



VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR

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Chapter Meeting

May 5, 2009 - Meeting, Sokol Hall, Dallas.

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

Program: Film: The Accidental Army

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

More ... Did You Know?

By Wayne Smith

1. Approximately 150 locomotive manufacturing companies existed between 1830 and 1950.
2. By 1855, Norris Locomotive Works in Philadelphia was the largest locomotive manufacturer in the country.
3. Robert Todd Lincoln, the only child of Abraham Lincoln to survive into adulthood, became acting-president of Pullman Palace Car Company in 1897, after George Pullman's death.
4. The Pullman Palace Car Company was chartered in 1867.
5. In 1868, Edward Robbins received one of the first patents for a steel passenger car.
6. "Camel" was the nickname given to a type of locomotive with the cab positioned on top of the boiler.
7. On May 24, 1844 Samuel F. B. Morse sent the first long-distance telegraph message transmitted in the United States.

Special Feature – National Train Day in D&FW

Join the Celebration, May 9!

12:00 PM - 04:00 PM Dallas Union Station and Fort Worth Intermodal Transportation Center.

Come look at locomotives and passenger train cars on display at both the Dallas and Fort Worth stations. Learn about rail transportation from regional transit agencies, local railroad museums and Operation Lifesaver. Musical entertainment at both stations. Radio Disney will be broadcasting at Dallas Union Station from noon to 2pm - bring the kids! Sponsored by Texas Rail Advocates, Texas Association of Rail Passengers and Amtrak Marketing Southwest. Source: 3/25/09, National Train Day news at <http://www.nationaltrainday.com/2009/events/additional-events>

Special Feature – See Daylight in July!

SP 4449 Makes Tracks to Train Festival 2009

For those who love steam, lots of famous steam, starting making your travel plans for Train Festival 2009, July 23-26 in Owosso, Michigan! **Southern Pacific 4449 "World's Most Famous Steam Locomotive"** will travel from its home in Portland, OR 2500 miles to Owosso, MI for America's Largest Celebration of Railroad in July. Southern Pacific steam locomotive no. 4449 known as the "Daylight" will appear at **TrainFestival 2009 in Owosso, MI July 23-26**. The massive undertaking to organize this train is



being jointly coordinated by The Steam Railroading Institute of Owosso, MI, The Friends of the 4449 of Portland, Oregon and The Friends of the 261 of Minneapolis, Minnesota. See SP 4999's latest news at <http://www.sp4449.com/trainfest.html>
The Southern Pacific Daylight no. 4449 will travel across country on an Amtrak sponsored trip hauling thousands of passengers on this rare excursion. The locomotive and train will travel through many cities along the way including Spokane, Fargo, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Chicago, and Lansing. A special excursion will be operated on July 24 originating from TrainFestival 2009, tickets are available online. The locomotive will be on display during the event for visitors to photograph, visit with the crew as well as explore the locomotive cab.

Southern Pacific no. 4449 was built in 1941 as a GS-4 "Northern" type locomotive. A 4-8-4 wheel arrangement, she is 110' long, 10' wide and 16' tall. The locomotive and tender weighs 433 tons, and it operates with a boiler pressure of 300 psi. Her eight 80" diameter drivers and unique booster truck can apply 5,500 horsepower to the rails and exceed 100 mph.

The only remaining operable "streamlined" steam locomotive of the Art Deco era, Southern Pacific no. 4449 pulled Southern Pacific "Daylight" coaches from Los Angeles to San Francisco over the scenic Coast Route and then on to Portland until 1955. Retired to static display at Oaks Park, OR in 1958, most thought SP 4449 would never run again. In 1974, she was selected to pull the American Freedom Train throughout the United States, and was subsequently rebuilt. Southern Pacific no. 4449 ran for three years to the delight of over 30 million people. She is arguably one of the most beautiful locomotives ever built -- and kept that way by the all-volunteer Friends of SP 4449!

Train Festival in Owosso, Michigan (close to Flint) is going to have *lots* of steam action, including 765 and lots of sister locomotives. Anyone who loves steam might want to drive up for this outstanding event, put on by the nice folks of the Steam Institute (and operators of the Pere Marquette, 1225.) **Train Festival 2009 is America's Largest Celebration of Railroading and will include 8 steam locomotives under steam**, vintage and modern diesel/electric locomotives, various train rides, huge model train layouts, miniature train rides, art exhibit, locomotive cab tours, railroad vendors and much more. This family event is being held as a fund raiser to keep operating Pere Marquette steam locomotive no. 1225. This locomotive owned by the Steam Railroading Institute of Owosso, MI is due for Federal Railroad Administration re-certification in 2010. This locomotive is best known as the steam locomotive portrayed in the animated movie "The Polar Express". See details at <http://www.trainfestival2009.com/>

Special Feature – Chatta Choo Chos for 100 Years!

Travel Down Track 29 to Party Time!

By Valli Hoski

A real favorite of rail history and popular music celebrates its 100th anniversary this year – take a sentimental journey and join the party at The World Famous Chattanooga Choo Choo!

The famous Chattanooga Choo Choo, one of Chattanooga's oldest and most well-known attractions, will celebrate 100 years in 2009. A 100th anniversary party is definitely cause for a special celebration. From Dec. 1, 2008 - Dec. 1, 2009, the Chattanooga Choo Choo will commemorate this milestone with overnight packages, events, parties, keepsake souvenirs and much more. The highlight of the year-long festivities includes a special big-band concert by the Glenn Miller Orchestra, whose original band members put the Terminal Station on the map with their recording of "Chattanooga Choo Choo" in 1941

- May 30-Sept. 5, 2009 (1st & 3rd weekends) - **Tennessee Valley Railroad will offer special excursions** from the Choo Choo to Grand Junction.
- May 2009 – Choo-Tube & Re-recording/Remix contests premier and public performance at the Chattanooga Choo Choo
- May 2009 - **Movie premier of the PBS Documentary**, refreshments, held at the Chattanooga Choo Choo.
- May 16, 2009 - **Glenn Miller Orchestra** will perform a big-band concert. (special accommodation packages will include tickets.) Tickets will be available for the general public as well. \$40 per ticket. Call (423) 266-5000.

Source: Holiday Inn Chattanooga Choo Choo web site at <http://www.choochoo.com/centennial.php>



National Rail News

Discover the Rail WaySM on National Train Day

Amtrak's 2nd annual National Train Day, May 9, 2009 celebrates America's love for rail travel with events across the country. Marking 140 years of connecting travelers from coast to coast, On May 9, Amtrak will host complimentary events in four of its gateway stations across the U.S., Washington, DC, Philadelphia, Chicago and Los Angeles from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

What Is National Train Day?

National Train Day commemorates the day the first transcontinental railroad was created and looks toward the future of rail travel with large scale events in Washington, DC, Philadelphia, Chicago and Los Angeles, and many more locally organized events in communities nationwide.

On May 10, 1869, in Promontory Summit, Utah, the "golden spike" was driven into the final tie that joined 1,776 miles of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific railways, ceremonially creating the nation's first transcontinental railroad. And America was transformed. Suddenly, the country was united in a way it never had been, and train travel sparked imaginations in small towns and big cities, among folk who desired adventure and businessmen who saw fortunes to be made. The sound of a train whistle was the soundtrack of happy reunions and tearful farewells. It heralded the arrival of mail, supplies and change. The train became more than the go-to mode of transport for people and goods. It was a proud achievement of engineering vision, technical ingenuity and sweat. It was a cultural force that sparked the creative imaginations of storytellers in songs, movies and novels. Railways provided jobs for thousands of Americans. The train station became a focal point of every community, from New York City's Pennsylvania Station to the tiny stations that dotted rural America.

An experience for the whole family, National Train Day allows Americans to "Discover the Rail Way" while enjoying live musical entertainment, interactive green exhibits, VIP appearances, a Kids Corner, and train exhibits from the past, present and future. In addition to the four major market events, communities across the country are encouraged to develop and host their own National Train Day events, which nearly 100 local sponsors participated in hosting for the first National Train Day in 2008. For more information about National Train Day events, promotions and information about the opportunity to host a National Train Day event in your city, visit www.nationaltrainday.com.

Source: 3/23/09, Amtrak news release, at

http://www.amtrak.com/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=Amtrak/am2Copy/News_Release_Page&c=am2Copy&cid=1178294277753&ssid=180

Chase Your Sox in Your Dreams

Red Sox and White Sox fans dream between games on the rails.

The Amtrak Lake Shore Limited will offer sleeping car service between Chicago and Boston to better suit passengers needs, starting with the eastbound departure of Trains 48/448 on April 2 from Chicago and the westbound departure of Trains 49/449 from New York and Boston on April 4. The eastbound Train 48/448 will depart Chicago an hour earlier than the existing schedule, also effective on April 4. The restoration of sleeping car service provides a higher level of comfort than can be provided in coach for passengers riding to and from Boston (South Station) and the Massachusetts stops of Framingham, Worcester, Springfield and Pittsfield. Until now, Bay State passengers were required to change trains in Albany-Rensselaer, N.Y., to ride to and from points in Western N.Y., Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, including Buffalo, Erie, Cleveland, South Bend and Chicago.

Source: 3/27/09, Amtrak news release, at

http://www.amtrak.com/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=Amtrak/am2Copy/News_Release_Page&c=am2Copy&cid=1178294279439&ssid=180

Amtrak's Working on the Railroad

Amtrak has released a list of capital projects to be funded by \$1.3 billion from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Submitted to the Federal Railroad Administration, the highlights of the list include railcar and locomotive restoration to augment the current fleet, projects to bring stations into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), facility improvements, track, bridge and signal replacements and upgrades. The investment package is broken down into two separate accounts: one for railroad and station capital projects funded at \$845 million and one for security and life safety projects, funded at \$450 million. Following are examples — not a comprehensive list — of some of the projects to be performed with ARRA funding.



Railcars and Locomotives - Amtrak shops in Beech Grove, Ind., will rebuild 20 out-of-service Superliner and one Viewliner railcar (\$19.3 million) and 15 locomotives (\$13 million) and the Amtrak shops in Bear, Del, will rebuild 60 out-of-service Amfleet railcars (\$58.5 million). This equipment can be used throughout the Amtrak system.

Amtrak-owned Bridges, Track and Maintenance Facilities - This includes major investments such as the Niantic River Bridge replacement in Connecticut (\$100 million), the renewal of 10 other bridges in Delaware, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and New York (\$65 million) construction of a maintenance facility in Los Angeles (\$25 million) and Seattle (\$35 million), improvements to the Chicago facilities (\$47.5 million) and the Miami (Hialeah) maintenance facility (\$25 million). Source: 3/25/09, Amtrak news release, at http://www.amtrak.com/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=Amtrak/am2Copy/News_Release_Page&c=am2Copy&cid=1178294279141&ssid=180

Local Rail News

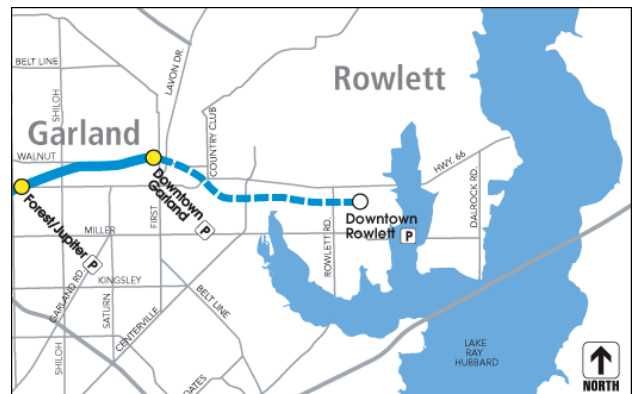
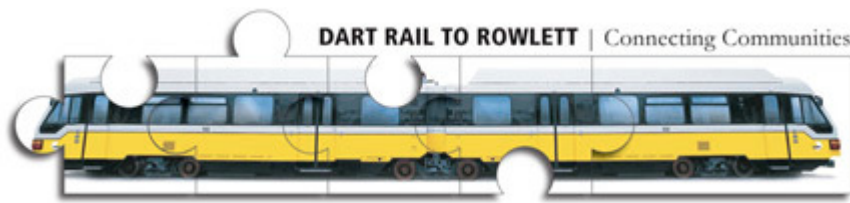
Greenville Railroad Museum Founder Fund

Greenville Railroad Museum is currently seeking museum founders who would like to contribute to our founder fund. We are looking for donors to help with the cost of lawyer fees, incorporation filing fees, and IRS filing fees to become a 501(c) (3) organization. In order to secure grants to operate the museum and funds to restore the depot we need our nonprofit status. Donors will be honored on a plaque as our founders for their donation. We hope that you can contribute to help us secure the future of the Greenville Railroad Museum for future generations to enjoy and to preserve our railroad history. We hope to accomplish this goal in about six months. Any funds over what is needed for or nonprofit status will go towards our first fundraising project as a nonprofit, which will be our depot fund for renovations to the historic Katy depot in Greenville. If you would like to know more about us or have questions, please e-mail me pawlow@att.net, or visit our website www.greenvillerrailroadmuseum.com

Thank You, Steven Pawlow. Sources: 4/1/09, Skip Waters, and Rail Spot news group.

DART Blue Blossoms This Spring

On April 9, DART continues the blooming of its new lines with the groundbreaking of the 4.5-mile extension of the DART Blue Line from downtown Garland to historic downtown Rowlett. The nearly five-mile DART Rail Blue Line extension to Rowlett is scheduled to open in December 2012.



● Light Rail Blue Line & Station (Existing)
 ■ Future Light Rail Blue Line Expansion

Following a traditional gold shovel groundbreaking ceremony near the railroad tracks on Coyle Street in Rowlett, officials will move inside the infamous Big Star Burgers to cut a ceremonial cake replica of a DART light rail train. Commemorative gold-plated, engraved railroad spikes will be on sale at the event for \$10 to raise funds for the purchase of a special tree, which will be dedicated at the opening of the future Rowlett Rail Station in 2012. Source: 4/6/09, DART news release at <http://www.dart.org/news/news.asp?ID=849>

Chapter News & Views

>>>>Hold For President's Column<<<<<<<<<

By Wayne Smith

Put article here



Ponderings From Publications

By Claude Doane, VP Publications

More on Going Green to save some Green

Last month we announced an initiative to begin electronic distribution of the North Texas Zephyr. We still plan to **make the June issue the official kick off. This month** is the Beta Test. **If we had your email, you should receive two copies. One should come in the mail as usual and the other via your email.** If you did not receive your email copy, please contact Jim King right away at his email address listed below. All future issues will come to you electronically.

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 @ jgking@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 on-line news and features 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 24th, having been delayed until all could attend. 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 \$59.99, on sale for \$29.99. 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: 4/xx/09, 10pm. File: NTx Newsletter 2009-05 vA.doc**

Chapter Directory

North Texas Chapter Officers, 2009.

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

Chapter Business Address

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

Editor, Valli Hoski
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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 FWWR 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

Tues. May 5, 2009	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Sokol Dallas Center, 7448 Greenville Ave, Dallas. Film Program: "The Accidental Army".
Sat. May 9, 2009	National Train Day –12:00pm - 04:00pm, Dallas Union Station and Fort Worth Intermodal Transportation Center. Come look at locomotives and passenger train cars on display at both the Dallas and Fort Worth stations. Learn about rail transportation from regional transit agencies, local railroad museums and Operation Lifesaver. Musical entertainment at both stations. Radio Disney will be broadcasting at Dallas Union Station from noon to 2pm - bring the kids!
Fri. May 23 – Sat. May 24, 2009	24 Hours @ Saginaw – 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 May meeting.
Tues. June 2, 2009	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Ennis Railroad and Cultural Heritage Museum, 105 NE Main Street, Ennis, TX 75119-4058. Take I-45 south of Dallas to exit 251. Turn right on Hwy 287S - East Ennis Ave and drive until you hit the railroad tracks of the old H&TC, T&NO and SP mainline, now of course owned by the UP. It is about 35 miles south of downtown Dallas. Map: http://www.planetware.com/map-of/ennis-ennis-railroad-and-cultural-heritage-museum-us-tx-ennisr.htm
Tues. July 7, 2009	North Texas Chapter meeting – place, time to be determined.
Tues. August 4, 2009	North Texas Chapter meeting – place, time to be determined.

