



### October Meeting

The October meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands was held on October 13, 2021 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: Jack Evans, Connie and Mike Payton, Kathy & Larry Spahn, John Chambers, Paul Morgan, John Randall, Ivan & Denzil Vorhees, Jimmie Lovell 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/UCMIkqWyCxftDif\\_ezgw3UyQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMIkqWyCxftDif_ezgw3UyQ)

## Morgan Addition

Jim Page of Better Built by Barns called early Friday morning, October 8, letting us know that he and his helper Kevin would be out to begin work on the covered connection between the original building and the Morgan Addition. Larry met the duo to let them in so that they could start. After determining that they would need to go back to starting from scratch, they began their



Member Jack Evans in the new walkway (Brian Carlson photo)



View from the Morgan Addition (Brian Carlson photo)

work. They worked until 5 pm and accomplished a great deal. Rain prevented any work on Monday, October 11, but they were out early on Tuesday the 12th. Larry went to Pittsburg to get two new locksets and dead bolts for the doors.

The connection was completed on October 13th. We will need to paint the interior and install a light fixture to complete the project.

## Annual Meeting

The annual meeting for the Heart of the Heartlands will be held on Saturday, November 13 at 1:00 pm. Due to the current Covid-19 situation, there will not be a dinner again this year. There are four board member positions open at this meeting. Current board members Brian Carlson and Connie Payton, have terms that expire at the end of 2021. The third position is currently vacant and needs to be filled. This position was held by Alan Chilton. However, we will have a slide show on this day starting at 11:00 am. Slides will be shown until 1:00 when the annual meeting will be held. After the meeting, if there is interest, the slide show may resume. If you are planning on coming to the slide show, bring a snack.

## 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 swing crossing gate that protected the crossing in Fredonia, KS between the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe and the Frisco. The gate was donated by Watco. It is now used as the gate to the entrance of the Carona museum complex. The control lock box was from the Cherokee, KS crossing between the Frisco and the Missouri Pacific. It was donated by the BNSF.

## Next Meeting

- The next meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands will be November 13, 2021 at the Webb Center starting at 1:00 pm. This will be the annual meeting. Board members will be elected and new officers chosen. We hope to see you there.

## David Calwell Collection

Progress continues on the David Calwell collection. Work on the display cases has been completed including the staining and varnishing. The insides of the display cases have been painted white and Ken and Dave have moved the cases to Dave's garage where they will be loaded onto the moving van when the collection is moved. He and his two assistants are in the final stages of the work cataloging and photographing his collection. A copy of the catalog will be left with the collection. The plan for moving the collection and display cases is most likely to occur between Thanksgiving and Christmas but could be sooner. When the moving day arrives, volunteers will be needed in assisting Dave in setting up the display.

## Elementary Christmas Rides

We have received word from WATCO that they will be hosting their annual train ride out of Pittsburg this year. Normally Pittsburg USD 250 brings their group, but due to their current Covid-19 policies, they will not be able to attend this year. Instead, St. Mary's Elementary school will be attending this year. Their 1st and 2nd grade students will be taking a train ride on December 9, 2019. Departure time is 9:00 am. If you would like to help with this ride, please be at Monroe & Elm streets before 8:30 am.

## Grounds Maintenance

Butts Lawn Service, the contractor that takes care of the many Watco Companies properties in the area has started work on getting the Carona Depot grounds back into shape. The trees along the siding where the Tall Grass business car is parked have been trimmed back and the weeds cut down and sprayed. This will allow the cars to be moved without damaging or scratching up the paint and damaging the mirrors on the locomotives. Several areas around the KCS 1023 locomotive have also been cleaned up and a have made the display more presentable. Future plans include cutting all of the brush that surrounds the perimeter of the Boston depot as well as trimming many of the trees around the displays and depot grounds. This work is planned to begin after the leaves on the trees have fallen and the summer temperatures have moderated. I was out to the museum last week and the grass was being mowed and the weeds trimmed. Several tree limbs were blown down in the last wind storm and they were all picked up and hauled away. The grounds and displays appearance have been greatly improved since the lawn service has started their maintenance

## Donations

- Dave Wallace of Weir, KS donated two switch cleaning brooms to the Heartlands. They will become part of the motor car displays.
- Ed Brinkmeyer donated official Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe maps of the Chanute yard along with other railroad papers. The maps date back to 1905.

## Announcements

- The KCS Holiday Express will not be taking place this year. It was cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic and it was recently announced that it would not be running in 2021.
- MEMBERSHIP DUES - It is time to renew your membership with the Heartlands. At the right is the new pricing for the 2022 year. You can renew your membership at the annual meeting in November, by mail or online on our website. The online portion will be available later in November.

# 2022 Membership Dues

It is that time of year for membership dues to be renewed. At the September meeting, it was passed to adopt a new membership pricing plan beginning with memberships for 2022 and beyond. If you already purchased multiple years, you do not need to pay anything until your current membership expires. All members will receive a statement, either by email or mail, informing you of when your membership expires. Any questions, please, please contact Brian Carlson.

Previously, a single membership was \$25 and a family membership was \$35 for one year. With the new proposal, a single adult membership will be \$35 for a year. Single adult memberships for senior adults (60+) will be \$25 for the year. Family memberships will be \$50 each year. There is a 10% discount for memberships that are purchased for a three year period.

### Heart of the Heartlands Membership Plans

	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:			
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			

## October 13, 2021 - Heart of the Heartlands - Minutes

The October 13, 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:** John Chambers moved to accept the minutes as mailed. Mike Payton seconded the motion, the motion passed.

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

### **Old Business:**

**Grass Cutting:** Butts Lawn Service, the contractor that takes care of the many Watco Companies properties in the area has started work on getting the Carona Depot grounds back into shape. The trees along the siding where the Tall Grass business car is parked have been trimmed back and the weeds cut down and sprayed. This will allow the cars to be moved without damaging or scratching up the paint and damaging the mirrors on the locomotives. Several areas around the KCS 1023 locomotive have also been cleaned up and a have made the display more presentable. Future plans include cutting all of the brush that surrounds the perimeter of the Boston depot as well as trimming many of the trees around the displays and depot grounds. This work is planned to begin after the leaves on the trees have fallen and the summer temperatures have moderated. I was out to the museum last week and the grass was being mowed and the weeds trimmed. Several tree limbs were blown down in the last wind storm and they were all picked up and hauled away. The grounds and displays appearance have been greatly improved since the lawn service has started their maintenance.

**Museum Visitors:** Our summer visiting week ends have ended but we continue to have more and larger groups calling to make reservations to visit the museum. John Chambers mentioned that he has groups calling for appointments. Also, visitors stop by whenever he is out working.

**David Calwell Collection:** Dave called Larry recently to let him know that Dave would be out of town for several days to visit family. He said that the work on the display cases has been completed including being stained and varnished and the insides painted white. Ken and Dave have moved them to Dave's garage where they will be loaded onto the moving van when the collection is moved. He added that they are very unwieldy and heavy, especially with the sliding glass doors installed. He and his two assistants are in the final stages of the work cataloging and photographing his collection. A copy of the catalog will be left with the collection. The plan for moving the collection and display cases is most likely to occur between Thanksgiving and Christmas but could be sooner. When the moving day arrives, volunteers will be needed in assisting Dave in setting up the display.

## **New Business:**

**Morgan Addition:** Jim Page of Better Built by Barns called early Friday morning, October 8, and said that he and Kevin would be at Carona in about twenty minutes to start work on enclosing the walk way between the buildings. Larry was there to open the doors so they could get into the buildings. Kevin and Jim worked until 5 pm and accomplished a great deal considering that they had to start from scratch to get everything to fit. Rain prevented any work on Monday, October 11, but they were out early on Tuesday the 12th. Larry went to Pittsburg to get two new locksets and dead bolts for the doors. As of the time of the October meeting, most everything was completed on the project.

## **Donations:**

- Dave Wallace of Weir, KS donated two switch cleaning brooms to the Heartlands. They will become part of the motor car displays.
- Ed Brinkmeyer donated official Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe maps of the Chanute yard along with other railroad papers. The maps date back to 1905.

**Train Rides:** The latest word is that the Pittsburg Schools Christmas ride will be held, a date and time will be determined. This holiday ride has always been a fun one. This is a very good ride and is greatly enjoyed by all who attend.

**Annual Meeting:** The annual meeting will be held on November 13 at 1:00 pm at the Webb Center. With the current Covid situation, there will not be a dinner associated with the meeting this year. Board members and Officers will be elected at this time. Also this year will be a slide show before the annual meeting. The slide show will begin at 11:00 am and will break for the annual meeting.

## **Announcements:**

- November 12, gentlemen from the Missouri Pacific Historical Society will be at the Webb Center to scan documents in our library
- November 20, the Western Missouri Antique Tractor Club is planning on visiting the museum complex before continuing on to Big Brutus
- The Missouri Pacific Historical Society will be having its national convention in 2023 in Wichita. There might be a possibility of a train ride associated with this event

## **Correspondence:**

- John Chambers contacted Reed Hartford. Reed was planning on now calling Alan Chilton's daughter, Alexandria to inquire again about the items that Alan had at his home while working on projects for the Heartlands.
- It was mentioned that Heartland members Larry Spahn, Dave Parker and Guy Ferguson were all part of recent "Honor Flights" to Washington D.C.

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