

THE FEVR FLASH

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEBRASKA RAILROAD MUSEUM

1835 N. SOMERS, FREMONT, NE 68025 APRIL, 2009

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 (FDT) - 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.

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.

MAILING LIST:

If anyone wishes to be added to the list they should send an email request to NPTCHM@Hotmail.Com. The address will be used for no other purpose than the Flash.

BOARDS OF DIRECTORS:

The Boards of Directors for FEVR and the NRM met April 1, 2009, at the Wilderness Lodge in Fremont. Those in attendance for their respective board positions were **Shirley Angermund, George Blessing, Charles L. Sedlacek, Maynard Porter, Erik Mutthersbough, Dennis Wallen, Darrel Miller (FEVR only), Bob Ueberheim (FEVR only) and Ron Spahni, (FEVR only)**. Guests were **Bruce Eveland, Scott Eveland, and Paul Eveland**.

Minutes from the previous FEVR and NRM meetings and the current treasurer's reports were presented, reviewed, and approved. There was a correction for the December monies and it was stated that the Fremont Dinner Train had paid on a number of past due run payments.

Bruce Eveland, Manager of the Dinner Train, presented a proposal wherein the FDT would move its office and office personnel into space on the east end of the depot and act as an agent for promotions, reservations, and ticketing of the FEVR excursions as well as for the FDT. In addition, FDT would provide some maintenance services for the staffing and cleaning of the excursion cars and for the parking lot.

The FEVR would need to share a portion of its ticket income after a certain level of sales and incur some other obligations. There would be the necessity of determining the amount of

taxes then due on the FDT office space. The cost of utilities to accommodate the highly increased building occupancy times would increase substantially.

Following FDT's presentation, an ad hoc committee consisting of **Dennis Wallen, Erik Mutthersbough, and Charles L. Sedlacek** was appointed to study the proposal and prepare an answer. The BOD was to meet at the Depot on **April 15** to hear the committee's report.

(The committee's **report** was presented at the meeting on the 15th and after comments by the BOD members was **approved** for transmittal to the FDT. The proposal will be an agenda item for the **May** BOD meeting).

Progress on the preparations for the Day Out with Thomas™ in July was reported. Radio, television, and print media are in preparation according to **Blessing and Angermund**. The railroad website (www.fremontrailroad.com) has the information needed to obtain information and to purchase tickets. An advertisement for the event will appear in the June, July, August, and September issues of **TRAINS** magazine (each magazine issue is released to the public approximately one month before the cover dates listed here).

It was reported that all national (those with the National Railway Historical Society - NRHS) memberships are up to date. Local individuals who volunteer resources in support of the railroad but do not belong to NRHS will be accommodated with separate recognition.

The local REACT organization, which was extremely helpful in handling communications issues with the Day Out with Thomas™ last year, has requested that their command trailer be provided a permanent space on the NRM depot property. This was approved and Erik **Mutthersbough** will expedite the placement.

Work has continued on the painting and remodeling of the museum area of the depot. A window has been installed in the wall between the museum area and the shop area.

FORMER MEMBER'S RAILROAD:

The March-April issue of the **SETOFF**, the Official Publication of NARCOA, the North American Railcars Operators Association, carried an article about a motor car excursion on the **Blacklands Railroad** in October, 2008. This railroad, based in **Sulphur Springs, Texas** (east of Dallas-Fort Worth) is operated by **Wayne Defenbaugh**, who was a member here in the late 1990's. He initiated the shipment of the Davenport locomotive from

Algonia, Iowa before leaving in early 1999.

The trade magazine **Railway Age** lists the Blacklands Railroad in their awards for regional and short lines of the year under the "honorable mention" category. It is listed there as starting in 1999 and as currently having 75 miles of route and moving more than 5000 railcars annually. It has connections with KCS and Union Pacific. More information available on the Internet.

RULES TRAINING DATE:

All persons involved in train service on the FEVR are to attend a training session on GCOR (General Code of Operating Rules) on Saturday, **May 9**, starting at 11:00 AM at the depot. (Attendance by all other members is recommended) These rules or modifications applicable to particular railroad services are used to cover train operations in the US.

Because of FEVR's current operational status many of the rules do not apply but this would change if FEVR becomes involved in car storage. Persons in train service should be aware of all rules even if not now applicable.

Inform **Jeff Blackmore** at jeff.fevr@gmail.com of your attendance as soon as possible. A resource on these rules is at <http://transchool.eustis.army.mil/rail-safety/default.htm>. In addition, much other information on GCOR can be found on the Internet.

Please **inform** crew members that might not have Internet service of this class.

Each train service person is expected to have with them a copy of the applicable rules while on duty. **Failure to have a training record and knowledge of the rules would be a liability for both the individual and for the FEVR in case of a spot check by the FRA or in any investigation of an accident.**

EXCURSION SEASON:

Excursions will resume on Sunday, **May 24** and then continue every Saturday and Sunday until the end of October. Boarding times will be at 1:00 PM at the Depot at 1835 N. Somers in Fremont.

CHARTERS:

A charter trip for two schools is currently scheduled for 10:00 AM on May 14.

Reservations for schools and other groups are available for 2009.

NEW ENGINEER:

Congratulations for **David Fachman** on completion of engineer training and his certification as a FEVR engineer.

The interest and support of all of the "younger generation" is very much appreciated and is essential to our long term survival.