

## The Dispatcher April 2024

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### President's Message, By Eric Dilbeck

In April, Oklahoma Railroad Association had its spring meeting. The meeting was over two days downtown OKC and at the State Capital. I was able to attend the meeting the first day and Drake Rice was attended the second day at the Capital. This meeting is a great networking event to be able to talk with our fellow railroads in OK. Several Short lines and Class 1 railroads were present at the meeting.

In mid-April, J & B Heavy Haul loaded a 1929 AS & SF Flatcar up for transport to the museum. The car was donated by Dolese to the museum many years ago, but until recently was not assessable for movement. The flatcar has been at the Dolese Big Canyon Quarry for many years and was used as a shove platform at the quarry. This flat car, built in 1929, was converted to one of the first Trailer on Flatcar (TOFC) between 1957-1963. It is currently stored at J & B yard until later in May. Eventually our Santa Fe Trailer will be placed on this flatcar as it would have been in service as an example of TOFC.

The Annual Softball Parking Fundraising is just around the corner, and we will need a lot of volunteers to help make it successful. This event is the second largest fundraiser behind our Polar Express event. Help is needed May 30th through June 7th. Please reach out to Amanda if you can help and sign up for a shift.



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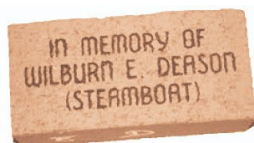
## Upcoming Events

- **Regular Train Run:** May 18th, 2024 •
- **Softball Parking:** May 30th-June 7th •
- **Regular Train Run:** June 1st, 2024

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## **Trustee Meeting: March 26th, 2024**

- · Approved Minutes of February 27th meeting
- · Treasurer's Report & Expenditure Review
- · Financials Review and Budget
- · Status of Grants and Donations
- · Employee and Department Reports
- · Acquisitions Report
- · Train Show Report
- · Museum Projects Updates
- · Harvest Host RV Stopover
- · Bloomerang Donor Database
- · Next meeting April 30, 2024



## 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](#)

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## Volunteers Needed!



Hi Everyone!

The Annual Softball Parking Fundraising is closer than you think! This year The Softball World Series is May 30th through June 7th. This is our second biggest fundraiser of the year and we need a lot of volunteers to make it a success! The full schedule is coming soon!



### **The museum needs the following items:**

Contact Anne Chilton 405-424-8222 [annem@oklahomarailwaymuseum.org](mailto: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
-

## The Benefits of Volunteering

April is National Volunteer Month! Volunteering offers vital help to people in need, worthwhile causes, and the community, but the benefits can be even greater for you, the volunteer.

Volunteering has been shown to:

1. **Combat Stress:** Helping others reduces stress and anxiety. Volunteers tend to be happier and are at a lower risk for depression.
2. **Increase Longevity:** Volunteers experience less frequency of heart disease. Volunteers may be at a lower risk for memory loss, too. The social interaction can significantly reduce the progression of Alzheimer's and other types of dementia.
3. **Build Experience:** Volunteering can give you on the job experience, if you are looking to switch careers.
4. **Set a Great Example:** Volunteering as a family is a great way to teach kids empathy and social awareness.
- 5.

Any contribution of your time really helps the museum! If you would like to volunteer, please contact our volunteer coordinator, Amanda Resnick, at 405-424-8222 or [amanda@oklahomarailwaymuseum.org](mailto:amanda@oklahomarailwaymuseum.org).



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We would like to share this incredible project that ORM Volunteer Steve Kamm worked on at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

## More Than 7,300 Railroad Photos From Preston George Collection Now Available on The Gateway to Oklahoma History



OKLAHOMA CITY — The Research Division of the Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS) is pleased to announce that [the Preston George collection](#) of more than 7,300 railroad photographs is now available online. Most photographs are in black and white and include images from six countries and 49 states, focusing mainly on the southwest part of the United States. George and his acquaintances took the images primarily during the 1930s and 1940s.

The collection is accessible on the [The Gateway to Oklahoma History](#), OHS' free online digital platform. It can be searched by railroad name, locomotive type or number, train number, location, date, creator/photographer, item type and more. For example, try typing in Train 17, Shawnee or turntable. Images may be printed directly from the website free of charge or downloaded and shared on social media. Higher-quality images are available through the Research Division for a [fee](#).

While the Gateway is relatively easy to navigate, those visiting for the first time may find it helpful to watch a seven-minute [video](#) on the homepage of The Gateway called "How to Search the Gateway."

Completion of this multi-year project required the efforts of many individuals. The staff of the Research Division at the Oklahoma Historical Society and our partners at the University of North Texas provided administrative support throughout this process. The time-consuming task of identifying, sorting, documenting, cataloging and preserving the originals was accomplished by two OHS volunteers, Steve Kamm and Marty Samwel.

The mission of the Oklahoma Historical Society is to collect, preserve and share the history and culture of the state of Oklahoma and its people. Founded in 1893 by members of the Territorial Press Association, the OHS maintains museums, historic sites and affiliates across the state. Through its research archives, exhibits, educational programs and publications the OHS chronicles the rich history of Oklahoma. For more information about the OHS, please visit [www.okhistory.org](http://www.okhistory.org).

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## Around the Museum



The museum had a great turn out for the Annual Easter Train, March 30th.



Volunteer Nat Lawson represented the museum at this year's Kid's Fest.



Llama and Alpaca at Kids' Fest. Not necessarily museum related but very important.



New volunteers Nick and James Haines serenade visitors.



J & B Heavy Haul transported our 1929 AT&SF Flat car out of Big Canyon. The flat car was donated by Dolese to the museum and will eventually carry our Santa Fe piggyback trailer. The flatcar is stored at their yard until we can schedule movement to the museum



President Dilbeck joined members of the Oklahoma Railroad Association at an outing at Chicken n Pickle after the spring meeting.





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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](mailto: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

[Add us to your address book](#)



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](mailto:omratrains@gmail.com)

**Central Oklahoma Garden Railroad Society** Contact information:

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

Marshall Douglas (405) 290-8989

Steve Kamm (405) 685-3755 email [skamm@college.occ.edu](mailto: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](mailto:sfrr@aol.com), [www.passengerrailok.org](http://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](mailto:info@oklahomarailwaymuseum.org). For information on upcoming programs contact Anne Chilton at [annem@oklahomarailwaymuseum.org](mailto:annem@oklahomarailwaymuseum.org).