



February Meeting

The February meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands was held on February 19, 2022 in the Webb Center at Carona, KS. There were 9 members present. Minutes of the meeting can be found at the end of this newsletter. Members in attendance were: Jack Evans, John Chambers, Brian Carlson, Ed Brinkmeyer, Denzil & Ivan Voorhees, Darrell Cave and Kathy & Larry Spahn.

Heartlands - YouTube

Check out our YouTube channel:

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

Monthly Meeting Change

It was decided at the February meeting to change our monthly meeting date and time. In the past, the monthly meeting has been held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm. Starting next month, March 2022, the monthly meeting will be held on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 1:00 pm. The location will still be the Webb Center in Carona. Plans are to have a small program after each meeting, but details are still being worked out on that part. Our hope is that by moving the meeting date to Saturday, more members will have the opportunity to come join us.

2022 Train Rides

We have contacted the railroad about having two rides out of Carona on Saturday, June 11. The first ride will leave at 10:30 am with the second ride departing at 2:30 pm. This Saturday coincides with the Big Iron Overland Rally that is being held at Big Brutus on June 10-12. If the ride is approved by the railroad, we hope for a good size turnout. This would be the first revenue producing ride we have had since the fall of 2019.

Dave Calwell Collection

Reports from Dave are that he is 99% packed and ready to make the move of his collection to the Webb Center. Now begins the coordinating task of getting a date with the movers set that aligns with Dave's schedule as well as other supporting individuals' schedules. The Heartlands is ready to be available whenever the date is officially set for the move. If there are any members that would like to help when the collection arrives, be looking for an email with the date and time information. Again, we thank Dave for his hard work and generosity in this endeavor.

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

The building was initially constructed in the spring of 2003 as a 30' x 70' pre-engineered building to house items that dealt with the history of the railroads in the four state region of Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas. In 2014 construction was completed on an additional 30' x 70' addition which contains a library, media center, artifacts and a large area for meetings. Included in the Webb Center is a collection of wooden model steam locomotives that were built by Mr. Downs of Council Grove, KS. Most of his collection was made after he had passed his 75th birthday. Restrooms and a gift shop are also included in the building which is named in honor of the Webb family of Pittsburg, KS, founders and owners of Watco Companies LLC, the largest privately held short line railroad transportation company in North America.

Big Kansas Road Trip

The Kansas Sampler Foundation promotes regional trips throughout the state of Kansas on an annual basis. This year, Bourbon, Crawford and Cherokee counties are the featured destinations. Not only are museums promoted by the Foundation, but restaurants, local sites and other locations are featured as well. This year's trip through the area will be May 5th through May 8th. We are planning on having the museum open from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm each of the four days. If you will be available and would be willing to come help, we can use the help at the museum.

For more information: <https://bigkansasroadtrip.com>

Next Meeting

Don't forget! The next meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands will be on Saturday, March 12 at 1:00 pm at the Webb Center. We hope to have a short program at the meeting, but the details are still being worked out.

Frisco - Santa Fe Gate - Fredonia, KS



This is the former gate across the Frisco portion of the interchange in Fredonia between the Santa Fe and Frisco. It is now the gate to the entrance of the museum complex.

- Brian Carlson photo

February 9, 2022 - Heart of the Heartlands - Minutes

The February 9, 2022 meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands was brought to order by President Larry Spahn at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of previous meeting: Darryl Cave moved to accept the minutes as mailed. John Chambers seconded the motion, the motion passed.

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

Old Business:

Big Kansas Road Trip: This event focuses on the numerous museums that are available in southeast Kansas. It will consist of visits to many of the museums in our area and will be held on May 5th thru May 8th, 2022 in Cherokee, Bourbon and Crawford Counties. We plan on having members present at the Carona Depot Complex from 11am to 5:00 pm. For more information please visit their website address: bigkansasroadtrip.com

Train Rides: We are hoping that we will be able to have a couple of train rides in conjunction with the **Big Iron Overland Rally** being held at Big Brutus on June 10-12, 2022. If possible, two rides will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2022. The first one hour ride would depart at 10:30 am and the second ride at 2:00 pm. These two rides would be the first revenue rides that we have had in two years.

New Business:

Meeting Day-Time Change: A suggestion had been brought up about changing our monthly meeting from 7:00 pm on the second Wednesday of each month to the second Saturday of each month at 1:00 pm. A benefit of doing this would eliminate the need of members having to drive home late at night and possibly allow more members to attend the meetings. It would also provide more time for members to visit and possibly enjoy a slide show or presentation. After some discussion John Chambers moved to move the monthly meeting date from the second Wednesday of each month to the 2nd Saturday of each month. Jack Evans seconded the motion, the motion passed by those in attendance.

Memoriam: We are very sad to report that Heartland friend, Larry Byers of Olathe, Kansas passed away on January 28th, 2022. Larry had recently donated his railroad belt buckle collection to the Heart of the Heartlands where it is now on display in the Morgan Center at Carona. Our sympathies go out to the family.

Donations:

- John Chambers informed the club that Joe McCarthy, retired Missouri Pacific & Union Pacific engineer out of Independence, KS donated 146 cataloged items for the museum. Thanks to member Don Richardson for making contact with Mr. McCarthy for his contribution.
- The Little Balkans Festival Association made a \$500 donation to the club, treasurer Brian Carlson presented.

Correspondence:

- Secretary-Treasurer Brian Carlson reported on membership renewals and how that was proceeding.

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