

Depot Redux* News

Vol. 1, Ed. 2, December 2008

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meaning brought back or revisited

Welcome to *Depot Redux News*. You received this newsletter because you expressed interest in our project.

Depot Redux was formed to halt the deterioration of the passenger train station at 413 E. 7th Street in Lawrence, Kansas, to work toward a complete restoration of the depot, and to promote passenger rail services in Kansas. This newsletter updates readers about progress in these areas.

Please email Carey Maynard-Moody, careymm@sunflower.com, if you wish to be removed from this list. Please forward this news to others you think may be interested in this project.



News from the City

The Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad (BNSF) has tentatively agreed to carry out some major plumbing repairs at the depot, including fixing an active leak that has been present for some time. The efforts of Assistant City Manager, *Diane Stoddard*, who is working with BNSF on the depot's deferred maintenance issues, are paying off. Thanks to *Richard Kershenbaum* for working with a local plumbing contractor to obtain bids for the repair work.

News from Amtrak

Amtrak has signed an agreement with *Ms. Jan Butin*, East Lawrence neighborhood resident, for caretaker services Monday - Friday for the morning train (No. 4) at the Lawrence Amtrak depot. As caretaker, Jan opens the depot for passengers waiting to board the eastbound 5:49 AM train, as well as for families waiting to give rides to passengers arriving at in Lawrence. In addition to keeping passengers informed of train status, Jan will help to keep the depot clean. She locks the depot a half hour after the train departs.

Amtrak has authorized the hiring of a second Lawrence caretaker for the midnight train (No. 3). Applicants are currently being interviewed. Watch for an announcement in the next edition of this newsletter (January 2009). We are pleased that Amtrak is supporting passenger service in Lawrence in this way.

New Amtrak signage will be installed this winter on the depot platform. A large 7'x7' standing kiosk will identify the station, and will provide weather-proof space for display of train schedules and other information.

News from Depot Redux

Marty Kennedy has retired from post of meeting the morning train. Because he grew to love this work so much, Marty keeps his toe in the door by assuming Jan's duties on Sundays. Thanks to Marty, the depot became a welcoming respite for Amtrak passengers once again. We are grateful to Marty for his service.

Carey Maynard-Moody continues to cover for Jan as depot host on Saturdays. *Jim Budde* and *Robert Fort* act as backups for Marty and Carey on weekends.

Depot Redux is delighted that Jan Butin has decided to come aboard as weekday caretaker. If you are wondering about that new potted palm tree in the waiting room - it's Jan's contribution, making the depot homier and fresher.

The depot cleaning event on December 7th brought back some familiar faces. Both neighbors and new and old friends of the depot enjoyed a relaxing time after cleaning and decorating the depot for the holidays. Special thanks to *KT Walsh* for the wonderful period "Retro" ornaments and decorations she donated to this event. Thanks also to the Depot Redux board for contributing the refreshments. ***Next cleaning is Sunday, January 4 at 3 PM.*** Mark your calendar!

Volunteer *Lisa Horn*, using beautiful original artwork by *John Gaunt*, designed a hand out card for passengers describing our work and seeking their volunteer help. If you're an early bird, stop by the depot for a cup of tea with caretaker Jan after the No. 4 train leaves the station. Pick up one of Lisa's cards, fill out the tear off, and leave it with Jan.

Board member *Richard Kershenbaum* has contributed a very handsome and useful coffee table for the waiting room. Now passengers have a place to set down their complimentary hot beverage from the tea cart. Richard also contributed a sweet sound system that softly broadcasts KPR's "Hearts of Space" for sleepy passengers.

When you see them, please thank the volunteers for all they do.

Join us. We make volunteering fun.



Happy holidays to you all from Depot Redux.