



VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR

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Chapter Meeting

September 7, 2010 – Keller Roundhouse, Keller, TX.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where Keller Roundhouse, 107 W. Vine St. Keller, TX..

Program: They will discuss their plans to turn Keller into a railroad watching place, which they hope to model on Georgia's Folkston Funnel. There is also an engine we can tour.

President’s Roundhouse

Texas, New Mexico and Colorado Adventure

By Wayne Smith, Chapter President

Texas, New Mexico and Colorado Adventures

I just returned from a ten day car trip through the Texas Panhandle, Northeast New Mexico and Central Colorado. It was a family trip, but it was a rail fan's trip as well. Through our travels (coming and/or going), we followed the complete route of the famed Texas Zephyr to Denver over the Fort Worth & Denver and the Colorado & Southern. This includes where the route exits Texas on the Western side of the Texas Panhandle at Texline and travels through the Northeast corner of New Mexico through towns such as Clayton, NM. The Texas Zephyr then turned north and went straight to Denver through towns such as Trinidad, Pueblo and Colorado Springs. Of course, as a child, I did ride the Texas Zephyr over this route.

On our return trip we went to Palo Duro Canyon a second time. As a kid and young adult, I remember riding the miniature Burlington & Sad Monkey Railroad that used to travel through the canyon. A complete train set from the Burlington & Sad Monkey is preserved for viewing in the yard of a ranch that you pass on the highway as you travel to the entrance of Palo Duro Canyon. On our return trip, we also went through Caprock Canyons State Park and Trailway, SE of Palo Duro Canyon. The Trailway follows part of the former route of the Fort Worth & Denver South Plains, a branch line of the Fort Worth & Denver Railroad that connected at Estelline, TX. The Clarity Tunnel near Quitique is close by, but time did not permit a visit to the tunnel.

Our travels also included a ride on the Cumbres & Toltec Railroad from Chama, NM to Antonito, CO and a caboose ride on the Leadville, Colorado & Southern. Due to the recently fire damaged trestle outside of Chama, we had to take a bus from Chama to Cumbres, NM to board the steam train. This trimmed about 14 miles off of the 64 mile trip. The Leadville train was part of the Colorado & Southern and her predecessor, The Denver, South Park & Pacific. This line started out as narrow gauge and then was converted to standard gauge. Leadville was also served by the Denver & Rio Grande and the Colorado Midland. Somewhere south of Leadville, CO I noticed a restored Colorado Midland caboose. I do not know the actual town.

As we left Chama and headed north to continue our car trip into Colorado, we stopped at the Rio Grande Scenic Railroad Depot in Alamosa, Colorado. It is a fairly new standard gauge tourist railroad. They advertise that they make connections with the Cumbres and Toltec Railroad in Antonito. The Cumbres and Toltec is a narrow gauge line. I noticed in Antonito that standard gauge tracks did mix with narrow gauge tracks. I was not clear if the Rio Grande Scenic Railroad actually used the same depot or not.

We stayed in Avon, CO for several days which is near Beaver Creek and Vail. When we headed home, we traveled east to Denver and passed the Georgetown Loop Railroad. Time did not permit even a stop at the depot. While in Avon, we actually did non-railroad adventures such as river rafting and spelunking, etc.

Views from a fellow traveler: Nice trip, Wayne, I guess you didn't have an opportunity to ride the Rio Grande Scenic out of Alamosa which operates with the former steam engine that ran on the Grand Canyon line out of Williams, AZ. We just completed a rail trip through the Canadian Rockies from Vancouver, BC to Calgary on a Rocky Mountaineer Vacations tour. Great scenery and good food. Saw lots of CP and CN rail activity plus some BNSF activity in Vancouver. Getting pictures developed and may be able to generate a short story for the next Zephyr. Dale W.



DFW Train Shows - FW Oct. 30-31, 2010. Plano Jan. 15-16, 2011.

Plano Train Show, Jan. 15 - 16, 2011 – We Need You!

Friendly reminder: the Fort Worth Train Show is in October this year. Come join the fun on Halloween weekend! Ft. Worth Train Show - Oct 30-31, 2010 returns to the Amon Carter Exhibit Hall on October 30-31. Hours 10am-5pm Saturday, 10am-4pm Sunday. Admission \$7.00 per person Children 12 and under are FREE. For information on Parking please see culturaldistrictparking.com Many of the finest Home & Club layouts in the North Texas area! Information and maps are available at the show.

Make your New Year resolutions come true at the Dallas Area Train Show, January 15-16, 2011. Organize your collection with all the handy dandy items you are certain to find at the Plano Centre! Hours 10am-5pm Saturday, 10am-4pm Sunday. 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway. Go East from Central Expressway (Exit 31). Admission \$7.00 per person Children 12 and under are FREE. There will be two full days of clinics. Many home layouts will be on tour.

The North Texas Chapter also needs your help! We will have the same jobs as last show season with Russ doing all 4 hours for Ft Worth on October 30-31 and 4 hours for Plano. The remaining **8 hours at the Plano Train Show must be done by our chapter members..**

PLANO SHOW, SATURDAY January 15, 2011 - 10-11am Layout Tour Support _____ . 11am-12 Ticket Sales E Door _____
 1-2 pm Ticket Sales W Door _____ 4-5pm Ticket Sales W Door _____

SUNDAY January 16, 2011 - 9-10am Assistant Show - Mgr Russ Covitt 10-11am Layout Tour Support _____

12-1pm Switching Contest _____ 1-2pm Ticket Sales E Door _____ 3-4pm Information Table _____

As usual, you must sign in 10 minutes prior to the hour worked and **must find someone to take your** place if you cannot show up for your assignment. Please let Russ know what hours you can work either by e-mail or at a chapter meeting

North Texas Rail News/Events

Railfest, Rusk/Pleistine Sept. 4-5, 2010

Join the 2nd Annual RAILFEST at the historic Texas State Railroad!

September 4th - Enjoy a fun-filled day of trains, festival activities, music, and more!!

- Meet Miss Texas 2010. 40 minute Train Rides with Steam Engine 300 (10:00am, 11:30am & 1:00pm).
- T&P Steam Engines 201 & 610 on display. Photo-op's. Model Railroad layouts (East Texas & Gulf Rail Modelers Association)
- Palestine Shop tour (10:00am to 1:00pm) Live Steamers (Houston Area Live Steamers)

September 5th - RailFest Maydelle Turntable Special Steam Excursion. Departing the Palestine Depot. 9:00am to 11:45am

Source: Texas State Railroad site at <http://www.texasstaterr.com/events.php#railfest>

Railfan Weekend, Oct. 22-23, 2010

Templa Railroad and Heritage Musuem proudly presents the 2010 Railfan Weekend!

Friday, Oct. 22 – events in Temple

- Tour Patriot Rail's Temple Facility. • Roundtable discussions and evening banquet with speaker. • Additional activities are being planned

Saturday, Oct. 23 - activities in Hearne, TX

- Tours of the restored Hearne Depot. • GATX Tank Car Repair Facility

Source: Templet Railroad and Heritage Musuem site at <http://www.rrhm.org/TempPages/2010RailfanWeekendFlyer.pdf>

Chapter Directory

North Texas Chapter Officers, 2010.

- **President, Wayne Smith**, 940-300-4407.
- **Vice President/Programs, Jon Shea**, 972-480-9054.
- **Vice President/Trips and Events, Skip Waters**, wgcrush@swbell.net.
- **Vice President/Publications, Dale Wilken**, d-mwilken@sbcglobal.net
- **Secretary, Dave Gramm**, dgramm@sbcglobal.net
- **Treasurer, Jim King**, jgking@swbell.net
- **National Director, Claude Doane**, claudio.doane@hcahealthcare.com

North Texas Zephyr, newsletter of the North Texas

- **Editor, Valli Hoski**, ntx.news@yahoo.com

Chapter Business Address

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North Texas Zephyr Archive

<http://www.gogeocaching.com/gorailfanning/home/northtexaszephyr.html>

North Texas Chapter @ Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=409467244127&ref=search&sid=100000091828340.3519021572..1>

Chapter News & Views

Chapter Meeting Minutes, July 6, 2010

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY Meeting Minutes, DATE: July 6, 2010. Report submitted by Dave Gramm.



The meeting was held at the Plano Interurban Museum in Plano, TX. President Wayne Smith called the meeting to order at 7:35pm and thanked the museum staff for hosting the meeting. There were 16 members in attendance.

Wayne announced that VP Claude Doane is now officially our Regional VP and National Director and Dale Wilken has taken over the VP-Publications position. Dale gave his final report as National Director on the Scranton National Director's meeting held June 25 during the convention. [Editor's note: Corrections by Dale Wilken.] JRVP Claude additionally reported on the rail trips within the convention and Treasurer Jim King reported the excursion trips were handled very well.

VP-Trips & Events Skip Waters introduced the chapter's two newest members, Becky and Terry from the Keller Old Town Merchant's Association. They attended our meeting last month at Old City Park in Dallas and their group is working on building a viewing platform along the train tracks in Keller. Skip also reported on the proposed road trip to cover the north leg of the TX Electric interurban from Dallas to Denison. The previously arranged date cannot be utilized and the trip will now be pushed back probably to the fall. The trip is still in work and more details will be released as soon as practical. Skip also reported on his hosting of the *Let's Talk Trains* internet radio program during the 24 hours @ Saginaw. It was such a hit that he has done two additional shows with the last one setting a record for the number of live listeners. He will be doing another one on the NS steam program later this month.

Council Rep Russ Covitt reported on upcoming council train shows. Ft Worth show is October 30-31, 2010 and Plano show is January 15-16, 2011. Admission will stay the same as last year. There will be paid parking at Ft. Worth starting this year. It is \$5/daily and in/out privileges are available only if parking passes are pre-purchased from the city web site. More info will be made available in the near future.

VP-Programs Jon Shea reported that with a renewal to *Classic Trains* he received a bonus article 'More Great Train Stations' that featured Dallas Union Terminal Co. #7 0-6-0 switcher and Ft Worth's T&P Station. Also the current edition of *Historic Trains Today* has an article on the McKinney Avenue Trolley. Jon also reported on the coming months programs. The August meeting will be at the Garland Santa Fe Station museum courtesy of Claude and will be a member picture/video/slide show & tell from the national convention. September's meeting will be in Keller at the Roundhouse near the E8 engine. The Keller Old Town Merchants Association will talk about their plans to build a viewing platform near the tracks to provide a safe place for viewing and photographing passing trains as well as providing access to the static engine display. October's meeting is currently undecided. Watch the newsletter for updates. November's meeting will be the annual member's auction and will most likely be held in Grapevine. December's meeting will be the annual dinner banquet and Jon is currently considering any and all suggestions for a venue.

President Wayne remarked on an article in *Trains* magazine on the Heartland Flyer and Kansas' proposal to extend the Heartland Flyer into Kansas, possibly to Kansas City. Wayne then asked all the board members to come forward and participate in presenting the Al Coppinger Award to VP Skip Waters for his support and work in our chapter throughout the years. [Editor's note: See August 2010 NTZ for article and award photo. Corrections by Dale Wilken.] Robert Haynes, Plano Interurban Museum curator, gave a presentation on the museum's latest book, *'Images of Rail: Plano & The Interurban Railway'* reviewing it in its social context. Topics include how bootleggers used the railway to transport liquor up and down the line, how children would place rocks on the tracks to derail cars, how the KKK would use the train to attend their meetings, how parties would be attended with invitations stating 'Get off at such and such stop', and how the Interurban Company would allot land along the track right of way for trackside gardens. The book is available through Barnes & Noble and also at Discount Model Trains in Addison. The museum is also working on publishing an index to Johnnie Meyer's *'Texas Electric Railway'* book and a cooperative event with the Waxahachie 2010 Chataqua event on September 25, 2010.

Norfolk Southern is talking about bringing back its steam program with engines #610, #630 and #4501 to celebrate NS steam in 2012.

Wayne reported that he is readying to go to the Cumbres & Toltec and has received word that the wooden trestle 4 miles north of Chama has burned and train trips have been shortened. Passengers now ride busses from Chama to Cumbres Pass and then board the train to go on to Antonito. Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Chapter Meeting Minutes, August 3, 2010

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY Meeting Minutes, DATE: August 3, 2010. Report submitted by Dave Gramm.

President Wayne Smith called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. There were 11 members and 1 guest present. Wayne commented that he and his family had just returned from a vacation trip to Colorado where they rode several tourist railroads in the area, including the Cumbres & Toltec, Leadville, Colorado & Southern. [Editor's note: Corrections by Wayne Smith.] Also visited the Rio Grande Scenic depot and yard, and drove by the Georgetown railroad depot. He also brought back several reference books on the area that he passed around for review.

VP-Programs Jon Shea reported for VP-Trips & Events Skip Waters on the tentative date for the TX Electric RR road trip Part II to be the first weekend in November. It will start at the Plano Interurban Museum; backtrack to Spring Creek to check out some bridge abutments then proceed north to Denison. There is a possible side tour to the old Woodland Park, south of Denison. Estimated cost is \$40-45/person. Skip will finalize during the next month so the trip can be publicized in the newsletter. Jon gave the upcoming months meeting programs: September's meeting will be at the roundhouse at Main St and Vine in Keller, TX.. October's meeting program is still in the works. November's meeting will be the member's auction at Grapevine. December's meeting will be the annual Christmas banquet, possibly at the T&P station in Ft. Worth. January's meeting will be officer elections at Grapevine with a possible DeGolyer library exhibit. Jon also reported on an article in the Katy Historical Society newsletter about a rebuilt motor car from the Denison shops and an article in *Classic Trains* Fall issue on Texas based steam and diesel engines. Treasurer Jim King reported we still have money. Secretary Dave Gramm reported the July minutes were delayed to the September newsletter. Regional VP & Director Claude Doane reported nothing new. Wayne asked member Russ Covitt if he would be willing to serve as Nominations chairman for the upcoming January officer elections and Russ accepted the request. Russ also reported that he has reserved a table for the chapter at the Plano train show. Tom Petr, our visitor tonight, is a member of the Dothan, Alabama NRHS Chapter. He has been volunteering at the Plano Interurban Museum lately and he gave some details on the ongoing renovation of the Railway Post Office car at the museum. Member Jerry Nunn gave a video presentation on his chasing #844 from Denton through Ft. Worth to Kennedale. Jon Shea showed a picture essay on his recent train trip from Dallas to San Antonio on the Texas Eagle and on to Los Angeles via the Sunset Limited. A highlight of the trip was a stop in Alpine, TX where 10 Border Patrol agents boarded the train to question a passenger.

Press time 8/23/2010, 11pm. NTx Newsletter 2010-09 vC.doc

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.** For 2010 on, regular membership is \$52 a year (\$36 national dues + \$16 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. Sept. 7, 2010	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: Keller, TX Program: A visit to the Keller, TX Roundhouse and other railroad related sites there.
Tues. Oct 5	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: Founders Bldg., Grapevine, TX. Program: Ken Fitzgerald will give a program on the history of the Fort Worth and Western Railroad.
Sat. Oct 30 – Sun. Oct. 31	Fort Worth Train Show - Hours 10am-5pm Saturday, 10am-4pm Sunday. Amon Carter Exhibit Hall. Map see culturaldistrictparking.com
Tues. Nov. 2	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: Founders Bldg., Grapevine, TX Program: Annual Chapter auction. Your outbin will be someone else's treasure.
Tues. Dec. 7	North Texas Chapter annual holiday dinner – Time and Location: to be determined
Tues. Jan 4, 2011	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: Founders Bldg., Grapevine, TX Program: Annual Chapter. annual election and members show and tell.
Sat. Jan. 15 - Sun. Jan. 16	Plano Train Show - Hours 10am-5pm Saturday, 10am-4pm Sunday. 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway. Go East from Central Expressway (Exit 31).
Tues. Feb. 1	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: DeGolyer Library, Southern Methodist University, University Park, TX Program: to be determined.