



**VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR**

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**Chapter Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 4, 2020. Spring Creek BBQ, Grapevine.**

*Time: 7 p.m.*

*Location: Spring Creek Barbecue, 315 W State Hwy 114, Grapevine, TX 76051. Phone (817) 416-6250.*

*Program: DVD. America and the Passenger Train. Travel by Rail from the 1830s to the 21st Century.*



Above: DFW Airport Station (Photo credit: DART)

(Source: DART website at [https://www.dart.org/ShareRoot/images/newsroom/orangeline/thumbnails/DFWAirportStation02jul14\\_trainstation.jpg](https://www.dart.org/ShareRoot/images/newsroom/orangeline/thumbnails/DFWAirportStation02jul14_trainstation.jpg) . Last accessed July 28, 2020.)

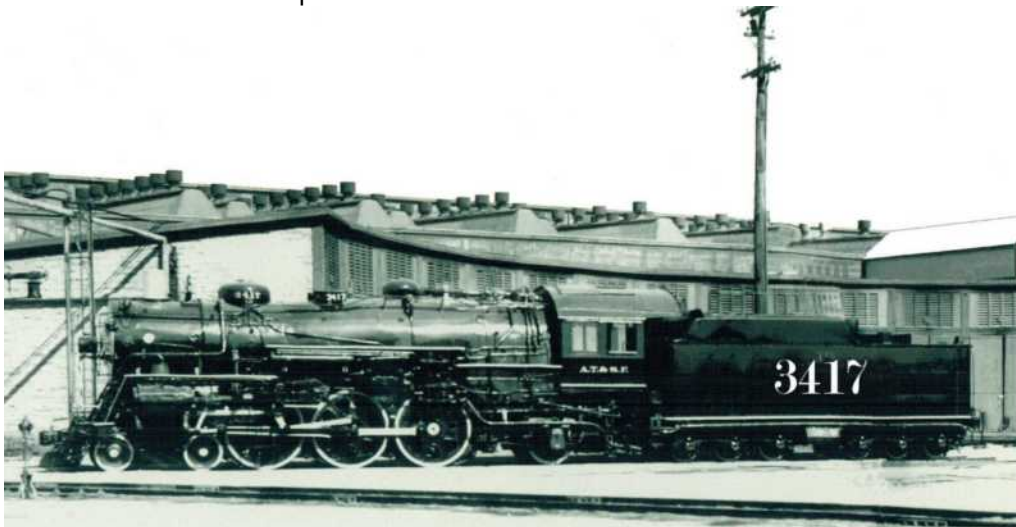
**Special News & Features**

**Cosmetic Restoration of the AT&SF #3417**

*by Robert Kennedy, North Texas Chapter NRHS*

**”The City of Cleburne”**

In late April early May 2020, the City of Cleburne began a cosmetic restoration of the City owned AT&SF Pacific 4-6-2 Steam Locomotive #3417, “The City of Cleburne” under the watchful eye of North Texas NRHS Chapter member, Sam Walls. The restoration took about 2 months and was completed in June 2020.



Above: AT&SF #3417 back in the day at Cleburne. (Photo credit: Dan E Roberts.)



The #3417 is one of fifty 3400 Class Pacific type (4-6-2) locomotives built for the Santa Fe Railway by the Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia, PA between 1919 and 1924. This 3400 class locomotive weighs 319,794 lbs. with 193,054 lbs. on its drivers. The #3417 has a 66.5 sq. ft. grate and 226 sq. ft. firebox. With 25" x 28" cylinders and a total heating surface of 5,076 sq. ft., including 980 sq. ft. superheating, it operated at a boiler pressure of 220 psi delivering 41,424 lbs. tractive effort. The 3417's tender weighs 253,720 lbs. with a 20,000 gallon water and 7,000 gallon oil capacity.



Above: AT&SF #3417 in action. (Photo credit: Dan E Roberts.)





The locomotive was retired in 1954 and donated to the City of Cleburne, TX, in 1955. It was acquired by the Fort Worth & Western in 1990, but was never moved and later returned to the city.



Above: AT&SF #3417 before restoration. (Photo credit: Dan E Roberts.)





Above: AT&SF #3417 - Removing old paint. May 2020. (Photo credit: Dan E Roberts.)





*Above: AT&SF #3417 - Applying primer. May 2020. (Photo credit: Dan E Roberts.)*





Above: AT&SF #3417 - Masked and taped. Ready for paint. May 2020. (Photo credit: Dan E Roberts.)



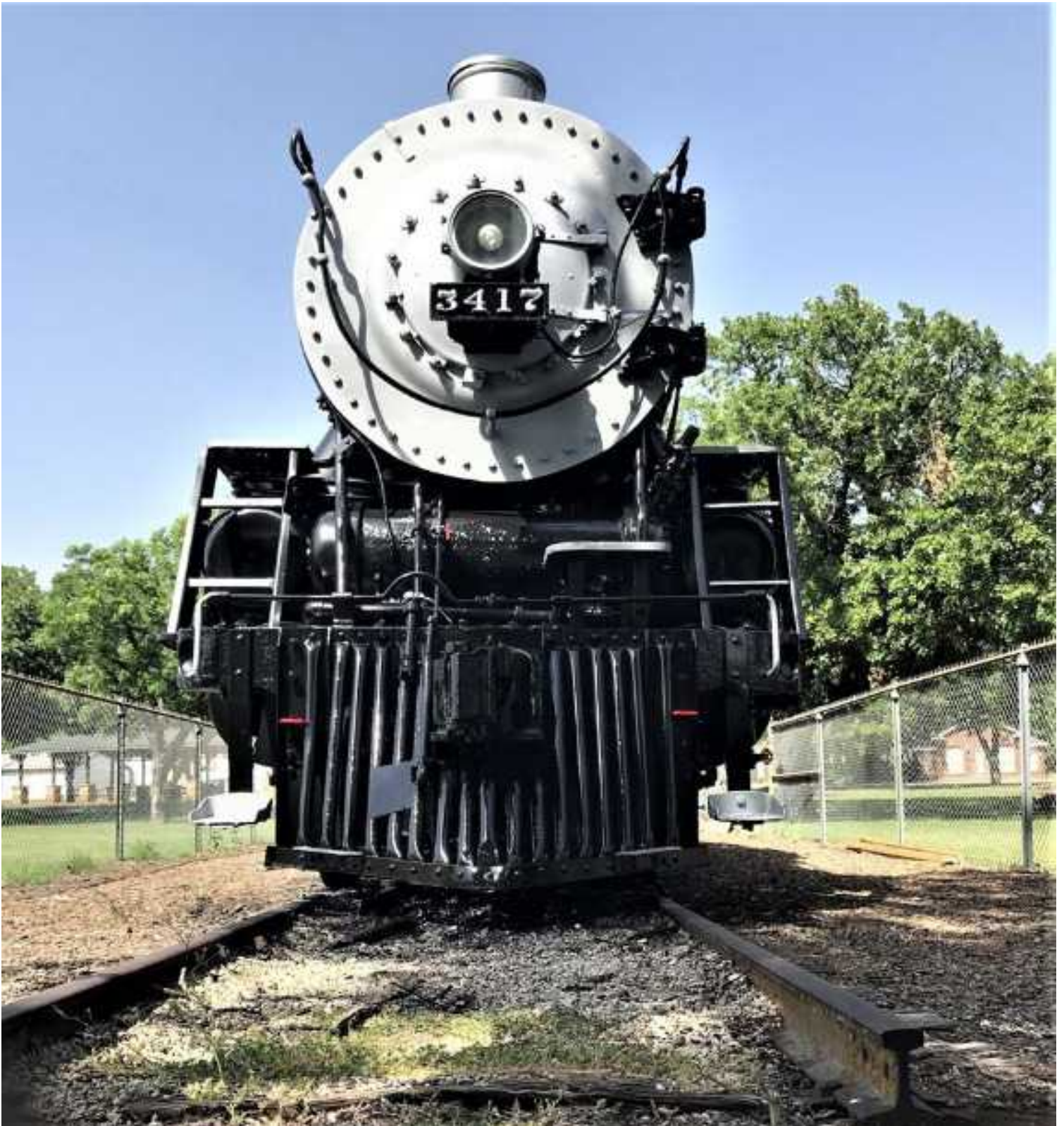


Above: AT&SF #3417 - The black paint looks great. June 2020. (Photo credit: Dan E Roberts.)



Above: AT&SF #3417 – Restoration complete. Seal coat looks real nice. June 12, 2020. (Photo credit: Dan E Roberts.)





Above: AT&SF #3417 – Restoration complete. Here's looking at you. June 2020. (Photo credit: Dan E Roberts.)





Above: AT&SF #3417 and Sam Walls, North Texas Chapter member. (Photo credit: Dan E Roberts.)





In October 2019, the North Texas Chapter representing the National Railway Historical Society presented a plaque commemorating the 100th birthday of the #3417 to the City of Cleburne in a ceremony at Hulen Park, Cleburne, TX.

There are only 5 surviving class 3400's from the 50 that Santa Fe Railway purchased last century, #3415, #3416, #3417, #3423 and #3424. #3415 is the only operating Class 3400 locomotive and is located at the Abilene & Smoky Valley Railroad in Abilene, Kansas.

*Acknowledgement:* Pictures & technical information courtesy of Dan E Roberts, General Manager, Chaf-In Restaurant, Cleburne, TX.

### **An Unusual Railroad Story**

by Jon Shea, VP Programs

This is from the February 1990 issue of *Texas Highways Magazine* in the "Speaking of Texas" Section. It was contributed by Jeff Carroll of Weimar, Texas

"When the Galveston, Harrisburg, and San Antonio Railroad got permission in the late 1860s to extend its line from Columbus to San Antonio and then to the Rio Grande, laborers earned \$1.25 a day to lay the tracks. Coins were scarce because the government had recalled them to adjust their silver content. Payment to the railroad crews consisted of red and black tokens of 25 and 50 cent denominations that the workers could redeem at towns along the route. The time, wags said that Colonel T.W. Pierce, the company president, was the only man in history to build a railroad with meal tokens."

## **National and North Texas Rail News**

### **Dallas Area Train Show Jan. 16-17, 2021**

The Dallas area Train Show is held at the Plano Centre. Next time it will be the January 16-17, 2021. Hours 10am - 5pm Saturday, 10am - 4pm Sunday, 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway. Go East from Central Expressway (Exit 31).

Admission \$10.00 per person Children 12 and under are FREE. Sorry, we only accept cash at the door. There will be two full days of clinics. Many home layouts will be on tour.

Please contact Chris Atkins for more information, or if you would like your layout added to the Dallas area tour contact Chris Atkins at [chris@railroadmodelers.com](mailto:chris@railroadmodelers.com)

(Source: North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs at <http://dfwtrainshows.com/#services/>. Last accessed July 28, 2020.)

### **Amtrak's New Technology, Contactless Travel, Safety Measures**

NEW YORK – To simplify and safeguard the travel experience, Amtrak wants to assure New York Penn Station (NYP) customers of its New Standard of Travel and strengthened commitment to safety by providing boarding information through push notification via the Amtrak app, increasing the number of personnel at the station in order to help customers and by adding additional cleanliness and convenience measures.

"As we continue to prioritize health and safety in traveling, it's important we provide our customers with new, innovative measures that promote physical distancing and contactless travel," said Amtrak President and CEO Bill Flynn. "We encourage all customers to download the app to receive our new app updates, which will prevent crowding inside the station waiting for the boarding information to post and provide an extra level of confidence to make travel safe and secure in addition to the many safety measures onboard our trains and at our stations."

All customers who have downloaded the app and opted in for notifications can receive boarding information on their device. Additionally, customers who have opted in to Amtrak's delay notifications will receive an email or text two hours before departure summarizing New York Penn Station's cleaning procedures, restroom protocols, recommended arrival times, and boarding and ticketing information. In addition, Amtrak has implemented new measures at New York Penn Station and other stations across the country:





- **Enhanced cleaning protocols:** Amtrak has enhanced cleaning frequency and retrofitted protective plastic barriers where necessary. Commonly used surfaces in stations such as door handles, counter tops, seating areas and Quik-Trak kiosks are cleaned with EPA-registered disinfectants and NYP is closed nightly from 12-5:00 a.m. to allow for a complete disinfection. Additionally, hand disinfectants are provided for customer use in all Amtrak areas of the station.
- **Physical distancing:** Signage has been displayed at our busiest stations to indicate safe distances in high traffic areas. In addition, protective plastic barriers have been installed at customer counters at our busiest stations.
- **Facial coverings:** Amtrak requires all customers and employees wear face masks or an alternative facial covering while in stations and onboard trains.
- **Station Arrival:** Customers are encouraged to arrive 30 minutes before departure and 60 minutes if in need of ticketing and/or baggage assistance.
- **New Boarding Policy:** Priority boarding has been discontinued so customers can board when they are ready and stay socially distanced throughout the boarding and seating process.
- **Limited capacity:** Amtrak is implementing capacity restrictions at ClubAcela to protect customers and prevent overcrowding.
- **Restroom updates:** An on-duty restroom attendant monitors the number of people using the facility and can manage access in order to comply with CDC guidelines. Physical Distancing signage will soon be installed in restrooms, and continual cleaning and disinfection occurs even when the restroom is open for customer use.
- **Increased staff:** Amtrak has increased the number of personnel on site at NYP in order to help customers quickly find the correct track and train with one employee upstairs and one employee downstairs on the platform.

Amtrak continues to evaluate current practices and pilot new opportunities to support personal safety. Visit [Amtrak.com](https://www.amtrak.com) for more information about how Amtrak is maintaining a safe environment and [Amtrak.com/info-NYP](https://www.amtrak.com/info-NYP) for more information on Amtrak's New York Penn Station safety measures.

(Source: Amtrak media release at <https://media.amtrak.com/posts/>. Last accessed July 28, 2020.)

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## NRHS Views and News

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### ***Continuing Your Rail Hobby "At Home"***

*by Al Weber, President NRHS*

Around St. Louis MO, the COVID-19 pandemic is still under control. However, in many parts of the US and the world, the pandemic is still high. Many chapter meetings are now held "virtually" through the Internet. I have attended a few; they mostly work well. Do you feel technology-challenged? We all have friends who can help us become familiar and comfortable with this new approach for meetings and get-togethers. My chapter used the "GoToMeeting" tool to meet virtually for two months so far; overall, it has worked well. We even gained new faces at the online meetings! Several members attended virtually who had previously been limited by driving distance or meeting time.

Meeting virtually is different from face-to-face, but it is a good alternative. Those members who have become more mature (not older) are in the high-risk group for the pandemic. A virtual meeting space allows us to gather and meet safely, with less risk of exposure to the pandemic. Also, please remember to stay in touch and check in with your friends. Given the need for social distancing, a kind, thoughtful phone call may be the best part of a family member's or friend's day.

Many NRHS members work or volunteer at museums. Due to the pandemic, museums are losing their prime-time revenue this year. Not having visitors, birthday parties, or fund-raising events negatively affect museum operating revenue and future funding. Museums are essential to getting the message out about rail history and preservation. Museums are a way of attracting and finding new members. When the pandemic's travel restrictions are lifted, please consider visiting and supporting your local railroad museum. Be kind, be safe, and be healthy. Al Weber <[aweber@nrhs.com](mailto:aweber@nrhs.com)> (Source: NRHS News, July 2020 issue. Last accessed July 28, 2020.)





## North Texas Chapter Views and News

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### Zephyr News Board

The deadline for upcoming issues is the Monday that is 2 weeks before the Chapter meeting.

- *September 2020 issue* - News deadline is Monday, August 17, 2020.
- *October 2020 issue* - News deadline is Monday, September 21, 2020.
- *November 2020 issue* - News deadline is Monday, October 19, 2020.

### North Texas Chapter Meeting Minutes – July 7, 2020

The July meeting was held at Sokol Hall in Dallas with 6 members in attendance.

- Dave Podhrasky announced the Fall Plano Train Show has been cancelled but the January show is still going on. [*Editor's note: see Dallas Train Show article in National*]
- Sam Metzgar passed around the Arcadia book McKinney Avenue Trolleys.
- Jon Shea passed around an old issue of Ireland of the Welcomes magazine with an article Thro' Rare West Kerry about the old Tralee and Dingle Railway a long gone 3 foot gauge railroad. One mile is being restored with a Yorkshire, England built steam engine.
- Jon announced the August meeting will be at Spring Creek Barbecue in Grapevine.
- Skip announced the 2020 NRHS convention in California was officially cancelled and gave us an update on the NRHS national Board of Directors proposed changes.
- Sam Metzgar showed us an interesting video on the history of Lionel trains.

Submitted by Jon Shea, VP Programs.

### Chapter Directory

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#### North Texas Chapter Officers, 2020.

- **President**, Wayne Smith, 940-300-4407.
- **Vice President/Programs**, Jon Shea, 972-948-2413.
- **Vice President/Trips and Events**, Skip Waters, wgcush@swbell.net.
- **Vice President/Communications, and NTZ editor**, Valli Hoski, [ntx.news@yahoo.com](mailto:ntx.news@yahoo.com).
- **Secretary**, Jerry Nunn.
- **Treasurer**, Bob Kennedy.

**Webmaster:** Kim Hays, [kimhays516@gmail.com](mailto:kimhays516@gmail.com)

#### 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 Chapter site:** <https://ntxnrhs.org/>

**Facebook Page:** <http://www.facebook.com/groups/409467244127/>

**North Texas Zephyr** (current issues): <https://ntxnrhs.org/>

**North Texas Zephyr, newsletter archive**

<https://ntxnrhs.org/>

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

Publication date: 7/30/2020. Filename: 2020\_08 NTx Newsletter v4.doc

### North Texas Chapter History

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Founded and chartered in 1996, the North Texas 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. Visitors and newcomers are welcome. Chapter membership includes our monthly chapter newsletter, the *North Texas Zephyr*.

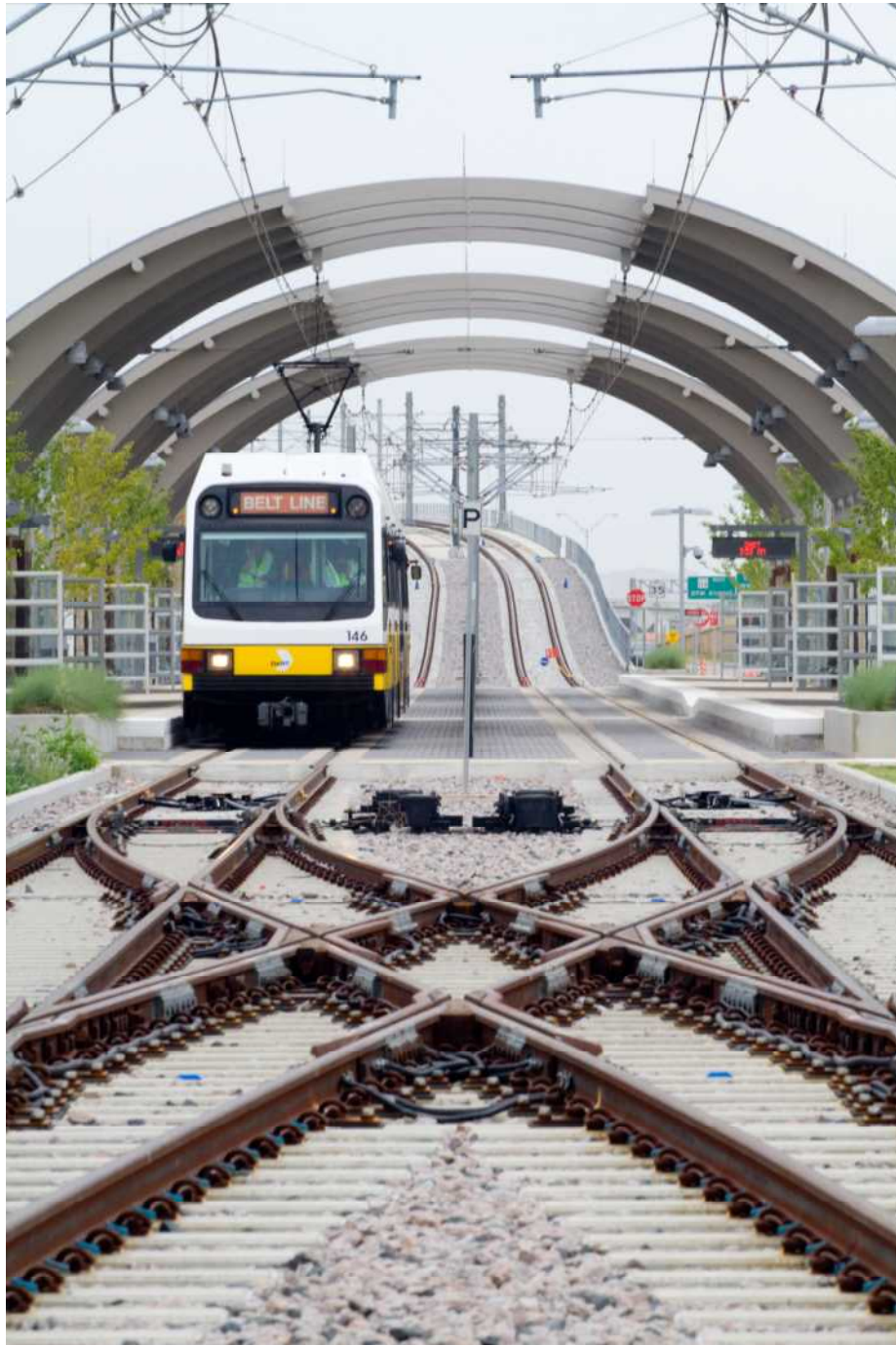
Currently, chapter dues are \$16, plus \$2 per additional family member. Payment may be made by check or paid online. By check - Mail a check payable to "North Texas Chapter NRHS" for \$16 (individual) or \$18 (family) and mail it to North Texas Chapter NRHS, PO Box 600304, Dallas TX, 75360. If your check does not clearly indicate who the member is, please add a note with the member's name. Online - Visit the chapter's on-line store at <https://northtexaschapternrhs.ecwid.com/> to pay by credit card or PayPal. A small service charge (50 cents for individuals, 75 cents for families) is added to your dues payment to cover processing fees. Chapter mailing address: North Texas Chapter NRHS, P.O. Box 600304, Dallas, Texas 75360. Learn about the National Railway Historical Society at [www.nrhs.com](http://www.nrhs.com)



## Chapter Calendar

Tues. Aug. 4, 2020 *	<b>Monthly Chapter meeting.</b> 7 p.m. . <i>Location:</i> Spring Creek Barbecue, 315 W State Hwy 114, Grapevine, TX 76051. Phone (817) 416-6250.
Tues. Sept. 1, 2020 *	<b>Monthly Chapter meeting.</b> 7.30 p.m. .
Tues. Oct. 6, 2020 *	<b>Monthly Chapter meeting.</b> 7.30 p.m. .
Tues. Nov. 3, 2020 *	<b>Monthly Chapter meeting.</b> 7.30 p.m.
December, 2020 *	<b>Monthly Chapter meeting.</b> 7.30 p.m. Annual holiday dinner.

\* Dates are subject to change.



Irving Convention Center Station. (Photo credit: DART.org)

(Source: DART.org at <https://www.dart.org/ShareRoot/images/newsroom/orangeline/jpgs/icc6.jpg> . Last accessed July 28, 2020.)