



Welcome to our first quarterly newsletter! Issue 1, April 2009

The results are in...

With the expenses tallied & income counted, I am very pleased to report the results of our big Grand Re-Opening Weekend, March 27-29. **We raised more than \$12,000!!** That's an amazing feat, especially for a first-time event, & in this economy! In doing this, we brought a conservative estimate of 950-1,000 visitors to the depot over a four-day period of time! This is a wonderful accomplishment!

It would not have been possible without all the tireless volunteers, generous sponsors, bidders, buyers, & new members that made this all possible. *Thank you!*

Watch your front porches for the delivery of your AT&T phone book. A wonderful black & white picture from our archives (available for purchase in our gift shop) is on the front cover! And we are so excited for visitors to see this when they pick up the phone book in their hotel room.

This is the field trip season for the schools in our area & we have already had some come through with more scheduled in the coming months.

We are off to a great start!

Please remember that we have plenty of opportunities for volunteers. Come have fun with us!

*Helen Johnson
Executive Director*



Message of thanks...

The reorganization of the Red River Railroad Museum has recently reached the one year mark. We feel it appropriate in our first newsletter to recognize those individuals who helped us get to this point. Many changes have been made; from the expansion of square footage & greater focus on education, to archive & artifact identification, cataloging & new exhibits. These changes could not have been accomplished without the dedication & hard work of many people. A special thanks goes to Bernie Beckloff for his vision, Janette Beckloff for her hard work toward the achievement of that vision, & to Ned & Judy Nickson for their hard work, dedication, & commitment for a job well done.

Volunteers are an indispensable part of the museum. We are indeed fortunate that so many friends care enough to give their talent & time to get the museum ready, keep it open & available to the public, as well as assist in special events & other areas of museum operation.

Many people have been responding to the museum's on-going plea for more volunteer participation. A sincere thank you goes to Phil Krambeck & John Ditoma for their hard work & organizational skills. It is a pleasure to greet the volunteers who are now hosting visi-

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<u>NEXT EDITION: Read all about the history of the 401B</u>
<u>GIFT STORE</u>

tors at the museum. Along with Board members, they include Jean & Stan Holden, Sandy Parnell, Ethel Leake, Dale Jones, David Hunt, Linda McAnaney, & Keith Hartline.

The participation of many volunteers helped make our grand opening event a success. The talents & generosity of Josh Gray are deeply appreciated. Other volunteers, such as Steven & Linda McAnaney, Joy Bryant, Kami Long, Ashley Castle, Ethel Leake, Jean & Stan Holden, Sandy Parnell, Keith Hartline, Mackey McClure, John Ditoma, David Jeter, Marvin Williams, Marshall Hales, John Markl, & the Sherman Model Train Club were instrumental in the success of this event. A special thank you also goes to George Jones & his crew for the great "spike demonstration".


We have come far & accomplished much this last year. The simple truth is, it would not have happened without these individuals. The Red River Railroad Museum is a volunteer-driven organization. Our success is a direct result of the time, energy, talents & commitment of volunteers like these.

We hope to continue to see others step forward & get involved in this fun, interesting, & rewarding journey.

*Tina Ditoma
Secretary & Volunteer Coordinator*

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