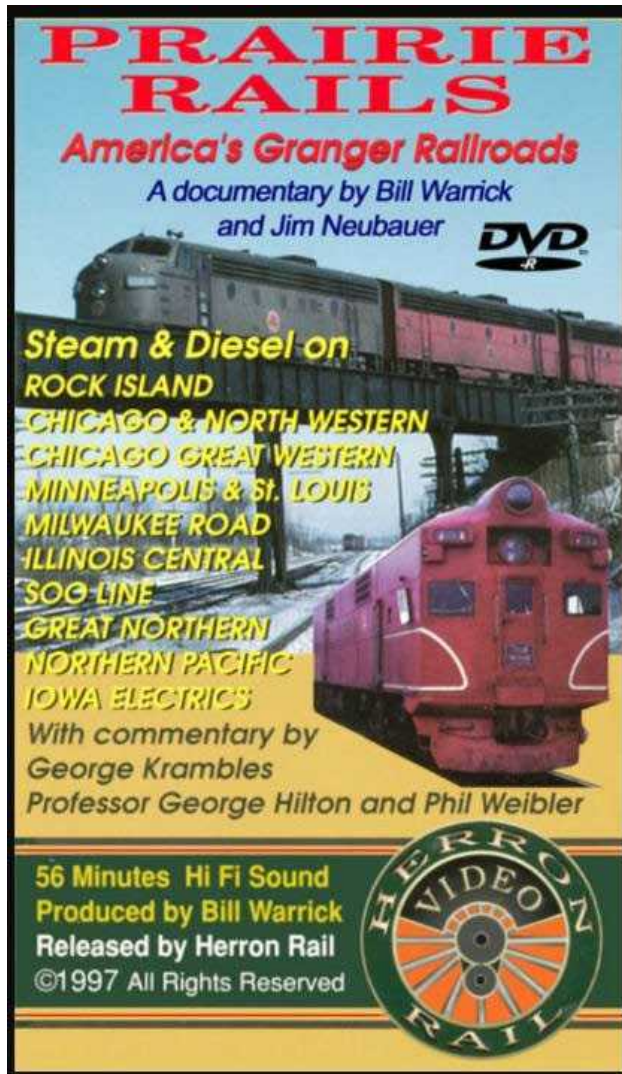


North Texas Chapter – National Railway Historical Society



March Chapter Meeting

- When: Tuesday, March 7th, Chapter Meeting @ 7:00 PM (Not 7:30)
- Where: Spring Creek Barbeque In Irving (Same location as January meeting)
- Program: Video on the left, "Prairie Rails"
- Location: 3514 W Airport Fwy, Irving, TX 75062

See attached link for directions, menu and phone number:
<https://www.springcreekbarbeque.com/irving>

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IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN! North Texas Chapter Dues Renewal

It's that time again to renew your North Texas Chapter dues. Annual renewal for your North Texas Chapter Membership is due by January 1, 2023.

Please note this renewal is for your North Texas Chapter Membership only. Your Chapter dues are paid directly to the North Texas Chapter.

National NRHS Membership dues are paid directly to the National and are in addition to your North Texas Chapter Membership dues. You may have already received a separate National Membership renewal notice and payment information from the National NRHS. **Do not send your National NRHS Membership dues payment to the North Texas Chapter.**

North Texas Chapter Membership dues are \$16 for either an individual Regular Chapter Membership or an individual Chapter-only Membership and \$18 for a Regular Chapter Family Membership. All Chapter Members should be Members in good standing with the National NRHS. Chapter-only Members will be required to provide their NRHS Home Chapter in order to be a Chapter-only Member of the North Texas Chapter and cannot add Family Members to their membership. Chapter membership includes all our Chapter activities and our chapter newsletter, the North Texas Zephyr.

Make your Renewal Dues Payment by check, online or cash.

1. **TO PAY BY CHECK**, make your check payable to "North Texas Chapter NRHS" for \$16 (individual) or \$18 (family) and mail it to the Bob Kennedy, Chapter Treasurer, at:

**Bob Kennedy
North Texas Chapter NRHS
3304 Cross Bend Road
Plano, Texas 75023**

Please note the new mailing address for membership renewals.

Do not mail your membership renewal to the Chapter Mailing Address as it will delay processing your renewal. If your check does not clearly indicate who the member is, please add a note with the member's name. Also, please include a list of any family member's names.

2. **TO PAY ON-LINE**, visit the Chapter's on-line store at:

<https://ntxnrhs.org/store/#!/Membership-Dues/c/15877014>

Copy and paste the address into your browser. A small service charge (50 cents for individuals, 75 cents for families) is added to your dues payment to cover the processing fees for using a credit card. You do not need to be a PayPal member to pay on-line.

3. **CASH PAYMENT** for your dues can be made at any Chapter Meeting. Please have the exact amount and pay the Treasurer or any Chapter Officer.

If you have any other questions about membership, please contact me directly at rckennedy48@verizon.net or 214-497-7745

Thanks very much.
Bob Kennedy, Treasurer, North Texas Chapter, NRHS

Highlights From Our February Chapter Meeting

By Wayne Smith

Our February meeting was held at the Anna Depot and Museum in Anna, TX. There is a very nicely done diorama of the early downtown area including the **Anna Depot** and the **Anna Interurban Station**. The Depot now is across the tracks from its original location. Sherley Heritage Park, where the Depot currently sits, is seen to the left in the photo and the base of the current water tower is also seen to the left.



The Anna Depot (seen above in the detailed diorama of downtown Anna back in the day) was built in 1885, modified (shortened) around 1936 or 1937 for tax purposes, vacated early 1960 and moved to a farm, moved to storage in 2007, and moved to Sherley Heritage Park in 2018 to begin restoration. The Depot model in the diorama is made to the 70'-2" length of the original Depot. The existing Depot (and Museum) is the 32'-8" long modified version.



Above and below: A close up of the model (front and back) constructed to depict the **Anna Depot when it was originally built**. It was later modified (shortened) for tax purposes. In the photo above, the sign above the small window reads, **“Western Union Telegram and Cable Office”**.



The Anna Depot has an authentic **Western Union** sign, but it came from another locaton.





As stated above, the original **Anna Depot** was modified around 1936 or 1937. This is how the depot appears today (after restoration) compared to the original building (see the model).



Above: The diorama also models the **Interurban Station** that was one block away from the Anna Depot. That building also exists in Anna as well, still sitting in its original location. The building has been renovated and now serves as a restaurant. Notice the location of the Interurban ticket window in the center.



Here is the building as it exists today as Lihoudies Greek Restaurant with an annex added on the right. Beyond and behind the annex, the ticket window still exists for the **Interurban Station**. See next page.



Here is the entire block of businesses (mostly restaurants) including the **Interurban Station** as it appears today as Lihoudies Greek Restaurant. This block of buildings is also modeled in the diorama below.





Hidden behind the added annex remains the **Interurban bay ticket window**. Notice the difference in color in the bay bricks and the bricks of the more recently added façade that covers the actual window.



Above: Elden passed around several models of historical buildings and homes in Anna.

Left: **Elden Baker, Director of the Anna Depot & Museum and board member of the Anna Area Historical Preservation Society**, gave a very comprehensive presentation of all things Anna, railroading, interurban, the depot and locomotive #201. The diorama is behind Elden.



Left: **The two original Train Station Name Signs from the Anna Depot.** The top sign was restored inappropriately before Elden intervened and the bottom sign shows its current condition without any restoration.

Below: **The Train Station Name Sign** that is shown below on the outside of the depot is a reproduction. Elden has to always worry about “souvenir collectors”.



Above left: **The Town of Anna diorama** is on display (glass case) for all to see at the museum. On the right, plenty of souvenirs and history books are available for purchase at the Anna Depot and Museum.

Third Times a Charm!

Coverage of the City of Anna Mogul #201 Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

By Wayne Smith

Photographs by Elden Baker, Jerry Nunn, Wayne Smith and The City of Anna

As the old saying goes, the third times a charm. After two weather related postponements, the ribbon-cutting ceremony for Mogul #201 was successfully held on Saturday, February 11th in front of the Anna Depot and Museum. As was expected, there were speeches by politicians and those involved in the massive project of bringing a cosmetically restored locomotive to Anna, TX. There was a large crowd and the ceremony was attended by young and old alike. Several members of the North Texas Chapter of the NRHS were in attendance and we were well represented at the event. Our very own Elden Baker was a big part of the ceremony.



Above: Congressman Keith Self (left) and Anna Mayor Nate Pike were both part of the ceremony.
Below: Local artist Jeff Reece (center) presents Mayor Nate Pike with a print of the Anna Depot and Anna 201 with Elden Baker looking on from the podium.





Above and Below: The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony included our own Elden Baker, third from the right.



Sam Metzger waving from the Cab of #201.



Elden Baker and Wayne Smith enjoying #201.



We are looking inside the cab of #201 directly at the firebox. The Anna Depot and Museum possesses all of the gauges, the throttle and braking mechanism that are missing from above. They are all in a display case inside the museum so that “souvenir collectors” would not be tempted to add them to their own personal collections. More finishing touches are scheduled for the inside of the cab.



Above: 6 of the 8 **North Texas Chapter Members** in attendance at the ceremony. Left to Right: David Minnerly, Jerry Nunn, Wayne Smith, Elden Baker, James Dolande and Sam Metzger.



Above: These stickers were passed out as a **commemorative souvenir for the dedication of Anna Mogul 201**. As noted, 201 was built in 1906 and dedicated in 2023.



North Texas Chapter members posing on ALCO #201.



Above: Our newest chapter member is John Bartly “Bart” Morgan, he is second from the right.



Elden had to remove the **ALCO 201 Number Plate** after the ceremony so that “souvenir collectors” won’t walk away with it. It will be kept locked up inside the depot. Jerry Nunn is posing with Elden in the process of securing the number plate. A reproduction is being made to mount on #201.



Above: Attendees of the ceremony are shown enjoying the displays and activities of the **Anna Depot and Museum**.



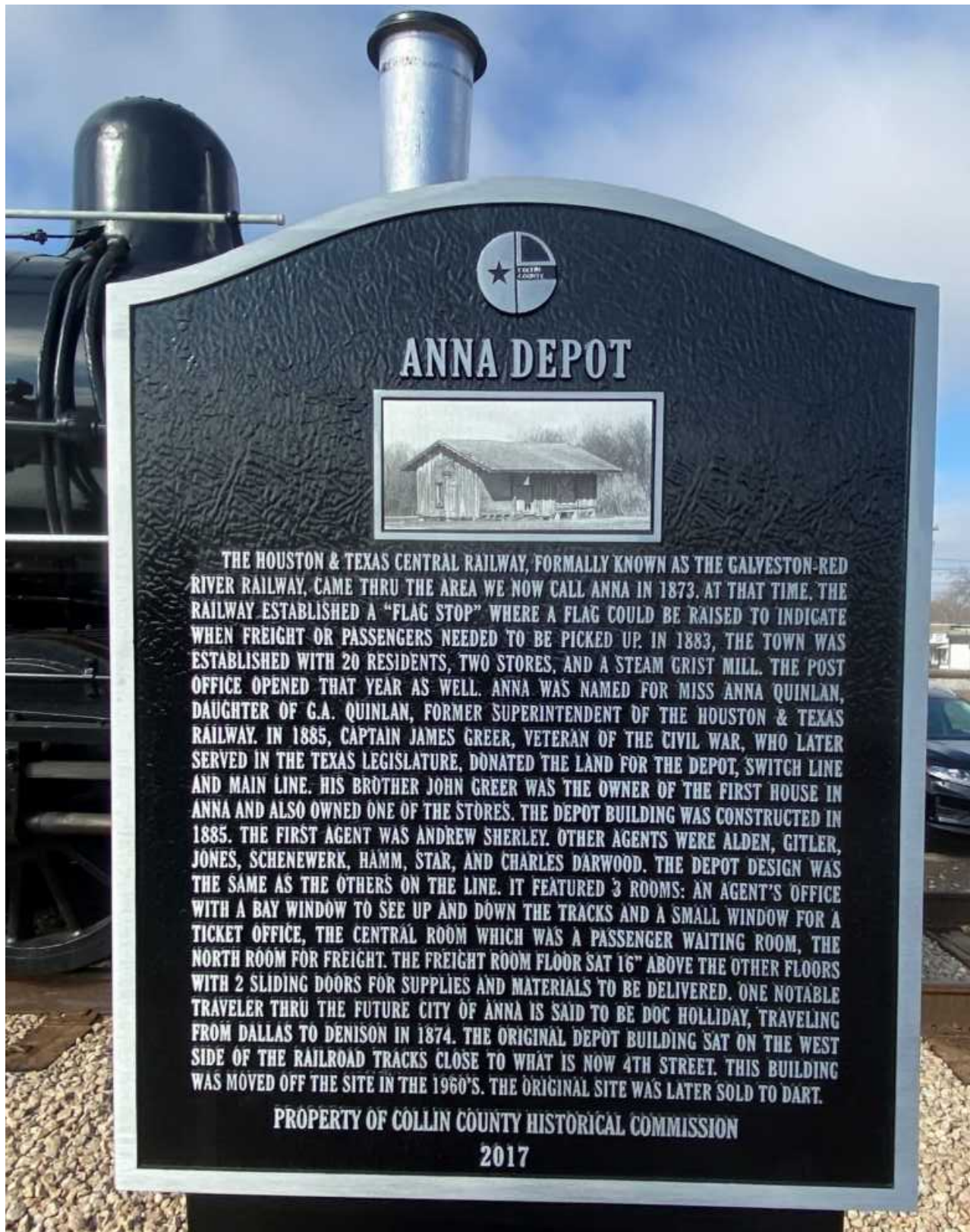
Museum Director Elden Baker (left) and Congressman Keith Self inside the Depot.



Above: Local artist Jeff Reece with his rendering of the Anna Depot and Anna 201.



For several months now, *The North Texas Zephyr* has been covering the progress of the cosmetic restoration and moving of Mogul #201 from Arkansas to Anna, TX, and all the hard work that went on in between. We hope that you have enjoyed the journey with us.



Above: Interesting details on display about the Anna Depot.

A Disappointing Return to Van Alstyne, TX

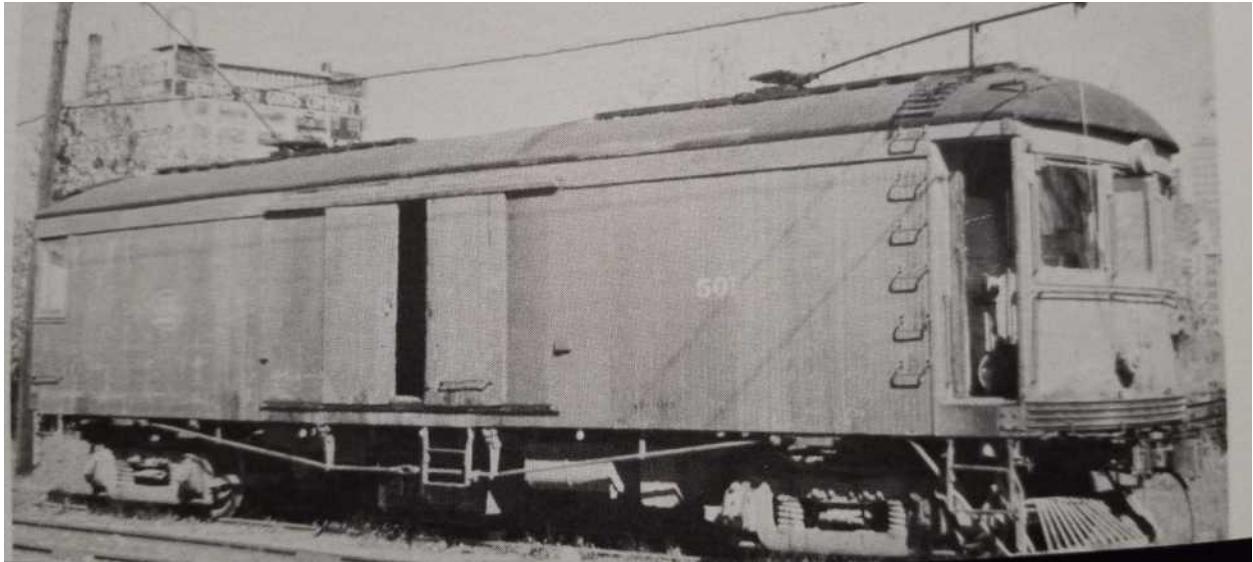
Story and Photographs by Wayne Smith

We all know that restoring railroad equipment requires lots of money; hard work; and people with determination, dedication, connections; and even luck. Sometimes, you even have to battle opposition to a restoration project, or some that just don't care. Look what the fine folks in Anna have been able to accomplish with everything that is documented above. It took a team effort. Have you ever heard of, "where there's a will, there's a way?" Again, look at what Anna has been able to accomplish! There are so many other small towns across the country like Anna, for that matter. Look at the restoration project of steam locomotive #20 that happened in Allen, TX last year that was covered heavily by this newsletter.

This editor was extremely disappointed to find what a difference two years can make in the life, or death, of a railroad restoration project. Your editor visited Van Alstyne in April of 2021 along with chapter member Elden Baker. You can see the pictures below. Through research, it was discovered that this area was even named Interurban Park back in 2014. The cars would have served as a backdrop for concerts and other events. Most of the park now is divided into two separate paved parking lots. This month, your editor returned to Van Alstyne with chapter member James Dolande. The pictures below show what can happen when restoration projects are forgotten or neglected or opposed.



Above: Box Motor Car 501 used for freight service as seen in April 2021. The mostly wooden structure still looked like it had life in it, even though it was on life support. It should be noted that the trucks are not original to the motor car, or anywhere similar for that matter.



Above: Box Motor Car 501 photograph from Johnnie J. Myers' book on the *Texas Electric Railway*.



Above: The other side of Box Motor 501 as seen two years ago.



Above: Now, most unfortunately, 501 is reduced to a pile of rubble, and parts are scattered about outside to continue to battle the elements. Most of 501 sits in a pile of rubbish in the dumpster that is seen in the background on the right. Also, all of the display track was ripped up.



Above: President Wayne Smith is contemplating what could have been...
Photo Credit: James Dolande



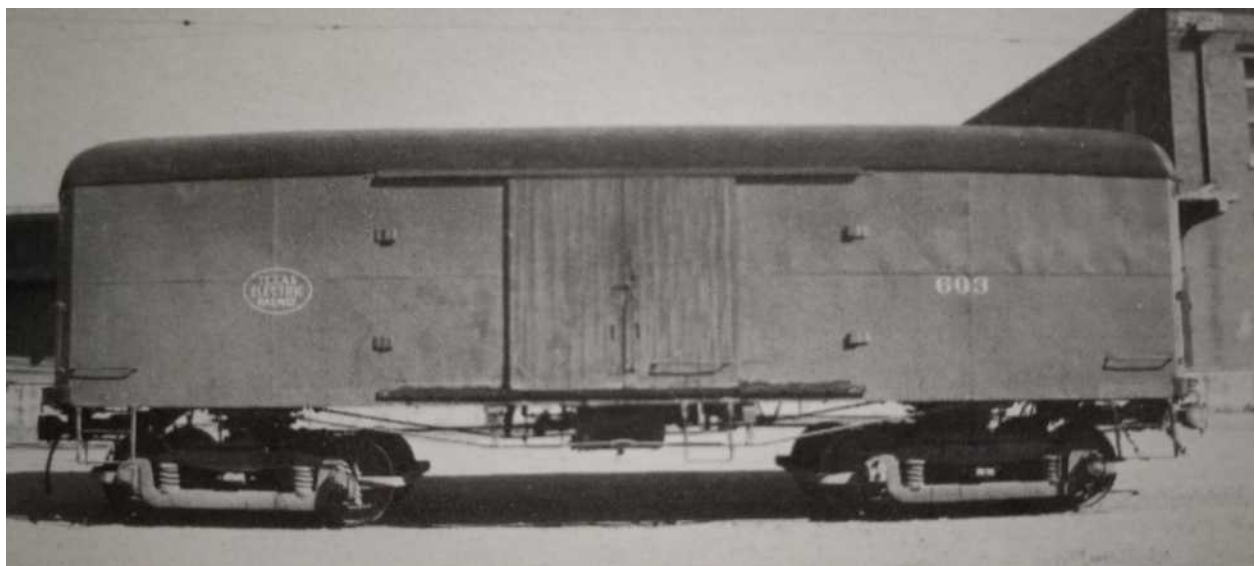
Above: Freight Trailer 608 as seen in April 2021, even though it does not have the original roof, and the roof is certainly modified. As noted on the last page, the trucks are not original to the cars. Please notice that there was actually a **covered stage** that was built on the other side of #608. It is now gone.



Above: Freight Trailer 608 looks similar (kind of) to the way it did in 2021, although the trucks have now been removed. Also, the covered concrete stage 608 sat beside supplied with electricity is gone. As seen above with two-toned paint, the car has fallen to being tagged with graffiti and covered up. Damage can also be seen to the sides of the car after being moved. Thankfully, it helps that this car had a significant amount of steel used in its construction. Chapter member James Dolande is seen posing inside #608.



Above: The interior of 608 is looking pretty sound. Even though the roof is not original (and modified), the original supports still exist. There is still hope for this car. Let's just hope that the stars align for the restoration and/or preservation of this piece in Interurban history.



Above: Interurban freight trailer #603 is similar to #608 located in Van Alstyne. Freight Trailer photograph from Johnnie J. Myers' book on the *Texas Electric Railway*.



Above: An “artistic” view of motor car #501 and freight trailer #608 is seen back in 2021.
Below: This shot from 2021 shows downtown Van Alstyne in the background. Notice that a stage can be seen under #608, electric power, and a supporting structure. It is all gone. This is progress in reverse!



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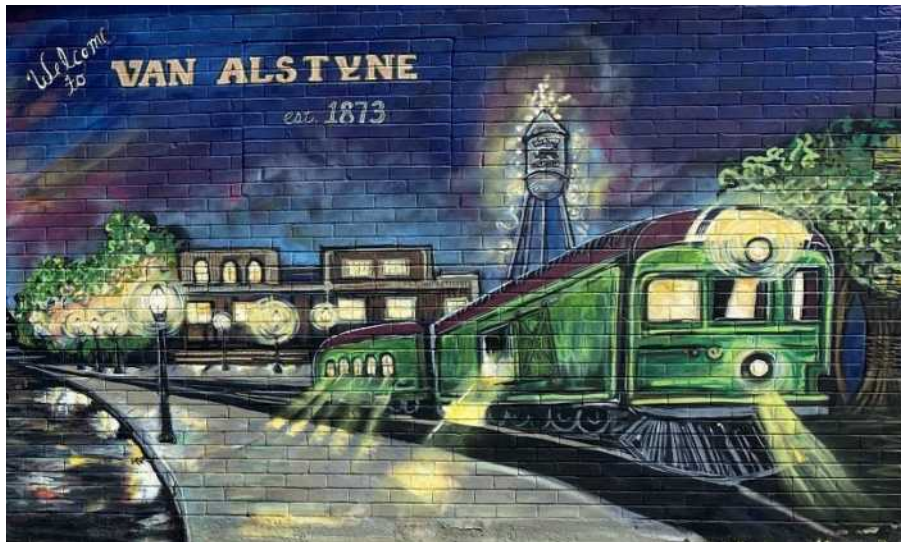
The Boy Scouts Care!

By Wayne Smith

As a former Scouter, your editor knows that the Boy Scouts care about their local community. This mural can be found on a building beside the United States Post Office in Van Alstyne. It is clearly a project that was completed or supported or instigated by local Troop 44 to commemorate the importance of the Interurban to the City of Van Alstyne.



Above: Note the Boy Scout on the left in the mural. The mural appears to be a project of Troop 44 in Van Alstyne. The Scout's patch on his left sleeve shows Troop 44. Even the motor car is numbered 44.



Above: A closer look at the mural shows a freight motor car pulling a passenger trailer. That depiction is inaccurate, especially compared to the Interurban cars on display in Van Alstyne.

38th Annual Dallas (Plano) Area Winter Train Show



Above: “The Three Musketeers”- Board Members (L to R) Wayne Smith, John Shea and Jerry Nunn manned the Chapter table at the Plano Train Show in January. We raised \$473.00, mostly due to sales of the chapter published *Southern Pacific’s Eastern Lines 1946 - 1996* book and railroad prints donated by Dennis Hogan. The prints were very popular.



Above Left: National board member, Kevin Sweeney, was visiting from out of town and paid a visit to the chapter table. Above Right: We had an ideal location to display our books, NRHS informational brochures, membership applications and especially our railroad prints.



We sold several railroad prints at the Plano Train Show. As we sold the prints, we had more on hand to replace the prints we sold. The prints proved to be a very popular item for attendees.



We also had recently donated model RR accessories, switch locks and keys available for sale as well.

Semi-Annual North Texas Chapter - NRHS Digital Media Slide Show and Open House at the Interurban Railway Museum



On Saturday night, January 21st, following the first day of the Plano Train Show, the **Semi-Annual North Texas Chapter – NRHS Digital Media Slide Show and Open House** was held at the Interurban Railway Museum. We had several presenters and even more attendees and, as always, “passed the hat” to collect money for pizza. Many thanks to the staff at the Plano Interurban Museum for their assistance in setting up chairs and moving furniture to accommodate our needs.

Minutes of the February 2023 Meeting of the North Texas Chapter of the NRHS

The February 2023 meeting of the North Texas Chapter of the NRHS meeting was held on Tuesday, February 7th at the Anna Depot and Museum. There were 11 attendees, one of which was a new member, Bart Morgan, after joining on the spot and was a guest of Elden Baker.

Due to inclement weather, the Anna Mogul 201 Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony planned for earlier in the evening was postponed for a second time. Those that arrived before sunset could see Anna Mogul 201 in front of the depot, even though it was raining. Also, several members met for dinner at a local diner before the meeting.

President Wayne Smith called the meeting to order at 7:17 PM. He announced that \$473.00 was raised at the recent Plano Train Show with sales mostly from the Chapter's SP book and railroad prints recently donated by Dennis Hogan. Wayne thanked Jerry Nunn and Jon Shea for their assistance at the chapter table, especially Jerry for being there the entire time on both days to keep Wayne company.

It was also announced that the NRHS Digital Media Slide Show and Open House at the Interurban Railway Museum was again a success. Wayne showed the "38th Annual Winter Train Show Club Layout Tours" booklet distributed by the North Texas Council of Railroad Clubs at the Dallas Area (Plano) Train Show with the North Texas Chapter, NRHS listed as a participant, as usual.

Wayne also announced the upcoming Train-A-Palooza Model Train Show, March 11-12, 2023, sponsored by Lone Star Hi-Railers Model Railroad Club. The chapter is not participating in the show. The show has a new location and will be held at the Grapevine Convention Center. Admission for adults is \$5.00, children under 11 free, 11 to 18 years old \$2.00. This is an Official "Special Event" of the Lionel Collectors Club of America.

Jon Shea reminded everyone that the next chapter meeting will be Tuesday, March 7th, at Spring Creek Barbecue in Irving (Same location as the January meeting). Program: Video "Prairie Rails". Start Time - 7:00 PM. Skip Waters announced that he is working on getting the April meeting scheduled at the Civil War Museum in west Ft. Worth.

Skip Waters announced that the City of Saginaw's Permit Department for the City of Saginaw has approved the Chapter's use of the Saginaw Depot grounds for 24 Hours @ Saginaw for another year. Just as last year, we will not have access to the depot itself, but will be able to use the viewing platform and grounds around the depot. More information to be announced at a later date.

Skip Waters took a survey of members that were interested in supporting and hosting a 24 hour train watching party similar to 24 Hours @ Saginaw at Big Sandy in east Texas. The event would be completely subsidized by a third party, not including any personal expenses of members. The idea had unanimous support. Skip and Wayne will do an investigative site visit to determine the feasibility of such an event.

Skip reported that the 2023 NRHS National Convention will be located in Fort Lauderdale/Deer Field Beach Florida. The dates are Friday, September 1st through Wednesday, September 6th, 2023.

The host hotel for the convention will be the DoubleTree hotel, which is located in Deer Field Beach. Deer Field Beach is a stop on both Amtrak trains operating from New York to Miami. The nightly price will be \$129.00 per night + taxes.

Elden Baker, Director of the Anna Depot and Museum, was our host for the evening and gave an excellent presentation on the history of Anna and its relationship to the railroad and the Interurban. This included a slide and video presentation. He also highlighted many of the artifacts contained in the museum. Elden provided fresh Starbucks coffee for attendees.

Minutes submitted by Wayne Smith, North Texas Chapter, NRHS

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
- *Vice President/Communications, Vacant
- *Secretary, Jerry Nunn
- *Treasurer, Bob Kennedy
- *National Representative, Bill Long
- *Webmaster, Kim Hays, kimhays516@gmail.com
- *Zephyr Editor, Wayne Smith

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

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): [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

Doodlebug News Briefs



MKT doodlebug M10

Tuesday, March 7th, Chapter Meeting at Spring Creek Barbecue in Irving (Same location as the January meeting). Program: Video "Prairie Rails". Start Time - 7:00 PM. *Note earlier start time.

Saturday/Sunday, March 11-12: Train-A-Lapooza Train Show, Grapevine Convention Center. See Meeting Minutes above.

April Chapter Meeting – TBA.

Saturday, May 13th, National Train Day Celebration at Anna Depot and Museum, Anna TX. Details TBA.

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This Month's Contributors:

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|---------------|------------------|
| City of Anna | Eldon Baker |
| James Dolande | Bob Kennedy |
| Sam Metzger | Johnnie J. Myers |
| Jerry Nunn | Wayne Smith |

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Wayne Smith, North Texas News Editor.
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