

The Dispatcher January 2024

President's Message, By Eric Dilbeck

For most of January, many Polar volunteers took a break, so the museum has been pretty quiet. Amanda Resnick and Debbie Dunn completed the inventory and packing of the leftover Polar Gift shop merchandise. The CF-7 was moved back in the shop for additional work to address some water leaks. John Nave and company are eager to get back on the repairs needed, so we can run the CF-7 during our summer train rides. The Frisco F9 unit will be next with some electrical work. Several deteriorated wires were found during the reassembly of the radiator and hood section. New wire has already been procured and is at the museum ready for installation.



New for 2024 is a change in our train schedule. Due to the popularity of our At The Throttle (ATT) events, we have added more dates and times. Starting in April, we will replace the 9:15 train rides with ATT slots for visitors to purchase. This will be a diesel ATT and we will be using various locomotives depending on availability and operational status. Time slots at 8:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 9:30

AM are available on the first and third Saturdays, April through August. See our website to purchase and sign up for one of these timeslots. Also, our Easter train falls on the last weekend of March this year, so we will begin our operating season a week early. Please be sure to mark your calendars.

This year will see progress towards our museum expansion. Our Polar Express event went very well last year with increased ridership for a total of 38,734 riders. This increased revenue allows us to fund projects. This year we have several projects we hope to complete. With the electrical near completion, we are going to focus on the campus drainage plan. This will define the needed drainage, and possible detention ponds based on our proposed buildings. Work will also restart on Le Flore Depot with the ARPA grant we received last fall. We have also finalized the deck and entry features of Le Flore. Check at the end of the newsletter for pictures. As you can see work is never finished at the Oklahoma Railway Museum! I am thankful for the many volunteers that put in so many hours, but we need more. Please spread the word of our museum to everyone you meet, you never know where you might meet a new volunteer.

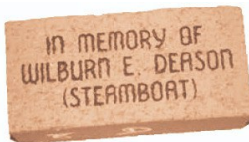
See You On The Rails!

Upcoming Events

- **GCOR Testing:** March 16th, 2024
- **Annual Members Meeting:** March 23rd, 2024
- **Easter Train Ride:** March 30th, 2024
- **Reading the Rails Book Club:** April 27th, 2024 (Join the Book Club [Here](#))

Trustee Meeting: December, 2023

No December Board Meeting held



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





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Looking for enthusiastic audience members to be part of a filmed version of THE POLAR EXPRESS: TRAIN RIDE at The Oklahoma City Railway Museum. All are welcome and families are encouraged to attend together! Audience members may stay all day or for a portion of the day.

You will receive a behind-the-scenes look at THE POLAR EXPRESS: TRAIN RIDE with supplied meals. PLUS, those who complete a full day will receive ONE FREE TICKET to the 2024 event and have the opportunity to win exclusive merchandise. Anyone who participates fully on all 3 days will receive TWO FREE TICKETS to the 2024 event.

02/10/2024 – 12:30pm – 9:30pm (Supplied Dinner from 4:00pm – 5:30pm)

02/11/2024 – 8:30am – 8:30pm (Supplied Lunch @ 1:00pm – Supplied Dinner @ 5:00pm)

02/12/2024 – 8:30am – 7:00pm (Supplied Lunch @ 1:00pm – Supplied Dinner @ 5:00pm)

If interested, please email your preferred dates and times to Michael Thomas- Visgar with Rail Events @ mtvisgar@raileventsinc.com

Renew your Membership for 2024!

Once again it is time to renew your membership with the Oklahoma Railway Museum!

If you have already paid your dues for next year or are a Life member, please disregard this message. Membership cards will be mailed out shortly.

We want to thank all of you for your support and hard work this past year. It is because of you, our members and volunteers that we continue our mission to provide an educational experience of railroads and how they shaped Oklahoma and the nation and that the museum is in a great position for the coming year.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to the New Year! You may mail in

your dues [Printable Form](#) or [Pay Online](#) _____

With your membership you receive:

- Free train rides on regular run days (Does not apply to Special Events)
- Emailed copy of the ORM newsletter, The Dispatcher
- Member's picnic and train ride
- Opportunities for other rail trip activities
- Eligibility to become a train crew member or car host
- Discount in museum gift shop
- and much more

Membership dues are outlined below:

Regular Membership	
(Includes Spouse).....	\$40.00
Senior (Age 65+) Membership (Includes Spouse).....	\$35.00
Student (Full-time)?Membership?.....	\$35.00
Family Membership (Two Adults and Four Children).....	\$50.00
Sustaining Membership (including Spouse).....	\$150.00

Please update any contact information that may have changed.

We look forward to seeing you in the coming year, so we can show you what we've been working on. Please visit us soon!

Anne Murray Chilton Museum Administrator

Around the Museum



The museum electrical was cut over from overhead to underground on Jan 10th, 2024

Volunteer Chris and Anne wrap pallets of Polar merchandise so it can be stored for next year.





Guy Lynn(above) and Paul Stephens (below) work on getting the brakes working on our Santa Fe 643 Steam Engine.





Above is the architect rendering of the new deck and entry feature of the Le Flore depot.



Copyright © 2024 Oklahoma Railway Museum, All rights reserved.

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.