



Whistle



COWCATCHER DIVISION
division one of the Lone star nmra region

February 2023

Railroad Signs

with Duane Richardson



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February's meeting will be 10am on Saturday the 11th at the Texas Western Model RR Club and via zoom.

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

Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



NMRA Lone Star Region
Cowcatcher Division 1

Whistle

Vol. 7 No. 2
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Director's Report

The Plano Train show, from all accounts was a big success. Attendance was up significantly from last year's show. The Build-A-World demonstration attracted a steady crowd of on lookers and a number of new NMRA members were signed up.

Division 1 was well represented at the NMRA booth and would like to thank all the volunteers, especially Russell Gifford who coordinated the clinicians and the volunteers for D1 and Dr. Mike Ross, MMR, Membership Committee chair and his team for manning the booth.

Consistent with our themes for 2023:

- Helping You Make your Model Railroading Dreams a Reality.
- "If You Do Nothing, Expect Nothing as a Result

Duane Richardson, will be conducting the clinic at February's meeting titled "Railroad signs and Signals".

Keep in mind, as was announced in last month's meeting Cole Rash, the Divisions Program Manager, is planning a program on Arduino Projects but if interested the kit needs to be ordered in advance. Please contact Cole for additional information. He can be reached by going to cowcatcherdivision.org, clicking on Leadership team the clicking on the "contact" button.

Dick Brannan

Dick Brannan

Director, Cowcatcher Division




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SUPERCHARGED - HIGH SPEED

 **TEXAS EXPRESS**

AUGUST 20-26
Dallas/Fort Worth
GAYLORD RESORT, GRAPEVINE



NATIONAL TRAIN SHOW
AUGUST 25-27 only

BNSF HEADQUARTERS TOUR

GRAPEVINE RAILROAD EXCURSION

MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN RAILROAD

NMRA National Convention
2023 TEXASEXPRESS.COM

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February's Clinic Railroad Signs and Signals

with Duane Richardson

Duane Richardson has been around model railroading his entire life so it's little surprise that he started building models at a very young age. A MMR at 36, he has won almost every modeling category available in the LSR Contest room as well as awards at the National Narrow Gauge Convention. He ran the contest room for 6 years and has been the LSR's Achievement Program Chairman for the last 8 years.

During the online COVID zoom clinics Duane did a clinic about how to find signs online and how to work them to get them ready for use on your model railroad. This clinic will be a quick recap of that clinic, as well as a demo of some new model railroad sign software. He will then tell ways to apply your signs to a model. This will be clinic that you do not want to miss out on..

Cole Rash
Program Manager

Treasurer's Report

Cowcatcher Division currently has \$1868.04 in its checking account.

Dick Brannan

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Visiting the Steam Locomotive Mallard in York, England Holder of the World Speed Record by Steve Gratke

I traveled to York along with 4 other family members to see my granddaughter Maggie's Masters Degree graduation. We flew from DFW International on a British Airways Airbus 380, a double deck airliner, to London Heathrow airport. It was a 9 hour flight. From Heathrow we took the Underground (subway) to the King's Cross Train Station. The Underground took an hour because of its many stops. At King's Cross we boarded the Grand Central Express. That train made the non-stop 174 mile trip from King's Cross Station to York Station in 2 hours and 5 minutes. Yes, it was that fast. That train's final destination was Edinburgh, Scotland. My granddaughter, who is now a PhD student, met us at the York Station.

The National Railway Museum of the United Kingdom is in York, England. The museum is across the tracks from the York Train Station. The museum is housed in two huge, enclosed structures connected by a long hall. The structure housing the older exhibits like Queen Victoria's Royal Train was closed for a two year building upgrade. The hallway hosts a large operating O scale layout. We entered the open Great Hall which was formerly an engine shed built in 1877. We walked clockwise as we looked at every locomotive and car sitting on radial tracks extending from a turntable. Included were a Chunnel locomotive, a Bullet locomotive from Japan, a big 4-8-4 from China, and several British steam and diesel electric locos. It is a very large and interesting collection. The high light was a gleaming blue, streamlined locomotive - the Mallard. The Mallard is an Class A4 Pacific 4-6-2. Figure 1 shows a full side view of the locomotive and tender.



Figure 1: Author in Front of the Mallard, an A4 Pacific of the LNER
Photo by the Author's Daughter Karen

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The LNER on its tender stands for the London North Eastern Railway which still operates today. The Mallard's design evolved over several years and several locomotives built by the LNER. It is said to be streamlined in and out. The Mallard was completed in March 1938. Rumors of an attempt at the world speed record had been circulating among LNER employees for quite some time and then one day they opened the record books and started the run. It was reported to be a brake test run but in secret the world speed record of 114 mph was being attacked. In the record run the Mallard pulled a consist including a Dynamometer car and 6 luxury Pullman carriages. The Mallard reached 126 mph on July 3, 1938. That was a world record for a steam locomotive that still stands today. Figure 2 shows the front of the Mallard. Note the absence of a headlight. The British had total reliance on their signal systems and barriers, so they didn't have steam locomotive headlights. At the speeds of some locomotives, they could not stop in time anyway.



*Figure 2: The Front of the Mallard with Granddaughter Maggie and the Author
Photo by the Author's Daughter Karen*

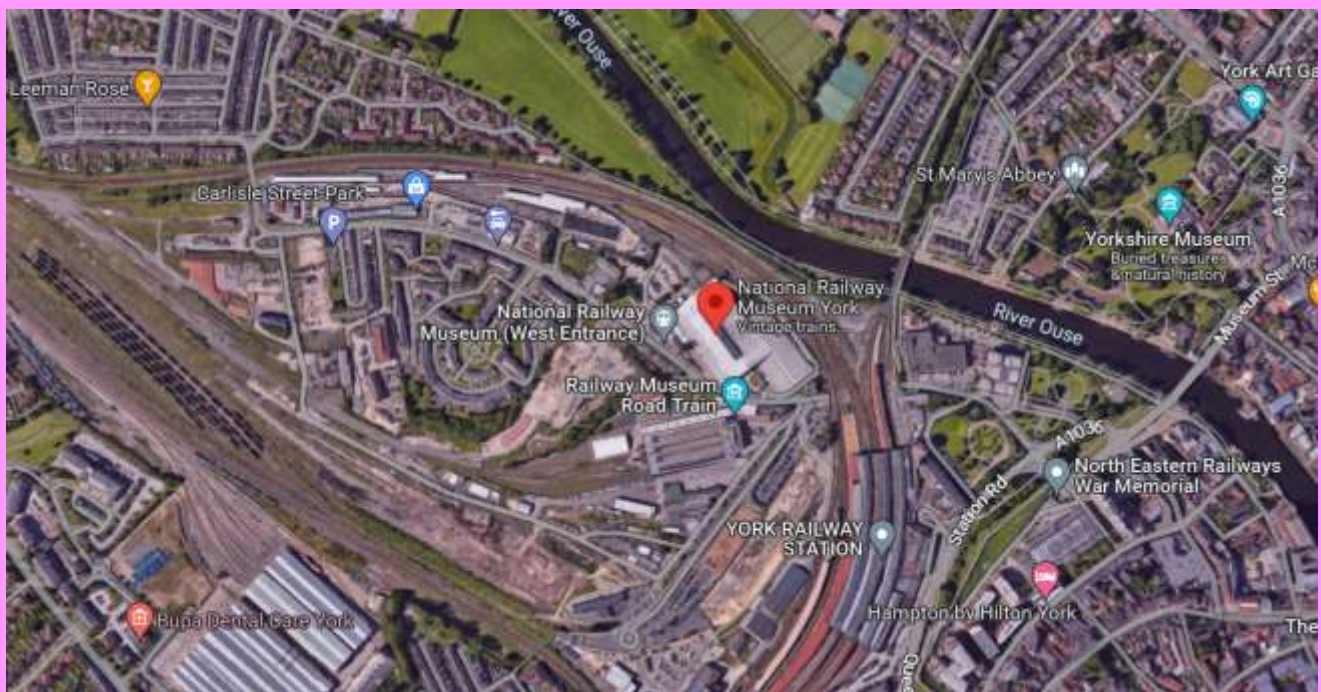
You may be thinking, "Isn't a Mallard a duck?" Yes, the Mallard locomotive is named after a duck. There were several A4 series locos built and all were named after birds. The President of the LNER at that time, Sir Nigel Gresley, loved birds. His estate even included a large pond with an island for his Mallard Ducks. The Mallard locomotive was his favorite. I know there are several YouTube videos of visits to the museum but its neat to have really been there. It is an impressive and awesome museum.

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There is a smaller engine shed attached to the Great Hall. It is a big storage building crowded with high, heavy steel shelves. There are several glass cases and glass shelves too. This is an archive of all things about UK trains. There is a large amount of model railroad stuff - all scales from smallest to ride upon. It is amazing to see. Based on notes on many items it was clear that many United Kingdom model railroaders bequeath their trains to the museum and they are in this archive room. There was furniture from rail cars, cast name plates from many locomotives, and all sorts of railway items in the storage room, It was awesome. On one side of this shed we could look through windows and doors to see restoration projects on rail cars and locomotives.



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February 2023

11th – NMRA Lone Star Region Cowcatcher Division 1 Meeting, 10 am - 1pm

www.cowcatcherdivision.org

18th – NMRA Lone Star Region Division 3 Meeting, Christ The Servant Lutheran Church in Allan, TX, 10am - 1pm, Saturday

www.trinityriverdivision.org

18th – Cowtown Model RR Club General Meeting, Handley Center, 3024 Forest Avenue, Ft Worth, TX 76112, 7pm - 9pm,

<https://www.cmrrc.net>

25th – **NMRAx** 9am - noon

March 2023

2nd – 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

11th – NMRA Lone Star Region Cowcatcher Division 1 Meeting, 10 am - 1pm

www.cowcatcherdivision.org

18th – NMRA Lone Star Region Division 3 Meeting, Christ The Servant Lutheran Church in Allan, TX, 10am - 1pm, Saturday

www.trinityriverdivision.org

18th – Cowtown Model RR Club General Meeting, Handley Center, 3024 Forest Avenue, Ft Worth, TX 76112, 7pm - 9pm,

<https://www.cmrrc.net>

Regional Train Shows

Plano January 21 & 22, 2023

<http://www.dfwtrainshows.com>

Greater Houston February 18, 2023

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

New Braunfels April 15 & 16, 2023

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

Austin May 6 & 7, 2023

<https://austintrainshow.org>

Temple September 16 & 17, 2023

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

Oklahoma City 2023

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



Greater Houston Train Show

February 18, 2023

Pasadena Convention Center

7902 Fairmont Parkway

Pasadena, TX 77504



NATIONAL TRAIN SHOW August 25-27
SPENCER CHRISTIAN Banquet Speaker
GAYLORD RESORT 4-star Hotel and Water Park
BNSF HQ TOUR Dispatching Center and Intermodal Yard

CLINICS
SIG ACTIVITIES
LAYOUT TOURS
OPERATION SESSIONS
CONTEST AND DISPLAY
FREEMO-N OPERATIONS

RAIL TOURS
 Texo Grain Mill
 Private Railcars
 TexRail Back Shop
 Texas State Railroad
 Trinity Rail Car Plant
 BNSF Intermodal Yard
 Six Flags Railroad Shop
 Grapevine Vintage Railroad
 McKinney Ave Trolley Shops
 Trinity Tank Car Cleaning Plant
 BNSF National Operations Center
 Museum of the American Railroad
 BNSF Private Western Art Collection
 T&P, Santa Fe, & Dallas Union Stations
 Fort Worth & Western Railroad Back Shop
 Union Pacific Dallas International Terminal
 Light Rail & Commuter Shops (DART & TRE)

GENERAL INTEREST
 George W Bush Library
 Fort Worth Stockyards
 Grapevine Wine Tour
 Sixth Floor Museum
 Fort Worth Modern
 Holocaust Museum
 Kimbell Museum
 Globe Life Park
 AT&T Stadium
 Dealey Plaza

NMRA National Convention
 2023TEXASEXPRESS.COM



New Braunfels Train Show

April 15 & 16, 2023

New Braunfels Civic Center

375 South Castell Avenue

New Braunfels, Texas 78130

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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

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
<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.