

Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



Division 1 Whistle

Vol. 6 No. 3

March 2022

www.cowcatcherdivision.org



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March's meeting will be Saturday, March 12th at The Texas Western Model RR Club and via zoom.

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



Look for Mike Mackey's email for the zoom link.

Meeting Agenda

- Announcements, Awards, Show & Tell and Q&A
- Dave Ackmann "2.5D CAD for Drawing Things for 3D Printing." & Ken Fitzgerald "Techniques for taking better photos when railfanning"



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NMRA Lone Star Region
Cowcatcher Division 1

Whistle

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Michael Ross & David Crumpton

Director's Report

Greetings to all! I'd like to wish everyone a happy St. Patrick's Day and I hope the luck of the Irish stays with you for the coming year!!

Please let me open this month's column with a special thanks to Bernard Hellen of MiniPrints and Ed McGinley for their outstanding clinics during our February meeting. In case you missed the meeting, be sure and watch the clinics on our Division 1 YouTube channel. Access is easy from our website: www.cowcatcherdivision.org.



As I mentioned last month, our banner slogan for 2022 for D1 is "Helping You Make Your Model Railroading Dreams a Reality." Our focus this year will be to help you learn skills to make you a better modeler. I'm encouraging you to bring things to our meetings to show "what's on your workbench" as part of our monthly Show and Tell segment.

Also, our secondary theme this year is "If You Do Nothing, Expect Nothing as a Result!" In the NMRA, and for that matter in life, what you get out of something is directly proportional to what you put into it. Let's dig in and make D1 even better this year!

Last month, Division 1 hit a new attendance record with 62 members! How great is that?!? Next target? Let's hit 75! That's certainly within reach. Reach out and invite a friend to ride with you to our next meeting. We can achieve new milestones with just a little additional initiative.

We have two outstanding clinics this month. Our first clinic is being presented by Dave Ackmann from St. Louis. Dave's clinic is named "2.5D CAD for Drawing Things for 3D Printing." Dave will teach us new methods that simplify drawing items for your layout. We also have Division 1 member Ken Fitzgerald teaching us techniques that we can use for taking better photos when we railfan. Both clinics help emphasize our two slogans for the year to help you become a better modeler and strengthen our division!

See you this Saturday at 10am.

Keep training!

Mike Mackey, MMR
Director, Cowcatcher Division

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If You Do Nothing, Expect Nothing as a Result!

Treasurer's Report

Currently
Cowcatcher
Division has
\$2376.66 in
checking
accounts.

Dick Brannan

Treasurer
Cowcatcher Division

This month's clinics:

"2.5D CAD for Drawing Things for 3D Printing" and...

"Techniques for taking better photos when railfanning"

Dave Ackmann is a member of the Gateway Division of the NMRA in St Louis, Missouri. His railroad is the Baden, Vogt & DeSmet - a 250 square foot freelance layout in HO utilizing DCC. Dave likes to explore the use of technology in model railroading. He virtually shares his experiences with both NMRAX events and NMRA Divisions across North America. He holds a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and a master's degree in Computer Science. Other activities he enjoys include woodworking and classical choral singing.

When it comes to getting into 3D Printing and designing your own models, are you intimidated by the learning curve of Computer Aided Design (CAD) software? If you could use software you may already know (PowerPoint) to design "2 and-a-Half D" objects for Model Railroading, would you give it a try? This clinic teaches you to use PowerPoint's drawing tools to design useful object in 2 dimensions, then how to convert them into 3D models for printing, hence "2 and-a-Half D". Structure walls, windows, fences, billboards, trestles and much more are all within your reach. The "Magic" of 3D printing can be simple if you learn a few tricks!

Ken Fitzgerald has been involved with railroads and photography for over 50 years. He began his lifelong passion for railroads at the age of 5 while spending his summers riding Trains at Santa Fe yard in Sweetwater, TX. Taking a photography course at age 12 allowed him to capture the railroad's people, operations, equipment and character for historical purposes.

Since that time his photography has appeared in many different railroad magazines, books and calendars. He also authored several books and produced several photo books of his work. The lists of Ken's publications and accomplishments are long.

Today Ken works as a full-time photographer in the railroad industry and has documented several major railroad engineering projects. He is the lead photographer for Trinity Metro's bus fleet, TEXRail, Trinity Railway Express and does work for area Class One railroads.

Ken will bring the professional equipment he uses in his daily work. He will discuss how the pursuit of photography can be as simple as taking an occasional photo of your layout, photos for modeling, or a submission for publication. The focus will be to give tips that will help you achieve your personal goals for taking better photographs.

Respectfully,
Cole Rash
Program Manager
Cowcatcher Division 1

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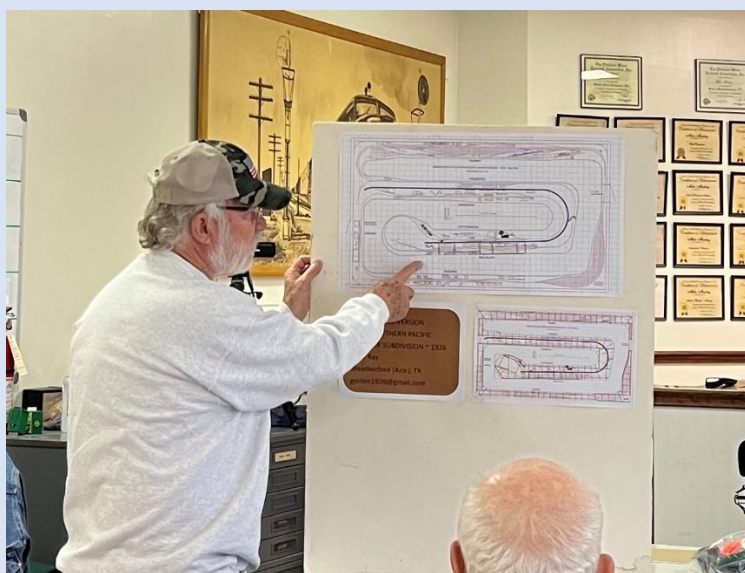
Hi-Lights



Dr Michael Ross – MMR!



Gordy Robinson - NMRA President stops by



Gary Ray – Model RR plan



David Kranda – Outstanding Leadership

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March 2022

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

www.cowcatcherdivision.org

12th – Houston Area Train Show

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>

April 2022

7th – 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

9th – NMRA Lone Star Region Cowcatcher Division 1 Meeting, 10 am - 1pm

www.cowcatcherdivision.org

16th – NMRA Lone Star Region Division 3 Meeting, Christ The Servant Lutheran Church in Allan, TX, 10am - 1pm, Saturday

www.trinityriverdivision.org

16th – Cowtown Model RR Club General Meeting, Handley Center, 3024 Forest Avenue, Ft Worth, TX 76112, 7pm - 9pm,

<https://www.cmrrc.net>

23rd – NMRAx



Register today for the LSR2022 Convention in Temple, Texas

May 5th through May 7th 2022

At the Mayborn Convention Center

<https://LSR2022.org>

Regional Train Shows

New Braunfels April 9-10, 2022

<http://newbraunfelsrailroadmuseum.org/nbrr/train-shows>

Austin August 27-28, 2022

<https://austintrainshow.org>

Temple September 17 & 18, 2022

<http://centramodrr.com/train-show>

Plano October 2022, January 2023

<http://www.dfwtrainshows.com>

Oklahoma City December 2022

<https://www.oklahomarailwaymuseum.org/events/okc-train-show/>

Greater Houston February 18, 2023

<http://www.sanjacmodeltrains.org/GHTS.php>



Gateway 2022

NMRA National Convention

Sun, August 07 — Sat, August 13, 2022

https://www.eventsquid.com/event.cfm?previ ew&event_id=13724

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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

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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 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>

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Area Hobby Shops

Angelo Hobbies

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

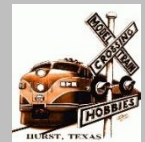


Model Train Crossing

1113 W. Pipeline Road
Hurst, TX 76053
<https://www.facebook.com/modeltraincrossin>

(817) 595-0800

(no "g" on the end)



Hobbytown USA

746 Grapevine Hwy
Hurst, TX 76054
<https://www.hobbytown.com/hurst-tx/1123>

(817) 581-1027



Hobbytown USA

500 E. Round Grove Rd
Lewisville, TX 75067
<https://www.hobbytown.com/lewisville-tx/121>

(972) 315-3700



Wild Bill's Hobbytown USA

535 E Shady Grove Rd
Irving, TX 75060
<https://www.hobbytown.com/irving-tx/1183>

(972) 438-9224



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.