



March Meeting

The March meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands was held on March 10, 2020 in the Webb Center at Carona, KS. There were 12 members present. Minutes of the meeting can be found at the end of this newsletter. Members in attendance were: Ivan & Denzil Vorhees, Jack Evans, Jim McKeel, John Chambers, Kathy & Larry Spahn, Bryson Spahn, Darrell Cave, Tom Johnston, Joe Murphey and Brian Carlson.

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
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David Calwell Collection

Dave continues to work on preparing his railroad collection for donation to the Heart of the Heartlands. The process of inventorying his collection was progressing very well and that he had found a mover that he feels will be the best way to transport his collection to Carona. This is a great idea as we felt it would be the best way to move his collection to Carona. Heartland members will assist in the unloading. Dave will be coming down with the collection and will set things up for display and will need assistance from us. He plans on traveling to Carona in the near future to check things out and make more preparations for the move. A longtime Heartlands member, the organization can not express its thanks and appreciation for being honored to house the David Calwell Collection. Stay tuned for future announcements and updates!

Banjo Player Visits Carona

Levi White, the banjo player, and his father made it out to Carona on Saturday, March 6, to do his number. He played until his fingers got too numb to feel. John Chambers and Larry Spahn were there to assist. Later, John showed Levi and his father around the museum displays before they left. Levi has since reported that he will have to come back for a redo.

Morgan Addition Entrance

Plans have been made for a covered connection between the main building and the Morgan Addition. After discussions with Jim Page of Better Built by Barnes, who built the Morgan Addition, it was decided to proceed with construction of a covered entrance to the new addition. With the rise of construction prices, the project was moved up on the timeline of things in order to facilitate a lower cost of construction.

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

January's "What is it?" Was a cupola style caboose that was built by the International Car company in Kenton, Ohio in September 1981 for the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad. This caboose was donated to the Heartlands by Watco and the Kansas & Oklahoma Railroad in 2001.

Announcements

- The next meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands will be April 14, 2021 at the Webb Center starting at 7:00 pm.
- Plans are to have motor car rides this year. Hopefully there will be ride dates to announce soon.
- Heartland YouTube Channel is up and running. The URL is https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMIkqWyCxftDlf_ezgw3UyQ.

2021 Train Rides

With the ongoing pandemic from Covid-19, train rides for the spring will not take place in 2021. Any interactions with the public will be assessed on a case by case basis. There is hope that we can possibly have a ride this fall in Cherryvale in conjunction with their 150th celebration. In addition, Dewey, OK has contacted us about a ride this fall as well. Hopefully things will improve by this fall and we will be able to have these two rides.

Future Donations

Pamela Potter, daughter of John Rogers called and said that she had some of her father's railroad items that she would like to donate to the Heartlands. Her father, John celebrated his 101st birthday at the Carona museum a couple of years ago and had his picture taken at the throttle of the 1023. John said that he had run the engine several times in his many years of engine service with the KCS. She is currently recovering from knee surgery and Larry will meet with her when she gets where she can get around a little better. Pamela lives in the Kansas City area. Our thanks to Pamela for her correspondence and possible donation to the Heart of the Heartlands.

Boy Scouts to Visit Carona

The scout master of Troop 299 called and they have re-scheduled their camping trip for March 13. They plan on arriving early Saturday and camping overnight at Carona and visiting Big Brutus before returning to KC. Weather was not cooperating with them on their first attempt at an overnight stay at the complex. Hopefully this visit will work out better.

Carona Items

- The coaches are due for their COTS inspection in June of this year. Larry called Cameron and he said that he already has the cars scheduled to leave for Coffeyville some time next week.
- John and Larry were out last Saturday, March 6, to start the engine on the 9202 but the battery was down and we took it out and put in on charge. While there Larry burned the brush pile behind the museum and John showed 15 visitors around the displays.

March 10, 2020 - Heart of the Heartlands - Minutes

The March 10, 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. Darrell Cave seconded the motion, the motion passed.

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

Old Business:

Banjo Player: Levi White, the banjo player and his father did make it out on Saturday, March 6, to do his number. He played until his fingers got too numb to feel. John Chambers and Larry Spahn were there to assist. Later, John showed Levi and his father around the museum displays before they left. Levi reports that he will have to come back for a redo.

Morgan Addition Entrance: Larry was in touch with Jim Page of Better Built, about adding the covered entrance to the Morgan Addition. He needed some measurements so Larry went out and got what he requested and gave them to him. He will get back with an estimate. Kevin, his assistant is quarantined for 21 days. Jim said that he has seventeen buildings and a house on order but he thought that he could slip over and do the job as it should be fairly simple. Larry asked him to put us on the list and we would discuss it at the next meeting. Jim called later and advised us to decide as soon as possible as there are some pretty hefty increases in material coming in March. Larry notified members of the board about the increases and John Chambers made a motion to notify Jim to proceed, Brian Carlson seconded the motion. All board members were notified and all board members, with the exception of two, who did not respond either way, voted to proceed with the project and the motion carried. Larry met with Jim at Carona to take measurements. He has ordered the metal and materials.

Motor Car Rides: It has been reported that NARCOA has been scheduling several rides in 2021. Hopefully we may be able to generate a little income this year. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that any motor car rides that we could have this year would be beneficial to the Heartlands and to proceed with letting those coordinating rides to proceed with scheduling.

Membership Committee: The committee has not been able to meet as of this time. Jim McKeel, John Chambers and Brian Carlson, the committee, met after the March 10 meeting.

New Business:

Heartlands YouTube Channel: Jim McKeel reports that the Heartland YouTube Channel is up and running. The URL is https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMIkqWyCxfDlf_ezgw3UyQ . Check it out!

Donations: Pamela Potter, daughter of John Rogers called and said that she had some of her father's railroad items that she wishes to donate to the Heartlands. Her father, John celebrated his 101st birthday at the Carona museum recently and had his picture taken at the throttle of the 1023. John said that he had run the engine several times in his many years of engine service with the KCS. She is currently recovering from knee surgery and Larry will meet with her when she gets where she can get around a little better. Pamela lives in the Kansas City area.

Scouts Reschedule Visit: The scout master of Troop 299 called and have re-scheduled for March 13. They plan on arriving early Saturday and camping overnight at Carona and visiting Big Brutus before returning to KC. They might want to reschedule again if the weatherman is right.

Train Rides and other activities for 2021: It appears that at this time with the Covid-19 virus still being a major concern we will have to consider any interaction with the public on a case by case situation. We haven't had a train ride in over a year and our cash reserve is shrinking rapidly. Hopefully we can do a train ride in Cherryvale this fall for their 150th anniversary and also go to Dewey while the coaches are that close.

David Calwell Collection: Dave called to let us know that the process of inventorying his collection was progressing very well and that he had found a mover that he feels will be the best way to transport his collection to Carona. This is a great idea as we don't really know anything about proper packing and loading procedures and the mover is most likely insured. We will assist in the unloading. Dave will be coming down and will set up his collection for display and will need assistance from us. He plans on traveling to Carona in the near future to check things out and make more preparations for the move.

Dewey Train Rides: Fawn Lassiter called about having train rides in Dewey this fall. I told her that we are hoping that we will have some train rides this year but that would depend on the Covid-19 pandemic and what the situation will be later in the year. She was wondering if they would be able to have rides in October. Larry told her that we are hoping to have train rides in Cherryvale for their 150th anniversary and would try to have both rides on consecutive weekends if it becomes possible. He also told her that he would let her know.

COTS Inspection: The coaches are due for their COTS inspection in June of this year. Larry called Cameron and he said that he already has the cars scheduled to leave for Coffeyville some time next week.

Carona Visits: John and Larry were out last Saturday, March 6, to start the engine on the 9202 but the battery was down and we took it out and put in on charge. While there Larry burned the brush pile behind the museum and John showed 15 visitors around the displays.

Correspondence:

- Jim McKeel mentioned that is in working on possibly acquiring a slide collection to be donated to the Heartlands
- Discussion was held briefly on thoughts about a security system

Jack Evans moved to adjourn the meeting. Ivan Vorhees seconded the motion and it passed by the membership present.