



VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR

OPINIONS EXPRESSED HEREIN MAY NOT REFLECT THE OFFICIAL POSITION  
 OF THE NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER OR THE NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.  
 ALL CONTENT RIGHTS RETAINED BY ORIGINAL AUTHOR.  
 EVERY ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO COMPLY WITH FAIR USE AND COPYRIGHT LAW.

**CHAPTER MEETING**..... 1  
 DEC. 2, – T&P TAVERN AND GRILL, FORT WORTH T&P STATION..... 1

**DFW AREA TRAIN SHOW** ..... 1  
 SEE YOU AT PLANO? ..... 1

**2010 CHAPTER ELECTIONS**..... 1  
 VOTE FOR YOUR NTC FUTURE ..... 1

**MEETING REMINDER - DECK THE T&P HALLS** ..2  
 JOIN NTC HOLIDAY DINNER IN T&P STYLE! ..... 2

**HELP THE NTC AT PLANO TRAIN SHOW** ..... 2  
 NTC NEEDS YOUR HELP TO EARN PROCEEDS..... 2

**CHAPTER NEWS & VIEWS** ..... 2  
 NEWS FROM THE HEART OF THE MIDWEST ..... 2  
 REMINDER – DUES ARE STILL DUE! ..... 2  
 FALL NRHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT ..... 3  
 PRESIDENT’S ROUNDHOUSE ..... 3  
 DID YOU KNOW? ..... 3

**CHAPTER DIRECTORY** ..... 4  
 NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER OFFICERS, 2009. .... 4  
 NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER HISTORY ..... 4

**NORTH TEXAS CALENDAR**..... 3

**Chapter Meeting**

**Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009 – T&P Tavern and Grill,  
 Fort Worth T&P Station.**

Meeting, 7:30 p.m. – See Note on Page 2

Program: Annual Holiday Dinner

Where: T&P Tavern & Grill, The Fort Worth Texas and  
 Pacific Station, 221 W. Lancaster Ave. Fort Worth, TX 76102

**DFW Area Train Show**

**See You at Plano?**

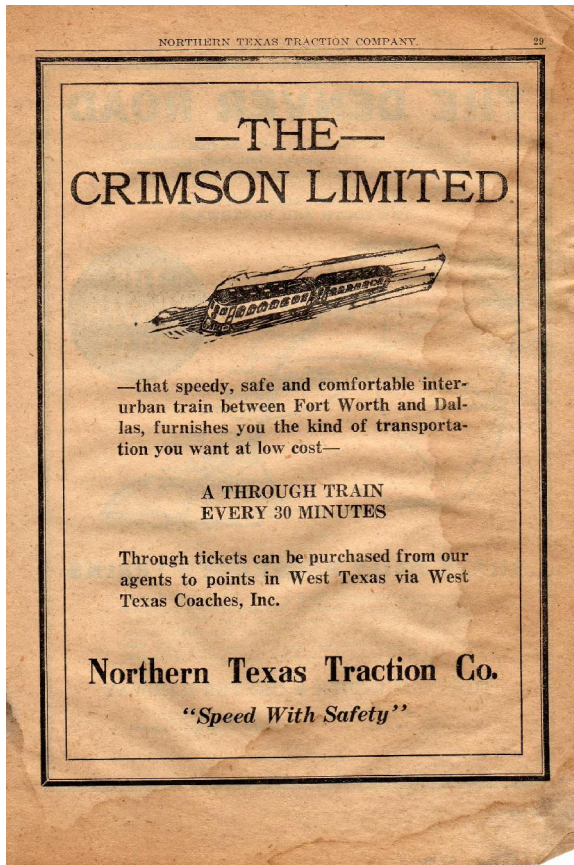
It's that train show time of year again. Join the NTC and fellow rail enthusiasts (includes gals too of course) at the "Dallas Area" (Plano) shows!

♦ **Jan. 16-17, 2010 – Dallas Area Train Show, Plano**  
 Centre, 2000 E Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, TX 75074

**2010 Chapter Elections**

**Vote For Your NTC Future**

NTC Elections will be held at the January 2010 meeting. The Nominations Committee seeks those willing to run, and nominations will also be take from the floor.



The image at left was taken from the 1927 Texas Almanac. Unfortunately, you cannot ride this to our Holiday gathering in Fort Worth on Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, but you can take the TRE!

## **Special News - Help the NTC at Plano Train Show**

---

### ***NTC Needs Your Help to Earn Proceeds***

Please either e-mail Russ @russrstuff@aol.com, call 972-625-4012 or SIGN UP at the December Chapter Meetings. Since we have a share at each show, these hours are required to share in any proceeds from the shows.

**DALLAS AREA TRAIN SHOW at PLANO CENTRE on JAN 16-17 2010**, we have the following jobs --

#### **Saturday 1-16-10**

- 9-10 AM LAYOUT TOUR SUPPORT \_\_\_\_\_
- 12-1 PM TICKET SALES EAST DOOR \_\_\_\_\_
- 1-2 PM TICKET SALES WEST DOOR \_\_\_\_\_
- 4-5 PM TICKET SALES WEDT DOOR \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Sunday 1-17-10**

- 9-10 AM ASSISTNT SHOW MGR filled by RUSS COVITT
- 12-1 PM SWITCHING CONTEST \_\_\_\_\_
- 1-2 PM TICKET SALES EAST DOOR \_\_\_\_\_
- 3-4 PM INFO TABLE \_\_\_\_\_

## **Meeting Reminder - Deck The T&P Halls with NTC!**

---

### ***Attend the NTC Holiday Dinner in T&P Style!***

On **Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009** at 7:30pm, the traditional NTC Holiday Dinner will be held at the T&P station in Fort Worth.

This is a catered meal, \$12 per person. Location: Texas and Pacific Station, 221 W. Lancaster Ave. Fort Worth, TX 76102.

**Please RSVP no later than November 24th directly to Jon Shea** (see contact information below) so we can give the caterer a head count. 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. As noted last meeting, there has been water damage to the main waiting room at the T&P Station. Due to this and the resulting construction, the event had to be moved to a different room that was not available on Tuesday. So...the event is on Wednesday. Whereas the previous plan was for dinner to be "outside" in the restaurant area, the good news is that we now get to move inside, to the former African-American waiting room. We will tour the T&P café space and also some rooms upstairs, hopefully to include one of the new Penthouse units. The Digital multi media show by Randy Nelson is still on also. Those who have seen his presentations at the annual Slide Show and Open House already know how special that will be. Taken all together, this should be an Event to remember! Please note we are to use the entrance on the front (North) side of the building to the right of the main entrance.

### ***News from the Heart of the Midwest***

*By Valli Hoski, Editor*

Fond holiday regards to the Chapter, friends and all the extended NRHS family in North Texas and beyond. This year has brought many changes to Harry's and my railfan household. We miss our North Texas friends, and wish we could join you at the always-memorable NTC holiday dinner, especially this year at the T&P in Fort Worth. However, we are unable to travel down the line, but will raise a toast high to the NTC on a snowy winter's evening here so know you are in our minds and hearts. This issue is brief due to a medical recovery by your loyal editor. Expanded news will return soon. Many thanks to Russ Covitt for leading the NTC's efforts with the DFW Council of Train Clubs, and please remember to help the NTC at the Plano show!

### ***Reminder – Dues are Still Due!***

The dues invoices were mailed directly to members the first week of October. Timely payment will be appreciated.

(Submitted by Claude Doane)



Fall Board of Directors Meeting Report  
Submitted by Claude Doane

The meeting was held Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> in St. Peters, Missouri. In spite of early concerns from National, we did manage to have a quorum and were able to conduct Society business. The early housekeeping issues went without incident as did the election of Officers and Regional Vice Presidents (myself included). A report on Rail Camp held concerns about the expenses involved with the Nevada site. These became moot when Greg Molloy issued the Press Release in early November that the Nevada Northern had withdrawn from the program and the 2010 Rail Camps will be confined to Steamtown. The Governance Study will be reported and voted on at the Winter BOD meeting. I expect Dale to have some excitement when that comes up. The Society still needs volunteers for the financial side and also to work on the Operations manual and the Policy Documentation. Website design is well under way and work is beginning on marketing and content. More discussion on user content will take place in January. The Bulletin Fall 09 issue will go to press in early November and the Yearbook in early December. Other items included convention reports. 2009 in Duluth lost money primarily due to the Inbound and Outbound trips. Scranton and Tacoma are both moving forward on schedule.

The big excitement concerned the 2010 Operating Budget. As proposed with "business as usual" it carried an operating Loss of about \$66,000.00. There were several proposed actions to reduce this deficit. Reducing the Print advertising budget by 50% would save \$15,000.00 and was approved by the board as was reducing the total amount of Railway Heritage Grants by \$5,000.00 to a total of \$20,000.00. Other cost reductions amounting to about \$8,000.00 in corporate expenses were also approved. So far this cut the deficit in half. A proposal to add fees to convention registrations was sent back since it will require rewriting the convention policies and contracts and could not have been implemented with the currently planned conventions since those contracts are already in place. The issue that brought the most discussion came from the floor, and though it eventually passed 77 to 47, it was not without some harsh words and ill feelings. Essentially, the proposal cuts \$41,000.00 from the publications budget. This happens to be the amount it costs to do the annual activities issue. Incidentally, I cast my two votes against this because I do not think we should raise dues and then cut member services at the same time. The hope is that the information from this issue will be made available on the website, but there will not be printed copy available in 2010. After announcements of upcoming meetings, we were adjourned at about 1:45 pm

### President's Roundhouse

by Wayne Smith

When I picked up my latest edition of *Cowcatcher*, my curiosity peaked when I starting reading about the first annual Gold Rail Awards Survey. I was pleasantly surprised to see that "24 Hours at Saginaw," an annual event sponsored by the North Texas Chapter of the NRHS, was included under the category of "Best Rail Special Event." For those of you who are not familiar with the *Cowcatcher*, it is a locally published periodical that covers model and prototypical railroading regionally including Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana. The actual site where "24 Hours at Saginaw" is held, "Saginaw Depot – Saginaw, TX" is included under "Best Railfanning Spot." I believe this is a testament to the impact our chapter has on regional railroading, railfanning and railroad preservation.

### Did you Know? By Wayne Smith

- 1) Between 1901 and 1908, over 9000 miles of interurban railroad lines were constructed in the United States. The interurban railroads were primarily powered by electricity and focused mainly on passenger services.
- 2) Legend holds that American Icon Davey Crockett tried to test the speed of the train on which he traveled by spitting out the window. To his surprise, the train was traveling at quick speed and the spit "hit me smack in the face."
- 3) The total mileage of railroads in the United States was 23 in 1830.
- 4) By 1860, the U.S. rail system totaled 30,626 miles and extended into 31 states.
- 5) U.S. railroad mileage peaked at 254,037 miles in 1916.

Speaking of interurban railroads, the image on page 1 is an ad for an interurban right here in Texas!

## Chapter Directory

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

- President, **Wayne Smith**, 940-300-4407.
- 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**, [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 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>Wed. Dec. 2, 2009</b>	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Chapter Holiday Dinner. T&amp;P Tavern &amp; Grill, Texas and Pacific Station, 221 W. Lancaster Ave.. Fort Worth, TX 76102. RSVP by :Nov. 24 to Jon Shea.</b>
<b>Tues. Jan. 5, 2010</b>	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Founder’s Building (by Cotton Belt depot), 701 S. Main St., Grapevine, Texas. Program: Annual Members’ Election.</b>
<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>