



## April Meeting

The April meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands was held on April 13, 2024 in the Webb Center at Carona, KS. There were 23 members present. Minutes of the meeting can be found at the end of this newsletter. Members in attendance were: John Chambers, Denzil & Ivan Voorhees, Jack Evans, Dave Parker, Carol Lewis, Darrell Cave, Dick Rauniker, Scott Wilson, John Randall, Ed Brinkmeyer, Rob McKnight, Jim McKeel, Bryson Spahn, Reed & Pat Hartford, Jim & Lois Carlson, Dawn & Brian Carlson, Paul Morgan and Larry & Kathy Spahn.

## Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at 7:00 pm, May 8, 2024 at the Webb Center in Carona.

## Heartlands - YouTube

Check out our YouTube channel:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMIkqWyCxftDif\\_ezgw3UyQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMIkqWyCxftDif_ezgw3UyQ)

## Museum Director Report for March

*- The information in this report was pulled from the Museum Directors' biweekly reports.*

There were 237 visitors to the museum in March. Spring break seems to always bring an influx of people to the museum. From March 6 through March 17, there were 136 guests of the museum. With only two days in the month where there were no visitors, the remaining days had many travelers present. These visitors came from Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Arizona, Tennessee, Michigan, Ohio, Georgia, Mississippi and Norway.

During the month, there were two large events that took place. On Saturday, March 9, the Polar Bear Camping Club was at Big Brutus for a weekend event. Their last stop on their poker run was the museum. There were around 40 people in this group in attendance. Kathy and Larry Spahn helped John with the group. On March 30, we had our first slide show of the year. Also on this day, Jay Hastings delivered the model train layout from Tulsa.

## April 13, 2024 - Heart of the Heartlands - Minutes

The April 13, 2024 meeting of the Heart of the Heartlands was brought to order by President Larry Spahn at 1:00 p.m.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** John Randall moved to accept the minutes as mailed. Jack Evans seconded the motion, the motion passed.

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

### Old Business:

#### **Train Show Report:**

Rob McKnight reported on the recent train shows he had attended. The booth he had at the train shows was well received with several individuals asking questions about the Heartlands. Some left contemplating joining our group.

#### **Display Painting Bids:**

I met with two contractors at museum to show them what we are considering having repainted. Helt Sand Blasting, and Orlando Construction were contacted and a meeting was set up with both at the Carona museum. I met with each contractor at the museum to show them the rail cars, motor car sheds and engines that we are considering having painted. Helt does not do wooden structures but Orlando does. After looking at what is wanted done each said that they would get back with us with bids. I asked Mr. Helt what the cost of Imron paint is now. He said it depended on the color of paint, with white and black being less expensive and brighter colors, reds and yellows on the top end. It is considerably much more now than we when had the KCS 1023 and Empire engines painted. We have received a written estimate from Helt Inc. for each of the cars and engines. Due to price fluctuation on the paint this estimate is for thirty days.

#### **Slide Show:**

The slide show at the Heartlands Railroad Museum on Saturday, March 30 was well attended with around fifteen persons attending. Jay Hastings also delivered the model train layout that was donated to the Heartlands by the Green Country Model Railroad Club of Tulsa, OK. This will be a great addition for our younger visitors who will really enjoy it when everything is set up and operating.

#### **Monthly Museum and Visitors Report :**

John Chambers gave his museum and visitors report:

- Rob McKnight brought a dual power pack for the layout.
- Need to clamp or screw the tables together,
- Two groups (families) from Bentonville came. Both had visited with Rob at a recent show.
- Larry had mentioned adding some plexiglass pieces to the layout to protect it.

## **New Business:**

### **Dave Calwell Visit:**

Dave Calwell, his wife Pauline and their son Ken came by for a short visit on April 11th. Dave also brought several more items to add to the Calwell Collection that he found while cleaning up his storage shed.

### **Bartlesville Train Rides:**

A lot of questions are still in need of discussion, mainly if the railroad will allow us to have the rides. We are asking to have four one hour rides on Saturday and two, two hour rides in a different direction out of Bartlesville on Sunday. I contacted Cameron Lundy and he said he would contact the division manager for the SKOL. John Chambers sent an e-mail to Cameron about the particulars of the ride. A reply was received from Cameron after speaking with Jerry Waun? the GM of SKOL stating that the SKOL was running trains through Bartlesville seven days a week and no train crew or engines would be available for the fore seeable future. This will really affect our plans for the future as these rides are a great source of income for the Heartlands.

### **Independence, Kansas Santa Fe Steam Engine:**

The Santa Fe steam engine that has been on display in their zoo park is being rededicated today. The restoration of the engine has taken almost two years. The engine project encountered a major delay when asbestos on the engine had to be removed and then lead paint was also found on the engine. Park and Zoo Director Scott Patton visited Carona a while back to discuss our restoration of the KCS 1023 steam engine and what issues that they might be expected in their restoration.

### **Other Items:**

- Discussion was held about the pedestrian crossing in front of the Carona Depot. John Chambers emailed the railroad about who might be able to fix the crossing.
- John Chambers moved to purchase a \$100 ad in the Kansas Tourism Guide for 2025. Jim McKeel seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the members present.

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