



# Whistle



**COWCATCHER DIVISION**  
division one of the Lone star nmra region

**March 2023**

## Rrrduino

with Gert "Speed" Muller



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Omatako Mountain, Namibia  
(image from the internet)



**March's meeting will be 10am on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> at the Texas Western Model RR Club and via zoom.**

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

**See Dick Brannan's email for the zoom link!**

# Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



NMRA Lone Star Region  
Cowcatcher Division 1

## Whistle

Vol. 7 No. 3  
March 2023

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## Director's Report

March is upon us and North Texas is rolling into spring. I want to wish everyone a Happy St Patrick's Day and extend a traditional Irish wish to you and your families; "May good fortune be yours, May your joys never end."

Last month we had a great clinic on signs presented by Duane Richardson, MMR. Thank you again Duane! If you missed it the video is available on the D1 YouTube channel on our website, [www.cowcatcherdivision.org](http://www.cowcatcherdivision.org).

This month we have an equally exciting program on Arduinos, presented by Speed Muller. Arduinos are an easy way to add animation and make your layout "come alive". Again, very consistent with our themes for the year:

- Making your Model Railroading dreams a reality
- If you do nothing expect nothing as a result

If you haven't checked our website lately please do so, Cole Rash has put together an outstanding schedule of clinics with some nationally known model railroaders such as Joe Fugate and Joe Frankrone doing some clinics for D1 via Zoom.

Attendance figures are in for the recent Plano Train Show. The show was a huge success. Attendance figures were 4063 which is the largest paid attendance in 10 years. This attendance figure is double the attendance in fall of 2022. Thanks to all the D1 volunteers who helped make this happen.

*Dick Brannan*

Dick Brannan

Director, Cowcatcher Division



**EXPRESS**

[GVRR.com](http://GVRR.com)


Grapevine Vintage RR

# 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**

# Cowcatcher Division

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March's Clinic

Rrrduino

with Speed Muller

Speed Muller, is just a guy from Namibia loving operating sessions and electronics and software and trains and lasers and 3D printers and let's stop there, but add embedded devices too.

The RRRduino clinic at Division 1 on Saturday, the 11th, will bring you from the very beginning to an LED turning on and off like a beacon, to a flickering light based on a light sensor and finally a weather vane on a roof moving in most of the directions you can, when living at the North Pole.

So bring your laptop loaded with the Arduino IDE, the Amazon kit you bought and a rooster, for the vane, in a very warm coat.

All the steps to prepare are documented in the new NMRA Interchange, inside a Thread in the LSR Division 1 Channel.

If you are just listening in the clinic, you can't sleep. Bring your laptop instead to follow along!

Cole Rash  
Program Manager



## *Treasurer's Report*

The D1 balance as of 2/28 is \$3901.99.

*David Grein*

David Grein.

# Cowcatcher Division

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## March 2023

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

[www.cowcatcherdivision.org](http://www.cowcatcherdivision.org)

18<sup>th</sup> – NMRA Lone Star Re-  
gion Division 3 Meeting, Christ The  
Servant Lutheran Church in Allan,  
TX, 10am - 1pm, Saturday

[www.trinityriverdivision.org](http://www.trinityriverdivision.org)

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

<https://www.cmrrc.net>

## April 2023

6<sup>th</sup> – 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](http://www.twmrc.org)

8<sup>th</sup> – NMRA Lone Star Region  
Cowcatcher Division 1 Meeting,  
10 am - 1pm

[www.cowcatcherdivision.org](http://www.cowcatcherdivision.org)

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

[www.trinityriverdivision.org](http://www.trinityriverdivision.org)

15<sup>th</sup> – Cowtown Model RR  
Club General Meeting, Handley  
Center, 3024 Forest Avenue, Ft  
Worth, TX 76112, 7pm - 9pm,

<https://www.cmrrc.net>

**NATIONAL TRAIN SHOW** August 25-27  
**SPENCER CHRISTIAN** Banquet Speaker  
**GAYLORD RESORT** 4-star Hotel and Water Park  
**BNSF HO 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**  
2023 TEXAS EXPRESS.COM

## Regional Train Shows

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>

Plano Sep. 30 – Oct. 1, 2023

<http://www.dfwtrainshows.com>

Oklahoma City November 4 & 5, 2023

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

Greater Houston 2024

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



## New Braunfels Train Show

April 15 & 16, 2023

New Braunfels Civic Center

375 South Castell Avenue  
New Braunfels, Texas 78130



## Austin 2023 Train Show

May 6 & 7, 2023

Palmer EventsCenter  
900 Barton Springs Road  
Austin, Texas

# 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](mailto:bradyprrm1a@cableone.net) or contact: Stan Schwartz, Email: [ss124@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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>

# Cowcatcher Division

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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.**

# Cowcatcher Division

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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.