

# North Texas Chapter – National Railway Historical Society



## July Chapter Meeting:

When: Tuesday, July 2nd @ 7:30 p.m.  
(Meet “N” Greet at 7:00 p.m.)

Where: Cotton Belt Room of the Chill Bar & Grill at 814 S. Main St (NW corner of S. Main St. & Dallas Rd), Grapevine, TX.  
Food will be available for purchase.



Link to Website:

<https://www.chillbardfw.com/>

Guests are always welcome!  
We'll See You There!

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Hop back aboard Big Boy 4014 as it travels around the U.S. celebrating the 150th anniversary of the transcontinental railroad's completion. This DVD covers the July-November ramblings of the first operational Big Boy in 60 years as it travels to the Great Lakes region, returns to the Overland Route solo, tackles Cajon Pass, **rides the Sunset Route, doubleheads with the George Bush 4141 diesel in Texas**, and returns home in a snow storm.

Approximate running time: 1 hour 50 minutes.

Galveston Island, Spring 2024  
By Member Jon Shea



Galveston Island Trolley, Running "Out of Service". It is gasoline powered.



Galveston Island Trolley on 25<sup>th</sup> Street near The Strand. Santa Fe Building is in the background.



Galveston Island Trolley Car Barn. Tourists are not allowed past this point.



In a Galveston art gallery. Made from a 1919 Singer Sewing machine.

## 1904 GH&H DEPOT NAMED TO NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES (PHOTOS BY JON SHEA)

Galveston Historical Foundation's 1904 GH&H Depot has been named to The National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places, the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources.

"The national register listing is a significant step in recognizing an often-overlooked part of local history as well as that section of the city," says Dwayne Jones, Galveston Historical Foundation's Chief Executive Officer. "We are pleased to have it added to this important list of historic properties across the US."



Galveston, Houston & Henderson Railroad, International & Great Northern Railroad and Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad Freight Office and Station.

The GH&H Freight Depot was built in 1904. At the time, the railroad was jointly owned by the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad (commonly known as the "Katy") and the International & Great Northern Railroad. Both of these railroad systems relied on the GH&H line to deliver goods and people between Houston and Galveston. As the island city recovered from the 1900 Hurricane, the railroad companies sought to fortify Galveston's role in the cotton trade. Towards that end, the GH&H Depot billed at the time as one of the "handsomest and most substantial of its kind," was built with the capacity to handle the entire annual cotton crop of Texas. GHF purchased the property in July of 2017, future plans for the location include an interactive experience based on The 1900 Storm, green space, mixed-use commercial, and more.



Unfortunately, the more modern Katy and MOPAC metal signs have been removed.

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### Remember When? By Wayne Smith



Keller, TX - Static **Burlington E9 Unit** (Denver Zephyr and Chicago Commuter Service) in Keller's historic downtown. The locomotive sits alone now. At one time, there was also an ATSF boxcar, BN flatcar and caboose on display. The rolling stock was removed to make room for a parking lot. What's interesting is that the line running beside the locomotive beyond the trees is the former Katy line, now UP. It was BNSF that donated the former Burlington locomotive. The North Texas Chapter was given a tour of the unit several years ago when it still had the rolling stock. Local business owners had wanted the location to be another train watching location like Saginaw, TX, but there was too much political opposition.

Vintage BN Photos  
Sent by Member Sam Metzger



Burlington Northern Train at Irving, Texas, February 11, 1975. Photographer unknown.



Burlington Northern Locomotive # 6611 waits at Irving on January 21, 1976. Photographer unknown.

## SP/T&NO Mikado 771 Static Display in Grapevine, TX By Wayne Smith



For those of you that are not aware, the ex-Southern Pacific/Texas and New Orleans Mikado #771 locomotive on static display in Grapevine is getting a facelift. She is being painted to match the colors and scheme of the Grapevine Vintage Railroad. What do you think?



**NRHS Spring Conference in Cedar Rapids, IA – Including Pictures  
in and around the Iowa Interstate Railroad  
Photos by Skip Waters**



Iowa Interstate private NRHS excursion train is seen above. The location at this point was somewhere between Cedar Rapids and Silvis, Illinois.



Iowa Interstate Dispatching Center





Skip Waters is pictured with the National Director for Operation Lifesaver.



NRHS National officers are seen presenting a \$10,000.00 check to Operation Lifesaver.

## Canadian Pacific #2816 Comes to Louisiana and Texas Photos By Skip Waters



Canadian Pacific #2816 arrives in Shreveport, LA on part of its three nation tour including Canada, the United States and Mexico. The tour is in celebration of the merger between Canadian Pacific and Kansas City Southern. Canadian Pacific 2816, also known as the "*Empress*", is a preserved class "H1b" 4-6-4 Hudson-type steam locomotive built by the Montreal Locomotive Works in December 1930 for the Canadian Pacific Railway. It is the only non-streamlined H1 Hudson to have survived into preservation.





Member Skip Waters is seen posing with Nan Arthur, the Louisiana Director for Operation Lifesaver. Skip just happened to have gone to college with her.



Additional power behind the 2816.



Some vintage EMD F Units were part of the power, but not as vintage as the 2816.



A trackless train at the Shreveport Exhibit Day.



What a classic beauty!

The Chase of 2816 between Shreveport, LA and Houston, TX



2816 leaving Shreveport>



<2816 in Many, Louisiana



2816 arrived in Texas>

## Dennis Hogan’s Appalachia and Beyond Rail Tour

Chapter member Dennis Hogan and his wife, Meg, took an extensive trip through Appalachia to ride a few tourist railroads and visit as many rail sites as possible. Their travels also included visits to several points in Ohio and the Deep South. All aboard! He was happy to buy three railroad T-shirts to remember all his travels.



Great Smoky Mountains Railroad “Nantahala Gorge” train awaits departure in Bryson City, North Carolina. The steam locomotive #1702 is not in service until July 3<sup>rd</sup>.



This was pulled off the turntable when our GSMR train arrived back at Bryson City. The GSMR shops were just a half mile from our motel in Dillsboro.



There was also a model train museum located in Bryson City, NC.

\*\*\*\*\*



The Roanoke, VA N&W depot is now home to museums for industrial design engineer Raymond Loewy and railroad photographer O. Winston Link (see below left).





Roanoke, VA N&W depot also has a model of Norfolk and Western locomotive 611.  
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This shot is from the C&O Museum at Clifton Forge, VA.  
\*\*\*\*\*





We rode the Cass Scenic Railroad along a scenic river to Durbin, WV.



Shay #6 (the largest one made) was built for Western Maryland RR and is seen on a switchback on its way to Whittaker Station. The complete route to Bald Knob (altitude +4800 ft.) includes grades up to 13% and two switchbacks.



Another Shay on the Cass Scenic Railroad.



Cass depot with company store in the background.



Sawmill town company housing restored by WV State Parks at Cass. We stayed in this one for 3 nights.



This recently restored lumber camp car will be used along with two Wabash cabooses as overnight accommodations parked along the scenic Greenbrier River.



We paused by chance at the Dennison, OH Depot Museum. This was on the ex-PRR line between St. Louis and Pittsburgh. During WW2, local civic groups provided military personnel with much welcomed sandwiches, coffee, donuts, and treats during troop train station stops (much like what occurred at North Platte, NE along the Union Pacific). No PRR steam locomotives were available when the museum formed so they somehow got a C&O one to complete their train. All the heavyweight cars behind the locomotive have displays inside. One is refurbished as a Pullman B&B or Airbnb you can overnight in!



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Inside the roundhouse at the Age of Steam Museum near Sugarcreek, Ohio.



Looking the opposite way in the massive roundhouse at the Age of Steam Museum in Ohio.



The roundhouse at the Age of Steam Museum near Sugarcreek, OH has 18 stalls with more than 20 steam locomotives and some diesels too.



A roundhouse has to have a turntable. Several diesel locomotives can be seen on the other side of the turntable. The Age of Steam Roundhouse Museum was built in 2010 by the former owner of the Ohio Central RR. This was a dream project of his.

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Cincinnati Union Terminal is impressive inside (see next page) and out.



Some of the murals inside Cincinnati Union Terminal.



Incoming Taxis & Motor Coaches, Cincinnati Union Terminal.



Above left: Outside feature of Union Station. Above right: Ticket Windows without ticket agents.

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Former L&N depot in Collinwood, TN along the scenic Natchez Trace was repurposed as a library and museum.





We followed the entire Natchez Trace from Nashville, TN to Natchez, MS. We visited Elvis' birthplace in Tupelo, MS. It was kind of a pilgrimage for us!

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Recently restored T&P depot in Natchitoches is nearly empty except for a few National Park Service offices of the Cane River Creole National Historical Park. !

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Above and below: Two Yazoo & Mississippi Valley depots in Natchez, MS



## Minutes of a Brief Board Meeting of the North Texas Chapter NRHS

The Board Meeting took place at the Chill Bar in Grapevine, TX on June 4, 2024. Six were in attendance.

Bill, Bob Kennedy, and Skip Waters had prepared a summary of the costs and logistics of the proposed trip to the Texas State Railroad on Saturday, October 5, 2024. The board meeting was to discuss the document and get board approval to present the plan for discussion at the upcoming Chapter meeting to be conducted afterward.

A motion was made by Bill Long that the board approve the plan and submit it to the chapter for discussion. Bob Kennedy seconded the motion. The board approved the motion 6-0 without discussion.

Jerry Nunn  
Secretary, North Texas Chapter, NRHS



## Minutes of the June 2024 Meeting of the North Texas Chapter of the NRHS

The June 2024 meeting of the North Texas Chapter of the NRHS meeting was held on Tuesday, June 4 in the Cotton Belt Room of the Chill Bar and Grill in Grapevine, TX. There were 13 attendees.

### Wayne Smith

President Wayne Smith called the meeting to order at 7:43 PM. He asked the attendees if anyone had gone to the CPKC 2816 display. Only Skip went.

There was a fatality in Mexico when someone got too close to the tracks while taking photographs. It was similar to another incident when someone was injured when the UP 844 was on tour.

The newsletter can always use new material. Anyone can submit photos and articles for publication. Wayne can help with photo captions if anyone needs help.

### Jon Shea

Next month's meeting will take place at the Chill Bar. The program will be "Big Boy on Tour". (NOTE: I will not be at the July meeting).

The August meeting will be at the Chill Bar. The Program will be provided by Wayne. Nothing mentioned about the programs for the September and October meetings. Jon will not be at the September meeting.

The November meeting is typically an auction at the Texas Western Model Railroad Club. Jon will contact them regarding the November meeting.

The December meeting is the Christmas dinner. It has been at the Babe’s in North Richland Hills. Suggestions are welcome if anyone has any ideas for another location.

Jon passed around a copy of Wall Street Journal book reviews on the NE Corridor and WWII US military railroad operations in Europe.

A brochure from the Galveston RR Museum noting the 40 years of locomotive history was passed around for review.

Jon also had for review brochures and magazine articles on the 1947 Freedom Train. This train carried the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

Bill Long

Bill presented to the chapter a proposal for a chapter trip to the TSRR on Saturday, October 5. It includes a motorcoach trip to Rusk, a first class ticket, and a box lunch (9 choices available). The motorcoach will depart the Grapevine Convention Center at 7:45 PM, and return about 6:15 PM.

The price is \$95.00 per person, and we need 20 persons. Let others know so we can meet the 20 ticket group rate.

Sam Metzgar

Sam passed around two documents for review: a book on the history of the SSW railroad, and the first mortgage for the Dallas and Waco Railway, dated November 1, 1880 and due in full by November 1, 1940.

Evening Program

Video: “Mojave Rails”

The meeting adjourned around 9:40 PM.

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

**NRHS National Convention**

The 2024 Convention dates are Monday, August 26st through Saturday, August 31th in Harrisburg, PA.

The host hotel will be the **Hilton Harrisburg Hotel** in downtown Harrisburg, PA. The Special NRHS member rate per night will be \$134.00 plus 11% state tax. To make a reservation with a hotel Agent is 1-800-Hilton, or 1-717-233-6000. The reference **Group Code is 900**.

To make an online reservation: [National Railway Historical Society Reservation Link](#) Type “900” in the Group Code field to receive the special rate.

Rooms must be booked by August 6th, 2024 to receive the discounted rate. Rooms booked after that date may be at a higher rate and subject to availability.



**Chapter Directory**

**North Texas Chapter Officers, 2024**

- \*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 p.m., 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, July 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter Meeting @ 7:30 p.m. (Meet "N" Greet at 7:00 p.m.) – Program Presentation: Video, *Big Boy on Tour 2019, Part II*, at the Chill Bar and Grill, Grapevine.**

**Tuesday, August 6 Chapter Meeting @ 7:30 p.m. (Meet "N" Greet at 7:00 p.m.) – Program Presentation: Video, *Memories of the FW&D*, at the Chill Grill, Grapevine.**

**\*\*\*\* August 26 through August 31, 2024, in Harrisburg, PA - NRHS Annual Convention (See bottom of page 28) \*\*\*\***



Please Note – The Cotton Belt Room of the Chill Bar and Grill in Grapevine is the Chapter's new semi-permanent meeting location due to its central location, cost (free), private room and food service.

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*Wayne Smith, North Texas News Editor.*

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