



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

NARCOA Affiliate Member



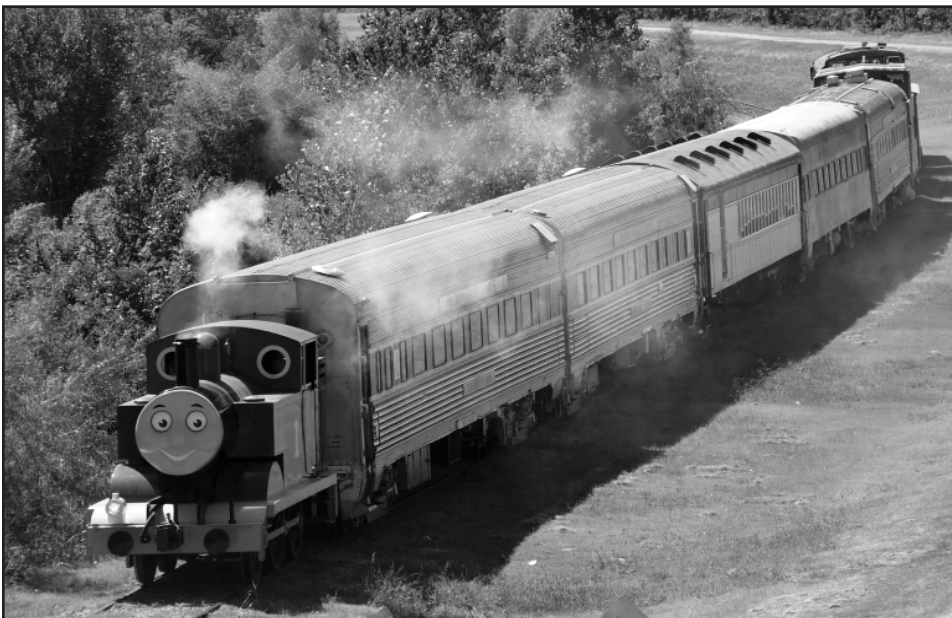
Day Out With Thomas 2011

by Gary Githens



Raymond Woods

A few of the volunteers pose with Thomas after the last run



Raymond Woods

Thomas works hard upgrade south of 23rd street returning to the station

We hope you had an opportunity to visit the ORM during the Thomas event. Thousands did attend and had a great time.

There was plenty for guests to do and see in addition to riding the Thomas train. Those venues included the miniature golf course, model railroad layout, two moon bounces, the entertainment tent, Mom-O the clown balloon creations, Sir Topham Hat photo opportunity, story telling-movies in the display car, Midwest Regional Medical Center ambulance, Thomas store, Activity tent (with Thomas Trains, coloring sheets, necklace making) and Operation Life Saver presentations, food vendors, playground, photograph with Thomas and the ever popular rest and relax tent.

Congratulations to the staff for making the awesome event a success. It takes a great many people on duty for the DOWT event to happen.

The operating staff generally consists of 80 to 101 people depending on the operation day.

A list of the venues with staffing requirements is shown on page 5.

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The President's Column



The Thomas event has been over for a couple of weeks. I want to thank everyone who participated. We had good attendance and a lot of happy children. The trains ran on time and we did not leave anyone behind. There was a lot of activity on the grounds in addition to the trains. Everyone from the parking to the moon bounces did a good job. I could single out a number of volunteers for a great job, but am afraid I would forget someone.

We do not know the financial success yet, but the overall event was a great success. I want to thank all of you again. We could not hold the Thomas weekends without you.

We are now working on the Halloween trains. It will be a lot of fun for all who attend. The Dental Depot is working with us on this and you will see their group throughout the day.

This is the time to nominate members of the Board of Directors for new terms. You are encouraged to see the openings and see that we have a strong group to carry out the mission of the Museum.

Stan Hall

**Oklahoma Railway
Museum, Ltd.**

Board of Directors

Stan Hall, *President*
 Larry Dodd, *Vice President
and Program Chair*
 Drake Rice, *Secretary*
 Charles Price, *Treasurer*
 Bob Nantois, *NRHS Director*
 Bob Cossairt, *Director of
Buildings & Static Displays*
 Bob Hussey, *Director of
Track Maintenance*
 Jim Murray, *Director of
Mechanical Operations*
 Harry Currie, *Director at Large*
 Greg Hall, *Director of
Museum Activities*
 Larry Loomis, *Director of
Museum Displays*
 Ed Birch Jr., *Train Show Chair*
 Gary Moore, *Membership
Chair*
 Gary Githens, *Dispatcher
Editor*

IMPORTANT REQUEST TO VOLUNTEERS: It is extremely important you record your volunteer hours. Please log in and log out on the time sheets. Volunteer hours worked are a major factor in grant application evaluations.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Oklahoma Railway Museum could use your help! We need to have car host's on the days we run trains. Car host's help our visitors find the ticket office and help them board the train. They tell our visitors about the equipment and its history; the track and its history and the museum and its history. Car host's also answer questions our guest may have. Information sheets are provided.

However, you don't have to know all the answers. The primary objective is to assist passengers on and off the train and remind them to remain seated when the train is moving.

For most of this year we have not had anyone to perform as a car host, so the operating crew (conductor and brakeman) have had to cover it. This

has left some cars with nobody from ORM to visit with our guests. We are not putting our best foot forward.

We need some members to volunteer to work as car hosts. Hopefully enough will step forward that they would only have to be scheduled a few times a year. This year's rides are about over but we need to get this in place for next year.

We also could use some more docents to greet our visitors, especially on Saturdays so if you have some time come out and give us a hand.

We will need car host's for the Halloween and Christmas rides.

Museum Update by Drake Rice



The DOWT event was another successful event at ORM this year. The maintenance department did their magic and we had no breakdowns or issues this year. The museum operated 60 trains over 6 days and carried 11,054 passengers and had over 15,000 people on the museum grounds during the event. People were from Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Texas, Louisiana and a sprinkling of a few from other areas of the country. A special thank you goes to all the volunteers that made the event go smoothly.

I need to correct information I had in last month's article about the GN car. I said that it had been donated, but that was incorrect. It has been under a dollar a year lease for several years from Roy and Darlene Thornton. I apologize for the bad information and this should clarify the status of the car. The car will eventually be donated at a date to be determined in the future. I appreciate Roy and Darlene for their understanding of my error.

The Halloween Train is next on the agenda (Saturday, October 29th) and again we need volunteer help. This year the trains will be running North out of Oakwood Depot to the Adventure District Station at NE 50th Street. Harry Currie has had some folks out cleaning the area along the track and through the golf course and we all believe it will be a lot better ride for passengers on the train. But we will need three flagger's on NE 36th Street. Hope you can come out and help.

During the winter months, volunteers will again be working on projects and as always the museum has many. We have rebuilding the Rock Island Caboose, completing some work on the GN Car, display work, the model train layout, facilities upkeep, cleaning along the right of way, and removal of tree limbs along the track to mention a few of the items. We hope the members will continue supporting this effort.

Of course in December, we have two really big events. The first is the Oklahoma City Train Show under the leadership of Ed Birch, Jr. As always this event brings in the Christmas season and is always a well attended event. So all members who are modeler or collectors need to get your shopping list put together, sign up to help and between your work assignments, look for the items you need for your own layout or collection.

The second event in December is the Christmas Train. Again, this has become a great family event for Oklahoma City. Last year we had over 1100 passenger ride this one day event. We are planning for that number again this year.

We appreciate all the members that have volunteered this year. We look forward to a great end of the year as we continue to grow our museum and its activities.

Dispatcher procedure change

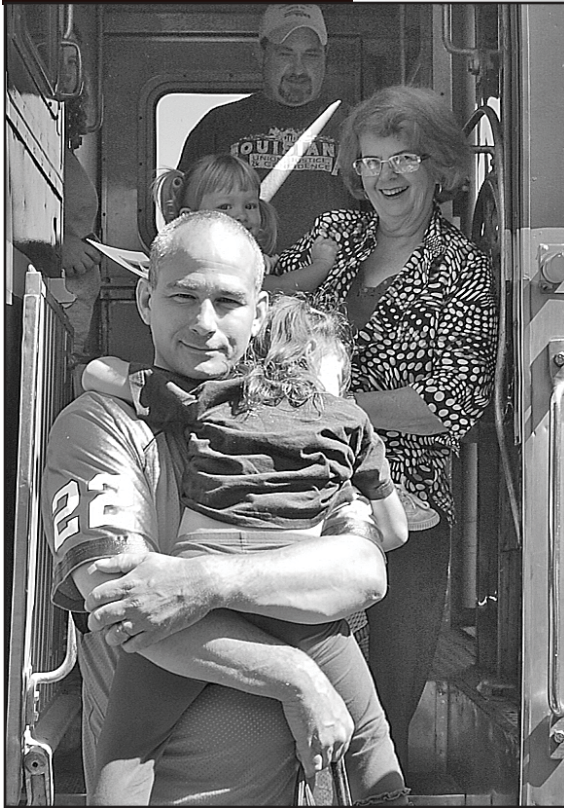
Over the last couple of years the cost of mailing and printing have continued to increase, which has impacted the cost of the Dispatcher. Also with all the budget problems with Washington and possible reductions in postal service, ORM has decided it will join most other museum groups in offering the newsletter electronically effective January 2012. ORM will be working on a method for members who do not have internet to be able to receive a copy of the newsletter by mail. We regret that we have reached this point, but unfortunately costs continue to increase which we have no control over.

"If you do have internet, we need to verify your e-mail address so you can receive the newsletter in electronic format. Please send it to Anne Murray at the Oklahoma Railway Museum. If you have questions, please call the museum on Thursday or Friday between 9:00AM and 4:30PM."

Membership dues

The ORM membership dues for ORM will be increased by \$6.00 effective 2012. Please remember this is for ORM dues and not applicable to NRHS dues.

Day Out With Thomas 2011



Larry Dodd and Mary Holderbaum discuss management issues at the Thomas store.

Photos this page by Raymond Woods

We had a special visitor at Day out With Thomas this year. On the step is Ms. Sandie Olson, Director of the Waynoka Historical Society and a friend of many ORM members. She was accompanied by son Brian and granddaughters Lily and Violet.



The Midwest City Regional hospital ambulance is always popular and educational



Charles Price (pictured) and Bob Cossairt managed the parking



Jim Pasby at the ORM model railroad venue



The story telling and video venue

Day Out With Thomas 2011

Continued from page 1



Raymond Woods

Above Greg Hall is assisted by Bob Nantois retrieving a dead skunk for disposal. During the night yours truly editor went to investigate dogs barking. Never saw the dogs or skunk. However there was a strong skunk odor. When Greg unlocked around 6:30 that morning a dead skunk was discovered just to the north of the Depot. All present were most appreciative Greg and Bob took the initiative to take on the skunk removal task.



Raymond Woods

The ever popular tattoo venue

Chart below indicates the number of staff generally required for the Day Out With Thomas event venues

Train crew:	4
Mechanical department:	3
Car hosts:	14
Car host coordinator:	1
Ticket sales:	4
Activities Tent:	2 to 6
Moon bounces:	2
Golf course:	1
Thomas Tattoos:	5
Parking:	3 to 4
Greeters:	2
Store:	10 to 11
Platform:	2 to 4
Dispatcher:	1
Coordinators:	2
Balloon Sales:	3 to 4
Grounds:	4 to 5
Flagman:	4
Ambulance:	1
Security (sheriff) :	2 to 3
Entertainers:	3 to 4
Mom-O the clown:	1
Sir Topham Hat:	2
Business managers:	2
Story telling/DVD:	2
Model railroad:	1 to 2
Photo helpers:	2
Supervisor (director)	1
Operation Life saver:	1
Skunk removal	2
Night watchman: minimum of 1 per night from time Thomas arrives until he leaves	

Oklahoma City Train Show
 December 3rd and 4th
www.okctrainshow.com

Motor Car Trips by Drake Rice

Motor Car Trip on A-OK

ORM hosted a motor car trip on the A-OK Railroad out of McAlester, OK on Saturday, October 15 with eleven motor cars and one hy-rail. As always, the A-OK is a great host and friend of ORM. President Dave Donoley and Manager of Operations Heather Williams are always kind to ORM and friends when we visit this beautiful part of the state.

The weather was great with starting temperatures around 60 degrees and the afternoon high about 85. ORM members from Missouri, Texas and Oklahoma gathered for this operation with 22 people participating in the 92 mile round trip run on the former Rock Island Tracks. There was a lot of wildlife along the rail; Grand Ma Dona's café in Red Oak opened for the group on Saturday and we had a great lunch break.

Of course the highlight of the trip was the stop in Wilburton, home and shops of the A-OK to see the latest A-OK equipment. President Donoley has acquired three former BNSF engines that are really nice and great four wheel truck units for the A-OK

Railroad. In addition he has acquired a very nice private car from Arkansas which we were allowed to tour. The A-OK is a constantly improving railroad in Oklahoma that serves the southeastern part of the state and in the central part with their operation from Midwest City to Shawnee.

ORM again appreciates the A-OK for allowing us to operate on their line.

Farmrail Motor Car Trip on November 19-20

ORM will be hosting another motor car outing on Farmrail and the Grainbelt Railroads in Western Oklahoma. This will be a two day run. Saturday, November 19 will be from Clinton to Elk City and Sunday, November 20 will be from Sentinel to Altus. Again Farmrail is another great supporter of ORM and we appreciate Rodney Roof and the staff for allowing us this privilege. For more information, email Drake Rice at drake.rice@cox.net for more details.

2012 Board of Director Elections

Board Positions Open for Nominations

President

Current position holder: Stan Hall

Treasurer

Current position holder: Charles Price

NRHS Director

Current position holder: Bob Nantois

Director of Buildings & Static Displays

Current position holder: Bob Cossairt

Director at Large

Current position holder: Harry Currie

Director of Museum Activities

Current position holder: Greg Hall

Nominees will be published in the December and January issues of the Dispatcher.

Elections will be during the annual membership meeting January 7, 2012 beginning at 5:30 P.M. at the Hometown Buffet.

The Oklahoma Railway Museum by-laws require elections for the positions listed at left in 2012. The position term is for 2 years.

Nominees Qualifications

ORM member for 6 months prior to Nov. 15th, 2011

Nominations must be received on or before November 15th 2011.

Send nominations to:

Drake Rice

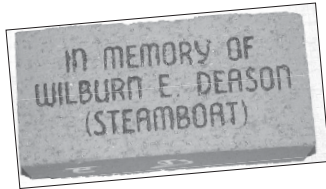
Mail: 3121 Talon Road
Edmond, OK 73013-7478

e-mail: drakerice@ompa.com

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 August. 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

2012 ORM/NRHS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

- New Membership Renewal Membership (begin Jan 1st) Date _____
 - \$36.00 per year – Individual Membership in the Oklahoma Railway Museum, Ltd. (spouse included) Pro-rated dues \$3.00 per month
 - \$30.00 per year – Individual Senior (age 65 and up) (spouse included) and Individual Student (full-time student) Membership in ORM Pro-rated dues \$2.50 per month
 - \$36.00 per year – To add Railway Historical Society (NRHS) Membership (add \$5.00 for spouse) (Student Memberships: \$16 per year)
- SEND NRHS DUES TO ORM ADDRESS BELOW, NOT DIRECTLY TO NRHS**
- \$500.00 - Lifetime Membership

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

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
PAID
Permit No. 135
Norman, OK

OKC Train Show December 3rd and 4th
Christmas trains December 17th

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 830-5190, Drake Rice 340-5047, Harry Currie 427-5473 or Bob Hussey 670-3235.