



April Meeting

The April meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands was held on April 10, 2019 in the Webb Center at Carona, KS. There were 15 members present. Minutes of the meeting can be found at the end of this newsletter. Members in attendance were: Jack Evans, Larry & Kathy Spahn, Joe Murphy, Brian Carlson, W.D. Carter, Fred & Ruth Maxwell, Dick Rauniker, Ivan and Denzil Voorhees, Darrell Cave, Michael Sheward, Nicolas Ybarra and John Chambers.

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

Bartlesville Train Rides

The Bartlesville train ride was well attended with 853 rail enthusiasts coming out to enjoy the three train rides. All trains were sold out with many children sitting on laps. The one hour train rides departed from the Bartlesville station and traveled southward along the river before returning. Spirits were not diminished due to several showers that fell across the area during the day. Heartland members working on the train were: Jim McKeel, Brian Carlson, Mike Sheward, Gordon Garrett, Tony Cook, Jay Hastings, Bryson Spahn, Denzil and Ivan Voorhees, Connie and Mike Payton, Kathy and Larry Spahn.

Winfield Train Ride



Photo courtesy of Brian Carlson

The Flint Hill train rides out of Winfield on April 20th went very well. It was a beautiful day for a ride. Quick work in the morning by the Winfield crews to add power to the train and get us spotted meant we left town nearly on time. Robert Balzer, Senior Trainmaster made sure everything was ready for us. Jacob Short did an outstanding job as our



Photo courtesy of Brian Carlson

engineer for the day. We made it to Grand Summit each trip. The 9 a.m. trip had 198 passengers including a group of over 30 boy scouts and their families.



Photo courtesy of Brian Carlson

The 2 p.m. trip had 164 passengers. We had plenty of Heartlands members to help: Ivan & Denzil Vorhees, Larry & Kathy Spahn, Bryson Spahn, Guy Ferguson, John Chambers, Jim McKeel, Matt Vogt and son John, Gordon Garrett, Jack Evans, Brian Carlson, Phil Aylward, Tony Cook and Chuck Dugnolle.



Photo courtesy of Brian Carlson

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 steam locomotive backup light which was mounted on the rear of the tender. It may have been used on the KCS but it is not railroad marked.

Announcements

- The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Webb Center. We hope to see you there.
- We are still gathering bids for construction on the proposed addition to the museum building.

Eagle Scout Project

Eagle Scout, Seth Lindsey has contacted his scout leader and the restoration of the WPA outhouse is eligible as a project. I met with Seth and his father on Friday at the depot grounds and we looked the project over and Seth took pictures and got an idea of what he had to do to restore the structure. He will be getting in touch with us when he has done more paperwork and submitted a project outline to his scout master. I signed an acknowledgement and permission statement stating that we were in agreement. Heartland member, Joe Carlson donated the outhouse to the Heartlands and moved it to the museum last fall.

Upcoming Train Rides

There were two, one hour rides scheduled out of Clearwater, KS on April 27th, departing at 10:00 a.m. and another at 2:00 p.m. There will be one ride scheduled to depart Wichita at 8:30 a.m. heading to Yoder, KS on Saturday, May 4th. The train should arrive in Yoder at approximately 11:00 a.m. The train will depart Yoder at 2:00 p.m. and arrive in Wichita at approximately 4:30 p.m. Please check our web site and Face Book for more information.

9202 Passenger Car

Cameron Lundy sent word that the leak in the roof of the 02 car has been located and repaired. He had the coach's taken to the Cherryvale shops after the Bartlesville ride and the shop crew got on top of the car with a hose and ran water over the roof until the leak was found and then repaired. The heavy rain showers made the leak appear while we were using the car and the leak was reported to Cameron who wasted no time in having the roof repaired. Our thanks to Cameron and his crew for fixing the problem so quickly!

Test Passenger Train

The operation of this train is still pending. All information at this time is **TENTATIVE** and subject to change or cancellation.

Tall Grass Business Car

The Tall Grass will be returning to the Carona museum in the near future where it will be on display.

Grass Mowing

It is that time of year. The warmer weather brings with the return of the growth of the grass at the museum grounds. Members have volunteered their time for this year to help keep the grounds in good shape.

Museum Sign



This is a photo of the new sign that is now in place at our museum complex in Carona. Member Joe Murphey had this sign made for our use. Thanks Joe!

Membership Roster

A current membership roster is now available to all members. The roster includes the names, mailing addresses and phone numbers of all members, with a few exceptions. There are a few members that did not want all of their information made public. As a courtesy to their concerns, those members information was not included on the roster. If you are interested in receiving a current membership roster, please contact Brian Carlson via email at bcarlson@ckt.net or by phone at 620-820-9665. If you call, please leave a message so that contact with you can be made.

Slide Show

The slide show presentation on Sunday, April 07 was well attended by about 15 people with everyone enjoying the images. Dick Rauniker provided a large pot of chili which was very delicious and enjoyed by all. Dick did not have much chili left to take home. Thanks to everyone who attended. These slide shows are great opportunities to see and discuss some of the past railroad items. Stay tuned for word on when the next one will take place.

Souvenir Sales

Part of the club's income is from the sale of souvenir's on our train rides. The Bartlesville train ride on March 23 was very successful. More wooden train whistles were ordered and received after that ride. The Winfield train ride on April 20 provided a good return on souvenir sales as well. We are working on selling the last of the T-shirts we have with the hope of ordering new ones in the fall.

A SKOL freight train moves past the Carona depot on a spring afternoon in 2019.

- Photos courtesy of John Chambers

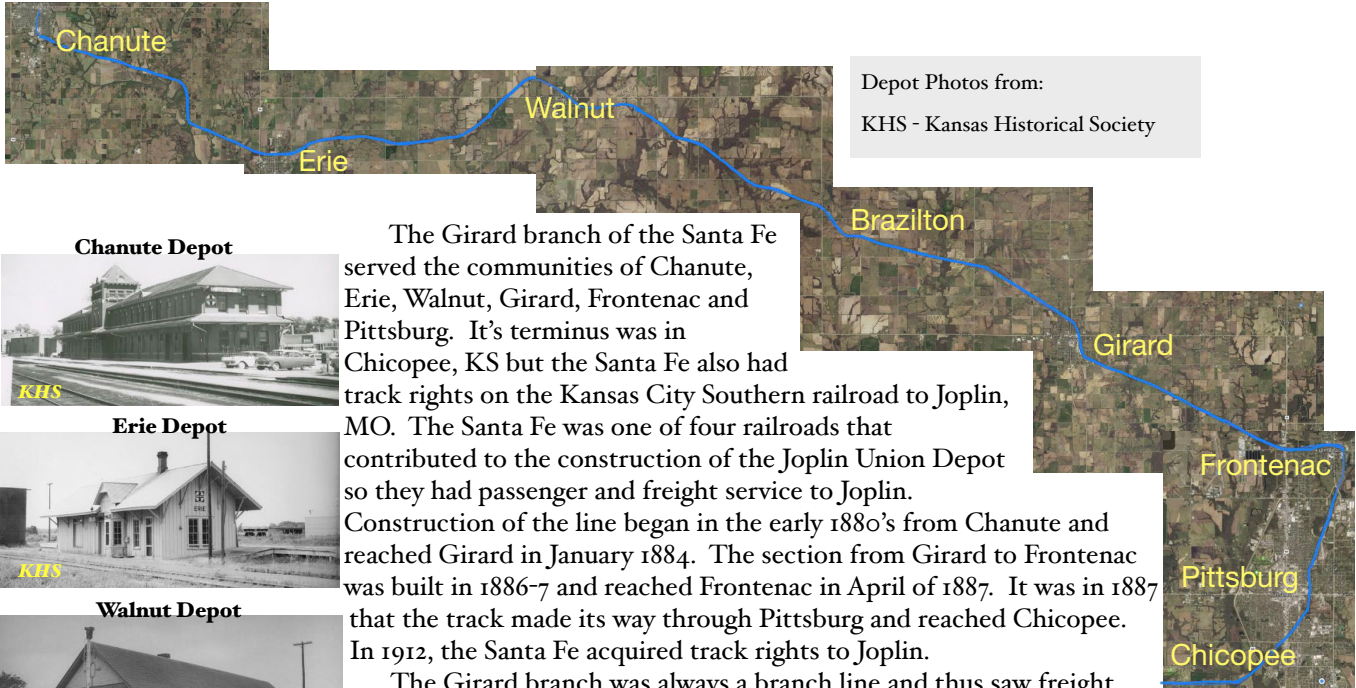


Back in Time?

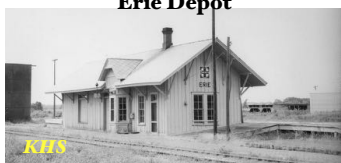
This section is about railroad lines that may have since been abandoned. Where did they go? A brief history of some forgotten places.

Where Did They Go?

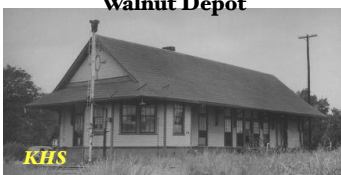
Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Chanute, KS to Pittsburg, KS



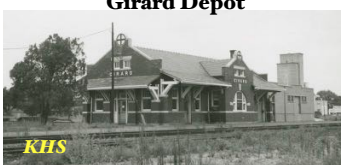
Chanute Depot



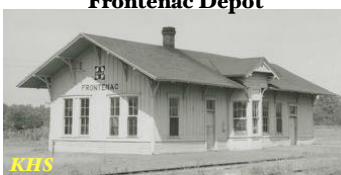
Erie Depot



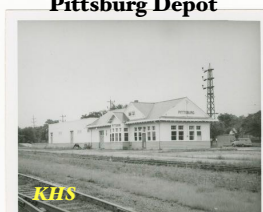
Walnut Depot



Girard Depot



Frontenac Depot



Pittsburg Depot

The Girard branch of the Santa Fe served the communities of Chanute, Erie, Walnut, Girard, Frontenac and Pittsburg. It's terminus was in Chicopee, KS but the Santa Fe also had track rights on the Kansas City Southern railroad to Joplin, MO. The Santa Fe was one of four railroads that contributed to the construction of the Joplin Union Depot so they had passenger and freight service to Joplin. Construction of the line began in the early 1880's from Chanute and reached Girard in January 1884. The section from Girard to Frontenac was built in 1886-7 and reached Frontenac in April of 1887. It was in 1887 that the track made its way through Pittsburg and reached Chicopee. In 1912, the Santa Fe acquired track rights to Joplin.

The Girard branch was always a branch line and thus saw freight traffic with some passenger traffic mixed in. A large amount of passenger service was handled by motor cars or Doodlebugs. According to a time table from November 4, 1896, there was a daily freight train, one each direction between Chanute and Pittsburg. Also during this time was a couple of different passenger trains. Passenger train 242 would leave Pittsburg daily at 10:40 am and reach Chanute at 12:40 pm. At 3:00 pm, passenger train 241 would depart Chanute making its way back to Pittsburg with a 5:05 pm arrival time. During the day, passenger train 245 would leave Girard heading for Pittsburg at 9:55 am. That train would arrive in Pittsburg at 10:35 am. At 5:10 pm, passenger train 246 would leave Pittsburg to arrive back in Girard at 5:50 pm.

By June of 1938, there was still a daily freight train to and from Chanute to Pittsburg. However, passenger traffic was being handled by motor cars. The Girard to Pittsburg daily passenger train was gone, but there was still daily passenger traffic from Chanute to Pittsburg. Motor car passenger service would leave Chanute at 8:24 am and arrive in Pittsburg at 10:05 am. At 10:10 am, the motor car would leave Pittsburg heading back and arriving at Chanute at 11:50 am. The Chanute to Pittsburg morning run was also part of scheduled passenger service from Emporia to Pittsburg. The motor car would leave Emporia at 5:00 am and make the trek south of Emporia through Madison, KS to Benedict, KS to Chanute arriving around 8:10 am. It would then head to Pittsburg as scheduled.

Passenger trains on the Girard branch disappeared long before all passenger service on the Santa Fe ended on April 30, 1971, but the Girard branch line still provided mixed freight service. Prior to April 30, 1971, if one knew to ask an agent, one could purchase a ticket to ride on the line with a seat in the caboose. Freight service continued on the line till the track was abandoned on April 12, 1986.

Book Review Section!!!

This section is for a set of book reviews that member John Chambers has put together. We have several books in our small library at the Webb Center, but we are having more and more people ask about what books talk about the history of the railroads in the 4-state area. John has taken the time to produce these short book reviews to aid in ones' quest for that missing railroad history. Enjoy!



Photo courtesy of Brian Carlson

The SKOL passenger consist preparing to depart Winfield, KS during one of the rides there on April 20, 2019

From the Past...

Railroads of Northwest Arkansas

Winn, Robert G. *Railroads of Northwest Arkansas*. Fayetteville, AR: Washington County Historical Society, 1986.

The author calls himself a chronicler instead of an author in this book about the railroads of this corner of Arkansas. He has written it more like a story teller than an historian and while the chapters are interesting and have some useful information there are several errors. It is a good starting point on this area but it is recommended that more detailed research is done if someone is wanting to know more. It has several interesting photographs and a fair map. Since it is the only published book on this part of Arkansas railroad history it is recommended for anyone's library as a beginning of the story. Used copies can be found doing an internet search.

Trolley Through the Countryside

Chandler, Allison. *Trolley through the Countryside*. Denver, CO: Sage Books, 1963.

If you are a traction or Kansas railroad history fan then this book is a must for your collection. It is the only book written with a history of every interurban trolley line that operated within the state of Kansas. Chandler was a newspaper reporter so the book is written in that style and uses old newspapers and interviews for much of its sources. It is close to 400 pages of mostly text. There are some photographs but they are not printed full page and the maps are useful but not super detailed. The writing is well done and the information is complete. I found a copy recently on Amazon for under \$15.00 and it is well worth the price.

April 10, 2019 - Heart of the Heartlands - Minutes

The April 10, 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: Darrell Cave 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, Darrell Cave moved, W.D. Carter seconded a motion to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was passed by the membership in attendance.

Old Business:

Bartlesville, Oklahoma Train Ride: The Bartlesville train ride was well attended with 853 rail enthusiasts coming out to enjoy the three train rides. All trains were sold out with many children sitting on laps. The one hour train rides departed from the Bartlesville station and traveled southward along the river before returning. Spirits were not diminished due to several showers that fell across the area during the day. Heartland members working on the train were: Jim McKeel, Brian Carlson, Mike Sheward, Gordon Garrett, Tony Cook, Jay Hastings, Bryson Spahn, Denzel and Ivan Voorhees, Connie and Mike Payton, Kathy and Larry Spahn.

Upcoming Train Rides: Two, three hour rides are scheduled out of Winfield, KS on Saturday, April 20th. The first ride leaves at 9:00am, the second ride leaves at 2:00pm. The trains will board at least fifteen minutes before departure from the Watco rail yards at the north end of town. Two, one hour rides are scheduled out of Clearwater, KS on April 27th, departing at 10:00am and another at 2:00pm. One ride is scheduled from Wichita to Yoder and return on Saturday, May 4th which will depart at 8:30am, arriving at Yoder at approximately 11:00am. The train will depart Yoder at 2:00pm and arrive in Wichita at approximately 4:30pm. Please check our web site and Face Book for more information.

9202 Passenger Car: Cameron Lundy reports that the leak in the roof of the 02 car has been located and repaired. He had the coach's taken to the Cherryvale shops after the Bartlesville ride and the shop crew got on top of the car with a hose and ran water over the roof until the leak was found and then repaired. The heavy rain showers made the leak appear while we were using the car and the leak was reported to Cameron who wasted no time in having the roof repaired.

Tall Grass Business Car: The Tall Grass coach will be returning to the Carona museum in the near future where it will be on display.

Test Passenger Train: The operation of this train is still pending. All available information at this time is **TENTATIVE** and subject to change or cancellation.

New Addition: We are still gathering information and bids on construction of the proposed structure.

Membership Roster: After feedback from members was received, Brian Carlson presented a membership roster to the club. The current active roster includes the names, mailing addresses and phone numbers of all members. There are a few that requested some of their information not be included in the roster and those have been omitted as requested. A copy of the membership roster is available to all members upon request. Each board member will receive a copy of the membership roster either by email or regular mail.

Eagle Scout Project: Eagle Scout, Seth Lindsey has contacted his scout leader and the restoration of the WPA outhouse is eligible as a project. I met with Seth and his father on Friday at the depot grounds and we looked the project over and Seth took pictures and got an idea of what he had to do to restore the structure. He will be getting in touch with us when he has done more paperwork and submitted a project outline to his scout master. I signed an acknowledgement and permission statement stating that we were in agreement. Heartland member, Joe Carlson donated the outhouse to the Heartlands and moved it to the museum last fall.

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New Business:

Souvenirs: The souvenir sales were very good at the Bartlesville train ride. We have ordered and received more of the wooden train whistles for the upcoming rides as they sell very well. We are working on selling all of the tee shirts that we have in stock so we can reorder new ones in the fall.

Grass Mowing: It is that time of the year again, the warm weather brings with it the need to have the grass mowed. We need to set up our mowing list for this season. Joe Murphy has been keeping the mowers in excellent condition and they are ready to go. We have received many compliments on the appearance of our museum grounds over the years. This is a direct result of the effort these members make. It takes about two hours to mow the entire grounds using one mower.

Correspondence:

- John Chambers announced that Ken Albrecht from Columbia, MO had made another donation to the museum.
- It was announced to go online and vote for the Heartlands as the BEST MUSEUM at morning.sun.gatehousecontest.com. The contest ended on the 19th of April.

Jack Evans moved to adjourn the meeting. Michael Sheward 2nd the motion and it passed by the membership present.