

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NORTH TEXAS ZEPHYR NEWSLETTER MARCH 2014, VOLUME 19, ISSUE 1



VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR

OPINIONS EXPRESSED HEREIN MAY NOT REFLECT THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF THE NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER OR THE NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ALL CONTENT RIGHTS RETAINED BY ORIGINAL AUTHOR.

EVERY ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO COMPLY WITH FAIR USE AND COPYRIGHT LAW.

CHAPTER MEETING	
SPECIAL FEATURES / ANNOUNCEMENTS NEXT CHAPTER RAIL OUTING – SAT. APRIL 12, 2014 LATEST NRHS NEWS AFFECTS US ALL	. 1 . 1 . 2
CHAPTER NEWS AND VIEWS	
CHAPTER BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES, FEB. 4, 2014	
NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER OFFICERS, 2014.	
NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER HISTORY	.3
NORTH TEXAS CALENDAR	.3

Chapter Meeting

Mar. 4, 2014 - Sokol Hall, Dallas.

When Tues. March 4, 2014, 7 pm meet'n'greet, 7:30 pm meeting.

Where Sokol Hall, 7448 Greenville Ave, Dallas, TX 75231.

Program Working on the Railroad: American Graffiti, by member Jerry Nunn. Come enjoy Jerry's expanded version of his program from last month's Slide/Media Show at the Dallas area train show.



Is a typical "eager beaver" a true rail enthusiast? See p. 2.

Special Features / Announcements

Next Chapter Rail Outing - Sat. April 12, 2014

by Skip Waters, VP Trips and Events

North Texas Rail Ramble

The North Texas Chapter, NRHS hosts the next chapter outing "North Texas Rail Ramble" on Saturday, April 12th. We start our trip by meeting in downtown Denton at 9:30am to board the 10:15am DCTA's A train to Carrollton's Trinity Mills Station then switch onto DART's Green Line to Dallas West End Station. Then, we take the DART Red or Blue line to Dallas Union Station. There we catch TRE at 1:30pm to Fort Worth ITC. Time in Fort Worth is planned eat or railfan, and then we board Amtrak's "Heartland Flyer" #822 to Gainsville, TX. From Grainsville, we take a charter bus back to our starting point in Denton by 8:00pm assuming everything remains on schedule. Most of the trip is "freestyle" (on your own) except for Amtrak and the chartered bus. More info, prices and the deadline to sign up is coming soon. If you are interested in the trip, please contact Skip Waters via email at: wgcrush@swbell.net or call and leave a message at 214-987-2888. This trip is open to all members, their families and rail friends around North Texas. Please spread the word!

Latest NRHS News Affects Us All

The February, 2014 issue of *The Telegraph* (NRHS' "news for leadership") includes news truly worthy of your attention...

2014 elections – This year's election of NRHS Officers and Board is particularly relevant to the North Texas Chapter. Claude
Doane will not be running again for the second director seat in District 7. We need someone from our district to run for that position.
Deadline for submission by March 31st. The National President and Vice President are up for election. Here are the details of the
positions and districts for this election:

"Per the 2013 Bylaws of the NRHS the Board of Directors will consist of 25 members. Two (2) individuals will hold the Offices of President and Vice President, five (5) will be Global Directors and the remaining eighteen (18) will be District Directors. There are two Districts for At-Large members (A & B) and seven Districts for the Chapter members (1-7). (See the accompanying charts.) The 2014 election is the second under the Bylaws previously adopted in 2011. In this election the two Officer positions and the nine Board positions which were two year terms will be on the ballot. All Board member positions will be four-year terms moving forward but the Officer positions remain at two-year terms."

- 2015 NRHS dues renewal NRHS will introduce online renewals for 2015. "At our January meeting, the Board of Directors authorized a substantial change in the way we will process dues. This change will save us significant money, but will also mean a process change for members. The new process will be introduced with the 2015 dues renewal cycle (starting in October 2014). We'll communicate more specifics this summer."
- Railcamp 2014 schedule announced RailCamp East, July 6-11, 2014, is based in Newark, Delaware, with some activities in Strasburg, Pennsylvania. RailCamp Northwest, July 27-August 2, 2014, is held in Tacoma, Washington. Application deadline is April 15, 2014 for both programs (see www.nrhs.com/program/railcamp). Scholarships are available for each program. Funds are also available to help chapters that have already raised substantial money for applicants.
- Alcos in the Ozarks, NRHS 2014 Convention On June 10-15, 2014, historic Alco diesels will once again rule the Arkansas & Missouri Railroad during the national NRHS convention in Springdale, Arkansas. Tickets are still available for the six day convention, highlighted by



NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NORTH TEXAS ZEPHYR NEWSLETTER MARCH 2014, VOLUME 19, ISSUE 1



four days of charter passenger trains on the Arkansas & Missouri Railroad. For a complete list of convention activities, news and travel information, visit the convention website at http://www.nrhs.com/2014 Convention.

• 2014 NRHS conferences and convention - April 24 - 27, 2014, Spring Conference, Advisory Council and Board of Directors" Meetings, Lewisburg, PA. June 10 - 14, 2014, 2014 NRHS Convention, Springdale, AR. www.nrhs.com Fall 2014, Fall Conference, Advisory Council and Board of Directors" Meetings. Dates and location to be confirmed.

President's Roundhouse

by Wayne Smith, Chapter President

Railroad Terminology

- Sanders Devices operated by air for applying sand to the rail in front or behind the driving wheels of the engine.
- **Deadhead** Employee riding on a pass; any nonpaying passenger. Also a fireman's derisive term for head brakeman who rides in the engine cab. Also a locomotive being hauled "dead" on a train.
- **Hobo Jungles** Settlements that were home to dozens of hobos (migrant workers) that rode the rails through much of the 20th century.
- **Belt Line** A railroad with trackage within and/or around a city, operating as a pickup, delivery and transfer facility for truck lines and industrial plants.
- **The Journal Box** The metal housing which encloses the journal (the journal bearing and wedge) of a car axle. This piece also holds the oil and lubricating device for lubricating the journal.
- The First American Railroad Tunnel The Staple Bend Tunnel located 4 miles east of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, was opened in 1834. The tunnel was 901 feet long.

Railroading's Rambunctious Mascots

by Jon Shea, VP Programs

An Unusual Cause for a Train Wreck





"CN had another bad wreck at Burnaby, BC when 7 cars of coal derailed on January 11. Cause was laid to a washout caused by heavy rains destroying a beaver dam close to the tracks. Beavers were a feature on the old CP logo--possible competition?"

Source: January 2014, Headlights and Markers, the newsletter of the Cincinnati Railroad Club. Image sources: CN image, Elgin Historical Society, http://elginhistoricalsociety.ca/ehs/wabash-gallery. CP image, American-Rails.com by Adam Burns, http://www.american-rails.com/images/CP Logo.jpg.

Chapter News and Views

Chapter Business Meeting Minutes, Feb. 4, 2014 NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MINUTES, DATE: Februaru, 2014, SOKOL Hall, Dallas, Texas.

The membership meeting was held at SOKOL Hall in Dallas, TX. President Wayne Smith was feeling under the weather and not able to attend, so the meeting was called to order by VP-Programs Jon Shea at 7:30pm with 11 members in attendance.

Jon reported that the March meeting will also be held at SOKOL Hall and will feature a program by member Jerry Nunn called "Working on the Railroad: American Graffiti". It will be an expanded version of his Plano Slide Show presentation.

Jon also presented photos of the old Texas Special printed in the "KATY Flyer" publication of the KATY Historical Society and a Dallas Morning News article about the old Texas Electric viaduct over Clarendon Street. The city is preparing to demolish the portion passing over the street due to deterioration of the structure. The remainder will be left as is.

Member Jeff Phelps reported on a RailSpot article featuring several pictures from the Barrington Library depicting the Texas Electric and a view of Tower 49, the first Jeff has ever seen.

VP-Trips & Events and National Director Skip Waters reported on the last national board meeting he attended. The board has voted to fund a grant for Rail camp this year and Skip asked the members to scour the local schools for a suitable candidate camper, using the forms on nrhs.org for eligibility criteria. The chapter board has agreed to fund up to \$500 to cover air fare of a qualified camper from our area. He reviewed the dues ballot voting outcome from last month's board meeting. Starting in 2015, all members must renew with National through the online system on the web site. Chapters will need to separately bill chapter dues.

With the concern about retaining non-computer owning members in future years, Skip has volunteered to chair a Membership Development Committee to work out details of retaining those members once the dues renewal program goes online.

Lastly, he reminded members that this year's convention hosted by the Arkansas & Missouri Railroad will be held in Springdale, Arkansas and all but one of the domed car trips are sold out. The 2015 convention will be in Vermont and hosted by the Vermont Railway.

Skip reported that this year's '24 Hours at Saginaw' is a go and scheduled for May 23-24, 2014. Starting in 2015 we will need to pay \$1000 to rent the depot for the event. The chamber has given us the depot for free since the inception of our event even though they have charged



NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NORTH TEXAS ZEPHYR NEWSLETTER MARCH 2014, VOLUME 19, ISSUE 1



every other user. The chapter will explore fund raising opportunities to offset the costs as well as sponsorships. Skip wants to keep the event free for attendees although donations will still be accepted.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm with program following. Jon presented two discs of Texas Electric photographs he purchased over the holidays.

Chapter Directory

North Texas Chapter Officers, 2014.

- 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

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: 2/24/2014, 12:45am. Filename: NTx Newsletter 2014-03 v2

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. Effective October 2013, regular membership is \$66 a year (\$50 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. March 4, 2014	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: Sokol Hall, 7448 Greenville Ave, Dallas, TX 75231. Program: Working on the Railroad: American Graffiti, by member Jerry Nunn					
Tues. April 1, 2014	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m. Location: to be confirmed. Program: "High Iron, a History of Trackwork, and the Engineering Behind It" by member Tim Massey.					
Sat. April 12 2014	North Texas Rail Ramble – join the North Texas Chapter for a day-long 'ramble' on the rails and trails of Denton, DART, TRE, and Amtrak. Meet us in downtown Denton at 9:30am to board the DCTA's "A" train to Carollton, then DART to Dallas Union Station Next, we transfer to the TRE at 1:30pm to the Fort Worth ITC. After a leisurely break in Fort Worth, we board Amtrak's "Heartland Flyer" #822 to Grainesville, Texas where we meet our chartered bus back to our starting point in Denton, estimated arrival by 8:00pm. Interested? Please contact Skip Waters via email at: wgcrush@swbell.net or call and leave a message at 214-987-2888.					
Tues. May 6, 2014	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.					
Tues. June 3, 2014	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.					
Tues. July 1, 2014	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.					
Tues. August 5, 2014	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.					
Tues. Sept. 2,, 2014	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.					
Tues. Oct. 7, 2014	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.					
Tues. Nov. 4,, 2014	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.					
Tues. Dec. 2, 2014	North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.					