



VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR

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CHAPTER MEETING..... 1
 MARCH 1, 2011 – DEGOLYER LIBRARY, SMU..... 1

SPECIAL FEATURES 1
 SHINKANSEN BULLET TRAIN ROLLS ON 1
 HAM RADIO BRINGS SPARKS TO RAIL CELEBRATION 1

NATIONAL / NORTH TEXAS RAIL NEWS..... 2
 AMTRAK ANNOUNCES "MUSEUM TRAIN" 2
 AMTRAK 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS 2
 BE AMTRAK'S TUBIE CUTIE 2

CHAPTER DIRECTORY 3
 NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER OFFICERS, 2010..... 3

CHAPTER NEWS & VIEWS..... 3
 NRHS – IMPORTANT NEWS TO THE MEMBERSHIP..... 3
 MEET YOU IN ST. LOU' DOWN IN SAN ANTON' 3
 UNSTOPPABLE RAILS SHOW TRUE GRIT 3
 NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER HISTORY 4

NORTH TEXAS CALENDAR 4

Chapter Meeting

March 1, 2011 – DeGolyer Library, SMU

~~~~ Meeting rescheduled from Feb. due to snow ~~~~

**When: Tues. March. 1, 7:00 p.m.**

**Where: deGolyer Library, SMU, 6404 Robert S. Hyer Lane  
 Dallas, TX 75205 University Park, TX**

**Program:** Program: They will show some of their recent acquisitions and old favorites in RR history. Also they will give a demonstration of some of the new digital tools (Baldwin locomotive records online, photographs, etc.) which they use.

**Directions to DeGolyer Library, SMU:**

From U.S. Highway 75 (North Central Expressway).

Traveling from the north, take the Lovers Lane/University Boulevard/SMU Boulevard exit. Continue on the service road to SMU Boulevard. Turn right (west) onto campus. Moody Parking Garage is at southeast corner of SMU Boulevard and Airline Road.

Traveling from the south, take the Mockingbird Lane/SMU Boulevard exit. Continue on the service road to SMU Boulevard. Turn left (west). Moody Parking Garage is at the southeast corner of SMU Boulevard and Airline Road. From Dallas North Tollway. Exit Mockingbird Lane and proceed east past Hillcrest Avenue to Bishop Boulevard. Turn left (north) onto the campus. Proceed north 300 feet to Schlegel Street. Turn right to access the Meadows Museum Parking Garage.



(Photo credit: Kyodo News)

**Special Features**

**Shinkansen Bullet Train Rolls On**

Railway companies are getting ready for the March 2011 start of bullet train services between Kagoshima in the southern tip of Kyushu and Osaka in western Japan. Trains will run on the Kyushu Shinkansen Line's Kagoshima route and the Sanyo Shinkansen Line. Kyushu Railway Co., operator of the Kyushu Shinkansen Line, and West Japan Railway Co., operator of the Sanyo Shinkansen Line, have held events for children and train fans to showcase the new N700 series of bullet train cars that will be used on the route. The fastest service, called "Mizuho," will connect Kagoshima-Chuo Station and Shin-Osaka Station in about three hours and 45 minutes. Trains on the "Sakura" service will take longer as they stop at more stations en route. **Source: Source: 20111227, Kyoda News at <http://english.kyodonews.jp/news/2010/12/63725.html>**

**Ham Radio Brings Sparks to Rail Celebration**

Celebrate the full opening of the **Kyushu Shinkansen Bullet Train** - connection completion between Hakata and Shin-Yatsushiro (S stands for "Sakura" (or Cherry), a new express train service between Shin-Osaka and Kagoshima-Chuo), island of Kyushu



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(IOTA AS-077, WLOTA 0963), Look for special call sign 8J6S to be active between 1st February and 31st March 2011. **Many thanks to Harry K3EYL for sharing this rail radio news.**

**Source: 20110218**, [http://www.southgatearc.org/icpo/2011/january\\_07.htm](http://www.southgatearc.org/icpo/2011/january_07.htm)

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## **National / North Texas Rail News**

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### ***Amtrak Announces "Museum Train"***

Amtrak will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, and the company is planning to operate a special train to commemorate the event. Amtrak has told employees that the Beech Grove, Ind., shop is renovating one F40, one P40, three baggage cars, and an Amfleet food service car for a special 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary "museum train." The baggage cars will be turned into museum cars that will display exhibits of historic advertising, uniforms, photographs, and other items. The Amfleet car will serve as a combination retail center and rotating exhibit space. The train will travel across the country on various Amtrak routes. The company is also planning to repaint four locomotives in historic paint schemes to help celebrate the event. **Source: 20110118**, Amtrak.

### ***Amtrak 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations***

On May 1, 2011, Amtrak will celebrate 40 years as America's Railroads providing vital intercity and high-speed passenger rail service to the nation and offering a critical transportation choice for both urban and rural communities. Preparations are now underway for several activities to commemorate the occasion.

The first sign of celebration occurred on January 30 in Chicago when the first of four P-42 diesel-electric locomotives with one of four historic paint schemes entered regular revenue service. All four locomotives will be in service by the end of April and operate on trains across the Amtrak national network. As each becomes available for service, Amtrak will issue a Twitter message at [twitter.com/Amtrak](http://twitter.com/Amtrak) and post a photo in the Photos tab on its Facebook page at [facebook.com/Amtrak](http://facebook.com/Amtrak). A photo of the first locomotive is now posted.

Among other commemorative activities is a book entitled Amtrak: An American Story. Written with the help of former presidents of Amtrak and current employees among others, the book discusses the railroad's history and its plans for the future, and contains an employee-generated photo essay of 24-hours in the life of the railroad. In addition, a documentary DVD illustrating the history of Amtrak and its importance to the country is being produced.

Also, a special 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary "exhibit train" will make its debut at the National Train Day event in Washington, D.C. on May 7, 2011, and then travel across the country for a one-year period. It will have two locomotives with historic paint schemes and use renovated baggage cars to display educational exhibits focusing on each decade of the railroad's existence with vintage advertising, past menus and dinnerware, period uniforms, photographs, and other items of memorabilia. There will be no charge for the public to tour the exhibit train. Dates and locations of when and where it will travel will be announced soon.

In addition, a special anniversary web site will be launched this spring with historical information about Amtrak, a schedule of celebration activities, a photo archive and videolibrary, and a virtual tour of the exhibit train with a map that will track its journey across the country. **Source: 20110131**, Amtrak.

### ***Be Amtrak's Tubie Cutie***

Amtrak passengers have a new way to get information and share the unique experience of Amtrak train travel with today's launch of the [Amtrak YouTube channel](#).

The channel will feature videos with information on topics such as safety and security, the Trails & Rails program, and the Amtrak vision for high-speed rail. In addition, there will be video from Amtrak employees on Amtrak journeys, customer experiences and travel tips.

The Amtrak YouTube channel is the latest social media initiative by Amtrak. The [Amtrak Facebook page](#) was launched in 2008 and has more than 43,000 fans and the [@Amtrak Twitter handle](#) was added in 2010 and has more than 7,500 followers.

In addition to current information, special contests and promotions are offered exclusively through these tools such as the recent Facebook contest, "A Perfect Day on Amtrak," where passengers shared their Amtrak experience for a chance to win free train travel. **Source: 20110215**, Amtrak.



## 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**, [wgrush@swbell.net](mailto:wgrush@swbell.net).
- **Vice President/Communications, Dale Wilken**, [d-mwilken@sbcglobal.net](mailto:d-mwilken@sbcglobal.net)
- **Secretary, Dave Gramm**, [dgramm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dgramm@sbcglobal.net)
- **Treasurer, Jim King**, [jgking@swbell.net](mailto:jgking@swbell.net)
- **National Director, Claude Doane**, [claudio.doane@hcahealthcare.com](mailto:claudio.doane@hcahealthcare.com)

### *North Texas Zephyr, newsletter of the North Texas*

- **Editor, Valli Hoski**, [ntx.news@yahoo.com](mailto: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

### **NRHS – Important News to the Membership**

It is coming around to the time when the NRHS is processing the last membership renewals for 2011. Processing has gone better this year than ever. Most of the credit for the gains goes to the Electronic Billing Contacts and the fine job that you have done. Thank you! There are two important events coming within the next month to six weeks. First, NRHS is preparing to send second notices to those members who have not renewed at the end of March. Every member who is renewed and processed saves the NRHS the cost of preparing and mailing a second notice. If you have any membership renewals that you have not sent to the national office, please send them for processing by March 7, 2011. Second, on January 30th, the Board of Directors approved a set of bylaws changing the governance of the Society. Information about the new bylaws and a proxy for members to use if they cannot attend the membership meeting will be sent to all members of record as of March 7th. It is important that as many members as possible get the information about the bylaws approval process. I know your responsibilities as an Electronic Billing Contact are a huge responsibility and your time is limited. But you can really help the Society if you get all possible membership renewals submitted by March 7th. If you have any questions, please contact the office staff at [info@nrhs.com](mailto:info@nrhs.com) or me at [svp@nrhs.com](mailto:svp@nrhs.com). Barry Smith, Senior Vice president

### **Meet You In St. Lou' Down in San Anton'**

Looking for some cross-country rail camaraderie? Meet up with the St. Louis Chapter down San Antonio way. The Chapter announced its spring trip in their March 2010 Gateway newsletter. Take a drive, you just might see some old, familiar faces or friendly, Midwest faces too.

### **SAN ANTONIO WEEKEND , April 27 to May 3, 2011 On the Private Rail Car *Cimarron River* - St. Louis to San Antonio**

This spring join the St. Louis Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society for a trip to San Antonio , Texas . We will be traveling on the private Pullman sleeping car *Cimarron River* from St. Louis to San Antonio and return -- over 2,000 miles.

**Source: 20110116**, St. Louis Chapter, NRHS email from Joseph Obernuefemann.

### **Unstoppable Rails Show True Grit**

I wouldn't call this a review, but I have seen both movies. **Unstoppable** is all train from start to finish. I found it enjoyable because of that. As for how the railroad is run and the trains operated, well...it's Hollywood. The most remarkable part is near the end when the train crosses a bridge...can't give away the ending but let's say Superman must of been in the area. As for **True Grit**... great movie! A little bit of a steam train in the beginning and at the end, Not much in the way of really calling it a train movie. It was more small town cowboy if you ask me. The acting is superb, I loved it! Skip Waters

*Press time 2/18/2011, 10pm. NTx Newsletter 2011-03 vA2.doc*

*[Editor's Note: as of press time, no meeting minutes, officers' columns were received. Look for more reports in future issues.]*

## ***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**

|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Tues. March 1, 2011</b> | <b><i>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.</i></b> Location: DeGolyer Library, Southern Methodist University, University Park, TX <i>Program:</i> Recent acquisitions, new projects. |
| <b>Tues. April 5, 2011</b> | <b><i>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.</i></b> . Location: Founders Bldg., Grapevine, TX <i>Program:</i> NRHS member Jerry Nunn recent railroad pictures.                        |