



The Conductor

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April 2006



The Official Newsletter of the North Texas Garden Railways Club

April Meeting

The T&PRR

BY TYLER HARGROVE

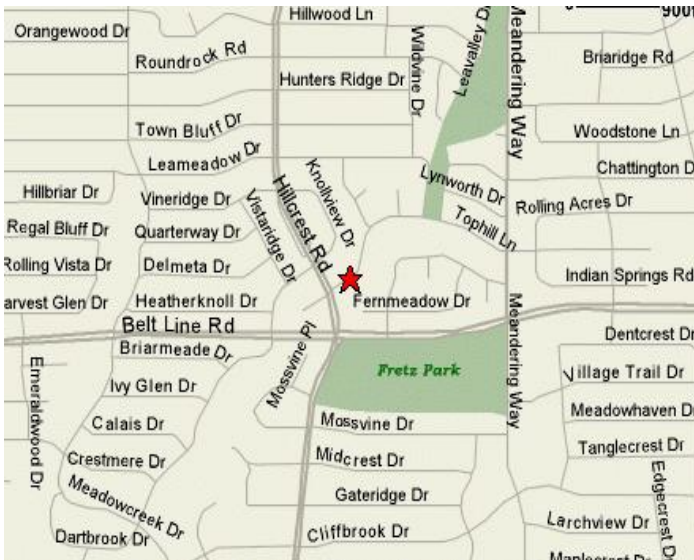
The Tophill and Valley Railroad has been three years in the making. It covers the perimeter of the backyard on a large lot overlooking a creek. Since the backyard slopes downward, elevation was a big factor in the design of the railway. We wanted a road that a train could stretch its legs on and at the same time maintain a backyard. The railway is still under construction, as it was only three weeks ago that the first train made a complete trip around the yard. The road is double tracked except for the steepest part found on the west end of the line where a single track sits on a metal trestle. After the line straightens out at the bottom of the Valley, the metal trestle turns to wood and is soon joined by a second set of tracks from another wooden trestle which passes over it. There are numerous switches between the double tracks, but for now they are not wired up and only a single track is usable.



A beautiful scene featuring a trestle spanning the decline of Franks yard. Let's only hope the weather is this beautiful!

A station area has been constructed with two platforms with lights installed. A third line has only been partially constructed for standard gauge trains and it is located near the house. It will even-

GETTING THERE



- ★ Take either 75 to Beltline, exit and take a left, or take 635 to Hillcrest and drive north.
- ★ From Belt Line Road, go one block North on Hillcrest and make the first right turn going East on Tophill Lane.
- ★ The Tophill and Valley Railway is located at 7230 Tophill Lane. (We are the fifth house on the right hand side of the street)
- ★ Look for house with the Train Engine Light on the chimney and color lights going all the way around the house
- ★ Please do not park in the double driveway on the east side of the house

tually make a loop from the west end of the patio to the edge of the house going around a landscape tree area and return back along side the house. Its construction is on hold while we are planning some renovations to the master bedroom so we can better enjoy the landscape.

DCC will be the driving power to the railroad and its switches. Concrete has been use in one way or another to secure the track or the various road beds it sits on. Currently, there is only one way to cross the track and that is along the driveway where there is a single track and a set of three AristoCraft rerailers are in place. They have proven to be real handy for moving lawn mowers, wheel barrels and the like across the track. We plan to install foot bridges at the west end of the patio and another at the west end of the yard. Until they are installed, one must step over a slightly elevated double track roadbed to get to the center of the yard or cross over at the driveway.

Be a Host!

NGTRC Needs You!

NTGRC contributes \$25.00 to the person or family hosting the club meeting to help defer the cost of refreshments. Any indoor, outdoor layout that is complete, in process, under construction, in design or dream stage 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 better acquainted with each other, share tips and display our masterpieces, but we need volunteers!

Check the calendar on the website for an open date, then email or call one of the board members to set a specific date. New as well as old members are encouraged to volunteer as hosts. Remember, you get to pick the date and time for the meeting!



'G' Scale Train Sale

75% OFF Sale on G Scale items

(Moving sale due to poor health, so I'm getting out of trains.)

10:00AM - 2:00PM Sunday, December 11, 2005

Rain date December 18.

Roy E. Hill

738 Greenland Way

Grand Prairie, Tx 75050

(972) 262-7222

(Located 2 blocks North of I-30 between N.W. 7th St. and Carrier Pkwy.)

Those attending please help carry 'G' items out of tool shed and into yard for display purposes.

Treasurer's Report

LOST MEMBERS?!

WANTED: Membership Dues

Jack and Pat Ammon, Midlothian, TX
 Douglas and Michelle Barlen, Arlington TX
 Martin Belokin, Denton TX
 Norman and Carri Belokin Corinth, TX
 Marvin and Anna Brown, Waco TX
 Charles and Ellen Crane, Irving TX
 John Eckham, Dallas TX
 Wyndell and Teri Ferguson, McKinney TX
 Edgar and Marilyn Frazer, Mesquite TX
 John Fulton, Argyle TX
 Tom Goldsmith, Sammamish WA
 Rob and Marsha Griffin, Dallas TX
 Duray and Vera Hillard, Denison TX
 Bryan and Diana Johnson, Euless TX
 Paul Kepner, Garland TX
 Jack and Carole Kowitt, Allen TX
 David, Mindy, and Spencer Lynn, Roanoke TX
 Gary and Laura Miller, Scurry TX
 Vard and Becky Moore, Dallas TX
 Marty and Leanne Osborn, Plano TX
 Larry and Denise Pollis, Plano TX
 Tom Rey, San Diego CA
 Gary and Lola Richert, Trophy Club TX
 Duane and Charmaine Spencer, Mesquite TX
 Peggy Stroup, Keller TX
 Evans Trey, Mineral Wells TX
 Cameron and Greg Wallace, Arlington TX
 Dick and Cookie Watkins, Payne Springs TX
 James and Lynne Weber, Plano TX
 Cris and Laura Wells, Keller TX
 Kay and Tressa Williams, Denton TX
 Bob and Barbara Wilson, Richardson TX
 Keith and Helen Withans, Dallas TX
 Robert and Fran Wunderlich, Plano TX
 John and Sonya Yoder, Tyler TX

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Name Badge

Our club's badge are available from any Office Depot store for around \$6.49 plus tax.

You want to order a 2EB1 (SKU 320751) badge size is 1" x 3", it comes standard with a pin on the back, if you want anything different you must add that to the order.

The Style is S23, that is a **Pine Green** background with White lettering. You can have up to 3 lines of text on the badge.

Typestyle = B04 All Capitol Letters

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 host a good feeling to know there are no strangers in their house.

NORTH TEXAS GARDEN
RAILWAY CLUB
YOUR NAME HERE

Board of Directors 2007

The Conductor's Submission Policy

The Conductor is sent to you between the first and tenth of each month, either via email or US Mail.

The deadline for submissions is the 25th of the prior month. Please submit your article(s) the way you would like to see it appear in the newsletter. Check your spelling, and make sure it is accurate. If it concerns a membership function, make sure it has the four W's, (Who, What, When, and Where). Please include an address or directions in case of an event. Your submissions are subject to the cutting floor, so no hard feelings please!

Submit your articles using any possible means, email is preferred. If it is digital, use Word or Acrobat, or preferably just contact me first, in case of compatibility issues.

Handwritten or typed articles and photos must be received before the 20th of the month, as I have access to a scanner, but it takes much more time to edit.

If you would like me to write the article, I would be more than happy to get a private tour of your railroad!



Send all submissions to:



Tyler J. Hargrove
1611 Oxford Dr.
Mansfield, Tx 76063

or

jbmt1611@aol.com

The Conductor

1611 Oxford Dr.
Mansfield, Tx 76063

Email submissions, information
about events, or your articles to:



**Check us out
on the web at:
www.ntgrc.org**

Links

Plano and Ft. Worth Show Information
<http://www.dfwtrainshows.com/>

If you love Garden Railroading... your on the right track!

NTGRC Timetable

Remember:

**Check the club website "Local Events" calendar for any changes, corrections, or additions.
Go to <http://www.ntgrc.org>**