

Volume 46, Issue 4
April 2011



the Dispatcher



Central Oklahoma Chapter
of the National Railway Historical Society
Oklahoma Railway Museum Ltd,

NARCOA Affiliate Member



Eric Berger

Kevin Huffmen mc's the great train set give away at the 2010 OKC train show. Crowds were large for each drawing.

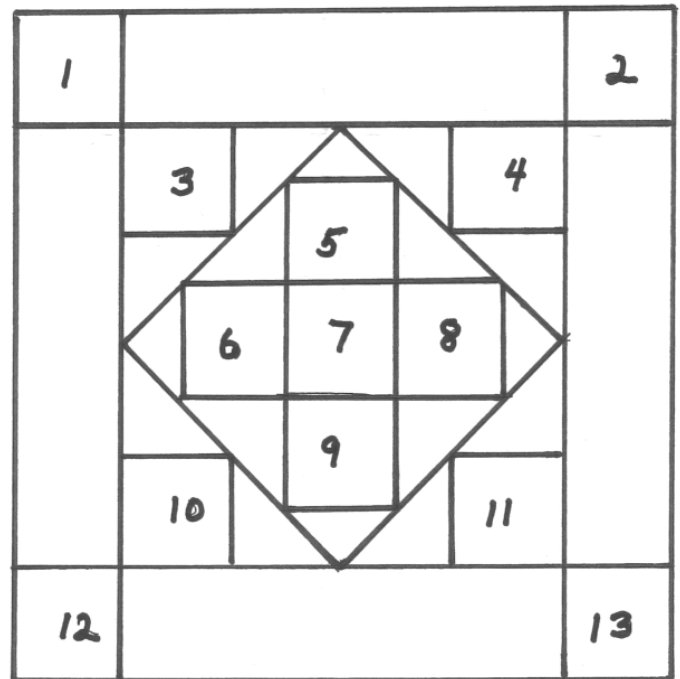
ORM's NARCOA speeder run January 22nd



Art Gustafson/Truman Hefner

Speeder being set on track with early morning sun warming a cold day at Burkburnett, TX

More pictures page's 4 and 5



Mystery diagram. Story in future issue.

The President's Column



It is mid March and we are almost ready for the train run season to begin. The crews have been trained and the equipment is ready. If you have some time, sign up for car hosting or being a Docent.

We have a new baggage car coming from the Union Pacific. If it is in good shape we can start to use it immediately. We are also working on the Rock Island Golden State combine. This car will be used for Birthday parties too large for the caboose. It will also be available as a backup for use on the Thomas Train.

A new industrial lawnmower is being purchased to help with the big job of keeping our property and the right of way mowed. We could use some volunteers to help with the mowing.

The car mover we purchased from the Government is being repaired for our use in the yard. It should be ready by June 1 if Terry can get the parts.

Lots of small things have been completed and improved over the Winter, come by and check it out.

Stan Hall

**Oklahoma Railway
Museum, Ltd.**

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Stan Hall, *President*
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and Program Chair*
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The Oklahoma Railway Museum, Ltd. is a 501-[C] 3 organization. Donations are tax deductible.

If a donation is made for a specified project, every dollar of that donation goes toward that project.

Rock Island & Frisco Historical Logo Placement Ceremony

Placement of the Rock Island and Frisco logos saved from the Robinson Avenue bridge will be at 11:00 A.M. on April 1st. Please join with us for the placement of these approximately 8,200 pound historical artifacts.

The photograph at right is one of two bases constructed by Harry Currie for the logos. The bases are adjacent to the sidewalk on the south side of the yard office.

A plaque with picture of the bridge may be ready in time for the dedication. A synopsis of the salvage efforts is being written by Dean Schirf.



Museum Update by Drake Rice

Spring is now in the air and the operating season for ORM will be starting on April 2. Members are putting in a lot of work in on the various projects at the museum. The City Parks Department has put up a new fence along NE 16th Street using the plans Bob Hussey prepared and under his watchful eye. The new fencing will help keep out unnecessary dumping and help us keep the area clean in addition to providing easier access though a set back gate.

Work is under way on the Rock Island Combine that has been used only during the DOWT events at the museum. It is friction bearing and six wheel truck heavy weight car. With the efforts to get the GN car back in service for DOWT, work has been underway to remove some of the added areas on the combine when it was in MOW service. The desire is to turn the car into a birthday car which will accommodate larger groups than the caboose. Stan Hall has been heading the group with help from Charles Price and Bob Cossairt. Other have also been helping with this important project.

In the shop, work is progressing on the GN Chair car to get it back in service for DOWT. A new HVAC system is being installed and it will be powered by the large generator under the diner. Work needs to be completed on repair to the windows since several have fogged and some have been damaged. This car will provide nice seating and the CNW 7721 will become the handicapped car for the DOWT event replacing the RI Combine.

Volunteers lead by Bob Hussey spent Saturday and Sunday, March 19 & 20 preparing the OG&E 25 ton rail crane for movement to the museum. The Crane was donated by OG&E to ORM about five years ago and funds were budgeted this year to move it. The fifty (50) foot

boom has been removed and transported to the museum and a trailer and crane have been scheduled to move the unit before the end of the month. Once at the museum, we will need to reattach the boom and the mechanical department will need to work on the air system and check the cables before it can be used for any lifts.

SPMW 6029 Baggage car is on its way to the museum. It is in transit at this time on the UP system. This car will be cleaned and painted for use in museum activities. ORM does not have a light weight baggage car, we have a heavy weight Rock Island car that has the model train layout, but this new four wheel truck baggage car will be a good addition to our fleet of cars. We appreciate the assistance of the UP in donating this car. ORM is paying for the movement of the car from Tyler, Texas.

Grass is starting to grow and I'm sure we will all be doing some grass cutting in our yards. The same goes for the museum, the grass will need to be cut in the coming weeks and throughout the summer. As always, the museum will need help keeping the grass cut this year and this is something most people have some experience doing. As always, all volunteers are welcome.

If you want to assist with any projects at the museum, contact Stan Hall or Jim Murray.

Also, all volunteer's, please log in your time while at the museum. We use the volunteer hours on grants and various museum reports. Please remember to do so.



April 30-May1 - OK Farmrail Railroad Speeder Trip

The Oklahoma Railway Museum (ORM) will host a two day run on Saturday April 30 and Sunday May1 on Farmrail Railroad out of Clinton, OK. NARCOA Insurance and rules apply. Saturday set on will be at 8:00AM, safety briefing at 8:50AM, leaving at 9:00AM. Ride will be south to Snyder, OK and return. Roundtrip is approximately 126 miles. Cars can be left on track overnight. Sunday, run will be from Clinton after safety briefing at 8:50AM to Elk City and return for approximately 72 miles. Participants must be a member of ORM and NARCOA. Ride cost is \$70.00 which covers both days. Detailed information will be available after March 1 from EC Drake Rice, drake.rice@cox.net. Phone is 405-478-3225.

Please continue support of your Oklahoma Railway Museum by renewing your membership

January 22nd Speeder run of the Wichita Falls, Tillman & Jackson Railroad

January 22nd speeder run photographs captured from video taken by Art Gustafson and Truman Hefner



Setting a speeder on the rails.



Cold day for an open car but the OU cushion should keep part of his body warm



Speeder runs are family events. Many operators had their family with them



Up hill push to the tracks but he made it



As mentioned in Drake's Museum Update article the picture below shows one of the new gates at 16th Street. Bob Hussey (l) and Rick Chapman with the Oklahoma City Parks Department discuss Bob removing the old gate.



Event organizer Drake Rice conducts the pre-ride safety briefing.

January 22nd Speeder run of the Wichita Falls, Tillman & Jackson Railroad

January 22nd speeder run photographs captured from video taken by Art Gustafson and Truman Hefner



View through the front window of a speeder approaching the Red River



Crossing the Red River bridge

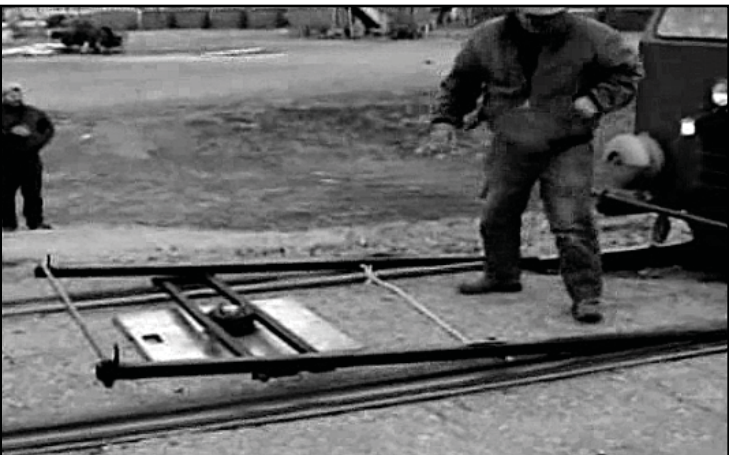


Caboose and boxcar at Grandfield, OK.



Caboose, hy-rails and speeders at Grandfield, OK.

Custom built turn-table built by Art Gustafson first use 22 January



Art Gustafson setting up the turntable he constructed for and donated to the ORM.



Participants turning a speeder on the new turn-table

Crane move preparations



Drake Rice

Bob Hussey and Terry Bichett preparing to remove crane boom for moving.



Drake Rice

Terry Birchett using a torch to remove a stubborn pin.

Oklahoma Railway Museum volunteers have been working for several years to prepare a crane for moving. The crane was donated by OG&E and has been at their Mustang plant for years.

The long period of time in acquiring the crane has resulted in considerable frustration. One trucking company was on line for a couple of years to make the move. The trailer to be used is so long they would have to go through a field because turns could not be made to negotiate the roads. Each time delivery day approached, so did the rain.

The self propelled rail crane is operational and is a much needed tool for the ORM maintenance department.

2010 Oklahoma City Train Show pictures



Eric Berger

ORM members at our OKC train show booth.

(r) Ed Birch, Jr., OKC Train show manager. Ed is nationally known for managing one of the best shows in the nation.

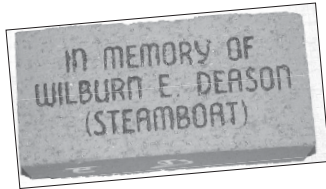


Eric Berger

ORM Depot Store

The Oklahoma Railway Museum, Ltd. (ORM) has items available for both children and adults at the Depot Store. These include baseball caps, polo shirts, t-shirts, lapel pins, and coasters. Funds raised by donations for these items support the Museum projects.

The Depot Store, located inside the Oakwood Depot on the Museum grounds, is open during regular **Museum hours – 9 am to 4 pm on the first and third Saturday operation days** of each month April through September. The store is also open for special events.



Order Form – Engraved Platform Bricks

Cost is \$50.00 per brick.
Up to a maximum of 4 lines with 16 letters and spaces per line

Purchaser's Name _____ Phone No. (_____) _____

Line 1															
Line 2															
Line 3															
Line 4															

Become an ORM Member

2011 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

\$30.00 per year – Individual Membership in the Oklahoma Railway Museum, Ltd. (spouse included)

\$25.00 per year – Individual Senior (age 65 and up) (spouse included) and Individual Student (full-time student) Membership in ORM

\$36.00 per year – To add National Railway Historical Society (NRHS) Membership (add \$5.00 for spouse) (Student Memberships: \$16 per year) NRHS can change dues without notice

SEND NRHS DUES TO ORM ADDRESS BELOW, NOT DIRECTLY TO NRHS

\$500.00 - Oklahoma Railway Museum Lifetime Membership

Send your application and dues to: **Oklahoma Railway Museum , Ltd.
3400 NE Grand Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73111-4417**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Cell Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Engraved Platform Bricks

More than one platform brick can be donated to the Museum and you can make copies of the attached form. Mail completed forms with checks or money orders to: Jim Murray, ORM, 3400 NE Grand Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73111. If you have any questions, you can e-mail Murray at:

jtmurray@cox.net

Crosstie Donations

Friends and families of ORM continue to make donations for crossties, equipment and facilities on the Museum property and on the leased track.

If you want to make a donation to purchase a crosstie, a donation of \$42.50 will help purchase a new crosstie. You can donate a crosstie in recognition or in memory of someone. All donations should be made out to the Oklahoma Railway Museum Ltd.

Please note on the check what the donation is for, mail to: ORM Ltd., 3400 NE Grand Boulevard, Oklahoma City, 73111



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

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. Postage
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Permit No. 1323
Oklahoma City, OK

Train rides begin April 2nd

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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the Dispatcher

A tremendous opportunity to support your Oklahoma Railway Museum

ORM is a member of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation which is an endowment fund to provide a sustainable source of income annually to support the museum in the future. The museum fund balance was \$35,478.03 on December 31, 2010. We received \$1350.00 interest income in 2010. Over the years the Foundation has had fund drive promotions to help the museum. This year they are again issuing a challenge to organizations in the Foundation that have less than \$50,000 in the fund.

Beginning April 1, they will match donations dollar for dollar up to a matching grant of \$5,000.00. This means if members and others donate \$5,000 to the ORM Fund, they will provide a \$5,000 match and the museum increases its fund by \$10,000.00. This is a wonderful opportunity for the museum

The expectations are as follows; 1. Funds must be received between April 1, 2011 and December 31,

2011. Contributions may be in cash, marketable securities or other assets which may be converted to cash. 2. Contribution can come from individuals, foundations or corporations or from the organization itself. The annual distribution made in October is eligible to count toward the match if it is reinvested. 3. A minimum of \$1000 must be raised before a match will be made. 4. Matches that are completed by June 30, 2011 will be matched by that date with the total being included in the year-end fund balances. Matches completed after June 30 will be matched in January 2012 following the Challenge deadline.

This is a wonderful way to help the museum in the long term to sustain itself many years into the future. I hope you will give consideration and get to this important program. Remember, all donations are tax deductible. If you have any questions, please visit with Stan Hall, Drake Rice, Harry Currie or Bob Hussey.