

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB

P. O. BOX 2391

Denver 1, Colorado

June, 1963

Newsletter No. 46

The June, 1963, meeting of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club will be held on Wednesday, June 12, 1963, in the basement meeting room of the Western Federal Savings sky-scraper, 718 - 17th Street, Denver, at 8:00 P.M. The program will be given by one of our Past-Presidents, Bob LeMassena, who will present an illustrated talk covering the design and construction of that portion of the Moffat Road between Arvada and Winter Park. Special emphasis will be placed on the grades and alinement over "The Hill" at Corona.

A sell-out crowd of more than 450 members and guests thoroughly enjoyed the Silver Anniversary festivities held Saturday, May 11, 1963. The weatherman cooperated to the fullest, resulting in ideal picture-taking weather in the afternoon, and a balmy evening. CB&Q 2-8-2 #4960, with Mickey Hansen at the throttle, was a unique performer at the head-end of our 7-car Special. Late in the afternoon, realizing the #4960 was getting low on water, the train crew found it necessary to cancel the remaining photo stops. After letting the MoPac "Eagle" run by (pulled by a Rio Grande unit on the head end, strangely enough) we drifted down to the U.S. Air Force Academy Sewage Disposal Plant. There, the arrival of three bright red vehicles from the Academy Fire Department resulted in enough water being pumped into the tender to get us to the watering facilities at Colorado Springs. Notwithstanding this unpremeditated delay, we were only a few minutes late for our filet-mignon dinner at the Antlers Hotel. The full-length color movie "Ticket to Tomahawk" provided the entertainment before #4960 took us on a speed run back to Denver. Our thanks go out to all Club members who helped make this 25th Anniversary dinner trip so memorable.

Officers of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club were on hand when Governor John A. Love of Colorado proclaimed the period May 5 to June 5 as "Salute to Steam Railroading" month. Primarily the result of efforts of one of four new Directors, Ted S. McKee, the Executive Order reads as follows:

"WHEREAS, the railroad steam locomotive faithfully served the State of Colorado and her people as a prime mover in the physical and economic development and growth of the State, from the time the first rail was laid here nearly 100 years ago until the recent past; and

"WHEREAS, the railroad steam locomotive penetrated to the far corners of our mountain fastness on rails put down by the planners, the builders, the men of vision who helped mold the State and guide her on the way to greatness; and

"WHEREAS, any history of Colorado railroading is virtually a history of the State herself, and it is desired to recall to memory such once familiar names as Colorado Central, Denver South Park and Pacific, Colorado Midland, Rio Grande Southern, Midland Terminal and others; and

"WHEREAS, it is desired to bring, if only briefly, the sight and sound of steam railroading once again to the people of Colorado, to evoke memories of it in those who knew the steam locomotive as a part of their lives, and to give a memory to those who are too young to have a recollection of the power and might of a steam locomotive or the wail of its whistle,

"NOW, THEREFORE, I, John A. Love, Governor of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the 30-day period beginning May 5, 1963, as SALUTE TO STEAM RAILROADING MONTH in the State of Colorado".

After showing "Ticket to Tomahawk" at our Anniversary Banquet meeting, the Club was privileged to present the film again at the May 15th meeting of the Denver Chapter of the National Association of Railway Business Women. These lady railroad employes were hostesses that evening to 29 boys from St. Vincent's Home in Denver, having invited the youngsters to dinner at the famed Brown Palace Hotel, and we are pleased that our organization was able to contribute to the evening's entertainment.

The new 1963 membership roster was mailed to all members this past month; please notify us if you haven't received your copy. We realize this roster is not completely up-to-date; as a matter of fact, it never can be, for the number of revisions averages about 20 per month. Last month was an unusual one, we hope, for the total number of additions and address changes came to about 50.

Earlier this year mention was made of the Club's activities in maintaining and restoring old equipment acquired by our organization through past years. This equipment supplements the large collection of engines and rolling stock owned by Cornelius Hauck and Bob Richardson (whose latest acquisition is the only remaining Rio Grande standard gauge

steamer - SLVS 106 built as D&RG 583) and is displayed at the Colorado Railroad Museum. The Museum, operated by these two Club members, is located along West 44th Avenue (State Hiway #58) near Golden, Colorado.

The Club's equipment consists of Rio Grande Southern locomotive #20, a narrow-gauge ten-wheeler built in 1899 for the Florence & Cripple Creek (and the real 'star' of "Ticket to Tomahawk"); RGS business car Rico; D&RG narrow gauge caboose #0578; Denver & Inter-Mountain standard gauge electric interurban #25; and Fort Collins Municipal Railway #22, a small four-wheel Birney trolley car.

Considerable effort and money have been expended in the rehabilitation and maintenance of the Club's equipment, and it is proper that we acknowledge the loyalty and enthusiasm of many Club members in generously devoting time or contributing to defray the cost of this work. In addition to those members in the Denver area working on these projects under the general guidance of Equipment Restoration Chairman W. J. (Bill) Gordon, the rather wide geographical distribution of contributors thus far in 1963 may be of interest; certainly, it is very gratifying. To these members, then, we doff our conductor's cap in appreciation:

Contributions in the form of labor and materials

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| I. E. August | Herb. O'Hanlon |
| Rev. G. S. Barnes | Marvin Johnson |
| W. J. Gordon | Bryant McFadden |

Contributions in the form of monetary donations

COLORADO

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|---------------------|----------------------|
| Donald H. Bengé | R. J. Kremer |
| Virginia Calvert | Jessie C. Lamson |
| Carl & Mary Carlson | R. W. McLeod |
| Lawrence M. Cowen | Dr. J. B. Schoolland |
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- Alfred Oppliger
- T. E. Wilkins

TEXAS

- G. W. Humphreys
- Joe R. Thompson

WISCONSIN

- Ivan Baxter
- Ronald L. Uecker

Everything points toward a successful trip on the narrow-gauge over Memorial Day this year for our sell-out crowd of close to 450. A "dry-run" of the equipment over the entire line recently resulted in a few eye-openers, but also will result in a more trouble-free, care-free excursion.

Did you hear about the two men, including one Indian, who were sitting in the waiting room of the Durango Red Cross Blood Center, conversing after donating blood? "Are you a full-blooded Indian?" one asked the other. "Well, no," the Indian replied, "I'm a pint short."

- J. C. Thode, President
- R. A. Ronzio, Vice-President

- E. R. Lewandowski, Secretary
- Ane O. Clint, Treasurer