



The Whistle



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION



COWCATCHER DIVISION LONE STAR REGION NMRA

VOL 9 NO 8 AUGUST 2025

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AUGUST'S MEETING WILL BE AT 10am ON SATURDAY THE 9TH AT THE TEXAS WESTERN MODEL RR CLUB AND VIA ZOOM. SEE EMAIL FOR ZOOM LINK

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I hope everyone is having a great summer and getting outside to enjoy the cooler than normal temps. It is hard to believe but school will be starting soon with the Plano Train Show coming shortly after on Sept 27th and 28 th.

Speaking of the Plano Train Show, the Division has two exciting projects to display at the show. First, is the "Pay it Forward" module which will be raffled off to some lucky participant. This effort is being coordinated by Jim Archer. The second effort

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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

JARED ROBERTS

FOR CONTACT INFO SEE
COWCATCHER DIVISION WEB SITE

<https://cowcatcherdivision.org/>



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DIRECTOR'S REPORT CONT.

involves getting a throttle into a child's hand so they can run a train while at the show. Usually, they see a lot of trains at the show but are never able to actually run a train. This 30" x 48" module being built by Russell and Deb Gifford will provide that opportunity. We are calling it "Junior Engineer Academy". The kids will receive a paper engineer's hat and a certificate of completion. This should generate additional traffic and excitement at the booth.

I want to thank David Hall for the excellent clinic on JRMI and car routing possibilities in OperationsPro. It is nice to know we have such an expert in the area.

This month's clinic is being presented by Marita Richards and will be on the history of the Pullman Company. She presented at the 2023 Texas Express NMRA convention and is the sister of Bob Mangrum, our Whistle editor. She will be accompanied by her husband and son and will be bringing items for display.

This will be a very informative clinic so bring a friend, and we will see you on Saturday Aug 9 th.

Dick Brannan

Director-Cowcatcher Division



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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

AUGUST 2025

23-24 AUSTIN TRIN SHOW

31st-1st WEATHERFORD CLARK GARDENS MODEL TRAIN SHOW

SEPTEMBER 2025

LABOR DAY WEEKEND THE 90TH ANIVERSARY OF NMRA

20-21 TEMPLE TRAIN SHOW

27-28 PLANO TRAIN SHOW

OCTOBER 2025

4TH GALVESTON ANNUAL TRAIN SHOW

25-26 NEW BRAUNFELS TRAIN SHOW

NOVEMBER 2025

15TH-16TH HOUSTON AREA MODEL TRAIN SHOW

MARCH 2026

28-29 WGH DALLAS MARKET HALL

JUNE 2026

18TH-20TH LSR CONVENTION AUSTIN TX



TREASURER'S REPORT

1 JULY BALANCE

Open balance 6914.21

Expenditures 837.90

Income 224.00

End balance 6300.31

CD balance 23013.75



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

TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE MONTH

WHAT IS IRON BENDER?

LOOK FOR ANSWER IN THIS MONTH'S
NEWSLETTER

The LSR and the Cen-Tex Division are excited to announce the 2026 LSR Convention: **Connections**. It will be held June 18-21 at the Wyndham Garden Austin just south of downtown. This hotel has great facilities, is conveniently located to reach all of the area model railroads and prototype locations of interest, and best of all we've negotiated a great rate!

Bookmark our website:

<https://connections2026.com>

Right now it has an introductory video and a link to the hotel but information about the schedule, tours, clinics, guests and more is coming soon, and we expect to open registration within the next several weeks.

Save the date!

We hope to see you there next summer.

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

bradyprrm1a@cablone.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

MEETS 7:30-10:00 PM FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, OFTEN (BUT NOT ALWAYS) AT GRAPEVINE TOURIST & VISITORS INFORMATION CENTER AT MAIN ST AND FWWR RAILROAD TRACKS

<https://ntxnrhs.org>

TEXAS WESTERN MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

LOCATED AT 6808 FOREST HILL, 76140

VISITOR HOURS: SEE CLUB WEBSITE

<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

1113 W. PIPELINE RD
HURST 76053

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



GP15s notch 8 on the Louisiana & Northwest RR

AUGUST CLINIC

THE PULLMAN COMPANY

Marita Richards

Native Texan, born in Abilene, Texas.

Retired public librarian
Love to read, research different topics
and learn the history of something.

I have been interested in model
railroading since I was a young girl. My
father and brother built HO railroad
layouts in the house and the garage.
When I married, my husband and then
my son became model railroad
hobbyists. Brother is MMR.

My first train trip was from Abilene to
Dallas on T & P in August 1960 in a coach
car. I remember stopping at each town
and also having a box lunch with us.

Member of National Model Railroad
Association, Lone Star Region
Have been giving clinics at the NMRA
national conventions the last few years
on various railroad topics including The
Harvey Girls.

Other topics I have researched include
dining cars, history of the Pullman car,
"Limited" passenger train service.



LSR CONVENTION BATON
ROUGE CONTEST ROOM



2025 Steve Criss



2025 Steve Criss



2025 Steve Criss



2025 Steve Criss

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HE'S ON HIS WAY TO MMR!!
AND SHE IS TOO



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REPORT ON BATON ROUGE
CONVENTION



QUESTION ABOUT DCC



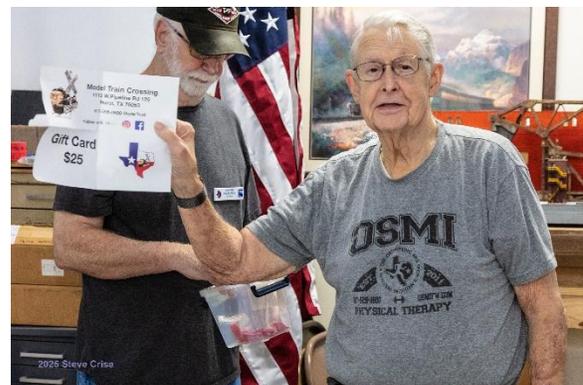
QUESTION ABOUT 3D PRINTING



ANSWER TO THIS MONTH'S
TRIVIA QUESTION:

A SWITCHMAN

DEAL OR DUD





THANK YOU LETTER WRITTEN
BY HIS 11-YEAR-OLD GRANSON

JULY CLINIC



USING JMRI IN OPERATIONS
TO SEE PRESENTATION ON
YOUTUBE AT 55:55



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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”

By BOB MANGRUM MMR 456

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

The morning begins with the Yard switcher TS 206, an 0-8-0, hard at work putting together today’s consist. Using the switch list one can see that 417 is scheduled to leave Centennial Yard with two cars and a bobber caboose.

TEXAS & SOUTHERN RR

Train 417 SWITCH LIST Time _____

Car initials	Car number	Car type	Pull spot	From to
TS	385	H	P	
TS	14529	L	P	
TS	6	NE	P	

It is a light day, this Monday 30 May 1966, as the amount of work varies from day to day as the industries served need to be worked.



From the switch list the yard switcher knows this morning that 417 consists of two freight cars and a caboose. The hopper is empty and spotted at West Texas Utilities while the covered hopper, also empty, is at the loco service sand tower.

First to be picked up is TS 385 at WTU.





Having picked the car up, the switcher returns to the yard. Moving to the engine service area, the pickup is made of the covered hopper.



With the lash up complete, the yard switcher moves the cars to the departure track.



At the departure track the yard goat does a run around.



While this is going on, TS 8401, a GP15, assigned to the coach yard and caboose ready track, picks up the assigned caboose.



After pick up 8401 moves to the departure track.

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Running around the awaiting consist.



With the caboose spotted, the yard switcher shoved the cars onto the departure track.



With the train built, the loco hostler brings TS 510, a GP18 from the ready track to the turntable to be turned for its trip south to Glen.



The loco heads to the turntable to be turned.



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The conductor is then ready to receive his clearance form A and a track warrant.

510 moving to the departure track.



T&S RR/T&P RWY
 Date 31 May 1966
 To: TS 417 On Lee Sub Division
 C&E TS 2088 At Lee
CLEARANCE FORM A
 Clearance No. 1 To Terminating Station
 I have the following orders for your train:

With his clearance form, he contacts the Dispatcher for the Lee Sub for his track warrant.

The manifest/switch list is now examined by the conductor of 417.

TRACK WARRANT
 No. 9109 30 MAY 1966
 To 417 TSS10 at Lee Centennial
 1. Track Warrant No. is void.
 2. Proceed from Lee Cent to BG Jct
 3. Proceed from to
 4. Work between NSS BGT and SSS BGT
 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 0900 am ~~am~~ Dispatcher RGM Copied
 Reported clear at am / pm by
 Reorder Micro-Mark #84187

TEXAS & SOUTHERN
MANIFEST for TRAIN 417
 Printed 2:14 PM 2/1/2025
 Train --GLEN TURN
 SouthBound FROM: LEE CENTENNIAL TO: LEE CE
Departing at 9:00 on Route GLEN TURN
 INSTRUCTIONS TO CREW
 1. BEFORE DEPART CHECK MANIFEST FOR CAR ORDER
 AND OBSERVE RULES BLOCKING HAZARDOUS CARS.
 2. BEFORE DEPART CHECK TRACK BULLETINS.
 3. CONDUCT AIR BRAKE TEST BEFORE DEPART.
 4. IF MOTIVE POWER ASSIGNED IS STEAM OBSERVE
 WATER STOPS: LEE THOMAS GLEN then GLEN, SILVER
 VALLEY, BUFFALO GAP JUNCTION, LEE.
 5. SIGNALS INDICATE DIRECTION SWITCH THROWN.
 Conductor _____
 Actual Time of Departure _____
LEE CENTENNIAL
 Engine(s)
 T&S GP18 # 510 Address 510
 PickUps (3)
 Caboos T&S MT N 6 to GL
 WTxUti T&S MT H 385 to SV
 SandTo T&S MT L 14529 to SV
 -- 3 Cars Out, 175 Ft, 267 Tons, Power 900 Tons

After copying and reading the TWC back to the dispatcher, TWC 9109 is OKed.

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With track warrant and clearance form A, 417 is ready to depart Lee Centennial Yard for Buffalo Gap Junction and the Lee Industrial District.



With the departure of 417, the yard master fills out the wheel report for Lee Yard.

TEXAS & SOUTHERN TEXAS & PACIFIC

WHEEL REPORT
Departure from Lee Yard

Page 1 Of Date 30 MAY 1966

DATE	TRAIN	TOTAL CARS	SET OUT	PICK UP	LOADS	MIS	TONS	LENGTH	#LOCOS
30 MAY	211	7	5	1	2	3	370	202	1
	222	5	4	1	2	2	217	138	1
	417	3	0	3	0	2	267	175	1

We catch up with 417 south bound on the single track main.



Traveling towards Buffalo Gap Junction.



Taking siding as directed by the TWC.



Stopping at red board on Route Signal.



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

Bob



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SAVE THE DATE!!

27 JULY – 2 AUGUST

2026

