



The Whistle



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION



COWCATCHER DIVISION LONE STAR REGION NMRA

VOL 9 NO 10 OCTOBER 2025

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OCTOBER'S MEETING WILL BE AT 10am ON SATURDAY THE 11th AT THE TEXAS WESTERN MODEL RR CLUB AND VIA ZOOM. SEE EMAIL FOR ZOOM LINK

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Well, we are now in October, and we have Halloween coming up at the end of the month so you don't want to forget about the "trick or treaters". Speaking of treats we have a great clinic coming up at our next meeting –Russ Gifford is putting a clinic on how he weathers buildings and achieves that deep rust look on metal. His models have won numerous awards, and I am sure everyone attending the meeting will walk away with several great techniques.

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LEADERSHIP TEAM

DIRECTOR

DICK BRANNAN

SECRETARY

JOHN "TRAPPER" KIRKPATRICK

TREASURER

DAVID GREIN

PROGRAM MANAGER

HAROLD BERENZWEIG

ASST PROGRAM MANAGER &

TRAIN SHOW COORDINATOR

RUSSELL GIFFORD

OPERATIONS MANAGER

JIM DAVIS

ASST OPERATIONS MANAGER

DAVID RANNEY

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM ADVISOR

MIKE MACKEY MMR

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

ROBERT "BOB" MANGRUM MMR

CONTEST ADVISOR

CASEY AKIN

CONTEST ADVISOR

CODY AKIN

**NORTH TEXAS COUNCIL OF TRAIN
CLUBS REPRESENTATIVE**

DICK BRANNAN

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

MIKE ROSS MMR

ASST MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

DAVID CRUMPTON MMR

SERGEANT AT ARMS

DON ROWE

VIDEOGRAPHER

DAVID KRANDA

COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR

ERIC SMITH

WEB MASTER

STEVE GRATKE

FOR CONTACT INFO SEE
COWCATCHER DIVISION WEB SITE

<https://cowcatcherdivision.org/>



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DIRECTOR'S REPORT CONT.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank Steve Crise for the great clinic on the model railroads of all scales that he photographed around the country. Wonderful photos and spectacular model railroads.

Also, after the October meeting we will be doing a practice "Contest Room", so you can learn how a model is judged in the contest room. It is a great way to see your models from a different perspective. So, bring your freight shed or another model you want to be evaluated.

The division just finished a very successful Plano Train Show. Although official numbers are not available, traffic was high on Saturday and Sunday. I want to thank Jim Archer and Tom Peppers for getting the "Pay It Forward" module ready for the show and setting it up. The winner of the module was a family that lives in Euless, (picture is below) The dad and son will be attending our October Meeting. I also want to give a "shout out" to

David Kranda took the disassembled layout to the winner's home Sunday afternoon.



The Junior Engineer Academy was also a smashing success. There were over 200 kids that participated in the Academy and it created a lot of interest by the parents on how they could promote their kids interest in trains.

I want to thank Deb and Russ Gifford for building the layout and Mike Walters for teaching all the kids how to operate the trains. He had a "ton of patience"

October's meeting is October 11th, please bring a friend.



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DATES TO REMEMBER & REGIONAL TRAIN SHOWS

THURSDAY TEXAS WESTERN RR
CLUB BUSINESS MEETING FOR
MEMBERS AND PROSPECTIVE
MEMBERS ONLY

7 pm -9 pm 6808 FOREST HILL DR.
FOREST HILL, TX 76140

OCTOBER 2025

4TH GAVLEVSTON ANNUAL TRAIN
SHOW

NOVEMBER 2025

15TH-16TH HOUSTON AREA MODEL
TRAIN SHOW

JANUARY 2026

27TH-28TH PLANO TRAIN SHOW

MARCH 2026

28-29 WORLD'S GREATEST HOBBY
DALLAS MARKET HALL

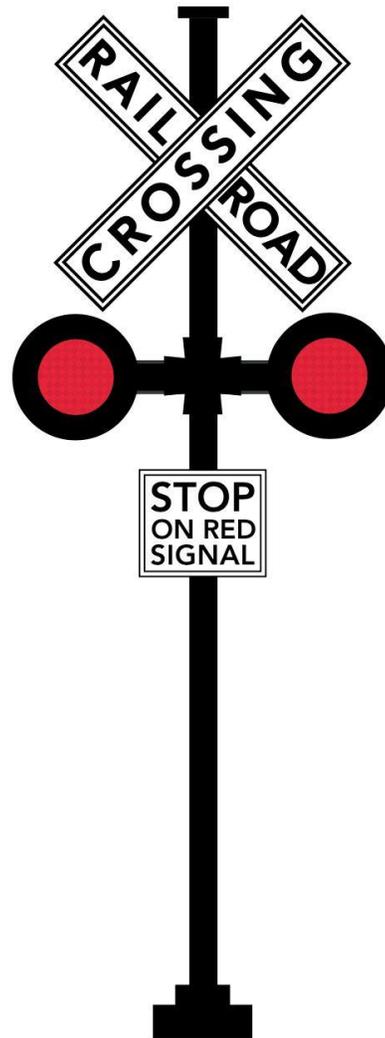
JUNE 2026

18TH-20TH LSR CONVENTION AUSTIN
TX

JULY-AUGUST 2026

27 JULY-2 AUGUST

NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHATTANOOGA



TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE MONTH

WHAT IS lcl?

LOOK FOR ANSWER IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

TREASURER'S REPORT

1 SEPT BALANCE	\$6055.28
RECEIPTS	\$527.50
EXPENDITURES	\$1506.205
30 SEPT BALANCE	\$5076.73
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT	\$23173.94



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AREA MODEL RAILROAD CLUBS

COWTOWN MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

MEETS AT THE HANDLEY
COMMUNITY CENTER, UPSTAIRS 3024
FOREST AVE, FT WORTH,

WEBSITE <https://www.cmrrc.net>

CLMRR

MEETS TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS &
SATURDAYS

THE LAYOUT IS LOCATED AT 3904
VISTA RIDGE LN

ALVARADO, TX 76009

FOR INFO CONTACT LEE MARTIN AT
817-666-5367

DALLAS/FT WORTH O SCALE CLUB

NORMALLY MEETS TWO SATURDAYS
PER MONTH IN RICHARDSON

CONTACT TO BE IDENTIFIED

bradyprmla@cableone.net

STAN SCHWARTZ ss124@sbcglobal.net

DENTON AREA MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

MEETS 2ND TUESDAY OF EVERY
MONTH AT 7PM IN THE DENTON
SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER
DOWNTOWN

HO & N SCALE MODULAR LAYOUTS

<https://www.facebook.com/damrrc/>

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER OF NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Chill Bar & Grill (Cotton Belt Room)

814 South Main Street

Grapevine, Texas 76051

(NW Corner of S. Main St. & Dallas Rd.)

Our new meeting hours are 7:30 pm - 9:30
pm. We still meet every first Tuesday of the
month.

<https://ntxnrhs.org>

TEXAS WESTERN MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

LOCATED AT 6808 FOREST HILL, 76140

VISITOR HOURS: SEE CLUB WEBSITE

[https://www.facebook.com/texaswesternmod
elrailroad club](https://www.facebook.com/texaswesternmodelrailroadclub)

<https://www.twmrrc.org>

TRINITY N-TRK

MEETS AT HOBBY WORLD, FT WORTH
AT 6:30PM

CHECK WEBSITE FOR TIME

<https://www.trinityntrak.com>

TNMRC

MEETS AT 11999 PLANO RD, SUITE 154,
DALLAS 75243

<https://www.texasnorthern.org>

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ANGELO HOBBIES

5600 RUFÉ SNOW DRIVE #106
NORTH RICHLAND HILLS 76180

DISCOUNT MODEL TRAINS

4641 RATLIFF LN
ADDISON 75001

MODEL TRAIN CROSSING

NEW ADDRESS 1 OCT

7801 Brandi Lane
North Richland Hills

HOBBYTOWN USA

746 GRAPEVINE HWY
HURST 76054

HOBBYTOWN USA

500 E. ROUND GROVE RD
LEWISVILLE 75067

WILD BILL'S HOBBYTOWN USA

1112 W. ARBROOK BLVD
ARLINGTON 76015

NMRA POLICY STATEMENT

EFFECTIVE MARCH 31, 2020, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION AT ITS BOARD MEETING ON MARCH 7, 2020, DIVISION 1 OF THE LONE STAR REGION OF THE NMRA, COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE COWCATCHER DIVISION, WILL REQUIRE ANYONE UNDER THE AGE OF 18, WISHING TO ATTEND ANY DIVISION EVENT, TO BE PERSONALLY ESCORTED BY THEIR PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN.

ADDITIONALLY, PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN MUST SIGN A CURRENT DOCUMENT STATING THAT THEY WILL REMAIN IN VISUAL CONTACT WITH THEIR MINOR AT ALL TIMES.

RAILFAN VIDEO OF THE MONTH ON YOUTUBE

LOTS OF SMOKE DIRTY DIESEL
LOCOS THROTTLING AND BLOWING
EXHAUST



OCT CLINIC

Russ Gifford is putting a clinic on how he weathers buildings and achieves that deep rust look on metal.



Russ Gifford

**NMRA ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM
HONOREES**



DAVID KARANDA



JIM ARCHER



EDWARD MCGINLEY



DARRELL COWLES



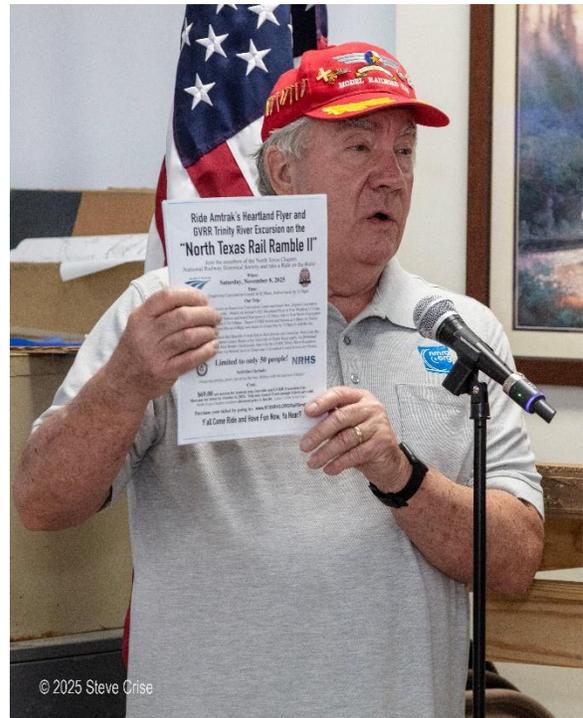
**MIKE MACKAY PEP TALK ABOUT
AP CERTIFICATES**

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DEAL OR DUD



SHOW AND TELL



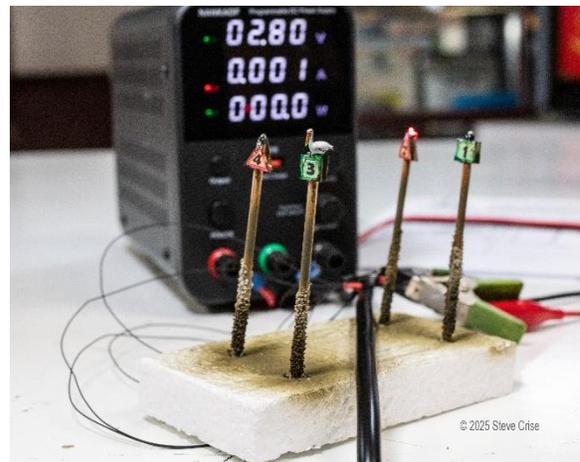
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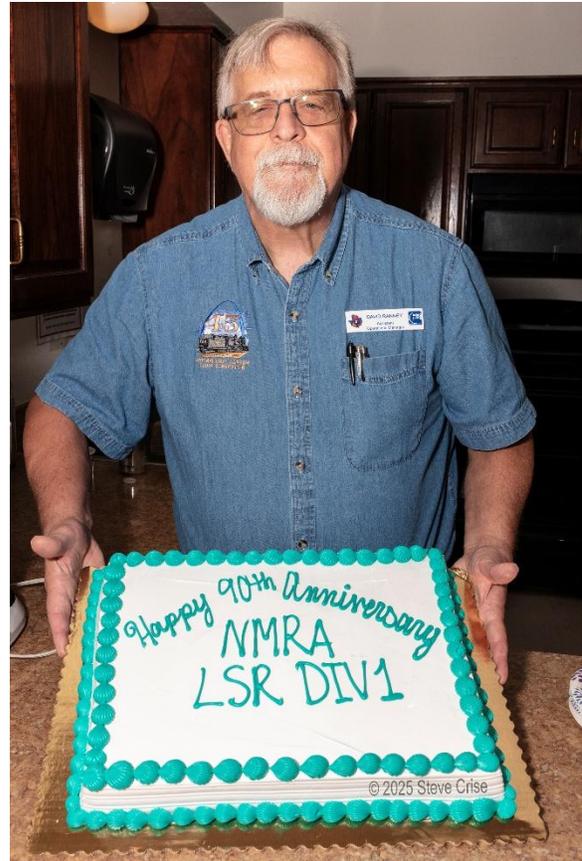
NMRA MEMBER PORTAL



SPEED EXPLAINS HOW TO ACCESS NMRA MEMBER PORTAL



REPORT FOR PLANO SHOW



ANSWER TO THIS MONTH'S
TRIVIA QUESTION:
LESS THAN CARLOAD LOT (FREIGHT)

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OPERATIONS ON THE LEE SUB
PART 10 “SAMPLE OPERATION
SESSION OF 417 GLEN TURN ON
LEE SUB TEXAS AND SOUTHERN
RAILROAD PART 3”

By BOB MANGRUM MMR 456

This month we will continue to follow the operations of 417 the Glen Turn as it makes its daily (Monday-Friday) journey from Lee Centennial Yard south to Glen and return.

Having received a track warrant to proceed from BG Jct and having met 322 at that location, 417 throttles up and begins its run south to Thomas and TBW Junction.



Arriving at the passenger station in Thomas 417 prepares to do its work.



According to his switch list 417 has one pickup at Thomas and one set out at TBW JCT.

THOMAS
PickUps (1)
Grain C T&S LD X 16734 to TJ
-- 5 Cars Out, 263 Ft, 484 Tons, Power 900 Tons

TB&W JCT
SetOuts (1)
Intchg T&S LD X 16734
-- 4 Cars Out, 219 Ft, 368 Tons, Power 900 Tons



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Thomas has an assigned switcher, a 44 ton number 436 to do the local work. Grabbing the T&S boxcar at the grain elevator 436 begins to move to the main line where 417, which has uncoupled behind the loco is moving forward to allow 436 to spot the boxcar.



Having coupled and checked the air brakes, 518 moves to the interchange.



The boxcar is being routed to the TBW JCT interchange track so TS 510, a GP18, is moving forward after the switcher has cleared the track, to couple up.

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Spotting the car on the interchange, the hand brakes are set and 510 backs towards the main line.



Backing towards his train, 417 has completed its work at this location.

Next month we will follow 417's work at Silver Valley. Until then, may you have Green Boards and no hot boxes on your run.

Bob





27 JULY- 2 AUGUST
2026