

THE FEVR FLASH

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEBRASKA RAILROAD MUSEUM

1835 N. SOMERS, FREMONT, NE 68025, NOVEMBER, 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:

Back issues of the FLASH and links to numerous railroad related sites may be viewed at www.fremontrailroad.com.

MAILING LIST:

If anyone wishes to be added to the FLASH email list they should send a request to NPTCHM@Hotmail.Com.

BOARDS OF DIRECTORS :

The Boards of Directors for **FEVR** and the **NRM** met November 04, 2009, at the Wilderness Lodge in Fremont.

Due to many scheduling conflicts involving BOD members, neither Board had sufficient members present to conduct official business.

The current treasurer's reports were presented and reviewed as discussion items only. These and other items of interest to the Boards will be on the agenda for the meeting on December 2.

BOD NOMINATIONS:

The invitations for nomination for the three open positions on the BOD that had been received by the nominating committee of **Blessing, Wallen, and Miller** were presented. These are:

- 1- **Jeff Blackmore** – incumbent – operating crew FEVR, DSLE (supervisor of engineers), resident of Council Bluff, Iowa - graduate student and graduate assistant, Peter Kiewit Institute
- 2- **David Fachman** – volunteer NRM, operating crew FEVR (engineer), resident of Fremont
- 3- **Rudolph Daniels** – former Department Chair and Assistant Dean in Railroad Operation Technology at Western Iowa Technical College, publications in railroad history, book review editor for NRHS, experience in marketing and public relations – resident of Sioux City, Iowa
- 4- **Paul Eveland** – Owner, Eveland

Supply Company, farmer, former member, Nebraska Agriculture Advisory Board, Board of Directors, Fremont Dinner train, resident of Ames, NE.

- 5- **Melissa Peterson**, employed in Fremont, experience in volunteer work for non-profit organizations, honors in college class work at community college, resident of Fremont.

TRAIN MEETING:

BOD member **Wallen** attended the meeting of the **Tourist Railway Association Incorporated (TRAIN)** November 5-8 in Williams, Arizona. The award of the Train (magazine) preservation grant of \$10,000 was announced at this meeting and went to the **Niles Canyon Railway** toward the cost of restoring a 2-6-6-2 articulated Mallet steam engine similar to the unit in operation at the Black Hills Central.

There were about 75 applications for the grant, one of which was from NRM for restoration work on the Davenport locomotive. Information assembled for this grant will be used in developing other proposals.

RAIL SALE:

The pick up of rail and accessories in Hooper has continued. The rail had been stored on the right-of-way west of town and was moved to the engine house area by the contractor where it was cut into lengths which were transportable and needed by the buyer.



CUT RAIL FOR DELIVERY BETWEEN PASS TRACK RAILS IN HOOPER

END OF TRACK:

Another former member has reached the "end of track". Every one who knew him was saddened to learn of the passing on of **Edward Kozisek**, volunteer engineer and friend on November 1, at the age of 78. He resided at **Bruno**, Nebraska, a small village southeast of

Columbus. He was a telegrapher for the **Denver and Rio Grande Railroad** in Colorado and Utah in the 1950's (see FLASH May 05), having also served in the Navy. In later years, he returned to Bruno and was a heavy equipment operator for a construction company. For many years he was an engineer for the FEVR, being noted for smooth train handling.

Mr. **Kozisek** possessed a rail motor car which was used by the FEVR for one or more parades. He retired from engineer duties in 2005.

He survived his good friend and also FEVR engineer **Joe Prochaska** by over two years. Joe passed on in May 2007 and also had retired as engineer in 2005 (FLASH May '07 and April 05). Joe was an accomplished musician and steam tractor builder. He lived in or near Abie (near Bruno) as a farmer or in retirement all his life. A FEVR train with Joe as engineer appeared briefly in the mid - 1990's movie *To Wong Foo, Thanks For Everything! Julie Newmar*, starring Wesley Snipes, Patrick Swayze, and John Leguizamo, on the track east of Hooper. Although the filming took about two days, the movie appearance was very short.

(The movie was about three men dressed in women's' clothing as a disguise who embarked on a cross-country trip but were stalled in a very small rural village and had to deal with the local populace which was not very friendly. In the end, both the visitors and the locals found out that they could understand and help each other. The lesson conveyed was that different people were not all that different and the film conveyed a good moral message. The locale where the village scenes were filmed was at **Loma**, an unincorporated village west of **Valparaiso, NE**, on a former Union Pacific line which today terminates at **Brainard** and is a Nebraska Central Branch. The part torn out is now a trail. The filming took place shortly after the track removal.)

The contributions of people like these two have made the continued existence of NRM and FEVR possible and illustrate the variety of talents and backgrounds possessed by our volunteers. (See Nebraskaonfilm.com for more on the movie.)

SANTA RUNS:

Next Santa trip December 6. Contact Dinner Train - 402-727-8321 for information.

EXCURSION SEASON

Closed, but depending on weather conditions and equipment availability, scheduling of **charters** will continue.