



NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2007 GREET-7PM. MEET-7:30PM.

PROGRAM: **THE ROCK ISLAND IN FOCUS**

AT: DEGOLYER LIBRARY, SMU, 6404 HILLTOP LANE, UNIVERSITY PARK.

VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS DISPATCHER

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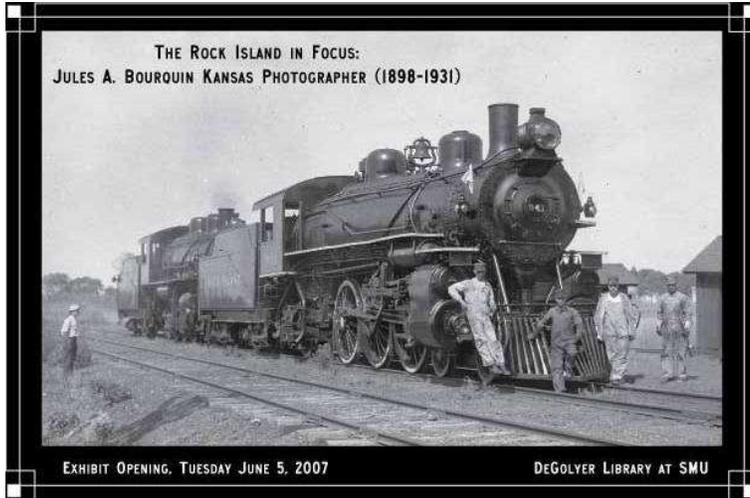
In Memory Of "Willie" Waters (1930-2007)

Wilfred Francis "Willie" Waters, Jr. has arrived at his final destination. Born June 27, 1930 in Dallas, Texas to Monette Chase Waters and Wilfred F. Waters, Sr. and passed away on the evening of May 1, 2007. Willie was an US veteran, where he played the French horn in the Air Force Band. He was part of the first graduating class of the University of Dallas. Up until his death, he was a top rated steel rule die maker for over 40 years, working for companies such as ABCO in Dallas and M&M Engraving in Grand Prairie, TX. Willie was also an avid model railroader and train enthusiast. A member of DFW O-Scalers, Trinity Valley Railroad Historical Association and the North Texas chapter of the National Railroad Historical Society (NRHS), in addition to several other rail historical organizations. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Willie's name to the North Texas chapter, National Railroad Historical Society (NRHS), P.O. Box 600304, Dallas, TX 75360-0304. **See "Tribute to Willie Waters" on p. 2 for more memories of Willie.**

Chapter Meeting

June 5 Meeting – DeGolyer Library

"The Rock Island In Focus". Co-sponsored by the DeGolyer Library, and North Texas Chapter. I.E. Quastler will discuss his new book, a joint publication of R&I Publishing and DeGolyer Library. **Where: DeGolyer Library (FLC), SMU.** 6404 Hilltop Lane, University Park. Library phone: 214-768-3231. **Fondren Library Center (FLC)** is west of Central Expressway, north of Mockingbird Lane, east of Hillcrest Ave, and south of Lover's Lane. The entrance is near the intersection of North Ownby Dr. and Fondren Drive.



(Postcard used with permission of DeGolyer Library, SMU)

Directions to SMU Libraries: <http://www.smu.edu/cul/flc/directions.html>

Campus map <http://www.smu.edu/maps/campus.asp>

Printable campus map

<http://www.smu.edu/maps/images/download/main-campus-bw.pdf>

Library map: <http://www.smu.edu/libraries/library-map.html>

Special Feature – Tribute to Willie Waters

Willie Waters, Dad and Railfan

By Skip Waters

I believe Dad's first interest in trains started with a Lionel electric train as a kid. He always talked about certain Lionel trains he wanted as a child. That led to collecting all the Lionel catalogs and he used to show me what he always wanted. Slowly he started buying those trains to relive what he felt he missed as a child. Now you know how I got started in trains, but this story is about Dad.

The last 25 years, he switched from Lionel trains to O scale "two rail" trains. This was his favorite scale, I was into HO, my brother was N scale for a short time, and Dad was crazy about O scale stuff big time. He went to every O scale meet he could find in the area, almost every National O Scale Meet wherever it was, he was an active member of DFW O Scalers, helping them build their local layout and always helping the Club travel to other meets. They even won some awards for their layout that Dad helped build. For years you could see his name tag on his shirt's pocket protector from the last O Scale meet he attended.

His second love was streetcars and Interurbans. He especially loved the Dallas PCC streetcars, the Texas Electric Interurban and Illinois Terminal. I knew he rode Dallas streetcars as a kid, but it wasn't until he tried to restore a Dallas PCC car at the Age Of Steam museum, did I know how serious he was. That project never got finished due to lack of funds and the museum sold the car for scrap. As we drove around Dallas, he would often tell me where the streetcar tracks were still showing in the road and where the different lines went. Dad lived near the intersection of Kings Highway and Edgefield in Oak Cliff. The end of the 16 Seventh St. streetcar line was on Edgefield at Kings Highway, so he rode often.

As a kid and until his passing, Dad and I would always find time to go to train shows together, this was how we spent our Father/Son time. I loved and cherished my time with him sharing our hobby together. Dad belonged to several railroad historical societies, like the SRHS/Age of Steam Museum, Trinity Valley Railroad Historical Association, and the NRHS. He loved going to the meetings and all the trips. Each time an event was going to happen, he made it a priority to attend. He loved going on field trips. Dad also got me started in railfanning. He first tried to book us on the Southern 4501 trip out of New Orleans in the late 70's, but the engine broke and we never got to ride. He then got us tickets on the '84 Louisiana World Fair Daylight between New Orleans and Houston.

This turned out to be our first mainline steam trip together. We were booked in a chair car but Dad wanted to see the observation. We went back there and to our luck, we got to sit and ride at the very end all the way to Houston. The air went out on that trip because the NOUPT would not allow servicing of the cars, so Dad use his foot to hold the back door open for air between Beaumont and Houston. We had such a good time on that trip, Dad said he felt he was still on it that trip the next three days. Since then we've been on several trips together.

DART? Ride light rail or park at Mockingbird Station (Red or Blue Line). Ride is free - **768 Mustang Express bus** (little short one painted red with a blue Mustang on the side) to SMU. **Make sure it shows SMU in the windshield** or you will get a tour of the apartments east of the station first. **Get off at last stop before turnaround of Bishop Blvd and walk north to Fondren Library.** Bus departs Mockingbird Station at 6:33 PM and 6:58 PM, and then last bus back from SMU is at 9:40 PM.

Driving? Go west from **US 75** on **University** to **Airline**. **South** (left) on **Airline**, **west** (right) on **McFarlin** and **north** (right) on **Hilltop**. At this point you are in front of the Library. Now you know where it is; start looking for a parking space.

Parking? Visitor parking spaces are available adjacent to the Fondren Library Center (FLC) with parking meters. Spaces are available on the north side of the FLC along University Blvd. and on both sides of North Ownby Drive on the east side of the FLC. Also, Visitor's Parking Area is available approximately one block northeast of the Fondren Library Center. Enter at the intersection of Airline Rd. and University Blvd by turning west into the lot.



Lastly, Dad and I would read the current railroad model or railfan magazines together, planning out our next adventure or train show outing. This started a long and extensive hobby of collecting railroad related magazines. It started small until I notice he had written out several lists and charts showing what issues he had and what issues he was missing. If you ever saw him pulling a small suitcase around, that was the brief case with his lists of all the magazines he was looking for. I remember during a few train shows, we would both have walkie talkies and when one of us found a rare or missing magazine he didn't have, we would let the other know and pounced on it.

Dad also loved the people of the train world. Train people are some of the best friends in the world. Honest, caring, loyal, loving and most of all friendly. Dad had many friends in the hobby. He also was allowed to cut payout deals for all the trains or magazines he wanted. He had payouts with everyone. When Dad wasn't present at a show, I would always get questions on how he was doing or heard he was there. Everybody knew he was strong and always going... He was kind of like the energizer bunny that way, never running out of steam or energy. My Dad always said he was going to wear out, not rust out. I owe my entire experience of being a railfan to my Dad, it is what makes the hobby fun for me. My Dad will always be a part of it. Now that he's gone, every person in the train world will be a part of my dad. Looks like I'm a railfan for life.

Willie's Smiling Time

By Valli Hoski

Willie, I'll sure miss you, your smile, and your friendly face at all our meetings. From my start in the Chapter, you were always a member of the team, a part of the chapter's action, history, and of course, Skip's dad. I will remember your cute blush when I stopped by with my welcome hug. When Willie was there, the chapter was ready to meet. Now, your chair will be empty and our meetings will be sadder for it. The angels will hug you for me from now on. You've got a great seat up there, watching all the world's train action from on high.

Special Feature - DeGolyer Library

Our Chapter And DeGolyer Library – A Very Special Friendship Over 10 Very Special Years

By Claude Doane and Valli Hoski

Set amidst the pastoral serenity of the Southern Methodist University campus, the DeGolyer Library houses a very special railroad-related collection near and dear to the hearts of the North Texas Chapter members. The DeGolyer Library and the NTC have enjoyed a long, reciprocal friendship since the early days of the chapter's founding in 1996.



Fondren Library, main entrance, looking east from the SMU quadrangle. (Photo credit: Valli Hoski)

Of particular interest to NTC members are two special collections: the ***Everett Lee DeGolyer, Jr. Railroad Photographs*** collection, and the ***Baldwin Locomotive Collection***. Also, there is a special connection to a well-known NTC member in the ***Doris A. and Lawrence H. Budner Theodore Roosevelt Collection***. These collections and many others are listed at <http://www.smu.edu/cul/degolyer/collections2.htm>



The **Everett Lee DeGolyer, Jr. Railroad Photographs** collection includes images from many U.S. and foreign railroads are included, varying from a single image to hundreds of images. A full list of the railroads (<http://www.smu.edu/cul/degolyer/rlist.htm>) included in the collection ranges from Abbott Laboratories and Abbotsford LBR to Zowelle & Eastern Ry Co and more.

The **Baldwin Locomotive Collection** includes “books, specifications, engineering drawings, blueprints for engines, advertising and corporate publications, manuscripts, and photographs. Guides are available for records, detail part drawings, erecting card drawings.”

The **Doris A. and Lawrence H. Budner Theodore Roosevelt Collection** encompasses a wide variety of published and unpublished print material, photographs, and ephemera about the life, events, and achievements of Theodore Roosevelt. Donated by Mr. Budner, most of the collection is cataloged, and its depth and breadth are available to researchers.

Started in 1923, the original library began as the private collection of Everette L. DeGolyer, Sr., a major party in the early 20th century oil business. A philanthropist and book collector, Mr. DeGolyer, Sr. donated several major collections to different universities, including an American and English literature collection to the University of Texas, and a science history collection to the University of Oklahoma. After his death, the family library was managed by the DeGolyer Foundation, and then expanded by his son, Everett L. DeGolyer, Jr. In 1974 SMU received the library as a gift from the DeGolyer Foundation, and housed in the original Fondren Library building on campus. Read more about the DeGolyer’s history and collections at <http://www.smu.edu/cul/degolyer/about.htm>.

Mr. King, Mr. Roosevelt, & Mr. DeGolyer - A Fine Set Of Circumstances

By LeRoy O. King and Valli Hoski

Here is a little known, but very special connection between one of our illustrious chapter members and the DeGolyer family. The father of our very own Mr. LeRoy O. King has his high school picture in the DeGolyer Library, through a marvelous set of circumstances. Mr. King’s father’s high school graduation featured a historical speaker – Mr. Teddy Roosevelt. This significant event was noted in the high school’s catalog. Mr. DeGolyer Sr. had a strong affinity for Mr. Roosevelt, and apparently a copy of the high school “catalog” became part of his library collection. So today, one can see the fine visage of Mr. King’s father, as well as the famous face of Mr. Teddy Roosevelt, all within the greater glory of in DeGolyer Library’s **Doris A. and Lawrence H. Budner Theodore Roosevelt Collection**.

North Texas Hot Spot Detector

Best Burgers By DeGolyer? Goff’s, By Gosh!

By Valli Hoski

A sunny April afternoon’s walk on the SMU campus provided the perfect reason to check out Goff’s legend, and report on the state of burger. Like the perfect Sunday afternoon it was, the burger arrived dressed just right, tasty, and suited my tummy fine. Goff’s is conveniently located to the SMU campus, and helps any railfan calm those hunger pangs before exploring DeGolyer Library. As stated on their tasty web site (www.goffburger.com), “Goff’s hamburger of Harvey Goff was famous for impeccable hamburgers and hickory smoke sauce. With the new owner Jim Francis, who took over the establishment and opened the new location at 6401 Hillcrest Ave, nothing much has been changed except the address. The Goff burger still remains the same in terms of quality that made it irresistible. Even after the change of management.”

Goff’s Hamburgers, 6401 Hillcrest Ave., Dallas. (214) 357-0900. Hours: 7:30 am-2 pm. 7 days/week.



Goff’s awaits you and your hunger pangs.
(Photo credit: Valli Hoski)



Photo Of The Month

Blushing Beauty Belles Of The Kansas City Southern



KCS' locomotives past, present and future – SD70Ace 3997, ES44AC 4679, and FP9 34 (Photo credit: KCS).

As reported by the KCS, "The paint scheme pays tribute to KCS' passenger trains that ran between Kansas City and New Orleans from 1940 to 1969, celebrating the company's rich and colorful history in Kansas City, dating back to 1887."

Source: 4/23/07, **Kansas City Southern Media Advisory.** Original news release at:

<http://notes.kcsi.com/WebApps/kcspress.nsf/626e6035eadbb4cd85256499006b15a6/c51cbb8027e9dac5862572c60077cfe3?OpenDocument>

North Texas Rail News

DART Gets C-Car Funds

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will award \$9 million to Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) for the purchase of eight new center section cars to provide level boarding on the Red Line. This additional funding for the Red Line is provided through a discretionary funding source for transit projects. This grant was announced by both Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, and Senator John Cornyn. The C-Car (or center section car) allows platform-level boarding, which will benefit riders with wheelchairs, strollers, bicycles or who need assistance with stepping up to standard rail cars. **So, look to DART for the A-C-Bs of LRT car sets!**

Source: 5/2/2007, **DART News Release.** Original article at <http://www.dart.org/news/newsrss.asp?ID=752> **DART Image Library** at <http://www.dart.org/images/newsroom/Jpgs/dartrailccarvictory.jpg>



Center section car (C-Car) at Victory Station.

(Photo Credit: DART)



Downtown Dallas Transit Study Takes Off

DART has launched a comprehensive two-year Downtown Transit Study, which could result in a second Central Business District (CBD) rail line, bus and streetcar improvements. The agency will focus on a broad transit corridor identified in a 2005 City of Dallas study. This corridor extends from Victory Park to Deep Ellum and target areas currently not served by DART Rail. The upcoming DART Rail Green Line, opening in phases in late 2009, and Orange Line, opening in phases beginning in 2011, will bring the existing light rail line in downtown to its operational capacity. Recommended alternatives might consist of bus, rail and streetcar elements. A second rail alignment would give greater schedule reliability and operational flexibility.. **Source: 5/4/2007, DART News Release.** Original article at <http://www.dart.org/news/newsrss.asp?ID=753>

DART Hearings in May, June for October Service Changes

October 2007 Service Change Proposals - Pre-Public Hearing Community Meetings (May 15, 16, 17, June 11) and Public Hearing (June 12).

Community Meetings: Tues. 5/15/07, 6:30 p.m., Addison Conference Center. Wed. 5/16/07, 6:30 p.m. Skillman Southwestern Library. Thurs. 5/17/07, 6:30 p.m. Fellowship Bible Church, (across from Park Lane Rail Station). Mon. 6/11/07, 12 p.m., DART Headquarters (Board Room).

Public Hearing: Tues. 6/12/07, 6:30 p.m., DART Headquarters (Board Room). The **DART notice** has **meeting addresses:** <http://www.dart.org/meetings/publicmeetingsrss.asp?ID=287>

DART Fares Make History

As of October 1, DART fares will increase for the first time since 2003. A new weekly pass provides 7 days of DART rides for \$15 Local or \$25 Premium service. The base local fare - which includes all local bus, DART Rail and Trinity Railway Express (TRE) service in Dallas and Irving - will rise to \$1.50 from the current \$1.25. The premium fare, which includes all bus, DART Rail and TRE service, increases to \$2.50 from \$2.25. Paratransit service for customers with mobility problems will increase to \$2.75 from \$2.50. Certified Paratransit customers will continue riding buses and trains for free. The reduced fare for senior citizens and students will increase to 75 cents from 50 cents. Local Day Passes will increase to \$3 from \$2.50 and Premium Day Passes will increase from \$4.50 to \$5. The Reduced Day Pass will increase from \$1 to \$1.50. The Local Monthly Pass will increase to \$50 from \$40 and the Premium increases to \$80 from \$70. The Reduced Monthly Pass increases from \$15 to \$25. **Source: 4/24/2007, DART News**

Release. Original article at <http://www.dart.org/news/news.asp?ID=749>

Texas & Regional Rail News

SB 1659 Passed By Texas House, Senate For TSRR Private Operation

On May 10, the **Texas House passed legislation (Senate bill 1659) that authorizes private operation of the Texas State Railroad (TSRR). The Senate had passed the legislation in April.** There is still need for the legislature to agree on \$12 million in funding for the railroad repairs as part of the transfer of the TSRR from the Texas Dept. of Parks and Wildlife to private operation under the supervision of a joint operating authority. East Texas newspapers reported the news.

- In The Palestine Herald (5/11/07), Beth Foley reported that supporters of private operation of the TSRR were pleased by the passage of Senate Bill 1659. Senator Robert Nichols (R-Jacksonville) filed the bill that provides for its transfer from the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife to a joint operating authority. A private tourist rail company, American Heritage Railways, would operate the TSRR under the supervision of the operating authority.
- The Tyler Morning Telegraph (5/11/07) described that the passage of SB 1659 helped clear a large hurdle for the ongoing operation of the TSRR. However, provisioning of funding of the \$12 million needed for repairs still needs to be addressed.
- The Lufkin Daily News (5/10/2007) explained the SB 1659 passage will allow the creation of the joint operating authority by Palestine and Rusk. Seven members will serve on the authority, three from each city, and one appointed individual, as described by Mayor Dr. Carolyn Salter, Palestine.

Source: 5/11/2007, Palestine Herald, by Beth Foley. Original article: http://www.palestineherald.com/local/local_story_131125925.html

Source: 5/11/2007, Tyler Morning Telegraph, by Beth Foley. Original article: <http://www.tylerpaper.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070511/NEWS05/705100340>

Source: 5/10/2007, The Lufkin Daily News, by Denise Hoepfner. Original article http://www.lufkindailynews.com/news/content/news/stories/2007/05/11/texas_state_railroad.html

View the latest TSRR-related bill activity online!

- **Senate Bill 1659:** <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=80R&Bill=SB1659#vote103>
- **House Bill 3113:** <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=80R&Bill=HB3113>

T&P 400 Cosmetic Repair Being Considered

Texas & Pacific 2-8-2 No. 400, displayed in Marshall's city park, may be cosmetically restored if the city can raise the necessary funding. A study by Dave Lathrop of Lathrop and Associates Ltd. of Charlotte, N.C., reported that restoration costs for the engine would be between \$242,000 to \$262,000, the Marshall News Messenger reported. The locomotive was originally owned by the Fort Worth & Denver. The locomotive was built by Baldwin in 1915, and was originally Fort Worth



and Denver No. 410. It was sold to the T&P on Jan. 29, 1958, for \$9,500, to be used on flooded lines. By 1962 much of the flooding had been alleviated thanks to additional levees being built along this portion of the Red River, and the engine was donated to the city, the News Messenger said. **Source:**

4/27/2007, **Trains News Wire**. Original article at <http://www.trains.com/trn/default.aspx?c=a&id=1838>

Press time: 5/11/07, 5 PM. File: NTx Newsletter 2007-06 vE7b2

NRHS News

Membership Survey From National

The NRHS is taking a serious look at our long-term direction. As part of that study, we need membership input about our current programs and services. **We invite all NRHS members to take part in a short survey.** You can access this survey on-line at the following URL: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=335093661590> We will also set up a link from the NRHS website (www.nrhs.com). For those without internet access, you may obtain a paper copy by mail from the NRHS national office. Completed manual surveys should be returned to the national office for input. Please note that this survey is NOT a scientific poll, nor is it a vote. It is intended to provide some general guidance about the relative importance of some services versus others, questions that require more detailed study, and member preferences for our future direction. Some questions may not be phrased exactly as you would like to answer, and the available choices may not include everything you can think of. But please answer as best you can within the choices provided. The survey is completely anonymous, and the demographic information is used only to help sort the results. We ask that each member complete the survey only one time. We also ask that Family members take the survey independently and submit their own responses. **The survey will remain active through at least late May.** Please take a few minutes and help us plan for the Society's future. Greg Molloy, President

Chapter President's Corner

Ron's Rumbblings and Ramblings – Dreaming of Modeling

One of the reasons I am a member of the NRHS is that I like to remember how things used to be. Call it fleeing from current reality if you like. Everyone has dreams of good times in the past, and how they could represent what we would like to see in the future. I had always hoped of being a better railroad modeler. My boyhood friends all had 4 x 8 layouts in their basements. I had bigger ideas in my attic, but just never had the skill or patience to make things as real as I wanted it. I guess I am too much of a perfectionist. Modeling is just a part of the overall hobby of trains. I find it fascinating when I see layouts that are based on a photograph of how things once looked, and marvel at the skill the builders have. Valli has announced that we are in the latest issue of the Cowcatcher Roundup, which has several mentions of modeling. I think that is great.

Chapter News

North Texas Chapter Gains Visibility, Broader Coverage!

By Valli Hoski, Chapter VP Publications

The May/June issue of The Cowcatcher Roundup, published by Tim Blackwell, kicked off **exciting broader coverage of the NTC's events** throughout the CRU distribution area! The NTC Calendar of events is now included in the CRU's list of upcoming rail enthusiast and modeler activities. And, the "24 Hours @ Saginaw" event had special coverage, written by Skip. Look out world, here we come!

10+ Years Ago With The North Texas Chapter

By Valli Hoski, Chapter VP Publications

Looking back to June 1996, we ...

- Discussed, amended and voted on our **chapter by-laws** (*and it was so much fun we decided to do it again 10+ years later!*)
- Eagerly **anticipated** the **opening** of the **DART** light rail system in **mid-June**. Planned events included a) Official opening, and free rides on Friday, June 14, 1996; b) eight station parties, and more free rides on Saturday, June, 15, 1996; c) regular schedules began operating, Monday, June 17, 1996, 5:30 am-12:30 pm. (*and still do so!*)
- Dallas radio icon, **Ron Chapman** of station KVIL, **broadcast live on board the light rail service** the first day of regular scheduled operation. (*Captain Transit, CW fan, provided this statement of fact and historical nature.*)



Jon's History Corner

By Jon Shea, Chapter VP Programs

Riding a horse-drawn streetcar in New York City

This story takes place in the Fall of 1864 and involves General Ulysses S. Grant and a horse-drawn streetcar in New York City. At this time General Grant was one of the most famous and recognizable people in the U.S.

"The next morning after his arrival the general strolled out into the streets with a former staff-officer then living in New York and being in plain citizens clothes, was for some time unobserved; but finally his features, which had been made known by means of the portraits everywhere displayed, were recognized and finding a crowd surrounding him, he stepped on to a street-car. The gentleman with him, finding no vacant seat, asked the conductor to have the people sit closer together and make room for General Grant. The conductor put on a broad grin and quietly winked one eye, as much as to say, 'You can't fool me with such a cock-and-bull story as that'; and the general quietly took hold of a strap, and rode throughout the trip standing with a number of others who had crowded into the car."

Source: Porter, Horace. **Campaigning with Grant.** New York: Century Co, 1897. Ch. 21, p. 326.

Chapter Meeting Minutes, April 3, 2007

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MEETING MINUTES AND NOTES, DATE: May 1, 2007, 16 MEMBERS AND GUESTS, LOCATION: Plano Interurban Museum.

We opened our May meeting with a tour of the restored Texas Electric Interurban no. 360. Vice President Jon Shea continued the program with digital images of remnants of the Texas Electric that were still visible 5 years ago. These images included views of the Allen and Anna Texas Electric Depots, bridge piers at Rowlett and Cotton wood creek and Texas Electric freight motors at Van Alstyne. Jon updated us on future meetings which include: our July 10th meeting at Grapevine, featuring a program on the 135th anniversary of the arrival of the railroads in Dallas. Our August meeting will be returning to Sokol Hall in Dallas and will feature Ed Stoll presenting a program on Texas RR Depots. Vice President Skip Waters updated us on our National Convention progress. Our Host Convention Committee met most recently on April 30th and will meet again on Tuesday May 29th. Our Host Convention Committee meetings are open to any one interested in attending. Skip also briefed the NRHS Board of Directors on our Convention planning progress at their recent meeting in Greenville South Carolina. Additionally, Skip reviewed us on the trips and events at the upcoming Chattanooga NRHS National Convention this August. Skip reminded us about the upcoming train watching and recording event at 24 hours at Saginaw Friday May 26 @ 7 pm - Saturday May 27 @ 7 pm. On Saturday May 19, Steve Goen will be presenting a program on MKT passenger trains in Texas at the Denton Public Library. Our National Director Dale Wilken gave us an important update on changes in the NRHS at the National level. The National NRHS Board of Directors has decided to out source the following functions, members dues renewal/billing, and membership records. Additionally, editing and layout of the national bulletin will be outsourced. These changes will allow National to catch up on their publication of the National Bulletin. Issues for 2005 and 2006 will be published this year and 2007 and 2008 issues will be published next year. The NRHS News will continue with in house editing and layout. All of these changes will result in a dues increase of \$11 a year for people that are members of a local NRHS chapter. Skip reminded of the National NRHS programs that are strong and growing, the library, the Grant programs, Rail Camp and the National Conventions. Skip also said our current NRHS dues are low in comparison to other comparable National volunteer/enthusiasts organizations. Steve Siegerist distributed DART Light Rail Green Line route maps. Our program continued with a tour of the Plano Interurban Museum and a presentation by Director Russell Kissick. Russell said the Plano Interurban Museum has recently been placed on the National Register of Historic places, become a recognized research facility and received a number of items from the Johnnie Myers collection. The Plano Interurban Museum also partners with the Plano Independent School District as a field trips destination for older students and story time location for younger students.

Submitted by Mike Bedford, Secretary

Convention Corral - Lone Star Rails 2008

Convention Committee Report

Plans, and more plans were the focus of the April 30, 2007 convention committee meeting. Skip reported on his visit to the Spring Directors meeting in Greenville, South Carolina. The upcoming 2007 annual convention in Chattanooga, Tennessee is the focus of much attention and eager anticipation by the entire NRHS community. LSR 2008 convention members will be attending "Chatta", including Skip, Jim, Steve (AKA Captain Transit), Claude, Valli and her photographic husband Harry, and others.

Back to the NTC's plans, the **NCC contract for the 2008 annual convention is in hand.** The **master plan** for the convention committee's teams and tasks **is being defined.** **Individual teams are proceeding with their needed tasks,** such as the Publications team has defined its plan for the convention pre-registration flyer, program book, event and session materials. **The NCC team will be paying a visit again in June, to share news, views, and a look at convention work to date.** **After planning, comes doing – team members are eagerly sought!** Have a special interest or a dream job you'd love to help with? Please come lend a hand to making LSR 2008 a success – join a meeting, talk with any NTC officer or member of LSR 2008 committee!



Chapter Events

It's Never Too Late!! "24 Hours @ Saginaw" – 5/25-26/2007

Come watch trains and have a good time with members of the North Texas Chapter, NRHS. Last year, we had up to 100 rail fans attend. At least 5 stayed the full 24 hours. We recorded 75 trains. Let's break the record!

- Date and Time: Friday, May 25th & Saturday, May 26th, 2007 – 7:00pm to 7:00pm, for 24 hours!***
- Our Goal: Spend 24 hours at the Saginaw Heritage Center (the depot) at 301 S. Saginaw Blvd. in Saginaw, TX***
- Our Objective: Watch and record trains for a 24 hour period.***

→ **Check out Wes Carr's "Rail fan Primer" about Saginaw** [http:// www.trainweb.org/southwestshorts/saginaw.html](http://www.trainweb.org/southwestshorts/saginaw.html) ←

Come watch, talk, listen and photograph trains safely while sharing fellowship and education with like minded rail fans and families. Also, help us promote the City of Saginaw as a nationally known hot spot to watch and record trains safely. It is reported up to 60 trains pass the Saginaw depot per day! ***Plenty to fill your train watching appetite! Activities*** Include:

- Operation Lifesaver Rules on "How to watch trains safely".
- A safe area to watch trains. 24 hours of Railroad videos and slide programs.
- Railroad theme games and trivia to help pass the time.
- Railroad Scanner broadcast of approaching trains.
- Master board to record the running total of trains.
- Door prizes and merit awards for hours logged watching.
- Food, Fun and More...

Admission is FREE, Donations are accepted. **Sponsors:** The North Texas Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society (www.ntxnrhs.org) . Saginaw Chamber of Commerce (www.saginawtxchamber.org)

Want to do a program, clinic, or media show?

We are still accepting anyone who would like to put on a program or clinic during the "24 hours @ Saginaw" event. Whether it's a slide show, a video, or film or a clinic on photography, recording sound or video or documenting trains via train logs, we welcome your program. Any length or subject will be considered. Please contact Skip Waters via email or call at the number below if you are available. Thanks for your interest! Skip Waters, Vice President, Trips & Events, North Texas Chapter, NRHS. 214-987-2888 office (call anytime)

It's COOL Inside! Lone Star Rail Fair 2007 – 5/27

Cool off after the weather at Saginaw – come inside to the **27th Annual Lone Star Rail Fair - Railroad Collectible and Train Show** in the Amon G. Carter Exhibit Hall - Will Rogers. Memorial Center - Ft. Worth, TX. It's Texas' premier railroad collectible / artifact show!

Chapter Directory

North Texas Chapter Officers

- **President, Ron Anderson**, rra_nrhs@yahoo.com
- **Vice President/Programs, Jon Shea**, 972-480-9054.
- **Vice President/Publications, Valli Hoski**, ntx.valli@yahoo.com
- **Vice President/Trips and Events, Skip Waters**, 214-987-2888.
- **Secretary, Mike Bedford**, 214-692-7137.
- **Treasurer, Steve Siegerist**, 972-234-2682.
- **National Director, Dale Wilken**, 817-370-8227.

Chapter Business Address

North Texas Chapter, NRHS,
 P.O. Box 600304
 Dallas, TX 75360



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 NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER, NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
WWW.NTXNRHS.ORG
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North Texas Calendar

Fri. May 25 - Sat. May 26, 2007	"24 Hours @ Saginaw" – Annual NTC event for railFUN watching and recording your favorite trains in Saginaw, Texas. For details, contact Skip Waters, 214-987-2888.
Tues. June 5, 2007	North Texas Chapter meeting, 7:30 pm - DeGolyer Library, SMU, University Park. Program: "The Rock Island In Focus" . Guest speaker: I.E. Quastler, author & historian.
Wed. June 6 – Sun. June 10, 2007	Lone Star Region / NMRA Hill Country Special National 2007 Annual Convention – Info. http://hillcountryspecial.net
Sat. June 9, 2007	Ham Radio & Rail Enthusiasts, All On The Same Track, Program – Sharing the love of our hobbies. HamCom Convention, Plano Civic Center, Plano TX. See www.hamcom.org or email ntx.valli@yahoo.com
Tues. July 10, 2007	North Texas Chapter meeting, 7:30 pm – Founder's Building (by Cotton Belt Depot), Grapevine, TX. Program: 135th anniversary of railroads coming to Dallas.
Tues. August 7, 2007	North Texas Chapter meeting, 7:30 pm – Sokol Dallas Center, 7448 Greenville Ave, Dallas, TX, map: http://www.sokoldallas.com/id13.html Program: "Texas Depots" . Guest speaker: Ed Stoll.

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**, often (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 \$35 a year (\$22 national dues + \$13 chapter dues). The membership include: 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, TX 75360.**

From
 North Texas Chapter, NRHS
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