

The Dispatcher June 2023

President's Message, By Eric Dilbeck

Thank you to all softball volunteers!

At the beginning of June, the World Series of Women's College Softball (WSWC) was held at the Softball Hall of Fame Stadium. The museum parked cars as in years past and had 22 volunteers and staff working at this fundraising event. Additionally, 14 parents and girls from the Oklahoma Royal Legacy basketball team assisted which we were proud to assist. We donated \$2,500.00 toward expenses for traveling to tournaments. This year we also parked cars for the Big 12 Softball tournament which brought in \$2,321. With the Big 12 and the WSWC, we raised \$91,623.44 in net revenue. We are grateful for everyone who helped during this event.



When I first started at the museum, one of my goals or dreams was to be part of the operating train crew. At the time, we had more volunteers than we could allow per FRA regulations for train crew. My first opportunity to start crew training was the first time we hosted Barny Gramling's steam engine, Flag Coal 75. I became a fireman almost overnight. It was a great jumping on point for me that cemented my involvement at the museum. Now, many years later, we need volunteers that would like to become part of our train crew. Right now, we only have five regularly active volunteers qualified on train crew, with several still in training. If you are interested in train crew, please get with Amanda and let her know. Greg Hall, our trainmaster, will make sure we can get you scheduled to start training on our operating rules (GCOR) and shadowing one of our qualified train crew volunteers.

Lastly, we are appreciative of two donations from BNSF Railway in the last few weeks. The first donation was BNSF 1205. BNSF 1205, a Rail Power GG20B rebuilt from a CP GMD GP9, was used as a testbed for an experimental Hydrogen Fuel Cell powered locomotive and designated HH20B. Once the test was complete, the Hydrogen Fuel Cells were removed, and the unit was stored until it was donated to the Oklahoma railway Museum. The second donation is a Caboose that was used as a shove platform for the local job that runs out of Flynn Yard in South OKC. BN 12622 is a former Great Northern (GN X142) wide vision steel caboose. Both units are great additions to our collection. We thank BNSF Railway for their generosity.

See you on the rails!

Upcoming Events

- **Independence Day Train Ride:** July 1st, 2023
 - **Regular Train Ride:** July 15th, 2023
 - **Book Club Meeting,** July 22nd, 2023 (Join the ORM Book Club [here!](#))
 - **Regular Train Ride:** August 5th, 2023
 - **Regular Train Ride:** August 19th, 2023
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Trustee Meeting May 30, 2023

- Approved Minutes of April 25th meeting
 - Treasurer's Report & Expenditure Review
 - Financials Review and Budget
 - Status of Grants and Donations Employee and Department Reports Acquisitions Report
 - Review Commercial and Website Rebuild Train
 - Show Report
 - Motor Car Report
 - Next meeting June 27, 2023
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Our Annual Softball Parking Fundraiser was a huge success due to our volunteer's hard work. A big thank you to everyone who braved the heat and rain and came out to help! Your continued hard work is what keeps the museum growing!

This year we made over \$90,000.00 in just 9 days!

Softball Parking by the Numbers:

Big 12 Championship

- ♦ \$2,321.00
- ♦ 116 Cars Parked

College Softball World Series

- ♦ ESPN Parking \$30,360.00 Regular
 - ♦ Parking \$69,305.00
 - ♦ 5,277 Cars Parked
 - ♦ Total After Expenses \$91,603.00
-

Jeremy Wance, Development Director

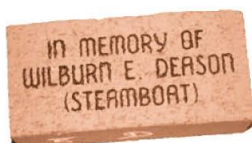
June was a very busy month for the museum, but not so much in terms of trains. June means the softball championship and world series. This means the opportunity for the museum to bring in some very serious revenue by parking cars in three lots on 50th Street. Amanda was in charge of organizing it, and it was another testament to the dedicated spirit of our volunteers. It's not exactly fun to stand in the 90* sun all day, but being with volunteers and staff made it a good time, in all. Unfortunately, we will be losing much of this source of income in the near future as the land has been sold for development. This means we need to find a source of income to replace it. We will be looking at every possible option as we continue to expand our reach to the public.



Remember that we are only part of the way through “train season” here at the museum. Of course, the only months we don't actively operate trains for one event or another are those worst of the cold months: January and February. March is sometimes the kick-off with the Easter train. Then we get to the end of the regular run season in September, which means the Hallowe'en train is next, and then we are off to Polar Express! Point is, don't forget we're here all summer! Bring the family!

In the time that I have been with the museum, I have seen the board and others work to really tighten up plans for the future. Real progress is being made. More will be seen in the near future. With your help, there are many great possibilities. We do, however, need to constantly welcome new volunteers to our ranks. There are only three paid employees of the museum. That can only cover a certain amount of the work needed for us to operate. The rest of the burden is borne by our volunteers, starting with the Board, and flowing all the way through our system. I'm grateful for all I see going on around us: for Judy parking cars; for Jerry mowing; for Cossairt constructing an item for me, for Eric and Greg and John who practically live at the museum when not otherwise occupied; for Charles painting everything that stands still; for the Blairs diving in to host cars every time we run the train. I've just named a few of the many that are always at work. I'm grateful for all they do.

We've got a lot of work ahead of us, and that's a good thing!



Donation Box

In anticipation of our new museum expansion project, we are in need of donations more than ever before! Brick purchases and donations will make a real difference in helping us to achieve our goals.

Please visit our if you are able to give! [DONATE](#)



The museum needs the following items:

Contact Anne Chilton 405-424-8222 annem@oklahomarailwaymuseum.org if you would like to purchase anything on this list. To donate funds click link [DONATE](#) and mention what funds are for in the note section of donation form. You can also mail us a donation if you prefer.

- ♦ Plants and bushes for landscaping 6 &
 - ♦ 8 ft plastic tables
 - ♦ 6 ft. plastic picnic tables
-

Around the Museum



Volunteers Randy Bruton and Debbie Dunn (and her little friend on her hat) working at the Annual Softball Parking Fundraiser!



Volunteers Brandon Fentem and Bill Wright working the Father's Day train



Volunteer Steve Foust welds up a hand rail on the new Oakwood patio assisted by Natalie Lawson.



Our track crew replaced 12 ties just south of the 23rd street underpass on Memorial day May 29th. Volunteers pictured: (L-R) John Nave, Eric Dilbeck, Kevin Oakley, Greg Hall and Clayton Nave. Not pictured was Andrew Reynolds, Caleb Nave, and Natalie Lawson.



J & B Heavy Haul assisted our mechanical department with the removal of the roof section off of Frisco 814. The radiators are to be replaced and the whole section has to be removed as part of the process.



Thank You J & B Heavy Haul for providing services to the Oklahoma Railway Museum



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Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Oklahoma Railway Museum. Don't forget to add info@oklahomarailwaymuseum.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

Our mailing address is:
Oklahoma Railway Museum
3400 NE Grand Blvd Oklahoma
City, OK 73111



Oklahoma Railway Museum, Ltd.
3400 NE Grand Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73111-4417

Return Service Requested

The Dispatcher

Timetable

Oklahoma Railway Museum (ORM) - Open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM
Closed on major holidays.

ORM Train Rides - First and third Saturdays, April through August at 9:15 AM, 11:15 AM, 1:15 PM and 3:15 PM

ORM Board Meetings - Last Tuesday of every month at Oklahoma Railway Museum - 7:00 PM

Oklahoma "N" Rail - For information call Rick Inselman (405) 412-1552

Oklahoma Model Railroad Association - For information contact Phil Howell via email omratrains@gmail.com

Central Oklahoma Garden Railroad Society Contact information:

Steve Lemcke (405) 703-0209 e-mail steve.lemcke@att.net

Marshall Douglas (405) 290-8989

Steve Kamm (405) 685-3755 email skamm@college.occ.edu

Passenger Rail Oklahoma - Passenger Rail Oklahoma volunteers provide Amtrak depot hosting for the Hartland Flyer in City of Norman, OK most evenings, holidays, Saturdays, and Sundays.
The depot opens at 7:50 AM. Contact Evan Stair at sfrr@aol.com, www.passengerrailok.org, or (405) 366-8957. Depot volunteer opportunities are available.

Oklahoma S.W. Division NMRA - 2nd Saturday of each month, 1:00 PM, Goldman Room, Kirkpatrick Center,
Jim Heidon, President

Yukon's Best Railroad Museum - Thursday/Saturday/Sunday and by appointment. Located 1 block north of Main and UP tracks
in Yukon. Call John Knuppel, (405) 354-5079, for times and information.

Waynoka Station/Waynoka Historical Society - 202 South Cleveland, Waynoka, (580) 614-1896. If you can help,
call Charlene Bixler.

Corrections

Any changes to the above information or articles in "the Dispatcher" should be directed to the editor, at info@oklahomarailwaymuseum.org. For information on upcoming programs contact Anne Chilton at annem@oklahomarailwaymuseum.org.