



VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR

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Chapter Meeting

January 4, 2011 – Founders Building, Grapevine.

When: Tues. January 4, 7:00 p.m.

Where: Founders Building, Grapevine.

Program: Annual Chapter Election.

Notice: NTC Electric Field Trip Canceled

Sat. Jan 8, 2011 field trip will be rescheduled based on Johnnie Meyers' availability.

Reminder: NTC Elections – January 2011

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, TRIPS and EVENTS | Skip Waters |
| • VP, COMM/PUBLICATIONS | Dale Wilken |
| • TREASURER | Jim King |
| • SECRETARY | Dave Gramm |
| • NATIONAL DIRECTOR | Claude Doane |

Special Features

Texas and Pacific Historic Holiday Memories

By Dale Wilken

The North Texas Chapter held its annual Christmas dinner on December 8 in the renovated Texas & Pacific depot in downtown Fort Worth. Some 42 members and guests gathered to visit, eat and view the renovations. This has become a favored spot for receptions and dinners in a historic setting. The T&P depot is also the site of the chapter sponsored opening reception for *Lone Star Rails*, the 2008 national NRHS convention.



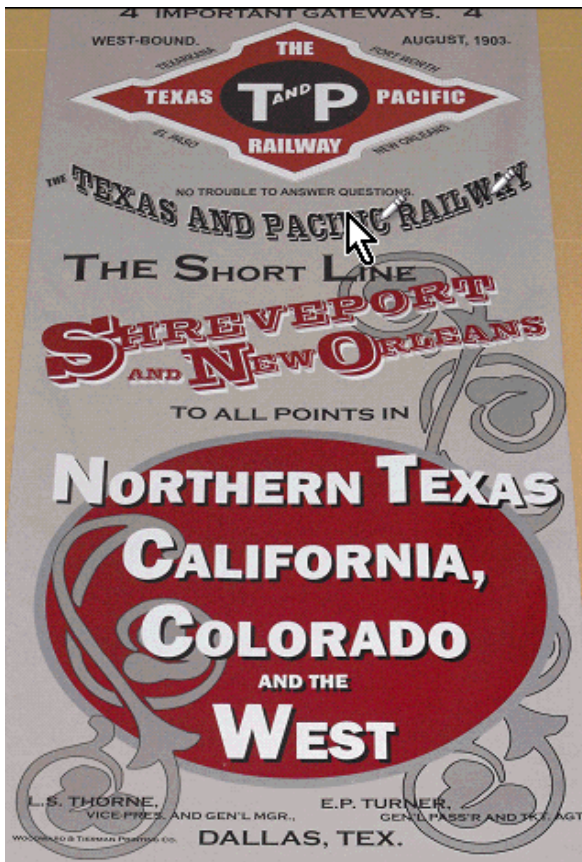
(Above left) Chapter members meet in the festive ambience of the Texas & Pacific station, Fort Worth. *(Photo credit: Don Ross)*



(Above right) The 2010 Chapter officers greet all with holiday cheer at the T&P dinner.



(Above left and far right) Scenes in the main waiting room of the T&P depot. (Photo credit: Dale Wilken)



(Above) Example of renovations done in the T&P restaurant area

(Photo credit: Dale Wilken)

(Left) Banner depicting T&P passenger service hung in the renovated depot restaurant

History of the Texas & Pacific Station

The current Texas & Pacific Station building was built by the Texas and Pacific Railway opened on October 25, 1931.[1] It was designed in the Zigzag Moderne Art Deco style popular at the time. The opulent lobby features marble floors, metal-inlaid panel ceilings, and nickel and brass fixtures, incorporating the zigzags and chevrons distinctive of the style. The terminal facilities also included the larger Texas & Pacific Warehouse one block to the west, built in the same style as the station.

(Source: http://www.worldlingo.com/ma/en/wiki/en/T%26P_Station#History)



Midwest Rail Traffic - Jingle Those Railway Bells

Editor's Markup - Valli Hoski, NTZ Editor (Photo credit: Valli Hoski, unless indicated otherwise)

Welcome to the **Happy Holiday Train** at the **Illinois Railway Museum (IRM)**! Quick, come in out of the cold and board the Holiday Train scheduled to depart Saturday and Sunday afternoons, on the hour. (All photos by Valli Hoski except as noted.)



(Left) IRM showcases former CTA cars on the museum's electric line on a snowy afternoon



(Right) Not quite your typical urban station, but the snow makes it all true to Chicago in style.

Did you know that styrofoam snowballs are railroad-approved? Less fuss, less muss than the icy, chill original. How many styrofoam snowballs can you balance while riding a vintage CTA El car, last in service in 1992?



(Left) Vintage Chicago El cars decorated in their best red and green livery



(Above) Elf Peg and Elf Valli welcome you onboard.



(Right) Smiling riders on the Holiday Railway

(Photo credit above: a nice family on the train)

As onboard volunteers, **Elf Peg** and **Elf Valli** discovered just how many passengers they can entertain and how many snowballs they could juggle on a chilly December Saturday at the Illinois Railway Museum (IRM). Valli discovered there is a lot of similarity between entertaining kids in library storytime, and telling stories about Rudolph the big-nosed reindeer (what color is that?) and Santa's sleigh (just how do all those boxes stay up there?) and all those Jingle Bells (sing along now everyone), and do you see Santa's sleigh out the window ... it's so cold he parked it inside the diner car.

The Happy Holiday Train is a seasonal tradition at IRM, operating the first 3 weeks of December, 2010. The holiday train operates 6 trips per day, with a maximum of 75 people per trip. The train operates on the Main Line, with a stop at the Central Pavilion on the IRM grounds, and then returns. The festively decorated Diner is the scene of much jolliment with entertainment, goodies, gifts and of course, Santa himself in his splendid regalia. (Museum info at <http://www.irm.org/>)

As the last holiday train of the day made its run, dusk quickly became night in the midwest winter. Holiday lights greeted the riders in the chilly night. Snow began to fall as a winter storm moved through Union, on its way to Chicago.



The crew efficiently put the equipment away for the night, headed out on their way. Snow swept away the tracks of the day's excitement, while visions of merrily lit trains, elves, caroling and railroading fun became merry memories in many festive heads



(Right) IRM's steam and diesel locomotives wait out the winter storm, with their own snow-capped holiday dreams.

North Texas Rail News/Events

Reminder: Dallas Area Slide Show, Jan. 15, 2011

Saturday Night, January 15th, 2011. The North Texas Chapter, National Railway Historical Society, will host

- **6th Annual Dallas Area Slide Show and NRHS Open House** at: Southfork Hotel, Chinaberry Room, 1600 North Central Expressway, Plano, TX 75074 <http://southforkhotel.com>
- Show Time: 6:00pm until 10:00pm (maybe longer) (the Train Show closes at 5:00pm). Slide Show Admission is free!
- If YOU would like to be a presenter, please reply directly to me, Skip Waters <wqcrush@swbell.net>, NOT to any email group, NO LATER THAN 12:00 noon CST on Sunday, January 2, 2011.

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.

11-12 AM Ticket Sales E Door....Jon Shea

1-2 PM Ticket Sales W Door....Jerry Nunn.

4-5 PM Ticket Sales W Door...Dale Wilken

Sun. Jan. 16, 2011

- 9-10 AM Assistant Show Mgr... Russ Covitt.

10-11 AM Layout Tour Support.....Jeff Phelps

- 1-2 PM Ticket Sales e Door....Leonard Opdenhoff

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.

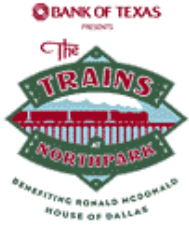
DART to DFW Seasonal Events!



January 1, 2011 – Ticket City Bowl, Fair Park

DART's Green Line is the best play for fans heading to the Cotton Bowl to watch the Northwestern Wildcats and Texas Tech Red Raiders bring in the new year at the inaugural Ticket City Bowl scheduled for 11 a.m. on Saturday, January 1, 2011.

The Cotton Bowl at the historic Texas State Fairgrounds is served by two DART Rail Green Line stations -- Fair Park, located on Parry Avenue at the entrance to the fairgrounds, and MLK, Jr., located south of R.B. Cullum Blvd. and convenient to the MLK fairground entrance (Gate 6) and the Cotton Bowl Stadium.



Through January 2, 2011 - The Trains at NorthPark™

Come see the most elaborate toy train exhibit in all of Texas. More than 40 vintage locomotives chug along 2,500 feet of track on a magical journey across America. Information: www.northparkcenter.com or www.rmhdallas.org. Via DART Rail [Red Line](#) to [Park Lane Station](#), then [NorthPark Shuttle Route 702](#)

Trains and Railroads on the Air

Amateur radio operators are welcome to join the weekly Trains and Railroads Net. It meets on the Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) mode of Echolink on the W9DHI-R Echolink node 476144...as well as the K9QLP Repeater in Cedarburg, Wisconsin (near Milwaukee)...every Monday night at 9pm Eastern, 8pm Central Time. All amateur radio operators holding a valid Technician Class license or higher, regardless of club membership or affiliation, are cordially invited to participate in the net. While the net is informal, it is a directed net, where fellow amateur radio operators discuss anything and everything related to trains and railroading, in a roundtable format, moderated by the Net Control/Conductor. We've had stations from Arizona, California, Maryland, Delaware, Florida, Ohio, Texas, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Arkansas...among other areas...take part in the net...which is usually an hour or less in duration.

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**, 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

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

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

Jon's Texas Railroad History

By Jon Shea

Fairview, Texas is a town between Allen and McKinney. The November/December issue of The Medallion, publication of The Texas Historical Commission has a section on Texas sites recently added to the National Register of Historic Places. Among those is this item: "Fairview Railroad District - Fairview, Collin County. The Fairview Railroad Historic District contains five structures, including two arch bridges built in the 1870s by the Houston & Texas Central Railway Co. The district also includes bridge abutments and piers built for interurban rail use by the Texas Traction Company [later part of the Texas Electric Railroad] in 1908 as well as a 1915 stone dam built by the Edgar H. Bush family to create a recreational pool." This sounds like a must see for the upcoming northbound Texas Electric Railroad excursion.

NRHS Fall Board of Directors Meeting, Nov. 7, 2010

By Claude Doane

Report on NRHS Fall Board of Directors meeting, held Sunday, November 7, 2010, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania Following the call to order by President Greg Molloy and routine details such as roll call and approval of the minutes, the first order of business was the 2011 Director Vote Allocations. The North Texas Chapter remains unchanged at 2 votes. Next were the election of Officers and RVPs. The only officer change was the Position of Treasurer. Ralph Bitzer will now fill this roll. Richard Billings has chosen to step down from this position after 37 years. The Regional Vice presidents all remain unchanged. (See list attached.)

The only presidential appointment made was Walter Zullig as Inspector General.

Reports:

Greg recently visited the Japan Chapter and they welcome any member traveling to their country to contact them.

Barry Smith reported that all dues notices have been sent out. (More "Dues News" later)



Report from publications stated layout is done for the 2009 Yearbook and the electronic version should be available in 1-2. Fall 2010 Bulletin should be in the mail by year's end. The next NRHS News should appear in 3-4 weeks. Next News deadline is 12/10/10. Deadline for the NRHS Telegraph is 12/28/10.

Heritage Preservation Grants deadline is end of April 2011. The application is on the NRHS website. (There will be a non-mandatory seminar on grant applications at the Winter Conference.)

New chapter development brought approval of two new chapters. One in Chiloquin, OR with a total of 11 members and one in Johnson City, TN with 22 members. There is also interest from Woonsocket, RI; Honeysdale, PA; Unadilla, NY; and Raritan River, NJ.

While this looks good for the Society, note that the Hawaii Chapter and the Hawk Mountain Chapter had their charters withdrawn. There are two others that are pending this same action.

Walter Zullig reported that he is working on putting together a rail fan trip to Israel and may have a detailed proposal in Williamsburg.

Convention Reports:

Tim O'Malley reported that the 2010 convention drew attendees from 44 states and 6 foreign countries. Every event was sold out except for six slots for the night photo shoot. He then presented the first check to Greg in the amount of \$5000.00.

Ed Bernstein reported on the 2010 convention. The dates are June 20 to 23, 2011. The convention Hotel will be the Murano. They have 341 preregistered and will have online reservations for the first time. www.cascaderails2011.com

Greg gave an update on the 2012 Cedar Rapids Convention to be held June 18-25, 2012. Events (may) include a trip to the Old Threshers Park in Mt. Pleasant, IA (Steam with a Shay and Streetcars), Cedar Rapids and Iowa City short line, an Industrial tour day, and the Iowa Northern. There may also be three days of distant small group tours before or after the actual convention.

They are looking for options for 2013, 2014, and beyond.

Future Conferences:

Bob Bitzer invited everyone to the winter meeting in Williamsburg, VA on January 28-30, 2011. Hotel will be Williamsburg Lodge and Conference Center.

Spring 2011 Conference will be in Urbana, IL April 14-17. Hotel will be the Holiday Inn and Conference Center. Activities planned include the Monticello railroad museum and a (steam?) trip.

Fall 2011 Conference will be in Wilmington, DE with detail to follow.

Locations are needed for 2012 and beyond.

Society Initiatives:

Rail Camp will only be held at Steamtown next year from July 10-16. There is interest from other locations, but there will not be enough time to get everything in place for 2011.

The new Bylaws draft is largely complete. Features include a smaller board (25) and the new Advisory Council. Elected Board members will serve 4 year terms which will be staggered (1/2 of first elections will be for a two year term). There will be term limits of two terms or ten years... President and Vice-President will be elected directly by membership. Other officers will be elected by the Board, but will not be part of the Board.

No Board members can serve on the Advisory Council. The AC must meet 4 times per year.

The timeline as now seen will have the bylaws package sent out to board members the week of December 6, 2010 for review. The intent is to approve sending this to the entire membership who will then vote at the Membership meeting in Tacoma. If this happens as planned, the new Board could be seated by the spring 2012 Conference.

Strategic Planning, Executive Committee actions, and the Volunteer reporting Policy were covered in published reports with any Board action required deferred to the Winter Meeting. President Molloy adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Chapter Meeting Minutes, December 7, 2010

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MINUTES, DATE: December 7, 2010. Chapter Holiday Dinner, Texas & Pacific Station, Fort Worth, Texas. *Report submitted by Dave Gramm.*

The December meeting was disguised as the chapter's annual Christmas dinner, held in the refurbished African-American Waiting Room in the T & P Station in Fort Worth.

President Wayne Smith called the group to order at 7:15pm and welcomed all the members and guests. There were 37 members and guests in attendance. Our own 'Captain Transit' Steve Siegerist was on hand, having come down from St. Louis to partake in the DART Green Line inauguration the Saturday before.



Attendees then partook of the catered dinner provided by Joanne Weber, proprietor of the T & P Tavern & Grill, located in the T & P Station.

After dinner, Wayne reported that the Cowcatcher Round-Up rail news magazine is holding its 2nd Annual "Best of..." contest and our own "24 Hrs @ Saginaw" event has been nominated for "Best RR Event" as well as the Saginaw Station being nominated for "Best Train Watching Location". Subscribers to CCRU will get a ballot within their delivered copy and all subscribers are encouraged to vote for our two nominations. Note that copies picked up at newsstands or other distribution places will NOT have a ballot, only subscribers will receive one.

Wayne also reported the board has approved the final draft of the Leroy O. King Memorial Railroad Preservation Grant program documents and it is now available for grant nominations.

Wayne recognized the board members in attendance and thanked them for their service to the chapter during the past year.

VP- Trips & Events Skip Waters announced the TX Electric Interurban field trip scheduled for early January has been delayed to sometime in late January due to a scheduling conflict. Watch for more info to be released soon.

Skip reminded everyone of the chapter's annual Slide Show Shootout @ Southfork Hotel, located on the east side of US 75, south of Parker Rd., on Saturday, January 15, 2011 from 6pm till ? This is the chapter's contribution to the Plano Train Show.

Skip also thanked everyone who participated in voting for the UP Steam Excursion contest. He was ahead in the votes received by 30 points as of Monday. The contest has now entered Round 2, the tabulation of the votes received, followed by Round 3, the setting up of the route to be chosen.

Skip introduced one of the dinner guests, William Brotherton, a noted railroad author and lawyer who is currently representing the Museum of the American Railroad in their lawsuit with the city of Dallas. He gave the attendees an update on the museum's activities and reported the museum hopes to make their 'Big Boy' steam engine operational once the museum completes the move to its new Frisco, TX home. It is the most complete 'Big Boy' steam engine of all those in current static display, with all of its major components intact and is in relatively good shape. With 12 acres of space, the museum would like to be able to allow attendees to actually operate the throttle on the 'Big Boy' and move it on trackage within the museum grounds.

Joanne finished the evening's entertainment by taking the group on a tour of the newly renovated diner facilities in the T & P Station that she and her husband Nathan have lovingly restored.

Chapter Meeting Minutes, November 2, 2010

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MINUTES, DATE: November 2, 2010. Founder's Building Grapevine, Texas. *Report submitted by Dave Gramm.*

President Wayne Smith called the meeting to order at 7:45pm. Eleven members were present.

Wayne presented the final draft of the chapter's Leroy O. King Railway Preservation Grant application form for the members to review. It will be posted to the chapter's website after final approval.

Wayne also reported the latest issue of Trains magazine has an article on 2-10-4 steam engines in Texas. The Texas State Railroad has one in #610 and there is another in Amarillo.

VP-Programs Jon Shea was not present but forwarded a message thru Wayne that the annual chapter Christmas party will be at the T&P building in Ft. Worth on Wednesday, Dec. 8 at 7pm. This is the same venue where we had the party last year and the chapter members will get to take a tour of the restored T&P Grill which is now operational. Cost is \$12/person. Contact Jon for reservations at jjshea@swbell.net or by phone at 972-480-9054. Checks or cash accepted.

Chapter council rep Russ Covitt reported there were 2 time slots available of 1 hour each for work at the Plano show that needed to be filled. Contact Russ if able to work one of the time slots. He also reported on the Ft. Worth show interim results and the Houston 'Big Train Show' put on by the Gulf Coast Chapter, NRHS.

VP-Trips & Events Skip Waters reported the TX Electric interurban field trip is planned for Saturday, January 8, 2011. This is the second weekend in January and the week before the Plano train show. He also reported the chapter's annual slide show event is scheduled at the Southfork Hotel in Plano on Saturday evening starting at 6:00 pm, Jan 15, 2011 during the Plano Train Show weekend.

One of the chapter members reported the KCS Christmas Train will be in Wylie again this December.

On November 13, 2010 the annual railroad symposium at the George Bush Library in College Station will be held, starting at 10 am. Cost is \$15/person which includes a BBQ luncheon. There are 5 speakers scheduled including Ken Fitzgerald, Cary Poole, Parker Lamb, Robert Ray and Bruce Blaylock. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm with member's auction following. A total of \$91 was raised at the auction for the chapter from seven bidding members.

Press time 12/21/2010, 6pm. NTx Newsletter 2011-01 vE.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. 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.
Cancelled - Sat. Jan. 8, 2011	Cancelled. To be rescheduled based on Johnnie Meyers' availability. North Texas Electric field. 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 p.m. , 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.