



June Meeting

The June meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands was held on June 9, 2021 in the Webb Center at Carona, KS. There were 14 members present. Minutes of the meeting can be found at the end of this newsletter. Members in attendance were: Jack Evans, Jimmie Lovell, Bryson Spahn, Kathy & Larry Spahn, Jim McKeel, Connie & Michael Payton, Ivan & Denzil Vorhees, Joe Murphey, Bill Gillifan, John Chambers 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
620-820-9665

Heartlands - YouTube

Check out our YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMIkqWyCxftDlf_ezgw3UyQ

Visitors to Carona

The people coming to Carona continues with several groups coming in the last month or so. Some of those groups are mentioned below.

- “Big Iron Overland Rally”

The event held by Big Brutus on May 14-16 was very successful for them, as it was for us at the Heartlands as well. We were the first stop on the list of places to visit in the area which brought numerous guests to Carona over the three day period. Our thanks to Big Brutus for keeping us in mind when they have events as well as guiding visitors to us on the weekends we are open.

- USD 506 Schools, Kansas

USD 506, with elementary schools in Altamont, Mound Valley, Bartlett and Edna and the high school in Altamont, brought groups of students to Carona on June 7 and then again on June 11. There was an original communication in late winter that they possibly would be coming in June, but nothing was finalized. We received a call on June 4 that they would be coming three days later. Members Connie Payton, John Chambers and Don Richardson were on hand to greet the June 4th group. Other members were there for the June 11th group. Grades pre-kindergarten through 3rd grade arrived on the 7th with grades 4-9 arriving on June 11. There were 221 students and teachers that visited the Heartlands during the two days. Thanks again to all of the club members that were here to greet them.

The “Big Boy” returns!

The Union Pacific steam locomotive will be coming through Kansas again. Actual stops and detailed travel plans are being finalized but the locomotive will be coming through Kansas, (Kansas City to Chetopa) in early August. More information to follow.

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 of the Santa Fe refrigerator bunker car. Originally built in the 1950's for the Milwaukee Railroad, this ice bunk refrigerator car has been painted to resemble one for the Santa Fe Railway with the famous map and Super Chief logo applied. This car originally was used to ship meat, fruits and vegetables that needed to be kept cold. Chunks of ice were loaded into bunkers on each end of the car and fans were used to circulate the cold air around inside the car whose walls are insulated to keep the products cold.

Announcements

- The next meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands will be July 14, 2021 at the Webb Center starting at 7:00 pm.

Dave Calwell Collection

Dave Calwell is progressing with his preparation of the donation of his collection to the Heart of the Heartlands. Dave has written a letter describing his progress, which was read by Larry at the meeting. The price of lumber and related hardware has gone from ridiculous to unbelievable! To make matters more complicated there are many items that are difficult to nearly impossible to get. Dave is still gathering information on the moving of the collection to Carona. He has gotten a bid from a new company in Topeka, "Two men and A Truck" to move the collection and all of the display cases and everything else. Negotiations are continuing. Dave's inventory is very concise with many pictures of each and every item. This will become a very important part of the collection.

Motor Car Rides

Plans are being made for a NARCOA motor car ride on the SKOL in 2021. The plans currently are working on a ride in October, possibly in conjunction with a ride in Missouri. The ride in Missouri would be on one day and the SKOL ride the following day. Things are in the preliminary stages and are very tentative. As we know more there will be more information in the newsletter.

Slide Show

The first slide show of 2021 was held June 19th. This was the first slide show in over a year and it was well attended. Around 15-20 people came through the showing that was held from 11:00 - 5:00. Slides of the Missouri Pacific White River Line and the Frisco along the Spring River in Arkansas were the featured slides. Ken Albrecht and Bob Plough were the main presenters for the show. There were other presenters with many more slides. More details will be in the July newsletter.

July and August Weekends

Don't forget, we are going to be open for guests in July on the 3rd and 4th and then again on the 17th and 18th. In August, we will be open on the 7th and 8th and also the 21st and 22nd. Our hours for each of the four weekends will be 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. If you can come out and volunteer to help during any of these weekends, it would be greatly appreciated.

Donations

- New member Gerald Hooke has donated several items to our museum collection. His china and silverware will become an important part of our railroad china display.

Membership Proposal

Earlier in the year, the club discussed changes for membership for the club. A membership committee of Jim McKeel, John Chambers and Brian Carlson was formed to look into some plans and draw up a proposal for the club. Below are two options that the club will decide on during the August meeting. The proposals would be in effect for memberships starting on or renewing on January 1, 2022. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact a board member or contact Secretary-Treasurer, Brian Carlson. Brian’s contact information is on the first page of the newsletter.

Proposal 1

	1 Year Membership	2 Year Membership	3 Years (10% discount)
Adult	\$35	\$70	\$94.50
Senior (60+)	\$30	\$60	\$81
Family	\$50	\$100	\$135
Student (High School, College, Trade School - age 22 or less)	\$20	\$40	\$54
Contributing	\$100	\$200	\$270
Sustaining*	\$250	\$500	\$675
Life Membership	\$1,000		
Membership is for calendar year - no discount for joining later in the year.			
Memberships include:			
Monthly Newsletter 10% discount in the gift shop Free train rides IF SPACE AVAILABLE			
*Sustaining Membership- for two or three years includes the use of the Good Times Caboose on one regular excursion train for family or group			
*Life Membership - includes the use of the Good Times Caboose on two regular excursion trains for family or group			

Proposal 2

	1 Year Membership	2 Year Membership	3 Years (10% discount)
Adult	\$30	\$60	\$81
Senior (60+)	\$25	\$50	\$67.50
Family	\$50	\$100	\$135
Student (High School, College, Trade School - age 22 or less)	\$20	\$40	\$54
Contributing	\$100	\$200	\$270
Sustaining*	\$250	\$500	\$675
Life Membership	\$1,000		
Membership is for calendar year - no discount for joining later in the year.			
Memberships include:			
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June 9, 2021 - Heart of the Heartlands - Minutes

The June 9, 2021 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, Jim McKeel moved, John Chambers seconded a motion to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was passed by the membership in attendance.

Old Business:

Motor Car Rides: Plans are being made for a NARCOA motor car ride on the SKOL in October of this year. Stuart Remer, the NARCOA representative, is trying to set up a ride on the SKOL to coincide with a ride in Missouri. The ride on Saturday would be out of Sedalia with a Sunday ride on the SKOL. Larry called Cameron Lundy and he said to contact the General Manager of the SKOL, Jerry Waunn, and gave him his phone number which was passed on. Plans are tentative and in the early stages of getting approval.

Con-Rail Business Car Book: The author, Brock Kerchner, visited Carona recently to gather information on his new book. John Chambers met with him and showed him the Tall Grass.

Visits to Museum: The "Big Iron Overland Rally" was a very successful event for Big Brutus and we also had several visitors that day. The Heartlands was the first on the list of places to visit on the event list for the tour. Plans for another rally next year are being formulated.

Altamont Schools: The school district had made a tentative proposal for a museum visit in conjunction with their visit to Big Brutus. They called the Friday before they were coming! When they called back, they informed us that there would be two separate visits. The first visit would include pre-school through 3rd grade, while the second visit would be 4th through 8th. The school had a total of 144 students and teachers on the Monday, June 7th visit. Luckily, Connie Payton, John Chambers and Don Richardson were able to be on hand to make their visit a success. The next group is scheduled to visit on Friday, June 11th. This group is expected to have 75 to 100 students and teachers. Hopefully we can have more members present for this visit.

Membership Committee: The membership committee of John Chambers, Jim McKeel and Brian Carlson made a presentation on a couple of proposed options for membership fees starting with the 2022 calendar year. It was agreed to let the membership look over the proposals and a final vote would be taken at the August 2021 meeting. The two proposals are in the June 2021 newsletter.

New Business:

Slide Show: A slide show was scheduled to be held at the Webb Center in Carona on June 19th. The show is slated to begin around 11:00 am and will feature slides of the Missouri Pacific White River Line and the Frisco along the Spring River in Arkansas. Ken Albrecht and Bob Plough will be the presenters for the show. Face masks and social distancing optional depending on if you have had the vaccine. Bring things to show, we can accommodate all media types. Bring snacks.

Volunteers Needed for Summer Visits: Since we have decided to have the museum and displays open on the first and third weekends of June, July and August, we will need volunteers to come out and assist in doing this. We need members inside the museum to show people the displays and to keep kids from trying to play with things and to sell souvenirs.

Pawhuska Movie Set: The filming of the movie, Killers of the Flower Moon is steadily progressing. The parts of the movie involving the steam engine and passenger cars is complete and have been loaded up and are on their way back to Nevada. Many locals are being employed as extras in the movie.

Donations:

- Dave Calwell is progressing with his preparation of the donation of his collection to the Heart of the Heartlands. Dave has written a letter describing his progress, which was read by Larry at the meeting. The price of lumber and related hardware has gone from ridiculous to unbelievable! To make matters more complicated there are many items that are difficult to nearly impossible to get. Dave is still gathering information on the moving of the collection to Carona. He has gotten a bid from a new company in Topeka, "Two men and A Truck" to move the collection and all of the display cases and everything else. Negotiations are continuing. Dave's inventory is very concise with many pictures of each and every item. This will become a very important part of the collection.
- Gerald Hooke has donated several items to our museum collection. His china and silverware will become an important part of our railroad china display.

Correspondence:

- John Chambers informed the group that a group had schedule a tour for June 24, at 2:00 pm.
- Larry Spahn mentioned that Jim Lovell and his brother John, mowed the grounds on Wednesday, June 9th. Due to the thickness of the grass in places, they basically mowed it twice.
- John and Larry both mentioned the issues with ticks this year in the tall grass and wooded areas. They remained everyone to be very careful.
- Larry also mentioned that they had received a call from member Ruth Maxwell. Ruth talked to Kathy Spahn and wanted to let everyone know that her and her husband Fred are both doing well.

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