



The Conductor

January 2003



Dallas Area Train Show January 18 & 19, 2003

Don't miss the Plano Train Show January 18 & 19, 2003 at the Plano Centre. The N.T.G.R.C. will need your help in setting up the layout, running the trains, working the show and tearing down.

Set up will begin Saturday at 8:00 am. We need someone to get the trailer. Please call Dennis Cherry to volunteer. Dennis will maintain a schedule of workers and time slots to be filled. Be sure and check the N.T.G.R.C. website for a listing of times and locations where volunteers are needed for the show. Dennis' phone number is 214-902-0029. His email is dbcherry@swbell.net

Tear-down will be at 5:00 pm on Sunday afternoon. The show will run from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm both days.

Remember you must pay like everyone else to get in. Every dollar collected counts towards our revenue from the show. Bring plenty of trains to run, buildings and little people.

We will be voting at the show for the new officers to serve on the board. Be sure to sign the voting sheet and cast your ballot.

Also dues are due for 2003. Bring your dues and pay them at the show. The new dues are \$15.00 per individual or household.



Plano Train Show 2002

Cook Children's Medical Center February 23, 2003

The N.T.G.R.C. will sponsor an operating layout at Cooks Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth for our February meeting. We need all members of the club to participate. Bring trains to run for the kids, lots of little people and structures.

The set up time will be 9:30 am. Trains will begin operation at noon. Teardown will be at

4:30 pm in order to clear the building by 5:00 pm.

The puppeteers will perform. Storytellers are asked to contact Rod Kile at: kilefam@earthlink.net or call: 817-656-8871 and volunteer.

Please plan on attending this event and supporting the club and the kids at Cooks.

The Conductor's Submission Policy

The Conductor will be mailed to you between the first and tenth of each month. The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the prior month. Please submit your article the way you would like to see it appear in the newsletter. Make sure that it is accurate and concise. If it concerns a membership function make sure it has the four w's, who, what, when, and where.

The Conductor is currently a four to six page newsletter, therefore the content of your article is subject to editing for the primary purpose of fitting into the newsletter.

Thanks for your articles, they are appreciated. Remember, this is your newsletter.

Scott Whitfield, Editor
jazzbanjo@earthlink.net



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January 2003



Board of Directors

Bennie Shields, President,
bennie.shields@charter.net
817-379-1060

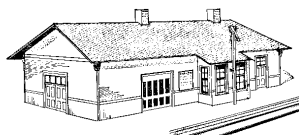
Scott Whitfield, 1st Vice President,
Newsletter Editor, Meeting Coordinator,
Acting President
jazzbanjo@earthlink.net
972-675-0888

Rod Kile, 2nd Vice President
kilefam@earthlink.net
817-656-8871

Charles Difiglia, Secretary
charles.difiglia@ryersontull.com
972-596-6122

David Lynn, Treasurer,
david_lynn@dell.com
817-236-8271

Ron Greene, Member-at-Large
and Historian
ron.greene@prodigy.net
817-498-8411



Be a Host

Contact Scott Whitfield to volunteer
jazzbanjo@earthlink.net
972-675-0888

The club contributes \$25.00 to the person or family hosting a club meeting to help defer the cost of refreshments. Any layout is a candidate for a club meeting. Don't feel that you have to have a finished and completely landscaped railroad in order to host a meeting. It can be very inspiring, especially to the newcomers, to see a railroad under construction. Our home meetings are a great way for all of us to become more acquainted. We need volunteers for next year. New members as well as old members are encouraged to volunteer. We enjoy giving and getting ideas from each other.

Welcome our New Members!

Donna Orr & Roger Shank
2625 Rolling Meadows Dr.
Rockwell, TX 75087
(972) 771-9150
dlo-rls@att.net



Name Badges

NORTH TEXAS GARDEN
RAILWAY CONSORTIUM
YOUR NAME HERE

Our club's badge is available from Office Depot stores for around \$5.00.

The color is pine green #59, badge style #40. All members are encouraged to wear their badges to all club functions. Not only does it help new members to put names with faces, but it also gives our hosts a good feeling to know there are no strangers in their house!

NTGRC Shirts

The NTGRC has arranged for PANDA Embroidery located in Grapevine, Texas to provide members with NTGRC logo & clothing. They offer a wide variety of styles and price range for clothing. Simply visit their facility one street north and 1/2 block east of the Grapevine Tarantula Station and choose the style, color, size, price range etc. They will embroider the NTGRC logo for you.

PANDA Embroidery
351 E. Hudgins Street
Grapevine, TX 76051
817-488-4151 Tarrant County
972-513-0023 Dallas County



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January 2003



North Texas Garden Railway Consortium Official Ballot for Board of Directors 2003

If you are unable to attend the official January Meeting of the N.T.G.R.C. at the Dallas Area Train Show, you may cast your vote by completing and signing this ballot and mailing it to:

Scott Whitfield, Acting President of the N.T.G.R.C.

3331 Scott Dr.

Sachse, TX 75048

Ballots must be postmarked by January 18, 2003 and completed properly with voter's name & signature.

The following are nominees for N.T.G.R.C. Board of Directors. Vote for two: Also indicate your preference as to sponsoring a display at the Ft. Worth Zoo.

Jim Barrett _____

Write in vote _____

Mack Canady _____

Write in vote _____

Gary Coombs _____

Lane Haviland _____

I would participate in a club sponsored display at the Ft. Worth Zoo over the July 4th holiday. Yes _____ No _____

Paul Kepner _____

Scott Muchow _____

Rusty Wells _____

Voter's Signature _____

Voter's Name _____

Thank you for participating in the democratic process of electing leaders for the N.T.G.R.C.
Your vote, your interest, and your participation are sincerely appreciated.



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January 2003



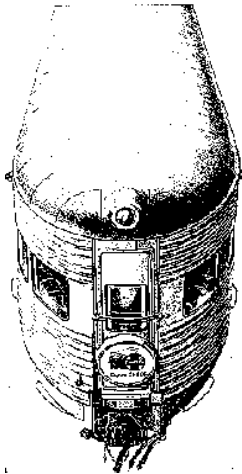
2003 Dues are due!

2003 Dues are due.
\$15.00 per individual or household.
You may pay your dues at the Plano Train Show or
mail them to:
David Lynn
N.T.G.R.C. Treasurer
1812 Summit Ct.
Roanoke, TX 76262

www.ntgrc.org

Stay abreast of what's happening in the club and out in the railroad world. Visit the N.T.G.R.C. website for in-depth information, schedule changes and information about many things that just won't fit into a four to eight page newsletter.

If there is information you would like to see on our web site contact Dennis Cherry, N.T.G.R.C. webmaster at dbcherry@swbell.net



—From the Observation Car

Sometimes you meet people that you just know you really like and that no matter what comes their way, they will get the job done. Those people are leaders and it's great when they turn out to be your friends. Your outgoing President Bennie Shields is one of those people.

I am going to focus for a moment on your board of directors. I have been privileged to be a member of this group of dedicated folks for two and a half years. This group has a monthly

meeting outside of our regular meetings and shows. Many of us don't really understand what it means to serve on a board. Planning for an organization and trying your best to make sure that everything goes well and everybody's happy is not an easy task.

This board had a daunting task of creating bylaws for an organization that had been in existence for a number of years, then getting them passed by the general membership. Many times in board meetings the comment has been made, "Remember we're really just here to play trains." This is what your board had in mind, later simplifying the bylaws and revising the dues structure.

Getting a trailer for the club became a must and within a

few months it happened. It didn't just happen, somebody had to find it go get it put a hitch on it and buy a spare tire for it. And then... the equipment shows up at the displays.

I'd like to thank Charles Alspach for getting me into the club, Richard Matsler and Dennis Cherry for their ideas and enthusiasm, Stanley Scherer for being a great friend, Bennie Shields for being a great leader, Rod Kile, Charles Difulgia, Ron Green and David Lynn for being there when it counted and for reminding us to "just play trains."

Look over your list of new nominees for board members. Vote for someone that will be a good leader and take the club in a direction you want it to go.

Now go out there and "just play trains."

—the banjo player



The Conductor

December 2002



Roerig's Railroad is a Roaring Success

Cindy and Bob Roerig's Keystone and Bluebonnet Railroad feeds the hungry of Carrollton. The Roerig's have been spending most of the fall preparing for December at their house, and it is evident when you turn the corner and look down the street which is their house!

I finally got to see their layout this year at Christmastime. What a sight to behold. At the time we went they had only been open only a few days and had already had over 800 visitors. God

bless the hungry of Carrollton. I haven't checked in to get the final count, but I understand the food bank in Carrollton just loves the Roerigs.

The layout takes up the complete back yard. There are trains in the front and in the window dressing which is spectacular. My favorite were the F-units that were translucent with flashing red and green lights around the windows and blinking lights inside.

If you haven't seen this one, you're missing a lot. Put it



on your next year's Christmas ***must do*** list! Thanks to the Roerigs. Do I see any volunteers for taking down 21,000 lights?!

SC&PMRR Lights up Sachse

For the second year in a row the northern lights in Sachse were a little brighter. On December 1, 2002 the Sachse Central and Purple Mountain Railroad sent its little green and Tuscan red 0-4-0 out on the main line hauling the Christmas Train blowing bubbles for the Polar Express Celebration. The only thing missing was the music from Lawrence Welk's Orchestra to go with the bubbles that filled the air. Red, green, white and blue lights

adorned the trees and trim around the 20'x60' layout in the Whitfield's back yard.

Over fifty visitors from around the metroplex attended and the night was filled with seven trains and their journeys through Santa's Village and the lighted houses of Wichita and Sachse. As the trains rolled, kids dreamed of what was to come later.

Christmas, a most grand season ... for kids of all ages. Ahh... it



is better to give than receive!

Best wishes from Karen, Tyler, and the banjo player. God Bless Us every one!



The Conductor

331 Scott Drive
Sachse, TX 75048

Phone: 972-675-0888
Fax: 972-675-0889
Email: jazzbanjo@earthlink.net



We're on the Web at:
www.ntgrc.org

Calendar of Events

January 18 & 19 2003
Dallas Area Train Show
10am-5pm
Plano Centre

February 23 2003
Cook Children's Medical Center
12n-5pm

March 16 2003
Workshops & Seminars
Dennis & Ann Cherry's

April 12
Donna Orr & Roger Shank

May—Stanley & Rene Scherer