

Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



Division 1 Whistle

Vol. 6 No. 1

January 2022

Division 1 Zoom meeting, Saturday, January 8th, 2022 - at the club or at your home. **Clinic:** Colorado Model Railroad Museum layout tour with Michelle Kempema

www.cowcatcherdivision.org

January's meeting will be at The Texas Western Model RR Club and via zoom.



Colorado Model Railroad Layout

The address for TWMRC is 6808 Forest Hill Drive, Forest Hill, Texas 76140.

Look for the email with the link for the zoom

In This Issue:

November's Meeting1
Director's Report2, 3
Program Director3
Treasurer's Report3
Calendar of Events4
Plano Train Show5
Winfield Prints6
Area Clubs7
Area Hobby Shops8

Meeting Agenda

- Announcements, Awards, Show & Tell and Q&A
- Michelle Kempema will be joining us in person to present a virtual tour of the Colorado Model Railroad Museum's 5500 square foot layout



Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



NMRA Lone Star Region
Cowcatcher Division 1

Whistle

Vol. 6 No. 1
January 2022

Director

Mike Mackey

director@cowcatcherdivision.org

Secretary

John "Trapper" Kirkpatrick

secretary@cowcatcherdivision.org

Treasurer

Dick Brannan

treasurer@cowcatcherdivision.org

Program Manager

Cole Rash

pm@cowcatcherdivision.org

Operations Manager

David Grein

ops@cowcatcherdivision.org

Achievement Program Manager

Lorrie Palitti

ap@cowcatcherdivision.org

Contest Advisor Co-Managers

Casey Akin

contest1@cowcatcherdivision.org

Cody Akin

contest2@cowcatcherdivision.org

Webmaster & Communications

Managers

Stephen Gradke

webmaster@cowcatcherdivision.org

Newsletter Editor

David Hager

editor@cowcatcherdivision.org

Division 1 Videographer

David Kranda

video@cowcatcherdivision.org

Membership

Michael Ross & David Crumpton

Director's Report

Happy New Year everyone! Allow me to wish each and everyone of you the best in 2022 for you and your family. May blessings be plentiful and continuous in your home!

I'd like to begin this month's column by providing you with a "State of the Division" report. The state of the division is STRONG, and getting stronger! This is great news heading into a year where we'll be directing a lot of effort into planning and execution of the 2023 Texas Express International NMRA Convention. There are ongoing meetings behind the scenes with our liaisons from the national committee which are fleshing out specific details that will help with the foundation of a great convention that will run as smoothly as possible. Once those details are finalized, we can open registration and progress with things like layout tours, prototype tours, clinics, etc. We should further those processes within the next 60 days. Attendance to our meetings has remained constant in spite of the pandemic. Dr. Michael Ross reports that our monthly average attendance for 2021 was 41. That represents just shy of 25% of our division membership attending monthly meetings. Please don't misunderstand that we aren't striving for more participation. We certainly are! However, while divisions worldwide are struggling with meetings and witnessing declining membership, Division 1 has indeed increased membership in the last 24 months and for the last 6 years has a net loss of 1 member. Much of that is due to the outstanding efforts of our membership and management teams, specifically Dr. Michael Ross, MMR, and David Crumpton. As of right now, Division one has grown to become the second largest division in the Lone Star Region. Thank you again gentlemen!

Financially the division is strong. Our treasurer, Dick Brannan, and assistant treasurer Joe Leising, report our division financial net worth maintaining around the \$6000.00-7000.00 range, depending on revenues and expenses on any given month. We should see a nice deposit during second quarter 2022 from our participation in the Plano train show. Our Convention and Division websites are adding content almost daily. Stephen Gradke has followed the work of Mike Corley, who recently moved to Georgia, as our webmaster. Please check out the two websites: www.2023texasexpress.com and www.cowcatcherdivision.org for more details.

Cole Rash has taken over the role as Division Program Manager, replacing Joe Leising. Cole currently has most of the programs covered for 2022. We want to thank Joe for his service to the division and help Cole in his new role.

I'd invite those of you whom aren't actively attending meetings or participating with our activities to get involved. I hear from different folks, from time to time, who are trying to decide to join, renew or drop their membership to the NMRA. They typically echo the same sentiment... "I'm just not getting that much out of it." It has been my observation

(continued on page 3)



Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



(from page 2)

that 99% of the time, the individual making that statement is the one that doesn't attend meetings or get involved. Trust me when I say, what you get out of something, is directly proportional to what you put into it. When you do nothing, expect nothing as a result.

This month's meeting will be outstanding! Michelle Kempema from the Colorado Model Railroad Museum in Greeley, Colorado, will be making a live presentation on the museum and will be answering questions. Please mark your calendars for January 8, 2022 to see her amazing presentation.

Don't forget the Plano Train Show on January 15th and 16th. We still need some volunteers to assist with some shifts in the NMRA booth. Please send me an email if you can put in a few hours at the booth. director@cowcatcherdivision.org. I'll get you in touch with the organizers from Division 3 for an assignment.

Keep training!

Mike Mackey, MMR
Director, Cowcatcher Division

Treasurer's Report

As of December 2021, the Division has \$3715.51 in its main operating account.

Dick Brannan
Treasurer
Cowcatcher Division

This month's clinic:

Virtual tour of the Colorado Model Railroad Museum's 5500 square foot layout

This month we have a great presentation arranged as we welcome Michelle Kempema, who is in her 11th year as Executive Director of the Colorado Model Railroad Museum. She is active in the community and serves on many boards including Tour Colorado, Greeley Creative District, Visit Greeley, Greeley Rotary and O Scale Kings. Michelle was a recipient of the 2015 Outstanding Tourism Frontline Worker award from the Colorado Tourism Office and also a recipient of the 2018 "Woman of Distinction Award" from BizWest. Michelle is an active volunteer in the community and co-chairs the Greeley Lights the Night Parade, serves on many event committees, and is certified for Operation Lifesaver (rail safety).

Michelle Kempema will be joining us in person to present a virtual tour of the Colorado Model Railroad Museum's 5500 square foot layout that consists of 80 scale miles of track. The layout contains many aspects of artistically created scenes, and interactive automations. The layout can be controlled by computer or by a dispatcher through a working switch board. With the many variations in this layout, there will be something interesting for everyone, regardless of the scale or era you are modeling.

Michelle Kempema will be available, and able to help with any questions you may have.

Respectfully,

Cole Rash

Program Manager
Cowcatcher Division 1

Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



January 2022

6th – Texas Western Model RR Club Business Meeting for Members and Prospective Members Only, 7 pm - 9 pm @ 6808 Forest Hill Dr, Forest Hill, TX 76140
Thursday
www.twmrc.org

7th – Youth in Model
The group is actively looking for a new director to carry on this group, if interested please contact John Skiba:
westsidelumberco@gmail.com

8th – NMRA Lone Star Region Cowcatcher Division 1 Meeting, 10 am - 1pm
www.cowcatcherdivision.org

15th – NMRA Lone Star Region Division 3 Meeting, Christ The Servant Lutheran Church in Allan, TX, 10am - 1pm, Saturday
www.trinityriverdivision.org

15th - 16th – Plano Train Show
<https://www.planoeventcenter.org/event/dallas-area-train-show-2022>

19th – Cowtown Model RR Club General Meeting, Handley Center, 3024 Forest Avenue, Ft Worth, TX 76112, 7pm - 9pm,
*** new website***
<https://www.cmrrc.net>

22nd – NMRAx 1pm - 5pm

February 2022

3rd – Texas Western Model RR Club Business Meeting for Members and Prospective Members Only, 7 pm - 9 pm @ 6808 Forest Hill Dr, Forest Hill, TX 76140
Thursday
www.twmrc.org

4th – Youth in Model
The group is actively looking for a new director to carry on this group, if interested please contact John Skiba:
westsidelumberco@gmail.com

12th – NMRA Lone Star Region Cowcatcher Division 1 Meeting, 10 am - 1pm
www.cowcatcherdivision.org

19th – NMRA Lone Star Region Division 3 Meeting, Christ The Servant Lutheran Church in Allan, TX, 10am - 1pm, Saturday
www.trinityriverdivision.org

22nd – Houston Area Train Show

26th – NMRAx 1pm - 5pm



DALLAS AREA TRAIN SHOW

JANUARY 15TH & 16TH, 2022

10am-5pm Saturday, 10am-4pm Sunday

Plano Event Center

2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway

Plano, TX 75074



HOUSTON AREA TRAIN SHOW

February 12, 2022

10am-4:30pm Saturday

Pasadena Convention Center

7902 Fairmont Pkwy, Pasadena, TX 77507

Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



ALL ABOARD!

Train Show Coming to Town



Experience the magic of model trains!

Have you ever been to a model train show?

Have you ever seen a live model train display up close?

Have you ever thought of owning and operating your own train set?

**\$10 ADMISSION
for both days**

**Children 12 and under,
Scouts and Leaders FREE*

ACCEPTING MAJOR CREDIT
AND DEBIT CARDS

Hourly door prizes with a complete train set given away at the end of each day of the show and a bigger train set given away on the last day of show.

Compete in the "Great Train Race"
Children of all ages have the opportunity to race each other. \$3 to play until someone beats you!



Plano Event Center | 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy.
Plano, TX | 75074 | dfwtrainshows.com

Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



Winfield Prints Available

Fort Worth Crossroads



I received a call the other day from Jim King of the North Texas Chapter of the National Railroad Historical Society. It seems that the Winfield drawing photo we've been using on our website was actually commissioned by the local NRHS chapter for their 2008 national convention held here. Not a problem, in fact a blessing! They are thrilled that we are using the drawing on our site. As luck would have it, they have additional copies of the print which they have allowed us to sell as a division fund raiser.

Currently we have 18" x 24" prints available for \$25.00, and a VERY limited number of the same prints commemorating the 2008 convention that are signed and numbered for \$35.00.

As you are aware, this is a GREAT price on a Winfield print! To purchase your print, please email director@cowcatcherdivision.org with your preference, signed or not, and I'll respond so we can arrange payment and delivery.

Mike Mackey

Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



Area Model Railroad Clubs/News

Cowtown Model Railroad Club

Meets at the Handley Community Center, upstairs 3024 Forest Avenue, Ft Worth. Website:

<https://cmrrc.webs.com>

CLMRR

Meets Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays. The layout is located at 3904 Vista Ridge Ln, Alvarado, TX 76009 For information please contact Lee Martin at [817-666-5367](tel:817-666-5367)

Dallas/Fort Worth O Scale Club

Normally meets two Saturdays per month in Richardson. Contact: Brady McGuire, Tel: [903-868-2726](tel:903-868-2726), Email: bradyprrm1a@cableone.net or contact: Stan Schwartz, Email: ss124@sbcglobal.net for dates and times.
1/48 12X41 lt/wt modular, 2-3 shows/year.

Denton Area Model Railroad Club

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7 pm in the Denton Senior Center Downtown. HO & N Scale modular layouts. Facebook Page and Website: <https://www.facebook.com/damrrc/>

North Texas Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society

Meets 7:30 - 10:00 PM, First Tuesday of each month, often (but not always) at the Grapevine Tourist & Visitors Information Center at Main St. and the FWWR railroad tracks. Website: <https://ntxnrhs.org>

Texas Western Model Railroad Club

Meets every Thursday & Saturday from 4 pm - 9 pm, Located at 6808 Forest Hill, 76140. Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/texaswesternmodelrailroadclub/> Website: <https://www.twmrc.org>

Trinity N-Trak

Meets at Hobby World, Ft Worth at 6:30 PM. Check our website for time. Website: <https://www.trinityntrak.com>

TNMRC

Meets at 11999 Plano Rd, Suite 154, Dallas, 75243 Check our website for times. Website: <https://www.texasnorthern.org>

Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



Area Hobby Shops

Division 1 Sponsor

Discount Model Trains

4641 Ratliff Lane
Addison, TX 75001
972-931-8135



Angelo Hobbies (817) 428-0190
5600 Rufe Snow Drive Dr. #106
North Richland Hills, TX 76180

Hobby World (817) 263-5750
5658 Westcreek Dr. Ste. #500
Fort Worth, TX 76133

Model Train Crossing (817) 595-0800
1113 W. Pipeline Road
Hurst, TX 76053

Hobbytown USA (817) 581-1027
746 Grapevine Hwy
Hurst, TX 76054

Hobbytown USA (972) 315-3700
500 E. Round Grove Rd
Lewisville, TX 75067

Wild Bill's Hobbytown USA (972) 438-9224
535 E Shady Grove Rd
Irving, TX 75060



Division 1 would like to Thank Discount Model Trains for their support !

Check with your local hobby shops for their store hours. Most are now open.

Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



Effective March 31, 2020, in accordance with the policy adopted by the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) 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, the parent or legal guardian must sign a current document stating that they will remain in visual contact with their minor at all times.