

# North Texas Chapter – National Railway Historical Society



## November Chapter Meeting

When: Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, NT Chapter Meeting @ 7:30 (Meet and Greet at 7:00)  
 Where: Texas Western Model Railroad Club  
 Program: Annual Fall Auction  
 Location: Texas Western Model Railroad Club, 6808 Forest Hill Dr., Forest Hill, TX, 76140



TWMRRC Emblem Used With Permission

Our November meeting will be held at the **Texas Western Model Railroad Club** in Forest Hill, TX, for our **Annual Auction**. You are guaranteed to get a bargain. You can also bring railroad related donations for the auction and receive a tax receipt. Link to Directions: <https://www.twmrc.org/twmrc/location/>

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## Jon s Most Excellent Alaskan Adventures!

By Jon Shea

### Part I: The Alaska Railroad



Above: The Alaska Railroad s Headquarters in Anchorage, Alaska.



Above: The Alaska Railroad steam engine on display at their headquarters, Anchorage, Alaska.



Above: **The McKinley Explorer at the Denali National Park station.** The engine is owned by The Alaska Railroad. The bi level cars are owned by Holland America Cruise Lines. Seats are on the upper level. The lower level is restrooms and a dining car. The food was probably better than Amtrak.



Left: This is the longest and highest bridge on The Alaska Railroad.

The railroad's mainline is over 470 miles long and runs between Seward on the southern coast and Fairbanks, near the center of the state and the Arctic Circle, passing through Anchorage and Denali National Park where 17% of visitors arrive by train.

\*Note - Jon and his wife visited Alaska during the summer of 2022.

**Part II: The White Pass and Yukon Railroad**



The White Pass and Yukon Railroad was built for the Klondike Gold Rush in 1898. It went from Skagway, Alaska to Dawson City, Yukon Territory. The railroad now goes to the Alaska-Canada border at White Pass and then turns around on a loop just inside Canada and returns to Skagway. The Indian name Skagway (or Skaguay) means windy point. Jon reported that he and his wife found that to be very true.





Above: 2-4-2 White Pass and Yukon steam engine #52.



Above: Old trestle found on the White Pass and Yukon Railroad.



Above: Rotary Snow Plow used on the White Pass and Yukon Railroad - Skagway, Alaska. The railroad has kept one snowplow in operational condition which it uses to blow snow off the railroad in the spring before it opens for tourists.

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## The Sisters Are Finally Together!

(At least in this newsletter)

All Photos by Wayne Smith

Approximately a year ago last October, the chapter celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a banquet in the depot at the Frisco Heritage Center. Standing out in front of the depot is steam locomotive #19 and its accompanying tender and caboose. Below are pictures taken by the editor.



In June of this year, several chapter members attended the unveiling of the freshly repainted steam locomotive #20 in Allen. Both Locomotives were built by the American Locomotive Company and ALCO was one of the largest manufacturer of steam locomotives in the United States.

This editor thought that it would be fun to have a figurative family reunion with sisters #19 and #20. Below, the sisters are side by side.

### Frisco Steam Locomotive #19

Information Source: <http://www.friscoheritage.org/heritage-center/1910-steam-locomotive/>

The 1910 Steam Locomotive #19 complete with its tender and cowcatcher is located adjacent to the Frisco Depot replica and the BNSF tracks that run through Frisco. Since Frisco derived its name from the St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad, it is only fitting that a train stands to honor that heritage. Number 19 stands over 15 tall, 64 long and weighs in at 185,000 pounds. The locomotive made its way to Frisco in 2004 and the restoration efforts started. Much progress has been made to restore #19 to look as it did for the Frisco Railroad when it rolled off the assembly line. While #19 may never move under its own power again, its whistle does blow, its bell rings, and the headlight points the way as a living part of Frisco's history.

Caboose #1144 came to Frisco in 1976 as a gift from the Frisco Railroad to celebrate our country's Bi-Centennial. Built in 1946, the wooden-sided caboose served throughout the Frisco Lines southern route from Texas to Missouri and beyond. The caboose has served as a museum and an office for the Chamber of Commerce before being moved to the Heritage Center. Once covered in tongue and groove sheathing, the caboose was converted over to plywood sometime in the 1960s. While the interior remains in its original condition, the deterioration of the outer layer of the caboose has begun to take a dramatic toll on the overall appearance and structural integrity of this fine artifact. Renovations are currently in progress to restore the caboose to its 1946 condition.

### The Ebenezer Allen Steam Locomotive #20

Information Source: <https://allenheritage.org/welcome-20-steam-locomotive/>

The Ebenezer Allen was named in honor of the man that first chartered the railroad through Allen. The presence of the steam locomotive represents Allen's railroad heritage with the coming of the Houston and Texas Central RR in 1874. This 1910 locomotive was built by the American Locomotive Company for the Lake Superior and Ishpeming Railroad where it hauled iron ore trains from Marquette, MI to dockyards alongside Lake Superior. It was retired from service in 1969 and placed in the scrap yard. In 1989 it was restored by the Grand Canyon Railroad and became a tourist railroad there. It was subsequently retired from service at the Grand Canyon and moved to Colorado. It arrived in Allen October 14, 2020 from storage at the Rio Grande Scenic Railroad in Alamosa, Colorado.

Originally the caboose was used on the Rock Island Lines. It was built in 1930 and modified in 1955. It is steel framed with a wood roof covered with canvas. The cupola is off-center which usually indicates that the short stretch of roof top is the back. The caboose is 29 feet long with an inside width of 8½ feet. It weighs 47,400 pounds. The caboose was recently repainted in Houston and Texas Center colors.

[Frisco Locomotive #19 and Frisco caboose](#) (Figures 1-3) in Frisco, TX are shown in the left hand column below and [The Ebenezer Allen Locomotive #20 and H&TC caboose](#) (Figures 4-6) in Allen, TX are shown in the right hand column below. The Sisters are reunited for a family portrait.



Figure 1: Locomotive #19, Frisco, TX



Figure 4: Locomotive #20, Allen, TX



Figure 2: Locomotive #19, Frisco, TX



Figure 5: Locomotive #20, Allen, TX



Figure 3: Frisco Caboose #1144, Frisco, TX



Figure 6: HT&C Caboose (Formerly Rock Island Caboose)



Congratulations are in order for our very own Skip Waters, as he was re-elected as 1 of 9 Directors on the newly realigned national board! As a director for the National Railway Historical Society, Skip attended the NRHS Conference in Springdale, Arkansas. Below is a picture submitted by Skip while conference attendees were riding the Arkansas & Missouri Railroad in September of this year. Please see the September 24, 2022 Advisory Council Meeting Report from Bill Long on page 16.



2022 KCS Holiday Express train returns to the rails!



### [2022 KCS Holiday Express Train Schedule](#)

The 2022 KCS Holiday Express train will return to the rails for the first time since the start of the pandemic in 2020. This year, the festive, six-car holiday train with intricate displays inside and out will bring Santa Claus and his elves to visit children and families in 20 communities in eight states. In addition, the KCS Holiday Express project will continue its tradition of charitable giving to The Salvation Army.

KCS is thrilled that we can once again run the Holiday Express train and stop in communities along our rail network, said president and CEO Patrick J. Ottensmeyer. We are grateful to the many donors who continued to support the virtual Holiday Express program over the last two years, and look forward to another successful fundraising campaign to help The Salvation Army help people who need it most during the holiday season.

Over 21 years, the charitable component of the KCS Holiday Express project has raised well over \$2.6 million. Anyone interested in making a tax-deductible contribution to the 2022 KCS Holiday Express fundraising campaign may [donate here](#).

The KCS Holiday Express was built on the tradition of the Santa Train, which ran on a segment of the network bought by KCS in 1997. In 2000, a group of warm-hearted KCS employees noticed that the Santa Train was the only Christmas some kids had, and that some kids did not have essential items like coats, hats and gloves, so they committed to elevating the project. In 2001, volunteers transformed a retired freight train to the KCS Holiday Express experience that thousands enjoyed for 19 years prior to the start of the pandemic.

In the first 19 years, the KCS Holiday Express train stopped in 20 or more communities in five or six states between Thanksgiving and Christmas. At each stop, visitors could board the train, meet Santa and his elves and tour the inside of three cars of the festive six-car train. These events return in 2022 after not occurring the previous two years. The KCS Holiday Express is free to the public at all of its stops.

Special thanks to our [2022 Holiday Express Sponsors](#).

## Herzog MOW Equipment in Frisco, TX

By Wayne Smith

On one of the trips to the Railroad Depot at the Frisco Heritage Center, back when your editor was serving on the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet Committee, there was an opportunity to snap a few photos of a Herzog MPM, or Multi-Purpose Machine adjacent to Locomotive #19 and the Frisco Depot. Many times, these trains are used to carry railroad ties, etc. Each train carries its own crane-crawler device that runs on tracks that can run the length of the train to load or unload its freight.



A Herzog MPM MOW (Maintenance of Way) special purpose work train is seen parked in Frisco, TX along the BNSF tracks on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.





The crane pictured above, can run the entire length of the MOW Multi-Purpose Machine (MPM).



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## Many Thanks To Our Volunteers at the Plano Train Show, October 1-2!

The Chapter extends its thanks and appreciation to members that volunteered at the **Plano Train Show**, either to work the show itself or man the **NTC-NRHS table**. We were able to sell multiple SP books published by the chapter and sell multiple railroad prints donated to the chapter by Dennis Hogan. We also gave away free calendars, Amtrak paper hats and Operation Lifesaver materials. See pictures below.



Jerry Nunn and Jon Shea are shown pictured above at our table to promote the chapter.



Wayne Smith manning the chapter table. It must be noted that Dave Podrasky performs more volunteer hours than the rest of us combined! Thank you Dave!



Jerry Nunn is seen on the right selling show tickets. Also, thanks to Dave Podrasky, Clint Tinnell and Thomas Burrows for performing Ticket Sales duties.



Jon Shea is shown monitoring the central doors.



Sam Metzger (center) is pictured at the Information Table. Sam's picture was recently spotlighted in the show's advertising.

### And the North Texas Chapter, National Railway Historical Society, hosted the Fall Plano Area Media-Slide Show and NRHS Open House at the Interurban Railway Museum on Saturday Evening



The beautiful Interurban pictured above is located at the Interurban Railway Museum in Plano. Many thanks to our presenters including Steve Goen, Jerry Nunn and Sam Metzger. As always, we passed the hat to collect money for pizza. Many thanks to the staff at the Interurban Museum!

## Minutes of the October 2022 Meeting of the North Texas Chapter of the NRHS

The October 2022 meeting of the North Texas Chapter of the NRHS meeting was held on Tuesday, October 4 at the T&P Tavern in Ft. Worth, TX. There were 10 attendees.

President Wayne Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM. Two books were passed around to review: one on the Gunnison train (now defunct) in Colorado, and the latest issue of Classic Trains, which featured a photo of the southbound CB&Q Texas Zephyr in Quanah, TX in 1958. It so happened that Wayne was on that train (only about 6 weeks old). His baby book confirmed the date during the Christmas of 1958.

VP Jon Shea has scheduled locations for the next three Chapter meetings:

November Texas Western Model RR Club (Auction);  
December Babe s in North Richland Hills (Christmas Banquet);  
January Spring Creek BBQ in Irving (Election of Officers, Show and Tell).

Additional details will be posted in the Chapter s Zephyr newsletter.

Bill Long reported on the National Board meeting on September 24. The meeting was held in Springdale, AR, but Bill dialed in. Finances are in good shape. The sum total of all the various accounts (operations, grants, etc.) is just short of \$1M. Two railcamps are scheduled this year: one in Delaware, and another in Portland, OR. There are funds available to completely support someone interested in attending. **(Editor s Note** Bill Long s complete report is list below on page 16 following the chapter minutes)

VP Skip Waters attended the same meeting in person. Skip has been re-elected to the National Board (Congratulations!) and appointed as Chairman of Chapter Development. There are 5200-5300 National members, up slightly from last year. The National Chapter is working on improving its film library and website. The next Board Conference will be held in May in Reno, NV as a joint meeting with R&LHS. The 2023 National Convention will be held in southern Florida. Additional details can be found on the National NRHS website.

Also of note: next year will mark the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first train out of Chicago.

At the Plano Train Show on October 1-2, the Chapter sold 7 of the Southern Pacific books. Attendance was sparse at the slideshow; only about 8 attended.

We will evaluate interest before we schedule a slide show for January. We have not selected a site.

The program was the video Where Giants Roamed, Part I . The meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Jerry M. Nunn  
Secretary, North Texas Chapter, NRHS

### Springdale, Arkansas September 24, 2022 Advisory Council Meeting Report

NOTES: Meeting lasted 3 1/2 hours (attended via phone).

- 1) A new Advisory Council president (Richard Shulby) and secretary (Elizabeth Guenzler) were elected. They will each serve a two year term.
- 2) RailCamp for 2023 is going forward. The locations are in the east, Delaware and in the west, Portland, OR. New RailCamp brochures are out.
- 3) The 2023 NRHS board meeting Spring Conference will be combined with the R&LHS (Railway & Locomotive Historical Society) annual meeting in May 2023 in Reno, Nevada. Also the SP Historical Society will be involved. Note, this is just a combined meeting; there is no talk of the two societies merging.
- 4) Grants for 2022 by the NRHS have been made. Grants for 2023 will be decided by Jan. 2023.
- 5) Finances: The society is in good shape financially. The NRHS has separated the NRHS operations and NRHS Fund. The NRHS Fund has close to \$1,000,000. The NRHS Fund is separate for liability reasons, and so that donors can be assured their donation will not be used for NRHS operations.
- 6) Membership: The NRHS has 5200-5300 members. Membership is up slightly from last year. The NRHS has sent out 10,000 brochures to various attractions (railroad attractions) and hobby stores.
- 7) Film Library: The NRHS has a film library of old 8mm, 16mm, VHS tapes, and slides, that need to be organized, and then made available to the membership via NRHS website. This effort has been on-going for several years. The Advisory Committee agreed to form a subcommittee to help support this effort.
- 8) Website: The NRHS server, disk space, and software are being updated. This will help support films and slides that will be added.
- 9) The next Advisory Council meeting is in Reno, Nevada in May 2023.
- 10) Note of History: The 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first train to run out of Chicago (i.e. 1848 Galena and Chicago Union) will be next year, i.e. 2023.
- 11) Val Hoski says hi to the North Texas Chapter.
- 12) Future Conventions:
  - a. 2023 South Florida Fort Lauderdale in September
  - b. 2024 Harrisburg PA

Reported by Bill Long (North Texas Chapter national representative)

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Stairs leading to board TRE and TEXRail trains. Photos from October Meeting at T&P Station.



TRE boarding on Track 6 at T&P Station. More pictures to come in December.



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Elden Baker, Director of the Anna Depot & Museum, reported on October 3<sup>rd</sup> that work on the track for placement of locomotive Mogul 201 has begun. The pictures on this page show the bed work being prepared before the ties and rails are laid for the arrival of Mogul 201 on November 21, 2022. Plans are for Elden and Anna Councilman Lee Miller to travel to Reader, AR on October 29<sup>th</sup> to take pictures of the completed locomotive. Congratulations to the Anna Museum & Depot and the City of Anna!



**Chapter Directory**

North Texas Chapter Officers, 2022

- \*President, Wayne Smith, 940-300-4407
- \*Vice President/Programs, Jon Shea, 972-948-2413
- \*Vice President/Trips and Events, Skip Waters, [wgcrush@swbell.net](mailto:wgcrush@swbell.net)
- \*Vice President/Communications, Vacant
- \*Secretary, Jerry Nunn
- \*Treasurer, Bob Kennedy
- \*National Representative, Bill Long
- \*Webmaster, Kim Hays, [kimhays516@gmail.com](mailto:kimhays516@gmail.com)
- \*Zephyr Editor, Wayne Smith

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North Texas Chapter site: <https://ntxnrhs.org/>

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

North Texas Zephyr (current issues): [The Zephyr Newsletter - North Texas Chapter, NRHS \(ntxnrhs.org\)](http://www.facebook.com/groups/409467244127/)

Zephyr Archives: [Rail History Newsletters \(gogeocaching.com\)](http://www.facebook.com/groups/409467244127/)

**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 usually held 7:30-9:30 PM, the 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://ntxnrhs.org/store>

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.

Learn about the National Railway Historical Society at [www.nrhs.com](http://www.nrhs.com)

*Doodlebug News Briefs*



MKT doodlebug M10

**November 1<sup>st</sup>, Texas and Western Model Railroad Club, Forest Hill Annual Chapter Auction. Starts at 7:30.**

**December 6<sup>th</sup>, Chapter Christmas Party Babe's Chicken House @ North Richland Hills location. We will have a White Elephant Exchange. Start Time TBA.**

**January 3<sup>rd</sup>, Chapter Elections and Annual Show and Tell. Spring Creek BBQ in Irving. Starts at 7:00 instead of 7:30.**

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**Wayne Smith, North Texas News Editor.**  
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