacific merger succeeded Reed. Schmidt departed the Santa Fe in 1987, and Reed came out of retirement for two years to again run the Santa Fe. Rob Krebs then succeeded Reed prior to the Santa Fe merger with Burlington Northern to create what is now BNSF Railway. Source: 3/17/2008, **Railway Age Late Breaking Rail Industry News** at: http://www.railwayage.com/breaking_news.shtml

Stricter Air Standards for Locomotive Engines

Federal air emission standards for locomotive engines will be stricter in less than four years. On March 14, 2008, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) unveiled new Tier 3 and 4 emission regulations governing locomotive and marine engines that begin taking effect in 2012. When fully implemented in 2015, the regulations will require the engines to reduce particulate matter by 90 percent and nitrogen oxides by 80 percent. Tier 3



standards take effect in 2012 and Tier 4 standards, in 2015 — two years earlier than previously outlined in EPA regulation proposals. Railroads will need to adopt ultra-low sulfur diesel and advanced engine systems to comply with the regulations.

Source: 3/14/2008, **Progressive Railroading News** at:
<http://www.progressiverailroading.com/news/article.asp?id=15783>

New KCS Intermodal Center Opens in KC

The CenterPoint-KCS Intermodal Center Phase I officially opened for

traffic on Monday, March 17. Upon opening, the new intermodal facility offers 11,340 feet of main line track for efficient loading and unloading. This intermodal facility replaces KCS' facility off of Front Street in the northeast industrial area of Kansas City.

Source: 3/17/08, **Kansas City Southern News Release**. Original article at
<http://notes.kcsi.com/WebApps/kcspress.nsf/626e6035eadbb4cd85256499006b15a6/1f6fe4ede8ec0758625740c0067072f?OpenDocument>

Press time: 3/20/08, 9pm. File: NTx Newsletter 2008-04 vC1.doc

Chapter Features & News

April 4-6, '08 - Raise Funds For NTC With Thomas

Each volunteer hour worked by an NTC member will earn \$5.00 per hour to be donated to the Chapter – April 4-6 with “Day Out With Thomas” at Grapevine, sponsored by the Museum of the American Railroad!

Whether you volunteer for several hours or several days, you will help the Chapter and also help to foster rail interest in youngsters, new rail enthusiasts and families. The Museum expects significant crowds to attend the event. They need about 60 volunteers to ensure a safe and successful event. To sign up to volunteer, please contact the Museum of the American Railroad or Kellie Murphy, Director of Public Programs at (214) 428-0101, or email Skip (wgcrush@swbell.net) for a volunteer form.

Chapter President's Corner – Ron's Ramblings

By Ron Anderson, Chapter President

While I don't have as much time to read as I would like, I am constantly on the lookout for interesting books on American trains. Our family does enjoy browsing the larger bookstores, as well as the discount re-sellers. I always, always find whatever books there are on train transportation. Since I am still raising a family, and have made career choices centered more toward family than fame and riches, I usually am budget conscious. While the choices are not as wide as autos and motorcycles, there are still some good books out there, and I have already used up my Christmas gift cards on more train books, usually related to passenger travel. I haven't even had time to read them much yet, partially due to being involved with Lone Star Rails, which is coming soon and the Chapter is busy. I continue to be amazed by the knowledge of the train history buffs around me. They can spot details that I had no idea about. I guess that is one thing that I enjoy being involved with people who know these things. When I do find the time I also look at the selections at the local library too. There are some great collections at some of the local universities as well. Our Chapter has held meetings at both Degolyer Library on the SMU campus in Dallas, and also at the University of Texas at Arlington. It's too bad they are not on my way home from work, or my family might really miss me!

Chapter Meeting Minutes, March 4, 2008

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MEETING MINUTES AND NOTES, DATE: March 4, 2008. Founders Building, Grapevine, Texas.

President Ron Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. There were 17 members in attendance and 2 guests present, Howard Stevenson and Tom Santella. VP Programs Jon Shea reviewed the upcoming programs: Next meeting, April 1 @ SOKOL Hall, Members Steve Siegerist and Roy King will present a program titled “Transit & Traction Doubleheader”. May 6 we will meet at the Garland Landmark Museum for a member program entitled “Tall Tales and Small Slides.” May 23-24 will be “24 Hours at Saginaw.” June 3 we will meet at the Farmers Branch Historical Park to tour the Dallas & Wichita RR Depot and 1890's restored cabooses there and then have a volunteer workshop for the convention in the farmhouse on the grounds. July 1 we tentatively will not have a meeting, resting up after the convention. August 5 is still open at this time. VP Publications Valli Hoski was not in attendance. She still needs pictures from local museums, exhibits, train operations, etc for the newsletter. April newsletter cutoff date was March 15. VP Events Skip Waters was not in attendance, however Ron remarked that the convention ticket books had been mailed. Volunteers are still needed for all events. Per Wayne Smith, the goal of the committee is for every member who is registered to volunteer some time. Gulf Coast chapter is handling the TX State RR trip proper but we need to supply volunteers for bus hosts, box lunch distribution, etc. Thursday of convention week will be the heaviest day for volunteer needs with multiple tours, etc. National rep Dale Wilken had no late-breaking national news. Next meeting of the board is in April. Headquarters is meeting at the offices of Fernley & Fernley as previously reported. Rail News: Steve Siegerist handed out free week passes good on all Dart, TRE & T trains and busses for the week of March 24-30. Share Time: Member Dan Pagel showed a book he obtained on loan from Abilene Christian University through the library, written by S.G. Reeds, entitled “A History of the Texas Railroads and of the Transportation Conditions under Spain and Mexico and The Republic and The State”, 2nd Edition published in 1941. Heavy reading at over 800 pages.

New Business: President Ron reminded everyone that the position of Nominations chair is still open and he is looking for a volunteer to fill the position. Council Rep Russ Covitt presented the check for the chapter's proceeds from the Ft. Worth and Dallas train shows. Our return on our 1 share @ 80% was \$288, less \$20 for our annual membership dues to the council, for a check in the amount of \$268. Break @ 8:10 pm.



Program @ 8:15 pm by member Leon Sapp: PowerPoint presentation entitled 'The Katy Western Division from Wichita Falls, TX to Keyes, OK', with an excellent narration by Leon on the day-to-day operations of the division.

Lone Star Rails 2008 Convention Corral

Tickets On Sale Now! Volunteers, Calling All Volunteers!

Tickets! Tickets! **Get your tickets now!** The ticket booklet is full of programs, events, and trips! Looking for rare mileage? Join us! Want to explore the not-everyday views of TRE and DART? Join us! Want to learn how to preserve and organize your railroiana collection? Join us! Look for more details in the 2008 Lone Star Rails ticket booklet. If you're preregistered, you should have yours now! **Want a special insider's view of trip operations?** Yearning to share your local knowledge of a Fort Worth, Dallas, or Texas railroad, historical event or legend? Become a convention volunteer - all the world will be traveling to Lone Star Rails 2008! Your help as car host, bus host, local guide, and more is eagerly anticipated. **Sign up now with the Volunteer Form in this month's issue.**

Chapter Directory

North Texas Chapter Officers

- **President, Ron Anderson**, rra_nrhs@yahoo.com
- **Vice President/Programs, Jon Shea**, 972-480-9054.
- **Vice President/Trips and Events, Skip Waters**, 214-987-2888.
- **Vice President/Publications, Valli Hoski**, ntx.valli@yahoo.com
- **Secretary, Dave Gramm**, dgramm@sbcglobal.net
- **Treasurer, Steve Siegerist**, 972-234-2682.
- **National Director, Dale Wilken**, d-mwilken@sbcglobal.net.

Chapter Business Address

North Texas Chapter, NRHS,
 P.O. Box 600304
 Dallas, TX 75360



2008 NTC Officers (not in order listed at left)
 (Photo credit: Claude Doane, 1/8/2008)

North Texas Calendar

Tues. April 1, 2008	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. – Sokol Dallas Center , 7448 Greenville Ave, Dallas, TX, map: http://www.sokoldallas.com/id13.html Guest speakers: Roy King and Steve Siegerist. Program: Transit & Traction Doubleheader.
Tues. May 6, 2008	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Garland Landmark Museum , 200 Museum Plaza, Garland, TX (at Museum Plaza, just north of State St., west of SF tracks. 1 block north of Main St., 1 block west of 3rd St.) Map: http://www.garlandhistorical.org/directions.html . Guest speakers: Members & friends. Program: Tall Tales & Small Slides - Our Favorite Railroad Moments.
Fri. May 23 – Sat. May 24, 2008	24 Hours @ Saginaw – May 23, 7:00 p.m. - May 24, 7:00 p.m. Saginaw Depot, 301 S. Saginaw Blvd Saginaw, Texas. Map: http://www.trainweb.org/southwestshorts/saginaw-map.html Program: 24 Hours of Rail Spotting Fun and Rail Programs by local photographers, artists and more. Contact: Skip Waters VP Trips and Events North Texas Chapter, NRHS email: wqcrush@swbell.net
Tues. June 3, 2008	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Farmers Branch Historical Park , 2540 Farmers Branch Lane, Farmers Branch, TX. Map: http://www.ci.farmers-branch.tx.us/ParksRec/Historicalpark.html Program: Dallas Wichita Railroad Depot, Caboose Walking Tour, and Lone Star Rails 2008 chapter briefing.
June 16-22, 2008	Lone Star Rails 2008 National Convention – Hilton Fort Worth , 815 Main St., Fort Worth, TX 76102. For registration and more, see www.LoneStarRails2008.com , email Info@LoneStarRails2008.com or call (214) 207-5733.

North Texas Chapter History

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 FWR railroad tracks. **Visitors and newcomers are welcome.** Effective August 2007, regular membership is \$46 a year (\$33 national dues + \$13 chapter dues). Additional family members are \$7 per individual. Regular membership includes: a) subscription to the NRHS Bulletin (5 issues/year) and our monthly chapter newsletter, the North Texas Zephyr. Chapter mailing address: **North Texas Chapter NRHS, P.O. Box 600304, Dallas, TX 75360.** *Reminder, effective Feb. 2008, **NRHS** has a new mailing address: National Railway Historical Society, 100 N 20th Street, 4th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1443.



Volunteer Application – Lone Star Rails 2008 Convention

Name _____ Member of which NRHS Chapter? _____

Best way to **contact** you (please provide phone and/or email) _____

Have you **paid your registration fee** for Lone Star Rails 2008? Yes ___ No ___

Days available to volunteer for the Conference:

Mon. (6/16) **Tues.** (6/17) **Wed.** (6/18) **Thurs.** (6/19) **Fri.** (6/20) **Sat.** (6/21)

Do you have **prior volunteer experience** at a previous rail event, conference or tour? No Yes

If so, what **experience** do you have? (Previous experience is not required.)

What **activity** would you like to volunteer for / help with? (We'll try to match your interest, but can't promise.)

___ **Registration or Info Desk** ___ **In-hotel programs (programs, meetings, etc.)**

___ **Bus trips** ___ **Rail trip** ___ **Outside activity (street guide, greeter, etc.)**

___ **Anything, I'm flexible** ___ **Something else** _____

Any limit(s) to what you can do, such as, no walking or standing for long periods, etc.?

Please mail this form to:

Lone Star Rails 2008, ATTN: Volunteer Coordinator
North Texas Chapter, NRHS
P.O. Box 600304
Dallas, Texas 75360-0304

Thank you for your interest and support of the Lone Star Rails 2008 National Convention.