

# Whistle





### August 2024



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# DETAILS. INTAINS. INTAIN

2025 LSR in Baton Rouge





August's meeting will be 10am on Saturday the 10<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!



### Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region

NMRA ★ Lone Star Region
Cowcatcher ★ Division 1

### Whistle

### Vol. 8 No. 8 August 2024

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Michael Ross

mross@txem.com

# Director's Report

We are in the "dog days of summer" right now, but there are some exciting things happening on the horizon for model railroaders in the north Texas area.

First and foremost is the Plano Train Show on September 28th and 29th. Our division is responsible for manning the



booth and this affords us an excellent opportunity to educate prospective members on the advantages of the NMRA and make a personal connection with them. The Division will also be showcasing the "Pay it Forward" module, which will demonstrate how simple techniques in track laying, building techniques and scenery produce outstanding results, all culminating with a raffle on Sunday afternoon.

Some of you may have heard 4014 will be making a return trip to Fort Worth on October 11<sup>th</sup> thru 14<sup>th</sup>. These dates may shift slightly. The Cowcatcher Division will be involved in the visit. Mike Mackey is seeking volunteers and can be contacted at: mikemackey\_tx@sbcglobal.net. Please do not use director@cowcatcherdivision.org since he is no longer in that position.

As a "heads-up", this will require we move our October meeting from October 12<sup>th</sup> to October 5<sup>th</sup>. Please note that on your calendars because we kick off our fall "make and take" for the speeder shed at the October meeting.

Russell Gifford did a great job presenting the clinic on Magnorail at last month's meeting. Thank you, Russell! This month's clinic is being presented by David Steckler on dirty engine servicing tracks.

Don't forget to bring a friend to the meeting and if you see a new face at the meeting be sure to introduce yourself.

### Dick Brannan

Dick Brannan Director, Cowcatcher Division LSR NMRA



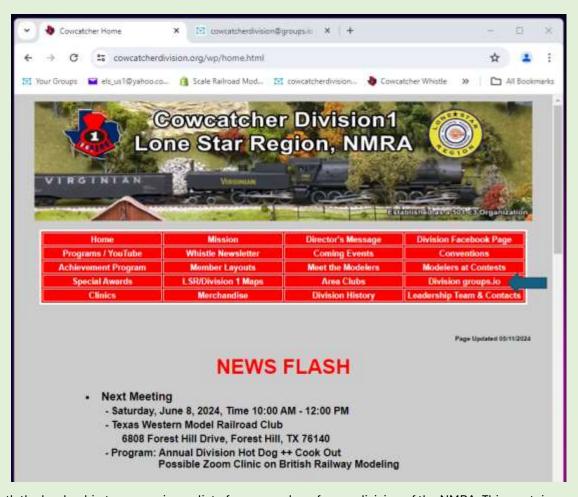
### Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region

### Groups.io Introduction

By Eric Smith

All the members of the Cowcatcher Division of the NMRA have an account on groups.io. Groups.io is a messaging board that allows us to communicate quickly and easily with all members of our Division. It allows us to send notices to extended members of the NMRA that have requested to receive messages from our division. In this article I will give you a brief introduction to groups.io and how to use it to post questions to everyone or look up the email of a specific member of the group.

If you have already logged into groups.io, it is important to note that you can get to groups.io from the Division 1 website <a href="https://cowcatcherdivision.org">https://cowcatcherdivision.org</a>.



Every month the leadership team receives a list of new members for our division of the NMRA. This contains your name and your email address. We use this list to generate accounts to groups.io. When a new account is created, the new member will get an email instructing them on how to get into groups.io.



# Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region

### [Cowcatcher Division 1] You have been added to t els\_us1@yahoo.c.../Inbox he cowcatcherdivision@groups.io group



Groups.io Notification <noreply@groups.io> To: eric smith <els\_us1@yahoo.com>

May 21 at 9:26 AM ■ ☆ Print Raw message

Hello eric smith.

You have been added by the Groups.io Team to Cowcatcher Division 1 Lone Star Region, NMRA. You can use this link for the next 24 hours to log in if it's your first time logging in or if you have forgotten your password. You can do this in the future using the "email me a link to login" button on the Login page.

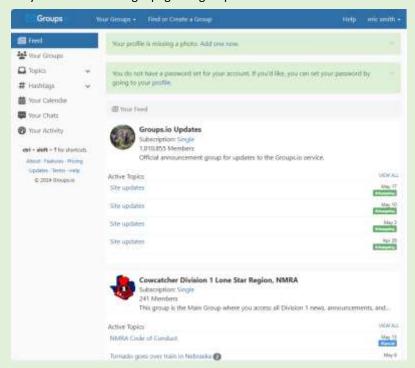
The email for this group is: cowcatcherdivision@groups.io. Because our system allows for participants to post via web or email, you can use this email to post new topics.

But most importantly, please add this email address to your safe sender list in your email client's contacts. If you find emails from this group landing in spam, promo, or social folders, please move those emails to your primary inbox so that you can train your email client to put them directly in your inbox.

If this was a mistake, please click on the following link and you will be immediately removed: Unsubscribe

The Groups.io Team

Click on the "this link" to take you to the initial login page for groups.io.

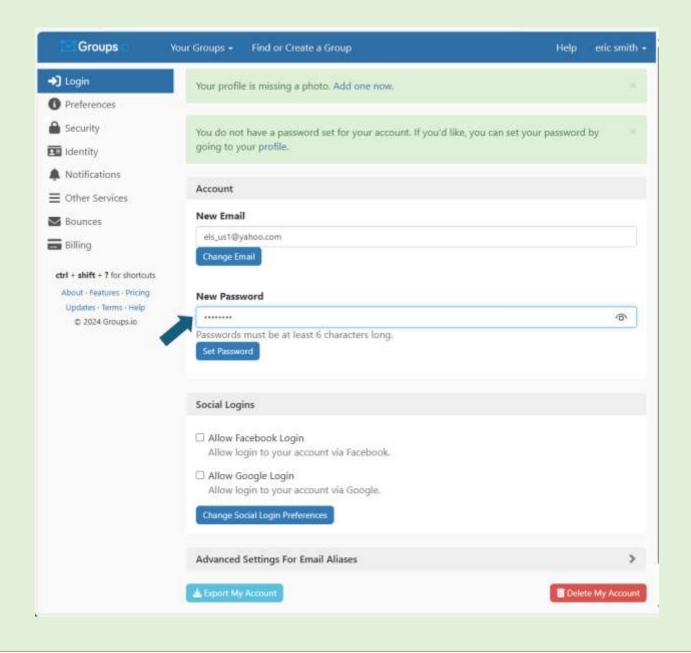




### Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region

This is the first screen that you will see. It is divided into 5 major component areas. The top is the control bar that indicates you are on the groups.io page and who the system thinks you are going to log in under. On the left is the menu of options. Note: this list will grow when you log into groups.io. The right portion contains 3 areas of interest: the top portion contains actions that you need to complete, such as setting a password or adding a profile photo. The center portion is information about the site, and the bottom is to indicate you are in the Cowcatcher Division 1 Lone Star Region of the NMRA groups.io page.

On the page set up a password by clicking on the link in the 2<sup>nd</sup> green section listed as "profile".

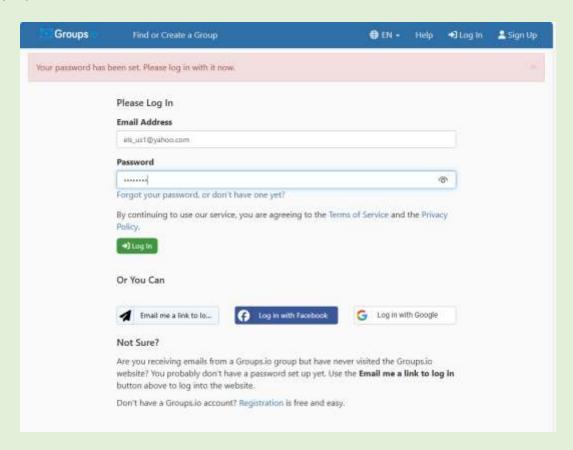




### Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region

Since you are not in the account setting section of your personal groups.io account: On this page you need to set a password so you can login to groups.io and become a user.

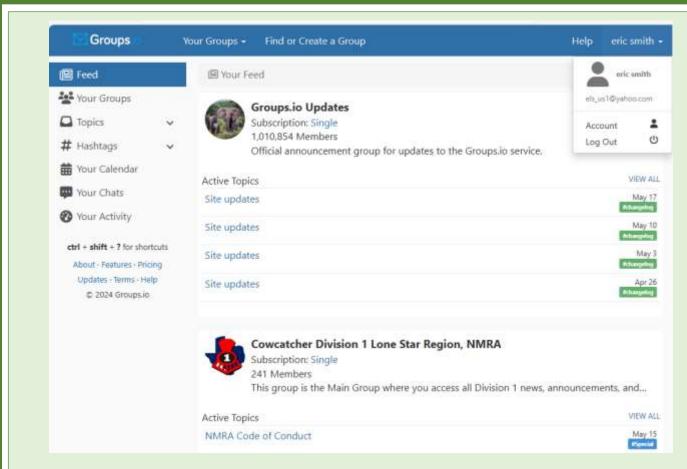
Once you set a password, it will immediately take you to the login page. You will need to use the email address and password you just created.



At this point, if you typed your password correctly, you will be logged into groups.io and see the home screen.



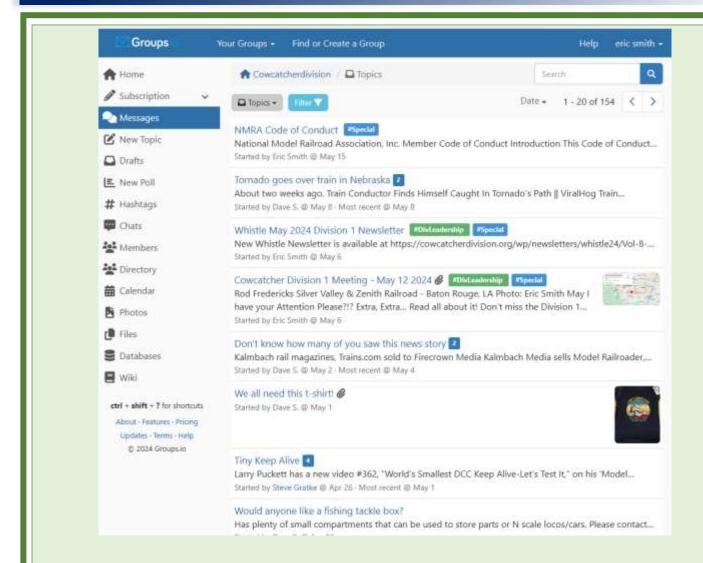
# Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



The upper right, where your name is displayed, has a pull-down menu that allows you to access your account and your preferences. The bottom portion is the link to the actual groups.io messaging system.



# Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region

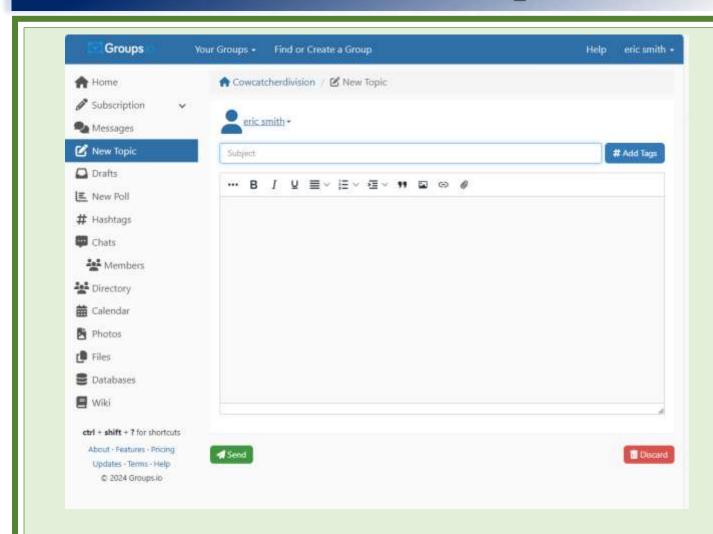


From this page, you can see all messages that have been posted in the groups.io system. You will notice that there are multiple messages listed and stored in the system in the order that they were sent out to the group. You may notice that some of the messages have special "tags" associated with the message. These tags, such as "#DivLeadership" or "#Special" tell the system that the message was sent to a different audience than just the members. These messages include other members of groups.io that may not want to get every message but want to be informed about our meeting notices or newsletter publications. Like the NMRA President, or the possibly members of other Divisions.

To send a message to the entire group, select "New Topic" from the menu on the right. This will bring up the message editor screen. All messages should have a descriptive subject that you want to tell the group at a quick glance what you intend to write about. The main portion of this screen is the message editor. This is a Hyper-Text Mark-up Language (HTML) editor. It allows you to change the format of the text, include URL links or pictures in the message. If you just want a plain message, just type in the text you want to share with the group.



# Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region

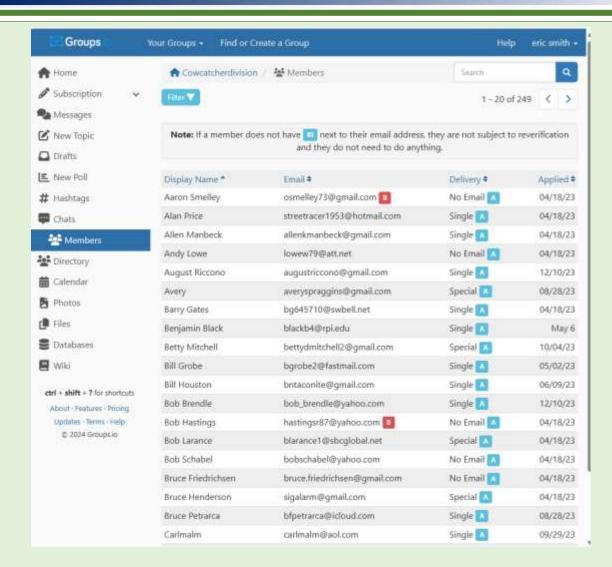


When you have finished typing in your message, just hit send and the message is sent to the group as an email. Your message will be saved in groups.io for others to look at in the future. If you need the message to go to a wider audience, use the "# Add Tags" button to increase the distribution of the message.

All members of Division 1 have an account in groups.io. if you need to find an email address of a specific member, the members button on the menu bar will bring up the list of members.



### Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



This is the entire list of members and has some interesting information to be seen in the various columns. For instance: the red box with a "B" in it says that the email address for that member has bounced. As administrators of groups.io we set these members up as "No Email".

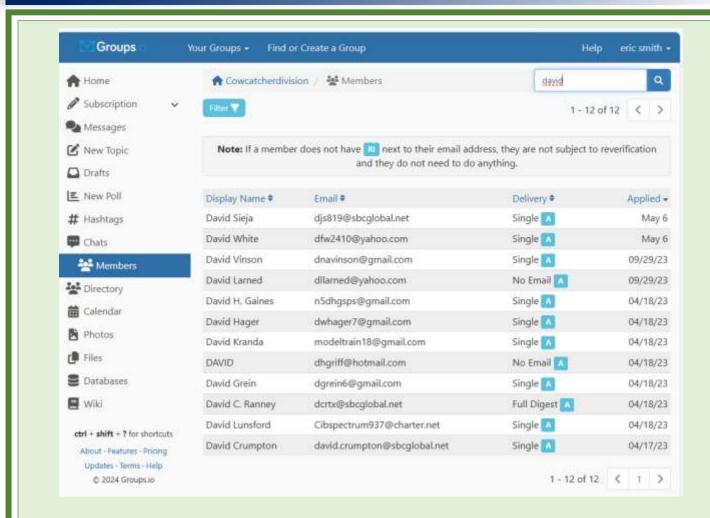
Next in the list is the "Delivery" column. When a member has their membership expire from the NMRA, we do not remove them from groups.io. Instead, we change their delivery status to "No Email" just in case they want to rejoin the NMRA. A delivery of "Special" means that they do not want to get every email sent by the group, only those sent as special messages or use the #Special tag.

The Delivery type of "Single" is the default delivery type. This means that the user will get all messages sent by anyone in the group.

The last item I would like to highlight in this first installment of what is groups.io is the members menu option. This option allows you to look up a specific member of our division. Let's say you know that the member's name was David. You can search for only that specific name by entering it into the search box at the upper right.



### Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



From this you can get a specific email address to send a message directly to that person.

Since our groups.io platform is an NMRA social media site, it comes under the guidance of the NMRA Code of Conduct. Care must be taken when posting and replying to messages that have been sent to the social media site.

Groups.io is a messaging platform for all of us to use and send messages for distribution to the entire Division. We should all start using it to ask questions or to share topics that we find interesting. If you have something you would like to share, please post it to groups.io. I am sure that others in our group will be interested in hearing what you have to say.



### Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region

### August's Clinic

### Modeling Greasy, Oily Diesel Terminal Track

With David Steckler

David's interest in model railroading began as a young child, even before he received his first Lionel train set. His earliest train memory is when he was not yet four years old, sitting in the cab of a New York Central P-Motor at Grand Central Terminal, heading up the train that would take his father to Chicago.

Growing up in New York City and Long Island, he rode behind EMD FL-9's, Alco C420's, and in MU units as a youngster to visit grandparents in Connecticut and the Bronx, becoming a big fan of the New Haven RR and Long Island RR.

As a teenager he modeled in N scale. After college and law school, David married and shortly thereafter built the first of several HO Scale shelf layouts. His current shelf layout models the Long Island RR and New Haven RR. His favorite parts of the hobby are electrical/wiring, ballasting, and weathering track.

Jim Ogden Argyle, TX

### Treasurer's Report

July 1-31, 2024

 Jul 1 balance
 \$2453.40

 Deposit
 \$0.00

 Withdrawal
 \$55.99

 Jul 31 balance
 \$2397.41

David Grein

David Grein.



Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



### Save the Dates!

The 2025 Lone Star Region 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

Stay tuned to the Marker Lamp and the LSR web site as more details become available and registration opens.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend!



### Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region

#### August 2024

1<sup>tst</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

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

#### www.cowcatcherdivision.org

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

17th – Cowtown Model RR Club General Meeting, Handley Center, 3024 Forest Avenue, Ft Worth, TX 76112, 7pm - 9pm, https://www.cmrrc.net

### September 2024

5<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

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

#### www.cowcatcherdivision.org

21st – 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

# AUSTIN 2024 TRAIN SHOW

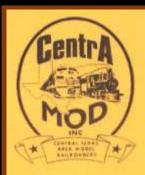


Saturday August 24, 2024 10:00am to 5:00pm

Sunday August 25, 2024 10:00am to 4:00pm

**Palmer Events Center** 

900 Barton Springs Road, Austin, Texas



Temple Model Train & RPM Show

September 21 & 22, 2024

Frank W. Mayborn Civic & Convention Center

3303 N 3rd St., Temple, TX

\$10.00

Saturday 10am - 5pm, Sunday 10am - 4pm

### Regional Train Shows

Austin August 24 & 25, 2024

https://austintrainshow.org

Temple September 21 & 22, 2024

http://centramodrr.com/train-show

Plano Sep. 28 – 29, 2024

http://www.dfwtrainshows.com

New Braunfels October 26, 2024

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

Oklahoma City November 2 & 3, 2024

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

Greater Houston February 15, 2025

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



### Fourth Annual Red River RPM

Date: October 25 & 26, 2024
Time: 9am-6pm CST
Venue: Forest Hill Civic Center
6901 Wichita Street

Forest Hill, TX 76140 www.redriverrpm.org









### Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region

### **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@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: <a href="https://ntxnrhs.org">https://ntxnrhs.org</a>

### **Texas Western Model Railroad Club**

Located at 6808 Forest Hill, 76140.

Visitor Hours: See club website.

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: <a href="https://www.trinityntrak.com">https://www.trinityntrak.com</a>

#### **TNMRC**

Meets at 11999 Plano Rd, Suite 154, Dallas, 75243 Check our website for times. Website: <a href="https://www.texasnorthern.org">https://www.texasnorthern.org</a>



# Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region

**Angelo Hobbies** 

(817) 428-0190

5600 Rufe Snow Drive Dr. #106 North Richland Hills, TX 76180

http://angelohobbiestrains.com

**Discount Model Trains** 

4641 Ratliff Lane

Addison, TX 75001

(817) 428-0190

(972)-931-8135

(817) 595-0800

(817) 581-1027

(972) 315-3700

(817) 538-5088

**Model Train Crossing** 

1113 W. Pipeline Road Hurst, TX 76053

https://www.facebook.com/modeltraincrossin (no "g" on the end)

**Hobbytown USA** 

746 Grapevine Hwy

Hurst, TX 76054

https://www.hobbytown.com/hurst-tx/l123

HobbyTown

**Hobbytown USA** 

500 E. Round Grove Rd

Lewisville, TX 75067

https://www.hobbytown.com/lewisville-tx/l21



Wild Bill's Hobbytown USA

1112 W. Arbrook Blvd

Arlington, TX 76015

https://www.hobbytown.com/arlington-tx/l183



Check with your local hobby shops for their store hours.



Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region

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.