



**VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR**

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**Chapter Meeting**

**April 7, 2009 - Meeting, Sokol Hall, Dallas.**

**Meet 'n' Greet, 7pm. Meeting, 7:30 pm.**

**Program:** Guest speaker: Roger Bee, Texas Shortline Railroads.

**Where:** Sokol Dallas Center, 7448 Greenville Ave, Dallas.

**May 5 Meeting – A Very Special Program!**

Dave Podhrasky is presenting a very special program at the NTC May 5 meeting. The documentary film, "The Accidental Army", is based on a historical event. During World War I, Czechoslovakian soldiers in Russia joined with the White (non-communist) Russians and fought both the Germans and the Red (communist) Russians. At one time they controlled about 5,000 miles of the Trans-Siberian Railway. These soldiers pioneered some early tactics of railroad warfare.

**Dues are due! Renew now to catch the Zephyr!**

The NRHS 2009 dues renewal cycle ends on March 31. We have approximately 20 individuals and families who have not yet renewed. If this list includes you, **please get your renewal in** as quickly as possible (\$46 for individuals, \$7 for each additional family member) by mailing payment to:

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

Please check the mailing address panel on this issue. If it shows you as a 2008 member, then we have not received your 2009 dues. You are reading your last Zephyr issue!

**Special Feature – “Stealing The General” Live on the Web**

**Relive “The Great Locomotive Chase” Live With the Pritzker**

By Valli Hoski

Most “real time” rail enthusiast events happen face-to-face, whether trackside, at meets and swaps, or club gatherings. **That’s all changed – on April 25, come join this next generation of “real time” rail history events on the Web!**

*The Pritzker Military Library Presents*

**STEALING THE GENERAL: THE GREAT LOCOMOTIVE CHASE  
 & THE FIRST MEDAL OF HONOR**

**April 25, 2009**

*Presentation & Live Webcast - 10:00 A.M. CT Film Screening & Discussion - 11:00 A.M. CT*

**Come join a very special live, on-line rail and military history program** that links the Pritzker library in Chicago, with discussions and participation with those joining on the Web. **This innovative program recalls a significant moment in the history of American railroading and the Civil War – “Stealing the General”.** This event occurs on the Web as well as at the



Pritzker's Chicago library. **Russell S. Bonds**, author of a new book on the historical locomotive chase, **will lead a live and online program about the General, its history and the first Medal of Honor.** Immediately following, the film will be screened with the live audience onsite at the Pritzker. Web participants need to view the film at their own location then, or before Saturday. (It won't be broadcast on the web.) Then, a live discussion (post-screening) will be held with all "live" participants – onsite and on the Web. For more information on the Pritzker Military Library program, see <http://www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org/events/2009-04-25-russell-bonds.jsp>

- Who is *Russell Bonds*? Mr. Bonds "has published several articles and reviews on Civil War topics in national publications" For more details on Mr. Bond's new book, see <http://StealingTheGeneral.com>
- Who is the *Pritzker Military Library*? As described on the library's web site (<http://www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org>), the library's mission is to "acquire and maintain an accessible collection of materials and develop appropriate programs focusing on the Citizen Soldier in the preservation of democracy". "The Pritzker Military Library has become a non-partisan research library that attempts to increase the public understanding of military history". Location: Pritzker Military Library, 610 North Fairbanks Court, 2nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60611. Phone: 312.587.0234

Sources: 3/24/09, the Pritzker Military Library mission statement, history and events list at [www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org](http://www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org) .

## Special Feature – American Freedom Train OTA With W3UU

### **American Freedom Train – W3UU Celebration, Harrisburg**

By Harry Fasick, K3EYL

The American Freedom Train is a cherished memory of many rail enthusiasts and the American public. During 1976, the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club (HRAC) helped celebrate the Freedom Train in a very unique way. W3UU is the call sign of the Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club. HRAC had several amateur radio stations on-board the train as it traveled around South Central Pennsylvania.



Above is the special event certificate I (Harry, K3EYL) received for working W3UU two times, once while they were "in motion" near Gettysburg and a few days later, July 4, while stationary at New Cumberland, PA. The train was set up for tours at the New Cumberland Army Depot. My family, including my 10 year-old son, stood in line for several hours waiting our turn to go through the displays. I have fond memories of that family train outing as well as working W3UU on my trusty ham radio.

## Special Feature – Commemorating ‘Fort Worth Crossroads’ & LSR2008

### **“Fort Worth Crossroads” Print Now Available From NTC**

John Winfield, well-known railroad artist from Fort Worth (and NTC member!), painted ‘Fort Worth Crossroads’, the fine, quality artwork that helped commemorate Lone Star Rails 2008.



The official Lone Star Rails 2008 print John Winfield's spectacular painting is now available by mail order from the North Texas Chapter.



This 18 x 24 inch lithograph on high quality paper will be mailed to you by First Class mail in a rugged cardboard tube. The signed and numbered limited edition print is available for \$29, and the unsigned edition is priced at \$24. These prices include First Class mail to US addresses. Make check or money orders payable to 'North Texas Chapter, NRHS' and mail to the chapter PO box. Allow three weeks for delivery. (Thanks to Jim King, Chapter Treasurer, for this notice.)

## **National Rail News**

### ***New Amtrak Railroad Photography Policy In Place***

After working with National Press Photographers Association (NPPA) on the language, Amtrak's new photography guidelines have been published on the railroad's Web site ([http://nppa.org/news\\_and\\_events/news/2009/03/amtrak01.html](http://nppa.org/news_and_events/news/2009/03/amtrak01.html)). These guidelines are very relevant for the public as well as press. The railroad's new guidelines are in four sections: **Policy, Definitions, Exceptions, and Law Enforcement**. Below are selected extracts from the Amtrak Guidelines. Please see the full policy on Amtrak's web site.

#### **Amtrak Corporate Guidelines on Photography and Video Recording**

##### **Section I. Policy** (excerpt)

The taking of photographs and/or videos is permitted within public access areas on Amtrak property and as otherwise stated in Section III.

##### **Section II. Definitions** (excerpt)

**Commercial and Special Photography.** Photography that requires explicit authorization from Amtrak and includes engagements for commercial gain or profit such as, movie films, commercial television productions, and photography for commercial advertisements.

**Photography.** Photography shall mean the taking of moving and/or still images.

**Public Area.** An area open to general public access and occupancy (station areas and platforms for ticketed passengers only) that is not otherwise posted or restricted by posted signs or locking devices. Signage, building design and physical barriers, i.e. fencing, bollards, etc., may also distinguish a public area from a restricted area.





*Restricted Area.* A restricted area is any area not open to or occupied by the public, or is open to or occupied by the public on a limited basis. Signage, building design and physical barriers, i.e. fencing, bollards, etc., may also distinguish a restricted area from a public area. [Guidelines indicate 10 "Restricted areas" but the restricted areas "are not limited to the following" shown on the list.]

### **Section III. Exceptions** (excerpt)

Commercial and Special Photography. Prior arrangements must be made with Amtrak's Real Estate Department ...

News Photography. Members of the news media are entitled to the same access for photography purposes as the general public.

News media may request additional access by contacting the Amtrak Media Relations Office ...

Ticketed Passengers on platforms may photograph or video record during the time they are preparing to board or immediately after alighting from a train. Equipment is limited to hand-held devices. Such photography, including equipment set-up will be done in a reasonable, safe and timely manner.

Ticketed passengers on board trains may take photos or video record on a train when it does not interfere with passengers or crew and in accordance with any directions given by Amtrak onboard train personnel.

Other photography or video recording not covered by this policy requires advance approval from the area Amtrak Station Manager

### **Section IV. Law Enforcement** (excerpt)

Amtrak Police and Security personnel may approach photographers and videographers upon a complaint from a member of the public or Amtrak personnel that the activity is suspicious in nature, or based upon their own observation that the activity is suspicious in nature or inconsistent with this policy.

Amtrak Police and Security Personnel will advise the individual that an inquiry is being conducted for security purposes. Amtrak Police and Security personnel will follow established departmental regulations ...

Nothing in this policy limits or expands the authority of Amtrak police officers to initiate and pursue investigations, perform a pat down or frisk based upon reasonable suspicion, and/or conduct searches based upon probable cause or any recognized exception to the probable cause requirement in accordance with all legal authority. But the taking of photographs and/or video may not, in and of itself, rise to the level of reasonable suspicion or probable cause.

Sources: 3/10/09, National Press Photographers Association news, at [http://nppa.org/news\\_and\\_events/news/2009/03/amtrak01.html](http://nppa.org/news_and_events/news/2009/03/amtrak01.html).

3/10/09, Amtrak Corporate Guidelines on Photography and Videorecording, at

[http://www.amtrak.com/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=Amtrak/am2Copy/Simple\\_Copy\\_Page&c=am2Copy&cid=1178294272520&ssid=11134](http://www.amtrak.com/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=Amtrak/am2Copy/Simple_Copy_Page&c=am2Copy&cid=1178294272520&ssid=11134)

## **Local Rail News**

### ***First Train Crosses New Trinity Railway Express Bridge***

On March 9, Trinity Railway Express (TRE) passenger train No. 2900 became the first revenue service train to cross a new bridge on the TRE corridor. This 8,236-foot bridge represents the completion of the first phase of a project that eliminates railroad crossings at Belt Line, Briery and Story Roads and also will result in quiet zone treatment at Irby Lane, Rogers Road and MacArthur Road. Implementation of the quiet zones at these crossings is scheduled to be effective by the end of April. In addition to creating a quieter environment, the infrastructure that is installed also provides increased safety to train crews and passengers, as well as motorists. A second bridge, duplicating the new bridge, will be completed by December 2010 and will result in a double track corridor between the West Irving Station and Rogers Road. A separate project that is currently under design by DART will run from the West Irving Station across Valley View Lane to the Dallas/Tarrant County line and connect there with an existing track that serves the CentrePort/DFW Airport Station on the TRE. This project also is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2010. The completion of these projects will allow for safer and more reliable TRE passenger service. The \$70 million Belt Line Grade Separation project is funded by a variety of sources, including local bond funds, Dallas Area Rapid Transit, Texas Department of Transportation and the Federal Transit Administration. Source: 3/9/2009, DART News Release, at <http://www.dart.org/news/news.asp?ID=836>

## **Chapter News & Views**

### ***News from the New NTC President***

By Wayne Smith, Chapter President

#### ***CP and Minnedosa Memories***

As I mentioned in the North Texas Zephyr last month, my mother is from Canada. To continue my story about childhood Canadian rail travels from last month, after we arrived by train (Great Northern) at Union Station in Winnipeg, Manitoba, we were greeted by family members. Winnipeg Union Station is one of those grand old stations that have a million stories to tell. It was built by



Canadian Northern Railway and Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, later becoming Canadian National. Union Station was also used by the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern. After spending a few days and site seeing in Winnipeg, we were driven by family members to see my grandparents in Minnedosa where they lived after my grandfather retired as the town blacksmith in a very small rural farming community. Minnedosa was big in comparison. Minnedosa is a farming and railroad community approximately two hours northwest of Winnipeg with a population of approximately 2,500 people. Manitoba is a prairie province and we saw mile after continuous mile of various grain crops on our way to see my grandparents. I remember occasionally seeing local Mennonites out on the highway near Minnedosa in their horse and buggies. I don't remember ever seeing them in town. I guess they kept to themselves.

Minnedosa is the first subdivision point west of Winnipeg on the Canadian Pacific's main line to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and on to Edmonton Alberta. I have also been to both of those cities, but not by train. I remember seeing and taking pictures in my teenage years of the roundhouse, turntable, wooden and/or wooden/corrugated metal grain elevators, etc. I never actually saw steam action but the remnants were there. The main line cut through the middle of town and frequently, we had to stop for a passing train. Many times the train stopped on Main Street and cut the town in half. I think there was some law about limiting the time that the street was blocked to 4-5 minutes. Of course, those were the days when the engineer waved as he passed and then the conductor waved as the caboose passed by.

In celebration of its rich railroad history, the Canadian Pacific added various pieces of equipment to a park that rests in the center of town beside a creek that also cuts through town. Originally, there was just a wooden caboose. Later, handcars were added and then even later, an E or F unit was added. I don't remember which. The equipment was always kept freshly painted. As far as I know, all of the donated equipment remains. I have not been there in almost 20 years. Most of my remaining family now resides in British Columbia.

However, gone are the elevators, the round house, the coal and water towers, the cafes, and almost everything else associated with the railroad in Minnedosa. Most of the tracks have been pulled up and the elevators have fallen.

Now there remains only the historic Minnedosa CPR red brick station that has stood vigil along the tracks, a station where a million memories were lived, shared and preserved as the memories of the passengers and railroaders of the Minnedosa and Braedenbury subdivisions. My grandparents have long passed and so has my mother. I doubt I will ever return to that part of Canada again. But I still have those memories.

### ***Ham Radio & Rail Celebrations***

*By Harry Fasick, K3EYL*

#### ***Railwatch – Come on out for a day of radio, trains, and good food!***

The Railwatch Special Event, April 4, 2008, brings hams and rail enthusiasts together for train spotting and rail history on the air in Folkston, Georgia. The Camden County Amateur Radio Society (CCARS) says:

*“Come on out for a day of radio, trains, and good food! ... CCARS has received permission from the Folkston/Okeefeanokee Chamber of Commerce to operate a special event station in recognition of the annual Railwatch Day train-watching celebration. Railwatch Days is an annual event that draws railroad fans from all over the Southeast for a day of shared interests, food, and photography. The historic Folkston Train Depot was rebuilt less than 10 years ago and has been thoughtfully equipped to accommodate rail fans. A museum containing many locally historical documents, drawings, and artifacts has been established and is a must see for rail fans.”*

Find out more about this the CCARS and Railwatch at <http://www.ccars.org/events9.htm> That's the ticket, Harry.

### ***Ponderings from Publications***

*By Claude Doane, VP Publications*

#### ***Going Green to save some Green***

In an effort to reduce costs, the NTC-NRHS Board has voted to move toward electronic distribution of the North Texas Zephyr. We plan to begin with the June issue. **What does this mean for you?** It means you will have access to each new issue sooner than if you waited for the mailed copy. It also means that any color pictures will arrive in full living color on your very own computer screen! **What do you have to do? If we already have your email address, nothing** further is required. **If you have not supplied us with your email**, but want to be among the first to make the change, **please send an email to Jim King** ([jkking@swbell.net](mailto:jkking@swbell.net)). In the subject line reference “E mail Zephyr” and your name in case your email address does not match your



name. **If you do not have email or you wish to continue to receive a hard copy** via the postal service, **do nothing** at this time. Watch this space for more information coming your way in future issues.

### **Editor's Mark-Up**

*By Valli Hoski, NTZ Editor*

*Field report from the northern midwest branch lines of the organization.* Your loyal Editor is delighted by the upcoming electronic transformation of the North Texas Zephyr. Members will be able to enjoy the features and illustrations in full living color. Members who prefer print will continue to receive timely news and views of the Chapter and railroading community. March brought another exciting transformation for your loyal Editor – election as a Trustee of the Chicago Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. Since moving back to the Windy City last fall, the Chicago Chapter welcomed your loyal editor “back home where you belong” with their friendly faces. Many fine reminiscences and friendships have been rekindled, from the 1993 NRHS convention hosted by the Chicago Chapter, to the current fun and foibles common to any hobby group. I am very honored and grateful to the Chicago Chapter officers and members for their trust and confidence.

### **NTC Board Meeting Summary - Feb. 24, 2009**

Claude Doane, VP of Publications

The first Board Meeting with all the new Officers was held February 24<sup>th</sup>. Several informational and operational items for the Board were discussed as our own internal goals. Items discussed and acted upon include approval to go ahead with electronic distribution of the North Texas Zephyr on a trial basis. (See “News from the Publications Team” elsewhere in this issue.) It was also discussed and approved to reimburse 50% of hotel and flight expenses for the National Director to attend Director’s meeting on our behalf. The chapter will also pay 100% of any required registration fees. This is also a one year trial to get numbers for future budget planning. Since National is looking at governance changes that may mean a move to regional meetings and away from National meetings, this may become a non-issue. Discussion of Long Range Planning, Investment Strategy, and Coordinating Texas/Regional Activities with other chapters were deferred to our next meeting in mid April.

### **Chapter Meeting Minutes, March 3, 2009**

**NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MEETING MINUTES AND NOTES, DATE: March 3, 2009. Sokol Hall, Dallas, Texas. Minutes submitted by Dave Gramm, NTC Secretary.**

President Wayne Smith called the meeting to order at 7:35pm. There were 16 members in attendance and two guests, Tim Werner, guest of Claude Doane, and Martin Collier, guest of Steve Blackman.

Wayne welcomed all members and guests present and reviewed the board actions from the board of directors meeting on Feb 24. He also announced a spring special to all chapter members. Copies of the John Winfield print commissioned by Jim King and sold during the 2008 convention are on sale. Regular price was \$59, on sale for \$29. Contact Wayne if interested.

VP-Publications Claude Doane reported the April newsletter will contain a notice outlining the move to e-distribution of the newsletter and the May edition will also contain the notice along with a test distribution to select members. The June edition will be a full e-distribution to all members with an email address.

VP-Trips and Events Skip Waters reported on his meeting with the new Saginaw Chamber president, re: 24 Hours @ Saginaw event. The Saginaw City Council has recently voted to not have evening events at the Depot and all door keys were collected. Skip is still in discussion with the C of C president and will be available to talk to the city council if necessary for permission. We will need to provide liability insurance to the city if approval is granted. This may dictate we charge admission to the event to cover the cost of the insurance.

VP-Programs Jon Shea reported on the following programs lined up:

- April 7 @ SOKOL Hall with Roger Bee giving a slide presentation on TX Short lines.
- May 5 @ SOKOL Hall, a presentation of the film ‘The Accidental Army’ by member Dave Podhrasky, on the exploits of the Czech Army during WWI and their capture of the Trans-Siberian Railroad.
- June 2 meeting, considering a field trip to the Ennis Railroad Museum.

National Director Dale Wilken reported on the Winter Philadelphia national meeting. The library, which was moved to storage during the corporate office remodeling has several bids for its future home. The library contents are mainly printed articles and



films and the DeGoyler library is one of 20 sites being reviewed as a possible home. Dale reported the NRHS website has been upgraded to interest younger people to join and to provide a simpler administration of dues, to include renewing memberships online. A modest dues increase of \$3/yr to offset inflation has been discussed and the board will vote at the April meeting to implement next year.

Dale also reported that currently about 30% of the chapters send representatives to the national meetings. National wants to implement regional meetings and then only have the regional VP's attend the national meeting. The current 200+ chapter directors would only attend the regional meetings and the 16 regional VP's would attend the national board meeting. The newsletter delays are being worked with the goal of being fully caught up by the end of 2009.

Upcoming events noted:

- Skip reported the Dallas Historical Society is planning a trip to Waco, TX on March 21 with a stop planned at the site of the 'Crash at Crush'.
- April 4 Train Show in Pine Bluff, Arkansas
- April 4-5 Car Show at Clark Gardens in Weatherford, TX with a possible train layout
- Coming up-Association of Railway Museums convention in Dallas

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm. Program was a slide presentation by Pat Coughlin, historian of the KATY Historical Society, on the UP and KCS railroads.

Press time: **3/24/09, 6pm**. File: NTx Newsletter 2009-04 vC.doc

## Chapter Directory

### *North Texas Chapter Officers, 2009.*

- **President, Wayne Smith**, [kwsmith@uta.edu](mailto:kwsmith@uta.edu)
- **President/Programs, Jon Shea**, 972-480-9054.
- **Vice President/Trips and Events, Skip Waters**, [wgrush@swbell.net](mailto:wgrush@swbell.net).
- **Vice President/Publications, Claude Doane**, [claude.doane@hcahealthcare.com](mailto:claude.doane@hcahealthcare.com)
- **Secretary, Dave Gramm**, [dgramm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dgramm@sbcglobal.net)
- **Treasurer, Jim King**, [jgking@swbell.net](mailto:jgking@swbell.net)
- **National Director, Dale Wilken**, [d-mwilken@sbcglobal.net](mailto:d-mwilken@sbcglobal.net).

### *Chapter Business Address*

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

### *North Texas Zephyr, newsletter of the North Texas Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society*

Editor, Valli Hoski  
[ntx.news@yahoo.com](mailto:ntx.news@yahoo.com)

## 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 FWRW 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, Texas 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.

## North Texas Calendar

<b>Tues. Apr. 7, 2009</b>	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Sokol Dallas Center</b> , 7448 Greenville Ave, Dallas. Map: <a href="http://www.sokoldallas.com/id13.html">http://www.sokoldallas.com/id13.html</a> Guest speaker: Roger Bee, Texas Shortline Railroads.
<b>Tues. May 5, 2009</b>	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Sokol Dallas Center</b> , 7448 Greenville Ave, Dallas. Map: <a href="http://www.sokoldallas.com/id13.html">http://www.sokoldallas.com/id13.html</a> <b>Film Program:</b> "The Accidental Army".
<b>Fri. May 23 – Sat. May 24, 2009</b>	<b>24 Hours @ Saginaw</b> – As of press time, the <i>Fourth Annual 24 hours at Saginaw</i> is scheduled on these dates pending final approval by the Saginaw Chamber of Commerce. More details should be available by our meeting and will also be in the next issue of the NTZ..
<b>Tues. June 2, 2009</b>	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting – place, time to be determined.</b>

