



Whistle



COWCATCHER DIVISION

DIVISION ONE OF THE LONE STAR NMRA REGION

October 2022

Union Pacific Maintenance of Way

By Erik Lewis



Image available on the internet

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October's meeting will be 10am on Saturday the 8th at the Texas Western Model RR Club and via zoom.

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

See Mike Mackey's email for the zoom link

Gary Ray

From Dream to Reality

Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



NMRA Lone Star Region
Cowcatcher Division 1

Whistle

Vol. 6 No. 10
October 2022

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Director's Report

Howdy folks! Cooler weather has arrived and what a welcome relief to the triple digits we experienced not too long ago.

The fall train show is behind us now. I'd like to thank Russell Gifford for his leadership on that project. His wife Deborah was there every step of the way as well. In order to develop some consistency from one show to another, Russell has agreed to remain in the role of Train Show Coordinator for Division 1 going forward. I have no doubt that his leadership and organizational skills will help us do better and better with each coming show.

Was the presentation by Steve Crise outstanding or what? I've heard from several members that that was one of the best presentations we've ever had. Many thanks to Steve for his time in putting his presentation together and for taking his time to show us his experience with Rod Stewart's amazing layout.

Another outstanding clinic will be delivered this month. Former member of D1 and Union Pacific employee Erik Lewis will return home to see us and talk about the various types of Maintenance of Way equipment that the railroads use. If you've ever wondered just what that piece of machinery rolling along the track does, this is the presentation for you! This will be a dress rehearsal for Erik's presentation at the national convention so it should be right on point.

A quick note on membership in our division. We gained five new members at the Plano show. That's off the mark we usually gain by about half. I find that surprising, especially with the national convention on the horizon. I know that reaching out to those you know in the hobby might be a difficult step. Many people have old attitudes and experiences with our organization that were not the best and they are holding on to those experiences like a child holds on to their favorite blanket; however, I have found that if you talk to those individuals and explain that the NMRA is about friendships and relationships they might see things differently. Maybe you will find that response as well. I urge you to invite one or two of your friends to attend a couple of meetings with you. No pressure. Just share that we are having a fantastic series of clinics that they might enjoy. Cole Rash, our Program Manager, is doing an outstanding job of lining up superior presentations. I'm sure you'll agree that this isn't the NMRA of old. The "Old Boy Network" that many people want to reference doesn't exist. In fact, just the opposite! Our new president has started programs and initiatives that should have been done years ago. The organization is welcoming any and all interested parties to join us. As a recent example, the new Special Interest Group (SIG) of Women in Model Railroading was introduced during the national convention this past August. To wrap this up, if you would, let's try to recruit those we know who are close and within our friend circles to join the NMRA. Who doesn't want more friends? Especially friends who like trains like we do!



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Director's report continued from page 1

Additionally, Gary Ray has a presentation he is polishing up and will be giving us. Be sure and attend the meeting for this double-barreled demonstration.

Mark your calendar for the meeting this Saturday at 10am. Don't forget...

Bring a friend to the meeting!

Keep training!

Mike Mackey, MMR
Director, Cowcatcher Division

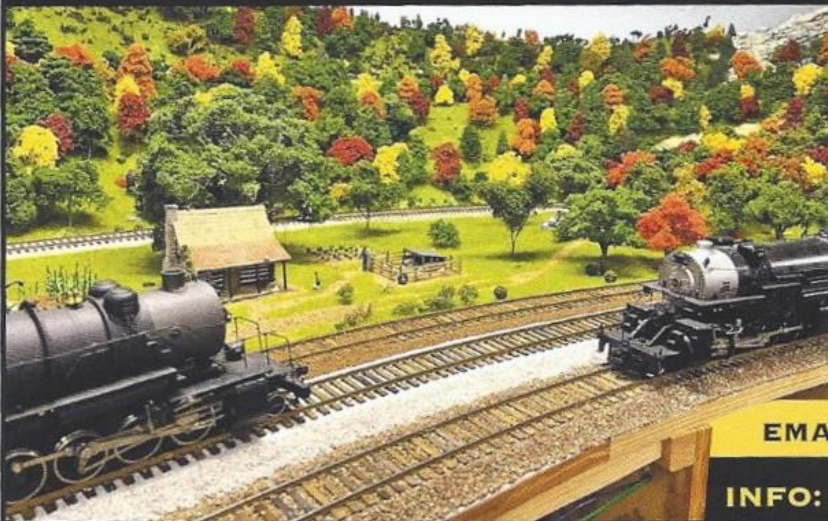
Treasurer's Report

The division's checking account balance is \$2064.36 as of October 1.

Dick Brannan

Cowcatcher Division Treasurer

SOUTHWEST O SCALE MEET



**OCTOBER 14TH-16TH, 2022
FORT WORTH, TEXAS**

- **TRADING, SALES, CLINICS**
- **TWO LAYOUTS ON SITE:
STANDARD AND TRACTION**
- **LAYOUT TOURS:
THREE O SCALE LAYOUTS
WITHIN FIVE MILES**

EMAIL: SWOSCALEMEET@GMAIL.COM

INFO: WWW.OSCALESW.COM

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October's Clinics

Union Pacific Maintenance of Way

By Erik Lewis

Erik Lewis is an Industry and Public Projects manager for Union Pacific Railroad covering Texas, Louisiana, Tennessee and system Customs and Border Protection projects. In his almost 12 year tenure with Union Pacific, Erik has served in multiple roles in the company's Engineering Department. These roles include track laborer, thermite welder, tie gang foreman and relief Track Inspector prior before entering his current role.

In his current role, Erik oversees a team of consultants who work to manage the railroad portion of federal, state and locally funded projects that impact railroad operations. These range from projects for at-grade road crossings, grade separation projects, Corps of Engineers projects and other special projects as assigned; projects that require Erik to work closely with track, signal and construction forces. One such special project was the delivery and donation of the UP 4141 locomotive to the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum.

In his spare time, Erik enjoys reading, writing, drawing and spending time with his fiancé Mandy and their labradoodle Tucker.

From Dream to Reality

By Gary Ray

Gary is a retired elementary school teacher and has taught grades K through 5. His love of railroads started at age 5 when his parents enrolled him in a private kindergarten in Tucson, Az. Gary loved watching the train set they had at school. Growing up in Los Angeles in the 1950's, he enjoyed seeing trains at Travel Town Museum and the scale railroad at the Pomona fairgrounds. Of course, riding trains at Knott's Berry Farm and Disneyland were special treats. About the same time in 1955 Gary had his name drawn to appear on the Engineer Bill children's show in L.A. The studio sent a model to him to build to run on the set's layout.

Gary has had several Layouts in his life: a fold down American Flyer his dad built, a Tyco and Mantua layout in 1956, a large 28'x32' railroad with an 8 loop helix (not completed to functional level), a large 24'x60' mushroom layout with 550' of mainline that eventually had an operating crew of around 10 circa 1984 and is now building a layout at his home in Azle, TX.

He has been an NMRA member for around 40 years and a member of the LDSIG and OPSIG almost from the beginning. He created and edited the quarterly 30 page PCR Sierra Division newsletter for 5 years and served as Contest Chair for about 10 years. His other hobby is photography and won Best of Show at the 2019 PCR convention.

Cole Rash
Program Manager

Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



Sue Line Railroad

The Sue Line railroad is a HO proto-lance RR by the Late Dr. Richard Kamm of Blanchard, LA (NW suburb of Shreveport). The railroad was named after his ex-wife and coincidentally the name of his second bride and companion for the rest of his life (both named Sue). It occupies roughly 48' x 42' and has approximately 500 feet of mainline. Timewise, it is around 30 minutes to get your train from one side to the other.

The layout is DCC with Wi-Throttle control and is fully signaled under CTC dispatcher control (Thank you David Colvin). Two-way radios are used for communication to negotiate track rights. It is fully scenic with long and short trains and plenty of choices ranging from switching galore to no switching at all.

The railroad continues to operate every Thursday due to a dedicated crew willing to host up to 15 operators from any skill level. I can only strive to be as welcoming as this crew is. Freight is carried by The Sue Line, the Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas & Eastern and the CSX railroads across Louisiana from Alexandria to Shreveport. The trains I operated ran flawlessly.

I recently had the privilege to operate on the layout. Speed Muller (thanks again) negotiated a quick Saturday trip to Blanchard. I got up at 5am to rendezvous at Speed's by 6:30am. 6 hours on our feet moving trains (not including the two breaks – one with a tasty lunch provided by the crew) and I was home by midnight! We did make one small detour to visit another layout. Should you be willing, you might just have a wonderful time like I did.

The track plan is shown on the next page and the following pages are pictures from my visit. The railroad has a website should you want to make that whistlestop:

<http://sueline.kamm.us>

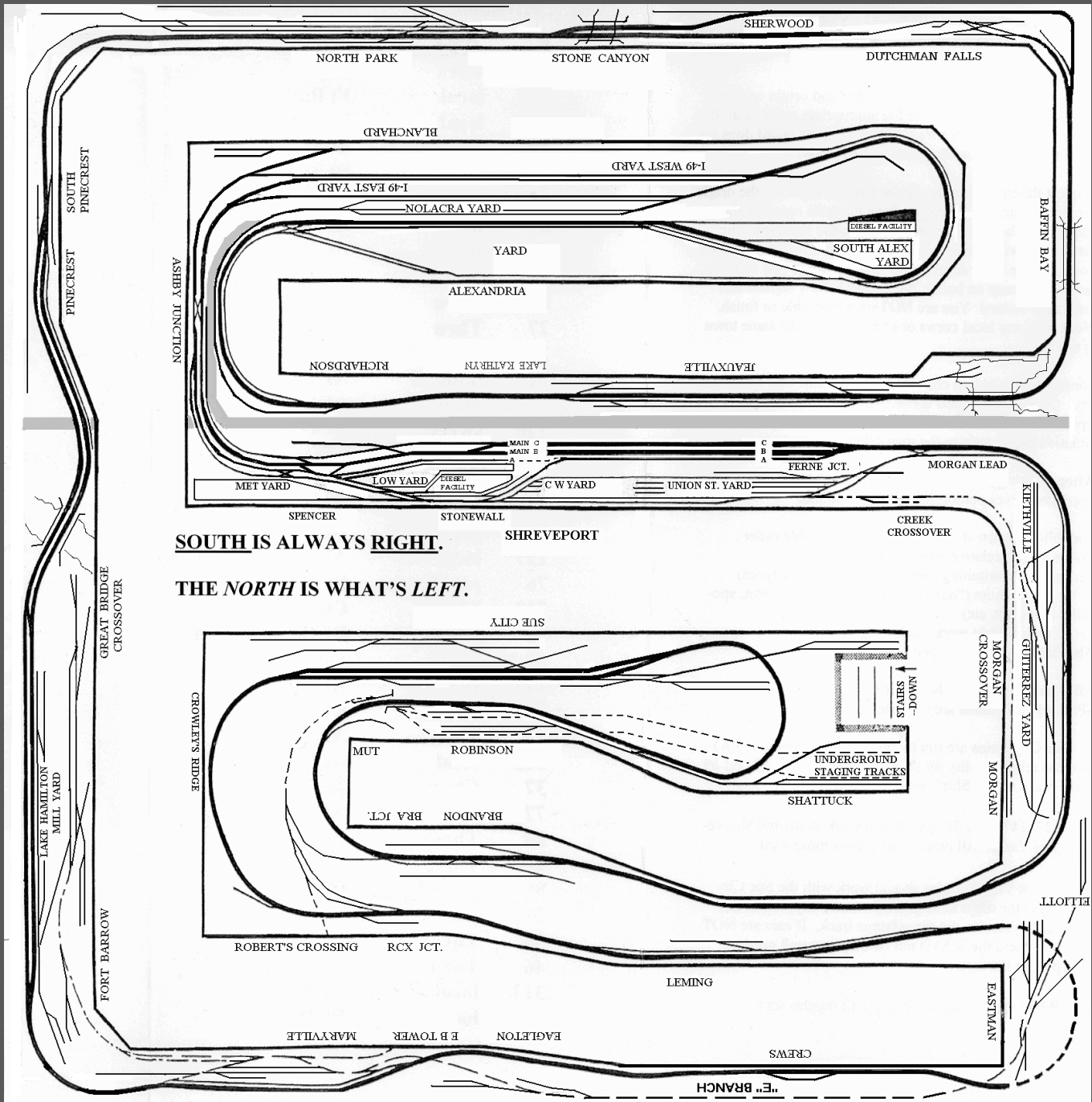
David Hager

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Sue Line Railroad continued



Map by Charlie DeVillbiss from "<http://sueline.kamm.us/system-map>"

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Sue Line Railroad continued



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Sue Line Railroad continued



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Sue Line Railroad continued



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October 2022

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

22nd – [NMRAx](#)

November 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

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

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



October 22-23, 2022

\$10 Adults (14 & Older)
\$2 Child (5-13 Yrs. Old)

New Braunfels Civic Center
375 South Castell Avenue
New Braunfels, Texas 78130

Regional Train Shows

New Braunfels	October 22 & 23, 2022
http://newbraunfelsrailroadmuseum.org/nbrr/train-shows	
Oklahoma City	November 5 & 6, 2022
https://www.oklahomarailwaymuseum.org/events/okc-train-show/	
Plano	January 21 & 22, 2023
http://www.dfwtrainshows.com	
Greater Houston	February 18, 2023
http://www.sanjacmodeltrains.org/GHTS.php	
Austin	2023
https://austintrainshow.org	
Temple	2023
http://centramodrr.com/train-show	



OKLAHOMA CITY TRAIN SHOW

NOVEMBER 5-6, 2022

Oklahoma State Fairgrounds

3001 General Pershing Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73107

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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

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Area Model Railroad Clubs/News

Cowtown Model Railroad Club

Meets at the Handley Community Center, upstairs 3024 Forest Avenue, 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 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 It/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 FWR 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.

Visitor Hours: Tuesday & Saturdays 7 pm – 9 pm.

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.trinitytrak.com>

TNMRC

Meets at 11999 Plano Rd, Suite 154, Dallas, 75243 Check our website for times. Website:

<https://www.texasnorthern.org>

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Angelo Hobbies

5600 Rufe Snow Drive Dr. #106
North Richland Hills, TX 76180
<http://angelohobbystrains.com>

(817) 428-0190



Discount Model Trains

4641 Ratliff Lane
Addison, TX 75001

(817) 428-0190



Hobby World

5658 Westcreek Dr. Ste. #500
Fort Worth, TX 76133
<https://www.facebook.com/hobbyworldfw>

(817) 263-5750

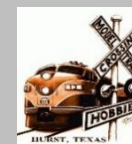


Model Train Crossing

1113 W. Pipeline Road
Hurst, TX 76053

(817) 595-0800

<https://www.facebook.com/modeltraincrossin> (no "g" on the end)



Hobbytown USA

746 Grapevine Hwy
Hurst, TX 76054

(817) 581-1027

<https://www.hobbytown.com/hurst-tx/1123>



Hobbytown USA

500 E. Round Grove Rd
Lewisville, TX 75067

(972) 315-3700

<https://www.hobbytown.com/lewisville-tx/121>



Wild Bill's Hobbytown USA

535 E Shady Grove Rd
Irving, TX 75060

(972) 438-9224

<https://www.hobbytown.com/irving-tx/1183>



Check with your local hobby shops for their store hours.

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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.