



VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR

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Chapter Meeting

October 2, 2012 – Founder’s Building, Grapevine, Texas

When: Tues. October 2, 2012, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Founder’s Building, Grapevine, Texas.

Program: Annual Chapter Auction

Directions: 701 South Main Street, Grapevine, Texas.

Map: <http://www.pegasusnews.com/places/founders-building/>

Make plans to come to our annual auction at the October meeting. Bring your unwanted or duplicate railroadiana, model railroad equipment, books, timetables etc. You might be able to pick up some treasure that someone else has brought. Also it is fun. At an auction a few years back, chapter member Edwin Pegelow entertained us by starting the bidding on every item at 25 cents. Our auctioneer, Skip Waters always keeps the proceedings fast moving and lively. **So come on, unload some old stuff, pick up some new treasures and have some fun. All proceeds benefit the chapter.**

Special Features

Your Chapter brings you **outrageously fun** events this fall! Be a proud Chapter member, **get out the “vote” for new members**, join us all, and have an outrageously fantastic fun time!

- **Fall Joy Ride** – NTC outings return to the rails! See p. 3
- **Auction “Roads ‘n’ Rail Show”** – you won’t believe what ‘antique’ and other stuff you have to see, sell and buy! See p. 1
- **Membership’s Desires** – what can your Chapter do for you? What can you do for your Chapter? See p. 1
- **DFW Train Shows** – bring more folks ‘on board’ to the Chapter! See p. 2
- **Lots more rail activities** – see the events calendar on p.5



Membership Questionnaire

A MESSAGE TO CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP AND A FEW QUESTIONS

Four years have passed since your chapter hosted the 2008 Lone Star Rails, NRHS National Convention, a high point of accomplishment and membership for the chapter. Since then, your chapter leadership has worked to provide interesting and informative programs and events such as 24 Hours at Saginaw and the annual Christmas dinner. However, over the past couple years, the chapter has experienced diminishing attendance and participation at its monthly meetings and it has become a matter of concern to your chapter leadership. Consequently, we believe it is time to take a serious look at our programs and activities and see if we can make changes and improvements to result in a stronger, more dynamic North Texas Chapter. To that end, we would really appreciate your response to the following few questions (use additional pages if necessary).

1. **Why did you join the North Texas Chapter?**
2. **If you have not recently attended a chapter meeting, why not?**
3. **What are your concerns about the North Texas Chapter (i.e. programs, meeting location, meeting night, leadership, anything else)? Please be as candid as possible.**
4. **What do you like about the North Texas Chapter?**
5. **If you have an idea for a chapter event or program, please submit it.**
6. **Any other comments?**

Please email your reply to Wayne Smith at kwsmith@nctc.edu or Dale Wilken at d-mwilken@sbcglobal.net or **send a hard copy reply** to North Texas Chapter NRHS, P.O. Box 600304, Dallas, Texas, 75360. **Your reply by October 5 will be appreciated.**

Wayne Smith, President, North Texas Chapter, NRHS.



President's Roundhouse

by Wayne Smith, Chapter President

Four years have passed since your chapter hosted the 2008 Lone Star Rails, NRHS National Convention, a high point of accomplishment and membership for the chapter. Since then, your chapter leadership has worked to provide interesting and informative programs and events such as 24 Hours at Saginaw and the annual Christmas dinner. However, over the past couple years, the chapter has experienced diminishing attendance and participation at its monthly meetings and it has become a matter of concern to your chapter leadership. Consequently, we believe it is time to take a serious look at our programs and activities and see if we can make changes and improvements to result in a stronger, more dynamic North Texas Chapter. To that end, we would really appreciate your response to the survey that is on p. 1.

For those of you on e-mail, we have had a great response to the survey. For those of you not on e-mail, please take the time to complete the survey and mail it back to the NT-NRHS PO Box indicated in the survey. If you have an e-mail address and are not included in our electronic newsletter, please submit it to Jim King at jgking@swbell.net and request to be added to the Zephyr. We are currently working on a fall rail excursion. [Editor note: see Fall Joy Ride flyer in this issue, p.] Please stay tuned for more details. Thanks for taking a few moments to complete the survey and mailing it in to the board. Also, you can complete the survey and bring it to the meeting in October. *Happy Railroading, Wayne Smith, NT-NRHS President*

Come on Down to the DFW Train Shows!

Refresh your railfanning spirit with a visit to the traditional fall and winter DFW Train Shows!

Ft. Worth Train Show - Nov 10-11, 2012, Amon Carter Exhibit Hall

Many of the finest Home & Club layouts in the North Texas area! Hours: Nov. 10, Saturday 10am-5pm and Nov. 12, Sunday 10am-4pm. Admission \$8.00 per person Children 12 and under are FREE.

Train show info and map at <http://www.dfwtrainshows.com/content/ft-worth-train-show-nov-10-11-2012>

For information on parking, see culturaldistrictparking.com

Dallas Area Train Show - January 19-20, 2013, Plano Centre

There will be two full days of clinics. Many home layouts will be on tour. Hours: January 19 2013, Saturday 10am-5pm, and Sunday 10am-4pm. Admission \$8.00 per person Children 12 and under are FREE.

Plano Centre, 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway. Go East from Central Expressway (Exit 31). Train show and map at

<http://www.dfwtrainshows.com/content/dallas-area-train-show-january-19-20-2013>

If you would like your layout added to the Dallas area tour contact Chris Atkins at chris@railroadmodelers.com

Plano (Dallas Area) Train Show - NTC Hours Schedule, Jan. 20-21, 2013

by Russ Covitt

The Chapter must cover the hours below in order to meet our train show responsibilities and obligations. Please email Russ at Russ.Russrstuff@aol.com or call him at 972-625-4012 and let him know which hour(s) you can work.

Also, the **North Texas Chapter** will have a table at the Plano Show to promote the Chapter and we can use volunteers to provide info about membership and activities. (Show info at <http://www.dfwtrainshows.com/content/dallas-area-train-show-january-19-20-2013>)

SAT 1-19-13:

10-11 AM Layout Support Table, East Door _____

11-12 AM Ticket Sales, West Door _____

12-1 PM Ticket Sales, West Door _____

1-2 PM Ticket Sales, West Door _____

SUN 1-20-13

9-10 AM Assistant Show Manager Russ Covitt

12-1 PM Switching Contest _____

1-2 PM Ticket Sales, East Door _____

3-4 PM Information Table Main Room _____

When you sign up, we expect you to show up 10 minutes prior to your assignment, and sign the log. If for any reason you cannot do your job, it is your responsibility to find a replacement so we don't get assessed a penalty for not filling the slot. Thanks, Russ.



Chapter Fall Outing – Take a Joy Ride!

Ride Amtrak's Texas Eagle on the "NRHS East Texas Joy Ride"

Join the members of the North Texas Chapter,
 National Railway Historical Society and take a Joy Ride on the Rails!



When:
Sunday, October 7, 2012



Time:
 Meet at Dallas Union Station at 12 noon,
 Arrive back at Dallas Union Station by 8:00pm

Our Trip:

- 12:00pm: Meet group leader at Dallas Union Station via TRE or DART,
- 12:20pm: Ride the special Sunday TRE schedule from Dallas to Fort Worth,
- 2:00pm: Join group at FW's ITC and at 2:20pm board Amtrak's Texas Eagle to Mineola, TX,
 Lunch on your own in the Diner and possible visit to railroad museum upon arrival.
- 6:30pm: Bus ride back to Dallas Union Station and catch TRE or DART home.

So come take an East Texas Joy Ride with fellow Railfriends on a Sunday afternoon. Start your trip via DART or TRE and meet your group at Dallas Union Station at noon. Begin a circle trip of DFW via TRE to Fort Worth's Intermodal Center, then board Amtrak's Texas Eagle east to Dallas and arrive at Mineola, TX. Eat Lunch in the Diner along the way and upon arrival, visit a local rail attraction or museum. After, we head home via MotorCoach to Dallas Union Station, finish your trip home on DART or TRE using the Sunday State Fair schedule.

Limited to only 30 people!



- Activities Include:
 Group trip pricing
 Have lunch on train in the Diner
 Ride with friends and make new friends



Cost:

\$47.00 per person for Amtrak trip and bus ride.
 Must give commitment by September 26th and Pay by October 2, 2012.
 Purchase lunch on train and DART and TRE day pass fare on your own.

Questions and to confirm your seat?
 Contact Skip Waters
 email: wgcrush@swbell.net
 Ph. 214-987-2888 leave message



Then send your full name and payment to:
 North Texas Chapter, NRHS
 P.O. Box 600304
 Dallas, TX 75360-0304



Y'all Come Ride and Have Fun Now, Ya Hear?



Chapter Views and Rail News

A Few Words About German Railroads

by Dale Wilken (article and photography)

While touring with my family in northern Germany in late August, we had the opportunity to view current railroad operations in a number of locations including the port cities of Hamburg and Bremen. We did not ride the intercity trains but made good use of their commuter rail.

Passenger rail service is still the top priority of the German rail system. Freight rail traffic is a small segment but is making some growth in several of the major intercity corridors. Freight trains are typically 15-20 cars in length and operate at high speed between terminals as they must use the tracks also used by the passenger service. Container traffic is growing into ports such as Hamburg where it is off loaded onto smaller intercoastal ships or onto barges for movement inland on the various navigable rivers and then onto trucks for delivery. Again, there is some growth in container movement by rail because of the road congestion in the larger cities but to have a significant increase, separate trackage may be necessary. As for passenger rail, almost every village and town has access to passenger rail with fairly frequent schedules. Nearly all the system is electrical. In larger cities such as Hamburg, travelers have access to light rail (trolley), subway, commuter service, intercity service and intercountry service typified by the German ICE high speed, dedicated right of way service.

The attached photo (see right) of the Hamburg central rail station shows a facility with 10 through surface tracks and several underground subway and commuter tracks. From left to right an intercity, ICE and two intercity trains are shown. The train in the center is operated by a private company which is in competition with the German state railway system. The company owning the Iowa Interstate Railroad recently began operations of a passenger rail company in central Germany. All the trains operate on strict schedules and during an evening rush hour a track was seldom vacant as long as 10 minutes. Quite a difference from the state of current passenger service in the US.



TSR General Manager says "Come Ride!"

Earl Knoob, TSR General Manager sent this friendly email to the Chapter on Friday, August 31, 2012.

Allow me to introduce myself. I'm Earl Knoob, the GM for the Texas State Railroad and I just wanted to drop you a note to say howdy. I hope to bring new things to the TSR and make it a bit friendlier to the railfan community. It is our plan to restore the steam locomotives to their historically significant numbers and road names.

The first on that list is TSR 201 which is in the process of being returned to Texas & Pacific #316. The 316 will celebrate its 110th birthday in November and we are celebrating that by running her on a fantrip out of Palestine on November 3. The train will run to Rusk, have lunch and shop tour, then return to Palestine. Runbys will be made along the way each way along with meets with the regularly scheduled train. The fare is still being worked out, but checking our website at www.texasstater.com will keep you informed. The website is in the process of reconstruction, so it might take a bit to get the info up there.

Starting this weekend (Aug. 31) we are beginning Sunday service (in addition to existing Saturday trains) and expanding the runs to begin service from Palestine again. The trains will depart Rusk at 1000am and 200pm and depart Palestine at 1230pm. Essentially we are running 2 round trips over the railroad starting from Rusk. Those passengers wishing to ride from Palestine will board the train there and ride the return leg of the first round trip and return on the outbound trip of the second trip.

In addition we are offering a "Buy One Get One Free" promotion on all coach seats through the middle of November.

As an aside, I used to be the Manager of Passenger Operations for the Ft. Worth & Western in 1999. While I was living there I was a member of your group. I guess I need to join up again! Come ride!

Earl Knoob, General Manager, Texas State Railroad



NRHS District 7 News

by Claude Doane

Well, the elections are complete and the results have been certified. At this time, I am the only Director from District 7, but that will be remedied at the first meeting of your new Board on October 20 and 21, 2012.

The new Advisory Council will also meet for the first time on Saturday, October 20, 2012. Part of these first meetings will be organizational in nature since neither organization has met previously. The Board also has serious business to conduct, which is why we are actually meeting two days. Some of that business concerns the budget and cash flow issues of the society. You should expect a report from me after the meeting with the highpoints addressed. Thank you, Claude Doane, NRHS District 7

Director

Chapter Directory

North Texas Chapter Officers, 2012.

- **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**, claudedoane@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/groups/409467244127/>

Press time: 9/21/2012, noon. Filename: NTx Newsletter 2012-10 vC

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.**

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**. Reach the NRHS at National Railway Historical Society, 100 N 20th Street, 4th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103-1443.

North Texas Calendar

Tues. Oct. 2, 2012	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: Founder's Building, Grapevine, Texas. Program: Annual Chapter auction.
Oct. 12-13, 2012	Lockheed Martin Train Show. Fort Worth, Texas. Info at http://www.lmra.org/Activity.aspx?pageid=50
Tues. Nov. 6, 2012	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: Founder's Building, Grapevine, Texas.
Nov. 10-11, 2012	Fort Worth Holiday Train Show. Will Rogers Center, Fort Worth, Texas. Info at http://www.dfwtrainshows.com/content/ft-worth-train-show-nov-10-11-2012
Tues. Dec. 2, 2012	OKC Train Show. Fair Grounds, Oklahoma City, OK. Info at http://www.okctrainshow.com/
Dec. 4, 2012	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Holiday dinner plans underway, date and location to be confirmed.
Jan. 5-6, 2013	World's Greatest Hobby Show, Fort Worth. Russ says... This will be a big one! In 2007, attendance was over 21,000.
Jan. 8, 2013	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: Founder's Building, Grapevine, Texas. Program: Officer Elections, Annual Member Show'n'Tell.
Jan. 19-20, 2013	Dallas Areas Train Show. Plano Centre, Plano, Texas. Russ says... This is when we really need your help handling ticket sales and other duties. NTC members needed to fill the Chapter's require service hours.
Feb. 5, 2013	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.

