



# The Whistle



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION



COWCATCHER DIVISION LONE STAR REGION NMRA

VOL 9 NO 11 NOVEMBER 2025

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NOVEMBER'S MEETING WILL BE AT 10am ON SATURDAY THE 8TH AT THE TEXAS WESTERN MODEL RR CLUB AND VIA ZOOM. SEE EMAIL FOR ZOOM LINK

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

We had a great meeting last month and I want to thank Russ Gifford for showing all of us the techniques he uses to achieve that weathered/rusted look on his structures. This month's clinic is being conducted by Eric Smith and is titled "Gizmos and Gadgets".

The month of November is "National Model Railroad Month". This is a great time to promote the hobby to non-model railroaders. Consider featuring you layout in a "Open House" in your neighborhood or simply inviting a child or neighbor over to run some trains.

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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.

Also, this month is Veterans Day, on the 1<sup>st</sup>, honoring the military veterans of our great country's armed forces. Be sure to thank a veteran.

The official numbers are in for the Plano Train Show. There were 2783 paid adults with total attendance in the 3900-range including the kids. This represents a post Covid high and indicates a strong interest in the hobby. Additionally, we signed up 2 new D1 members. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the show.

I know all of us are looking forward to Thanksgiving but don't forget our December meeting is right around the corner.

It will be a catered dinner by Coburns on December 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:30 and of course dinner will be followed by the "White Elephant" gift exchange and numerous outstanding door prizes raffled at the end of the meeting. Mark your calendars now for this great event and begin planning your \$30.00 gift to exchange.

Look for updates from Trapper on the "Perfect Potluck" app.

Our next meeting is Saturday November 11, at 10:00 am at Texas Western Model Railroad Club, see you there and please bring a friend.

Dick Brannan  
Director -Cowcatcher Division



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## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **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

#### **NOVEMBER 2025**

15<sup>TH</sup>-16<sup>TH</sup> HOUSTON AREA MODEL  
TRAIN SHOW

#### **JANUARY 2026**

27<sup>TH</sup>-28<sup>TH</sup> PLANO TRAIN SHOW

#### **MARCH 2026**

28-29 WORLD'S GREATEST HOBBY  
DALLAS MARKET HALL

#### **JUNE 2026**

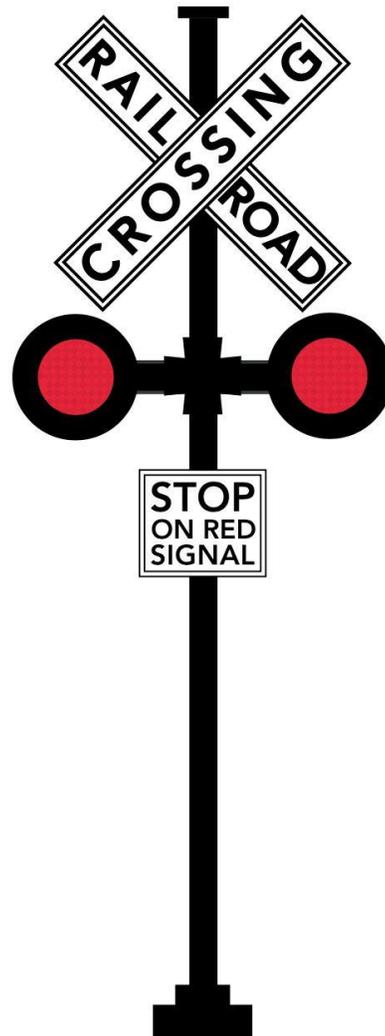
18<sup>TH</sup>-20<sup>TH</sup> LSR CONVENTION AUSTIN  
TX

#### **JULY-AUGUST 2026**

27 JULY-2 AUGUST

NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION

CHATTANOOGA



## TREASURER'S REPORT

1 OCTOBER BALANCE	\$5876.73
RECEIPTS	\$845.63
EXPENDITURES	\$131.99
END BALANCE	\$5790.37

CD BALANCE \$23,250.63

## TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE MONTH

WHAT IS MADHOUSE?

LOOK FOR ANSWER IN THIS MONTH'S  
NEWSLETTER

## POTLUCK DINNER AT DECEMBER MEETING

See John Kirkpatrick email for  
details and menu!!



## **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](mailto:bradyprmla@cableone.net)

STAN SCHWARTZ [ss124@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ss124@sbcglobal.net)

### **DENTON AREA MODEL RAILROAD CLUB**

MEETS 2<sup>ND</sup> 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**



**Two Short lines in Two States! (KRR & DQE)**

**NMRA AP PROGRAM  
Master Model Railroader**



**John Garfield MMR 806**



**Darrell Cowles MMR 802**

**OCTOBER CLINIC**



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**OCTOBER CLINIC cont.**



**ANSWER TO THIS MONTH'S  
TRIVIA QUESTION:  
ENGINEHOUSE FOREMAN**

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## NOVEMBER CLINIC

The clinic this month will be by  
Eric Smith. Its title: Gizmos and  
Gadgets.



**June 18-21**  
**Wyndham Garden Austin**  
3401 South IH-35

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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 4 By BOB MANGRUM MMR 456

This month we will follow the operations of 417 the Glen Turn as it works Silver Valley on its way from Lee Centennial Yard south to Glen and return.

417 contacts the dispatcher for a track warrant.



**TRACK WARRANT**

No. 9115 ..... 30 MAY ..... 1966  
To 417 TS 510 at TBW Jct .....

1.  Track Warrant No. 9114 ..... is void.  
2.  Proceed from TBW Jct to SV .....

3.  Proceed from ..... to .....

4.  Work between NSS ..... and SSS .....

5.  Not in effect until ..... am / pm  
6.  This authority expires at ..... am / pm  
7.  Not in effect until after arrival of ..... at .....  
..... at .....

8.  Do not foul limits ahead of .....

9.  Clear Main Track at last named point.  
10.  Hold Main Track at last named point.  
11.  Between ..... & ..... make all movements  
at restricted speed. Limits occupied by train or engine.  
12.  Do not exceed ..... mph between ..... & .....  
13.  Other specific instructions

14.  Joint with ..... between ..... & .....  
..... between ..... & .....

Ok 1300 am / pm Dispatcher RAM Copied .....

Reported clear at ..... am / pm by .....

Reorder Micro-Mark #84187

Having received authority to move south 417 proceeds to Silver Valley.



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Crossing Catclaw Creek.

At Silver Valley, taking passing siding as per track warrant.



SILVER VALLEY  
SetOuts (2)  
BluCoal T&S MT H 385  
Sand 1 T&S MT L 14529  
-- 2 Cars Out, 142 Ft, 183 Tons, Power 900 Tons

The conductor checks his switch list and sees that he has 2 set outs at Silver Valley. One to Blue Coal and one to Great Plains Sand and Gravel. To do this 417 backs out of the siding onto the main.



Proceeding down the siding.



The headend brakeman throws the switch onto the main. 417 drops the caboose on the passing siding.



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Backing up on the main.



Setting the empty hopper out on the team track.



After setting the hand brakes on the hopper, 417 moves back onto the main.



Ble Coal has an assigned switcher, a steam 0-4-0 number 6 which moves towards the main.



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Number 6 picks up the empty hopper from the team track.



After cutting the covered hopper and setting the hand brakes, 417 then pulls forward to the switch.



Throwing the switch on the main number 6 pushes the empty up to the mine tibble.

Backing onto the siding the train reunited with its caboose.



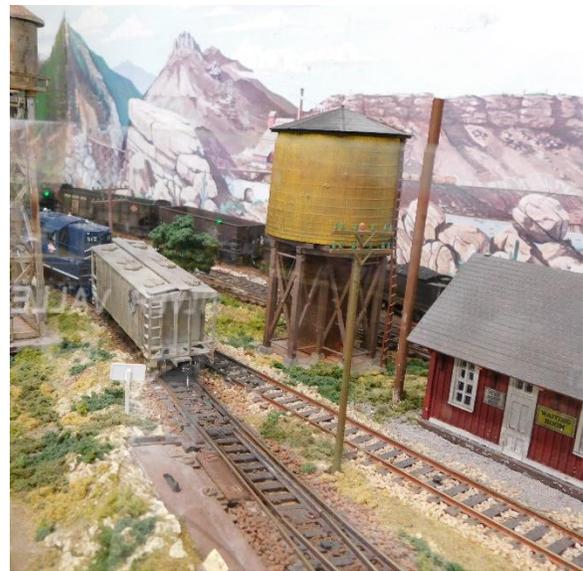
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Once coupled and the air brakes tested, the train continues backward to the south siding switch. Once on the main, the switch is thrown to the main and 417 moves forward towards the covered hopper.



Once coupled and the hand brakes are released, 417 reverses and moves back to the south siding switch. Once thrown 417 moves forward.



Setting out the covered hopper.

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Once the work is completed 417 returns to the main and requests a track warrant.



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

Bob





27 JULY- 2 AUGUST  
2026