



Photo courtesy of John Chambers

August Meeting

The August Meeting of Heart of the Heartlands was held August 9, 2017, at the Webb Center in Carona, KS. There were 21 members present. Minutes of the meeting can be found at the end of this newsletter. Kaye Lynne Webb was a special surprise guest at the meeting. She provided chicken and sides from Chicken Mary's for the membership present as a thank you for the efforts over the years.

Docent Guide Brochure

The Carona Guide has been put together and is ready. This guide explains exhibits at Carona to assist those that attend our complex. Thanks go to John Chambers and Alan Chilton.

Webb Center gets a printer

Darrell Cave delivered the printer for the Webb Center. It was installed after the meeting and is ready to go.

Passenger Cars

It was reported that the passenger cars were now in Carona and work had begun on getting them ready for the upcoming rides in September. CDL Electric came out to change the electric motor on the cooling fan for the generator on the 9202 coach. John Chambers started the generator to check out the air conditioning on the coaches and when the cooling fan kicked on he immediately shut the generator down. The fan motor was making a grinding noise and vibrating the entire coach. Brad Snow was notified and he contacted CDL to come out and check it out. CDL came out and changed out the motor. It is now running quietly and has no vibration. The air conditioning was started and allowed to run for several hours when we were out on Saturday when the Webb Center was open to the public. The 9202 car was not cooling and was obseof bubbles in the sight glass indicating that it was low on Freon. CDL came out again and serviced all three cars and they are now fully operational.

Where is it?



This section is a little bit of trivia. Here is the challenge:

- The pictures above are station signs that are currently in our museum.
- For each, what county and state was the town located in?
- What railroad owned each of those station signs?

The answers will be in next month's newsletter.

Photos courtesy of Brian Carlson

Last Month's signs:

Hepler - Crawford County, KS - MKT

Frontenac - Crawford County, KS - ATSF

Barnsdall - Osage County, OK - Midland Valley

Weed Spraying

Heartland member Joe Carlson, returned with his ATV and weed killer to hit the areas around the grounds he missed on his first trip. A big Heartland thank you to Joe for doing this service.

Motor Car Rides

Jay Hastings, NARCOA area ride coordinator has informed the club that there will be no makeup ride in September. Jay had been working on possibly getting one put together in September, but due to the number of train rides the club has in September, there will be no ride in that month. There will be a ride on the Moline Sub, Saturday, October 21st 2017. The ride will begin in Burden, Kansas and go to Fredonia, Kansas and back. Efforts are ongoing to get the ride permission form signed and sent to Jim for our insurance. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend to help with this ride.

Motor Car Donation

Joe Murphy reported that he had picked up a motor car that we will use for spare parts to get the KCS ST-2 motor car presentable. Joe reported that he had begun to take off parts from the car and estimates that he has probably salvaged enough to recoup any cost in obtaining the car. Details on a cost associated in obtaining the car are currently being worked out, but will not exceed \$300. When Joe gets done taking the parts off of the car that he needs, the club intends to sell any parts that remain.



Summer Hour Visitors

The Webb Center and museum grounds were open to the public on June 27th and 28th. Heartland members that donated their time to help show visitors around were John Chambers, Michael Sheward, Jack Evans, Bryson Spahn and Larry & Kathy Spahn. Once again there were many visitors to the Webb Center. The KCS 1023 is a highly visited display with many coming specifically to see it. We need to have volunteers for the remaining first and third weekends in July and August. The museum will be open from 11:00 am until 5:00 pm on these days. If you can volunteer it will be greatly appreciated.

Grass Mowing

Larry personally thanked Brian Carlson for mowing the grass just before the last rain. August is Larry's month to mow. Brian said that he did not think that Larry would mind. He was correct as Larry said he could mow for him anytime.

Webb Center Propane

It was moved at the meeting to purchase up to 1000 gallons of propane at \$1.14 per gallon from the McCune Co-op for the upcoming winter. We have been informed by the co-op that we still have 300 gallons of propane that we are owed. A check of past history indicates we have never used that much in any winter. The decision was made to not purchase propane at this time.

Block Signal

The block signal installation is now complete with the exception of hooking up the electrical power and making it work. According to information received, technically there should not be a mile marker installed on the signal that already has a mile marker on it. That aside it should be good for a few questions from the public.

Upcoming Train Rides

A very busy September is in store for the train crews of the passenger cars.

- **Little Balkans Train Rides:** There will be two rides out of Pittsburg, KS on the morning of September 2nd. These rides are scheduled to depart at 9:00 am and 11:00 am. Tickets are now on sale at Memorial Auditorium and Convention Center for \$7 per ticket or a family pack of five tickets for \$25. On Sunday, the 3rd, there will also be a ride from Pittsburg, KS to the Carona depot and museum. This is affectionately known as "The Chicken Train". The train is scheduled to depart Pittsburg at 10:00 am and return to Pittsburg around 2:00 pm. Tickets for this ride are also on sale at the Memorial Auditorium and Convention Center for \$25.

- **Class of 1956 Train Ride:** We have been informed by Brad Snow that Kaye Lynn Webb is having a train ride for the PHS Class of 1956 on September 17th. This ride usually leaves from Elm St. in Pittsburg around 10:30 am and travels to Carona. A luncheon will be served to the class in the Webb Center and the group can tour our displays before returning to Pittsburg around 2:00 pm.

- **Dewey, Oklahoma Train Ride:** We have been in touch with the groups involved with three train rides out of Dewey on September 23, 2017. They are very excited to have the train in their city and feel that the rides should be sold out. The tickets have been printed and delivered to them.

- **Chanute Artist Alley Rides:** Three rides are planned for the Artist Alley celebration in Chanute on September 30th. Departure times will be 10:00 am, 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm. This ride has been provided by Watco for many years, back when flat cars with bales of straw for seats were used and occasionally a caboose.

Correspondence

Jim McKeel reported that he will be working on the railroad for the next few weeks. Jim has been a long time member of the Friends of the Cumbers Toltec for many years.

August 9, 2017 - Heart of the Heartlands - Minutes

The July 2017 meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands Corporation was called to order by president Larry Spahn at 7:00 pm at the Webb Center building. Kaye Lynne Webb surprised the membership present by bringing in chicken and sides from Chicken Mary's as a thank you for the work that Heart of the Heartland's membership has provided over the years. Larry thanked Kaye Lynne for the meal as well as all the support we have received from her. Members in attendance were: Kathy & Larry Spahn, Jack Evans, Ivan & Denzil Voorhees, Bryson Spahn, Joe Murphy, Brenda, Gage, & Guy Ferguson, Tom Johnston, Dick Rauniker, Alan Chilton, Brian Carlson, Darrell Cave, Michael Sheward, Linda & John Shomin, Gordon Garrett, Connie & Mike Payton.

Minutes: The minutes of the July meeting were approved. [Alan Chilton, Jack Evans]

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer presented the monthly treasurer's report describing the expenditures and monies received for the past month. The report was approved by a vote of the membership present. [Alan Chilton, Darrell Cave]

Old Business:

Block Signal: The block signal installation is now complete with the exception of hooking up the electrical power and making it work. According to information received, technically there should not be a mile marker installed on the signal that has a mile marker on it. That aside it should be good for a few questions from the public.

Grass Mowing: Larry personally thanked Brian Carlson for mowing the grass just before the last rain. August is Larry's month to mow. Brian said that he did not think that Larry would mind. He was correct as Larry said he could mow for him anytime.

New Business:

Motor Car Donation: Joe Murphy reported that he had picked up a motor car that we will use for spare parts to get the KCS ST-2 motor car presentable. Joe reported that he had begun to take off parts from the car and estimates that he has probably salvaged enough to recoup any cost in obtaining the car. Details on a cost associated in obtaining the car are currently being worked out, but will not exceed \$300. When Joe gets done taking the parts off of the car that he needs, the club intends to sell any parts that remain.

Passenger Cars: It was reported that the passenger cars were now in Carona and work had begun on getting them ready for the upcoming rides in September. CDL Electric came out to change the electric motor on the cooling fan for the generator on the 9202 coach. John Chambers started the generator to check out the air conditioning on the coaches and when the cooling fan kicked on he immediately shut the generator down. The fan motor was making a grinding noise and vibrating the entire coach. Brad Snow was notified and he contacted CDL to come out and check it out. CDL came out and changed out the motor. It is now running quietly and has no vibration. The air conditioning was started and allowed to run for several hours when we were out on Saturday when the Webb Center was open to the public. The 9202 car was not cooling and was observed to have a lot of bubbles in the sight glass indicating that it was low on Freon. CDL came out again and serviced all three cars and they are now fully operational.

Weed Spraying: Heartland member, Joe Carlson brought his ATV and sprayer to the museum on Sunday, August 6th for a couple of hours. In all, Joe mixed up and sprayed fifty gallons of weed killer on the parking lot, around the building, around the signals and other displays. Joe had already sprayed the area once and this was his follow up trip to get what was missed. A big Heartland thank you to Joe for taking the time and trouble to do this for us.

Summer Hours: The Webb Center and museum grounds were open to the public on June 27th and 28th. Heartland members that donated their time to help show visitors around were John Chambers, Michael Sheward, Jack Evans and Bryson and Larry Spahn. Once again there were many visitors to the Webb Center. The KCS 1023 is a highly visited display with many coming specifically to see it. There were about 50 visitors to the Webb Center on the July 15-16 weekend, even though the temperatures were in the mid 90's. Do to rain, there were

about 10 visitors on the weekend of August 5th & 6th. On August 5th & 6th, Brian Carlson, John Chambers, Mike Sheward, Dave Parker, Jack Evans and Larry Spahn were on hand to show visitors through the Webb Center and around the displays. We need to have volunteers for the third weekend in August. The museum will be open from 11:00am until 5:00pm on these days. If you can volunteer it will be greatly appreciated.

New Printer: The new printer recently purchased by Darrell Cave was delivered at the meeting on August 9th and was installed.

Docent Guide Brochure: John Chambers and Alan Chilton reported on the Carona Guide that has been put together. Several copies were used over the weekend to give guests more information on what they exhibits were.

New Business:

Propane: The Co-op at McCune has informed us that during the period from September 1 to the 15th that the price for propane can be locked in at \$1.14/gallon for the coming heating season. We have always pre-paid for 500-750 gallons in the past. The price of propane has been very volatile and has risen to as much as \$5.00/gallon in the past. Michael Shepard moved to purchase 1000 gallons, Alan Chilton seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Class of 1956 Train Ride: We have been informed by Brad Snow that Kaye Lynne Webb is hosting a train ride for the PHS Class of 1956 in September. This ride will be held on Sunday, September 17th and will board at the intersection of Elm and Monroe Streets at 10:30am and will travel to Carona. A luncheon will be served to the class in the Webb Center and the group can tour our displays before returning to Pittsburg around 2:00pm. Kay Lynne, informed the club during the meeting that she has invited the Classes of 1953 and 1955 to attend.

Little Balkans Train Rides: On the morning of September 2nd there will be two train rides at 9:00 am and at 11:00 am. Tickets are now on sale at Memorial Auditorium and Convention Center. Tickets are \$7.00 each and a family pack is available, five tickets for \$25.00. On Sunday, the 3rd, there will be a train ride from Pittsburg, KS to the Carona depot and museum. This is affectionately known as "The "Chicken Train". The train will leave Pittsburg at 10:30am and return to Pittsburg around 2:00 pm. Price is \$25.00per ticket. The ride out and back includes a picnic style dinner catered by Chicken Annie's of Pittsburg.

Chanute Artist Alley Rides: Three rides are planned for the Artist Alley celebration in Chanute on September 30th. The rides will be at 10:00 am, 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm, which has been the usual departure times. This ride has been provided by Watco for many years, back when flat cars with bales of straw for seats were used and occasionally a caboose. Ticket prices have not been announced.

Dewey, Oklahoma Train Ride: We have been in touch with the groups involved with three train rides out of Dewey on September 23, 2017. They are very excited to have the train in their city and feel that the rides should be sold out. I have had the tickets printed and they have been delivered so they can be put on sale. Departure times are 9:30 am, 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm.

Motor Car Rides: Jay Hastings, NARCOA area ride coordinator was planning to be at the meeting to provide a motorcar ride update. He was unable to attend but John Chambers reported that preliminary plans were in the works for a makeup ride on Sept 16 out of Chanute. The Chanute ride was awaiting approval notice from Brad Snow. The Moline Sub ride was already approved and is slated for October 21st.

Correspondence: Jim McKeel sent notice to the club that he will be working on the railroad for the next few weeks. Jim has been a long time member of the Friends of the Cumbres Toltec for many years.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was passed, meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm. [Alan Chilton, Darrell Cave]