POINTS OF CONTACT:

Nebraska Railroad Museum (NRM) and the Fremont and Elkhorn Valley Railroad (FEVR)- 1835 N. Somers, Fremont, NE 68025, (www.fremontrailroad.com), 402-727-0615 (office)

Fremont Dinner Train - 650 N. H St., Fremont, NE 68025

For excursion only- 402-727-0615

For Dinner Train only- 402-727-8321 (The Fremont Dinner Train is a separate business for which the FEVR provides motive power and trackage).

EXCURSION TRAVEL:

The 2005 excursion season is in progress and continues through Sunday, **October 30**. Excursion trips board at the depot at 1835 N. Somers in Fremont at ! :00 PM every **Saturday** and **Sunday**. Fares remain the same as in 2004. Extra fare accommodations in air conditioned coaches are available.

Charters are available any time of the year, depending upon weather and operating conditions. Contact the FEVR office for more information on charters or to obtain 2005 excursion brochures .

SPECIAL OFFERS:

DISCOUNT: Current members of the National Railway Historical Society are eligible to receive a **15%** discount on regularly scheduled vintage coach fares. They can also receive a **15%** discount on merchandise.

FREE: Passengers who present a valid current year ticket which has been used for travel on another excursion railroad can receive one **complimentary** excursion passsage on the FEVR. This is available only on regularly scheduled travel in the vintage coaches on a space available basis.

SCHOOL CHARTERS:

652 riders from 13 regional schools took advantage of the railroad experience during the months of April and May. Schools included those from Weston, Columbus, Platte Center, Howells,

Omaha, Blair, Fremont, and Council

Bluffs. These riders not only enjoyed themselves but also left with an increased **awareness** of what a railroad is and what it does.

Much appreciation is due to **Gene Zimmerman**, office manager, for the charter scheduling and to all the others who took time from their own weekly schedules to help in the depot and on the train or to serve as the operating crews.

Charter scheduling continues for the Summer and Fall.

JOHN C. FREMONT DAYS:

The annual celebration in Fremont honoring the explorer John C. Fremont will be held on **July 8**, 9, and 10 this year. **Fremont** was a topographer who surveyed many areas of the West and his resulting favorable reports promoted the concept of "**Mainfest Destiny**" - the idea that the North American Continent should belong to the citizens of the United States. These promotions, which were very popular with the public, earned him the title of "**Pathfinde**r". He surveyed the Oregon Trail in 1842.

The FEVR railroad will again **participate** in the celebration with special excursion schedules. Details in the next FLASH issue.

<u>HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION:</u>

The construction on highways 275 and 77 was somewhat delayed by rain. The primary activities involved **grading** west of Hooper and the start of **bridge** constructions over the Union Pacific and BNSF Railroad in the Fremont vicinity.

RETIREMENT:

Another long-time member and engineer volunteer has retired from his train crew duties. **Ed Kozisek** of Bruno, NE, was a **telegrapher** for the Denver and Rio Grand railroad in Colorado and Utah in the 1950's. His contribution for many years in operations here are very much appreciated.

MOTOR CARS:

The **Iowa Division** of the North American Railcars Operators

Association (NARCOA) is scheduled to

visit the FEVR on **June 26**. NARCOA is an organization with high standards dedicated to the preservation and safe, legal operation of railroad equipment historically used for maintenance of way. It has over 1800 members world-wide. More information can be found on their Website - *www.narcoa.org*.

DONATIONS:

A very welcome donation was received from **Wayne Porter** of Lincoln, NE, in the form of a 1976 Dodge ¹/₂ ton **pickup truck**. The unit is equipped with a topper over the bed which will make it an ideal all-weather vehicle for the many errands associated with the railroad's operations.

A grant program for employees of Time-Warner resulted in the receipt of **\$500**. Many thanks to Allan Schlapfer for his efforts in obtaining the grant.

TELEGRAPH:

Office manager Gene Zimmerman announced that the April 2006 meeting of the C.D. Combs Memorial Chapter of the Morse Telegraph Club will be held held here at the NRM. This year, the annual meeting was in Woodbine, Iowa, on April 30. The meeting celebrated both the 204th birthday of Samuel Morse, inventor of the telegraph code and instrument, and the 20th anniversary of the club. 51 persons were in attendance with 20 members representing former telegraphers from 6 railroads. Α telegraph demonstration office is maintained here at the Museum.

Morse transmitted a message on America's **first** telegraph line from Washington, DC, to Baltimore on **May 24, 1844**.

RULES:

The members of the **NRM/FEVER** Board of Directors, along with other involved persons, met on May 18, to review the process of railroad and volunteer operations **record** keeping.

RAIL SCHOOL:

Returns next issue!



RAILSCENE: Keep on Track! Replacement of ties south of Nickerson in March by volunteers Erik Muttersbough, Jim Overfelt, George Blessing, and Allan Schlapfer will so that for the FEVR trains.