



VALLI HOSKI, NORTH TEXAS NEWS EDITOR

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Chapter Meeting

Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021. SOKOL Hall, Dallas, Texas.

Location: 7448 Greenville Ave, Dallas, TX 75231
 Phone: (214) 368-5608
 Time: 7:30 p.m.

Program: 2021 Chapter Election of Officers. Member Railroadiana ‘Show and Tell’

North Texas Features

2021 Chapter Election – Slate of Candidates

by Bill Long, Chair Nominations Committee

As chairman of the nominations committee, I announce the following slate of candidates to be voted upon at the January 2021 meeting of the North Texas Chapter.

- President:** Wayne Smith
- Vice President / Programs:** John Shea:
- Vice President / Trips and Events:** Skip Waters
- Vice President / Communications:** OPEN
- Secretary:** Jerry Nunn
- Treasurer:** Bob Kennedy

NRHS Recognizes Brian Vaughan for 25 Years of Membership

by Robert Kennedy, Vice President of Programs, North Texas Chapter



In December, Chapter member Brian Vaughan received a celebratory pin and certificate to honor his 25th year as an NRHS member.

As is traditional with the NRHS, the pin and certificate were sent to the member’s home chapter for presentation. The North Texas Chapter delivered the pin and certificate to Brian on behalf of the NRHS.



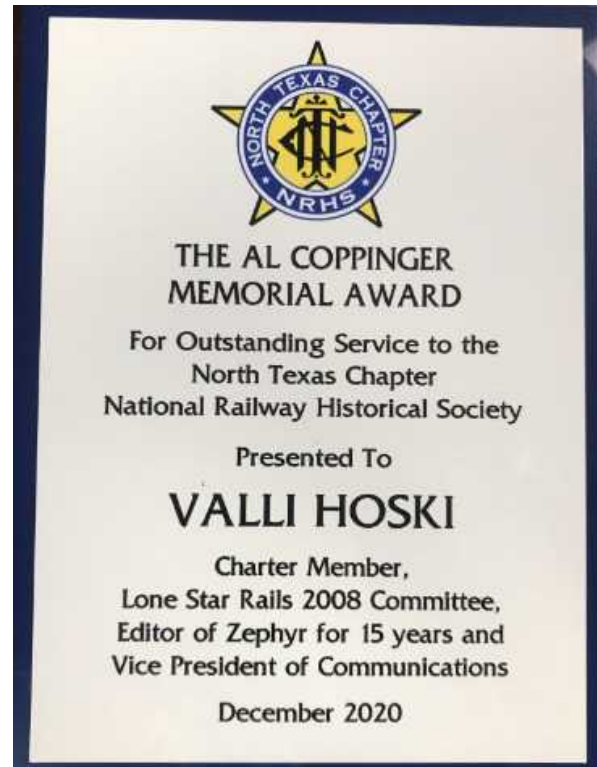
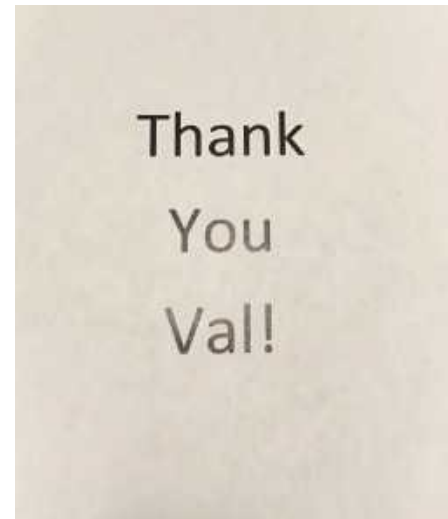


2020 Chapter Holiday Dinner & Al Coppinger Award Presentation

by Wayne Smith, President, North Texas Chapter

On Friday, December 4, 2020, the North Texas Chapter members enjoyed a traditional holiday gathering at the Depot Café, in Frisco, Texas. With seasonal greetings, tasty food and a gift exchange, a good time was had by all.

The Chapter also celebrated the 15 years of service given by the Vice-President of Communications, Valli Hoski. Val has been with the Chapter since its initial chartering. At the Chapter's request, Val stepped up to become editor of the North Texas Zephyr and led it through 15 years of publication. In addition, Val was a chapter volunteer on the 2008 Lone Star Rails national convention of the National Railway Historical Society held in Dallas. Val also volunteered for the NRHS conferences sponsored by the North Texas Chapter as well as other Chapter activities. In recognition of her membership and service, the North Texas Chapter virtually presented Val with the Al Coppinger Award at the holiday dinner. Enjoy some of these scenes of the Al Coppinger Award presentation. Below are the friendly faces celebrating together across the miles.





Jon's History Corner – World War II Railroads

by Jon Shea, Vice- President, North Texas Chapter

This article is about French railroads in the Allied invasion of northwestern Europe in 1944. It is taken from *The Guns At Last Light* by Rick Atkinson. Citation: Atkinson, R. (2014). *The guns at last light: The war in Western Europe, 1944-1945*. New York: Picador.

"A single train could haul the equivalent of four hundred trucks. Eighteen thousand men, including five thousand prisoners of war, labored to rebuild the French rail system, which had been obliterated by years of Allied bombing. Thirty-two trains left Cherbourg [France] over a single, reconditioned track on August 15, creeping across bridges at ten miles per hour, on a two-day trip to Le Mans.

A line to Paris opened on September 1, and by the end of the month almost five thousand miles of track had been refurbished. Shortages of skilled train, yard, and rail crews impaired operations; signalmen often were reduced to flagging with lighters and burning cigarettes. Two dozen Army railway battalions eventually arrived from as far away as Persia and Peoria. The army used 200,000 rail cars in France of which 31,000 were shipped in pieces from the United States, assembled in Britain, and ferried across the [English] Channel: freight cars, flat cars, tank cars, gondolas, cabooses, and thirteen hundred muscular American engines. By year's end, eleven thousand miles of French and Belgian track had been rebuilt, along with 241 rail bridges."

Chapter Directory

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, Valli Hoski.
- Secretary, Jerry Nunn.
- Treasurer, Bob Kennedy.

Webmaster: Kim Hays, kimhays516@gmail.com

Chapter Business Address

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Chapter Email: 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>

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North Texas Chapter History

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

Chapter Calendar * Dates are subject to change

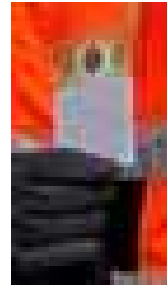
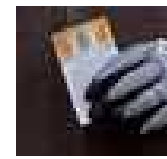
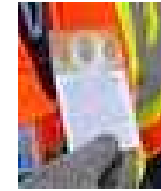
January 5, 2021*	Monthly Chapter meeting. 7.30 p.m. Location: SOKOL Athletic Center, 7448 Greenville Ave, Dallas, TX 75231. Program: Annual Chapter Election. Member Railroadiana 'Show and Tell'.
February 2, 2021*	Monthly Chapter meeting. 7.30 p.m.

North Texas Supplement

Dallas Area Rapid Transit Celebrates Silver Line Construction

by DART (Photo credit: DART)

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) and Archer Western Herzog (AWH) commemorated construction of the future Silver Line Regional Rail project with a First Concrete Ceremony on Wednesday, December 16. The event took place near the intersection of Preston Road and the Keller Springs Road, a mile northeast of the future Knoll Trail Station in Dallas.



The ceremony included a long-held tradition by the Walsh Group, parent company of AWH, of placing Miraculous Medals in a project's first concrete pour. A Walsh Group institution for more than six decades, the Miraculous Medal is an oval-shaped depiction of Mary according to Saint Catherine Laboure's vision. The gesture of placing Miraculous Medals symbolizes an inspiration to successfully complete the job safely and to make it as miraculous as the Medal itself.



Source: DART News Release, December 16, 2020. Accessed on 1/04/2021 at <https://www.dart.org/news/news.asp?ID=1556>

The Silver Line Regional Rail Project's primary purpose is to provide passenger rail connections and service that will improve mobility, accessibility and system linkages to major employment, population and activity centers in the northern part of the DART Service Area.

With revenue service scheduled for early 2023, the 26-mile Silver Line Regional Rail Project traverses seven cities between DFW Airport, Grapevine, Coppell, Dallas, Carrollton, Addison, Richardson and Plano, and includes 10 new stations. When completed, the \$1.2 billion Silver Line will connect with the Trinity Metro TEXRail commuter rail line at DFW North station providing access to Downtown Fort Worth and various other Tarrant County locales. The line will also connect with the Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) A-train commuter rail line providing access to various Denton County locations and DART's Green Line providing access to Dallas Love Field and Downtown Dallas via Downtown Carrollton Station.