

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NORTH TEXAS ZEPHYR NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER 2012, VOLUME, 17, ISSUE 9

VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR

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NORTH TEXAS CALENDAR6

Chapter Meeting

November 6, 2012 - T&P Tavern, Fort Worth, Texas

When: Tues. November 6, 2012, 7:30 p.m.

Where 221 W. Lancaster, Suite #1000, Fort Worth, TX 76102.



Program: Join the members of the North Texas Chapter for a casual night out at the T&P Tavern!

Ride the TRE, see the railroad atmosphere inside the T&P Tavern deep in the heart of the T&P station, order a "Louisiana Limited" (original drink made there), take in the UP action outside or simply share some train talk with friends Look for a group table with the NRHS name on it. Information at http://www.tptavern.com

Special Features

NOV. 3, 2012

10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

GEORGE BUSH PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM



George Bush Presidential Library – Annual Railroad Program

The Texas Eagle Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society (NRHS), the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society (R&LHS) and the **George Bush Presidential Library and Museum are pleased to invite you to a program on railroads**. The program will include four presentations. All talks will take place in the orientation theater at the Bush Presidential Library and Museum, on the campus of Texas A&M University. A catered fajita lunch is included in the conference fee. Coffee and water will also be available through the day. Reservations are not required but are strongly encouraged. Payment (cash or check) will be accepted on the day of the event.

WHEN: **Saturday, November 3, 2012.** WHERE: **George Bush Presidential Library and Museum**, College Station, Texas TIME: 10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (doors open 9:30 a.m.) COST: \$15.00 per person (payable by cash or check on the event date) PARKING: Free at the Bush Library and Museum (Lot 41)

RESERVATIONS: Please call Robert Holzweiss at 979.691.4074 or Tracy Paine at 979.691.4014 to make reservations. You can also make reservations by emailing Robert at Robert.Holzweiss@nara.gov or register online at railroading2012.eventbrite.com [Editor's note – Contact Skip for flyer and program details]

North Texas Joy Ride - Trip Report

by Dale Wilken. Photos by Skip Waters.

On Sunday, October 7, some twenty members and friends of the North Texas Chapter embarked on a rail tour to east Texas. Taking advantage of the TRE's schedule of Sunday service between Dallas and Fort Worth during the State Fair of Texas, the Dallas contingent boarded the 12:20pm train at Union Station and headed off to the Fort Worth Intermodal Transportation Center (ITC) arriving promptly at the scheduled time. Some of the group continued on to the T&P Station at the last second to take





advantage of the dead time until the arrival of Amtrak. Once they rode back to ITC, they were met by the fellow travelers from the Fort Worth area to await the arrival of the eastbound Texas Eagle scheduled in at 2:00pm.



Left: Fort Worth group with our train in the background. Group left to right: Gerald Hook, Connie Hook, Guy Johnson, AJ Roquevert, Wayne Smith, Dale Wilken, Marilyn Wilken, Edwin Pegelow, Claude Doane, Cinde Hook Deasey, Jon Shea, Keith Todd, Jerry Nunn, Earl Leeson, Robert Haynes and Lynne Fleming. (Not shown, Skip Waters and Bob Kennedy.)



Left: Boarding TRE 124 for a Joy Ride.



Right: Stop at T&P Station with TRE 124

There we learned that the Amtrak train had been halted just north of Austin by a broken rail and repairs would take about 2 hours. This did provide an opportunity to take a good look at the exhibits in and around the ITC as well as to have a meal at one of the restaurants near the station











The Texas Eagle finally arrived just over 3 hours late as being off schedule it ended up on several sidings north of Austin. At 5:20pm we were finally on our way east to a stop at Union Station.



Arriving on the Texas Eagle does provide a different view of downtown Dallas than when arriving by highway or the TRE. After the stop in Dallas where almost 100 passengers boarded we were on our eastward joy ride again to our planned stop in Mineola.

Being near the lounge car, most of the group spent time there but it was a cloudy day, darkness came early and so the view was limited After making up about a half hour our Texas Eagle trip ended at 7:50pm in Mineola; we exited the train in a rain shower.



The restored Mineola depot contains a railroad museum with items of interest about the Texas and Pacific, Missouri Pacific and other earlier railroad ventures. We toured the museum and looked at the restored Missouri Pacific caboose before boarding our chartered bus back to Dallas and Union Station



Left: NRHS Group at Mineola, TX. Group left to right: Gerald Hook, Jon Shea (rear), Connie Hook, Claude Doane (rear), Skip Waters (front), Dale Wilken (rear), Marilyn Wilken, Wayne Smith (front), Jerry Nunn, Bob Kennedy, Dave Gramm (rear), Keith Todd, Guy Johnson. Not shown, Russ Covitt (photo by Skip Waters - camera)









The bus driver pledged to have us back in 90 minutes and he succeeded. As we arrived at the station, the 9:50pm TRE to Fort Worth was just ready to depart so those of us from Fort Worth completed our East Texas Joy Ride an hour later when we arrived back at the ITC. It was enjoyable trip, if longer than planned, and more tours are being planned.

North Texas Joy Ride – T&P History

Submitted by Jon Shea

Note: This was given as a handout to those who attended our recent East Texas Joyride. It is printed here for our members who couldn't attend. It is not edited and is reproduced word for word.

A TRAIN ROBBERY ON THE TEXAS AND PACIFIC RAILROAD. A selection from the book From Ox-Teams to Eagles.

A History of the Texas and Pacific Railroad. Published by the T&P in 1945

This concerns a train robbery that took place near Mesquite, Texas

The Galveston Daily News of April 12, 1878 carried a story with a Dallas dateline which begins with the sentence: "Another train robbery occurred last night at Mesquite, thirteen miles east of Dallas." The reporter who filed the story in that one word "another" revealed a distressing problem that harassed the builders of railroads during those hectic days in the New West. Within a period of fifty days during the spring of 1878, four train robberies occurred within a radius of twenty miles of Dallas. On the night of April 10, 1878, the Texas and Pacific was selected to be the next victim.

At ten o'clock at night there were few people around the little depot in Mesquite, for the train was no longer a novelty to the town people. As the ten p.m. train came to a stop, several masked men, brandishing wicked looking pistols, leaped out of the shadows and ordered the engineer and fireman out of the cab. By then pistol and rifle shots were ringing out all along the coaches. The conductor, Julius Alford, had opened fire on the bandits from the rear platform of one of the coaches, and one of the attackers was hit. A scant minute later, however, the plucky conductor received a rifle shot in his left arm and had to leave the affray. The bandits, of course, were after the mail and express. When the shooting started and it became obvious that they were outnumbered, the messenger and guard in the combination mail and express car closed and locked the door. They covered the car with coal oil and gave the imprisoned men fifteen minutes by the clock to open the door or else a torch would be put the coaloil soaked car. The messenger, whose name was Kerley, flatly refused to come to terms with the robbers. Making good their threat, when the fifteen minutes had passed and the door had not been opened, the car was set afire. Kerley and the guard realized further resistance was useless, so they opened the door and jumped to the ground, covered by the pistols and rifles of the desperadoes. The fire was extinguished quickly and the heavily-bearded, masked men proceeded to rifle the mail and express. Three registered letters were taken from the mail agent and \$152.00 in cash taken from the express. The outlaws were unable to find several thousand dollars in cash which was hidden in the car. The twenty-five passengers on the train were not molested. Guards of a nearby convict train had attempted to break up the robbery, and in retaliation the bandits threatened to release the convicts, but did not do it. It was estimated that from ten to twenty men were in the band. They were all masked, but it was generally believed that it was Sam Bass and his gang. A few months later Sam Bass was "liquidated" by the Texas Rangers when he attempted to rob the bank at Round Rock, Texas.

Chapter Views and Rail News

Reminder - 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 cultural district parking.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





Need NTC Help on Sunday - Plano Train Show Jan. 20-21, 2013

by Russ Covitt

Still need volunteers to cover the Sunday hours – see schedule below. PLEASE contact Russ to sign up 972-625-4012 or russrstuff@aol.com 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 Bob Kennedy
11-12 AM Ticket Sales, West Door Jon Shea
12-1 PM Ticket Sales, West Door Edwin Pegelow
1-2 PM Ticket Sales, West Door Dale Wilken
SUN 1-20-13 – SHIFTS ALL STILL OPEN (as of 10/25/2012)
9-10 AM Assistant Show Manager Russ Covitt

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.

NRHS District 7 News

by Claude Doane, NRHS District 7 Director

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.

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, claude.doane@hcahealthcare.com

North Texas Zephyr, newsletter of the North Texas

• Editor, Valli Hoski, ntx.news@yahoo.com

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North Texas Chapter History

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/

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.

Effective October 2012, regular membership is \$55 a year (\$39 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.

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Sat. Nov. 3,2012	Railroading 2012, 10:00 a.m 3:30 p.m. George Bush Presidential Library, TAMU, College Station.					
Tues. Nov. 6, 2012 North Texas Chapter Meeting / Night Out at the T&P Tavern – 7:30p.m. Location: 221 W. Lancaster, Suite #1						
	TX 76102 .Join the members for a casual night out. Look for a NRHS group table. Information at http://www.tptavern.com					
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.					