



Leadership Ride

The 2018 Leadership Marshall County Class had breakfast and meetings at the Weaver Hotel on Friday, March 9. They then toured the Weaver Hotel, the Waterville Opera House, the Depot Museum and the caboose. They finished their day with a ride on the rails west of Waterville to the Little Blue River lookout and "Somewhere". They plan to take a ride east from Blue Rapids across the Big Blue River trestle in May.



Whistle Stop History Ride

Highlights of the Whistle Stop History Ride on April 29 are as follows:

- Ride the rails from the east end to Waterville,
- Cross the Big Blue River on a trestle that is about 540 ft long and 85 ft above the river,
- Tour the Blue Rapids Historical Society Museum,
- Tour Alcove Spring
- Living History performers at the Waterville Opera House
- Evening meal at the Weaver Hotel in Waterville.

The adventure begins at 11:30 am at the Waterville Caboose. Cost of the event is \$35 per person. Space is limited (only a few seats remain). For reservations and other information call Ann at 785-799-4294.

Donations

We greatly appreciate the \$20 newsletter donation that many of our members have paid. Our postage bill runs about \$30 each month we put out a newsletter. Since we have started printing our own newsletters, those of you that get your newsletter by USPS and have paid the \$20 fee or made other contributions will receive your newsletter with pictures in color.

In addition to the newsletter donations we have also received significant donations from Don Mann, Dave and Deb Geis, Sharp Mfg. and Heinen Brothers Ag Service of Seneca. The Heinen Brothers Ag Service and Dave & Deb Geis made donations to the maintenance of way fund that will be put to good use.

If you have not donated to the newsletter fund, please consider doing so. In addition to the expense of putting out the newsletter, we are now printing new advertising brochures and pay about \$125 a year to maintain our web site.

Sesquicentennial Celebration

2018 marks the 150th anniversary of the Central Branch Railroad. Sunday, October 14 has been set as the date for a celebration to take place in Waterville. Plans for the day are in the making but if you have suggestions, contact Ann Walter at 785-799-4294.



Over the Years

What we now refer to as the roughly 12 miles of Central Branch Railroad has undergone many name changes and ownerships. Below is a summary. The primary data source was wikipedia.com.

- 1859 Atchison and Pikes Peak Railroad
- 1867 Central Branch Union Pacific Railroad
- 1880 Kansas Pacific
- 1880 Union Pacific Railway
- 1880 Missouri Pacific Railway
- 1898 Central Branch Union Pacific Railway
- 1899 Central Branch Railway
- 1909 Missouri Pacific Railroad
- 1982 Union Pacific Railroad
- 1991 Lease to Kyle Railroad
- 2001 Purchased by MCRHS

Transcontinental Railroad Trivia

What was the most track laid in one day during the construction of the transcontinental railroad?

- A. 2 miles
- B. 10 miles
- C. 22 miles
- D. 50 miles

Contact Us:

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Board Members:

President: Randy Rundle
Vice-President: Charlie Weickert
Secretary: Ann Walter
Treasurers: Georgena Lindquist/Dave Crawford
Gene Harding
Larry Moon
Larry Springer

2018 Ride Rates

Adults: \$10 Children ages 6-12: \$7 Children 5 & under: Free

- Waterville west to "Somewhere" (45 minutes)
- Blue Rapids east across the Big Blue River (60 minutes)
- Between Blue Rapids & Waterville (60 minutes)
- Waterville east across the Big Blue River (2 hours - \$5 added fee)
- Rental of "Somewhere" for picnics, cookouts or celebrations - \$15 plus ride fare

April 8, 2018