President Mike Hartshorne called the January General Membership meeting to order at 9:00 AM January 9, 2010 at the restoration site.

Mike reported that the BoD had just finished meeting for breakfast prior to this meeting. No decisions were made or votes taken although lots of railroad discussion took place.

Treasurer's Report:

Ernie Robart had previously e-mailed the January Treasurer's Report to the Board. Ernie reported that the checking account had a beginning balance on December 12, 2009 of $6667.42 and an ending balance on January 9, 2010 of $15289.49. Deposits for the period totaled $10349.82, the majority of which were donations in memory of Dick Sons, flue sponsorships, and annual membership contributions. Expenses were $1727.75, the largest of which was for the shipping costs of phytic acid. The ending balance in the savings account (including $1.36 interest) was $40114.27. There was $50.00 in petty cash yielding total cash assets of $55453.76 as of 14 November 2009. John Taylor moved and Ed Strebe seconded a motion to accept the report, which was approved by voice vote.

Safety Officer's Report:

Jon reported that there are be some upcoming events to look forward to. As there is not a current demand for a new member safety orientation he will defer holding one for a while. However, he will probably schedule the first annual Safety Refresher Session of 2010 for late February. He said that he and Dave Anglen are continuing to work on development of the Worksite Safety Supervisor Training presentation. Jon said he has a list of participants and will probably hold a couple of sessions to be sure to include everybody. He has asked Dave to give the presentation, as he has been mostly responsible for developing the material. The first session will depend on Dave's schedule but will hopefully be soon. Steve Bradford moved and Frank Gerstle seconded a motion to accept the report, which was approved by voice vote.

CMO Report:

Rick Kirby that two important upcoming events would take place in January. First, the movie “Let Me In” is scheduled to shoot a major scene in the movie at the restoration site on January 16th. They will use the passenger car owned by Brad Black and currently stored on our site for shooting this scene. They are paying for use of the car, the site and support from NMSL&RHS volunteers to make the site ready for the movie crew's use. Rick said that will require a substantial effort by the membership, more than is required to put on an open house. The passenger car needs to be spotted just west of the pit for this scene. Additionally some parts on the car need to be removed in order for it to be rocked back and
forth during the scene to simulation motion. To make this happen the locomotive and tender must be moved west to the end of the siding on 12th street. The movie production company, Fishead Productions, will provide security 24/7 for the shoot. A major rearrangement of the site will be required to make space for the movie crew. Over a hundred of people will be involved. The parking lot will have over 18 tractor-trailers and movie equipment trucks. Rick asked for everybody to try to make themselves available.

The second important event will be the visit of Sam Lanter, the CMO of the Grand Canyon Railway, at the end of the month. He has volunteered to come and review the progress of the restoration project and provide advice on the road ahead. Wolf Fengler from the SBRHS will also be part of the visit.

Lastly, refurbishment work continues on the steam driven cross-compound air compressors. Compressor number one is done and number 2 is currently torn down and replacement parts are on order. Meanwhile, Frank Gerstle reported that Ken Eckelmeier has completed hardness testing and evaluation of the boiler steel has been completed. He said that all measurements obtained were at or above minimums. Steve Bradford moved and John Taylor seconded a motion to accept the report, which was approved by voice vote.

Fundraising Committee Report:

Ed Strebe reported that the committee was ready to go to press and have the rack cards developed by Andy Rutkiewic printed. Chuck Mangold is working on grant applications and Steve Bradford and Andy are working on the developing additional justifications for elevating #2926 to the national level of significance on the National Historic Register. Steve Bradford moved and John Taylor seconded a motion to accept the report, which was approved by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Wheels Museum Report: Albert Leffler reported that he and Leba Freed are continuing to meet with city personnel, having discussions about amending the Wheels Museum lease with the city to include the blacksmiths shop, firehouse. Discussions have included the need for space for operating locomotives as exhibits and the required trackage and rail access for steam power rail excursion operations.

Next Meeting:

The next Membership Meeting will be held at 9:00 AM January 13, 2010 at the restoration site.