

# THE FEVR FLASH

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEBRASKA RAILROAD MUSEUM

1835 N. SOMERS, FREMONT, NE 68025 AUGUST, 2007

## POINTS OF CONTACT:

**Nebraska Railroad Museum (NRM) and Fremont and Elkhorn Valley Railroad (FEVR)** 1835 N. Somers, Fremont, Nebraska, 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.)

## BACK ISSUES:

All back issues of the FLASH may be viewed at [www.fremontrailroad.com](http://www.fremontrailroad.com).

In addition, numerous links to other websites of commercial railroads, tourist railroads, the Fremont community, and more information on the FEVR history and equipment may be found there.

## BOARDS OF DIRECTORS :

The FEVR and the NRM Boards of Directors met Wednesday evening, August 1, at the Wilderness Lodge and Conference Center in Fremont. FEVR Board members attending were **Dave Jorgensen, Erik Mutthersbough, George Blessing, Maynard Porter, Al Schlapfer, Ron Spahni, and Charles L. Sedlacek.** **Patti Emanuel- Vaughan**, Director of the Fremont & Dodge County Convention and Visitors Bureau, was a guest. **Shirley Angermund** (Board President) was on vacation. Vice-President Maynard Porter conducted the meeting.

The treasurer's report was presented and approved.

It was noted from that report that the **Museum gift shop** business was doing fairly well but that sales could be improved by stocking more smaller low-priced items such as FEVR logos and Fremont - related small items.

There was no update on discussions involving joint use by both NRM/FEVR and the Fremont Dinner Train. The lack of space for that combined use was noted.

Record keeping for maintenance items was discussed. In particular, the appropriate sections of the locomotive inspection reports will be forwarded to

those responsible for maintenance and to those responsible for reporting to the FRA.

The damage to the **Ford F-250 hi-railer** incurred during last year's weed spraying has been repaired. There will be rules implemented so that only those who are properly qualified will be permitted to use the vehicle.

The operational status of the locomotives, including those in Hooper, was discussed. There is a problem of vandalism to railroad property and equipment in **Hooper** and the means of reporting that must be improved.

The NRM grant application to the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (**DEQ**) for a large capacity tree chipper has been approved, as reported at the July meeting. Our organization's match for the **\$30,376** grant will be entirely through the use of the value of volunteer hours. The use of the unit will be shared by the FEVR and Fremont and surrounding communities.

As mentioned previously, some of the trees along the railroad track will be left for possible future conversion into sculptures. A chainsaw "**artist**" will be needed.

The importance of keeping track of mileage incurred in connection with donated effort to the Museum was stressed. The mileage expense can be a tax-deduction.

## MEMBERSHIP CONTACTS:

Member **Thelma Van Steenwyck** is the new the membership contact position. Any member or local supporter (does not belong to **NRHS** national) who has been overlooked in dues collection should leave a message at the Depot.

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

There was no membership meeting in August.

## HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION:

The new portion of **highway 77** east of Hooper is scheduled to open **September 1**, but because of delays on the part of the contractor - RCL (Railroad Controls Limited) - the crossing signals for the railroad will not be completed until **October 1**.

These signals will operate in the same way as the new signals on the US 275 bypass north of Fremont. This type of signal gives a constant warning time. The signals are sensitive to the train speed so that the time of activation is always the same before the train arrives at the crossing.

Since that portion of the FEVR's track will not be used until the Maple Creek bridge repair is completed, it was agreed to barricade the track until the signals are installed.

Recent heavy rains may delay the construction beyond the scheduled opening date.

## CHARTER SCHEDULE:

Charters as of 08/27/07

October 6- Harvey House

## EXCURSION SCHEDULE:

The regular excursion season will operate through **October**. 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.

Air conditioned fares are **\$14** for adults and for children 3-11 **\$10**. Vintage coach fares are **\$10** and **\$8** respectively. Children under 3 at no charge. AAA cards give a \$1.00 discount on adult fares.

Charter opportunities will continue after October, depending upon weather and operational conditions. Charter scheduling for 2008 is now available.

New brochures are available. Call or write for a copy.

## HARVEY HOUSE:

The Harvey House charter is provided by an organization which commemorates the chain of restaurants which existed mainly along the Santa Fe railroad in the late 1800's and the early 1900's. Established by **Fred Harvey**, who emigrated from England, the chain featured good food, cleanliness, service, fair prices, and women waitresses, most of which were lacking in other such places along the railroads of the time.