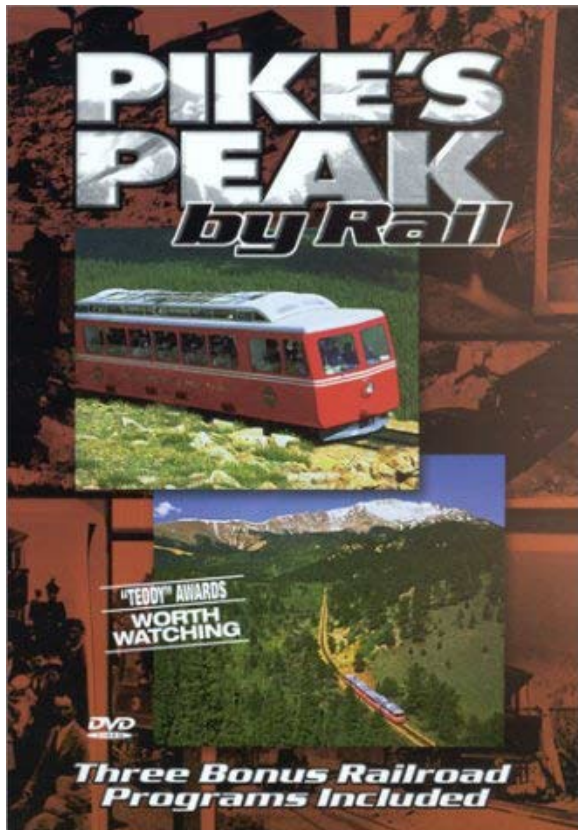


*North Texas Chapter –  
National Railway Historical Society*



**June Chapter Meeting:  
Pike's Peak by Rail (Video)**



*Pike's Peak has been synonymous with the American Wild West since pioneers displayed "Pike's Peak or Bust" on their covered wagons. A cog railroad reached*

*its summit in 1891. Still in operation, it is the highest cog railroad in the world, reaching 14,110 feet.*

*The dark beauty of the evergreens in Englemann Canyon, the bright Autumn gold of the aspens at Mountain View and the majestic rocky slopes at Windy Point are all more spectacular with bright red trains in view. Enjoy Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, deer, wild flowers, a waterfall and alpine lakes. Rare historic still photos and motion pictures chronicle the works of man along this rail line. The Half Way House Hotel, the offices of the Pike's Peak Daily News, the Alpine Laboratory & the town of Minnehaha are some of the historic sites, now only a memory along the rails. The oldest hydro-electric plant operating in the American West, steam locomotive water tanks and an old stone section house are still visible.*

*Passengers seldom see behind-the-scenes activities that keep the railroad running. Watch as the snow plow tackles 20-foot high snow drifts. Marvel at 1933 motion pictures of steam locomotives pushing plows into snow banks and the railroad's modern rotary plow launching 100 foot plumes of snow into the air. Watch as men tackle the back-breaking job of replacing railroad ties 12,000 feet above sea level. Shop scenes include removing diesel engines from the trains for maintenance. Coupled to a restored coach, built in 1891, the railroad's last steam locomotive makes its appearance.*

**June Meeting Location on Next Page >>**

### NT Chapter June Meeting Location:

When: Tuesday, June 6th @ 7:30 pm, Meet "N" Greet @ 7:00  
 Where: Sokol Hall, Dallas, TX  
 Program: **Pike's Peak by Rail** (Video), Bonus Footage Includes **Georgetown Loop Railroad**  
 Location: Sokol Hall, 7448 Greenville Ave, Dallas, TX 75231 Phone: [\(214\) 368-5608](tel:2143685608)  
 Directions: Sokol Hall is located on the southeast quadrant of Greenville and Walnut Hill, east of Central Expressway. The facility itself is not visible from any direction. If you are traveling east on Walnut Hill, there is an entrance on your right just before you get to the convenience store. Once you have crested the hill of the entrance, Sokol will be visible. There is also an entrance off Greenville, next to Calloway's Nursery (former location). **Directions:** [Google Maps](#)

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### Table of Contents:

June Program: Pike's Peak by Rail.....	Page 1	NTC Visit to Burleson Interurban Museum.....	Page 7
June Meeting at Sokol Hall in Dallas.....	Page 2	Interurban Motor Car #25, Fort Worth.....	Page 17
Table of Contents.....	Page 2	Minutes of NTC Meeting in Burleson.....	Page 18
Saginaw Cancelled, Big Sandy A Go!.....	Page 2	Amtrak Advisory Re: Texas Eagle Trains.....	Page 19
Two Visits to Waxahachie.....	Page 3	A Visit to Denison, TX.....	Page 20
Chapter Directory/History/News Briefs.....		Page 23	

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To North Texas Chapter members,

SAGINAW - WE HAVE A PROBLEM... Railroad construction on and near the site of the Saginaw depot has caused us to CANCEL the 17th Annual "24 Hours at Saginaw" 2023 this year!

The North Texas Chapter, NRHS regrets to make this call, but it's not safe to hold an event on the grounds of the depot at Saginaw with all the construction materials present. And there is no guarantee it will be gone in time for our event. Also we've seen some railroad work schedules suggesting this work will be going on for some time.

BUT, NOT ALL IS LOST... we will have a 24 Hours watching party in East Texas!

The North Texas Chapter, NRHS will be making another announcement soon to hold a 24 Hours event in Big Sandy, Texas! Yep, you read that right, we are going to host the first "24 Hours at Big Sandy" this coming fall during the month of September. Once the dates are secure we will make the official announcement. So stay tuned because it will be TIME TO WATCH SOME TRAINS at 24 Hours - BIG SANDY!

Skip Waters, Chairman  
 17th Annual "24 Hours @ Saginaw" 2023 - and "24 Hours @ Big Sandy"  
 North Texas Chapter, NRHS  
[www.ntxnrhs.org](http://www.ntxnrhs.org)

## A Visit to Waxahachie

By Jon Shea



The Katy Depot in Waxahachie, TX is now a Coffee Bar.



The Katy Depot was built in 1908 and restoration was completed in 2010. The depot even includes a restored Katy Caboose.



Plaque seen inside the Katy Depot with partial advertisement for the current occupant.



Freight door seen inside the Katy Depot.



Here's another angle and a more detailed look at the Katy Caboose. This particular caboose was "Radio Equipped" for better service as indicated on the MKT caboose.



The former Burlington - Rock Island Depot can also be found in Waxahachie and is currently occupied by a private business.

## A Follow-up Visit to Waxahachie

By Skip Waters



Jon Shea inspired Skip Waters and Bill Long to venture to Waxahachie to check out the possibility of Waxahachie being a future meeting location or special event destination sponsored by NTC.



Above: Some BNSF action on the former BRI line in Waxahachie. “Railroad Bill” Long can be seen on the right of the picture while the BNSF manifest freight rolls by.



Above and below: Skip and Bill also found the former Trinity and Brazos Valley (predecessor of the BRI) freight depot, which now serves as a brewery.

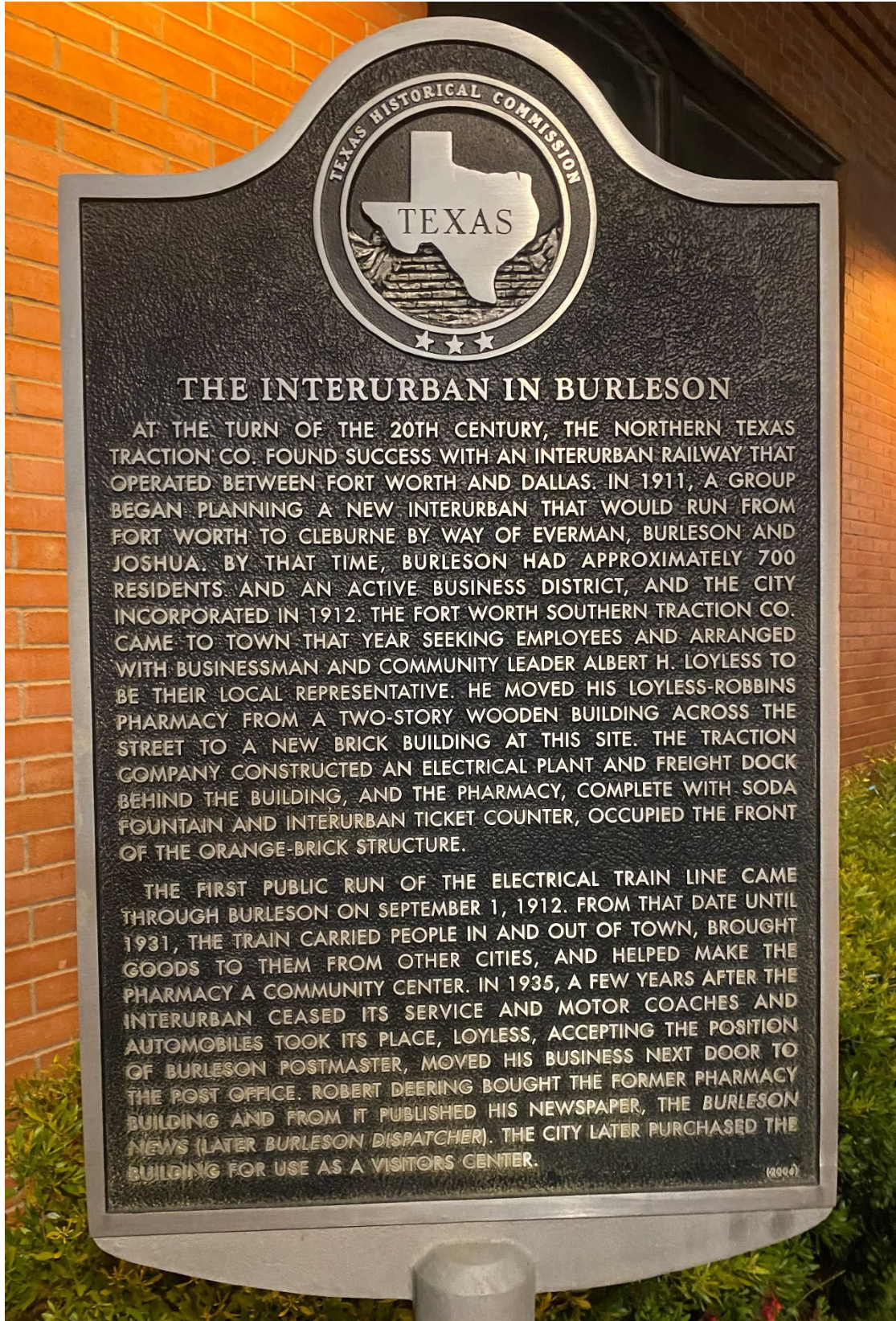


## Our Recent Visit to the Burleson Interurban Museum

By Wayne Smith (Photos by Wayne Smith, unless otherwise noted)

Our May meeting was held at the Burleson Visitor’s Center & Museum (Interurban Museum) in the former Interurban Depot. The staff was kind enough to allow us to hold our chapter meeting after hours. Our hosts were Neal Jones, President of the Burleson Heritage Foundation; Gabby Garbarino, Volunteer Coordinator; Vivian Wright, a Board member; and “Conductor Bob”, a tour guide. They were excellent hosts and we appreciate their hospitality. We started out with our business meeting in the Museum itself.





This Historical Marker tells the story of the Interurban in Burleson.





Museum Volunteers provided a history lesson on the Interurban, the Depot and various museum pieces after our business meeting was concluded. Vivian Wright is seen standing on the left and Gabby Garbarino is seen standing on the right in the white shirt.



There were 16 members and 4 hosts at the Interurban Museum. Not everybody is pictured.



Printing Press used in this building for The Burleson News (later Burleson Dispatcher) after the building was vacated by the Northern Texas Traction Co. and a pharmacy. Photo by Elden Baker



A nice overall view of the Visitor's Center/Interurban Museum that includes a gift shop. Photo by Elden Baker



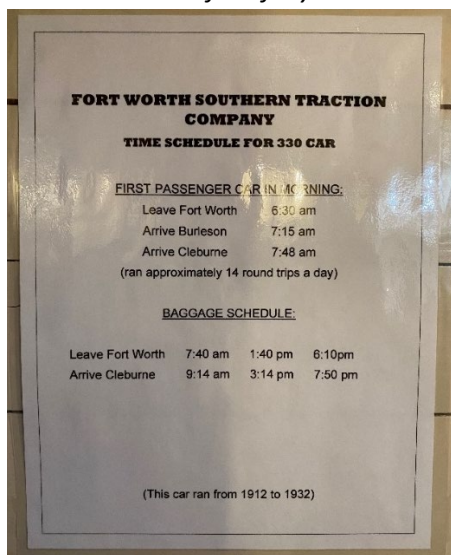
We enjoyed a tour of #330 Cargo Car, which was a small museum in and of itself with mostly memorabilia and railroadiana from main line railroads.



Motorman's view of #330. Photo by Elden Baker



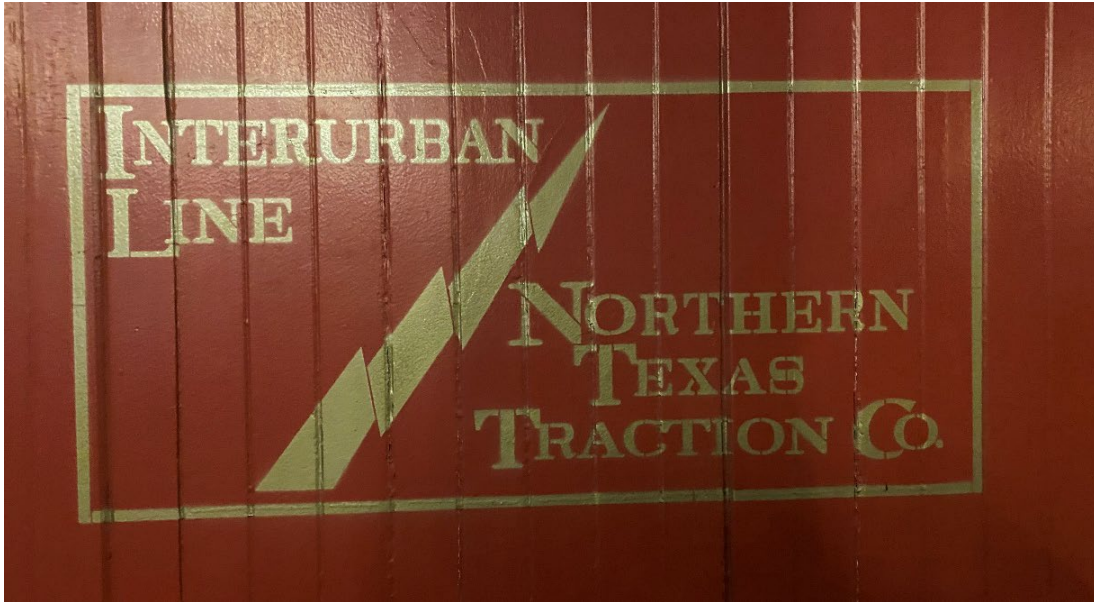
*Rail Car #330 (built in 1903) is the oldest remaining interurban car of any type in Texas. It was placed beside the Burleson Visitors Center, the last remaining Interurban Station on the Fort Worth to Cleburne line, in 2010. Car #330 faithfully served the interurban station 3 times a day until the line closed.*





We also enjoyed a tour of Parlor Car 411.





Fort Worth Northern Traction Company connected Fort Worth, Burleson and Cleburne together by rail.



#411 was built by the St. Louis Car Co. in St. Louis, MO. The beautiful woodwork can be seen throughout the interior of the parlor car.



Above: Chapter members were chit-chatting and hanging out in the “smoking section” of Car #411 while waiting for our tour guide and host. This scene was probably repeated thousands of times when Car #411 was in service. The original car had very similar wicker furniture for extra comfort that could easily be moved about. We had to “watch out” for the spittoon that was sitting on the floor.

Below: Gabby (standing), one of our hosts, is seen giving a history lesson on Parlor Car #411. The “Lady’s Section” is seen behind Gabby and through the door.





In 1918, the North Texas Traction Company ordered 4 special first class cars to be trailers for 4 of their regular cars between Fort Worth and Dallas. At the last minute they decided to order a fifth car which was to become Car #411. These 2 car sets ran on a high speed commuter trip between Fort Worth and Dallas for many years as an extra cost, no stop express service at a rather high ticket price (for the day) of \$1.80 each way. When the service was withdrawn about 1933, an individual purchased 3 of the cars and arranged them as a summer residence at Lake Worth. The rail cars were well cared for. When the family decided to sell them more than 15 years ago, the Fort Worth Transportation Authority (the "T"), purchased the #25 and #411 to restore. When the T decided to give Car #411 to someone who would undertake the restoration and be able to properly display the car to the public, Burleson was selected as the successful bidder. On Jan. 19, 2012, the car was moved to Burleson where volunteers of the Burleson



Heritage Foundation and the North Texas Historic Transportation group restored the car. Source: <https://www.burlesontx.com/1307/411-Parlor-Car> \*Note - No history was given regarding the drumhead seen in the photo above.

**Car #411 in Burleson is the trailer to Car #25. For those of you that don't know, Car #25 can be found at Fort Worth Central Station, as seen in the picture below.**



Car #25 was built as a motorcar which meant that it carried passengers as well as a trailer car in the rear. You will find the interior of Car #25 a bit different than you would expect. Included inside was a kitchen with cooktop, refrigerator and cabinets. Car #25 was operated as a limited train without stops between Fort Worth and Dallas. Car #25 featured two types of padded wicker chairs. These were “first class” cars all the way.

## Minutes of the May 2023 Meeting of the North Texas Chapter of the NRHS

The May 2023 meeting of the North Texas Chapter of the NRHS meeting was held on Tuesday, May 2 at the Burleson Heritage Foundation Museum in Burleson, TX. Our hosts were Neal Jones, Heritage Foundation President; Gabby Garbarino, Volunteer Coordinator; Vivian Wright, a Board member; and “Conductor Bob”, a tour guide.

NRHS Chapter President Wayne Smith called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. There were 20 attendees, including the hosts. Our hosts were introduced and thanked.

### MEETINGS FOR REMAINDER OF 2023

The locations and programs for the remainder of 2023 meetings were presented:

- June – Sokol Hall, “Pikes Peak Cog Railway”;
- July – Grapevine Founders Building, “Texas Transportation Company”, Steve Goen video;
- August – Grapevine Founders Building, “2008 NRHS National Convention”;
- September – Spring Creek BBQ Irving, TBA; NOTE: Date postponed until September 12 due to Labor Day Holiday;
- October – Grapevine Founders Building, TBA;
- November – Texas Western Model RR Club, Forest Hill;
- December – Annual Christmas Banquet, Location TBA. NOTE: Suggestions for a new location would be welcome. A location close to a railroad, or a railroad themed location, would be preferred.

### 24 HOURS AT SAGINAW

VP Skip Waters recently received quotes for tents and port-a-potty costs for the planned “24 Hours at Saginaw” event on Memorial Day weekend. Total costs would be around \$2400.

However, staging the event this year is problematic. A major railroad construction project is in progress at the Saginaw location, and as a result there are extensive materials and heavy construction machines there, which block most of the photography opportunities. Member Ken Fitzgerald was at the site on May 1, and sent Skip Waters several photographs, which showed that materials and equipment were not only blocking photograph angles, they were using the space where individual attendees would pitch their tents.

The members then discussed the issues with the construction project, including lack of individual tent space, limited photograph opportunities, and cost-benefits of staging the event, given the situation.

Member Kim Hays made a motion that the event not take place this year. Member Bill Long seconded the motion. The voting members approved the motion to not schedule the event this year. There will be no “24 Hours at Saginaw” this year.

### BIG SANDY

There are three possible dates for the proposed “24 Hours at Big Sandy”: (All dates are Friday and Saturday) September 15-16, September 22-23, and September 29-30. The site has a building specifically designed for watching trains with restrooms and chairs from which to view the tracks. The city is supportive of our use of the building. Furthermore, rental costs would be zero, as we have a benefactor willing to pay the cost. We are awaiting a reply from Big Sandy regarding a preferable date from their perspective.

Big Sandy is a 2 hour drive from the DFW area. Attendees should know there are limited restaurants in Big Sandy. Also those desiring overnight accommodations would need to go to another city.

WICHITA FALLS MUSEUM

This is only a brief summary of the events concerning the Wichita Falls situation. More details will be available when the situation is “resolved”.

The railroad museum was shut down over two years ago, and was to hand their equipment and rolling stock over to the Museum of North Texas History to dispose of as they saw fit. There was an objection to the proposed handover, and another meeting was scheduled to further discuss options. The dissenters were given one month to present their plans. VP Skip Waters was present at that meeting. Skip took initiative to organize a group of community leaders to formulate plans. In addition, Skip will present a motion to establish a NHRS Chapter at Wichita Falls at the next national NRHS Board meeting, which is expected to be approved with not much discussion. The decision meeting is to take place May 4.

NATIONAL NRHS MEETINGS

There will be a National Board meeting in Reno, NV May 21.

The NRHS National Convention will be in Florida during the Labor Day holiday.

The business meeting of the Chapter adjourned about 7:45 PM.

Following the business meeting, the hosts conducted tours of the museum and the two interurban cars on display at the museum. The tour concluded about 9 PM.

**Jerry M. Nunn**  
**Secretary, North Texas Chapter, NRHS**

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**Amtrak Advisory**  
**Track Work Affects Texas Eagle Trains 21/421 and 22**  
**Effective Select Mondays and Wednesdays April 24 - October 4, 2023**

Due to track work being performed by Union Pacific, schedule changes impact Texas Eagle **Trains 21/421** and **22** on select Mondays and Wednesdays, April 24 through October 4, as outlined below. Schedule times listed on Amtrak.com have been updated to reflect these changes.

**April 23, June 27, September 10, and October 3**

- **Train 21**, which normally operates between Chicago and San Antonio, will terminate at Fort Worth, with alternate transportation provided via **Bus 3021** between Fort Worth and San Antonio, making all intermediate stops.
- **Train 421**, which normally operates between Chicago and Los Angeles, will originate at San Antonio.

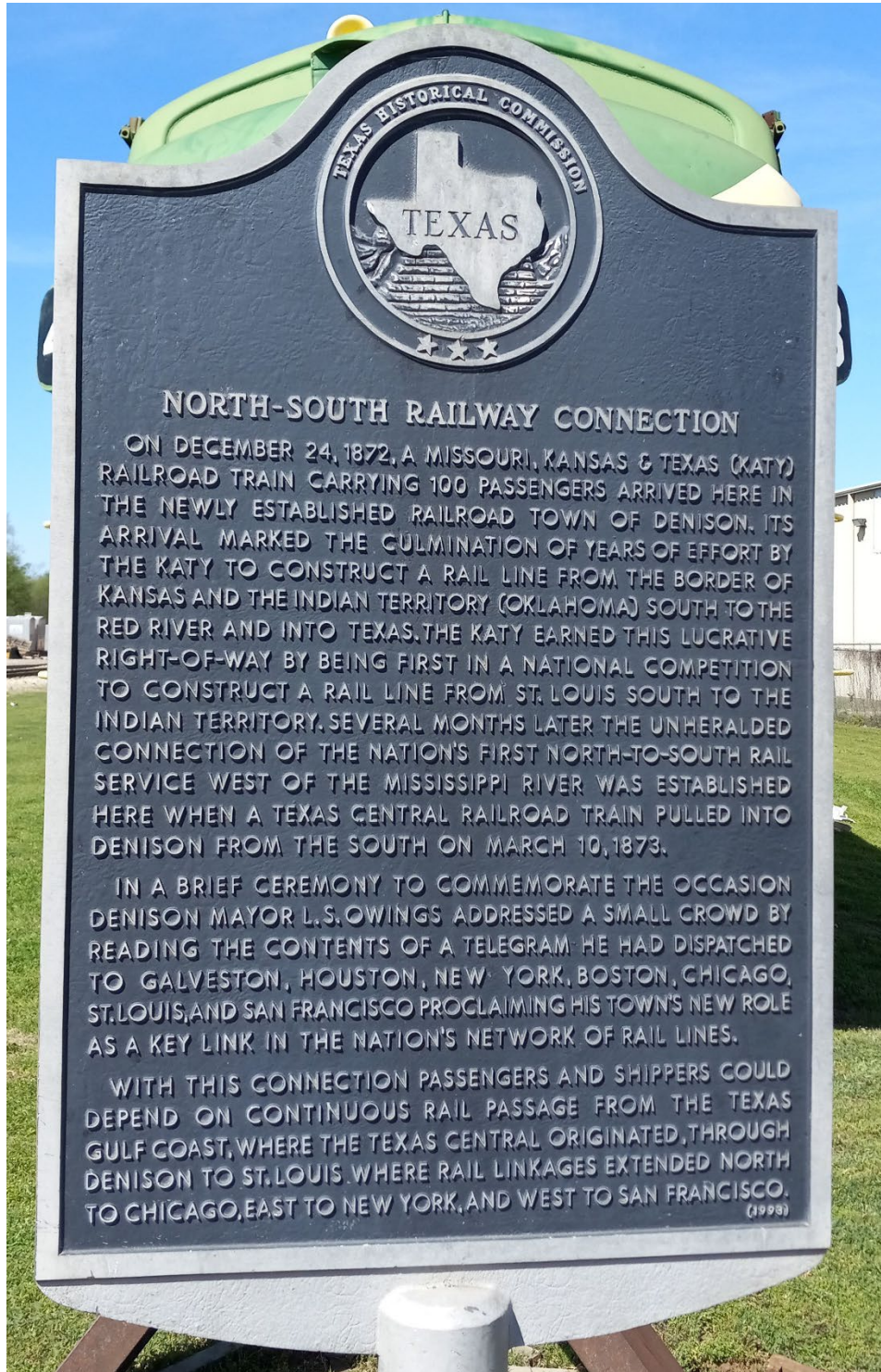
**April 24, June 28, September 11, and October 4**

- **Train 22**, which normally operates between San Antonio and Chicago, will originate at Fort Worth, with alternate transportation provided via **Bus 3022** between San Antonio and Fort Worth, making all intermediate stops.

PSN 0423-48

## A Visit to Denison, Texas

By James Dolande



A Historical Marker commemorating the arrival of the railroad in Denison, Texas



401-B: The only known MKT booster unit that was converted from a regular engine. The B Unit and rolling stock are located at the former MKT Depot and former home of the Red River Railroad Museum.



A Union Pacific freight train is seen passing the former MKT Depot in Denison, TX. The Depot is the former home of the Red River Railroad Museum and is currently used as an event venue.



Above: Another angle of the former Katy Depot in Denison, TX



Above: More UP motive power in Denison. This was a small switching train with 3 Union Pacific engines!



Above: The empty lot with the parking lot that connects to Main Street is where the Denison/Sherman Interurban car barn was located.

**Chapter Directory**

North Texas Chapter Officers, 2023

- \*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

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): [The Zephyr Newsletter - North Texas Chapter, NRHS \(ntxnrhs.org\)](http://TheZephyrNewsletter-NorthTexasChapter,NRHS(ntxnrhs.org))

Zephyr Archives: [Rail History Newsletters \(gogeocaching.com\)](http://RailHistoryNewsletters(gogeocaching.com))

**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

**Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup> Chapter Meeting - Sokol Hall, Dallas. Meeting begins @ 7:30. Video: "Pikes Peak by Rail".**

**Second Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> (Not July 4<sup>th</sup>) Chapter Meeting - Grapevine Founder's Building @ 7:30, Video: "Texas Transportation Company".**

**Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> Chapter Meeting - Grapevine Founder's Building @ 7:30, Video: "2008 NRHS National Convention" (15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary).**

**Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> (Not September 5<sup>th</sup>) Chapter Meeting - Spring Creek BBQ Irving, Program TBA.**

**Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter Meeting - Grapevine Founders Building, Program TBA.**

**Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> Chapter Meeting - Texas Western Model RR Club, Forest Hill; Annual Auction.**

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**Index:**

**June Program: Pike's Peak by Rail..... Page 1**  
**June Meeting at Sokol Hall in Dallas..... Page 2**  
**Table of Contents..... Page 2**  
**Saginaw Cancelled, Big Sandy A Go!..... Page 2**  
**Two Visit's to Waxahachie, TX..... Page 3**  
**NTC Visit to Burlison Interurban Museum..... Page 7**  
**Interurban Motor Car #25, Fort Worth..... Page 17**  
**Minutes of NTC Meeting in Burlison..... Page 18**  
**Amtrak Advisory Re: Texas Eagle Trains.....Page 19**  
**A Visit to Denison, TX..... Page 20**  
**Chapter Directory/History/News Briefs.....Page 23**

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