



New Member

MCRHS welcomes its newest member, Anthony Dower, from Parker, Colorado.

2024 Board of Directors

At the annual membership meeting on November 12, four new board members were elected; Jim Turner, Casey Campbell, Pat Winkenwader, and Sandy Harding. Remaining on the board are Ann Walter, Charles Weickert, and Gene Harding. Ann has volunteered to be president again and Sandy Harding is the Secretary. The Vice President and Treasurer's positions will be voted on at a future board meeting.

Board Members:

Ann Walter, Waterville
Sandy Harding, Waterville
Charles Weickert, Marysville
Gene Harding, Waterville
Jim Turner, Olsburg
Casey Campbell, Waterville
Pat Winkenwader, Waterville

The email address for the board is:
mcrhs-board@gaggle.email

Blue Rapids Community Foundation “Circle of Giving”

The 2024 BRCF Match day was a big success due to the generosity of 18 donors, who collectively donated \$3,977.18. As a result, MCRHS received \$1,750 in “matching funds” from the Blue Rapids Community Foundation, for a total of \$5,727.18. Thanks again to all who donated.

“Ghost Rides”

On Sunday, October 22, the CBRR had four rides from Waterville west to “Somewhere”. At Somewhere, passengers were entertained, had a “taco in a bag” and the opportunity to roast a marshmallow for a s’more. A total of 99 passengers participated in the event. After expenses, MCRHS earned \$639 in profit.



We Kan Award

During the annual membership meeting, two special guests arrived. Marci Penner, Co-Director of the Kansas Sampler, and WenDee Rowe, Project Manager. They presented MCRHS with a WeKan Award. Quoting the Kansas Sampler Facebook page:

“The Marshall County Railroad Historical Society was presented with a We Kan! award yesterday for their efforts of 24 years to preserve a 12-mile stretch of the old Central Branch Railroad. The award, “For extra effort” was well earned as this all-volunteer group has labored first to preserve the tracks, then to prepare them for use with a gang car and passenger car, and then ongoing maintenance of the track and rail cars. The rides they give make this one of the most unique attractions in the state. The thrill is going over the trestle bridge 85 foot above the Blue River. Congratulations to all of you, board and volunteers, for all the extra you've done to preserve this unique piece of Marshall County history!”

Pictured: Front row: WenDee Rowe, Ann Walter, Jim Turner, Sandy Harding, Marci Penner
Back row: Pat Winkenwader, Kenny Winkenwader, Charles Weickert, Casey Campbell



Rhythm of the Rails (Revisited?)

Sandy Harding has been in conversations with Ken Gustin about doing a second “Rhythm of the Rails” event on Saturday, June 8, 2024. In April there were four organizations involved; Marshall County Arts Cooperative, MCRHS, Waterville Opera House, and the Weaver Hotel. Tentative plans for this event would just involve the MCRHS and the Waterville Opera House. A noon meal would possibly be served in the Waterville Community Center. The MCRHS board of directors will be discussing this possibility and making final decisions at future meetings. The web site for Ken Gustin and Chris Biggs is biggsandgustin.com.

Endow Waterville Partnership

The Kansas Rural Communities Foundation in Wamego is conducting a match event during the month of November. The Endow Waterville Partnership is a participating member. MCRHS is a potential recipient of money raised by the partnership. Any money received from the Endow Waterville Partnership must be spent in Waterville. Donations can be made on the KRCF website.