

THE FEVR FLASH

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEBRASKA RAILROAD MUSEUM

1835 N. SOMERS, FREMONT, NE 68025

APRIL, 2007

POINTS OF CONTACT:

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

~~For excursion only- 402-727-0615~~

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

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

BOARDS OF DIRECTORS :

The FEVR and the NRM Boards of Directors met Wednesday evening, April 4, at the Fremont Holiday Lodge. The FEVR Board members were very pleased to welcome as new members **Sean Powers**, manager of the Holiday Lodge, **Ron Spahni**, Marketing Department, First State Bank, Fremont, **Bob Ueberrheim**, President of the Hooper Commercial Club, and **Dave Jorgensen**, Manager of the Fremont Sleep Inn. (Mr. Powers was unable to attend because of another commitment.) **Jim Lacy**, Director of the Fremont & Dodge County Convention and Visitors Bureau, was a guest.

The Board welcomes the contribution of the financial and business expertise brought by the new members. Discussion in the meeting involved some financial options for both FEVR and NRM. Other topics covered included charter and excursion schedules, new brochures, and reporting practices.

It was particularly stressed that all time spent by all members doing whatever kind of work that benefits the organization be reported for use as an in-kind portion of the support for grants. The "dollar" value of that work is normally \$10.00 per hour. Board member **Maynard Porter** presented a sample of the form (appropriately colored green!) for work reporting which will be made available to organization members. This will be used for reporting all work except that for train crews.

Mr. Porter, who is now in charge of filing the necessary reports to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), stressed

the need for the trip reporting forms used by the train crews to be filled out completely and accurately. He produced several examples of those reports which were not completed properly.

These trip reports will be a topic for the next membership meeting. An updated version of the reports will then be available.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

The next membership meeting will be on **April 14** at the Fremont depot starting at 10:00 AM. There will be a training session for conductors and brakemen. The main effort will be the final cleanup of the museum area which has had the floor repainted and then a cleanup of the grounds. As many as possible are needed.

The membership meeting on March 17 was very successful, with the start of the improvements in the museum area as the main effort. Appreciation is extended to all who helped.

The first charter event is also scheduled for April 14.

EQUIPMENT NOTE:

The FEVR currently operates two ex-Milwaukee passenger cars in excursion/charter service. These are heated or air conditioned as needed and are referred to as climate controlled "c" in the following schedule of charters. Also in use are three older cars which are referred to as vintage "-v-" in the schedule. These are not mechanically heated or cooled. One of the three was a railway post office unit and is used to sell concessions and is equipped with a generator. Either car set or both may be used as needed.

CHARTER SCHEDULE:

Charters as of 04/04/07

April 14- 1:30 PM - birthday chart- cc

April 20- 9:30 AM - school- v

*April 21- 10AM - Orphan Train - cc

April 22- 1:30 PM - Orphan Train- cc

April 27- 10 AM - school - cc

May 3 - 10 AM - school - v

May 4 - 10 AM - school - v

May 10 - 10 AM -school - v

May 11 - 10 AM - school - v

May 18 - 10:30 AM - school - v

*added since last publication

EXCURSION SCHEDULE:

The regular excursion begins on May 20. Trains leave the Fremont depot at 1:00 PM on Saturdays and Sundays for a trip of about three and one-half hours to Nickerson and return. Reservations recommended but not required. It is advisable to call the depot to confirm the schedule ahead of time should there be a change due to special events.

New brochures will soon be available. Call or write to obtain a copy.

NEBRASKA LIFE:

On March 10, representatives of the **Nebraska Life** magazine visited the NRM to take photographs and collect information for a forthcoming issue. The magazine features various towns and activities around the state. Six editions per year plus special items are published.

The address of the publication is:

PO Box 819

Norfolk, NE 68702

www.nebraskalife.com

SAFETY:

Many accidents are the result of more than **one error or omission** of proper procedures. Some years past such a situation occurred locally.

In this instance, an extra excursion passenger car not used for a trip was placed temporarily on the mainline track to allow the excursion train access to the depot. Unfortunately, the handbrake was not set nor were the wheels blocked to prevent the car from moving.

After the excursion train returned and was unloaded at the depot after the trip, it was backed onto the mainline. While the unloading was going on, a strong gust of wind moved the standing car enough so that the backing train struck it.

There were no injuries and the car damage was minimal. But expense was incurred in repairs and in crane charges.

No one of the excursion train crew had been in a proper place to observe the backup move (protect it) and stop it. This, combined with the wind and with nothing to keep the standing car from moving, contributed to the accident.

Lesson illustrated- always follow proper procedures. Never assume anything.