

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



OCTOBER 2013, VOLUME 18, ISSUE 8

#### VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR

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### **Chapter Meeting**

## October 1, 2013 - Founders Bldg. Grapevine.

When Tues. Oct. 1, 2013, 7:00 pm meet 'n greet, 7:30 mtg.

Where Founders Building, Grapevine, Texas.

Program NRHS Alaska convention report and recap.





Image credit: http://www.prweb.com/releases/2013/3/prweb10583216.htm

### **Special Features**

#### 1st Annual FW Media Slide Show – Nov. 9, 2013

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Announcing: A NEW MEDIA-SLIDE SHOW event for Fort Worth! but first...

The Fort Worth Area Train Show will be November 9 & 10, 2013.

- Location: Amon Carter Exhibit Hall at the Will Rogers Coliseum complex in Fort Worth, TX.
- Hours: 10am-5pm Saturday, 10am-4pm Sunday. More info at:http://www.dfwtrainshows.com

#### AND NOW... 1st Annual Ft. Worth Area Media-Slide Show and NRHS Open House!

- When: Saturday evening, November 9th, 2013, hosted by the North Texas Chapter, NRHS,
- Hours: 6:00pm until 10:00pm. (the Train Show closes at 5:00pm).
- Location: Show to be held at: Saginaw Heritage Center (the depot), 301 S. Saginaw Blvd., Saginaw, Texas 76179 www.saginawtxchamber.org
- Show Admission is FREE!
- Please eat before you arrive. NO outside food allowed (house rules).
- This is a NEW show to be hosted every year at this time by the North Texas Chapter, NRHS. We hope you plan to attend!

#### **WE NEED Presenters!**

- 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, October 27, 2013. If you know the subject of your presentation, please tell me (having a subject is not mandatory). List type of media you plan to show: 1) Slides, 2) Digital photos, 3) Video tape or 4) DVD.
- After all presenters have identified themselves, I'll let them know A.S.A.P. how much time each will have at the show. You can go ahead and start putting your material together now, but keep it adjustable so you can make it fit the time allotted when I announce it after October 27th. You'll still have about two weeks to finalize it after I make that announcement.
- One program note: Please limit Videos or DVD's to 15 minutes. Slides will only be limited by the available time divided by the number of presenters.

Remember, the **DEADLINE** for getting your name on the PRESENTATION LIST is **12:00 noon CST on Sunday, Oct. 27th**. Don't miss the train. Thanks for your interest! Please pass this on to anyone that might be interested in the show. Best regards,

Skip Waters, Vice President, Trips & Events, North Texas Chapter, National Railway Historical Society

214-987-2888 office wgcrush@swbell.net





#### President's Roundhouse – Nicknames Texans Gave Their Railroads

by Wayne Smith, Chapter President

A&NR	Ain't Nothin Right
BF	Bull Frog
BW	Better Walk or The Gospel Road
EL&RR	Ever Late & Rarely Runs or Ever Lasting Rail Road
DW	Descend & Walk
FW&D	Flat Wheels & Dirty Coaches or The Denver Road
GH&H	Go Home Hungry
GT&W	Getcha Ticket and Walk or Getcha Tub and Wash
HE&WT	Hell Either Way Taken or The Rabbit
i	i
I&GN	Independent & Got Nothing
i I&GN LH&G	i Independent & Got Nothing  Left Hemphill & Gone
ţ	
LH&G	Left Hemphill & Gone
LH&G M&ET	Left Hemphill & Gone Misery & Eternal Torment
LH&G M&ET MKT	Left Hemphill & Gone Misery & Eternal Torment Katy
LH&G M&ET MKT MP	Left Hemphill & Gone Misery & Eternal Torment Katy Mule Power, Mo Pac, The Mop, and Genie
LH&G M&ET MKT MP MC&SA	Left Hemphill & Gone Misery & Eternal Torment Katy Mule Power, Mo Pac, The Mop, and Genie Mr. Carter and Sid Adams
LH&G M&ET MKT MP MC&SA N&SE	Left Hemphill & Gone Misery & Eternal Torment Katy Mule Power, Mo Pac, The Mop, and Genie Mr. Carter and Sid Adams Never Say Early
LH&G M&ET MKT MP MC&SA N&SE P&MP	Left Hemphill & Gone Misery & Eternal Torment Katy Mule Power, Mo Pac, The Mop, and Genie Mr. Carter and Sid Adams Never Say Early The Pa & Ma
	BF BW EL&RR DW FW&D GH&H GT&W HE&WT

<sup>\*</sup>Part 3 of 3 will be continued next month

### Riding the Chelatchie Prairie Railroad

by Dale Wilkin, NTC member

Having settled into our new home in southwest Washington State, it was time to do some exploring. On a pleasant September Saturda y, we decided to visit the Chelatchie Prairie Railroad located in the Cascade Mountain foothills some 30 airmiles northeast of Portland, Oregon but many more miles by winding road.

The Chelatchie Prairie Railroad is a remnant of a railroad line begun in the 1880's with the plan of connecting the Portland/Vancouver area and its tidewater on the Columbia River with the Great Northern Railroad and the Manitoba line of the Canadian National Railroad at Yakima over 100 miles to the northeast via a crossing of the Cascade Mountains at Klickitat Pass.

Far Right Dale & Marilyn-Rear brakemen. (All photo credit Dale Wilkin)





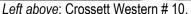


Originally incorporated as the Vancouver, Klickitat and Yakima, the owners believed that revenue would accrue to the line not only from handling transcontinental traffic but also from the access to huge stands of virgin timber on the slopes of the Cascade Mountains

Like many such proposals this railroad was long on dreams and short on resources. After building the first 15 mile segment to the village of Brush Prairie the owners went bankrupt. However, in 1898 new owners began transporting up to 50,000 board feet of timber per day on the line, now known as the Portland, Vancouver and Yakima, and by 1902 with the revenues were able to extend it northeastward to the Chelatchie Prairie and the lumbering village of Yacolt. This segment included building a 300 foot tunnel through solid rock and a 60' high timber bridge over the nearby Lewis River.

The hot, dry summer of 1902 resulted in many forest fires all over the Northwest including one that began near the Columbia River and reached the Yacolt area 10 days later. The town was spared but millions of board feet of timber were burned resulting in a major salvage operation by the Weyerhaeuser Timber Company. Yacolt became a boom town. In 1903 the P,V and K merged with the Washington and Oregon Railroad and later in the year it became a part of the Northern Pacific Railroad until the 1940's. Passenger service operated between Vancouver and Yacolt during this time. With its timber supply exhausted, Weyerhaeuser left the area in the 1930's and the line was little used until 1948 when International Paper.







Right above: Ready to go!

Company purchased and extended the line through the Prairie to its holdings and built a large lumber and plywood plant in 1960. The mill closed in 1979 and the rail line was dormant until purchased by Clark County for commercial purposes. In 1998 a group of businessmen formed the Chelatchie Prairie Railroad and undertook restoration of the segment from Moulton Falls to Chelatchie Prairie. Today the all-volunteer organization runs excursions on weekends during the summer and fall along with special events in other months. Their small roster of equipment includes a 2-8-2 steam tank locomotive originally the property of Crossett Western Lumber Company, a couple Alco S series diesels and several converted passenger and flat cars for passengers. It was the 2-8-2 locomotive pulling our short train this Saturday afternoon as we slowly made our way through the scenic

countryside past Moulton Falls, through the tunnel and over the Lewis River on the timber bridge. This trip was combined with a stop at the Moulton Falls Winery so that participants could sample the products and listen to some country music. All in all, a pleasant way to spend a Saturday afternoon. Additional photos of the Crossett Western locomotive are on the Chelatchie Prairie Railroad home page at bycx.com.

## North Texas Rail and Chapter News

## Come on Another Joy Ride in November!

Already looking forward to the next Joy Ride trip? Keep your calendar open for a possible trip on Nov. 16 or 17, 2013. Trip will start in Denton, and destination will be one of 3 fun routes in North Texas. Get your Joy Ride gear packed and ready for an exciting time! More details coming soon from Skip.





### Chapter Business Meeting Minutes, September 3, 2013

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MINUTES, DATE: September 3, 2013. Sokol Hall, Dallas, Texas.

Meeting was called to order by Vice President-Programs Jon Shea @ 7:35pm with 10 members in Attendance. President Wayne Smith was unable to attend. We also had one guest in attendance, Rob Parks. Jon reported on latest NRHS news. The Blackhawk chapter in Illinois has produced a pamphlet on railroads in the Civil War with an emphasis on the Illinois Central RR. Jon purchased one and brought it to show the members in attendance.

Jon reported that October's meeting will be at the Grapevine Founder's Building and will feature a review of the National Convention in Alaska by member Edwin Pegelow. November's meeting will feature the annual member's auction, also to be held in Grapevine. December will feature the annual Christmas party dinner. The floor was opened for discussion on where to have the party and members were asked to submit ideas for locations. Babe's in Frisco will be the fallback location if no other options are received.

Treasurer Jim King reported we have money in the treasury.

National District 7 Director Claude Doane presented the members with the official agenda for the Alaska Convention, fresh from his printer.

VP-Trips & Events Skip Waters, our other National District 7 Director, reported visiting the A & M Railroad in northwestern Arkansas, where the 2014 National Convention will be held. He passed out brochures he received from the railroad. He also reported on his planning for a chapter rail trip for the Dallas Cowboys Bye weekend, November 16-17. It will most likely include portions of the Amtrak Texas Eagle to Cleburne, the Amtrak Heartland Flyer to Gainesville and the DCTA between Denton and Dallas. More details will be forthcoming in the newsletter.

As part of the chapter's participation in the annual Ft. Worth Train Show in November, Skip has inaugurated the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Ft. Worth Slide and Video Show, to be held at the Saginaw Depot, November 9 from 6PM to 10PM. He is currently looking for volunteers to help with the project.

Claude and Skip both talked about the National dues going up \$11 next year. Skip reported the Gulf Coast chapter is absorbing the increase by cutting chapter dues by \$11. Treasurer Jim King responded that the effort was commendable but what happens if National raises dues again. The Intermountain chapter reported they feel there is not enough return on the current dues structure and they are skeptical of the increase. Their chapter board is reviewing their options and promised their membership they would work for them to select the best option. Skip & Claude will both be attending the National Board meeting in November and will report on its results. Our chapter members agreed we will leave our dues structure alone for now and add the increase this coming year.

Jon reported the board had approved a \$500 grant to the Plano Interurban Museum to help offset the cost of having prints made from a large set of glass plate negatives donated to the museum by 'Mr. Interurban', Johnnie Meyers. The pictures are from the early history of the TX Electric interurban. A photo op of the check presentation is being planned for the near future.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm. Program was a DVD from Trains Unlimited Tours, highlighting their 23 years of rail tours in North America. Video clips from many of their tours were featured, including the Fall Color Express, the Snow Flake Express thru Donner Pass, the Rocky Mountain Express, New England Fall Colors tour, Mt. Washington Cog RR tour, Lafayette Dinner Train, California Skunk Train, Camas Prairie Rail Adventure, California Zephyr, Rio Grande Photo Special on the Cumbres & Toltec, Durango & Silverton, White Pass & Yukon, BC Rail Spectacular, Caribou Prospector RDC, and many others.

## Chapter Business Meeting Minutes, August 6, 2013

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MINUTES, DATE: August 6, 2013. Founders Building, Grapevine, Texas.

Meeting was called to order by President Wayne Smith @ 7:34pm with 15 members in Attendance. Guest Jim Ogden from the MoPac Historical Society was also on hand for the program.

Wayne welcomed all members in attendance and reported on his latest travels to the East coast. He stayed in Baltimore next to Camden Yards, which is the repurposed, original B&O terminal building, which now houses the B&O Railroad Museum, including a 360 degree roundhouse with the turntable still installed. He rode a train on the first mile of rail laid in the U.S. and visited the President St. Station, the oldest surviving big city railroad terminal in the U.S. He displayed postcards he purchased there depicting some of the areas he visited.





VP- Programs Jon Shea reported that September's meeting would be held at SOKOL Hall in Dallas and feature a DVD TBD. October's meeting will be at the Grapevine Founder's Building and will feature a review of the National Convention in Alaska. November's meeting will feature the annual member's auction and December will feature the annual Christmas party dinner. He displayed the latest issue of the 'Katy Flyer' which covered the recent catastrophe in West, TX. The massive explosion was so powerful that the UP rail line running parallel to the fertilizer plant was severely damaged. The rail closest to the plant was ripped from the ties and moved across them, up against the opposing rail. The Katy depot in West also suffered some damage but is repairable.

Jon also displayed the latest issue of Classic Trains. It is a special edition celebrating the trains of the 1950's and a decade of change.

VP-Trips & Events Skip Waters reported he has been selected to serve as the second District 7 representative on the National Board of Directors along with our own Claude Doane. He reported the chapter has submitted its forms to participate in the Ft. Worth and Plano train shows and he is planning an inaugural slide show for the Ft. Worth show similar to the show we currently do at Plano. He will need volunteers to work the chapter's table at the show and at the slide show and will have a sign-up sheet at the next meeting. Skip gave a brief overview of the last Board meeting and presented a copy of a PowerPoint presentation given during the meeting. He also reported the North Alabama chapter has dropped out of National. Skip is planning a chapter rail trip for the Dallas Cowboys Bye weekend with more info to follow.

Member Bill France donated several framed pictures for an impromptu auction with the members and raised \$13 for the chapter. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 and the program, '150th Anniversary of the T&P Coming to Dallas' started at 8:17pm. Jon started with an overview of the T&P coming to Dallas in 1873, showing a map of the original T&P surveyed route which roughly followed the present day I-20 right of way. He also displayed pictures of original depots, T&P tracks in Pacific Street and his scrapbook of T&P memorabilia. Engine #20, a wood burning Baldwin 4-4-0, made the first run from Shreveport to Dallas in August 1873. The first passengers had to help fire the boiler on that first trip. The panic of 1873 halted expansion west and Ft. Worth was not reached until July 1876.

Following Jon's presentation, Skip showed a video of T&P #610, a Texas-type 2-10-4 that was retired from the T&P in 1969 and went on static display in Ft. Worth until 1973 when it was picked to be rebuilt to pull the American Freedom Train in 1976. After it was rebuilt, it was used only 5 years before being retired again. The video showed a clip of the break-in runs from Wichita Falls to Dallas & Ft. Worth prior to joining the AFT in Austin where it pulled the train to Houston on MP trackage, then from Houston to Ft. Worth on SP trackage. After completing its AFT assignment, it was leased to the Southern steam program for 3-1/2 years and retired after returning off lease in Jan 1981. It sat on static display in Ft. Worth for 6 years until it was towed 'Dead' to the TX State Railroad in Palestine, TX where it still resides.

## **Chapter Directory**

#### North Texas Chapter Officers, 2013.

- President, Wayne Smith, 940-300-4407.
- Vice President/Programs, Jon Shea, 972-948-2413...
- Vice President/Trips and Events, Skip Waters, wgcrush@swbell.net.
- Vice President/Communications, and NTZ editor, Valli Hoski, ntx.news@yahoo.com
- Secretary, Dave Gramm, dgramm@sbcglobal.net
- Treasurer, Jim King, jgking@swbell.net

Press time: 9/19/2013, 11pm. Filename: NTx Newsletter 2013-10 v1

### **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. 214-987-2888. 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. 1, 2013	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: Founders Building, Grapevine. Program: NRHS Alaska convention report and recap.
Tues. Nov. 5, 2013	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: Founders Building, Grapevine. Program: Annual Chapter Auction
Sat. Nov. 9 – Sun. Nov. 10, 2013	Fort Worth Area Train Show, Fort Worth – Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4.p.m. Location: Amon Carter Exhibit Hall at the Will Rogers Colosseum complex in Fort Worth, TX. More info at: http://www.dfwtrainshows.com
Sat. Nov. 9, 2013	1st Annual Ft. Worth Area Media - Slide Show and NRHS Open House –. Location: Saginaw Heritage Center (the depot), 301 S. Saginaw Blvd., Saginaw, Texas 76179. <a href="https://www.saginawtxchamber.org">www.saginawtxchamber.org</a> Show Time: 6:00 p,m, until 10:00 p.m. (the Train Show closes at 5:00 p,m,).
Nov. 16 or 17*, 2013	North Texas Rail Joy Ride -*Exact date, destination to be confirmed. Planned departure: Denton, Texas.
Dec. 2013*	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.</b> Program: Annual Chapter Holiday Party. *Exact date and Location to be determined.
Sat. Jan. 18. 2014 – Sun. Jan. 19, 2014	Train Show, Plano – Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4.p.m.