Wichita Valley Chapter
National Railway Historical Society

Dear Member,

We warmly invite you to join the Wichita Valley Chapter NRHS for membership using the attached form. Whether you're a long-time rail enthusiast or just beginning your journey into the world of railway history, we welcome you to become a part of our community. For membership, you must be a member of both the WICHITA VALLEY Chapter and National Railway Historical Society (NRHS) to be a member in good standing. The Wichita Valley Chapter requests your National dues be submitted directly online at HTTP://NRHS.COM/MEMBERSHIP. Click on the MEMBERSHIP FORM icon and follow the prompts. If you are a member of another local chapter, you need only pay the local Wichita Valley Chapter dues. Both the Wichita Valley Chapter and the NRHS are non-profit 501(c) 3 organizations.

NRHS National annual dues including chapter are as follows:

Regular Membership $50 (*min.18 years of age or older)
Additional Family Membership $7 each (up to six family members residing at same household with Regular Member)
Student Membership $16 (**ages 13-24 years)

Wichita Valley Chapter rates are as follows:

Regular Membership $18(*)
Additional Family Membership $6 each
Student Membership $10 (**)

Please make your check payable to "Wichita Valley Chapter - NRHS". Please note, we are unable to receive electronic chapter payments at this time. We also ask that you not send your local Chapter dues to the National organization and conversely, please do not pay your National dues to our Chapter if you have already paid them online.
Wichita Valley Chapter applications may be submitted at a general meeting or mailed directly to:

Wichita Valley Chapter - NRHS
Attn: Treasurer
2319 Brook Hollow Drive
Wichita Falls, TX. 76308

If you have questions regarding membership, please call 512/423-8352 or email Wichitavalleynrhs@gmail.com.

Thank you in advance for your active support of the Wichita Valley Chapter of the NRHS!
Sincerely,

Julia Eriksen
Vice-President, Wichita Valley Chapter – NRHS

Our chapter objective is to provide a complete history of railroads and their importance to towns primarily all along the Wichita Valley line by offering insight and understanding of the importance that railroads play or may have once played in your family's history. Our aim is to provide an appreciation for the value of trains then and now.

Our Chapter territory primarily includes, but is not limited to, the following rail lines lying in the following eleven (11) counties:

- Wichita Falls, in Wichita County
- Holliday, Mankins, Dundee, in Archer County
- Seymour, Bomarton in Baylor County
- Weinert, Haskell, in Haskell County
- Stamford, Anson in Jones County
- Abilene in Taylor County

Additionally, to include the two Branchlines of the Wichita Valley Railroad:
1.) The Wichita Falls to Waurika, Oklahoma line that included Wichita Falls in Wichita County, onto Dean, Petrolia & Byers in Clay County Texas, ending in Waurika, Oklahoma in Jefferson County.
2.) Then Stamford, onto Sagerton, Aspermont & Peacock communities in Stonewall County forward to Jayton in Kent County and ending in Spur, Texas in Dickens County.

Respectively each town is a location along the various shortlines of the Wichita Valley Lines. They are as follows:

Wichita Valley Railway: Established 1890
Running from Wichita Falls to Seymour, TX connecting:
• Wichita Falls
• Holliday
• Mankins
• Dundee
• Seymour

Wichita Falls & Oklahoma Railway: Established 1903
Running from Wichita Falls, TX to Waurika, OK connecting:
• Wichita Falls
• Dean
• Petrolia
• Byers
• Waurika, OK

Wichita Valley Railroad: Established 1905
Running from Seymour to Stamford, TX connecting:
• Seymour
• Bomarton
• Weinert
• Haskell
• Stamford

Abilene & Northern Railway: Established 1906
Running from Abilene to Stamford, TX connecting:
• Abilene
• Anson
• Stamford

Stamford & Northwestern Railway: Established 1909
Running from Stamford to Spur, TX connecting:
• Stamford
• Sagerton

Stamford & Northwestern Railway: Established 1909
Running from Stamford to Spur, TX connecting (cont.):
• Aspermont
• Peacock
• Jayton
• Spur

This Chapter will assist all railroad researchers, historians, groups and museums along the Wichita Valley Line and surrounding areas to:

1) Provide researchers and historians a one stop spot to access historical items, ephemera, photographs, information, documents, lists, maps, oral histories, stories, articles, local resources and more;

2.) Offer historically accurate data for restoration and preservation of railroad rolling stock via established connections and research, including restoration to original paint schemes;

3.) Lend guidance to gain financial support for restoration and thus preservation of local depots and railroad-related buildings and equipment;

4.) Actively engage in documenting today's railroading, teaching operational railroad safety courses and serve as advocates for train travel across the United States;

5.) Plan excursions to experience rail travel, destinations, museums, and fun events;

6.) Provide further commitment to education and immersive experiences for high schoolers including annual scholarships to RailCamp, USA.

Membership Benefits Summary:

Area	National	Wichita Valley Chapter	Wichita Valley Chapter
Preservation	Heritage Grants >$150k awarded annually	A 501 (c) 3 tax exempt organization	Classroom Speakers and Teacher Modules for schools & Non-profits i.e. Camp Fire Girls
	Outstanding Railroad Historic Preservation Award i.e. "Big Boy"	Rail Friends – P-R-O Fund (Preservation, Restoration, Operations) - Annual grant for smaller restoration projects < $500-1k	Provide grant writing guidance (including but not limited to NRHS Heritage Grants) for individual projects
	Historic Plaques - historic recognition of artifacts & properties	Offer historically accurate restoration data restoration i.e. original paint colors or lettering	Member authored digital and physical Rail Photo Albums featuring photography and collections
	Film restoration/preservation of collections digitized for online access	Annual "Photography of the Year" Contest	Specific quarterly goal setting services for chapter restoration and/or preservation projects
	NRHS You-Tube Channel maintenance to facilitate shared information	Coordinate hands-on opportunities for direct experience with restoration and preservation projects	
	Discounts to rail attractions nationwide with Membership - ID		
Education	RailCamp 24 yrs+ running, weeklong hands-on experience with rail carriers to learn everything trains – West & East Coast	Sponsor up to 2 attendees high schoolers to RailCamp, USA each year	Operation Lifesaver Safety (OIL) a (501(c)3) national instruction and certification assistance
	4 quarterly issues of *NRHS Bulletin* stories shared with others around the country	Monthly (except July) informative program presentations by authors and historians	Monthly digital publication sharing preservation/restoration projects, hobbies, railroad news, articles by chapter members
	6 issues of *NRHS News* containing local stories supplemented by chapter contributors	Planned excursions rail travel trips (Amtrak, Specialty Trains), Museum field trips, rail heritage libraries, Railfan trips, Regional Railroadiana & Train shows, Rail Trail Jaunts, & Hike, Bike, Equestrian Rail Trail	
	Extensive Research Libraries and Photographic Archives available to public		
	National Convention advanced purchase tickets and two annual conferences with voting rights as members		
Celebrations		Annual BBQ picnic	Festivities around National Train Day and other train holidays
		December Holiday Party/ Banquet	

WICHITA VALLEY CHAPTER – NRHS APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip:_____

Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____

Occupation: _____ Special Skills: _____

Previous NRHS Member? _____Chapter Name: _____

CHAPTER ACTIVITY INTERESTS (check all that are of interest to you):

Train Excursions (Specialty Trains) check one: Steam _____ Diesel _____ Trolley _____

Passenger Train Service (list Amtrak, Heartland Flyer, etc.):_____Preferred Destination(s):_____

Train Shows: ____ Railfan Trips:____ Regional Railroadiana Programs: _____Driving Excursions: _____ (ex. to *Rail Trail Jaunt*)

Hike/Bike/Equestrian____(ex. *Rail Trail*) Historic Property Projects: _____ Location/Type (ex. Burkburnett/Depot)_____

Model Trains:____ Photography:___ Collectibles:____ Field Trips to: Museums____ Rail Heritage Libraries ____ Other:_____

MEMBERSHIP SELECTION:

You are required to be a dues paying member of the WICHITA VALLEY Chapter and the NRHS to be a member in good standing. Membership Dues are for one year and start from the date you join.

_____ **REGULAR:** You are joining both the NRHS & the Wichita Valley Chapter for the first time and you wish Wichita Valley to be your home chapter. National Membership dues may be paid directly online to NRHS by visiting: HTTP://NRHS.COM/MEMBERSHIP. Locate & Click on the **MEMBERSHIP FORM** icon and follow prompts. Membership Classes include Regular individual, Family (up to 6 additional person(s) in same household at a discount & requires one national NRHS dues paying member*) & Student memberships.
*LIST ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS SEEKING MEMBERSHIP (UP TO 6 AT SAME ADDRESS):

_____ **CHAPTER**: You are already a current NRHS member & want to join our local Wichita Valley Chapter.
Your NRHS membership number is required: _____. Check Type of Wichita Valley Membership: Primary Home Chapter: (_____) OR Affiliate Chapter:(_____). Pay chapter dues either via mail or at a chapter meeting.

ANNUAL DUES:		NATIONAL	LOCAL CHAPTER	AMOUNT
REGULAR: $50 National + $18.00 Chapter = **$68 per member**		$50.00	$18.00	
FAMILY: additional family members $7 National + $6 Chapter = **$13 per member**	Number additional family members	$7.00	$6.00	
Student: $16 National + $10 Chapter = **$26 per member**		$16.00	$10.00	
	TOTAL DUES:			
VOLUNTARY DONATION TO WICHITA VALLEY CHAPTER	**RAIL FRIENDS P-R-O PROJECT**			
			TOTAL REMITTANCE:	

WICHITA VALLEY CHAPTER – NRHS APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

PLEASE REMIT TO:

WICHITA VALLEY CHAPTER – NRHS
ATTN: Mike Eriksen, Treasurer
2319 BROOK HOLLOW DRIVE
WICHITA FALLS, TX. 76308
WICHITAVALLEYNRHS@GMAIL.COM *OR VISIT* WICHITAVALLEYNRHS.ORG

_____ _____/_____/_____
SIGNATURE   DATE

_____

For Office Use Only:
CASH/CHECK #_____REC DATE_____AMT_____SENT NATL_____ENTD_____