



VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR

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Chapter Meeting

December 8, 2010 – T&P Station, Fort Worth.

When: Wed. Dec. 8, 7:00 p.m.

Where: T&P Station, 221 W. Lancaster, Ft. Worth.

Program: Annual Chapter Holiday Dinner. To RSVP and for Orders must be received by December 4th.

You do not need to be a current member to attend; family and friends are welcome! Contact Jon Shea (972-480-9054) or Jim King (jgking@swbell.net) for more information.

NTC Elections – January 2011 Meeting

The Chapter's annual election will be held at the January 2011 meeting. Russ Covitt presents the 2011 slate of candidates, on behalf of nominations committee:

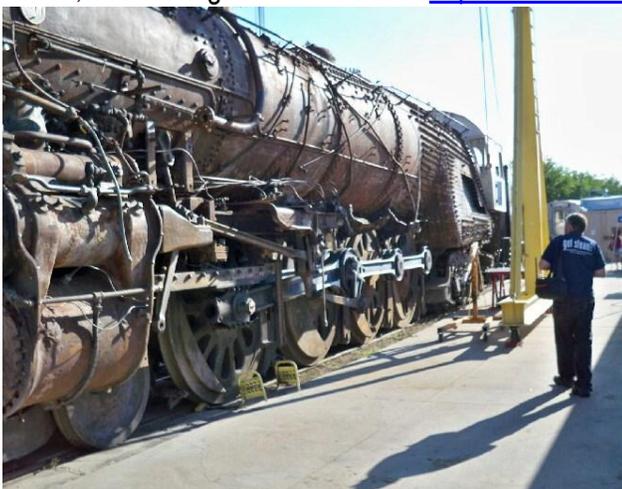
- PRESIDENT Wayne Smith
- VP, PROGRAMS Jon Shea
- VP, EVENTS Skip Waters
- VP, COMM/PUBLICATIONS Dale Wilken
- TREASURER Jim King
- SECRETARY Dave Gramm

Special Features

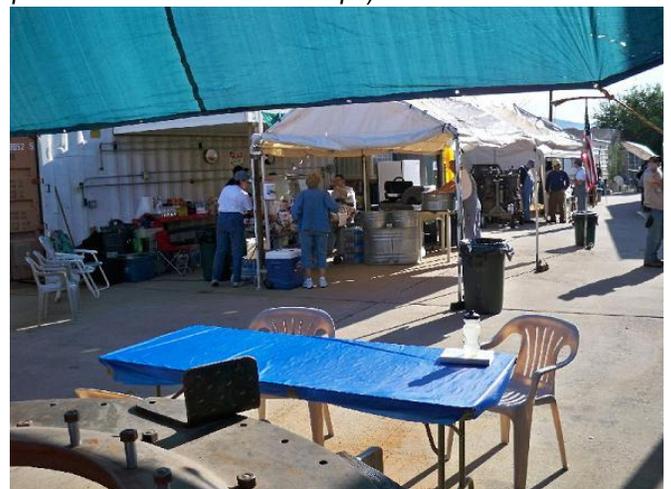
SF Locomotive No. 2926 Open House

By Jeff Phelps, Member of N. Texas Chapter and NMSL&RHS

On October 1st and 2nd my son and I were in Albuquerque New Mexico for the Open House of the restoration of Santa Fe 4-8-4 Steam locomotive #2926. The New Mexico Steam Locomotive and railroad Historical Society (NMSL&RHS) are restoring it. The goal of the group is to have the locomotive ready to run to celebrate the 100th birthday of the state of New Mexico in 2012. Needless to say the Open House was to inform members and the public of the project's status and raise needed funds for completion. Over five hundred people attended on Saturday the 2nd. This group is well organized and worthy of support. They attended the 2008 NRHS Convention in Dallas and I was impressed with their goal and joined as a member. Needless to say my son and I worked both days to help out. And won't it be great to see another Santa Fe 4-8-4 on the High Iron. *For more information, see the organization's site at <http://www.nmslrhs.org> (All photo credit below: Jeff Phelps)*



Left above: Restoration project.



Above right: All were welcome at the open house.



Strasburg Summer Memories

By Valli Hoski, NTZ Editor, and Harry Fasick



(Top left) Locomotive 90 in her best shining black livery, awaiting the day's operations.

As the chill winds of autumn lead towards the December snows, it's nice to remember the July joyful summer days at the **Strasburg Railroad** with the family on our vacation outing. Our grandsons Matt (10 years) and Ben (8 years) are well related to the world of Pennsylvania railroading with grandparents who worked on various PA rail lines, from Altoona to Enola and points between. Here are a few memories of the quality restoration and comfortable ride on the Strasburg Railroad.

For more details on the Strasburg Railroad, see <http://strasburgrailroad.com/>



(Bottom left) Conductor greets everyone in the open coach.



(Bottom right) Clerestory windows, vintage lamps, lovely woodworking and comfy seats welcome all to a lovely ride.



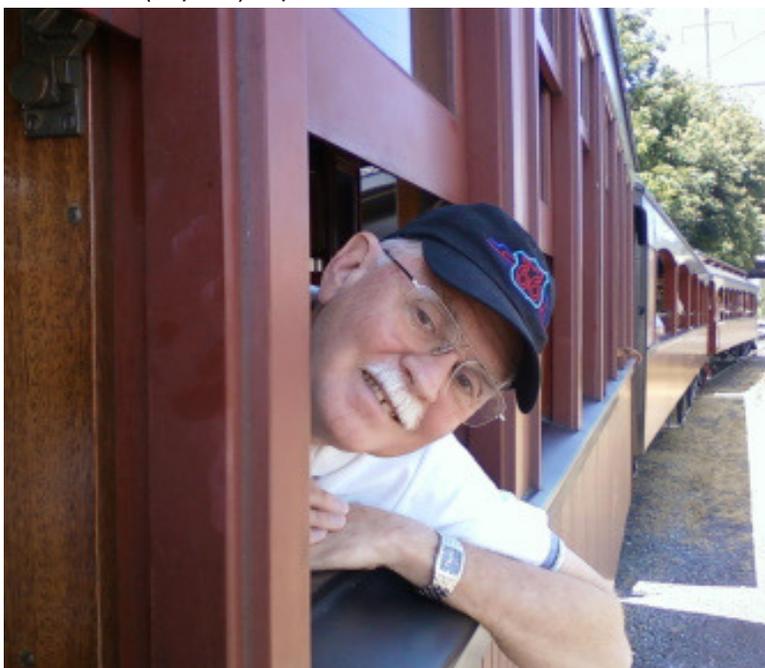
(Top left) A peek at Locomotive 90.

Whether your choice be the vintage passenger coach, with lovely blue clerestory windows and carefully appointed seats, or the open air coach on a pleasant day, the Strasburg consist is sure to please. Stop off for a breeze-filled break at Groff's grove and enjoy some trackside train spotting of the afternoon's excursions, amidst scenic Amish countryside views.

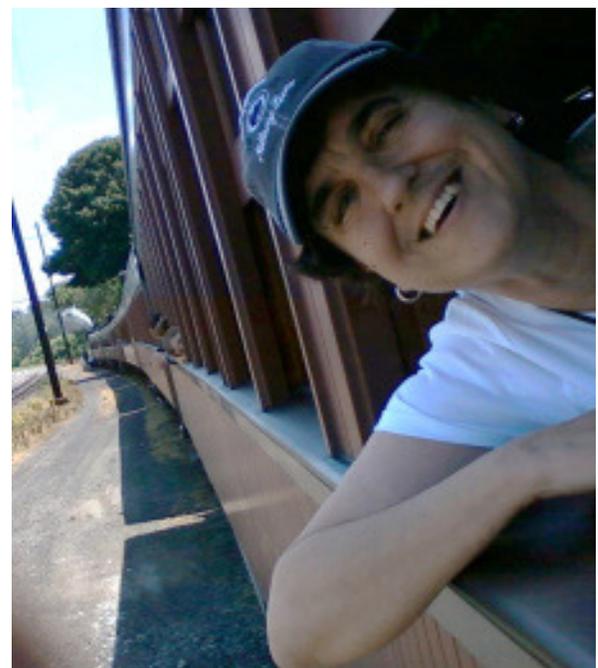
(All photo credit: Valli Hoski and Harry Fasick)



(Top right) Waiting out the picnic stop at Groove's grove.



(Bottom left) Harry's smiling face on a good day's train ride.



(Bottom right) Valli is all cheers with a Strasburg smile.



LeRoy O. King Railway Preservation Grant.

President's Roundhouse - Wayne Smith, Chapter President

The North Texas Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society is proud to announce the LeRoy O. King Railway Preservation Grant.

LeRoy O. King, Jr. 1921-2009, was an active member of our chapter and one of the country's leading authorities on electric railways. Mr. King was known by his friends as "Roy". He was an accomplished author, publisher, photographer and historian. Because of his vast knowledge of streetcars, interurbans and main-line electric trains, King's advice, counsel and assistance was sought from enthusiasts and researchers the world over. The North Texas Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society has named our railway preservation grant program in honor and memory of our friend and colleague. We will be awarding a limited number of grants in the areas of railway history and the preservation of railway heritage including publications, research and educational projects. Grant requests for basic software and computer equipment are discouraged. The maximum individual award will be \$1,000. Applicants are restricted to one application annually and may be either individuals or organizations knowledgeable in railway history and operations. Grant requests MUST be submitted using the Application Form. Failure to do so will DISQUALIFY your application. Applications will soon be available from our website (www.ntxnrhs.org) or immediately by contacting: North Texas Chapter NRHS, P.O. Box 600304, Dallas, Texas 75360. You can also contact Wayne Smith at 940-300-4407 or pick up an application at one of our monthly meetings. All applications will be evaluated by the North Texas Chapter's Board of Directors. Grant decisions will be determined at the Third Quarter Board of Directors Meeting and announced by the Fall of 2011. The Recipients will be recognized at the Annual North Texas Holiday Banquet in December.

Midwest Rail Traffic - Happy Holiday Railway, Australia 'Art Train' & Elephant Sidings

Editor's Markup - Valli Hoski, NTZ Edito

Autumn abounds with rail events and history here in the great north central Midwest.



Happy Holiday Railway 2010 - December at the Illinois Railway Museum (IRM) is looking to be a busy holiday season on the rails with their seasonal family event. Running for 3 weekends, the holiday train operates 6 trips per day, with a maximum of 75 people per trip. The train will operate on the Main Line, with a stop at the Central Pavilion on the IRM grounds, and then return. The festively decorated Diner will be the scene of much jolliment with piano entertainment, goodies, gifts and of course, Santa himself in his splendid regalia. (Event info at <http://www.irm.org/>)

Harry and I will be volunteering for the event – Valli possibly doing her storytelling onboard with the kids and families, and Harry being his usual helpful elf-self with making the kids, ladies and families smile. Valli forecasts chilly weather, warm hot chocolate and a very handsome Harry elf who is a lot cuter than Santa himself! The rail event is planned and organized impressively well, which says a lot given your editor's extraordinarily high expectations for event coordination and management. The event committee's talents and experience are very evident in their early and ongoing planning and execution of the event. The event requires a lot of volunteers, effort, patience and kind spirits. But in the friendly but disciplined midwest volunteer style of the Dallas Marathon and the Chicago Marathon – the great crew at IRM, from operators to kiddy entertainers, will have a well-executed, fine event full of memories for all.

High Jump on the Rails to Big Ten

Women's Basketball – Harry and I are a Big Ten family. Within a quick walk from both the UP North line (former CN&W) or the CTA's Purple (former Evanston) line, the Northwestern University women's basketball team make it easy and inexpensive to enjoy Big Ten collegiate sports.



With season tickets at \$49 for 4 months of Big Ten women's basketball games, **the Wildcats are an entertaining diversion for a dark winter's evening.** Warm rail service (usually) speeds you quickly to and from Ryan stadium with backyard views of suburban and Chicago life in the crisp winter air. Go Wildcats! (Image credit: Wildcat image - Northwestern University Athletics. Metra image – Commuter Rail Division of Regional Transit Authority.)



Barnum and Bailey Circus Train – Elephants, horses, and the circus rolled through northwest Chicago early in November, complete with a planned parade to get elephants, etc. to the performance venue from the train's trackside unloading site. With rail congestion in Indiana, the circus train arrived about 12 hours late on the morning of Nov. 3, instead of 8pm the previous evening. Railfans, families, circus fans and all have another changes for fun. The elephants and all their circus colleagues (human and otherwise) are expected to make a return journey on Nov. 14, 2010 after their last performance of the season in Rosemont, Illinois. Source: 11/2/2010, Personal reporting, and 11/2/10 Des Plaines city announcement, <http://www.desplaines.org/Community/SpecialEvents/2010/CircusTrain.asp>



WARC

Wagga Wagga, New South
 Wales, Australia.
<http://www.wagga-arc.org/>

Australia notices **TSRR Field Day ham operations** of 6 years ago for **their very own Art Train!** - Long-time members and readers of this newsletter might recall one of the earliest ham radio on the rails features – members of the Rockwall Radio Club who operated ham radio on board a train at the former Texas State Railroad. The news was covered here but also in the ham radio press. This inquiry arrived via email recently: "I was reading ... that you in the past have been working from a train. We are about to do the same for an art exhibition on a rolling train. So I would just like to ask what kind of arial you where using for the train ride? We will like to work on HF bands. Did you have any difficulties regarding working on the train?? We are a Radioclub in Australia, in Wagga Wagga, NSW, just between Sydney and Melbourne." Ham radio travels the rails, indeed!

North Texas Rail News/Events

Chapter Events and Outings, January 2011

Stay warm with the Chapter this January – join several exciting outings and events, besides our Jan. 4 Chapter meeting and elections. **Sat. Jan. 8, 2011** come along on a **Texas Electric field trip** guided by Johnnie Meyers. Then on **Sat. Jan. 15**, come to the **Dallas Area Slide Show at 6pm, Southfork Hotel, Plano**. A good time is always had by all at this traditional event sponsored by the North Texas Chapter. Contact Skip Waters for details on all these outings.

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

We have volunteers for all but one of the slots for the Plano Show on January 15-16 2011. **The opening is for Information Table 3-4 PM on Sunday Jan 16. Please get in touch with Russ to fill this position: russrstuff@aol.com or 972-625-4012.** Just as a reminder, these are the slots and volunteers for the Plano Show;

Sat. Jan. 15, 2011

10-11 AM Layout Tour Support.....Jeff Phelps.
 1-2 PM Ticket Sales W Door....Jerry Nunn.

11-12 AM Ticket Sales E Door....Jon Shea
 4-5 PM Ticket Sales W Door...Dale Wilken

Sun. Jan. 16, 2011

- 9-10 AM Assistant Show Mgr... Russ Covitt.
- 1-2 PM Ticket Sales e Door....Leonard Opdenhoff
- 10-11 AM Layout Tour Support.....Jeff Phelps
- **3-4 PM Information Table.....OPEN Please Fill !!!**

Make your New Year resolutions come true at the Dallas Area Train Show, January 15-16, 2011. 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.

Rail Rally Calendar

- **December 4-5, 2010: Oklahoma City Train Show . Location:** Oklahoma City, OK. **For more information:** <http://okctrainshow.com/>
- **January 14 - 16, 2011: Railroad Passenger Car Alliance 2011 Annual Conference. Location:** Pueblo, CO. For more information: www.rpca.com/2011_conference.htm. (Pre-conference trip planned for January 13, 2011)
- **January 29 - 31, 2011: NRHS Winter Conference. Location:** Williamsburg, VA
- **March 11, 2011: NRHS and Railfan & Railroad Magazine Pizza Party. Location:** Stockton, CA. For more information contact Jeff Smith at bulletin@nrhs.com or Steve Barry: steveb@railfan.com
- **March 12, 2011: Winterrail 2011. Location:** Stockton, CA. For more information: www.winterrail.com



- **April 2, 2011:** Cotton Belt Rail Historical Society Railroadiana Show & Sale at the Arkansas Railroad Museum Location: Pine Bluff, AR For more information contact: Elizabeth Gaines (870) 535-8819; website: www.arkrailroadmuseum.com. For information via email, contact arkrrmus@yahoo.com - please enter "Train Show 2011" in the email subject line.
- **April 15 - 17, 2011:** NRHS Spring Conference. Location: Champaign/Urbana, Illinois

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/Communications, Dale Wilken**, d-mwilken@sbcglobal.net
- **Secretary, Dave Gramm**, dgramm@sbcglobal.net
- **Treasurer, Jim King**, igking@swbell.net
- **National Director, Claude Doane**, claude.doane@hcahealthcare.com

North Texas Zephyr, newsletter of the North Texas

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

Chapter Business Address

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

North Texas Zephyr Archive

<http://www.gogeoaching.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, October 5, 2010

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MINUTES, DATE: October 5, 2010. Founder's Building Grapevine, Texas. *Report submitted by Dave Gramm.*

President Wayne Smith called the meeting to order at 7:33pm. There were 15 members present.

Wayne shared with the members that the board of directors is exploring the possibility of working with a local railroad author on publishing a book on Texas passenger trains. The topic is currently under evaluation on whether we want to get involved.

The board also is in the final stages of work on the chapter's LeRoy O. King Memorial Railway Preservation Grant program. It should be completed and available for distribution by the next chapter meeting in November. RVP Claude Doane remarked that the idea of preservation grants is not new as we have been giving grants to the DeGolyer Library, Plano Interurban Museum and other venues. This plan is to formalize the grant procedure and also make grant recipients more responsible in reporting the usage of the grant money. Wayne also reported the board has changed the title of the board position of VP-Publications to VP-Communications and that Dale Wilken has agreed to stay in the renamed position. Dale has accepted a nomination to run for the position at the January elections. RVP Claude reported receiving a call from Newsletter Editor Valli Hoski thanking members for their kind comments about the recent newsletter.

VP-Trips & Events Skip Waters reported the TX Electric field trip has been scheduled for the 1st weekend in January right after New Year's Day on January 8th and that our guide Johnnie Meyers is good for this date. Skip also reported he has made reservations at the Southfork Motel in Plano for the annual slide show the Saturday evening, January 14, during the Plano Train Show starting at 6:00pm. He also reported on his recent semaphore trip and he brought back brochures on the Santa Fe 2926 engine which is in Albuquerque as well as reporting SP 745 was on display in New Orleans recently.

VP-Communications Dale Wilken reported we tried using additional pictures in the newsletter this past month and the results were very good. He requested that any member taking a rail-related trip to take pictures and submit them with an article to the newsletter. VP-Programs Jon Shea reported that next month's meeting will be held in Grapevine at the Founder's Building on Tuesday, November 2, which is Election Day. After polling the members earlier, it was decided to keep the meeting on Tuesday rather than try to move it to a different night. Program for the evening will be the Annual Member's Auction.

The December Christmas Banquet will be at the T&P Station in Ft. Worth in the refurbished African-American Waiting Room, same place as last year. Dinner will be catered by the same company. The date of the banquet is TBD since the first Tuesday is not available. January's meeting will be in Grapevine at the Founder's Building with the program to be Member Spotlight along with the annual Officer Elections. February's meeting will be at the DeGolyer Library on the SMU campus with the program TBD. Member Jerry Nunn reported on the death of Ken Ziegenbein's wife Sarah, to pneumonia on Sept 29. He is a long time railroader from N. Little Rock who is known to many chapter members through his involvement at the '24 Hours at Saginaw' and other chapter events.



NTC representative Russ Covitt reported that the LMRA Train show was this weekend, the Fort Worth train show is on October 30-31, and the Plano Train show is on January 14-15. There are still 5 hours available for members to work at the Ft. Worth show. See Russ for details. Wayne reported on a recent article in the Denton Record-Chronicle newspaper about the city of Krum, TX, which is petitioning Amtrak to create a stop in Krum for the Heartland Flyer. Program for the evening was Ken Fitzgerald's pictorial presentation on the history of the Fort Worth Western Railroad (FWWR) better known as the 'Tarantula Line'.

Chapter Meeting Minutes, September 7, 2010

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MINUTES, DATE: September 7, 2010. Keller Roundhouse, Keller, Texas. *Report submitted by Dave Gramm.*

The meeting was held at The Roundhouse in Keller, TX and hosted by the Keller Old Town Merchant's Association.

Meeting was called to order by President Wayne Smith at 7:30 pm. with 16 chapter members and 9 KOTMA members present. Ron Lee, former mayor of Keller, welcomed our group to Keller and gave a short history on the city in their quest to obtain the E8 locomotive they now have in their park. It was donated to the city by the BNSF railroad and had been in commuter service in Chicago before its retirement. Wayne thanked Ron and the members of the KOTMA for hosting the meeting tonight and for arranging a tour of the E8 locomotive's insides by the members. Treasurer Jim King was absent so no treasurer's report was made. Regional VP /National Director Claude Doane was also unable to attend.

Wayne asked VP-Publications Dale Wilken if there was any news from the publications committee and Dale requested that any member who has an article or info for the newsletter should submit it posthaste.

VP-Programs Jon Shea gave a rundown on upcoming chapter meetings.

- October's meeting will be at the Founder's Building in Grapevine with Ken Fitzgerald giving a presentation.
- November's meeting will be moved to Wednesday, Nov 3 so as not to interfere with Election Day voting on Tuesday, Nov 2. The program will be the member's auction night.
- December's meeting will be the chapter's annual Christmas party dinner and Jon proposed the chapter go back to the T&P station in Ft. Worth like last year and have the T&P Grill owners cater the meal again. The owners also indicated that their refurbished restaurant in the station would be available for a tour after dinner. All the members present were polled and all agreed this was a good choice so Jon will pursue this venue and set a date.
- January's meeting topic will be member spotlight and annual officer elections.
- February's meeting will tentatively be at the DeGolyer Library at SMU.

Jon also reported that Pat Coughlin, a noted local train historian and presenter at previous chapter meetings, is doing better after recent surgery and hopes to be walking again by Halloween.

Wayne reminded the chapter members of the upcoming 3rd quarter board meeting on the 4th Tuesday of September and that if anyone feels they have a project or need requiring board discussion, they should contact a board member to get on the agenda. Wayne reminded the members that chapter member Russ Covitt is the Nominations Chairperson for the 2011 Officer Elections and anyone who would like to seek office in the chapter should see Russ to be placed on the ballot for consideration.

Russ also reported that he is covering the chapter's work hours at the Ft. Worth train show, but the chapter members will need to cover the 8 hours assigned at the Plano show. He will have the work schedule at the next meeting.

VP-Trips & Events Skip Waters reported on the proposed TX Electric north end trip. Due to scheduling problems both with us and Johnny Meyers, our host, it will be postponed till the first weekend in January. Skip also reported on a front page article in the Ft. Worth Star-Telegram about train watching at the Saginaw depot where we hold our '24 Hours @ Saginaw' event each year. He was featured in the accompanying picture. Skip then introduced new chapter member Becky Harness, also a member of the Keller Old Town Merchants Assoc., who presented their ideas to build a train watching platform alongside the UP (T&P) tracks in town near their E8 locomotive display. They are looking at a design similar to the one built in Folkston, GA, located at MP602.2 on the Nahunta Sub of the CSXT, nicknamed the Folkston Funnel. They have a set of the blueprints from the Folkston platform and requested anyone who could help them develop a list of required materials to feel free to step up and volunteer so they can start asking for construction material donations. For more information or to volunteer help, Becky can be contacted at

Becky@OldTownQuilts.com. Info on the Folkston Funnel can be found by Googling 'Folkston Funnel'. Members toured the E8 locomotive before dark and then watched Part 1, Volume I of Steve Goen's video of the UP 844 steam trip from Parsons, KS to Brownsville, TX.

Press time 11/17/2010, 8pm. NTx Newsletter 2010-12 v2.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

Wed. Dec. 8, 2010	North Texas Chapter annual holiday dinner, 7pm – T&P Station, 221 W. Lancaster, Ft. Worth. Program: Annual Chapter Holiday Dinner. Orders must be received by December 4th. Contact Jim King or Jon Shea for reservations..
Tues. Jan 4, 2011, 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. 8, 2011	North Texas Chapter field trip – Texas Electric trip with Johnnie Meyers as guide.. Contact Skip Waters for information.
Sat. Jan. 15 - Sun. Jan. 16, 2011	Plano Train Show - Hours 10am-5pm Saturday, 10am-4pm Sunday. 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway. Go East from Central Expressway (Exit 31).
Sat. Jan. 15, 2011	Dallas Area Slide Show sponsored by North Texas Chapter – 6 pm, Southfork Motel, Plano. Immediately follows Plano Train show that day. Contact Skip Waters for information.
Tues. Feb. 1, 2011	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: DeGolyer Library, Southern Methodist University, University Park, TX Program: to be determined.