



The Whistle



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION



COWCATCHER DIVISION LONE STAR REGION NMRA

VOL 8 NO 11 NOVEMBER 2024

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NOVEMBER'S MEETING WILL BE AT 10am ON SATURDAY THE 9TH AT THE TEXAS WESTERN MODEL RR CLUB AND VIA ZOOM. THE ADDRESS IS 6808 FOREST HILL DRIVE, FOREST HILL, TEXAS 76140 SEE EMAIL FOR ZOOM LINK

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Division has just finished a very busy month.

- Had a great Plano train show
- Conducted a super clinic building a Speeder Shed
- Actively participated in the arrival and showing of 4014 in Fort Worth
- Manned a booth at the Red River RPM meet in Forest Hills

I am pointing this out because it takes a lot of involvement from many dedicated NMRA members from D1 and D3 to pull this off who often don't get any credit.

So let me take a moment to thank all of those involved in the Plano Train Show which set a record for sales and attendance.

I'll begin with Steve Gratke who managed all the contracts for the show tables for clubs and vendors,

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LEADERSHIP TEAM

DIRECTOR

DICK BRANNAN

SECRETARY

HAROLD BERENZWEIG

TREASURER

DAVID GREIN

PROGRAM MANAGER

JIM OGDEN

ASST PROGRAM MANAGER &

TRAIN SHOW COORDINATOR

RUSSELL GIFFORD

OPERATIONS MANAGER

JIM DAVIS

ASST OPERATIONS MANAGER

DAVID RANNEY

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM ADVISOR

MIKE MACKEY MMR

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

ROBERT "BOB" MANGRUM MMR

CONTEST ADVISOR

CASEY AKIN

CONTEST ADVISOR

CODY AKIN

**NORTH TEXAS COUNCIL OF TRAIN
CLUBS REPRESENTATIVE**

DICK BRANNAN

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

MIKE ROSS MMR

ASST MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

DAVID CRUMPTON MMR

SERGEANT AT ARMS

DON ROWE

VIDEOGRAPHER

DAVID KRANDA

COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR

ERIC SMITH

WEB MASTER

STEVE GRATKE

FOR CONTACT INFO SEE
COWCATCHER DIVISION WEB SITE

<https://cowcatcherdivision.org/>



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DIRECTOR'S REPORT CONT.

then Russell and Debra Gifford who transported and set up and tore down the booth and managed the publicity for the "Pay it Forward" module. Then there was Mike Ross and David Karanda assisted by Steve Crise who put together a new Cowcatcher Division recruiting video. Let's not forget everyone who participated in building the "Pay it Forward Module" especially Chris Mahan who headed it up and finally the members who manned the booth. Think about how much fun it was to build a Speeder Shed in last month's clinic but it didn't happen automatically. Jim Ogden made sure everyone got their kit ordered and paid for, Steele Craver provided drawings to Duane Richardson, MMR who then cut them out on his laser, bagged them added additional components and they walked us through the build sequence.

I would like to recognize Mike Mackey for coordinating the 4014 showing and the Union Pacific Family Day celebration. Despite some very early mornings about 30 volunteers show up and had a great time and were able to get a group photo opportunity in front of 4014.

Mike Ross and Russel Gifford were instrumental in setting up the booth for the Red River RPM meeting. Dave Steckler and Eric Smith conducted clinics for the meet. Mike Ross was able to sign up one new member on Friday and Russell and I were able to review NMRA benefits with a number of prospective members on Saturday.

As you can see a lot of members contribute to the success of the Division and we should thank them for their involvement but don't forget about half of the Division membership is not participating and we could use your help, plus you will get a lot of benefits from your involvement. Our next meeting is November 9, 2024 and our clinic will be on 4014's visit to Fort Worth conducted by Steve Crise.

Dick Brannan
Director-Cowcatcher Division
LSR NMRA



DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER 2024

1ST-3RD THE INTERCHANGE OPS
WEEKEND CONTACT CHRIS ATKINS

2ND-3RD OKLAHOMA CITY TRAIN SHOW

THURSDAY TEXAS WESTERN RR
CLUB BUSINESS MEETING FOR
MEMBERS AND PROSPECTIVE
MEMBERS ONLY

7 pm -9 pm @ 6808 FOREST HILL DR.

FOREST HILL, TX 76140

9TH COWCATCHER DIVISION
MEETING 10:00

16TH-17TH HOUSTON AREA MODEL
TRAIN SHOW

DECEMBER 2024

7TH-8TH 14TH-15TH, 21ST-22ND SANTA'S
RAILROAD WONDERLAND SAN
ANTONIO

JANUARY 2025

18TH-19TH PLANO TRAIN SHOW

FEBRUARY 2025

15TH HOUSTON TRAIN SHOW

JUNE 2025

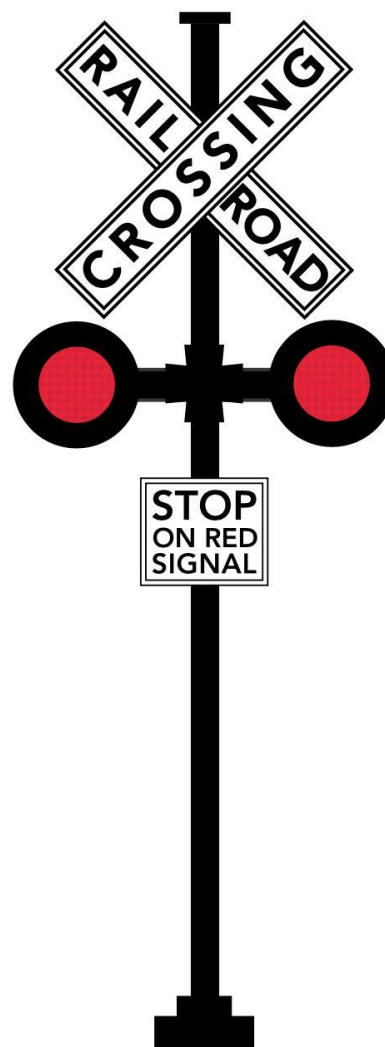
26TH-29TH LSR CONVENTION BATON
ROUGE

JULY 2025

14TH-19TH NMRA NATIONAL
CONVENTION NOVI, MICHIGAN

SEPTEMBER 2025

LABOR DAY WEEKEND THE 90TH
ANIVERSARY OF NMRA



REGIONAL TRAIN SHOWS

OK CITY NOV 2-3, 2024

18TH-19TH PLANO TRAIN SHOW

GREATER HOUSTON FEB 15, 2025

TREASURER'S REPORT

1 OCTOBER BALANCE	\$2783.46
RECEIPTS	\$789.81
EXPENDITURES	\$469.55
31 OCT BALANCE	\$3103.72

Pending Purchase of \$356.14 which may
affect the end balance if it clears in October



TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE MONTH

HOW TALL IS THE UP BIG BOY?

LOOK FOR ANSWER IN THIS MONTH'S
NEWSLETTER

AREA MODEL RAILROAD CLUBS

COWTOWN MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

MEETS AT THE HANDLEY COMMUNITY CENTER, UPSTAIRS 3024 FOREST AVE, 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 INFO CONTACT LEE MARTIN AT 817-666-5367

DALLAS/FT WORTH O SCALE CLUB

NORMALLY MEETS TWO SATURDAYS PER MONTH IN RICHARDSON

CONTACT BRADY McGUIRE 903-868-2726

bradyprrm1a@cableone.net

STAN SCHWARTZ ss124@sbcglobal.net

DENTON AREA MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

MEETS 2ND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7PM IN THE DENTON SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER DOWNTOWN

HO & N SCALE MODULAR LAYOUTS

<https://www.facebook.com/damrrc/>

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER OF NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEETS 7:30-10:00 PM FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, OFTEN (BUT NOT ALWAYS) AT GRAPEVINE TOURIST & VISITORS INFORMATION CENTER AT MAIN ST AND FWWR RAILROAD TRACKS

<https://ntxnrhs.org>

TEXAS WESTERN MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

LOCATED AT 6808 FOREST HILL, 76140

VISITOR HOURS: SEE CLUB WEBSITE

<https://www.facebook.com/texaswesternmodelrailroadclub>

<https://www.twmrrc.org>

TRINITY N-TRK

MEETS AT HOBBY WORLD, FT WORTH AT 6:30PM

CHECK WEBSITE FOR TIME

<https://www.trinityntrak.com>

TNMRC

MEETS AT 11999 PLANO RD, SUITE 154, DALLAS 75243

<https://www.texasnorthern.org>

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ANGELO HOBBIES

5600 RUFÉ SNOW DRIVE #106
NORTH RICHLAND HILLS 76180

DISCOUNT MODEL TRAINS

4641 RATLIFF LN
ADDISON 75001

MODEL TRAIN CROSSING

1113 W. PIPELINE RD
HURST 76053

HOBBYTOWN USA

746 GRAPEVINE HWY
HURST 76054

HOBBYTOWN USA

500 E. ROUND GROVE RD
LEWISVILLE 75067

WILD BILL'S HOBBYTOWN USA

1112 W. ARBROOK BLVD
ARLINGTON 76015

NMRA POLICY STATEMENT

EFFECTIVE MARCH 31, 2020, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION 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, 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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NOVEMBER CLINIC

UP's 4014 visit to Ft Worth

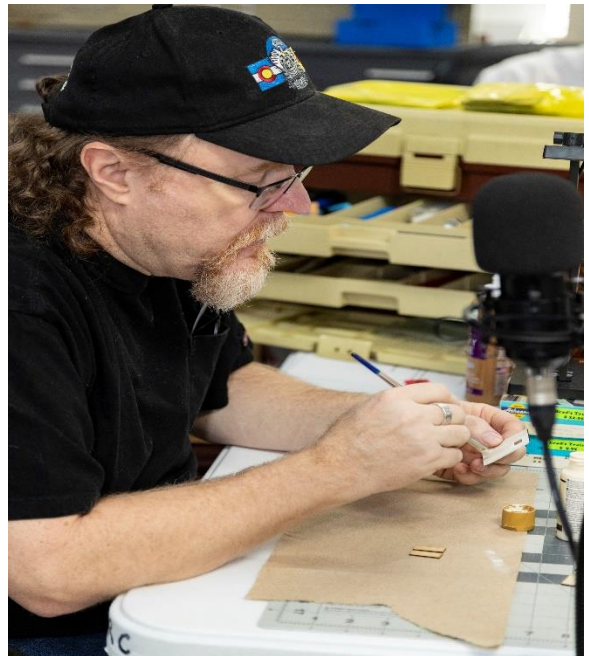
Steve Crise



PHOTOS FROM OCTOBER MAKE AND TAKE



Duane Richardson presenting the clinic

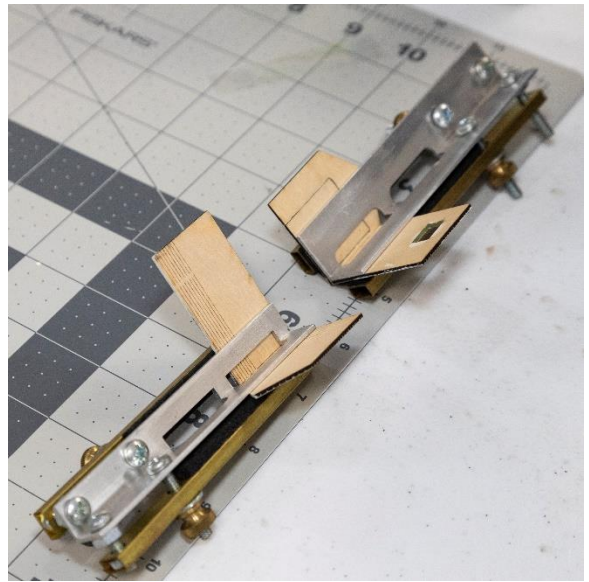


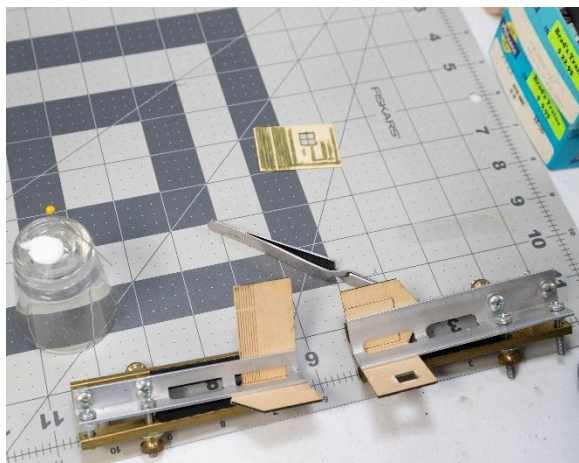
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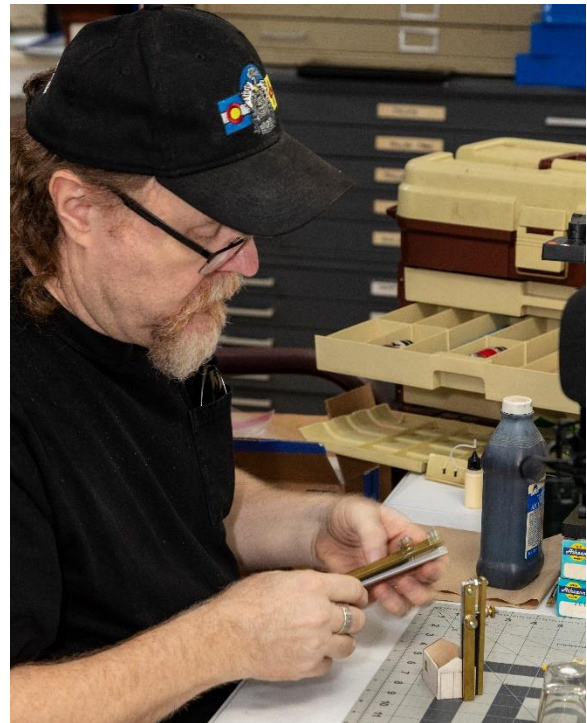
Tom Pearson getting advice from Duane with Darrell Cowles focused intently on his model

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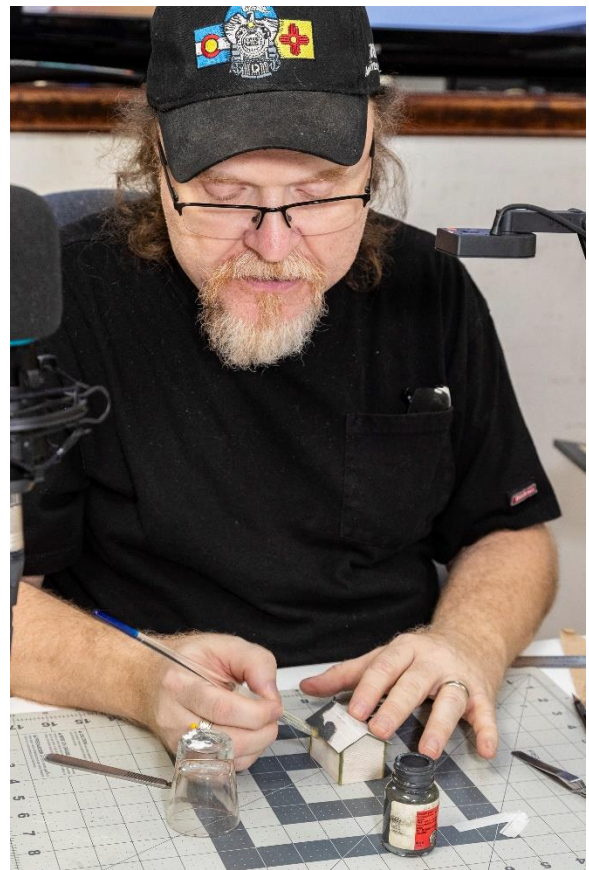




Joe Leising watching the next step



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A proud participant with a completed shed



The completed shed



ANSWER TO THIS MONTH'S
TRIVIA QUESTION:

THE BIG BOY IS 17 FEET TALL

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FOR MORE INFO ABOUT
TOURS, CLINICS, LAYOUTS,
SPECIAL CONTEST SEE THE
NEW ISSUE OF THE
MARKER LAMP FOR
SEPTEMBER 2024

SAVE THE DATES!!

THE 2025 LSR CONVENTION
WILL BE HELD IN
SOUTHERN LOUISIANA FOR
THE FIRST TIME IN THIRTY
YEARS AND YOU WON'T
WANT TO MISS IT!

THERE WILL BE LAYOUTS
AND OTHER RAILROADING
OPPORTUNITIES YOU'VE
PROBABLY NEVER SEEN, IN
A REGION RICH WITH
INTERESTING AND
EXCITING SIGHTS (AND
FOOD)

JUNE 26-29, 2025

HOLIDAY INN BATON
ROUGE SOUTH

9900 AIRLINE HIGHWAY

BATON ROUGE LA 70816



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OPERATIONS ON THE LEE SUB
PART 1 "AN INTROUCTION"

By BOB MANGRUM MMR 456

Well, the initial transition from one newsletter editor to another has been successfully navigated and now as we undertake to start a discussion of the operating schemes of my Lee Subdivision of my proto free-lance Texas and Southern Railroad an introduction is in order.

Like a great many of the membership of the NMRA, I was introduced to model railroading at an early age, receiving my first train set at my first Christmas in December 1948 when I was 7 months old! Obviously, it would be a few years before I really understood what was so fascinating about electric trains.

My father was a master machinist and modeler in his own right and by the time I was nine he had built a small shelf layout,

primarily to test his scratch-built HO brass steam locos. (I still have several of these locos which still run in DC.) At that time, I became fascinated with the daily operations of the railroad, a passion I still retain. A relocation because of my dad's job change led to a new layout, the traditional 4 x 8 in my bedroom; this was eventually followed by a third shelf layout which would claim half of my parents' two car garage. In the late 1950s and early 1960s we used TruScale wooden roadbed, with my dad and I hand laying not only the track but Daddy scratch building his switches as well. The amount of trackage laid, as well as the amount of rolling stock available to the railroad, was limited as a result. Then I reached the teenage years with subsequent competition from other interests as I entered high school. After high school graduation, I left home to attend college; when I returned home that first Thanksgiving, my garage layout was dismantled and all the buildings etc. were

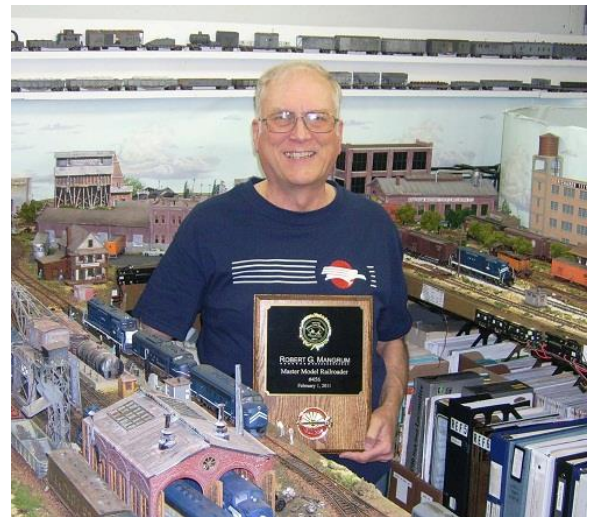
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packed away. My dad said, “you’re in college and interested in girls and cars now.”

That ushered in the armchair model railroader era which lasted thru active duty with the army, graduate school, courtship and two relocations as I advanced in the college faculty ranks. As a university professor of American history, my professional interest and my modeling interests have dovetailed nicely. Finally, with the purchase of our first house, management deeded the one car garage area for my sixth layout, an around the perimeter shelf layout.

Solving the myriad construction problems associated with that layout prepared me for the next house with a two-car garage! As we only had one automobile, it was reasonable to develop half of the two-car garage for the seventh version of the Texas and Southern, a proto-free-lance class one railroad set in 1966 which connected

Kansas City and Corpus Christi. I model a portion of the Lee Subdivision with two staging yards, one representing a track to the north (Wichita Falls-Kansas City) and one representing track to the south (Temple-Corpus Christi). The main city and freight yard is in Lee, along with loco service facilities.



Subsequently, a car port was built and the second half of the two-car garage saw the construction of a small Texas & Pacific Railroad yard and industries in Lee. Connected to the main layout by an interchange track and connections to a staging yard representing both Ft Worth and Big Spring, the addition provides full time

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work for a T&P yard master during an op session.

Born in Abilene, Texas I grew up in Richardson, Texas, I am married to Cheryl Everett of Lake Mississippi. My sister, brother-in-law and nephew live in Allen and are members of Division 3.

Next month we will trace the history of the Texas and Southern Railroad. Until then I hope you have only Green Boards and no hot boxes on your run.

Bob



Lee Tower in Centennial Yard with Dispatcher's Office on right

