



Whistle



COWCATCHER DIVISION

DIVISION ONE OF THE Lone Star Region of the NMRA

AUGUST 2023



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August's meeting will be 10am on Saturday the 12th at the Texas Western Model RR Club and via Zoom

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

Joe Leising will be unable to give his talk as planned this month, so Jim Ogden is dusting off an updated presentation from a clinic some years ago. Thanks to Jim for volunteering to step up on short notice. Please keep Joe and his family in your prayers.

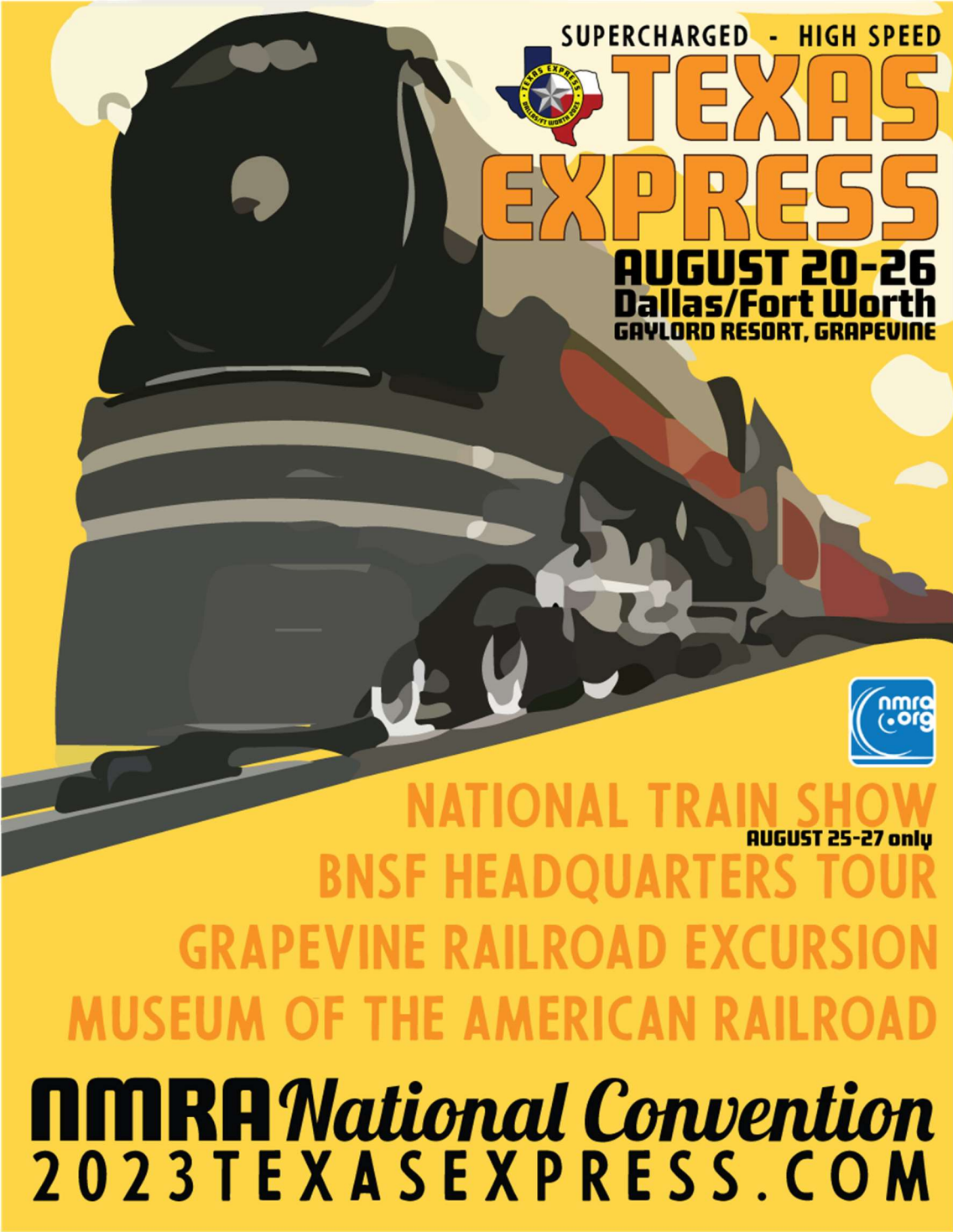
Jim will be doing a program using PowerPoint® titled "Adventures Beyond the Wood Pile; An overview of the pulp and paper industry in East Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana."

This will be an overview of how pulpwood was used, how the railroads historically handled the commodity, and how one can model pulpwood and paper mill operations. Early cars were homemade and rarely strayed from home rails. By the 1950s, operations became more structured. Independent loggers could order a rack car, contract with a broker to sell it to a paper company, and it would be transported to a paper mill.



Finished products shipped would include different grades and weights of paper, cardboard, or packing materials. Some mills would use wood chips and a paper mill would receive tank cars of all sorts of chemicals. Often, a chemical plant was located next door and there were all sorts of ancillary businesses next to a paper mill.

Since Jim models western Arkansas and East Texas, the talk will be skewed somewhat towards MoPac/TP, Frisco, and SP/Cotton Belt, but those interested in other regions can get ideas on adding these operations.



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BNSF HEADQUARTERS TOUR
GRAPEVINE RAILROAD EXCURSION
MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN RAILROAD

NMRA *National Convention*
2023 TEXASEXPRESS.COM

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Director's Report:

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It is hard to believe but the event we have been planning for the last 2 years is finally here--- 2023TexasExpress, the NMRA International convention.

I know many of you have registered and are looking forward to attending and are well aware of all the advantages of being at a NMRA National Convention. I want to address this column to those who may be undecided at this time and point out several major advantages of attending.

- Where else would you be able to learn new techniques and approaches to enhance your modeling skills in a short period of time? Currently there are more than 250 hours of clinics put on by almost 100 clinicians. All the clinics are designed to increase your skill and knowledge of model railroading and are taught by experts.

They say: “seeing is believing”. Wouldn’t it be nice to see some of the best layouts in the area? I have not seen a layout yet where I haven’t learned a new trick or two.

- At 2023TexasExpress there are 16 layouts and 2 live steam layouts on the bus tours as well as 23 layouts on the Self-Guided Open House tour. This is a fantastic opportunity to see those layouts and learn from others.

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NMRA Lone Star Region
Cowcatcher
**Division 1
Whistle**

**Vol. 7 No. 8
August 2023**

Director

Dick Brannan
director@cowcatcherdivision.org

Secretary

John "Trapper" Kirkpatrick
secretary@cowcatcherdivision.org

Treasurer

David Grein
treasurer@cowcatcherdivision.org

Program Manager

Cole Rash
pm@cowcatcherdivision.org

Operations Manager

Jim Davis
ops@cowcatcherdivision.org

Achievement Program Manager

Mike Mackey
ap@cowcatcherdivision.org

Contest Advisor Co-Managers

Casey Akin
contest1@cowcatcherdivision.org
Cody Akin
contest2@cowcatcherdivision.org

Webmaster

Stephen Gratke
webmaster@cowcatcherdivision.org

Communications Manager

Chris Sgaraglino
communications@cowcatcherdivision.org

Newsletter Editors

Ed McGinley & Chris Sgaraglino
editor@cowcatcherdivision.org

Videographer

David Kranda
video@cowcatcherdivision.org

Membership

David Crumpton
ceo@twmrc.org
Michael Ross
mross@txem.com

Director's Report (continued):

As a Convention registrant you have free access to the National Train Show and are able to attend before it opens to the public.

- You are able to talk to all of the hobby's leading manufacturers and see recent offerings and upcoming products. Consider it a "National Hobby Shop " in your backyard.

This month will be a great meeting and don't forget we will be conducting a layout tour at a member's house after the meeting.

Dick Brannan
Director- Cowcatcher Division
LSR NMRA

From the editor: Dick needs additional layouts to host the group after a meeting so please sign up. I will after getting the dog hair off the fur-niture.

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Things to Do, People to See

August 2023

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

21st – Cowtown Model RR Club General Meeting, Handley Center, 3024 Forest Avenue, Ft Worth, TX 76112, 7pm - 9pm,

<https://www.cmrrc.net>

19th – NMRax

September 2023

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

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

<https://www.cmrrc.net>

16th – NMRax

Regional Train Shows

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 November 18-19, 2023

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

New Braunfels Train Show October 21-22, 2023

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



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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**

Dallas/Fort Worth O Scale Club

Normally meets two Saturdays per month in Richardson. Contact: Brady McGuire, Tel: **903-868-2726**, Email: bradyprm1a@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

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.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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- Angelo Hobbies** (817) 428-0190
5600 Rufe Snow Drive Dr. #106
North Richland Hills, TX 76180
<http://angelohobbiestrains.com>
- Discount Model Trains** (817) 428-0190
4641 Ratliff Lane
Addison, TX 75001
- Model Train Crossing** (817) 595-0800
1113 W. Pipeline Road
Hurst, TX 76053
<https://www.facebook.com/modeltraincrossin> (no "g" on the end)
- Hobbytown USA** (817) 581-1027
746 Grapevine Hwy
Hurst, TX 76054
<https://www.hobbytown.com/hurst-tx/1123>
- Hobbytown USA** (972) 315-3700
500 E. Round Grove Rd
Lewisville, TX 75067
<https://www.hobbytown.com/lewisville-tx/121>
- Wild Bill's Hobbytown USA** (817) 538-5088
1112 W. Arbrook Blvd/
Arlington, TX 76015
<https://www.htudallastx.com/hobbytown-usa-arlington-store-location/>

*** note updated location info***

Check with your local hobby shops for their store hours.

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Texas Railroad Prototypes for the Average Modeling Space

By Ed McGinley

This is the first in a series of articles on the small railroads of Texas. Part of my purpose here is to demonstrate some railroads that would serve as average-sized home layout prototypes. I may stray a bit from Texas but not too far as there are plenty of prototypes past and present out there within the state.



If you have ever been to the Galveston Railroad Museum in, you guessed it Galveston, you have most likely seen the Baldwin 2-6-0 behind the museum building. This locomotive is the only extant piece of equipment of the Waco, Beaumont, Trinity, and Sabine Railway (WBTS). The locomotive was purchased by the Moody Foundation and snatched off the rails in Trinity, Texas just ahead of the scrappers. The WBTS emerged from the bankruptcy reorganization of an earlier railroad in April of 1923. The railroad headquarters were in Trinity and the track ran roughly east-west for 48 miles. A year later the railroad purchased a section of railroad from the MKT. Its 66 miles resulted in a total of 114 miles arranged roughly in a V shape with the point at Trinity. One leg ran east to Livingston and the other leg to Corrigan northeast of Trinity.

What makes this an ideal prototype for a home layout, many of which are loop shaped, is the Southern Pacific predecessor Texas and New Orleans closed the open end of the V interchanging with the WBTS at both ends in Livingston and Corrigan. The WBTS also interchanged with the MoPac/IGN in Trinity.

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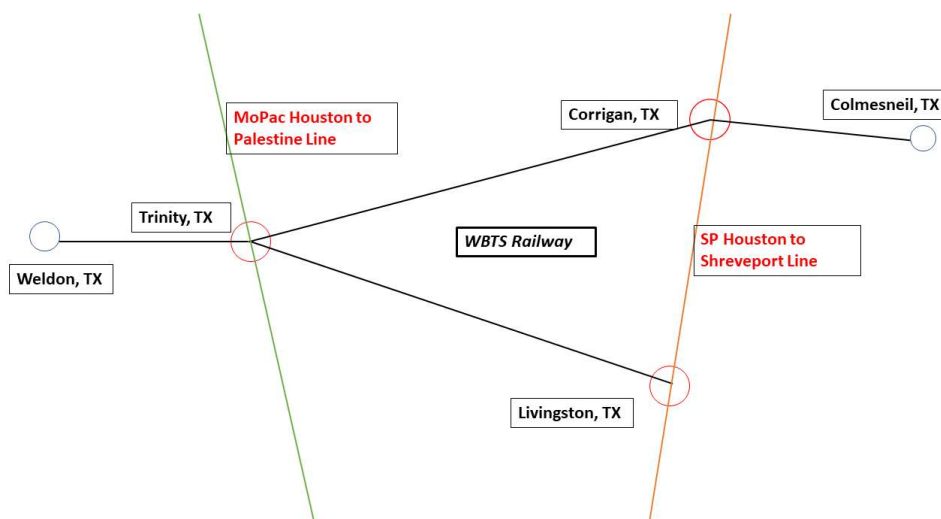
The railroad had ICC approved plans to extend its rails to Waco and Beaumont but never could garner the cash to do so. The Great Depression, over cutting of the timber along the route, and low revenues led to bankruptcy in February 1930. The WBTS never emerged from bankruptcy proceedings and ceased operating in 1961. Incidentally this was the longest railroad bankruptcy in Texas railroad history.

Modeling the rolling stock for the WBTS won't break the bank as the road only owned 58 cars and six locomotives in the mid-1920s. The rolling stock would be a mixture of old wooden cars, flatcars and boxcars, purchased second hand. The locomotives were small oil burners, and would be well weathered and decrepit. No ballasting needed, much of the right of way was weed covered with dirt to the tops of the ties.. Despite the lack of preserved prototype equipment, the interested modeler has as a great resource, the website of Jason Rose at <https://www.wbtsrailway.net/history.htm>. This site has a wealth of prototype photos of equipment, maps and railroad structures. Jason and his crew have done a remarkable job preserving this historical record.

The Texas State Historical Society has additional info on its site:

<https://www.tshaonline.org/waco-beaumont-trinity-and-sabine-railway>

The graphic below is a rough idea of the railroad arrangement and clearly demonstrates the possibility of a home layout configured in a loop fashion for prototypical operation (point-to-point) and continuous running.



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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.