



**VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR**

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**Chapter Meeting**

**November 3, 2009 - Meeting, Founders Building, Grapevine**

Meeting, 7:30 pm.

Program: Annual Members' Auction.

Program: Annual Members' Auction

**Where:** Founder's Building (by Cotton Belt depot), 701 S. Main St., Grapevine, Texas.

**DFW Area Train Shows**

**See You at Fort Worth or Plano?**

It's that train show time of year again. Join the NTC and fellow rail enthusiasts (includes gals too of course) at the Fort Worth or "Dallas Area" (Plano) shows!

- ◆ **Nov. 14-15, 2009 – Fort Worth Train Show**, Amon Carter Exhibition Hall, 3401 W Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76107
- ◆ **Jan. 16-17, 2010 – Dallas Area Train Show**, Plano Centre, 2000 E Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, TX 75074

**Special Reminder - At Home For Holidays With The NTC**

**Deck the T&P Halls at NTC Holiday Dinner!**

On Dec. 1, 2009, the annual Holiday Dinner will be held in style at **T&P Tavern & Grill** in the T&P station area in Fort Worth. Dinner starts at 7:30 P.M. followed by a tour of the original T&P restaurant. Catered meal. \$12 per person. Location: The Fort Worth Texas and Pacific Station, 221 W. Lancaster Ave.. Fort Worth, TX 76102.

**Please RSVP no later than November 24th to Jon Shea** so we can give the caterer a head count. It is technically outdoors, but is undercover and out of the wind and there are very good heaters at each table in case the weather doesn't cooperate. The dinner will be served buffet style and will consist of a choice of entree (beef stroganoff and chicken cordon bleu), salad, vegetable, rolls and dessert. We will get a tour of the original T&P station restaurant that is under restoration.

**Special Feature – DARC Brings Rosie & MATA on the Air!**

**Dallas Amateur Radio and Rosie – A Well-Tuned Match**

On Sept. 26th, 2009 the DARC supported the 20th anniversary of the McKinney Trolley system. The event included a parade running the length of the trolley system with five vintage trolleys, old and new fire engines, marching bands, Star Wars Legion, and Corvette hobby group. The DARC supported the event by providing radio communications along the parade route and a working HF station at the Trolley Barn. See the entire article, photos and a wonderful cartoon montage in the DARC October newsletter (link below).

**Source:** 9/20/09, **Dallas Amateur Radio Club**, October 2009 newsletter at [http://ia311016.us.archive.org/3/items/DallasAmateurRadioClubInTheDarcNewsletter/2009\\_10\\_InTheDARC\\_First\\_Look.pdf](http://ia311016.us.archive.org/3/items/DallasAmateurRadioClubInTheDarcNewsletter/2009_10_InTheDARC_First_Look.pdf)



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## Regional and Local Rail News

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### ***High Speed Rail – Opportunity Found or Lost?***

The Dallas Morning News recently explored the opportunity for feasible high speed rail in Texas:

“The viability of high-speed rail transportation in the United States has been widely questioned since the Obama administration gave it a big push and Congress set aside stimulus money. Viability in Texas has been ridiculed. But now comes one of the world leaders in high-speed operations and technology with an encouraging counter message: It’s possible for a private outfit to make a buck in this state running trains at 220 mph between major cities.

In a detailed proposal filed with the federal government this month, SNCF, which operates the French national railway system, states its financial case for a line extending from Dallas-Fort Worth into Austin and down to San Antonio. As for perspective on what a dollar buys for infrastructure today, the French put the price tag for the DFW-San Antonio rail leg at \$13.8 billion, while TxDOT pegs construction costs for the LBJ rebuilding in North Dallas at just more than \$2 billion. Perhaps the most important figure is the cost – in jobs, technology development and highway construction – if the state does not invest in high-speed rail.” **Source: 09/30/09, Dallas Morning News, Editorial at:**

[http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/dn/opinion/editorials/stories/DN-french\\_01edi.State.Edition1.2bd83b1.htm#slcgm\\_comments\\_anchor](http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/dn/opinion/editorials/stories/DN-french_01edi.State.Edition1.2bd83b1.htm#slcgm_comments_anchor)

### ***DART Orange Is An Environmental Favorite***

Dallas Area Rapid Transit's (DART) Northwest Corridor to Irving/DFW Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) is the recipient of the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Outstanding Achievement Award for Excellence in Environmental Document Preparation. The FEIS provided the environmental clearances for the first nine miles of the Orange Line extending from Bachman Station in northwest Dallas to Belt Line Station near DFW International Airport. DART is only the second winner of this FTA award, which will be presented in Orlando, Florida at the annual October meeting of the American Public Transportation Association.

Construction is currently under way on the first nine miles of the new Orange Line that will branch from the Green Line in northwest Dallas through Irving to Las Colinas in 2011 and Belt Line Station in 2012. The line will be extended to DFW International Airport by 2013. The Orange Line is part of largest light rail project currently under construction in North America. Along with the completion of the 28-mile Green Line in December 2010 and the five-mile Blue Line extension from Garland to Rowlett in December 2012, DART is on pace to nearly double its light rail network to 90 miles by 2013.

**Source: 10/5/09, DART News Release at:** <http://www.dart.org/news/news.asp?ID=878>

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## Chapter News & Views

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### ***President's Roundhouse***

*By Wayne Smith*

We are now well into the fall season. Autumn has always been my favorite time of year and favorite season. For me, the holidays (especially Christmas) and trains are synonymous. I received many a train under the tree as a child and even to this day, you usually don't see a Christmas display without seeing a train. I want to remind the membership of some upcoming events that need our support. The annual train show in Fort Worth is scheduled to be held the weekend of November 14-15 at the Will Rogers Complex. Also, don't forget about the Dallas (Plano) Area Train Show in January. We still need volunteers from our membership for this event. Our chapter also sponsors a slide show to be held the same weekend. Last, those of you who are interested in running for office for 2010, need to see Russ Covitt, Nomination Chair, to get your name on the ballot for the January election. Also, don't forget to order your meal for the Holiday Dinner to be held at the Historic T&P Depot in Fort Worth. There should be additional information about the dinner elsewhere in this newsletter. Happy Railroading!

### ***Reminder – Dues are Due!***

The dues invoices will be mailed directly to members the first week of October. Timely payment will be appreciated because Jim has to have the first round reported to national by November 9th. Thanks. (Submitted by Claude Doane)

### ***Chapter Meeting Minutes, October 5, 2009***

**NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MEETING MINUTES AND NOTES, DATE: Oct. 5, 2009.**

*Minutes submitted by Dave Gramm, NTC Secretary. [Editor's note: corrections/additions made as submitted by Chapter President.]*

The meeting was held at the Terrell Heritage Museum, Terrell, Texas. The museum is located in the 1904 Carnegie Library Building, 207 N Frances Street, in Terrell. Members toured the Texas Midland RR private car, #993, 'El Paso' at Lions Club Park in Terrell prior to the meeting. The car was one of several owned by the president of the TX Midland, E.H.R. Green in the early 1900's.

**President Wayne Smith** called the meeting to order at 7:35pm. There were 11 members in attendance. Wayne then turned the meeting over to museum docent James McCord for the introduction of the **guest speaker, Dr. Horace Flatt**.

Dr. Flatt is an accomplished writer whose books have covered Mr. E.H.R. Green as president of the TX Midland and as a benefactor to the city of Terrell, TX. The TX Midland RR was a short line running from Ennis, TX to Paris, TX, with headquarters in Terrell, TX. Mrs. Hetty Green, a millionairess known as 'The Witch Of Wall Street', owned it. She set up her playboy son, E.H.R. Green, as the president of the railroad and although he came from a rich New England family, he was very business oriented and led the TX Midland to greatness during his years as president. He was also very inventive and built a small laboratory in Terrell where many of his innovative ideas were realized. One of his inventions came in anticipation of the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis, Mo. He developed a procedure to etch steel to make photographic plates.

After Mrs. Green died, E.H.R. Green built a mansion in Massachusetts and recreated the Terrell laboratory there, which was called 'Round Hill', but he never forgot his roots in Terrell and remained a benefactor to the city.



Dr. Flatt recounted several anecdotes about Mr. Green and told of some of the accomplishments he had achieved as a benefactor to Terrell. After the program, Wayne reported on the hours needed for the members to work during the upcoming train shows. **Russ Covitt reported** the club has about 9 hours of work to cover.

Wayne also remarked about member Claude Doane taking on the Region VP position for National. Claude is trying to organize a meeting of all the Region VP's to take place in Plano on the Saturday morning of the weekend of the Plano Train Show to share input.

**Jon Shea – VP Programs** Thanked James McCord for allowing the group to access the 'El Paso' railcar and to tour the museum after the meeting. He also reported on visiting the T&P Grille Restaurant and it's accommodations for the December dinner meeting. The outdoor seating is covered, protected and heated and should do nicely for the dinner. We have two options, to order from the menu or have the event catered. Jon passed out menus for each option for review and polled the members present for a choice. All the members voted for a catered meal and a second vote was taken on whether to have the \$10 basic meal or the \$12 meal with salad and dessert. The \$12 meal won out. Jon is requesting reservations as soon as possible and is requesting Dec. 1 as the dinner night.

**Skip Waters – VP Trips & Events** announced a last minute notice he received for a private rail car trip in two weeks. The one-way trip would go from Houston, to San Antonio, to Dallas, to St. Louis, and finally end in Kansas City. Ten tickets are available at a cost of \$1260/person based on double occupancy with an additional \$20/day tip for the two crew persons assigned the car. See Skip if you're interested.

Skip also is looking for presenters for the slide show the chapter will host during the Plano Train Show. Anyone with slides/DVD's/etc. should contact Skip. A member reported the TX Electric car in Corsicana has been refinished in its original configuration and is now available for viewing. It is at the old depot location where the Cotton Belt and the SP cross. Meeting adjourned at 8:20PM.

**Press time: 10/14/09, 9pm. File: NTx Newsletter 2009-11 vB.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**, [wgcrush@swbell.net](mailto:wgcrush@swbell.net).
- **Vice President/Publications, Claude Doane**, [claudedoane@hcahealthcare.com](mailto:claudedoane@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 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

<b>Tues. Nov. 3, 2009</b>	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting, 7:30 p.m. – Founder's Building</b> (by Cotton Belt depot), 701 S. Main St., <b>Grapevine</b> , Texas. Program: Annual Members' Auction.
<b>Sat. Nov. 14 – Sun. Nov. 15, 2009</b>	<b>Fort Worth Train Show, Amon Carter Exhibit Hall , 3401 W Lancaster Ave., Fort Worth, TX 76107</b> More information at <a href="http://www.dfwtrainshows.com/">http://www.dfwtrainshows.com/</a>
<b>Tues. Dec. 8, 2009</b>	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Chapter Holiday Dinner. T&amp;P Tavern &amp; Grill, The Fort Worth Texas and Pacific Station</b> , 221 W. Lancaster Ave.. Fort Worth, TX 76102. RSVP by :Nov. 24 to Jon Shea.
<b>Tues. Jan. 5, 2010</b>	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Founder's Building</b> (by Cotton Belt depot), 701 S. Main St., <b>Grapevine</b> , Texas. Program: Annual Members' Election.
<b>Sat. Jan.16, 2009</b>	<b>Annual Dallas Area Slide Show, 6:00 p.m.-10 p.m.</b> Comes after the Dallas Area Train Show (in Plano), and continue the fun! To add your favorite slides and stories to the program, please contact Skip Waters ( <a href="mailto:wgcrush@swbell.net">wgcrush@swbell.net</a> ).
<b>Sat. Jan. 16 – Sun. Jan. 17, 2-010</b>	<b>Dallas Area Train Show , Plano Centre, 2000 E Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, TX 75074</b> More information at <a href="http://www.dfwtrainshows.com/">http://www.dfwtrainshows.com/</a>

