

Rocky Mountain RAIL REPORT



THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB

MEETING SCHEDULE:

June 14, 1988 -- 7:30 p.m.

Southeast wing of Christ Episcopal Church, 2950 South University at Bates. Off-street parking at rear (east) of meeting hall. Please use the building's south entrance.

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.

June, 1988..... No. 345
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, lost newsletters, etc. to:

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

JUNE 14 PROGRAM

"Two Weeks on a Britrail Pass" by Jim Stewart.

Covering London to Northern Scotland, Jim will talk about the use of the Britrail Pass and show slides of railroading in the British Isles.

MAY PROGRAM

Keith Kirby and Tom Lawry presented our May program, covering the 1987 Eastern US Rail Trip sponsored by the Club.

We were treated to great railroad museums, steam engines, light rail systems, trolleys,

standard and narrow gauge routes and famous landmarks (railroad and otherwise). An extremely rare photograph was shown of Irv August actually taking pictures of "garbage grinders", ie. diesels. In honour of this auspicious event, a "solemn" ceremony concluded the evening's program with a presentation to Irv. A copy of the rare photograph mentioned above was presented to Irv along with a bumper sticker stating: "I Love Diesels". Irv was obviously overcome by the experience!

NOTICE

JULY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Due to the two-week extravaganza of 50th Anniversary trips, your editor will be gone much of June. In order to get the July newsletter completed, the JULY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE will be JUNE 10th--NO EXCEPTIONS!!! Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated. Thank You.

LOST AND FOUND

An amber Ladies Pin in a triangular shape was found at the 50th Banquet. If you lost such a pin, please contact treasurer, Bert Bidwell, at 2300 Locust St., Denver, CO 80207.

1988 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- June 18-)
- July 2) } *50th Anniversary Summer Celebration*
- June 18 UP 3985 Excursion
- June 19 Georgetown Loop RR Trip
- June 20 Manitou & Pike's Peak Cog Trip
- June 21 Cripple Creek/Victor Trip
Cadillac & Lake City RY Trip
- June 23 Cumbres & Toltec Scenic RR
- June 24 Chama/Durango Field Trip
- June 25 Durango & Silverton NG RR
- June 26-)
- July 2) } San Juan Mtns. Ghost Railroads
Field Trips
- Aug. 18 Great Western RR Excursion
- Sept. 1-5 Grand Canyon/Flagstaff/Amtrak
Excursion
- Oct. 15 Paramount Theatre--RMRRRC Night
- Dec. 13 Elections

NEW MEMBERS

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

- John E. Bush Denver, CO
- John B. Charles Katy, TX
- William Lock Albuquerque, NM
- Margaret E. Oaks Aurora, CO
- Fred Oster Denver, CO
- Fern Richey Denver, CO
- Lexy Schroeder Denver, CO
- Gini Seberg Lakewood, CO
- John Stuart Louisville, CO
- Wayne Tobiasz Danville, CA
- Dr. Edward D. Williams Santa Fe, NM

CORRECTION

Your editor received some bad information which was corrected by John Dillavou at the May meeting. John was given credit for writing and sending the letters to various manufacturers and retailers to secure the 50th Anniversary Banquet door prizes. Credit should have gone to Tom Lawry. We wish to extend our apologies to Tom and acknowledge his hard work which received such a grand return. Tom has done so much the past few years that we sometimes don't realize that a project was his doing. Such was this case.

50th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE ITEMS

Please refer to previous Rail Reports for information on these items. There are very limited numbers of some items, while such items as plates and calendars still remain in reasonable quantities.

DENVER CITY COUNCIL HONORS RMRRC 50th ANNIVERSARY

As did Governor Romer and Mayor Peña, the city council of Denver recognized the Club's contribution to the preservation of railroad history. A copy of the Certificate of Appreciation is included in the pages of this month's newsletter as a permanent record.



Certificate of Appreciation

Presented To

THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB

by the Denver City Council, Denver, Colorado, in recognition of

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB DAY

APRIL 12, 1988

AND IN APPRECIATION FOR 50 YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO PRESERVING THE RICH AND SIGNIFICANT HISTORY OF THE RAILROAD IN DENVER AND THE WEST.

This 11TH day of APRIL, 1988

Stephanie Lee

President of Council

Don W. D.
Member of Council

"SILVER RAILS AND GOLDEN MEMORIES" ON VIDEO

The excellent program put on by Darrell Arndt, Jack Morison and Ron Ruhoff for the Club's 50th Anniversary Banquet, entitled "Silver Rails and Golden Memories" is to be made available to all Club members and friends. This 60-minute, multi-media slide presentation will be available in either VHS or BETA formats at a cost of \$24.50, postage paid. The narration track is the actual presentation at the April 16th banquet. Ron Ruhoff will be editing it into the slide portion of the video.

The presentation covered all fifty years of Club trips, including many field trips to old railroad locations. The material is outstanding. Those attending the banquet will certainly want a copy, judging from their applause; but, other Club members may also want the opportunity to see this spectacular program and become more of a part of the celebration.

Ron is responsible for the video and has announced that \$10.00 of each sale will be donated to the Equipment Fund for restoration and preservation of the Club's historic railroad engines and cars.

Tapes may be ordered immediately from:

Ron Ruhoff
P. O. Box 1361
Evergreen, Colorado 80439

ORDER FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

I enclose \$ _____ in check or
money order for _____ Video Tapes. Please
send VHS [] / BETA [] format.

BE SURE TO MAKE CHECKS OUT TO RON RUHOFF

NEWS FROM THE LEADVILLE, COLORADO & SOUTHERN RR COMPANY

The Leadville, Colorado & Southern RR Co. has produced a nice brochure with all the information about their new operation. They will be running from Memorial Day through Labor Day from Leadville to the Mine at Climax over the old C&S narrow gauge/standard gauge route. Departures are at 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Fares are \$15.00 for adults and \$9.00 for children 12 and under. They also offer group rates and a 10% senior discount. Children under 5 and not occupying a seat are free. They may be contacted at P. O. Box 916, Leadville, CO 80461. (719) 486-3936.

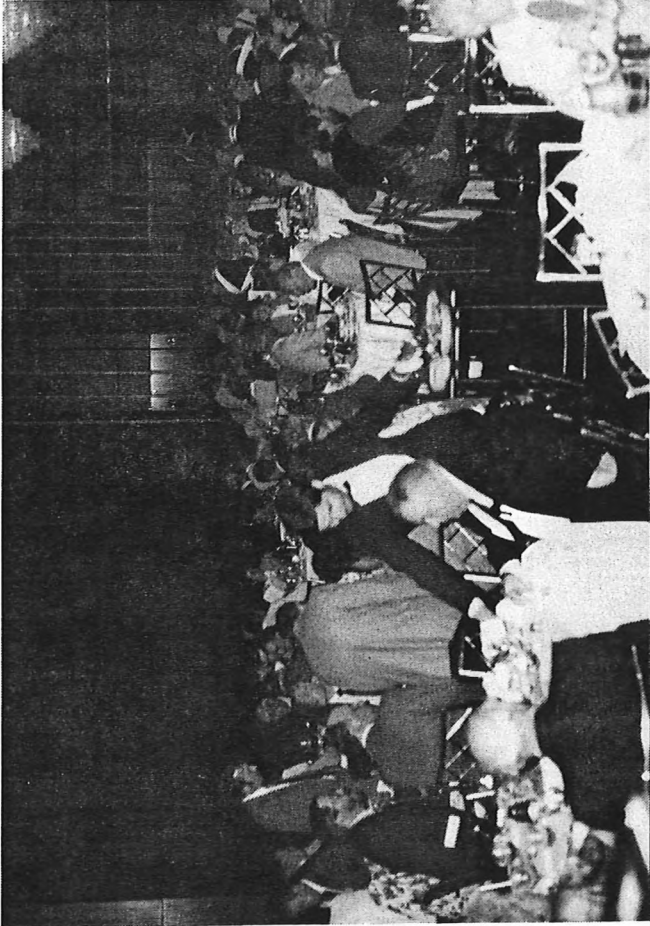
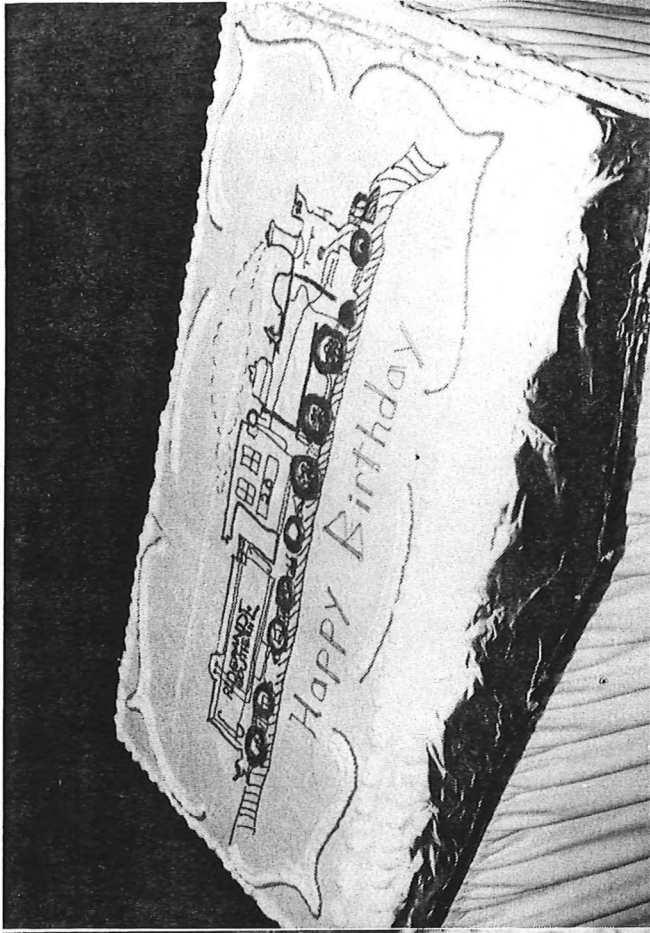
FROM THE PRESIDENT

[Editor's note: With the numerous photos and stories submitted this month, I have had to summarize John's comments about the 50th Anniversary Banquet to keep to a 12-page format]

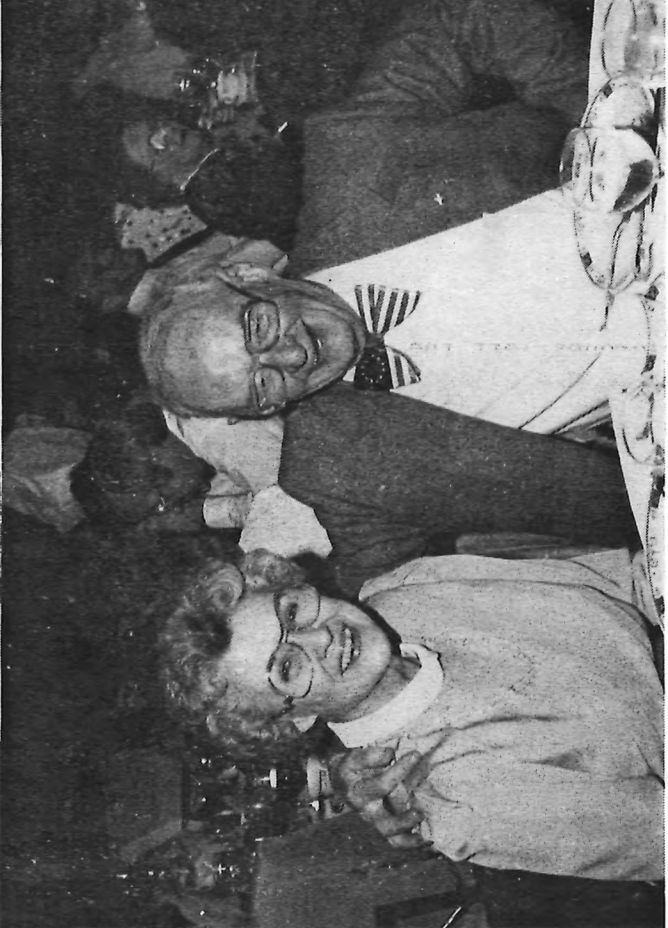
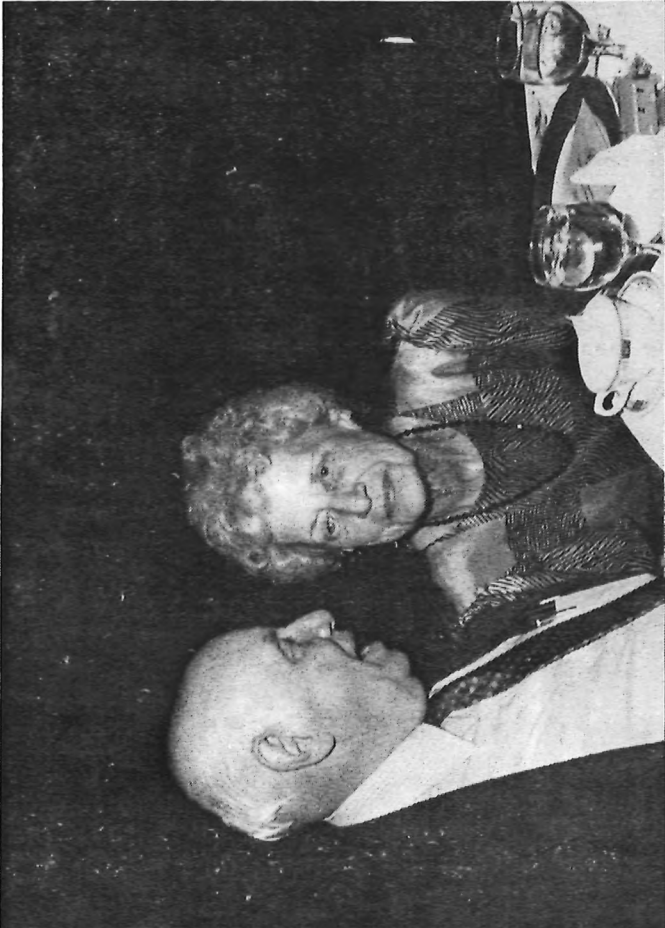
Even with the Club subsidizing the cost of the Banquet by \$10.00, we did not expect more than 200 people, but 357 showed up, wiping out the caboose order of 400. The Brown Palace was a superb place to hold this very special event and served up a grand meal with a special anniversary cake decorated with the Club's No. 20. Members came from Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, California, Washington, Wyoming, Kansas, New Mexico and, of course, Colorado. The Program was exceptional, containing 480 slides of Club trips and activities over the past 50 years. In addition, we had not only a large number of door prizes, but prizes of exceptional quality!

All-in-all, this Banquet was a truly fine "kick-off" for the 1988 celebration for the Club and all those who were involved deserve a hardy "Thank You".

We have included a number of photographs from the Banquet showing our anniversary cake, the door prizes, overall views of the ballroom and some of our long-time members who have given so much of their time and talents to the workings of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club.



An overall look at the April 16, 1988, 50th Anniversary Banquet held at the Brown Palace Hotel. The two crowd views shows the 357 in attendance while the other photos show the anniversary cake and door prizes. (Jim Trowbridge Photo)



Just a few of the long-time, low-numbered Club members and their wives enjoying the 50th Anniversary Banquet. Upper left: Ed (#8) and Wan Haley; Upper right: Bill (#18) and Silvia Gordon; Lower left: Jack (#4) and Joyce Thode; and, Lower right: Irv (#14) and Elna August. The Haleys and Augusts share a common figure with the Club as previously mentioned in the Rail Report--they have recently celebrated 50 years of marriage. (Jim Trowbridge Photos)

NEWS FROM THE DURANGO & SILVERTON NG RR

Club member, Bob Griswold has been in Southwestern Colorado recently and sent us the following story:

Durango & Silverton 1988 Opening

The Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad began its 1988 season on the May 7 and 8 weekend amid local fanfare and band music at the historic 1881 Durango depot. Of special interest to the railfans were the Sunday afternoon tours of the private cars, roundhouse, and the carshops led by Amos Cordova.

After the groups of about fifteen persons took a look at the very busy reservation office (even on a Sunday afternoon), Mrs. Cole guided the visitors through the private car, Cinco Animas, caboose #0505, past the flanger to the Railcamp box car #3681, and the private car, Nomad.

Steve Jackson, the general roundhouse foreman, then led the groups through the call room to the machine shop and the roundhouse where locomotives #478, #480, #481, #476, and #473 were undergoing final repairs and adjustments prior to assignments for the 1988 tourist season. Locomotive #497 was handling the Silverton train that Sunday, and #481 was under steam just for an emergency. Such preparedness enabled the railroad to keep operating last season when the potato truck hit #473.

When the groups left the roundhouse, Daniel Webb gave all the visitors a ride on the turntable on the way to the carshop where coach #257 had just been beautifully restored. The main attractions at the car shop were the new 32-seat railbus, Tamarron #1001, and its trailer #1002. Jim Sims, the carshop foreman had every right to be very proud of the three new pieces of rolling stock shown to the public for the first time.

The Tamarron will operate out of Rockwood to Elk Park and to Cascade primarily for hikers, back packers, and those who want to take a short trip on the Animas River Railway. Although #1001 is a beautiful motor car, it is not an adequate substi-

tute for the coal-fired steam engines on the regular Silverton trains. (Bob Griswold)

The Durango Herald (copies received from Club members Lloyd Crews and John Dillavou) gave some additional information about the new railbus:

D&SNG To Begin Season With New 'Railbus' Service

"The diesel-fueled, two car 'railbus' will operate out of Rockwood near Tamarron Resort and make three trips daily. The railbus can carry 80 passengers in an hour and 40 minute trip. The railbus will be operated separately from the daily summer runs of the D&SNG, and will bring winter train service back to Southwest Colorado, which was discontinued in the fall of 1986. The railbus will run through February with six weeks off before service starts again. Fares start at \$12.00 and go up to \$26.00 for a round-trip from Rockwood to Elk Park Wye."

The Durango Herald also noted that although ticket prices for the regular train runs on the D&SNG were increased 15 percent this season (Roundtrip increased to \$32.30 compared to \$28.10 last year), reservations are 30 percent higher than this time last year.

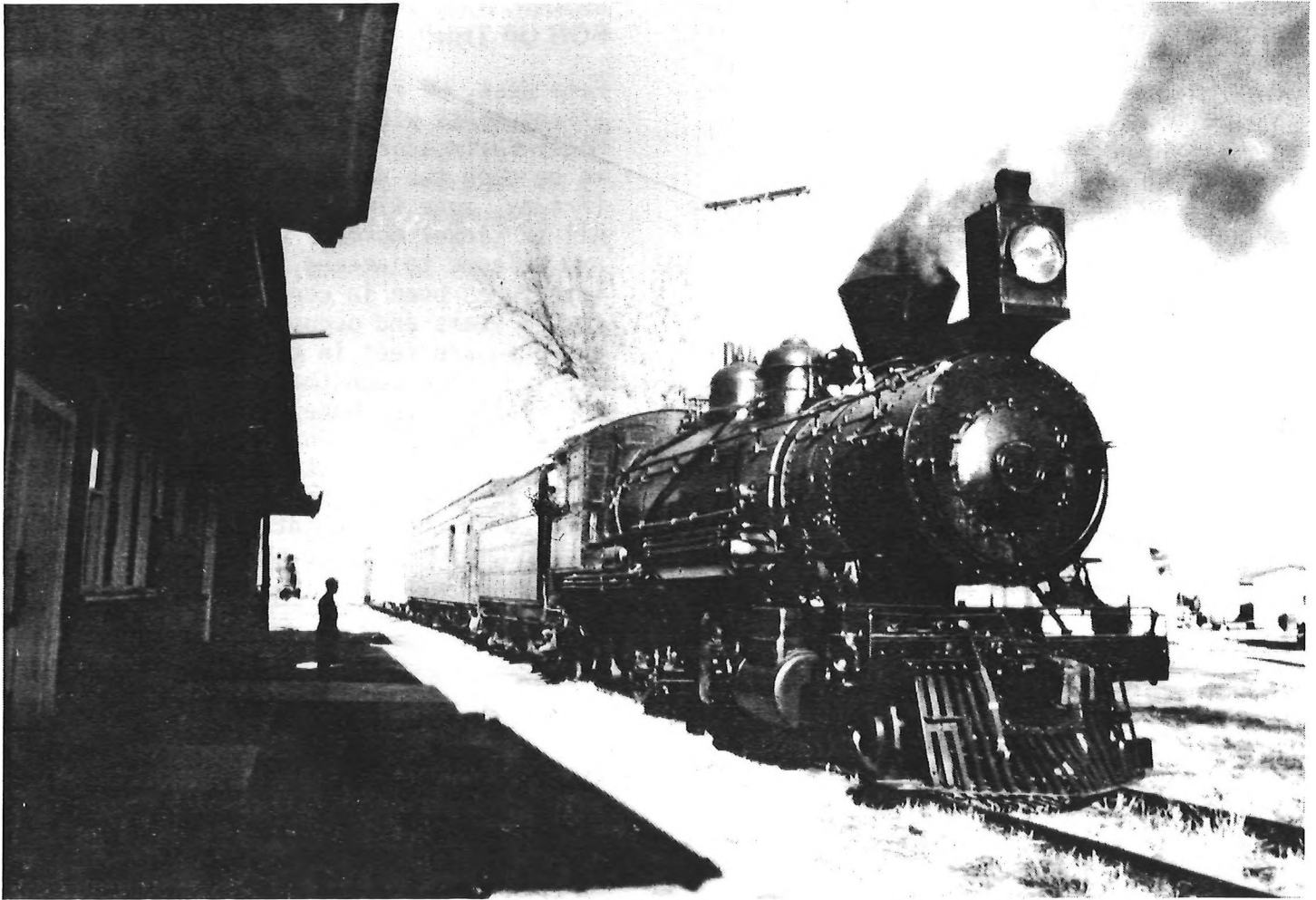
WORKDAY RESULTS AT THE COLORADO RAILROAD MUSEUM

The turnout was doubled from last year as twenty-five RMRRRC members attended the May 14th workday at the Colorado Railroad Museum. Among the projects completed were the painting of the letterboards and end platforms of the RICO, the painting of the end platforms of the CABOOSE 0578, the cleaning of the traction motors/trucks of INTERURBAN NO 25, the cleaning and repair of P.C.C. CAR 3101, the cleaning of BIRNEY NO. 22, the complete painting and organizing of the Clubs SHOP CAR and the removal of the cast iron dome rings on the RGS NO. 20 for inspection for possible running.

Bill Gould, Equipment Chairman, wishes to thank all who participated. Bill was very pleased with the work accomplished. Those participating were treated to lunch, and, while completing lots of worthwhile work, also enjoyed the comradeship of such an event.



These two photographs show activities at the Colorado Railroad Museum Workday as Club members work on the traction motors/trucks on the Interurban No. 25 and line up for a group photo in front of the No. 20 (ex-RGS/F&CC) which is being extensively overhauled at this time. It was a truly fine day to work and much was accomplished. (Mat Anderson Photo)



The No. 75 and its consist stands at the Limon Depot on the old Rock Island track, facing west. Photo taken on May 3, 1988 by Steve Rasmussen.

NO. 75 IN ACTION AGAIN

Once again, Everett Rohrer's locomotive, former Great Western No. 75, has returned to the TV screen--not in a movie, but in a television commercial for the Budweiser Corporation.

Built in 1907, the steamer has had quite a lengthy history behind it. Serving the Great Western for 57 years and then strutting its drivers in movies such as "The Professionals", "Breakheart Pass", "The Man Hunters", and James Michner's "Centennial", it is now being used by Budweiser to make a commercial which will show No. 75 in 1880 attire. After being fashioned with a diamond stack, a new headlight, and entirely repainted with its tender in an all black scheme, the locomotive put on quite a show leaving Denver on the morning

of May 3rd. Pulling out at 8:50 a.m., the locomotive left the Rocky Mountain Arsenal and received UP 3716 on the point to escort it to the town of Limon on the old Kansas Pacific Railway.

Not many people paced old No. 75 while it put on a grand show. Following the UP 3716 and No. 75 was a heavy-weight, wooden passenger car, two wooden box cars with the Budweiser logo on their sides and a tuscan-red caboose which added a lot of style to the rear of the train. After receiving a 20-mph restriction on the "Limon Turn", which the train was called by the Union Pacific, and eating lunch in Deertrail, the entire trip required 7½ hours to travel between Denver and Limon. After the Limon Fire Department filled the tender with

water, the rods were oiled, and the clinkers were removed from the firebox, the consist was turned around on the old Rock Island wye. Following this maneuver, the steam engine received Cadillac & Lake City No. 48 (ex-Santa Fe CF7) on the point to further escort it to the town of Simla, which is on the Cadillac & Lake City, some 23 miles west of Limon. The town of Simla turned out to meet the train when it arrived, even though it was approximately 9:00 p.m. Filming took place the next day and continued throughout the week. Film crews planned to be finished and the locomotive returned to Denver by the 8th of May, if all went well. (Stephen Rasmussen)

MODEL RAILROAD OPEN HOUSE FOR UP TRIP

Pete West, UP Trip Chairman, has made arrangements with the Denver Society of Model Railroaders [Colorado Midland RR] to be open the night before the UP Trip (Friday, June 17th) from 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. All UP ticket holders and RMRR members are welcome to attend. This "O"-Scale layout has been in continuous existence for 53 years and occupies an area of over 5,000 square feet in the basement of Union Station. Also open that evening will be the Platte River Model Railroad Club [Platte Valley & Western]. This is a new club layout which features standard gauge with some narrow gauge interchange. It is also located in the basement of the Union Station, 1701 Wynkoop, Denver.



The ex-Great Western No. 75 is on the old Rock Island mainline (now the Cadillac & Lake City RY) just beyond the Limon Depot on May 3, 1988. (Steve Rasmussen Photo)



A reminder of the primary reason for this train consist to be in existence--the Budweiser car (one of two used) which was used in the filming of a TV commercial. It's too bad we cannot use color in the Rail Report! Steve reports that the consist was quite pleasing to the eyes. (Steve Rasmussen Photograph)

NEWS FROM THE CENTRAL CITY AND BLACKHAWK NG RAILROAD

Your editor was recently in Central City and found CC&BNG folks building a new water tank in Central City. As always, these folks are very friendly and took time out to give us the following information:

They are currently running weekends, but will begin daily service on Memorial Day. Current fare is \$3.00 for everyone with summer fares to be \$4.50 for adults and \$3.00 for children. Hours are from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday (Tuesdays off). The No. 71 came through the winter in fine shape with a recent boiler inspection with NO recommendations! There is currently 3,000-feet of track laid with another 1,500 expected by June 1st. The new water tank mentioned above will hold 3500 gallons and gives a more permanent look to the station area which will also have the new ticket office ready this year. Last year, a complete wooden trestle was donated to the railroad and is in

Denver, ready for use. Footings have been surveyed and may be put in this year with the bridge to follow next year if all goes well. Of special interest to railfans and history buffs is the fact that the railroad has surveyed and found the Central City Depot under the tailings. It is their intention to dig out the tailings to uncover the depot, make a yard area and use the tailings for fill down the roadbed in place of two previous trestle locations.

PRESERVATION FUND AND BOOK DRAWING

Prizes and winners at the May meeting are as follows:

Bryan Bechtold / Union Pacific Lantern
 Lloyd Crews / California Central Coast Rys.
 Frank Braisted / Passenger Train Annual #3
 Irv August / This Is Colorado--Special Edition: Denver Post, 6/21/59
 Rich Dais / California Zephyr Above Tunnel #1, Howard Fogg Print
 Frank Stapleton / Whistle in the Woods, RR sounds record

Gary Ellison,
 Pleasantville, NY / 7 vintage TRAINS Mags.
 Jim O'Brien / Cinders & Smoke: D&SNGRR,
 Doris Osterwald
 Sherman Connors / Dusty: Citizen of Eureka
 Maxine Sozin / Set of 6 NRHS Bulletins
 Kent Bates / Set of 25 small postcards
 Gene Martin / Set of 15 large postcards
 John Lucas / Grab Bag of misc. items.
 John Lucas / KCS Belt Buckle
 Cyndi Trombly / Rock Island Belt Buckle
 Klaus Gunnink / Texas & Pacific Belt Buckle

SWAP 'N SHOP

Personal ads are accepted from members for items to be listed for Sale or Trade of Wanted. We cannot enter into any correspondence, nor will we appraise them.

FOR SALE: A Narrow Gauge Caboose full of railroad items as collected over the past 50 years, starting with the bell and whistle from Colorado & Southern #371. Included is lanterns, locks, tie nails, and all kinds of printed matter. CASH ONLY. Tom Barber, 1050 Pike View Street, Lakewood, CO 80215. (303) 233-5544.

FOR SALE: [Editor's Note--By the time the newsletter was printed and mailed for May, B. F. Wilson had moved. We are rerunning the ad with the corrected address and phone number] Colorado Midland by Morris Cafky, Rocky Mountain Railroad Club, Copy #5284, in mint condition--still in shipping carton. Will sell to highest bidder. B. F. Wilson, 1805 So. Balsam, Apt. 233, Lakewood, Colo. 80226. (303) 989-8742.

**GEORGETOWN AND THE LOOP—
 50th ANNIVERSARY BOOK**

Because of the outstanding response from our members in ordering GEORGETOWN AND THE LOOP at the pre-publication price, your board of directors authorized the inclusion of a second Jan Rons watercolor within the book. At this point, the book layout is just about complete.

Since it appears that the completion of the book will be a little later than anticipated, the pre-publication price deadline has been extended to June 15, 1988.

Remember, recent postal increases have required an adjustment of our shipping charge to \$2.00. Those in Colorado please remember to add 7% sales tax. (Bob Griswold)

ORDER FORM

NAME _____

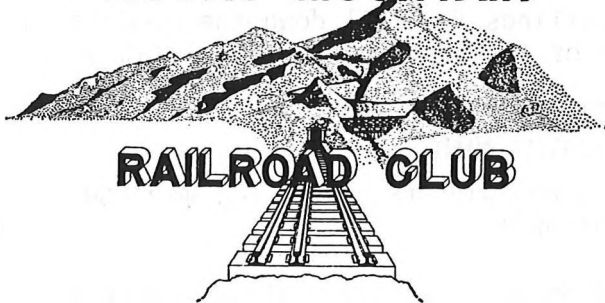
ADDRESS _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ for ___ copies

of GEORGETOWN AND THE LOOP at \$24.50 each, plus \$2.00 each for shipping. Colorado residents please add 7% sales tax. Mail to:

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

ROCKY MOUNTAIN



RAILROAD CLUB

BOX 2391

DENVER, COLORADO 80201

DONALD W. ZIELESCH
 3953 W. ELDORADO PL.
 DENVER, CO 80236

FIRST CLASS MAIL
 U. S. Postage
 PAID
 Denver, Colorado
 Permit No. 1873

First Class Mail