



February Meeting

The February meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands was held on February 13, 2019 in the Webb Center at Carona, KS. There were 22 members and 3 guests present. Minutes of the meeting can be found at the end of this newsletter. Members in attendance were: Joe Murphey, Alan Chilton, Jack Evans, W.D. Carter, Brian Carlson, Ivan Voorhees, Michael Sheward, Dick Rauniker, Bill Gillfillan, Gordon Garrett, David Parker, Mike and Connie Payton, Darrell Cave, John Chambers, Nicolas Ybarra, Steven Gardner, Larry & Kathy Spahn, Jim McKeel and Dave & Pauline Calwell.

NARCOA

It was decided at the February meeting to pay the membership dues to NARCOA as well as the insurance for motor car rides. This should cover us for the upcoming year.

Dave Calwell Discusses Collection

Dave Calwell was in attendance at the February meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands. Dave has been a member of Heart of the Heartlands for over 25 years. Since he lives in Topeka, making it to regular meetings is a little difficult for him to accomplish. However, he made the trip for this meeting to visit with the membership about his collection.



Photo courtesy of Larry Spahn



Photo courtesy of Larry Spahn

Dave's collection is quite extensive. He explained to the club how excited he was for the Webb Center to be able to house his collection. He also shared with the membership some key



Photo courtesy of Larry Spahn

things about his collection, the stories, the memories, the nostalgia surrounding the collection. Plans are ongoing to formalize the details of the transfer and housing of the collection. This is an exciting time for the Heart of the Heartlands as well as Dave. His wonderfully unique collection will further add to our goal of providing generations of a glimpse into the past of a bygone railroad era. Thanks again Dave!

Carona Depot Work

Repair work continues on the Carona Depot as the weather permits. Russ Green has replaced the motion sensor lights as well as light bulbs around the perimeter of the depot. He has also replaced some of the deteriorating screens.



Photo courtesy of Larry Spahn

What is it?

This is an item that is currently located in the



Carona museum. What is it?

Answer next month

Photo courtesy of Brian Carlson

Last Month's picture was a semaphore head and blade used on the Northern Pacific Railroad. It was donated by Ken Albrecht of Columbia, Missouri.

Announcements

- The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Webb Center. We hope to see you there.
- If you are interested in a current 2019 Membership roster, please contact Brian Carlson. He will send you a copy of all the members. This roster will contain their home addresses. We ask that you do not give out the information contained in the roster to anyone or agency outside of our organization.

Safety Meeting

It is time for the 2019 safety meeting! This is the annual safety meeting that all members wishing to help on the train rides need to attend. This meeting is part of our insurance requirements for the rides. This year the safety meeting will have two locations and dates for members to choose to attend. The first is scheduled to be held on March 16th, 2019 at 1:00 pm at the Webb Center in Carona, Kansas. Jim McKeel will hold another meeting in Wichita, Kansas on March 10th, at 3:00 pm at a location to be determined. A member needs to only attend one of these meetings to be able to work on the passenger train rides.

For those members that have attended a safety meeting in the past, there are plans to offer online testing to fulfill the safety meeting requirement. At the last meeting, the club voted to setup an online testing service to facilitate testing for members to help them in meeting the safety requirement. In order to be eligible for the online testing, a member needs to have attended at least one safety meeting in person in the past. If you are interested in attending the safety meeting online and testing online, please contact Jim McKeel, John Chambers or Brian Carlson.

2019 Train Ride Schedule

The proposed 2019 Train Schedule is below:

Date	Location	Number of Rides
March 23	Bartlesville, OK	3
April 20	Winfield, KS	2
April 27	Clearwater, KS	3
May 4	Wichita, KS	1
August 31	Pittsburg, KS	2
September 21	Dewey, OK	3
September 28	Chanute, KS	3
Possibly	Cherryvale, KS	?
Possibly	Fredonia, KS	?

Slide Show

The first slide show of 2019 has been set. It will be on Sunday, April 7th at the Webb Center. It will start at 11:00 a.m. and run till 5:00 p.m. Bring some snacks to share with the group. Hope to see you there at this enjoyable event.

Online Donations

We are currently working on setting up the ability for people to make online donations to Heart of the Heartlands. We are also setting up the ability for members to pay for their membership online as well. Stay tuned for further updates as we progress on this project.

The Forgotten..



This is a photo taken in November of 2018 of the former MKT line at Ft. Scott. This is located just east of the US 69 highway north of Wall St. This line ran from Parsons, KS through Ft. Scott on its way to St. Louis, MO.

Test Passenger Train

Conversation with several members of the Heartlands indicates that there is enough interest in assisting with the operation of the test train on the Sooner Sub should the company decide to proceed with plans to operate it. Everything is in the very early stages of planning and everything involved with the train is tentative and will be firmed up as things move along. Currently, the test will last six months and will make one round trip a day, seven days a week. It will leave from Sapulpa, OK and travel to Midwest City which is located on the north edge of Oklahoma City. There will be four or five stops for passengers along the way. The train will be in Midwest City for one to two hours before returning to Sapulpa. Room and board will be provided to Heartland members working the train. All ticket revenue will be donated to the Heartlands. It is expected that ridership interest will probably be highest in the very beginning and will taper off substantially as the new wears off.

The train will have to run every day whether there are any passengers or not. At the beginning there will be several members on each trip. This will allow time for members to become familiar with operating procedures and operation of the train. As time goes on and if the expected decline in interest occurs, staffing will be reduced to one or two members, depending on the need and number of volunteers. There will have to be at least one Heartland member who is familiar with the operation of the passenger cars on every trip. The company will supply assistance with crowd control if the need arises. Future conversations with Rick Webb will provide more information. All persons that are interested in assisting with this one time adventure please contact Brian Carlson or Larry Spahn. Anyone interested in working on the train will have to attend the upcoming safety meeting. Reminder for everyone; this is all tentative and subject to change and even cancellation.

New Addition

Currently, plans are being put together for an addition to the Webb Building. The proposed site for the new addition is on the north side of the present museum where the lawn mower/storage building is currently located. It will be 30 ft x 50 ft in size. The type of construction is being evaluated at the current time. The plan is for it to have a concrete floor and have the same roof pitch and appearance of the present museum building. It will be accessed by a hallway/door from the present building. Proposals are being obtained with the hopes of making a decision soon. There are a lot of things that have to be taken into consideration on this project. Stay tuned!!!

February 13, 2019 - Heart of the Heartlands - Minutes

The February 13, 2019 meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands was brought to order by President Larry Spahn at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of previous meeting: Nick Ybarra moved to accept the minutes as mailed. Jack Evans seconded the motion, the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: After the presentation of the treasurer's report by treasurer Brian Carlson, Alan Chilton moved, Darrell Cave seconded a motion to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was passed by the membership in attendance.

Old Business:

Carona Depot: Work continues when weather permits. Russ has replaced the old motion light fixtures and bulbs on the corners of the building and also replaced several of the deteriorated window screens.

Safety Meeting: The 2019 safety meeting is scheduled to be held on March 16th, 2019 at 1:00 pm at the Webb Center in Carona, Kansas. Jim McKeel will hold a meeting in Wichita, Kansas on March 10th, at 3:00 pm at a location to be determined. These meetings are required for members that wish to work on the passenger train rides. Procedures to do the testing online are being formulated by Brian Carlson and Jim McKeel. Brian presented to the club an online testing service that Jim McKeel and Brian have been testing. The thought was that members that have attended a regular safety meeting in person previously, could complete their safety training online with this testing service. A free version is available, but lacks some needed components for what we are trying to accomplish with the online version. For non-profits, such as the Heartlands, for \$25, a 50 credit test plan could be purchased. With this plan, once 50 tests had been taken, a new plan could be purchased. Our estimates are that about 15 tests would be needed per year. Therefore, in theory, a 50 test plan would last about 3 years. Connie moved to purchase a 50 credit plan for \$25. Darrell Cave seconded the motion, motion passed by the membership present.

Train Ride Schedule for 2019: Larry has received an e-mail from Brad Snow that the Winfield and Clearwater ride dates were recommended to be switched. For the spring, the proposed spring schedule consists of three rides for Bartlesville, OK, on Saturday, March 23rd, two rides in Winfield, KS, Saturday, April 20th, three rides in Clearwater, KS on April 27th, an one ride in Wichita, KS on May 4th. Proposed fall rides include Pittsburg, KS, Little Balkans Days, August 31st, Western Heritage Days, Dewey, OK, three rides, September 21st, Artist Alley, Chanute, KS, three rides, September 28th. There is possibly a ride date in Fredonia and Cherryvale.

Test Passenger Train: Conversation with several members of the Heartlands indicates that there is enough interest in assisting with the operation of the test train on the Sooner Sub should the company decide to proceed with plans to operate it. Everything is in the very early stages of planning and everything involved with the train is tentative and will be firmed up as things move along. The test will

last six months and will make one round trip a day, seven days a week. It will leave from Sapulpa, OK and travel to Midwest City which is located on the north edge of Oklahoma City. There will be four or five stops for passengers along the way. The train will be in Midwest City for one to two hours before returning to Sapulpa. Room and board will be provided to Heartland members working the train. All ticket revenue will be donated to the Heartlands. It is expected that ridership interest will probably be highest in the very beginning and will taper off substantially as the new wears off. The train will have to run every day whether there are any passengers or not. At the beginning there will be several members on each trip. This will allow time for members to become familiar with operating procedures and operation of the train. As time goes on and if the expected decline in interest occurs, staffing will be reduced to one or two members, depending on the need and number of volunteers. There will have to be at least one Heartland member who is familiar with the operation of the passenger cars on every trip. The company will supply assistance with crowd control if the need arises. Future conversations with Rick Webb will provide more information. All persons that are interested in assisting with this one time adventure please contact Brian Carlson or Larry Spahn. Anyone interested in working on the train will have to attend the upcoming safety meeting. Reminder for everyone; **this is all tentative and subject to change and even cancellation.**

KCHS Calendar: Bob Still and Bill Bailey have each donated a 2019 KCS Historical Society calendar to the Heartlands. This is a limited edition calendar that is only available to their members. The calendar is of special interest as it has Heartlands member, Bill Bailey's photograph of the KCS #1023 steam engine in Carona on the back cover.

New Addition: Larry has been talking with Bill Forrest about the construction of a new addition to the Webb Center. The proposed site for the new building is on the north side of the present museum where the lawn mower/storage building is currently located. It will be 30 ft x 50 ft, metal construction. (Stick built is an attractive option that should be considered very seriously.), concrete floor and with the same roof pitch and appearance of the present museum building. It will be accessed by a hallway/door from the present building. He has e-mailed me his bid proposal. Russ Green is also going to give us a proposal on the project. I have spoken with Better Built Buildings and they said it would cost around \$100.00 or so to move the mower building to a new location. There are a lot of things that have to be taken into consideration.

Dave Calwell Collection: Dave Calwell was in attendance at the meeting. Dave has been a member of Heart of the Heartlands for over 25 years. Since he lives in Topeka, making it to regular meetings is a little difficult for him to accomplish. However, he made the trip for this meeting to visit with the membership about his collection. He explained to the club how excited he was for the Webb Center to be able to house his collection. He also shared with the membership some key things about his collection. Plans are ongoing to formalize the details of the transfer and housing of the collection.

Online Donations: Secretary-Treasurer Brian Carlson presented the club with a possible option for being able to accept online membership payments as well as online donations for the club. Through the use of PayPal, an account could be setup that would accept debit/credit cards or PayPal accounts transactions that could be used to pay membership dues or for us to accept online donations. The option for non-profits would include no annual fee or monthly fee. Each transaction would have a 2.2% service charge

plus 30 cents deducted from each transaction. Connie Payton moved to have the club setup the necessary PayPal account to accept online payments. Darrell Cave 2nd the motion and the motion was passed by the membership present.

Membership Roster: Discussion was held about the status of a membership roster for the club.

Secretary-Treasurer Brian mentioned some concern from some members about how the information in a roster would be kept somewhat confidential and not given out to third parties. After discussion on the matter it was agreed upon to have a membership roster available that included the name and mailing address of the Heartland Members. This roster would be available to all members and would include the understanding that all members respect the privacy of all and to not give the mailing information out to anyone outside of the club.

NARCOA: The annual NARCOA dues and insurance were due. With growing concern over the lack of motor car rides, there was discussion about not paying the dues and insurance for the upcoming year. After Jim McKeel mentioned that he would reimburse the club if there were no rides this year, it was agreed to pay the NARCOA dues and insurance for 2019. John Chambers moved to pay the 2019 NARCOA dues and associated insurance for 2019. Alan Chilton seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Correspondence:

We wish to thank everyone who renewed their memberships for 2019. It looks like this will be another great year for the Heartlands. We appreciate your being a part of continuing our work preserving and presenting our railroad heritage.

Nick Ybarra moved to adjourn the meeting. Jack Evans 2nd the motion, motion passed by the membership present.