



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

NARCOA Affiliate Member



photo by Gary Githens

First two cars on left, owner Terry Birchett

owner Charles Price

owner Guy Lynn

owner Mike Harker

## ORM members display motorcars on June 19th

Motorcars were on display for guests to view and Mike Harker handled the questions from visitors. Thanks to the ORM member owners for bringing them out. More pictures on page 4.

## Board has first meeting at Carlson annex, Page 5



photo by Gary Githens

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## Larry Dodd retirement party, page 5



photo by Raymond Woods

Model and plaque presented to Larry Dodd by BNSF.

Restoring #2  
final installment page 6



photo by Gary Githens

Locomotive log served as guest register at Larry's retirement party.

# The President's Column



Well it has been an interesting month at the Museum. We started with an Independence Day train and had a chuck-wagon Lunch prepared by Jim Stroud and crew. He also had ice cream available. The rain dampened our attendance from what we expected but those that came had a good time.

The earlier damage from the hail and winds is slowly being repaired. Some painting has been done but the roof is still to be done. We have a Scout group coming soon to paint the interior of the Golden State combine. It will look better than ever for the Thomas event.

We have leased some of our equipment to a Movie Production Group. They will be filming in early August. They will also be around the museum to set their scenes. I am hopeful we will get some positive publicity from their efforts. Lets hope for a Hit Movie.

Thomas planning is continuing. If you can help at Thomas let us know.

Stan

## Model builder volunteers needed

### Important project

Refer page 8 (back cover) of this issue

**Early Notice:** The Oklahoma Railway Station Historical Society Convention will be Wednesday June 8th through Saturday June 11th, 2011. The convention will be headquartered at the Saddleback Inn in Oklahoma City. Organizers plan to have a social with ORM members Tuesday June 7th at 7:00 p.m.

Tours will visit structures of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe; Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific; Midland Valley; Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad; Oklahoma Railway; and Saint-Louis –San Francisco Railroads. They have one day of carpools and three days of bus tours. Prices will be advised around January.

For more details contact Ted Xakellis (301-649-3427, Theodore Xakellis@Juno.com).

## Day out with Thomas

**Sept 24-25-26 & Oct 1-2-3 - volunteer now**

**Oklahoma Railway  
Museum, Ltd.**

### Board of Directors

Stan Hall, *President*  
 Larry Dodd, *Vice President  
and Program Chair*  
 Drake Rice, *Secretary*  
 Charles Price, *Treasurer*  
 John Ansell, *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*  
 Kenneth Kozak, *Director of  
Museum Displays*

Ed Birch Jr., *Train Show Chair*  
 Gary Moore, *Membership  
Chair*  
 Gary Githens, *Dispatcher  
Editor*

*Articles and/or photos are due by the 15th of each month. Email to "Editor" at: [ormnews@cox.net](mailto:ormnews@cox.net)*

### Surf the Web...

The ORM Website address [oklahomarailwaymuseum.org](http://oklahomarailwaymuseum.org)

ORM telephone number:  
405/424-8222  
ORM FAX number  
405/424-0504

### Showing Up

Special events at the ORM are to increase attendance for train ticket and store sales.

We also want these events to be beneficial for our guests. Please make an effort to show up on special event days to show support. You don't have to purchase but crowds look good for us.

Editor

**Museum Update** by Drake Rice

Attendance has remained steady at the museum this summer with several special runs with senior citizens and day care groups. In addition we are now in a contract with a movie company that will be shooting scenes at the museum in August for a movie filmed entirely in Oklahoma. They will be using ORM equipment and filming down on the line. This will be the third movie filmed at the museum, but this will not involve moving trains, only stationary equipment.

Work is continuing on repair work at the museum and the constant mowing operation. Jim Pasby has been coming in early to mow before the heat gets going to keep the grass down along the line. With this summer's rains, it has been a demanding job and we appreciate Jim's efforts. With all the mowing activities, the museum is looking at a more professional finish mower. We have been using donated mowers, but due to the amount of mowing, they are spending more time in the repair line it seems. Of course coming up with money for that type mowing equipment is another challenge.

The City keeps working on the Katy Trail in the area around the 23rd Street and north. Bob Hussey and Drake Rice continue to meet with the City Public

Works Department and Contract Engineer on the project. The trail work has caused a great deal of drainage problems along the track. As it turns out, the trail was not built where it was supposed to be built. This was noted by Bob early in the work, brought to the attention of the contractor but ignored by him and the inspector on the project? In the last meeting that was held on Monday, July 19th, the engineer on the project and the city are going to require the contractor to take out a section of the trail and move it to the west approximately twenty plus feet to the original designed location and address the drainage south of 23rd street to stop the washing out of the track and road bed. Hopefully this work will be accomplished and they will be out of the area by DOWT time.

Work is continuing on the rehab of the CNW 7721 passenger car and we now have some work that needs to be done on the UP Flat car, which is the open air chair. So the Maintenance shop volunteers are staying busy this summer.

As always, volunteers are needed at the museum on Thursday, Friday and Saturdays or any day you can donate some time. Contact Stan Hall the President or Jim Murray in Maintenance.

**Motor Car Trip on the A-OK**

by Drake Rice

On Saturday, July 10th, five motor cars and two hy-rails set on the A-OK at Harrah for a trip to Midwest City and return and then on to Shawnee. It was a good day for the trip. There was no rain and rest stops in Choctaw and Shawnee allowed participants to get some food and refreshments. By the afternoon, the temperature was beginning to warm up, but all units were clear of the rails by 3:30pm.

The A-OK has received some stimulus money to shore up the sections of the line that are in danger of washing into the N. Canadian River and that work will begin in late July or early August according to A-OK officials. The

line is a joint use line with the A-OK and BNSF using it to serve customers in the Shawnee area.

As always, ORM appreciates the A-OK for allowing such operations. There will be another motorcar outing on the A-OK out of McAlester in mid-October with the date to be confirmed and a run is scheduled on Farmrail out of Clinton on November 13-14. Trip route is being worked on at this time.

ORM is also in contact with two other shortlines in Oklahoma about the possibility of motor car trips. Watch for announcements in the future.

***Help Retro Metro OKC preserve history and serve the community***

If you have old pictures of buildings, streets, events, etc. that are Oklahoma City history please contact Retro Metro OKC. Their web site address is on page 8 (cover of this issue). Also visit Steve Lackmeyer's blog at okccentral.org, scroll down and watch the video about the group posted on July 20th

### ORM members display motorcars on June 19th



photo by Gary Githens

Terry Birchett at the controls of his motorcar.



photo by Gary Githens

Mike Harker explains the use of motorcars to young visitors.

### ORM hosted a Make A Wish Foundation ride July 3rd



photo by Raymond Woods

Passengers on the "Make A Wish" Foundation ride

### ORM member donates replacement tree

A tree previously donated by Bill Whetstone did not survive. ORM member and docent Henry Asin purchased and planted a replacement. Thanks Henry.



photo by Jim Pasby



photo by Raymond Woods

Ken Kozack appears to be performing the "conductor shuffle disco" for the Make A Wish Foundation passengers



## First meeting in new facility

Considerable cleanup, painting and maintenance was required to get the Carlson house converted for ORM use.

The June board of directors meeting was held in the Carlson meeting room. All attending were thrilled to have adequate space. Previous meetings were held in the museum office lunch room which is not convenient because of crowding.

Soon the museum archive office, archive storage and library will be relocated to the Carlson facility.

The large room on the west side of the barn which has a rest room, will become a meeting and banquet facility. This room is currently called the club room. Plans are to build a covered pavilion over the large slab area adjacent to the club room. This will be an excellent facility for museum events and possibly rental to help support the museum.

Considerable floor repair will have to be completed prior to reaching the aforementioned goal.

The structure is concrete block. Hopefully we can add a stud wall with insulation around the inside perimeter of the room to help with energy efficiency. The club room currently has operating central heat and air.

The barn is currently used for limited storage. Once overhead doors or other methods of securing the barn are in place, much needed additional storage space will be available. This storage will be more convenient for access than the box cars currently used.



photo by Gary Githens

*The Carlson campus handled considerable over flow parking on June 19th.*

## Larry Dodd retirement party

ORM vice-president Larry Dodd retired from the BNSF effective July 2nd after 42 years of service.

He selected the ORM as the site of his retirement party which was held June 26th. Tables and chairs were set up in the shop for the event. Memorabilia from his career was on display and refreshments were served.



photo by Raymond Woods

*Loretta gives Larry instructions pertaining to cake cutting. We finally know how to get his attention.*

Larry was thrilled with the turnout and had the opportunity to visit with friends, many whom he had not seen for several years.

Larry rented the train and treated his guests to a train ride.



photo by Raymond Woods

*Larry visiting with his guests during the train ride*

## Restoring #2 The Fun and Games Associated with Restoring a Classic

By John Schumann

### The Beast Starts-Sort Of

After lots and lots of rewiring, rebuilding the fuel control rack (Michael's smaller hands turned out to be a blessing-he repacked all the bearings with grease), more leak fixes, and more general fun, we were finally ready to start. Number 2 was wheeled out into the sun on the day of ORM's annual membership picnic in 2009. Priming done, she turned over AND.....died. Again, same result. Michael served as our official "remote engine starter", as Terry and I ran all over the unit, trying to figure out what was going on. We finally settled on the fact that the governor was not picking the load and making the fuel rack open to let diesel to the cylinders. So, we used an old trick-the One Volunteer Mechanic Governor Method. With one of us on the end of a pipe wrench, and that wrench on the fuel control rack rod, the Beast roared to life for the first time in many years. At least until the oil filter spewed many gallons of nice new oil all over the front radiator compartment.

### The Quest for a Working Governor Begins

The governor is a box mounted on the front-left side of the prime mover. It takes electrical signals from the throttle, tachometer, and lots of safety switches, and controls the fuel metering to the engine, thereby controlling engine speed. It is critical to the engine's operation. Ours didn't work.

The RS3s governor is a GE mod-

el 17MG6. It's a now long-outdated unit that Alco itself quit using around 1960. Our instruction books talked about how to take it off and put it back on, but nothing about its internal workings. So now what, Terry and I had to ask?

Sometimes, the Internet is actually useful. We posted several pleas for help on chat sites and blogs devoted to Alco locomotives (yes, there are several out there, believe it or not). Our savior came in the form of Michelle Quaas, none other than the CMO of the Orange Empire Railway Museum (OERM) in Perris, California. OERM just happens to have 2 Alco RSD12s, a later model unit, but built about 1959, and with the 17MG6 governor.

Michelle gave us the actual Alco instruction manual on the governor, and plenty of insider info on their shortcomings and issues. Her help was absolutely critical to continuing the restoration of #2. The Governor Team then formed, of Terry, me, and mechanic's helper and remote engine starter Michael. Much trouble-shooting ensued, with potential problems one-by-one tested, and eliminated.

Turns out this governor had plenty of issues-not a big deal, if you know what to look for, but stop-you-in-your-tracks otherwise. I'm an engineer by trade, of the professional variety, not the railroad variety (at least not since 2003). As an engineer, let me state that

whoever designed the 17MG6 governor was both brilliant, and totally demented, at the same time.

Finally, after a couple of months of testing, poking, fixing, removing, replacing, the problem boiled down to frayed wires back in the main Engine Control switch, that were preventing a magnetic field from forming when the unit was started. After Terry rebuilt the switch, she'll start and idle without the One Terry or John Wrench Powered Governor Method.

### So Are We Finally Done?

We wish. While #2 has come a long way since 2007, but rat chew and wiring modifications that don't follow schematics continue to plague #2. Still, I have full confidence in Terry, and #2 will get done.

After #2, I hear Terry wants to start on RS1 #743. We have the beginnings of a Good Alco Man here. However, Michael really wants to start working on the Porter steam engine-kids love steam engines. Is anyone on the Board listening?

Me, I would be happy either way. Just don't expect me at ORM every Saturday

*Editors Note: A condensed version of this story will be in the August issue of NRHS News*

**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 October. 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***

**2010 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 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

**DOWT volunteer contacts**

- |                             |                                     |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Stan Hall:                  | Thomas store                        |
| Truman Hefner:              | Car host                            |
| Greg Hall;                  | Train crew                          |
| Charles Price/Bob Cossairt: | Parking:                            |
| Pat Riley:                  | Setup; Takedown, watchman, cleanup, |
|                             | all other opportunities:            |

**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](mailto: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

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

**Coming This Summer  
Day Out With Thomas  
Please help support this event**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Page 8**

***the Dispatcher***

## ***Retro Metro OKC ready to serve the community***

For a year the organization has been fine tuning their operational structure. Now with all the operational facets in place to serve the community, they are going public to serve the community.

Collaborative efforts to date include projects with the Oklahoma Historical Society and the Oklahoma Railway Museum.

Visit their web site at: [www.retrometrookc.org](http://www.retrometrookc.org)

The Oklahoma Railway Museum looks forward to working with Retro Metro OKC and we wish them tremendous success with their efforts. Their organization will hopefully be the basis for similar organizations across the country.

## ***Retro Metro OKC Bricktown display could include ORM***

Retro Metro OKC has been donated a space in Bricktown. They will have display cases with items to promote a few Oklahoma City attractions and display historical memorabilia.

The ORM has been given an opportunity to participate. They would like a diorama with a depot and a period passenger train in front of it. They have a picture of an original depot in downtown Oklahoma City. We need someone to head this project up and volunteers to accomplish the project, model builders, material donations, train donation etc. This needs to be a quality project because it will receive high traffic volume viewing. This is a tremendous opportunity for ORM promotion in the entertainment district.

**Model builder volunteers needed**

Contact Gary Githens about this important project at: [ormnews@cox.net](mailto:ormnews@cox.net)