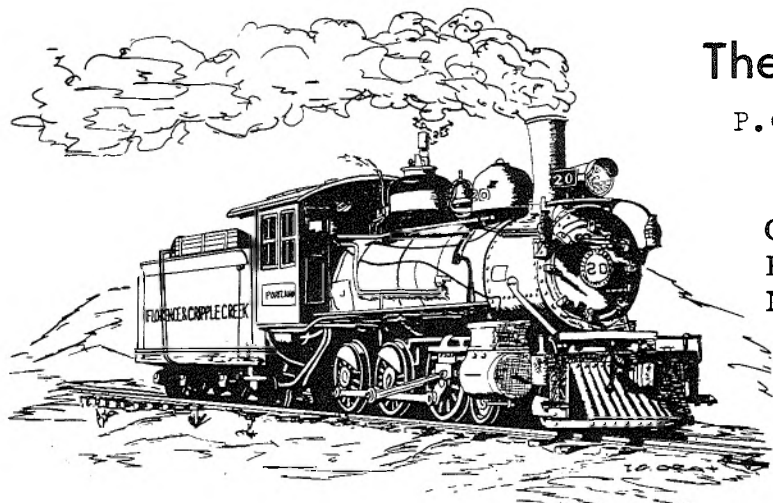


Rocky Mountain Rail Report



The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

P.O. Box 2391 Denver, Colorado 80201

MAY 1966

No. 81.

CURRENT NEWS AND HISTORICAL NOTES OF
ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROADING PUBLISHED
MONTHLY FOR ITS MEMBERS BY THE ROCKY
MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB

MEETING NOTICE: DATE...WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1966
TIME...8:00 P.M.
PLACE...WESTERN FEDERAL SAVINGS
BUILDING (BASEMENT
MEETING ROOM),
717-17TH ST., DENVER

PROGRAM NOTES: A TWO SECTION STEAM SPECIAL BY JIM EHERNBERGER OF CHEYENNE. SECTION ONE WILL BE A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE COLORADO AND SOUTHERN FROM SIXELA, NEW MEXICO, TO WENDOVER, WYOMING. THE SECOND SECTION, "STEAM AND SMOKE," WILL BE AN ACCOUNT OF THE GALLANT STEAM LOCOMOTIVE AT HER BEST ... A VARIETY OF ACTION SCENES ON COLORADO AND WESTERN RAILROADS: UP, D&RGW (STANDARD AND NARROW GAUGES), C&S, GREAT WESTERN, ETC. JIM PROMISES A SMOKE-FILLED EVENING THAT EVERYONE SHOULD ENJOY TO THE UTMOST.

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CLUB OFFERS OFFICIAL SOUVENIR ENVELOPE

OF 15TH ANNUAL JOURNEY TO YESTERYEAR

TO COMMEMORATE OUR 15TH ANNUAL EXCURSION OVER THE DENVER & RIO GRANDE NARROW GAUGE, WE HAVE MADE SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT TO ISSUE A SOUVENIR ENVELOPE. THIS TYPE OF ENVELOPE, OR "COVER," IS HIGHLY PRIZED BY STAMP COLLECTORS EVERYWHERE. OURS WILL CARRY A SPECIAL "CACHET" IMPRINT IDENTIFYING THE EVENT AND SHOWING A BEAUTIFUL LINE DRAWING OF A NARROW GAUGE ENGINE UNDER FULL STEAM BY CLUB DIRECTOR TOM GRAY.

PUBLICITY ON OUR COMMEMORATIVE COVER WAS RELEASED NATIONWIDE LAST MONTH IN MAGAZINES PUBLISHED FOR STAMP COLLECTORS, AND FROM THE RESPONSE THUS FAR IT APPEARS THAT OUR TOTAL WILL NUMBER IN THE THOUSANDS. ENVELOPES ARE BEING STAMPED WITH THE CACHET IN DENVER AND WILL THEN BE TRANSPORTED ON OUR EXCURSION TRAIN FROM ALAMOSA TO SILVERTON. THEY WILL BE DEPOSITED IN THE POST OFFICE THERE TO RECEIVE A POSTMARK FROM THIS FAMOUS OLD MINING TOWN.

CLUB MEMBERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO ADD ONE OF THESE UNIQUE ENVELOPES TO THEIR ACCUMULATION OF RAIL MEMORABILIA SHOULD SEND SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPES WITH FIRST CLASS POSTAGE AFFIXED TO TED MCKEE, C/O ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB, P. O. BOX 2391, DENVER, COLORADO 80201. BE SURE TO KEEP YOUR ADDRESS WELL TO THE RIGHT, ALLOWING AT LEAST THREE INCHES OF BLANK AREA ON THE LEFT FOR THE CACHET. THE POST OFFICE REQUIRES THREE AND ONE-HALF INCHES FOR CANCELLATION AND POSTMARK, SO ENVELOPES MUST BE AT LEAST SIX AND ONE-HALF INCHES WIDE. DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT IN DENVER IS MAY 25.

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LAST CHANCE TO ORDER TICKETS

FOR MEMORIAL DAY EXCURSION

WE WILL BE WELL INTO MAY BY THE TIME YOU RECEIVE THIS WHICH MEANS THAT YOU SHOULD SOON BE SENDING IN RESERVATIONS FOR THE MEMORIAL DAY EXCURSION. WITH THE ADDITION OF NEW COACHES TRAIN CAPACITY IS NEARLY UNLIMITED, SO PLENTY OF SEATS ARE AVAILABLE. BUT EACH YEAR SOME LATE-COMERS HAVE TROUBLE FINDING A PLACE TO STAY IN ALAMOSA, AND OCCASIONALLY IN DURANGO (EXCEPT AT THE OUTLYING MOTELS). WE ARE WELL AHEAD OF TICKET SALES COMPARED TO THIS TIME LAST YEAR AND WE URGE YOU TO SEND RESERVATIONS IN PROMPTLY. TICKETS ARE JUST \$21.00 FOR ADULTS AND \$11.00 FOR SHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF FIVE AND 12. WE WILL FURNISH A LIST OF HOTELS AND MOTELS IN BOTH ALAMOSA AND DURANGO SO YOU CAN MAKE ARRANGEMENTS BEFORE THINGS GET CROWDED.

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MOFFAT TUNNEL TRIP WITH #51
ACCLAIMED AS FOG-BOUND SUCCESS
OUTING.

IT WAS COLD AND SNOWING, THE MOUNTAINS WERE SHROUDED IN FOG AND CLOUD, BUT SOME 250 FANS ABOARD THE CLUB'S RECENT MOFFAT TUNNEL SPECIAL ENJOYED EVERY MINUTE OF OUR UNUSUAL

WE WERE DELAYED WITHIN HALF AN HOUR AFTER DEPARTURE DUE TO MOUNTAINS OF CLINKERS AND DIRT CLOGGING THE ENGINE'S FIREBOX GRATES, CAUSING STEAM PRESSURE TO DROP. A STRAINING CREW WORKED AT THE SHAKER BAR TO CLEAR THE GRATES BUT WE LOST 30 MINUTES OR MORE IN THE PROCESS. CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE WAS AN UNIMAGINATIVE YARD CREW WHO, RATHER THAN STOCKING OUR TENDER WITH COAL FROM A CARLOAD DONATED FOR THE TRIP BY THE PITTSBURG AND MIDWAY COAL COMPANY, SIMPLY USED A CLAMSHELL TO PICK UP A MONTHS-OLD PILE FROM THE GROUND. THEY ALSO MANAGED TO SCOOP UP SIX OR EIGHT INCHES OF DIRT, GRAVEL AND ASSORTED DEBRIS WHICH, OF COURSE, SIFTED TO THE BOTTOM OF THE FIREBOX AND CAUSED ALL OUR PROBLEMS.

WITH THE GRATES CLEARED WE SET OFF AGAIN AND REACHED OUR FIRST SCHEDULED PHOTO STOP AT CLAY WHERE OUR TRAIN WAS DUE TO MAKE A RUN ON THE BI-LEVEL LOOP. THE LOOP'S LOWER LEVEL WAS LOST IN FOG AND SNOW FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' VANTAGE POINT SO THE RUN-BY WAS SKIPPED. AT OUR NEXT STOP, NEAR PLAIN SIDING, THE TRAIN BECAME NOTHING BUT A DISEMBODED HEAD-LIGHT IN THE FOG AT A DISTANCE OF 25 YARDS BUT EVERYONE AGREED THAT IT WAS PROBABLY THE MOST UNUSUAL RUN-BY IN CLUB HISTORY!

#51'S GRATES STARTING CLOGGIN AGAIN SHORTLY AFTER AND SHE WAS ONLY AVERAGING 8 MPH ON THE STIFF GRADE. IN THE INTEREST OF THE OPERATING EFFICIENCY OF THE RIO GRANDE WE COUPLED OUR WATER TRAIN (DIESEL, WATER CAR AND CABOOSE) AHEAD OF #51 IN ORDER TO MAKE BETTER TIME. THE DIESEL SUPPLIED POWER, BUT OPERATING AND GRADE CROSSING WHISTLE SIGNALS WERE THE STEAMER'S DOMAIN. FANS WITH TAPE RECORDERS HAD A FIELD DAY PRESERVING FOR THE WONDERMENT OF FUTURE GENERATIONS WHAT APPARENTLY WAS A GROWLER FITTED WITH A STEAM LOCOMOTIVE WHISTLE!

AT THE REMAINING PHOTO STOPS THE DIESEL WAS CUT OFF THE TRAIN AND #51 FLASHED BY OUR CAMERAS IN GRAND STYLE. FOR THE EASTBOUND TRIP THE WATER TRAIN AGAIN TOOK ITS RIGHTFUL SPOT AS SECOND SECTION AND, THANKS TO ENGINEER MICKEY HANSEN AND A SKILLED RIO GRANDE CTC OPERATOR WHO SET UP A RUNNING MEET WITH A WESTBOUND FREIGHT, WE STEAMED INTO DENVER JUST 20 MINUTES LATE.

ALL ABOARD, INCLUDING PASSENGERS FROM AS FAR AWAY AS DALLAS AND OMAHA, AGREED THAT THE TRIP, DESPITE DIRT IN THE COAL AND WINTER-LIKE WEATHER, WAS ONE OF THE MOST MEMORABLE EVER OPERATED BY THE CLUB.

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A. J. CLAUTER, JR., FIRST WITH CORRECT ANSWER
TO "WHO IS THE ENGINEER?" BRAIN TEASER

A. J. CLAUTER, JR., GENEVA, ILL., WAS THE RUN-AWAY WINNER OF A SET OF CLUB DECALS WITH THE EARLIEST CORRECT ANSWER TO THE RAILROAD PUZZLER WHICH APPEARED IN THE APRIL "RAIL REPORT." MR. CLAUTER, WITH AN APRIL 7 A.M. POST-MARK, CORRECTLY DEDUCED THAT THE ENGINEER COULD ONLY BE SMITH. OUR CONGRATULATIONS FOR BOTH QUICK THINKING AND FAST ACTION.

ANSWERS WERE SUBMITTED BY SCORES OF READERS, TOGETHER WITH REQUESTS FOR MORE PUZZLERS. So, AS TIME AND SPACE PERMIT, WE WILL PRESENT MORE OF THE SAME IN FUTURE ISSUES.

NOW, HERE IS THE CORRECT SOLUTION TO "WHO IS THE ENGINEER?" --

THE BRAKEMAN, WHO LIVES HALFWAY BETWEEN CHICAGO AND DETROIT, ALSO LIVES NEAR MR. BLANK, WHO EARNS THREE TIMES AS MUCH MONTH AS HE DOES. MR. BLANK CAN'T BE MR. ROBINSON, AS MR. ROBINSON LIVES IN DETROIT. HE CAN'T BE MR. JONES, AS MR. JONES' \$20,000 A YEAR ISN'T DIVISIBLE BY THREE. THEREFORE THE BRAKEMAN'S NEIGHBOR MUST BE MR. SMITH.

THE PASSENGER WHOSE NAME IS THE SAME AS THE BRAKEMAN'S LIVES IN CHICAGO. HE CAN'T BE MR. ROBINSON, AS MR. ROBINSON LIVES IN DETROIT. HE CAN'T BE MR. SMITH, AS MR. SMITH IS A NEIGHBOR OF THE BRAKEMAN, WHO LIVES HALFWAY BETWEEN CHICAGO AND DETROIT. THEREFORE HE MUST BE MR. JONES.

THEREFORE THE BRAKEMAN'S NAME IS ALSO JONES.

SMITH BEATS THE FIREMAN AT BILLIARDS, SO THE FIREMAN MUST BE ROBINSON.

THEREFORE THE ENGINEER IS SMITH.

ACCORDING TO THE EXPERTS ON SUCH MATTERS, NOT TOO MANY PEOPLE CAN COME UP WITH THE CORRECT ANSWER. IN ONE TEST GROUP, FOR EXAMPLE, ONLY SIX OF 240 PEOPLE TRYING THIS PARTICULAR PROBLEM MANAGED TO REACH THE RIGHT CONCLUSIONS. SO WE SHOULD ALSO OFFER A TIP OF THE HAT TO THE FOLLOWING CLUB MEMBERS WHO CORRECTLY NAMED SMITH AS THE ENGINEER:

LEWIS PALMER, DENVER; MIKE BLECHA, DENVER; H. C. WROTON, DENVER; IRA FISTELL, MADISON, WIS.; BOB KNIGHT, PHOENIX, ARIZ.; JOHN KEARNS, DENVER; GIBSON GARDNER, DENVER; DON MORGAN, LITTLETON, COLO.; EMIL SCHMUTZLER, DENVER; CHARLES O'HALLORAN, JEFFERSON CITY, MO.; AL BARTLETT, BOULDER, COLO.; FRANCIS SWAIN, DENVER; MARK SWERDFEGER, NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CALIF.; BRUCE CARROLL, OAK PARK, ILL.; DONALD ROBINSON, GREENFIELD, MASS.; TOM TAPLIN, ENGLEWOOD, COLO.; E. M. SWAIN, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.; R. M. RALSTON, SARATOGA, CALIF.; STEPHEN HOSKIN, BOULDER, COLO.; EDWARD W. GRAY, JR., RALEIGH, N. C.

OUR THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO SUBMITTED AN ANSWER -- RIGHT OR WRONG. WE'LL HAVE ANOTHER PUZZLER IN A FEW MONTHS.

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WIDER MARGINS PROVIDED FOR PUNCHING "RAIL REPORT" WE HAVE RECEIVED A NUMBER OF REQUEST FROM READERS TO PROVIDE A WIDER LEFT MARGIN SO THAT COPIES OF "RAIL REPORT" COULD BE PUNCHED FOR FILING IN RING BINDERS WITHOUT DESTROYING ANY PRINTING. WE ARE DELIGHTED, WITH THIS ISSUE, TO CHANGE THE MARGIN WIDTH -- AND GRATEFUL THAT SO MANY READERS ARE SAVING THEIR CLUB NEWSLETTERS.

WHICH BRINGS UP A QUESTION: WE WONDER HOW MANY MEMBERS WOULD BE INTERESTED IN HAVING A MASTER INDEX OF PAST NEWSLETTER MATERIAL SO THAT FILED OR BOUND COPIES COULD SERVE AS A READY REFERENCE "LIBRARY" OF MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION AND HISTORICAL NOTES PUBLISHED OVER RECENT YEARS. IF ENOUGH INTEREST IS EVIDENCED -- DROP US A NOTE -- WE WILL COMPILE SUCH AN INDEX AND PUBLISH IT IN A FUTURE ISSUE.

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1966 POCKET CALENDARS SHOW EX-F&CC #20, NOW OWNED BY ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB WE MADE A NOTE TO OURSELVES SEVERAL WEEKS AGO -- AND PROMPTLY MISPLACED IT -- TO INCLUDE A PARAGRAPH OF EXPLANATION ABOUT THE 1966 CLUB POCKET CALENDARS IN THE APRIL ISSUE OF "RAIL REPORT." SO, A MONTH LATE BUT WE HOPE AS USEFUL, IS THAT PARAGRAPH --

THE ENGINE SHOWN IS EX-FLORENCE & CRIPPLE CREEK #20, BUILT FOR THAT SPECTACULAR MOUNTAIN LINE (CRIPPLE CREEK TO CANYON CITY) BY SCHNECTADY IN 1899. IT WAS NAMED THE "PORTLAND" AND SERVED THE WILD SLIM GAUGE UNTIL 1916 WHEN IT WAS SOLD TO THE RIO GRANDE SOUTHERN, BECOMING THEIR #20. WITH THE DEMISE OF THE RGS, THE ENGINE WAS PURCHASED BY THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB IN 1952. SHE WAS CLEANED UP, PAINTED AND RELETTERED WITH THE ORIGINAL F&CC LETTERING AND IS NOW ON DISPLAY WITH OTHER CLUB-OWNED EQUIPMENT AT THE COLORADO RAILROAD MUSEUM NEAR GOLDEN.

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SHOP 'N SWAP SOME INTERESTING ITEMS THIS MONTH -- AND A REMINDER THAT WE WILL PUBLISH NON-COMMERCIAL LISTINGS OF RAILROAD ITEMS FOR SALE, OR WANTED, BY CLUB MEMBERS. ITEMS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY THE 20TH OF THE MONTH PRECEDING PUBLICATION.

INFORMATION WANTED

WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM ANYONE OWNING RAILWAY EQUIPMENT REGISTER CIRCA 1920 WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO ANSWER A FEW QUESTIONS CONCERNING CERTAIN CARS. ALSO NEED INFORMATION ON STEAM LOCOMOTIVES WITH TWIN EXHAUST STACKS. A. F. VON BLON, JR., 1208 LOCUST, MUSKOGEE, OKLA.

PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED

WILL PAY UP TO \$2.50 EACH FOR ORIGINAL PICTURES OF COLORADO AND WESTERN MINING TOWNS. FRANCIS RIZZARI, 1716 VIEWPOINT RD., DENVER, COLO. 80215

MIDLAND TERMINAL LIGHT -- FOR SALE

BACK-UP LIGHT FROM MIDLAND TERMINAL ENGINE #59, \$15.00. DEL GERBAZ, 9269 MOLLY WOODS, LA MESA, CALIF. 92041

MIDLAND TERMINAL MATERIAL -- WANTED

WOULD LIKE TO LOCATE WICKER CHAIRS, DINING CAR CHAIRS, SILVERWARE, CHINA, SILVER SERVICE AND OTHER MATERIAL SOLD BY MIDLAND TERMINAL BETWEEN, GENERALLY, 1933 AND 1940. DEL GERBAZ, 9269 MOLLY WOODS, LA MESA, CALIF. 92041

RAILROAD BOOKS -- FOR SALE

"TRAINS ALBUM OF PHOTOGRAPHS" (COLORADO, SP, FAR WEST), LIGHTLY STAINED, FAIR CONDITION, \$5.00. "ELECTRIC RAILWAYS," COVER MISSING, \$3.00. EXTRA NEW COPY OF "STEAM LOCOMOTIVES OF THE BURLINGTON," \$12.00. "A LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEER'S ALBUM" BY ABDILL, \$10.00. ALSO HAVE A FEW BACK ISSUES OF "RAILROAD" MAGAZINE, 1933-42. NEED ISSUES FROM 1929-45. ANDREW WITTENBORN, 109 EDMONT RD., SCARSDALE, N.Y. 10584

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THOUGHT FOR MAY

IF YOU HAD A BANK THAT CREDITED YOUR ACCOUNT EACH MORNING WITH \$86,400 WHICH CARRIED OVER NO BALANCE FROM DAY TO DAY, ALLOWED YOU TO KEEP NO CASH IN YOUR ACCOUNT, AND EVERY EVENING CANCELLED OUT WHATEVER PART OF THAT AMOUNT YOU FAILED TO USE DURING THE DAY, WHAT WOULD YOU DO? DRAW OUT EVERY CENT, OF COURSE! YOU DO HAVE SUCH A BANK. IT'S NAME IS TIME. EVERY MORNING IT CREDITS YOU WITH 86,400 SECONDS. EVERY NIGHT IT RULES AS LOST WHATEVER OF THIS YOU HAVE FAILED TO INVEST FOR GOOD PURPOSE. IT CARRIES OVER NO BALANCE, AND ALLOWS NO OVER-DRAFTS. IF YOU FAIL TO USE THE DAY'S DEPOSIT, THE LOSS IS YOURS. THERE IS NO GOING BACK, NO DRAWING AGAINST TOMORROW. INVEST YOUR SECONDS WISELY.

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TED S. MCKEE, PRESIDENT
ED SCHNEIDER, VICE PRESIDENT

RICHARD H. KINDIG, SECRETARY
ANE O. CLINT, TREASURER