



The Whistle



COWCATCHER DIVISION

Division One of The Lone Star Region of the NMRA

January 2024



Directors Report

I would like to wish all the members of the Cowcatcher Division and their families a Happy and Safe 2024 and hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas. The beginning of the year is always a busy time on North Tex as with the Plano Train Show fast approaching on Jan. 20 th and 21 st at the Plano Events Center and following that will be the Lone Star Region Convention, Where the Eagle Meets the Chief! in Pasadena, Texas on February 15-17, 2024. The LSR Convention is being held in conjunction with the Greater Houston Train Show, go to <https://turbotrains.com/2024lonestar/>

This year at the Plano Train Show Division 1 (Cowcatcher) and Division 3 (Trinity River) are working on a new approach to attracting younger people to the hobby. The project is call "Pay it Forward" and consists of 4- 2 x 4 foot modules when connected together creates a 4 ft x 8 ft table. The modules will be partially completed prior to the show and then completed with clinics demonstrating various modeling techniques during the Train Show. Raffle tickets will be sold during the show with the drawing taking place Sunday Coordinating the event are Chris Mahan for D1 and Jeff Rykiel for D3.

The Christmas Party was very successful and once again the "White Elephant "gift exchange produced its usual amount of surprises. The Division would like to thank the City of Forest Hills and especially Venus Wehle for her assistance and hospitality and to John "Trapper" Kirkpatrick and Harold Berenzweig for coordinating the event and finally to David Grein for "MCing" the White Elephant gift exchange.

Jim Ogden has an excellent program for our January meeting. He is taking the gist of a magazine article he is authoring for the NMRA Bulletin. The clinic will focus on working with laser cut, 3D printed and Resin structure kits. So, when the article comes out you can say you saw it at the meeting first.

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January's meeting will be at the Texas Western RR Club and via Zoom

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

Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



Planning Ahead

The 2024 NMRA National Convention



Surfliner 2024 NMRA National Convention

August 4 - 11, 2024, Long Beach California



url: <https://surfliner2024.org/>

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

**Vol. 8 No. 1
January 2024**

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Directors Report (continued from page 1)

The title of Jim's clinic is "Making It Yours; A Roundtable on Laser, Resin, and 3D Printed Structures." More on this below.

The Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad has donated two Standard Class Roundtrip tickets to the Division. Ride behind the steam powered locomotive through the backcountry wilderness of the San Juan Mountains of Southern Colorado. The package is worth \$265 and can be used in the 2024 season. Raffle tickets will be \$5.00 each; 6 tickets for \$25.00 and tickets will be available at the meeting.

Make sure to bring a friend to the meeting.

Dick Brannan
Director-Cowcatcher Division
LSR NMRA

More on this month's program

Jim says We've all been to model railroads and seen the same plastic structure kits over and over. A lot of models date back to the Revell and TruScale era. We've all had them and in many cases kitbashed them or taken kits marketed to the European market and Americanized them. Now with laser, resin, and 3D printing we can have unique structures and detail them to where it's specific to what we are modeling on our own railroads.

Jim hails from Monroe, Louisiana, and has been into trains since December of 1970 (wonder what happened that month?). He mostly does Missouri Pacific/Texas and Pacific in HO scale but he dabbles in regional railroads like Rock Island, Katy, Frisco, as well as Santa Fe and Espee. He has more than a passing interest in southeastern railroads too.

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Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



January 2024

6th – 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

13th – NMRA Lone Star Region
Cowcatcher Division 1 Meeting,
10 am - 1pm
www.cowcatcherdivision.org

20th – 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>

16th – [NMRax](#)

February 2024

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

10th – NMRA Lone Star Region
Cowcatcher Division 1
Christmas Party 6 pm - 9 pm
www.cowcatcherdivision.org

17th – NMRA Lone Star Region
Division 3 Meeting, Christ The
Servant Lutheran Church in Allan,
TX, 10am - 1pm, Saturday
www.trinityriverdivision.org

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

20th – [NMRax](#)

Regional Train Shows

TCA Lone Star Division January 6, 2024

Council Train Show January 20-21, 2024

LSR Convention February 15-17, 2024

SAMRA Show February 24-25, 2024
(Garden Ridge, TX)

Austin Train Show August 24-25, 2024



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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: bradyprrm1a@cablone.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.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** (817) 428-0190
5600 Rufe Snow Drive Dr. #106
North Richland Hills, TX 76180
<http://angelohobbystrains.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. Arbrogk 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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WHERE THE EAGLE MEETS THE CHIEF **THE 2024 NMRA LONE STAR REGION CONVENTION** **HOUSTON/PASADENA, TEXAS**

Have you been wanting to add a backdrop to your layout or module, but haven't been able to find the right artist at a suitable price?

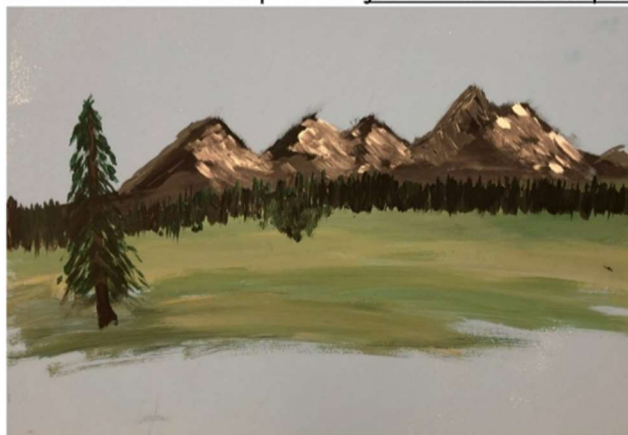
Well, we found you one and at a price you can afford.

(Hint: It's you.)

Back by popular demand Norma Brignac will present her Backdrop painting clinic at the 2024 Lone Star Region Convention.

These will be Hands-On clinics and the first 25 people to sign up will be able to participate in the hands-on learning. Other attendees are welcome to attend the clinic and learn.

After only an hour's instruction and practice you will be able to paint a backdrop.



Painted at a GHTS about 10 years ago, and this was about number three in the class!!

<http://www.turbotrains.com/2024lonestar/>

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From the Financial Wizard

Treasurer's Report

December 1-31

Opening balance	\$1904.43
Receipts	576.25
Expenditures	213.96
Ending balance	\$2266.72

The opening balance difference of \$220.38 from November 30 is caused by an erroneous check register entry from 7/2/2019. No cash involved.

Submitted by David Grein

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.

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Christmas Party time means Awards Time

These awards were started in 2017 to recognize those members who have set themselves apart and have provided service leadership, dedication to the division.

This awards specifically identify 3 categories:

- ☐ Service
- ☐ Overall Contribution
- ☐ Leadership
- ☐ and Craftsmanship

Jim Norwood Award for Member of the Year

For decades Jim supported Division 1 with his participation and kindness. This award honors the member who has shown exemplary leadership and service to the division

This year's winner is Steve Gratke

John Garfield Award for Volunteer of the Year

For years, John Garfield has been a stalwart when needed on an volunteer assignment. It is only fitting that an award bearing his name honors the volunteer of the year.

This year's winner is Chris Mahan

The Leo Palitti Craftsman Award of the Year

In 2020 the division chose to memorialize another beloved member, Leo Palitti. He was a devoted member to the hobby, division, and his club, the Texas Western Model Railroad Club. Leo's craftsmanship was outstanding and the list of awards garnered by his work would fill volumes. To honor the individual and continue his legacy of outstanding modeling we created this award that bears his name

This year's winner is Russell Gifford

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Director's Award for Outstanding Leadership Team Member

Created in 2021 to recognize a leader whose responsible performance went beyond expectation with results producing unique contributions for the betterment of the Cowcatcher Division and its membership.

This year's winner is David Kranda who was also last year winner.

Congratulations to the award winners and all their hard work!

December Pictures



David Crumpton receives his Master Model Railroader

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Dave Kranda, Director's Award for Outstanding Leadership Team Member



Russell Gifford, The Leo Palitti Craftsman Award of the Year

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Chris Mahan, John Garfield Award for Volunteer of the Year



Eric Smith, Model Railroad Author Achievement Certificate