



## September Meeting

The September meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands was held on September 9, 2020 in the Webb Center at Carona, KS. There were 10 members present. Minutes of the meeting can be found at the end of this newsletter. Members in attendance were: Jack Evans, W.D. Carter, Ivan & Denzil Vorhees, Brian Carlson, Bob Capps, Connie & Mike Payton, John Chambers and Larry Spahn.

## Heart of the Heartlands

The monthly newsletter is constructed by Secretary-Treasurer Brian Carlson. If you have any questions, comments, suggestions you may reach him at: bcarlson@ckt.net 620-820-9665

## Antique Car Club - Visit

The antique car club out of Lockwood MO, visited the Carona Museum on Saturday, September 12th at 9:30am. Larry had been contacted by the group about their desire to come to Carona to enjoy our museum complex. Several classic cars from a bygone era were in attendance, along with their drivers and



*Photo courtesy of John Chambers*



*Photo courtesy of John Chambers*

passengers. They toured the grounds and enjoyed their visit. The group's trip included a stop to big Brutus as well as swinging by Chicken Mary's on the trip home. John Chambers was also there with a small group from Wichita. John's group as well as the car riders enjoyed their visit

## Garden Club - Visit

Fifteen members of the Prairie Gardeners club visited our museum recently. Club President, Dave Wallace called and arranged a visit for the group. Larry met the group at the museum and all members were very impressed with our museum displays and the outside displays. Members had many good questions concerning the museum displays. While showing the group the Boston Depot, Dave Wallace asked what the wooden rack that was donated to us was used for. Larry told him that we have had several attempts to find that out. He volunteered to find out and took down the information on the item. He called and said that he had gone to the US Patent Office web site and found the item. It is described as a "sample book holder" and had a drawing of the item, mystery solved! It is not railroad related. We now need to find it a new home.

### What is it?

This is an item that is currently located at the Carona museum. What is it?

Answer next month

*Photo courtesy of Brian Carlson*



Last month's picture was the small black engine near the 1716 caboose which was built in 1932 by the Plymouth Locomotive Works for the Missouri Pacific Railroad and is the oldest internal combustion locomotive used by the MoPac in existence. The engine uses a chain drive and manual clutch transmission from the engine to the wheels. It saw service at industries located in Louisiana and Kansas City. It was retired in 1960 and purchased by the Mackie Clemens Coal Company and used at mine #22 near Mulberry, KS. They donated it to the Heartlands in 1997 when the mine was closed.

### Announcements

- The October meeting will be held October 14th at 7:00 pm at the Webb Center. All those in attendance are asked to wear a mask.

## Mulberry - Frisco Sign

Member Jay Hastings recently completed repainting the Frisco sign that at in Mulberry, KS. Jay rebuilt the sign as it was rotting away. Bob King originally gave the sign to the Heartlands along with the pole. He acquired it when the Frisco abandoned the line through Mulberry.



After rebuilding the sign, Jay then brought the sign back to Carona and reinstalled it on the pole next to the Plymouth #3001 locomotive. Once the sign was remounted on the pole, he completed the project by painting the remaining "B & E" on the support pole. Nice job Jay! It looks good and was well in need of some TLC. Thanks for your time and effort in this project.



*Photos courtesy of John Chambers*

## Notes of Interest

- The Annual Meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands will be November 14, 2020 at 1:00 pm. Due to the current pandemic, there will be no meal associated with the meeting this year.
- The KCS has cancelled its holiday train for this year. Therefore, there will be no display train or the need for elves.
- We are up to 210 recorded items from the Jane Ballard collection. Our thanks to Jane for her donation.
- Despite the current pandemic affecting the nation, we have had some small groups that have toured the grounds obeying local protocols. We also have had numerous people stop by and tour our open air museum. (Our outside displays)

## September 9, 2020 - Heart of the Heartlands - Minutes

The September 9, 2020 meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands was brought to order by President Larry Spahn at 7:00 p.m.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** Jack Evans moved to accept the minutes as mailed. W.D. Carter seconded the motion, the motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** After the presentation of the treasurer's report by treasurer Brian Carlson, Bob Capps moved, Jack Evans seconded a motion to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was passed by the membership in attendance.

### **Old Business:**

**Mowing:** The grass continues to grow! Larry has mowed the grounds three times in the past month. Brian and Dawn Carlson will take the rest of September and into October, if need be.

**Display Maintenance:** There is always work that needs to be done, any volunteers? Items that are most likely in the highest priority are the motor car sheds and the 3001 engine.

### **New Business:**

#### **Antique Car Club Visit:**

Don Lasater, president of the antique car club out of Lockwood MO, called Larry and asked if his group could still come and visit the Carona Museum on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am. Larry told him that he would meet them at the museum on that Saturday. The antique car club thought there would be eight antique vehicles (more or less) in the group. From Carona they planned on going to Big Brutus and then south to Baxter Springs for lunch. They would then work on heading back north and have supper at Chicken Marys and then on to Lamar. Anyone that is interested in assisting is very welcome.

#### **June Summer Visitation:**

Even with the resurgence of Covid-19 we are still having many visitors to our museum. The number has increased significantly since Big Brutus reopened. There have been many individuals that have come by and enjoyed the outdoor displays, especially the 1023 engine.

#### **Garden Club Visit:**

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### **Donations:**

Jane Ballard collection - we are up to 210 times from the collection that we are planning on keeping. John Chambers has been going through all of the donated items. Thanks to John for the time and effort in performing this task!

### **Memoriam:**

We are sad to report that Gordon Garrett, a long time Heartland member, has passed away. Gordon was very active in all of our Heartland activities, especially when working as a car attendant on our excursion train rides. Gordon also enjoyed our motorcar rides. Gordon was also active in old steam tractors and was a member of the Ozark Steam Engine Association. He was the proud owner of a Peerless steam engine. Gordon was well known for his use of chopsticks and always carried a set with him. He learned how to use them when he visited China while assisting in missionary work several years ago. He will be greatly missed. Our condolences go out to the family.

**Annual Meeting:** The Heartlands Annual meeting is scheduled to be held on November 14<sup>th</sup>. This will be the second Saturday of November. Discussion was held in regards to this meeting. It was decided to meet at 1:00 pm as we have done in the past. However, due to the pandemic concerns, there will be no meal served at the meeting this year.

### **Correspondence:**

- We have received notification that due to Covid-19, the KCS has officially cancelled this years Holiday Express Christmas Train. The train has stopped in Pittsburg every year since its inception and will be missed. The attendance in Pittsburg increased significantly since Watco made the track on Elm Street available for the train. It has always been a very popular event with the public as well as members of the Heart of the Heartland that assisted as elves.
- John Chambers purchased some video surveillance signs for the museum grounds.
- John Chambers announced that the Kentucky Steam Heritage group from Kentucky was to meet him aft Carina on September 16. He inquired if the club would be willing to donate some railroad items we had that were not from our area but might be of interest to the Kentucky group. Everyone at the meeting agreed that would be a nice gesture.

Ivan Vorhees moved to adjourn the meeting. W.D. Carter seconded the motion and it passed by the membership present.