

## Texas State Railroad Palestine-Rusk

On August 22, 2009, four CCMAFC Model A's met four Dallas MAFC Model A's and several moderns in Malakoff to tour to the Texas State Railroad in Palestine. Those from CCMAFC were Walt & Virginia, Harris & Gloria, Bill & Nancy and Joe. The morning was cool and the trip was good. We met Bill and Sandra Lee in the parking lot at Palestine; they drove directly from Edom.

After boarding the 1921 steam train, we encountered The Lone Ranger and Tonto. He reported that some bad guys had been seen in those parts. Sure enough, some bad guys (and gals) later "robbed" the passengers – with the loot going to a charitable cause. When the train stopped in Maydelle, the bad guys attempted to leave the train with the loot, but after a gunfight, The Lone Ranger and Tonto recovered the money (but we never saw our money back).

It was a slow scenic ride through the forest from Palestine to Rusk. There was some consternation when the train unexpectedly stopped twice on the trip and spewed much black smoke. We later learned that the diesel injectors were stopping up. So, on the return trip we were pulled by a diesel locomotive.

It was a good day with the DMAFC folks and an enjoyable ride, although the return trip was a little warm.

Submitted by,

Bill Wittner