



**VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR**

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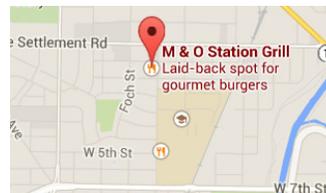
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**Chapter Meeting**

**December 2, 2014 – Chapter Holiday Dinner**

*When* 7 pm meet'n'greet, 7:30 pm meeting.  
*Where* M & O Station Grill, (817) 882-8020  
200 Carroll St, Fort Worth, TX 76107.  
*Program* Annual Chapter Dinner



*Directions:* SW corner of Carroll and Whitmore Streets. One block south of White Settlement Road; eight blocks north of West 7th Street. From West 7th, go north on Carroll Street a couple blocks north of the Super Target. Entry is off Whitmore, but the address is Carroll Street.

**North Texas Rail Events**

**2015 Dallas Area Train Show & Famous Media-Slide Show Party**

- **The Dallas Area Train Show (Plano, TX) , Jan. 17 & 18, 2013.**  
Plano Centre. 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway. Go East from Central Expressway (Exit 31).  
Hours 10am-5pm Saturday, 10am-4pm Sunday. More info at: <http://www.dfwtrainshows.com>

**THEN on Saturday Night, January 17th, 2015 –**

- **10th Annual Dallas Area Media-Slide Show and NRHS Open House**
  - Hosted by the North Texas Chapter, National Railway Historical Society
  - Show Time: 6:00pm until 10:00pm (maybe longer) (the Train Show closes at 5:00pm).
  - Show Admission is free! (Please eat before you arrive. (NO outside food allowed; house rules).
  - Location: will be confirmed in December.
  - History: This is the show formerly hosted by Jimmy Barlow at Plano's Interurban Museum, and for two years at the Best Western motel, and the last 8 years hosted by the North Texas Chapter, NRHS. We thank Jimmy again (and again) for the opportunity to continue his tradition of fellowship among railfans.

**Happy Holidays and New Year to all!** Please pass this on to anyone that might be interested in this show.  
Best regards, Skip Waters, Vice President, Trips & Events, North Texas Chapter, NRHS. Call Skip at 214-987-2888.

**If YOU would like to be a presenter, please see below:**

- By Sun. Jan.4, 2015 noon, email Skip Waters <[wqcrush@swbell.net](mailto:wqcrush@swbell.net)>, NOT to any email group.
- If you know the subject (not mandatory) of your presentation, please indicate so.
- 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,
- Skip will notify you how much time each will have at the show. You can go ahead and start putting your material together now. Skip will announce final times after Jan. 8, so keep it adjustable so you can make it fit the time allotted.
- You'll still have about two weeks to finalize it for the show.
- Please limit Videos or DVD's to 15 minutes. Slides will only be limited by the available time and by the number of presenters.
- Remember, the DEADLINE for getting your name on the PRESENTATION LIST is 12:00 noon CST on Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015.  
Don't let holiday gift returning, etc. make you miss the train.

Thanks for your interest! Skip.

## North Texas Chapter News & Views

### Jon's History Corner

by Jon Shea, Chapter VP Programs

#### A Railroad Hazard in the Early Days in Texas

The following is another excerpt from *A Vaquero of the Brush Country* by J. Frank Dobie of a practice which disappeared when steam engines and wild Texas Cowboys did.

"The wildest thing, however, that a cowboy ever roped - wilder than a camel or another cowboy - was probably the smokestack of an engine. Nearly ever old time cow town has its memory and its yarn of the cowboy who "roped a train." One time at Cotulla, on the Nueces River, a vaquero who was a little the braver for liquor roped the smokestack of an engine that was moving toward Laredo at a rate of twenty miles per hour. The rope was strong and so was the engine. After the engineer stopped the train and the cowboy got himself and his horse separated from the property belonging to the I. & G. N. [International and Great Northern] Railroad Company, he was thoroughly sober."

Source: Dobie, J. F., & Young, J. D. (1998). *A vaquero of the brush country*. Austin: University of Texas Press. Available at these libraries:

<http://www.worldcat.org/title/vaquero-of-the-brush-country/oclc/40494295?referer=di&ht=edition>

### Celebrating Rail and Radio History with Local Museums

by Valli Hoski, Editor

What happens when a club gets invited to set up a hobby exhibit in a local rail station and history museum? Here's how to meld the history, traditions and celebrate both hobbies with the community.



The Mechanicsburg (PA) Museum Association invited the Cumberland Amateur Radio Club to have a small display to commemorate the club's 50 year anniversary. Great publicity, but how to meld the story of CARC's hobby with railroad operations? Telegraphy and railroad specific events are the key. First, draw the public into the exciting hobby of ham radio and how it brings reliable communications to their community during events and emergencies. (blue text below is from the exhibit guide, written by Valli and Harry)

***The exhibit's shelves and posters show the people, activities and technology ham radio in our county. Let's explore left to right.***

- ***Top shelf*** - From 1964 on, CARC serves as a 'radio family' for the amateur operators in the county. Members support community events, parades, marathons and more with clear, reliable radio communications for medical, safety and event teams. Each year, CARC helps local mountain bike races and community/historical events with 'voice' radio operations. Ham radio operators also use Morse code (dots and dashes) to communicate, with a hand-operated 'key' to spell words over the air, similar to early railroad telegraph operators.
- ***2<sup>nd</sup> shelf*** - Radio reaches around the world! Amateur radio helps communities and groups get "on the air" to celebrate their history through "special event" operations. Radio operators share the news of the local event 'on the air' via shortwave, talk to operators in other places, and exchange pictorial cards or certificates that confirm their contact and the event (a "QSL").  
*Hello world - we're 'on the air'!*

Take a close look at the 2<sup>nd</sup> shelf - the starred card is a "QSL" card for K5T, the ham radio special event that celebrated Lone Star Rails 2008 "on the air".



Next, share railroad history related events. Display posters show 3 specific ham radio special events that commemorate unique railroad operations.

**Posters show how amateur radio operators help communities and railroads to share history.**

- Baltimore & Ohio Railroad – QSL cards confirm radio contact with ham radio operators who were B&O employees.
- Special 'event' celebrations of local trains and railroads – Communities celebrate their local rail history and operations.
- Union Pacific Railroad – Radio operations to celebrate UP's 100th anniversary across the rails.

Also, be sure to tie into the county's history, the role of local manufacturers in developing electronic technology, and how hobbyists are part of the local community. The display guide starts with this wholistic look at the hobby, community and local history.

**Hello everyone! Welcome to CARC's story of our members and activities from its founding in 1964 to today. CARC is the oldest continuously active amateur radio club in the Cumberland Valley of South Central Pennsylvania.**

- **Who** are amateur radio operators and **what** do we do? We are friendly individuals who are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (and other countries to operate on specific radio frequencies. (Our traditional nickname is 'ham' or ham radio operator.)
- **Why?** We are hobbyists, who learn, improve and share our skills and knowledge of electronic communication and technology. We are volunteers who provide radio communication where and when we are needed by local, state and federal agencies. We support charities and organizations with help during marathons, bikeathons, historical events and more. We make friends locally and around the world!
- **How?** With our radio technology, tools and skills, we serve "when all else fails" to communicate and connect people, communities and resources during emergencies. Cumberland County has been home to some ham radio technology – locally produced quartz crystal controls have been essential to early ham radio equipment and are still important for precise, accurate and quality frequency controls.



Then, close with a welcoming message and warm handshake. *All in all, we use radio to communicate, celebrate and serve communities. We are tinkerers, explorers and adopters of technology in all forms, but especially over the air waves and "ether". Please come, visit and join us at a monthly meeting, local event or look for us at Shaffer Park (Carlisle) on the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of June for our radio "field day". Come and say hello – we'd love to share our hobby with you!*

**North Texas Chapter NRHS 2015 Dues Notice**

by Jim King, Chapter Treasurer

From Jim's recent postcard on how to pay 2015 Chapter dues:

- For 2015, dues for membership in chapters of the National Railway Historical Society are being solicited directly by each chapter. You will receive a separate mailing for national dues directly from NRHS.
- Please return this postcard with your payment of 2015 dues for the North Texas Chapter NRHS. Thank you! Jim King, Treasurer, North Texas Chapter . **INDIVIDUAL: \$16 FAMILY \$16 + \$2 per added member.** Your account is identified by the mailing address on this postcard. If you have any changes to your address or other personal information, please correct it on the other side.
- Make checks payable and return this postcard to: **North Texas Chapter NRHS, P O Box 600304, Dallas TX 75360**
- Our new chapter email address is: [northtexaschapternrhs@gmail.com](mailto:northtexaschapternrhs@gmail.com)



## 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**, wgcruish@swbell.net.
- **Vice President/Communications, and NTZ editor**, Valli Hoski, [ntx.news@yahoo.com](mailto:ntx.news@yahoo.com)
- **Secretary, Dave Gramm**, [dgramm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dgramm@sbcglobal.net)
- **Treasurer, Jim King**, [jgking@swbell.net](mailto:jgking@swbell.net)

### *Chapter Business Address*

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

**Chapter Email:** [northtexaschapternrhs@gmail.com](mailto:northtexaschapternrhs@gmail.com)

### *North Texas Zephyr, chapter newsletter Archive*

<http://www.gogeocaching.com/gorailfanning/Home/northtexaszephyr.html>

### *North Texas Chapter @ Facebook*

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/409467244127/>

Press time 11/19/2014. Filename: NTx Newsletter 2014-12 v3

## 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. **As of October 2014, chapter dues (\$16, plus \$2 per additional family member) should be sent to the Chapter PO Box.** Chapter membership includes our monthly chapter newsletter, the North Texas Zephyr. **National organization dues and their payment are being updated. More news when available.** 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

<b>Tues. Dec. 2, 2014.</b>	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.</b> Location: see p.1 of issue. Program: annual dinner.
<b>Sat. Dec. 6, Sun. Dec. 7, 2014</b>	<b>Oklahoma City Train Show – Location:</b> Cox Pavilion, Oklahoma State Fairgrounds, Oklahoma City, OK. Admission \$10. Details at <a href="http://www.okctrainshow.com/">http://www.okctrainshow.com/</a>
<b>Tues. Jan. 6, 2015.</b>	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.</b> Location: Founders Building, 701 South Main St. Grapevine TX. Program: Chapter annual election, members “show and tell”.
<b>Sat. Jan. 17, Sun. Jan. 18, 2015</b>	<b>Dallas Area Train Show – Location:</b> Plano Centre, 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway. Go East from Central Expressway (Exit 31). Admission: \$8. Hours Saturday 10 a.m.-5p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Details at <a href="http://dfwtrainshows.com/">http://dfwtrainshows.com/</a>
<b>Sat. Jan. 17, 2015. 6-10 p.m.</b>	<b>Annual Dallas Area Slide/Media Show and North Texas Chapter Open House – 6:00 p.m. to 10 p.m.</b> (Train Show closes 5 p.m.)
<b>Tues. Feb. 3, 2015.</b>	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.</b> Location: to be confirmed. Program: to be confirmed.
<b>Tues. March 3, 2015.</b>	<b>North Texas Chapter meeting – 7:30 p.m.</b> Location: to be confirmed. Program: to be confirmed.

**New Southern Pacific Book – Sponsored by North Texas Chapter!**

*The North Texas Chapter is proud to sponsor David Bernstein's new work on the Southern Pacific's Eastern Lines!*

# NEW BOOK

Announcing a new book published by the North Texas Chapter, NRHS  
written by David M. Bernstein!



Southern Pacific's Eastern Lines 1946 - 1996



## **Southern Pacific's Eastern Lines 1946-1996**

*Written by David M. Bernstein, former Southern Pacific train dispatcher and officer, this 400 page book is illustrated with color and black & white photographs and numerous maps. It is the definitive guide to the operation and history of S.P. Lines in Texas and Louisiana from the end of World War II until the Union Pacific merger.*

*Available December, 2014.*

### Shipping Address

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable to **North TX Chapter NRHS,**  
**PO Box 600304, Dallas TX 75360**  
Orders and info: [northtexaschapternrhs@gmail.com](mailto:northtexaschapternrhs@gmail.com)

Price \$69.95 ea. **\$69.95**  
TX residents add 8.25% Sales Tax (\$5.77) \_\_\_\_\_  
Add Shipping (\$5 US / \$10 International) \_\_\_\_\_  
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