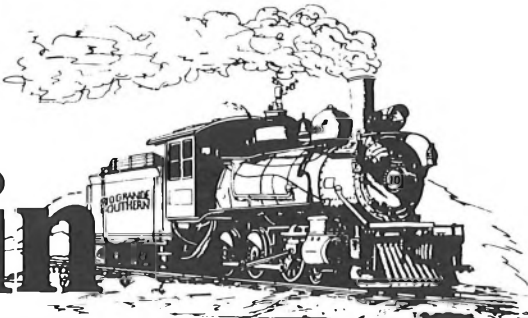


Rocky Mountain RAIL REPORT



THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB

MEETING SCHEDULE:

April 16, 1988 -- 6:00 p.m.

50th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

Brown Palace Hotel, 321 17th, Denver, CO.
Social Hour: 6:00 p.m. / Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Jim Trowbridge..... Editor
Les Grenz..... Associate Editor
John Dillavou..... President
Rich Dais..... Vice President
Bill Gordon..... Secretary
Elbert E. Bidwell..... Treasurer

Send all items for publication to: Rocky Mountain Rail Report, c/o Jim Trowbridge, Editor, 502 South Cody Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80226.

COPY DEADLINE -- ALL copy for publication is due no later than the 15th of the month prior to month of publication.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club may be obtained by sending \$19.00 (\$15.00 annual dues plus enrollment fee of \$4.00) to: ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB, P. O. Box 2391, Denver, Colorado 80201. After April of each year, new members may join for a payment of \$4.00 enrollment fee plus \$1.25 for each month remaining in the calendar year. Dues for the next year are solicited in December of the current year.

50th Anniversary Edition

April, 1988..... No. 343
Club Telephone..... (303) 431-4354
P. O. Box 2391..... Denver, Colorado 80201

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

MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES

Please refer address changes, new memberships and lost newsletters to:

Tom Lawry, Membership Chairman
c/o Rocky Mountain Railroad Club
P. O. Box 2391
Denver, Colorado 80201



APRIL 16 PROGRAM

A very special evening is in store for Club members as the Club celebrates its 50th Anniversary with a Banquet Program centered around photographic highlights of the past 50 years of excursions run by the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club. Darrell Arndt, Jack Morison, and Ron Ruhoff have spent many months gathering, selecting and editing this program to bring us the very best of their collections, as well as material from other noted photographers of the Club, such as Dick Kindig, Ed Haley, etc.

No one will want to miss this program nor the celebration of the Club's 50th Anniversary. If you have not obtained your banquet tickets as yet, please do so now! Let's have a grand turnout for this event.

MARCH PROGRAM

POTPOURRI NIGHT-- Well, we weren't disappointed! Our members came through, as we expected, and provided a truly great array of railroading subjects. The following report gives a brief description of each member's program:

JACK HETTINGER: 8mm movies of a wreck cleanup at Olathe, KS in June, 1940, showing engines, steam crane and track workers.

ERWIN CHAIM: Photographs of RMRRRC members enjoying last year's Potpourri...AND... a commercial message to promote Club merchandise available to celebrate the 50th Anniversary.

BEYER PATTON: Views of the 5'6"-gauge Pakistan RY, showing British-built steam engines and Pakistan RY train consists as well as some 2'6"-gauge narrow gauge trains.

BILL KEPNER: A look at Southern Pacific trains before they're gone! Taken over the last few years with trains ranging from lumber consists to local freights to Amtrak and commuter trains and 10-unit piggyback consists.

GARY M. LEE: "Railfair '81" coverage--the opening of the Sacramento Railroad Museum. Various engines covered. Finished with a few shots of C&TS doubleheader in 1979

using K-36's, numbered 484 and 488.

GENE MARTIN: A look at the people who rode the many RMRRRC trips over the years. Gene captured folks enjoying themselves aboard the Club's excursion trains.

BOB ANDREWS: Views of the Burlington Northern over the past eight years, up and down the front range as well as into Idaho, Nebraska, Montana and Washington.

TOM KLINGER: Shots of the UP's Saratoga, Coalmont and Laramie to Walden lines as well as general UP freights in Wyoming and Idaho. Miscellaneous photographs of Chicago & Northwestern, D&RGW and BN. Also, record of snow plowing on the Great Western east of Longmont in January, 1988.

JACKSON THODE: Coverage of the 1'11½"-gauge Ffestiniog RY in Wales showing various engines and passenger trains.

ED HALEY: A perfectly timed showing of most of the nine excursions on the Denver & Intermountain electric lines with special emphasis on the Club's No. 25. Many of these trips took members to Golden for Annual Banquets. A nostalgic look back during this 50th Anniversary year!

PETER GILBERT: A look back at the Great Western some 25 years ago when steam was still King. Then, Pete matched your editor's March newsletter photos of the San Juan Bridge and Gato with pictures of the same spots--ONLY WITH D&RGW TRAINS IN THE VIEWS.

MAT ANDERSON: Photos from the 1987 San Juan Express, 2-Day trip on the C&TS with freight train consist. From there, Mat jumped to Würzburg, West Germany, to show a steam excursion and some pretty wild paint schemes on the Würzburg trolleys.

PHIL EARHART: Shots of the California Zephyr at Union Station (Denver), the CZ Dome Car in Glenwood Caanyon, Camp Hale during WWII, the Silverton Branch of the D&RGW and remains at the Alpine Tunnel.

JAMES STEWART: Canadian railroading in 1970, including the Canadian Northern and the Canadian Pacific from eastern Canada to the West.

JIM RANNIGER: "People Riding Trains" All shots of RMRRRC members as well as a future member (Jim's grandson) enjoying many of the Club's trips.

STEPHEN RASMUSSEN: Coverage of the Saratoga branch to search out the new Wyoming & Colorado Railroad's FP7A's.

AL DUNTON: A classic view from the RMRR's 3-Day D&RGW NG excursion in May of 1952. Taken in Antonito on May 30, 1952. Followed

by coverage of the Great Western RR during snow plowing in January, 1988.

Our thanks to all the Club members who participated in this month's program. We can hardly wait until next year's potpourri!



ORDER FORM

50th Anniversary Banquet

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Phone Number _____

Number of Reservations @ \$20.00 _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please remit to:

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB
P. O. Box 2391
Denver, Colorado 80201

RIDE-SHARING

We would like to be able to offer rides to people who would prefer not to drive at night. Therefore, we are offering to arrange this through Erma Morison (333-3830). Sign up below if you are in need of a ride or if you are willing to give a ride to fellow RMRRC members.

I/We need a ride to the banquet, please arrange one for me/us.

I/We would be happy to offer a fellow club member in my neighborhood a ride.

The Cut-Off Date for the Banquet is April 9th. At this time, the Club must commit to the Brown Palace as to how many folks will be attending the banquet. We urgently request that you make your reservations prior to this date. Thank You!

50th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

The kickoff of the Club's 50th Anniversary celebration is the Banquet to be held at the Brown Palace Hotel on Saturday, April 16, 1988. The Board of Directors, in a desire to have as many members present as is possible, have decided to defray one third of the cost of the banquet (\$30.00) and thus charge only \$20.00 per person. Taking \$10.00 per person attending the Banquet from the treasury is certainly to your advantage to dine at one of Denver's most prestigious establishments, receive a free souvenir CABOOSE (in HO scale) and be entertained by outstanding photography of highlights of the past 50 years of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club's existence.

Can you afford to miss this once-in-a-lifetime event? Well, of course NOT! So why wait any longer. Get your reservations in today!!!

The cost, again, is just \$20.00 per person. It includes a truly fine meal, a great program, a free souvenir caboose, door prizes, the drawing of the winners of the annual book drawing, and, comradeship with fellow Club members.

The Social Hour begins at 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 7:00 p.m. A cash bar will be available during the evening.



There will be a great many door prizes at this year's banquet. Many of these prizes are extraordinary. To give you a sneak preview, we offer the following list of just a few of the many items:

BOOK: West of the Great Divide, 352-page edition on the history of the Canadian Pacific RR from 1880-1986.

VIDEO: The California Zephyr by Railroad Video, Amtrak from Denver to Grand Junction from the cab.

VIDEO: SD-40-2's in the Canadian Rockies, by Wild Rose Productions.

VIDEO: Union Pacific 8444 by Pentrex

VIDEO: Cajon Pass & Tehachapi Loop by Pentrex

T-Shirts/Belt Buckles, etc: from M&L Gifts, Sparks, NV

VIDEO: Baltimore & Ohio Steam by Sunday River Productions

And much, much more.....

For those attending the banquet, we offer the following suggestions for parking:

- 1) On Street: At this time of night, there may be some, but we cannot guarantee it.
- 2) BROWN PALACE: Valet Parking. \$3.00 after 5:00 p.m. Add tip of 50¢ up.
- 3) RADISON DENVER HOTEL: Underground parking, \$1.25 from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. Payment as you leave. 2½ blocks from Brown Palace, entry from 15th Street, we believe.
- 4) 1450 Court Place Lot: Behind Denver City Annex I Building. \$1.00 after 5:30 p.m. til 8:00 a.m. Take your entry ticket, mark you license plate number (and car make & Color) and deposit at toll booth. Three blocks to Brown Palce.
- 5) Various Lots: A Reminder...BE SURE TO CHECK IF THE SELECTED LOT REMAINS OPEN AND YOU CAN EXIT LATER THAT EVENING. Some lots close at 8:00 or 9:00 p.m. and lock gates!

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

We are always happy to receive information about railroading in the Rocky Mountain region and, very often, as space permits,

use other regional data. We encourage our members to participate in the newsletter. Should you have something you wish to share with fellow members, please send it to the attention of the editor, ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAIL REPORT, 502 South Cody Steet, Lakewood, Colorado 80226.

1988 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

April 16	50th Anniversary Banquet
May 14	Colo. RR Museum Work Day
May 21	Alternate Colo. RR Museum Work Day (in case of bad weather on May 14th)
June 18-)	<i>50th Anniversary Summer Celebration</i>
July 2)	
June 18	UP 3985 Excursion
June 19	Georgetown Loop RR Trip
June 20	Manitou & Pike's Peak Cog Trip
June 21	Cripple Creek/Victor Excursion
	Cadillac & Lake City RY Trip
June 23	Cumbres & Toltec Scenic RR Trip
June 24	Chama/Durango Field Trip
June 25	Durango & Silverton NG RR Trip
June 26-	San Juan Mtns. Ghost Railroads Field Trips
July 2	
Aug. 18	Great Western RR Excursions
Sept. 2-5	Grand Canyon/Flagstaff/Amtrak Excursion
Oct. 15	Paramount Theatre--RMRC Night
Dec. 13	Elections

NEW MEMBERS

The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club wishes to enthusiastically welcome the following new members:

J. Michael Engle	Lakewood, CO*
James B. Fisher, III	Golden, CO*
John T. Frink	Greenwich, CT
Dave Gonce	Cheyenne, WY*
Paul L. Lehrer	Greeley, CO
John C. Lowe	Riverside, IL
Daryl Muck	W. Sacramento, CA
James L. Parish	Gloucester, MA
Donald Redmond	Bozeman, MT
Jeremy Ritter	Parker, CO
Victor W. Wade	Overland Park, KS
Vern West	Lakewood, CO

*Attended the March Meeting.



RGS Goose No. 4 on display next to the Court House in Telluride. Reasonably good interior shots can be obtained through the back door. Field Trip participants will particularly enjoy seeing this Goose.
 (Jim Trowbridge Photograph)



**GET READY FOR THE RMRRC'S
 SPECTACULAR WEEK OF "RAILROADIN"
 JUNE, 1988**

The San Juan Sojourn Field Trip is the last aspect of the two week Extravaganza that we will cover before the actual events are upon us.

The photographs used in this month's news-

letter represent only a very small part of what one can expect to see this week as we cover hundreds of miles of narrow gauge railroading.

We begin on Sunday, June 26th, exploring the grades of the famed Rio Grande Southern Railroad from Durango to Mancos to Dolores to Rico and, on to the summit of 10,222 foot Lizard Head Pass, finally resting for the night in Telluride.

On Monday, we will return to Lizard Head Pass and backtrack along the RGS roadbed to Trout Lake, then to Ophir and Vance Jct. From there, we will continue to Placerville and over Dallas Divide to Ridegeway. Our overnight spot will be Ouray, known as the "Switzerland of America".

Tuesday will find us spending the entire day exploring Otto Mear's famous "Three



The Coaling Dock and Pockets at Vance Junction. This is a fascinating structure and there is enough left to explain the full operation of coal loading from the upper, back level into the storage pockets for eventual engine use. A coal storage dock is also located on the upper back level.
(Jim Trowbridge Photograph)



While a few trestles still remain in tact along the RGS right-of-way, this one is the most spectacular and is located about a mile or so above the Trout Lake Water Tank, on the way to Lizard Head.
(Jim Trowbridge Photograph)



A spectacular view of the Trout Lake Water Tank on the Rio Grande Southern, looking out across Trout Lake. The RGS roadbed is, of course, just in front of us and one can travel on it for several miles in either direction from this point. (Jim Trowbridge Photograph)

Little Lines", the Silverton Railroads. We will hike to Corkscrew Gulch Turntable as well as follow the roadbed over Red Mountain Pass to Red Mountain Town and on to Silverton. We will again stay overnight in Ouray.

While we concentrated on the Silverton Railroad on Tuesday, we will explore the other two railroads on Wednesday; the Silverton, Gladstone and Northerly RR (to Gladstone) and the Silverton Northern RR (to Eureka and Animas Forks). Again, we will return to Ouray for the night.

Thursday we head north to Montrose and then east to Cerro Summit and on to Cimarron to view the "278" display on the Crystal River Bridge, where the D&RGW left the Gunnison River via a side canyon to Cimarron. We will also visit the Forest Department's display and hospitality center

at Cimarron. Continuing on east, we will stop just west of Blue Mesa Dam to Visit Pine Creek Marina for a boat ride down Morrow Point Lake to see Chipeta Falls and the famous Curecanti Needle. We spend the night in Gunnison.

On Friday, we'll explore the Crested Butte area. The group will follow the DSP&P grade to its end on Ohio Creek near the coal mining town of Baldwin. We'll see the unfinished palisades of Ohio Pass which are almost as incredible as those on the west side of the line below Alpine Tunnel.

Finally, on Saturday, we will visit the Gunnison Historical Museum, home of the D&RGW's No. 268, as well as several other pieces of Rio Grande equipment, the Mear's water tank from the Marshall Pass line and the Sargents' Depot. To end our trip,



The D&RGW No. 278 and consist stands on the Crystal River Bridge where the line turned away from the Gunnison River and up a side canyon to Cimarron. This display was established by the Forest Department and is maintained, along with a fine display at Cimarron, by them. Careful positioning by Field Trip participants will provide a shot or two that makes this "free-standing" bridge segment look like it is still operational. (Jim Trowbridge Photo)

we will travel on to Sargents to view the water tank and proceed over Marshall Pass before heading back to Denver.

Whew!!! Anyone doing this trip had better start training now! As of this writing, some sixty folks have signed up for the week of field trips.

We hope you have enjoyed the series on the 50th Celebration Trips. We hope to cover the actual events in future issues of the Rail Report, showing a lot of RMRRRC members having a great time.



SWAP 'N SHOP

Personal ads are accepted from members for items to be listed for sale or trade or wanted. We cannot enter into any correspondence, nor will we appraise them.

FOR SALE: Audio Tapes. Sounds from the regular operations of the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic RR. Volumes I, II & III. \$7.95 each; any 2 for \$15.00; and all 3 for \$20.00. Postage Paid. Earl G. Knoob, P. O. Box P. O. Box 541, Chama, NM 87520. (Editor's Note: See review elsewhere in Rail Report)

FOR SALE: Audio Tape. "Sounds of the C&TS". Recorded from the head car of the 6th Nat'l NG Convention Special Trains,

9/13 & 15/86. Includes Runbys as well as working grades. Don Meeker, Colorado Scale Models, 14541 E. Harvard, Aurora, CO 80014. \$7.95 Postage Paid. (Editor's Note: See review elsewhere in the Rail Report)

50th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE ITEMS

RMRRC 50th ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR

1988 is here!!! Have you ordered your 1988 RMRRC 50th Anniversary calendar? It's a very special commemorative souvenir of this special occasion. The 50th Anniversary calendar depicts memorable excursions on Colorado, South Dakota, New Mexico and Wyoming rail trips as recorded by seventeen separate Club members.

Over twenty-six black and white photographs on a large 14"x22" opened format capture a wide variety of passenger train operations undertaken over the years and include such operations as the Black Hills Central, Colorado & Southern, Denver & Intermountain, Denver & Rio Grande Western (both standard and narrow gauges), Great Western, Manitou & Pike's Peak (steam), Midland Terminal, Rio Grande Southern (steam and Galloping Goose) and the Union Pacific.

Cost of this calendar is just \$6.00 each, plus \$1.50 each for 1st class postage. You may obtain copies at regular Club meetings also. Since our December meeting, almost half of the 1000 calendars have been sold, so, don't delay. Get your copy today!

Proceeds from the sales of this calendar will benefit the Club's archives and equipment collections.

NO. 20 RESTORATION PROJECT

The Club continues to solicit funds to be applied to the restoration of the RGS No. 20. About \$35,000 will be needed to complete such work as new boiler sheeting, new cab, refurbishing of tender wrapper, sills and flooring, and, other necessary items to bring the engine closer to a point where actual consideration can be given to operate this engine. Naturally, this is just a start and represents only a small beginning to full operational refurbishing of the No. 20.

Chances are being offered on an H0n3 model of the No. 20. This model has been custom painted and decaled to look like the Club's No. 20 at the Colorado RR Museum. It is a Sunset brass model, selling for about \$275.00. Chances are \$2.00 each or a sheet of 10 for \$18.00. Donations may be sent to: No. 20 Raffle, c/o Rocky Mountain Railroad Club, P. O. Box 2391, Denver, Colo. 80201. A coupon is provided for your ordering convenience.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB

No. 20 Raffle Order Form

Please enter _____ chances at \$2.00 each,
or, _____ sheets (of ten chances) at \$18.00 each.

I enclose check or MO for: \$ _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE () _____

CALENDAR ORDER FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Enclosed is a check or money order in the amount of \$ _____ for _____ copies of the RMRRC 50th Anniversary calendar.

Send your orders to:

CALENDAR
Rocky Mountain Railroad Club
P. O. Box 2391
Denver, Colorado 80201

**RMRRRC 50th ANNIVERSARY
COMMEMORATIVE PLATE**

c/o Erwin Chaim
560 Emerson St.
Denver, Colorado 80218

The 50th Anniversary Committee has, with the permission of the Board, commissioned a commemorative Anniversary Plate to be produced. (See the January, 1988 issue of the Rail Report for a plate photograph). The 50th Anniversary is in blue with gold edging and the "50th" lettering on a cream-colored 9 3/4" plate. (Due to the special gold inlay, this is intended to be a decorative, rather than a utility piece). The plates arrived in time for the March meeting and those already purchased will be mailed by the end of March. New orders will be processed after initial orders have been filled.

The cost of this plate is \$24.95 and includes postage and special mailing box. Orders may be sent to:

COMMEMORATIVE PLATE
Rocky Mountain Railroad Club
c/o Cyndi Trombly
4261 So. Richfield Way
Aurora, Colorado 80013

COMMEMORATIVE PLATE ORDER FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Please send _____ plates @ \$24.95 each. I
enclose \$ _____ in check or money
order.

50th ANNIVERSARY BELT BUCKLE

The Club has commissioned a commemorative belt buckle using the 50th Anniversary Logo. (See January, 1988 issue of the Rail Report for buckle photograph). The buckles are in stock now and many of the 350 pieces have been sold, so, get your order in today! Orders may be sent to:

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB

BELT BUCKLE ORDER FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Please send _____ buckles @ \$10.00 each
(\$8.00 plus \$2.00 1st class postage). I

enclose \$ _____ in check or money
order.

PRESERVATION FUND AND BOOK DRAWING

Prizes and winners at the March meeting
are as follows:

- Jim Earhart / Railroads of Northern Colorado, Pruett, 1st Edition
- Gary Lowry / A Locomotive Engineer's Album, Superior Publ.
- Dave Salter / 2 Volumes: Railroad History
RY & Loco. Hist. Society
- Joe Priselac / 12 ea. NRHS Bulletins
- Loren Tryon / Recording: D&RGW to Silverton
- Bud Lehrer / Union Pacific Lantern
- Dan Haley / 8444 Historical Poster
- Tom Keeton / Set of 15 Large Postcards (RR)
- Dan Haley / Set of 5 Amtrak Timetables
- Gary Lowry / Set of 20 Small RR Postcards
- Bob Griswold / Burlington Northern Buckle
- Tom Klinger / Kansas City Southern Buckle
- Jim Ranniger / "Grab Bag" of misc. items
- Jeff Rothlisberger / Car Names & Consists
- Wally Porter / Sundance Poster: "Something to Get all Steamed Up About"

Because of the generosity of fellow Club members, the Club has not had to purchase prizes lately; therefore, all monies collected for the drawing go directly to the Preservation Fund. Our thanks for the many donations. If you have something to donate, please contact Roger Callender at: 2573 So. Williams St., Denver, CO 80210. If you are out-of-state and wish to participate in the drawing, you may also contact Roger.

GEORGETOWN AND THE LOOP—
50th ANNIVERSARY BOOK

Last month we mailed you details about the publication of GEORGETOWN and THE LOOP by P. R. "Bob" Griswold, R. H. Kindig, and Cynthia Trombly, and now we have some very special additional news about the book. On the jacket will be a full color reproduction of a gorgeous Georgetown Loop painting by a famous railroad artist. The painting will be displayed for the first time at the Anniversary Banquet, and at that time we will tell you the artist's name. We know all our members will be delighted.

Another great bit of news about the book! It will contain eight pages of full color photos which are outstanding. To do this, we reduced the number of black and white pictures by just a few; we know you will be pleased.

We think you will especially like the Seabees reconstruction photos along with some Karl Zimmerman photos and the "oldies" from the Public Service of Colorado archives.

Now is the time to order your copy of GEORGETOWN and THE LOOP at the special pre-publication price of \$24.50. Colorado residents should add \$1.72 sales tax. If you would like to have your book mailed, please add \$1.50. (Bob Griswold)

ORDER FORM

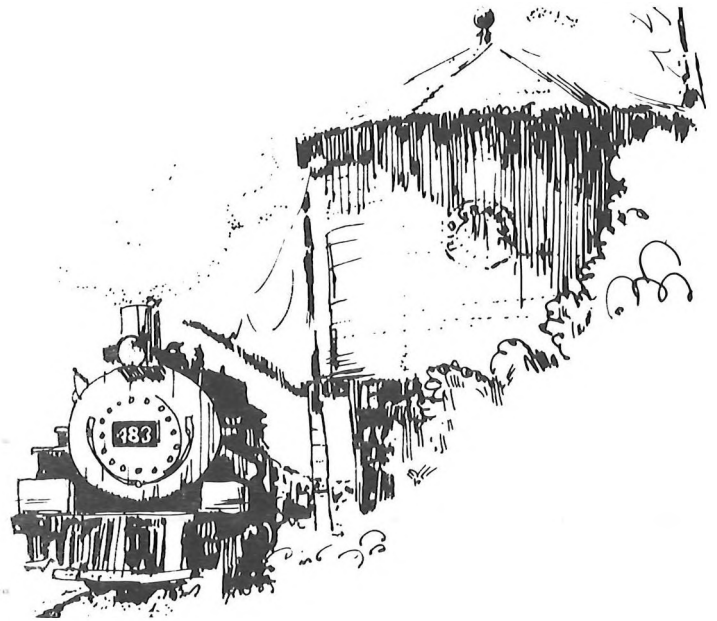
NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____
copies of GEORGETOWN and THE LOOP.

Mail Check or MO to:

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB
P. O. Box 2391
Denver, Colorado 80201

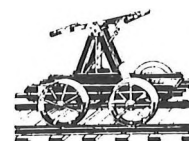


NEWS FROM THE CUMBRES & TOLTEC
SCENIC RR

The Rocky Mountain News has reported that a \$170,000 grant from the state of New Mexico assures funding for a dining hall to shelter tourists during their Colorado lunch stop on the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad.

The New Mexico legislature approved the grant in the session that ended February 18th. The Colorado Economic Development Commission earlier approved a \$170,000 dining hall grant for the tourist railroad, which the states own jointly.

The dining hall is projected to cost \$460,000, with \$120,000 already raised through ticket sales. It is planned for Osier, where passengers now eat outdoors on picnic tables at an elevation of 9,634 feet. Bids will probably go out in late May or early June, with construction to possibly start in late June when the area is more accessible. The Railroad, which will haul much of the material for construction, is scheduled to run daily from June 11 to October 16. (Carl E. C. Carlson)



FROM THE PRESIDENT

When I was born in 1935, every small town in Iowa, it seemed, was served by a railroad. I lived in Bondurant on the Chicago Great Western mainline where I learned about 2-8-2's, 2-10-4's and doodlebugs, all pulling baggage cars, coaches, and delivering mail. They had a fast night passenger train which I never did see. From 1930 til retirement in 1966, my father managed Co-op grain elevators in Iowa, depending on the railroad to furnish him with box cars to ship that grain. He always got box cars, regardless of how scarce they were, because he probably shipped more grain by rail than most other grain elevators. He introduced me to steam and allowed me to go to the town's depot to watch the trains come and go.

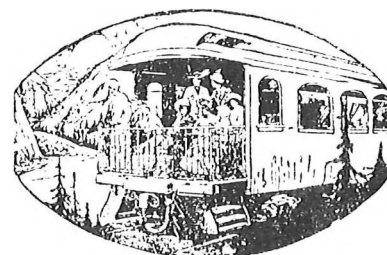
We could hear, some four miles to the south, the diesel sounds of the Rock Island, as the new streamliners passed through Altoona with their strange-sounding "whistles". My first train ride was on one of these "Rockets" to Chicago, where we picked up one of the first new cars made right after WW II. In 1947, we moved to Scranton where the double tracked main of the C&NW was located with their fancy fast UP/CNW passenger trains. They still had 2-8-2's for way freights and 4-8-4's for main line freights. We could hardly wait for those "new diesels", to replace those "nasty old steam engines". (Boy! Had I been brain-washed)

My second steam trip was on one of those freights. We moved to Malcom in 1953 for my senior year of high school and our Senior Class trip to Omaha was by Rock Island Rocket. While in college I worked in Yellowstone one summer, and, coming back to Denver to catch the train back to Iowa, we could see that "nasty" old steam on the Union Pacific in the form of Big Boys and Challengers. I figured I could get photos of them later on! After all, it was only 1956 and there was a lot of steam still around. In 1957, however, wierd sounds came from space to jar us awake and welcome us to the technology only dreamed about til now.

After graduation from college in 1958, and our first son in 1960, our move to Pueblo changed a few things. I suddenly discovered outside our apartment we had four passenger trains pass by every day (The Colorado Eagle and The Royal Gorge) but I still made the mistake of not taking any photos because "they would always be around". Besides, I was more interested in ghost towns, old mines, abandoned grades, and, narrow gauge, which was a bit more interesting since we never had that "stuff" in Iowa. Then, in 1962, I found out about the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club and joined, becoming member 900+ something. I took my first Club trip, a Memorial Day, 3-day Alamosa/ Durango/ Silverton and return narrow gauge trip. I chased C&S #638 in the Pueblo area, and, when I moved to Denver, I found out that a UP steam engine had been put back into service and was running steam excursions periodically for different groups, including our Club. In 1974, I finally had my first trip behind that engine and returned to "nasty old steam" power. Since then, I have tried to ride on many of our steam-powered trips and even worked a few of them. There is still something thrilling and unique about a steam locomotive in its sounds and its whistle. Oh, I haven't given up on diesels either, because I find that no matter how computerized they are, and bear strange numbers of SD-60 and DASH-8-40C's, etc., I still like to photograph them and watch them as well.

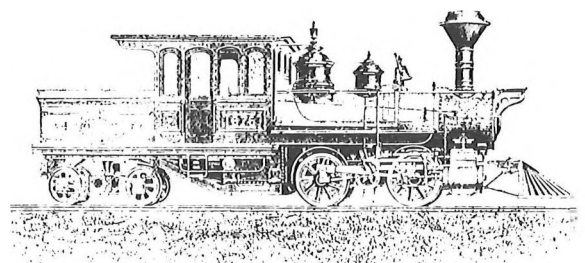
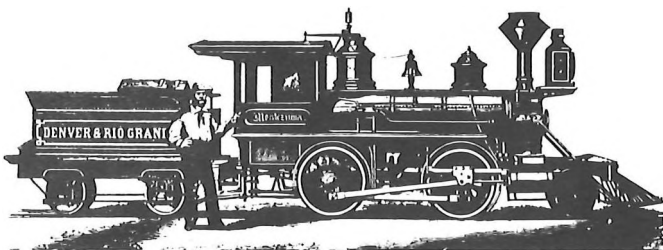
My oldest son is not into trains like he used to be, but I figure he might be again when he gets a little older. You see, I have come full circle now...I have a new grandson, and, just as soon as he is able, I am going to introduce him to "nasty old steam". It might be the Santa Claus train at the Colorado Railroad Museum, but hopefully it will be on one of our Club steam excursions not too far in the future.

(John Dillavou)





Ex-Alaska Railroad FP7A 1512 is shown with its companion 1510 on the ex-Union Pacific line from Wolcott, Wyoming to Saratoga. The locomotives, once again, are returned to service hauling lumber and wood chips from the tiny Wyoming town of Saratoga to the mainline of the UP at Wolcott. The locomotives are also used on the ex-Union Pacific line from Laramie to Walden, Colorado hauling coal as well as lumber and wood chips. Both lines are owned by Western Railroad Builders of Ogden, Utah, which operate the lines under the name of the Wyoming and Colorado Railroad, leasing the locomotives from Mountain Diesel Transportation (MDT) which has another twelve units in California. Engineer Ron Lyons indicated that the railroad is doing fairly well, as long as the weather cooperates with them. On the week of February 15th, both locomotives were buried in a drift a half mile long and 8 to 12 feet deep. After four days, the locomotives were finally extracted, but not until minor damage was inflicted upon one locomotive and \$9,000 dollars was spent for the removal of them from the drift. Engineer Lyons says that the line from Laramie to Walden remains blocked by 10 to 12 foot drifts as of this writing. He also said that he and his fellow employees are looking forward to May 21st when a passenger train will operate from Laramie to Walden with the Caritas on the back of the consist. (Story and photograph by Steve Rasmussen)





BOOK & VIDEO REVIEWS

THE FIFTIES EXPRESS. WB Video Productions. 52 minutes. \$49.95. Address: 6447 S. Heritage Pl. W., Englewood, CO 80111.

We again want to make note of a spectacular piece of video which comes from the Irv August films which are now the property of the RMRRC. WB Video (owned by Club member, Bill Brown) has outdone itself with this particular tape. As most Club members suspect, your editor leans heavily toward the narrow gauge, but I must admit, I have not searched far enough to what's available in standard gauge video. I thoroughly enjoyed The Fifties Express! It covers steam, first generation diesel and electrics on fifteen different railroads!!! It's simply great. Irv August (long-time Club member and past president) knew what he was doing with a 16mm camera and made sure he got around to photograph trains in their "golden age". I was fascinated by the unusual roads and consists, along with classic trains and engines. The following listing shows that there's something for everyone: Baltimore & Ohio, Pennsylvania RR, Norfolk & Western, Central Vermont, Nickel Plate, Western Maryland, Virginian, Boston & Maine, Edaville, New Haven, Duluth Missabe & Iron Range, Northern Pacific, Chicago Milwaukee & St. Paul, Canadian Pacific and Canadian National. Color & Sound. (Jim Trowbridge)

THE LAST STEAMERS OF THE COLORADO & SOUTHERN. WB Video Productions. 52 minutes. Color & Sound. Address: 6447 S. Heritage Pl., W., Englewood, CO 80111. \$49.95.

This footage was shot by Dave Gross (as a teenager!) during the period of 1958-1960. The photography is very well done and the video is what one comes to expect from WB. Of special note to Club members is the Climax Branch sequence showing C&S steamer

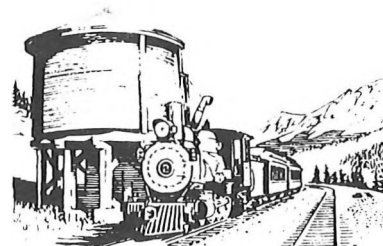
#641 and Rotary Snow Plow on its journey from Leadville to Climax and back. This was shot by Club member and past president, Ed Gerlits. The footage is outstanding and very unusual. The C&S was among the last railroads of any size to keep steam in mainline service past 1955. You will enjoy having this video in your library.
(Jim Trowbridge)

The March to Cumbres, Vol. II. Audio Tape. 60 minutes. \$7.95. Earl G. Knoob, P. O. Box 541, Chama, NM 87520. Post Paid.

Volume I was reviewed previously in the Rail Report. Vol. I dealt with "on board" recording from the cabs of C&TS engines. This volume, produced by fellow Club member, Earl Knoob, C&TS Engineer, is the result of seven years of recording during Earl's off-time. The recording is track-side and includes four different engines (using seven different whistles over the years) under regular working conditions. Nothing is staged with extra whistling or such. It's great narrow gauge sound. Vol. III will be reviewed later, but will be available by the time this newsletter is mailed in April.

SOUNDS OF THE C&TS. Audio Tape. 90 minutes. \$7.95 post. paid. Colorado Scale Models, 14541 East Harvard, Aurora, CO 80014.

Club member, Don Meeker, recorded the sounds of the 6th National Narrow Gauge Convention Specials on September 13 & 15, 1986. Recording was done in the engine cab and from inside a stock car at the head of the train. Don obtained some great sound. I particularly enjoyed reliving the sounds of the thunder/rain/hail storm at Big Horn Wye on the 13th. Don and Earl Knoob both did well on summer storms with train sounds mixed in. If you enjoy steam sound, particularly narrow gauge, these tapes will be a welcomed addition to your library.
(Jim Trowbridge)



TOURIST RAILROADS IN COLORADO



With summer vacations being planned at this time, we thought you might like a listing of railroads and working museums that might fit into your plans. The following Colorado railroads and working museums are open during the summer months (some beyond) and are well worth your time and money to ride or visit. You may contact the railroad or museum at the address shown:

CADILLAC & LAKE CITY RAILWAY

121 East Pikes Peak Ave., #224-A
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903
(303) 634-1091

COLORADO RAILROAD MUSEUM

P. O. Box 10
17155 W. 44th Ave.
Golden, Colorado 80402
(303) 279-4591
[For steamup dates, call or write the museum]

CRIPPLE CREEK & VICTOR N.G. RAILROAD

Box 459
Cripple Creek, Colorado 80813
(303) 689-2640

CUMBRES & TOLTEC SECNIC RAILROAD

P. O. Box 789
Chama, New Mexico 87520
(505) 756-2151

DURANGO & SILVERTON N.G. RAILROAD

479 Main Avenue
Durango, Colorado 81301
(303) 247-2733

FT. COLLINS MUNICIPAL RAILWAY SOCIETY

P. O. Box 635
Ft. Collins, Colorado 80522
(303) 224-5372

GEORGETOWN LOOP RAILROAD

P. O. Box 217
Georgetown, Colorado 80444
(303) 569-2403

HIGH COUNTRY RAILROAD

1540 Routt Street
Lakewood, Colorado 80215
[Located at Heritage Square, Golden]

MANITOU & PIKES PEAK RAILWAY

P. O. Box 1329
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901
(303) 633-7733

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY

P. O. Box 537
Loveland, Colorado 80537
(303) 667-2384



MISCELLANEOUS

EXTRA!

ANOTHER 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Your editor, through stealth and cunning (mouth shut and ears open) just learned that Irv and Elna August celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on October 23, 1987. This only goes to show that sharing a common interest in trains goes a long way in securing a happy and long married life--I think. Our congratulations to Irv and Elna and our wishes for many, many more years of happiness. [And keep taking those great movies and slides, Irv!]

UP SELLS GREELEY DEPOT

The Rocky Mountain News of March 5th stated that the UP and country music singer, Doug Kershaw, have completed negotiations to transfer the property to Kershaw who plans to open a Cajun restaurant in September.

(Carl E. C. Carlson)

CLEAR CREEK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS LOOK INTO REBUILDING THE ARGENTINE CENTRAL RR.

The Clear Creek Courant reported in its February 10th issue that the County Commissioners have granted a \$5,000 contract for a feasibility study of reconstructing the Argentine Central RR which used to switchback up the side of the mountain south of Silver Plume and then climb to Waldorf and the summit of Mt. McClellan. [Editor's Note: The Argentine Central also used to interchange with the Colorado Central/Colorado & Southern at Silver Plume]

(John Dillavou)

THREAT TO CANADIAN PASSENGER TRAINS

VIA Rail Canada is threatened with serious cutbacks due to possible budget cuts by the Canadian Parliament. The following measures are apparently under consideration:

--Replacement of the SUPER CONTINENTAL and the CANADIAN with a single tri-weekly transcontinental train.

--Reduction of Maritimes service to one train from two.

--Windsor/Sarnia-Toronto-Montreal/Quebec City corridor will be required to meet 100% of its costs through ticket prices.

--Operation of expensive "coach-only" trains through the Canadian Rockies on daytime schedules, with overnight accommodations and box-lunch meals. (The Fast Mail)
(Carl E. C. Carlson)

LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT CONTINUES TO GROW

The number of cities planning light-rail transit lines continues to grow. Maryland's Governor, William Schaefer, has announced a \$290-million, 27-mile line from Baltimore County through downtown Baltimore to Anne Arundel County, including service to BWI Airport. Funding will come primarily from state and local sources, and the line will be built over the next three years.

In Texas, voters in Houston have approved a \$2.57-billion transit improvement program that includes a 20-mile LRT line to connect the downtown with other business areas. Federal grants and private-sector contributions will provide 70% of the funding. The program also includes replacement of the 1,000-bus fleet, special bus and car-pool lanes, and road work. (The Fast Mail)
(Carl E. C. Carlson)

ROCKY MOUNTAIN



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