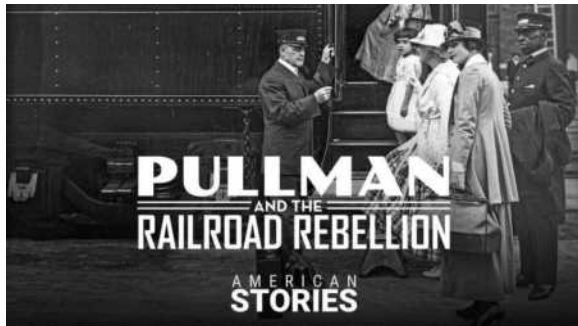


North Texas Chapter – National Railway Historical Society



October Chapter Meeting:

When: Tuesday, October 1st @ 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.



Pullman: a man, a company, a town, a movement. The story of Pullman represents a nexus of race, class, and politics that defined the labor movement, laid the foundation for a Black middle class, and gave rise to the modern Civil Rights Movement.

In 1864, the powerful industrialist and engineer George Pullman brought luxury to overnight train travel with his revolutionary sleeping cars. Passengers aboard these rail cars were served by former slaves who became known as Pullman Porters and Maids. Pullman soon established a company town for employees on Chicago's South Side, giving him complete autonomy over every aspect of their lives. PULLMAN AND THE RAILROAD REBELLION: AMERICAN STORIES recounts the bloody rebellion that followed as Pullman's workers fought for their independence.

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Don't' Forget Our Schedule: The Texas State Railroad Piney Woods Express

The North Texas Chapter, NRHS has scheduled an all-day event at the Texas State Railroad (TSRR) on Saturday, October 5, 2024. We will leave by Chartered Motor Coach from Grapevine, TX for the drive to the TSRR Palestine Depot in Palestine, Texas. We have reserved First Class seats on the Piney Woods Express for a 4 hour round trip to the TSRR Rusk Depot in Rusk Texas and return to Palestine. A box lunch will be provided at the Rusk Depot as part of your ticket price.

Here are the details of our event for those of you that purchased tickets:

- 1) Date: October 5, 2024
- 2) Time: Motor Coach leaves Grapevine Convention Center parking lot **PROMPTLY at 7:30 am. Please be prompt!** Returns to Grapevine around 6:15 pm.
- 3) Departure Location: Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 South Main St, Grapevine, TX 76051, **EAST PARKING LOT.**
- 4) Venue: Texas State Railroad, Palestine to Rusk and return to Palestine on the Diesel-powered Piney Woods Express in a First-Class, Air Conditioned Coach.

SCHEDULE:

Leave Grapevine (Convention Center) - Motor Coach	7:30 am	Arrive Palestine	10:20 am
Leave Palestine	- TSRR 11:00 am	Arrive Rusk	12:20 pm
Leave Rusk	- TSRR 1:40 pm	Arrive Palestine	3:00 pm
Leave Palestine	- Motor Coach 3:30 pm	Arrive Grapevine	6:15 pm



September 11, 2024: Skip Waters, vice president of trips and events for the National Railway Historical Society's North Texas chapter; Wayne Smith, chapter president; Big Sandy Mayor Linda Baggett; and Big Sandy City Administrator Laura Rex talk in Baggett's office Tuesday about the upcoming arrival of the Union Pacific No. 4014 "Big Boy" steam locomotive. (Jordan Green/Longview News-Journal Photo)

Big Boy Comes to Big Sandy in a Big Way!
September 17, 2024 – A Day that will live in Infamy!



Photos taken from the speaker/dignitaries' stage watching the arrival of Big Boy at ground level. Even though Big Boy was 4.5 hours late, the crowd was still thousands strong and the arrival of Big Boy was met with great cheer and grandeur. Photos by Wayne Smith





Views of the train behind Big Boy and the crowd. Photos by Wayne Smith





Board member Bob Kennedy was able to take photos from the Big Sandy Virtual Railcam showing Big Boy's arrival from more of a bird's eye view.





Above: Big Boy Engineer Ed Dickens spoke to the cheering crowd amongst great fanfare.



Big Sandy Mayor Linda Baggett then speaks to the crowd with Big Boy Engineer Ed Dickens standing beyond her and Chapter VP Skip Waters standing beside Ed. Mayor Baggett read a proclamation and declared it to be Big Boy Day in Big Sandy. Ed Dickens was preparing to declare the City of Big Sandy a *Train Town USA* by the Union Pacific Railroad. Big Sandy was only the 131st town in the United States to be declared Train Town USA and Mayor Baggett was presented a large sign/placard (See below). The gentleman in red is Richard Zientek, Sr. Director Public Affairs – Corporate Relations. He worked with Mayor Baggett and City Administrator Laura Rex to prepare the City of Big Sandy on the arrival of the UP Big Boy #4014! Photographs by Wayne Smith



Union Pacific Big Boy #4014 was blowing dark smoke as it was preparing to leave Big Sandy after an amazing visit to the City of Big Sandy in beautiful East Texas. Photograph by Jon Shea



Board Members of the North Texas Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society (Left to Right: Jon Shea, VP Programs; Bill Long, National Representative; Skip Waters, VP Special Events; Wayne Smith, President; and Jerry Nunn, Secretary) proudly pose with the Commemorative Sign presented to the City of Big Sandy by Union Pacific Railroad after being declared Train Town USA. What a proud moment for all of those involved! Photo by Laura Rex



Left: A representative from United States Senator John Cornyn's office poses with City of Big Sandy Mayor Linda Baggett. *See the letter on Page 9 below.



Above: Chapter board members Skip Waters and Wayne Smith pose with Mayor Baggett.



Above Left: UP Officials with Mayor Baggett and Skip Waters. Above Right: Mayor Baggett reads and presents a proclamation to Big Boy engineer Ed Dickens. *See the Proclamation on Page 10 below.

JOHN CORNYN
TEXAS



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 17, 2024

Mayor Linda Baggett
City of Big Sandy
119 East Gilmer Street
Big Sandy, Texas 75755

Dear Friends:

Congratulations to Big Sandy, Texas on your selection as a stop on the 2024 Heartland of America Tour featuring Union Pacific's "Big Boy No. 4014" steam engine.

Big Sandy's legacy as a vital railway junction is to be commemorated, and I applaud your designation as a "Train Town USA" which honors the rich history and culture of the community. I am proud to join you and the local residents in Big Sandy and around East Texas in celebrating this memorable milestone.

Keep up the good work, and I look forward to seeing your continued successes in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Cornyn".

JOHN CORNYN
United States Senator

Letter to Mayor Baggett and the City of Big Sandy from United States Senator John Cornyn.



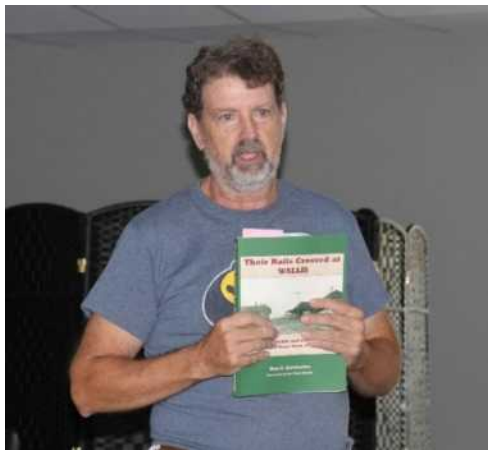
Linda Baggett, Mayor of the City of Big Sandy, proclaims that September 17th, 2024, as “**BIG BOY NO. 4014 DAY**” in the City of Big Sandy, Texas.

24 Hours @ Big Sandy Was a Huge Success!

The 2nd Annual 24 Hours @ Big Sandy, held Monday, September 16th @ 3:00 PM through Tuesday, September 17th @ 3:00 PM was a huge success. Of course, the event was held in conjunction with the arrival of Big Boy in Big Sandy. The chapter made 200 souvenir buttons like we always do for our special events. The buttons were Extra Big for Big Boy at Big Sandy. When the public found out about these special buttons, they sold like hotcakes. The buttons were the only souvenir available. We raised \$2,000.00 just through the sale of the commemorative buttons. We also raised nearly an additional \$600.00 dollars through sales of Steve Goen's Big Boy DVD's and Big Boy 4018 prints, as well as railroad memorabilia that we had for sale. Of course, all proceeds go toward our Chapter Heritage Grant fund. We also had a final count of 31 trains that passed during the 24 hour period. Preliminary artwork for the Commemorative button is seen below.



Scenes from “24 Hours @ Big Sandy”
Photographs by Jerry Nunn



Ken Stavinoha, guest speaker



The Texas Eagle moving through Big Sandy





Shortly before “24 Hours @ Big Sandy” began on Monday, Union Pacific decided to repair the crossing at Big Sandy with concern that Big Boy may not negotiate the crossing. This process shut down some of the trains (there’s more than one track) for a few hours. However, most of the backlogged trains came through during the night when most attendees were sleeping. The back hoe and other large equipment were not captured in this photograph. Photo by Wayne Smith



Above Left: Skip Waters is setting up for the “Great Big Boy Locomotive Race” Trivia Game. Above Right: Dennis Hogan was one of our guest speakers and presented a slide show on a *Potpourri of Trains from the 80’s and 90’s*.



“24 Hours @ Big Sandy” attendee’s gather to hear guest speaker Ken Stavinoha discuss his new book, *Their Rails Crossed at Wallis*.



Board members Bill Long and Wayne Smith had just set up the sign-in table and were chilling before the “mad rush” that they would soon encounter when the event was fully underway.



President Wayne Smith of the North Texas Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society was interviewed by two local TV stations and by 3 local newspapers for the big event in Big Sandy, TX.

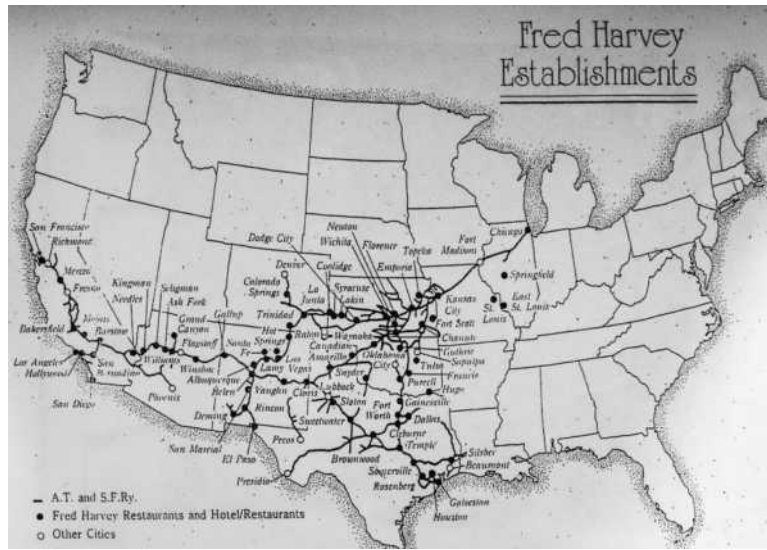


Mayor Linda Baggett of Big Sandy visits with gathering spectators while waiting for the arrival of UP Big Boy #4014.

The Slaton Harvey House

Photography by Wayne Smith

The Slaton, Texas Harvey House is a 1912 eating house that served Santa Fe Railroad passengers traveling through Slaton from 1912 – 1942. It is the last remaining structure in Slaton from the Atchison, Topeka, & Santa Fe Slaton Division Point, and was saved from the wrecking ball at the last minute by quick action from Slaton residents and officials when a demolition crew sent by the railway company showed up in late 1989. Slaton is located approximately 17 miles Southeast of Lubbock.



The Harvey House was a national chain of restaurants along the Santa Fe Railway route that began in 1876. It was the brainchild of English immigrant Fred Harvey, a restaurateur who observed the deplorable dining opportunities while traveling on American railroads.

The Santa Fe partnered with Mr. Harvey, building his restaurants and allowing him space on their trains to bring fresh food to his kitchens. Mr. Harvey operated the restaurants and developed a national supply line of food for his chain of 80 restaurants, newsstands, and hotels that dotted the railroad's routes from Chicago to San Francisco, and Galveston to Los Angeles.



The Slaton location is a grand, two-story Mission Revival structure, designed by Santa Fe architect Louis Curtiss. It served diners for 30 years, closing in 1942 as larger and faster steam engines made it possible for fewer refueling stops.

After the Fred Harvey Operation ceased in Slaton, the Santa Fe turned the building into a passenger and freight Depot, along with business offices. It was boarded up in the 1980's and was fortunately saved by quick-acting local citizens in 1989.

More than two million dollars were raised to restore the iconic building, owned and operated by the Slaton Railroad Heritage Association, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation.



Slaton's Harvey House is one of only six remaining buildings of the eighteen Texas Harvey Houses, and the only one where visitors can stay overnight. It serves the community as a living Fred Harvey & Santa Fe Railroad Museum, Bed & Breakfast Inn, and Events Center.

The museum tells the story of its uses, and how it has come full circle to once again serve travelers with a hot made-to-order breakfast. The facility also serves as a popular events center, available for groups to celebrate, family & school reunions, weddings, and every type of event imaginable.



Slaton is still a crew change point for the BNSF and the Harvey House is an ideal location to view yard activity.



The wood sheathed “Santa Fe” caboose is actually a former Fort Worth and Denver caboose restored to fit the “Santa Fe” history in Slaton.



Above: The wood sheathed caboose is nicely restored inside and out.



Historical Marker located outside of the Slaton Harvey House. The Santa Fe Cross can be seen in the upper left hand corner of the picture.



Above: In its heyday, the Slaton Harvey House saw four Santa Fe passenger trains per day.



Former Roundhouse and turntable found in Slaton Santa Fe yards. After the 1969 United States tour, the famous **Flying Scotsman** sheltered in the Slaton Roundhouse during the winter and spring months before the 1970 United States tour.



One source states that the above photo was the original depot and the depot below was built after this one burned down. Another source states the opposite, that the depot below was the original and the depot above was built after the below was burned down. Confused? Me too!



Slaton combination freight and passenger depot with additional office space in Slaton.



Early Photo of the Slaton Harvey House. The out building in the left of the picture with the chimney was the bakery where fresh pastries, etc., were made daily.



Above and below: Even though the famous “horseshoe-shaped” lunch counter no longer exists, the newsstand in the background has been replicated with vintage magazines from the era as seen in the photograph below. The newsstand now serves as a gift shop at the Slaton Harvey House. All of the vintage photographs above are all displayed in various locations around the Slaton Harvey House.





Left above: A variety of china used by the Slaton Harvey House is on display. Right above: Uniforms from the day are on display in the lobby of the Slaton Harvey House. Multiple historical railroad artifacts are on display in the lobby and upstairs in the common area of the Slaton Harvey House.



A brief history of one of the Slaton Harvey Girls is on display. All of the vintage photographs above are all displayed in various locations around the Slaton Harvey House.



Today, the 1912 Slaton Harvey House is an historic one-of-a-kind bed and breakfast, event center, and railroad museum. The structure, one of only six Fred Harvey Eating House locations remaining in Texas, has been lovingly restored as a living history museum, with five beautifully appointed rooms for travelers and a spacious Events Center for special occasions. The rooms were originally used by the Harvey Girls themselves while employed at the Slaton Harvey house. All rooms are handicap accessible by elevator, but there are no wheelchair accessible showers. Guests have access to the living area with a table for games, reading about railroad history, and a seating area with north views for train watching on an active Burlington Northern Santa Fe railyard. As seen above, The Zuni Room is the largest of the rooms, it has a queen bed, with wet bar. An adjoining bedroom has a twin bed with dressing area and an in-suite bathroom. This room is accessible by an elevator.

Plan your own trip to the Slaton Harvey House in Slaton Texas: <https://www.slatonharveyhouse.com/>

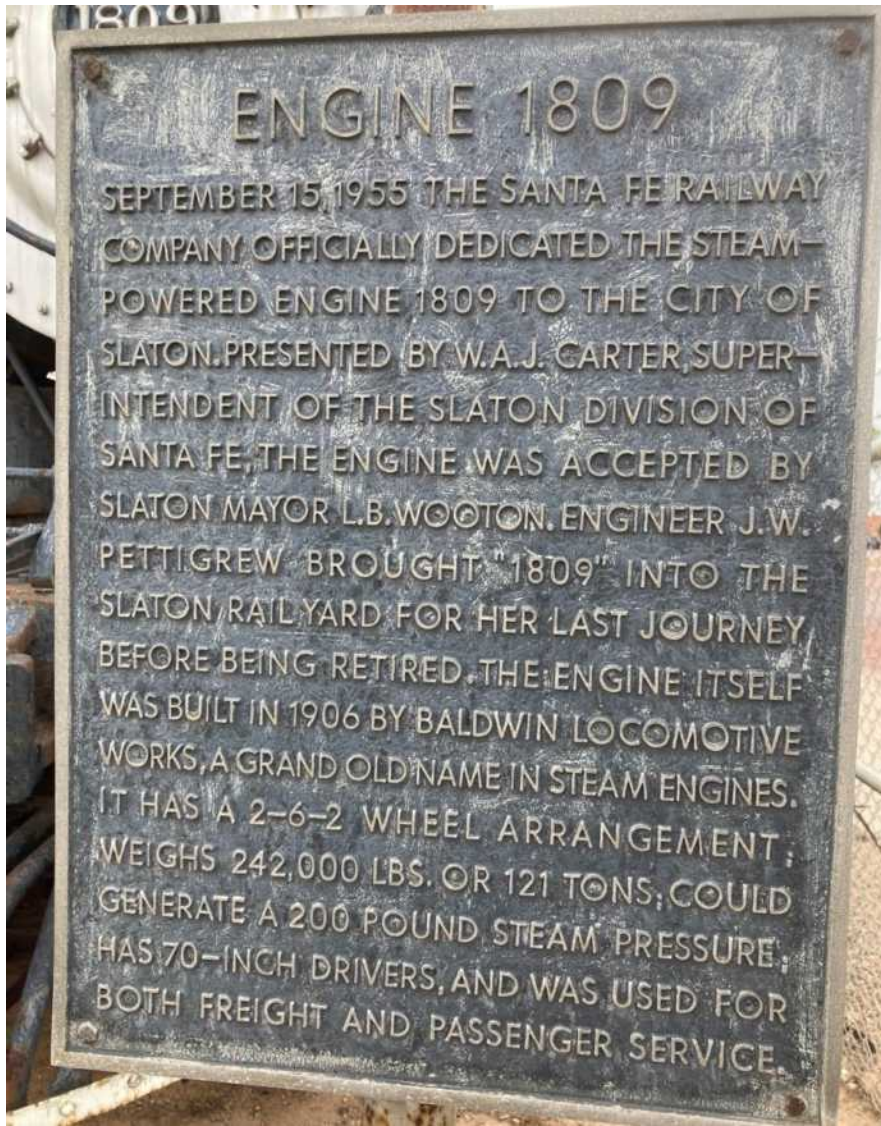
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Santa Fe #1809 Baldwin 2-6-2 on Display in Downtown Slaton, TX





Santa Fe #1809 Baldwin 2-6-2 can be found on the Slaton Town Square.



Photographs by Wayne Smith

Highlights of the National Railway Historical Society Convention in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania



Selfies are seen with North Texas Chapter members Skip Waters and Bill Long above left and members Skip Waters and David Minnerly above right at the Harris Tower in Harrisburg, PA during the NRHS Convention.

Photo Essay on the NRHS convention – All photos from Bill Long, Chapter Representative to National



This is my favorite photo of the convention. I am partial to E units. This is an E9 in classic Pennsylvania RR Tuscan red with pin stripes. Photo taken inside the Pennsylvania RR Museum.



Pennsylvania RR Museum, a photo of a GG1 in Brunswick green paint scheme with pin stripes.



This is a unique photo of the underside of a steam locomotive. At the Pennsylvania RR Museum they had one exhibit, where you could walk down steps underneath a steam locomotive and view the underside.



This is at East Broad Top RR. We were unable to ride behind any steam. However, number 16 was being worked on and was steamed up and running. Here number 16 is running over the turntable going into the roundhouse to end its day.



Left: This is at East Broad Top RR. My wife likes cabooses so I took this photo of a caboose. We rode on this train with the caboose at the end. We were not able to ride in the caboose.

Right: This is the Reading and Northern RDC (Rail Diesel Car) excursion. I was able to ride in the front seat and was able to take this photo out the front window of the train, with view of the tracks and engineer.





This is from the Reading and Northern excursion. It is a photo of their steam locomotive. It was able to run, but not for us. We were able to get a steam locomotive shops tour.



This is me in the cab of the locomotive of the previous photo.



This is at the Pennsylvania State RR Museum. It is a replica of an 1839 locomotive, i.e. the John Stevens.



This photo has an interesting story. It is a photo from the 2022 convention at Knott's Berry farm. A woman took this photo two years ago, and I happened to be in the picture. She recognized me at the 2024 convention when we were riding the Reading and Northern and took a photo using my cell phone of her picture while we were riding the train.

Minutes of the September 2024 Meeting of the North Texas Chapter of the NRHS

The September 2024 meeting of the North Texas Chapter of the NRHS meeting was held on Tuesday, September 3 in the Cotton Belt Room of the Chill Bar and Grill in Grapevine, TX. There were 16 attendees.

President Wayne Smith called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM.

PLANO TRAIN SHOW

The show will take place September 28-29. We need volunteers to man the various tasks for which the Chapter was assigned. Wayne passed around a sign-up sheet. There will be a slide show at the Taco Joint Saturday evening, September 28. We need presenters. If interested, contact Skip Waters or any other Chapter officer.

TEXAS STATE RAILROAD EXCURSION

The excursion is a “go” for Saturday, October 5. The charter motorcoach will depart the Grapevine Convention Center parking lot at 7:30 AM, go to Palestine, where we will board the train to Rusk and return. A box lunch will be served at Rusk. The train will return to Palestine, where we will board the motorcoach for the return trip, which will arrive back in Grapevine. No shop tours will be available at the railroad.

24 HOURS AT BIG SANDY

The event is scheduled for 3 PM Monday, September 16 until 3 PM Tuesday, September 17. The UP 4014 4-8-8-4 Big Boy will make a short stop and participate in a short ceremony.

The Chapter will be in the Heritage Center, where we will show Big Boy videos and host presentations by Dennis Hogan and Ken Stavinoha. We will charge a \$10 dollar admission to the Heritage Center. A paid admission gets one a commemorative button, and access to the air-conditioned Heritage Center.

Streets will be closed off to all but participants in the event, including the NRHS Chapter members. Shuttle buses will be available for other attendees from nearby parking areas. Food trucks will also be there.

HARRISBURG NATIONAL CONVENTION

Chapter members Bill Long, Skip Waters, and David Minnerly attended the convention.

Major announcements: The National Chapter has a film library that includes film from previous conventions. Last year the National Chapter made \$125K in Heritage Grants of \$5K each. Current membership is 3,997. The president was unable to attend due to medical issues; the treasurer has not yet been replaced. Next year’s National Convention will take place in Toledo, OH.

RECOGNITION OF KIM, OUR WEBMASTER

The Chapter took time to recognize the outstanding work our webmaster Kim has done for the Chapter. We greatly appreciate her hard work. Thank you so much Kim!

PROGRAM.

The evening program was a video of the history and current operation of the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic RR.

The meeting adjourned at the conclusion of the video.

Jerry Nunn - Secretary, North Texas Chapter, NRHS

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
- *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 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

Doodlebug News Briefs



MKT doodlebug M10

Tuesday, October 1st, Chapter Meeting @ 7:30 p.m. (Meet "N" Greet at 7:00 p.m.) – Program: DVD, Pullman and the Railroad Rebellion, at the Chill Grill, Grapevine.

Saturday, October 5th, The Texas State Railroad Piney Woods Express – See details on Page 2.

Tuesday, November 12th, Chapter Meeting @ 7:30 p.m. (Meet "N" Greet at 7:00 p.m.) – Program: Annual Auction at Texas Western Model Railroad Club. *Please note that it is the second Tuesday of November instead of the first Tuesday due to the national elections.

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Wayne Smith, North Texas News Editor.
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