



WHISTLE TALK

NEWSLETTER OF THE
AMERICAN HERITAGE RR
GREENVILLE, IL
www.americanfarmheritagemuseum.org



Spring 2007

Moving Forward.....

2007 is going to prove to be an exciting year for the American Heritage RR. We recently received approval of a 4 Phase Master Plan for the RR. The first Phase is slated to be completed by the 2007 annual July Heritage Show at the Museum. Come out and see!

Starting in Spring of 2006 saw the beginning of dirt work and first rails to be laid for the American Heritage RR. As the spring turned to summer an initial 400' of track was installed and the Diesel train set was tuned up for her first run on her new rails (at 15" gauge) during the 2006 American Heritage Show the last weekend in July. Hundreds of people not only enjoyed the ride, but are ready to come back for more as we continue the expansion of the RR.

As they say, "the RR is the hottest place to work in the Summer and coldest during the winter". But thanks to Frueh Transportation that is not true on the American Heritage RR. When the North winds blow (in the winter) we retreat to the warm comfort of the shop at Frueh Transportation, where we construct 20' track panels to be laid in the spring. We expect towards the end of February 2007 to be receiving the Diesel engine back with a nice and shiny new coat of paint from the vocational school in Vandalia. A big thank you to the staff and students involved with making our train shine. Reconstruction of the engine components of the Diesel engine will start soon after we receive the shell back from Vandalia. The original power plant a 4 cylinder Wisconsin engine will be used again as it was in the last couple of years given a major overhaul. One thing that will be changing with the power plant is the configuration from 6 volt to a 12 volt power system. This will allow for easier starting and assure us of being able to find parts when the need arises.

Volunteering.....

The American Heritage RR is always looking for people interested in getting involved. We can use you no matter what your time, talent or physical capabilities. We have had people from 4 to 75+ years old working on the RR and they all love it. Come out and join in the fun. Contact David Kessinger at: 618-593-7742 or John Frueh at: 618-664-2193 for the upcoming workdays. Planned work days are the 1st and 3rd Saturdays at the Museum grounds.. Or if you are unable to work and would like to take advantage of one of our funding programs use the contact numbers listed above. Any donation amount is welcome and all is tax-deductible. You can also find out more on how to donate to the RR by visiting the Museum's web-site at: www.americanfarmheritagemuseum.org

Adopt-a-Tie

As money is always a part of the equation of any project like this, we have been blessed to see people get excited as they realize this is going to be a reality. One way many people have shown their support is thru the 'Adopt-a-Tie' program. For a tax deductible contribution of \$75 you can adopt-a-tie and have your name engraved on a plastic tie that will be installed on the main line around the loading areas. We will

have mapping of the specific locations where all the ties are located for easy of locating of the ties you have adopted. For further information please contact David Kessinger at: 618-593-7742 or John Frueh at: 618-664-



Artist Rendering of the new paint scheme you will see in 2007

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The Work Continues.....

900' of track panels were constructed in Jan and Feb 2007 in the warmth of our adopted shop at Frueh Transportation.

.....800 Feet of track on the ground at the Museum with another 2,800' schedule to be installed by the July Heritage Show.

Scheduled Run days for the RR in 2007

- April Swap Meet April 27-28
- Heritage Show July 27-29
- Outhouse Festival Oct 13

The RR Meetings

The RR meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30p.m. at the Greenville Fire House. All are welcome members are not. Just park on the East side of the building and come on in.

Some Material Still Needed...

- Miniature Rail (aka Mine Rail) or 12 to 20 pound rail
- Rock and lots of it!
- Wires for our signal system
- Materials for a Car Barn

Capital Campaign

We will need finances to complete the purchase and install the Railroad on the Grounds of the American Farm Heritage Museum. Great strides have been made in this area as we recently received our 1st \$10,000 gift in the Naming Rights Campaign. The \$10,000 was given for the naming rights of the Diesel Engine and is the perfect timing as it receives it fresh new coat of paint. The cars for the Diesel engine are still available for naming and it is a gift that lasts the lifetime of the equipment on the American Heritage RR.

For Additional Information contact our President: David Kessinger 1300 Angela Court Greenville, IL 62246

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