



**PRESERVING  
FLORIDA'S  
RAILROAD  
HISTORY**

## E-TRACKS

JUNE 2020 VOL XXXX # 1

### NEWS OF THE FLORIDA RAILROAD MUSEUM

This is a special E-Tracks with the news of our restarting of our summer operations with a special message from our President Stan Kotas.

Greetings from your Florida Railroad Board of Directors! We want to say a BIG “THANK YOU” and “WELCOME BACK” to one and all. We are very grateful for your continued support through a very difficult time for you and the Museum. We are equally pleased to announce the Reopening of operations on the weekend of June 6 & 7. Your Reopening Committee, Chaired by John Halash, has been working diligently to prepare us for our first weekend of operations since late March. There will be new procedures in place for your visit to the Museum; but we will be there to help you navigate them. Platforms have been identified with markings to help you keep a safe distance from each other - a vital part of our commitment to keeping you safe. Visits to displays will be altered; but, again, we will help you enjoy the displays. Speaking of displays - we want you to know that even though you missed Thomas’ visit this year, you can still visit Thomas and Friends in the UP5642 Display Car across from the Ticket Office. Every effort has been made to keep as many people working on our equipment, cars and engines. We are pleased to report that they have done an excellent job in getting us ready to reopen. A REALLY BIG TEAM EFFORT! We want to know that we’ve taken measures that comply with County, Federal and CDC protocols to assure your well being. It’s important that we keep you and all our volunteers safe and healthy so that we can continue to make our Museum grow. We can’t do it without you. Speaking of VOLUNTEERS - we are asking that you participate with us in our Volunteer Program where you can become a Car Host, Trainman, Conductor or even the Engineer. It’s an exciting program and allows individuals to become a vital cog in the scheme of operations. COME JOIN US. Ask any Train Crew member for information on you can participate. Again, THANK YOU for support and we all look forward to seeing you to say “WELCOME BACK”. Regards, Stan Kotas - President.

## Donations Help Keep our Museum Operating

Since we are coming to the end of our tax year, remember that we are nonprofit and all donations are tax deductible. Anyone making a donation and in need of getting a receipt can contact Tom W. or the ticket office. Lastly as we are doing a holiday shopping program, remember if you shop at Amazon, please go to AmazonSmile using this web address. <http://smile.amazon.com/gp/charity/homepage.html?orig=%2Fgp%2Fbrowse.html%3Fnode%3D502661011&ein=59-2261446> for Amazon to make a donation to us.

## Railroad Federal Credit Union

For the last thirty years our members have been able to join the RAILROAD & INDUSTRIAL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION located in the Tampa St. Petersburg area. If you are in need of a local bank, or need a loan, credit unions are sometimes the best way to go. We now have brochures in the Gift Shop or you can go on line at RIFCU.org or give them a call at 800-769-1424.

We hoped you enjoyed this e-tracks and we are looking forward to seeing you all soon during our summer season. Please remember that listed members ride free. For more information, please go to our website [www.frm.org](http://www.frm.org), or call the ticket office at 941-776-0906.

Thomas Walenta, Membership Chairman ([twalenta@frm.org](mailto:twalenta@frm.org))