



October Meeting

The September meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands was held on October 9, 2019 in the Webb Center at Carona, KS. There were 16 members and 1 guest present. Minutes of the meeting can be found at the end of this newsletter. Members in attendance were: Jack Evans, Guy & Brenda Ferguson, Joe Murphey, Kathy & Larry Spahn, Jim McKeel, Denzil & Ivan Vorhees, Brian Carlson, Darrell Cave, Tom Johnston, John Chambers, Steven Gardner, and Connie & Mike Payton.

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

Chanute Artist Alley Rides

The Chanute Artist Alley Rides were quite an experience this year. The first ride went well with 134 passengers on the ride. The second ride was not quite a mile from the depot when a broken rail was spotted. The train crew did an excellent job of returning everyone back to the depot safely. Shortly after unloading the passengers from the second ride, we received word that we could go south of the depot, through the yard, for the third ride. During that successful ride it began to rain heavily and continued to rain when unloading the passengers. Despite the rain and other excitement, the train rides were well attended with 662 passengers enjoying the three rides. Heartland members that assisted in presenting the rides were; Brenda and Guy Ferguson, Denzel and Ivan Vorhees, Kathy and Larry Spahn, Reed Hartford, Brian Carlson, John Chambers, Donna & Alan Chilton, Gordon Garrett, Don Richardson and Jack Evans.



Photo courtesy of Brian Carlson

2019 Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands Corporation will be held on Saturday, November 9 at the Webb Center in Carona, KS. The meeting will be called to order at 1:00 pm. We will then recess to enjoy our annual dinner. Tom Johnston has agreed to do the barbecuing of the pork once again! He has done the cooking of the main meat dish for the last few years and his talents are enjoyed by all. Each member attending is asked to bring a covered dish while the Heartlands will handle tableware and drinks. After the conclusion of the meal, the meeting will resume. Election of board members will take place during the meeting. Look for details of the board election later in the newsletter.

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 an unmarked switch stand lantern donated by Ken Albrecht of Columbia, MO

Announcements

- The next meeting will be Saturday, November 9, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the Webb Center. It is also our annual meeting. **THERE WILL BE NO MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13.** The annual meeting will be the November meeting.
- It was approved at the September meeting that there will be no December meeting.
- There will be no meeting in December.
- The KCS Holiday Express will be in Pittsburg on December 16 at 4:00 pm.

New Addition Takes Shape

The weather has finally allowed construction work to begin. The Better Built by Barnes work crew delivered materials to the museum on September 30th. They also moved the lawn mower



Photo courtesy of John Chambers



Photo courtesy of John Chambers

storage shed to the permanent location on the east side of the museum building. The next day the crew arrived and began erecting the walls of the building. All



Photo courtesy of John Chambers

of the walls were up and the roof end trusses were unloaded in preparation for their installation the next day along with



Photo courtesy of John Chambers

the rest of the roof trusses. Building wrap and hurricane braces were installed, the bottom plate was also anchored and wall studs fastened to the bottom plate. The trusses have been installed and sheeting put on. Interior work will be done at a later time.

Coffeyville Defender Days Rides

Even with the short notice the three rides were well attended in Coffeyville with 628 passengers enjoying the one hour trips going north out of town. Other than some light rain on the return back to Coffeyville during the first trip, the rain stayed away for the day. Heartland



Photo courtesy of Larry Spahn



Photo courtesy of Larry Spahn

members assisting in the rides were: Denzel and Ivan Voorhees, Guy and Brenda Ferguson, Connie and Mike Peyton, Kathy and Larry Spahn, Tony Cook, Gordon Garrett, Don Richardson, John Chambers and Bryson Spahn. Over six hundred passengers enjoyed the three rides and the shoot outs on Main Street. Souvenir sales were very good here as well.

Items of Interest

- John Chambers has spent a great deal of time hanging and mounting new pictures. There have been plenty donated in the last few months.
- In September, John Chambers had a family from Spain that toured the Webb Center and the museum grounds. They were very impressed and left a nice note in the guest sign-in book.
- UP's historic Big Boy steam locomotive No 4014 left September 27, for a 50 day trip through the southwest U.S. It is scheduled to reach Coffeyville, KS on November 16 and depart for Kansas City on the 17th. For more information check out: <https://www.up.com/heritage/steam/schedule/index.htm>



Heart of the Heartlands, Corp. Election of Board Members

The annual meeting will include the election of board members. Bob Capps, John Chambers and Guy Ferguson are the three board members whose terms expire at the end of 2019. Their positions will be up for election at the November meeting. Anyone interested in being a board member, attend the annual meeting.

Heart of the Heartlands Corporation Board Members, Officers and term Expiration dates:

December 2019

Guy Ferguson, John Chambers (Vice-President), Bob Capps

December 2020

Darrell Cave, Jack Evans, Larry Spahn (President)

December 2021

Brian Carlson (Secretary-Treasurer), Alan Chilton, Connie Payton

Frisco Engine Horn Donation

Ron Chamberlain has donated a Lesley Super Tyfon , five chime, horn from Frisco engine #597 for display at the Webb Center. The #597 was a GP-7 road switcher



for the Frisco, retired on 12-18-79 and sold to the Chicago and Northwestern RR to become their #4459. In 1994, the engine was sold to OmniTrax in Wichita. Ron acquired the horn on 2-28-97.

According to Ron, the horn weighs 46 lbs and measures 25" long, 30" wide and 11" high. Thank you to Ron for this impressive donation.

SPECIAL: For those of you receiving the newsletter via email... Look for an additional link in the email that is a recording of the air horn in action!

October 9, 2019 - Heart of the Heartlands - Minutes

The October 9, 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: Jack Evans moved to accept the minutes as mailed. Guy Ferguson seconded the motion, the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: After the presentation of the treasurer's report by treasurer Brian Carlson, Guy Ferguson moved, John Chambers seconded a motion to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was passed by the membership in attendance.

Old Business:

Chanute Artist Alley Train Ride: Despite the rain the train rides were well attended with 662 passengers enjoying the three rides. Heartland members that assisted in presenting the rides were; Brenda and Guy Ferguson, Denzel and Ivan Vorhees, Kathy and Larry Spahn, Reed Hartford, Brian Carlson, John Chambers, Donna & Alan Chilton, Gordon Garrett, Don Richardson and Jack Evans. The interesting part of the day was a broken rail that was found less than a mile from the station at the start of the second ride. That ride was cancelled after returning everyone safely back to the depot. The third ride was held but instead of going north out of Chanute, the ride went south through the yard to the south end of town and back.

Coffeyville Defender Days Rides: Even with the short notice the three rides were well attended in Coffeyville with 628 passengers enjoying the one hour trips going north out of town. Heartland members assisting in the rides were: Denzel and Ivan Voorhees, Guy and Brenda Ferguson, Connie and Mike Peyton, Kathy and Larry Spahn, Tony Cook, Gordon Garrett, Don Richardson, John Chambers and Bryson Spahn. Over six hundred passengers enjoyed the three rides and the shoot outs on Main Street, souvenir sales were very good: Comments from John Chambers.

New Addition: The weather has finally allowed construction work to begin. The Better Built by Barnes work crew delivered materials to the museum on September 30th. They also moved the lawn mower storage shed to the permanent location. The next day the crew arrived and began erecting the walls of the building. All of the walls were up and the roof end trusses were unloaded in preparation for their installation the next day along with the rest of the roof trusses. Building wrap and hurricane braces were installed, the bottom plate was also anchored and wall studs fastened to the bottom plate. The trusses have been installed and sheeting put on.

Engine Display: Cameron Lundy visited the museum last week and while here asked about progress on the display pad for the Coffeyville Resources engine, he said that he would contact the track department to see when the ties and rails would be laid. He also said that Taylor Crane of Coffeyville would be

contacted to set the engine on the display track. The ground will have to be very dry or frozen to allow the large crane to do the work.

New Business:

KCS Holiday Express: The KCS Christmas train will visit Pittsburg on December 16, 2019. The train will be located at Monroe and Elm Streets and will be open to the public at 4:00pm. Anyone wanting to help out as an elf is welcome. Elf costumes will be furnished by the KCS. You will need to be at Monroe and Elm to sign releases and get your elf costume before 4:00pm. The train will also make a stop in Joplin on December 15th this year. Visit their web site for more information on the train's entire schedule.

Donations:

- Ron Chamberlain has donated a Lesley Super Tyfon , five chime, horn from Frisco engine #597 a GP-7 road switcher for display at the Webb Center.
- Kathy Bernard of Pittsburg called and said that she had several more items that she wanted to donate to the museum. Several members of her family have worked on several of the railroads in this area. I met her in Pittsburg and picked up the items. John Chambers had been going through the donated items and found items including pencils, pens, and passes from various railroads in the area.

Displays: John Chambers has been busy framing some of then many photographs and pictures the have been donated over the years. John took advantage of the two for one sale on picture frames at Hobby Lobby and bought several extra while they were on sale.

ANNUAL MEETING: The annual meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands Corporation will be held at 1:00 pm on November 9, 2019. The meeting will begin at 1:00 pm and a meal will be served. Tom Johnston has again agreed to do the barbequing of the pork. Covered dishes provided by members will also be part of the meal. Tom has done the cooking for the past several years and everyone is looking forward to enjoying the meal. Election of Board Members and officers will be held after the meeting.

4014 Big Boy: The UP engine will stop in Coffeyville on Saturday, November 16 and depart at 8:00 am Sunday. It will stop for 15 minutes in Neodesha at 9:30 am and depart at 9:45 am. Come see it if you can. It will also stop in Kansas City and Topeka. More info at up.com/heritage/steam/schedule/index.htm.

Correspondence:

- The Elvira Lathrop family requested a tour of the Webb Center to celebrate her and her twin sisters 86th birthday. They were really impressed with our museum and shared some of their memories of trains rides of long ago. Elvira sent us a thank you card and donation to the Webb Center.
- Guy Ferguson reported that while working on the train rides at Chanute, several people commented to him about our concern for their well being. On the second ride, when the broken rail was found, although disappointed in the ride being cut short, numerous people informed Guy how appreciative they were that we were concerned about their safety and getting them back safely.

- Concerns about the behavior of the period actors on the Coffeyville Rides was brought to the club. The behavior of several of the actors was felt to be inappropriate for a family friendly ride. It was agreed that in the future, the actors would not be allowed on the train.
- Brian Carlson also reported on the recent meeting of the Southeast Kansas museums that was held in St. Paul on September 21. The group is forming to help promote all of the museums in southeast Kansas.

Annual Meeting Notice:

The Heart of the Heartlands Corporation will hold their Annual meeting on November 09, 2019 at their museum located at 6769 NW 20th Street in the un-incorporated city of Carona, Kansas. Tom Johnston has agreed to do the barbequing of the meat again this year. The Heartlands will provide the meat and members are encouraged to bring a covered dish. The meeting will be called to order at 1:00 pm and suspended for the meal. Nomination and election of board members and officers for the upcoming year will be held at the end of the meeting.

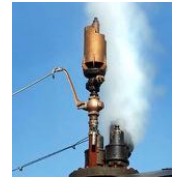
Election of Board Members: At the annual meeting in November, we will need to elect 3 board members to fill the 3 positions expiring at the end of 2019. Bob Capps, John Chambers and Guy Ferguson positions are up for re-election this year.

Guy Fergusn moved to adjourn the meeting. Jack Evans seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn passed by the membership present.

Got a spot?

Don't hesitate to send something in if you have a place you have been or would like to go to. Our members would love to hear about it!

Whistle Stop!



An "Off the Rail" Visit of a Lifetime



Recently My wife and I were on an eleven day bus trip with members of my family that took us to the northeastern part of the U.S. The trip was from southeast Kansas to Niagra Falls, across New York to Boston and then worked its way back home. Although not a "ride on the rails" or a visit to a train museum, there was a very interesting stop early in our journey. A town in northeastern Ohio turned out to be a truly remarkable place for any avid railroad fan. In the town of Dover, OH, lived a man by the name of Ernest "Mooney" Warther. His legacy lives on in the Warther Museum located behind the house he and his wife called home for 63 years. Mooney was a wood carver. Not just any wood carver, but a carver never seen before or since. Once, a couple of the greatest carvers in the world from Germany came to Ohio to see the works of Mr. Warther. After studying his work and craftsmanship, they left proclaiming that Ernest "Mooney" Warther was THE MASTER CARVER OF THE WORLD! The pictures here are some of the numerous, hand carved steam engines he carved. The wood he used was walnut. The white wheels and rods are all hand carved out of ivory. The wheels move! The rods move, everything works! The detail was extraordinarily accurate and to scale. He felt that steam engines were the biggest invention man has made to better man and humankind. In his mind, there was no excuse for representing these machines unless it was perfect. Although it may not seem like a railroad museum, the beauty of these creations are definitely worth your time to see. With out a doubt, although not overly close to southeast Kansas, a trip to the Warther Museum in Dover, Ohio should be on your railroad list of sights to see!

- Brian Carlson

Photo A - This is a carving of UP #4002. The sister of this locomotive is the #4014 currently on the move in the SW U.S.

Photo B - This is a carving of Abraham Lincoln's funeral train that took the President's body from Washington D.C. back to Illinois.



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!



New bench next to the 1023 at the museum grounds

From the Past...

When Oklahoma Took the Trolley

Chandler, Allison and Stephen D. Maguire. *When Oklahoma Took the Trolley*. Glendale, CA: Interurbans, 1980.

This is the companion book to *Trolley through the Countryside* (April 2019 newsletter) in which Chandler and Maguire tell the history of the interurban trolleys of Oklahoma. While the Kansas book is mostly text this book is mostly pictures with equipment rosters and maps. It is well done and the information is accurate. Used copies are available on the internet and with this and the Kansas book one will have about as complete a history of Oklahoma and Kansas traction systems as is currently available.

Heartland Traction the Interurban Lines of Kansas City

Conrad, Edward A. *Heartland Traction the Interurban Lines of Kansas City*. Blue Springs, MO: HeartlandRails Publishing Co., 2006.

Author Conrad has done another thorough job documenting the history of the five interurban lines that radiated out from the Kansas City metro area. Included is also the history of the Lawrence streetcar system. It is profusely illustrated and has a detailed equipment roster and maps of each system. There is even a section on what remains of each line and how you can follow where they ran. Amazon showed only three copies for sale with the cheapest at \$70.00 so this book maybe hard to find but it is worth it for anyone interested in traction systems and Kansas City history.