



## Welcome to Another year with MCRHS and the CBRR

The year 2020 marks the 21st year of existence for the Marshall County RR Historical Society and the 19th year of providing rides on the CBRR. This could be a challenging year for MCRHS and especially for operation of the CBRR. It is no secret that many of the charter members who have kept this organization going are 20 years older now.

Did you ever learn to drive a vehicle with a manual transmission? The phrase "four on the floor" mean anything too you? If so, you might be able to become an engineer on the CBRR. Its actually kind of fun to drive a motorcar and standard gauge rails. Its pretty easy to "stay in your lane". You could also just go along for the ride and flag at crossings such as Vista RD. We can use volunteers of all sorts, from helping with brush trimming along to rails to carpentry work.

If you are interested in helping out as a volunteer worker, please contact one of the following:

Larry Moon (Track Superintendent)  
785-485-2976 (H) 785-565-8677 (C)  
[moon@twinvalley.net](mailto:moon@twinvalley.net)

Ann Walter (Secretary)  
785-363-2343 (Home) 785-799-4294 (Cell)  
[annlwalter@bluevalley.net](mailto:annlwalter@bluevalley.net)

The photo at right is an old one but still good one taken by Charlie Weickert during rides for the Czech Festival in 2016.

## Annual request for donations to our Publications Fund.

A few years ago we started printing a newsletter on a monthly basis, usually 10 newsletters a year. To help support that venture we started asking for a \$20 donation. We greatly appreciate those of you who have helped out and are again asking our members to consider a one time per year donation of \$20. Our annual publications budget runs about \$750 per year. Included in this total is \$125 for hosting our web site and domain name registration and \$625 for putting out the newsletter.

As a benefit, when you donate to this fund or make a significant donation otherwise, you will receive the newsletter printed in color. If you are currently receiving a newsletter printed in black and white and would like to see it in full color, you could also have the newsletter sent to you via email. If this is the case send us an email at the email address on the reverse side.

Again, a big thank you to all of you who have financially supported MCRHS and CBRR.



## Board Meeting

The MCRHS board recently met in Clay Center for two reasons. First of all our President, Randy Rundle lives in Clay Center and secondly there was a visitor from Wichita. Joe Brown worked for the Southern Railway in Marketing. The Southern Railway joined with the Norfolk & Western Railway in 1982 to form the Norfolk Southern Corporation. After leaving the Southern Railway Joe pretty much remained in the marketing field until his retirement. Joe brings to the MCRHS a tremendous amount of experience and knowledge in planning and grant writing. He spoke with the board about our immediate and long term needs and goals. One of the topics discussed was the maintenance of cross ties and roadbed crossings to ensure that we don't reach a point of no return in which it is cost prohibitive to keep the RR in operation. He suggested that the first step in acquiring any grant for track maintenance is to have a track inspection done. The board is looking into having an inspection done. That will not happen without a price to be paid. One estimate for inspecting approximately 12 miles of track is \$1,250. At the present, the board is still looking into its options for having an inspection done. Another challenge that we continually face is the control of weeds and vegetation along the right of way.



We have a beautiful ride experience to offer. There are roughly 4 miles of track west of Waterville, 4 miles of track east of Blue Rapids, and 4 miles of track between the two towns. Each 4 mile section provides uniquely different scenery.

## Upcoming Events

- Whistle Stop History Ride - this has always been a popular event. Because of our 160th Anniversary Celebration last year, we did not have a History Ride in 2019. The 2020 date has not been finalized.
- Waterville, KS 150th Celebration - Waterville will have a special day for celebrating its 150th anniversary on Saturday, May 23. They will be doing a western history re-enactment at 4pm and 5pm. Rail rides west of Waterville will be available.
- Blue Rapids, KS 150th Celebration - Blue Rapids will have a special day for celebrating its 150th anniversary on Sunday, July 4. Rail rides going east across the Big Blue River (pictured in the lower left) will be on the hour from 11am to 3pm.

To schedule a ride for your family or group contact Ann Walter.

- 785-363-2343 (Home)
- 785-799-4294 (Cell)

### Contact Us:

MCRHS  
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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

MCRHS is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization