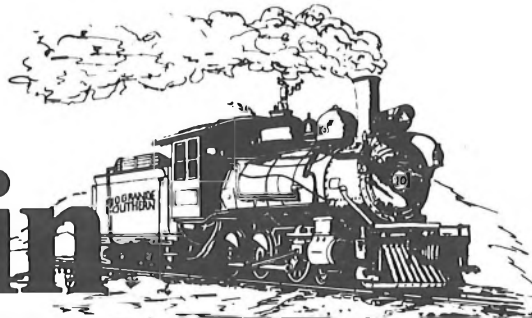


Rocky Mountain RAIL REPORT



THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB

MEETING SCHEDULE:

September 13, 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.

September, 1988..... No. 348
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

SEPTEMBER 13 PROGRAM

Program chairman, Rich Dais, has searched through the Club's archives and has found two unique 16mm films which will be shown at the September meeting:

RAILROADIN'. A 1941 color movie produced by American Locomotive and General Electric depicting a showcase of America on the move with its system of railroads.

SNOW PLOW OPERATION. A black & white 16mm print from an MGM 35mm film circa 1927, depicting snow plow operation around Corona on Rollins Pass and the 1928 dedication ceremonies of the Moffat Tunnel.

AUGUST PROGRAM

Those who refused to be surprised really missed out by not attending the August meeting as we were treated to OTTO PERRY films!

We began the program with Rio Grande standard gauge steam and some classic diesels in Utah and Colorado during 1950. From there we jumped to the narrow gauge with freights and the "San Juan" on the San Juan Extension and followed the ng. #340 on the Montrose branch with a short stock train. Miscellaneous mainline name trains were viewed on the UP and RI as well as additional scenes of the Denver streetcars just before abandonment and shots of more narrow gauge topics such as abandoned roadbed in the Black Canyon and along the DSP&P.

If this wasn't enough, a second reel of film continued the narrow gauge coverage in 1954 with K-37's #490 & 494 working a freight up Cumbres; the RMRRC's 3-day excursion behind #487 from Alamosa to Durango (showing both Pullman Green and Rio Grand Gold coaches) and the #476 and infamous Davenport 470N diesel to Silverton; the #487 back to Alamosa; and the #492 doubleheading out of Chama. We were further treated to the Rio Grande Zephyr in 1970 (March) with the longest RGZ this person has ever seen in person or on film! Further shots of 8444 on the July, 1970 Denver Post "Cheyenne Frontier Days" special (the last ever run!), various BN/GN freights, the 100th anniversary celebration at Strausburg and the Inter-Mountain Chapter of the NRHS's 8444 trip in fall to Julesburg.

Now, aren't you sorry you missed the August meeting?!!!

We would like to thank Dick Kindig for his commentary on the Otto Perry films.

1988 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sept. 1-5	Grand Canyon/Flagstaff/Amtrak Excursion
Oct. 15	Paramount Theatre--RMRRC Night
Dec. 13	Elections

NEW MEMBERS

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

Jim Berry	Aurora, CO
Linda Boyle	San Ramon, CA
Robert Boyle	San Ramon, CA
Richard Day	Montrose, CO
Nancy Hathaway	Golden, CO
Josiah Jenkins	Santa Barbara, CA
Donald Murphy	Milwaukee, WI
Earl Pate	Morrison, CO
Alex Rohr	Denver, CO
Larry Stougaard	Johnston, IA
Bob Wilcoxon	Arvada, CO
Shirley Wilcoxon	Arvada, CO

50th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE

ITEMS

Some commemorative items are still available. Please refer to previous Rail Reports for complete details about the various items. All remaining items will be available to the regular monthly meetings until they are sold out; however, out-of-state members may drop the Club a line to find out what is still available on the various items. Still in good quantity are PLATES at \$24.95, including postage; POLO SHIRTS at \$13.00 plus \$2.00 postage; and, close-out special CALENDARS at \$3.00 plus \$1.50 postage. Do not hesitate on ordering these items--it will be another 50 years before we do it again!

ELECTIONS

As mentioned in the August newsletter, it is time to begin thinking about new board members and officers. The nominating committee has begun looking for candidates and have asked that anyone interested in serving advise them of their name and qualifications. The nominating committee is composed of the holdover board members and includes Sidney J. White, Joe Niklas and Joe Priselac. You may contact any of these men at Club meetings or through the Club's post office box. Remember, the December elections are only three months away.



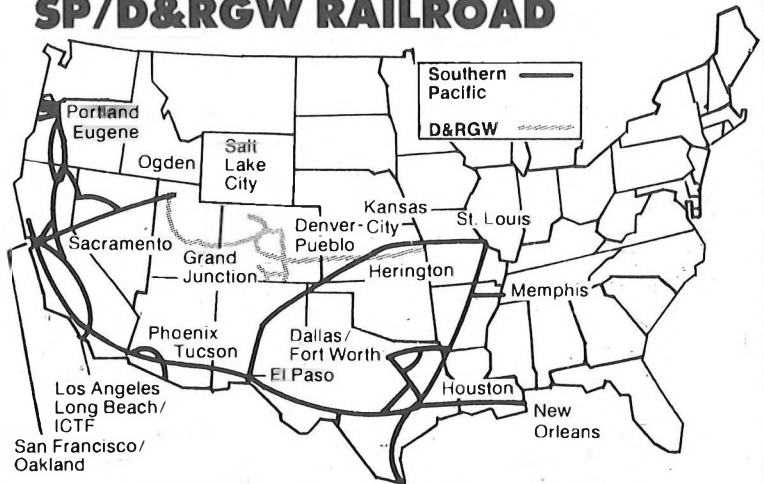
**RIO GRANDE, SOUTHERN PACIFIC
MERGER APPROVED—RIO GRANDE
NAME RETIRED INTO HISTORY**



On Tuesday, 9, 1988, by a 4-0 vote of the Interstate Commerce Commission, the coupling of the Denver & Rio Grande Western and the Southern Pacific got official approval to proceed. Denver billionaire Philip Anschutz outmaneuvered two of the nation's biggest railroad companies and the powerful Henley Group to pluck a \$2 billion prize, Southern Pacific Transportation Company.

The ICC's approval for the \$1.8 billion buyout ends the uncertainty that has paralyzed giant Southern Pacific since its unsuccessful merger with Santa Fe began five years ago. The move also pushes the regional Rio Grande Western line and Anschutz into the highest echelons of the American rail industry. The new rail line, to be called Southern Pacific, will stretch some 15,000 miles across 15 states. The new company will be headquartered in San Francisco, Southern Pacific's current home.

**MAJOR ROUTES OF COMBINED
SP/D&RGW RAILROAD**



COMPARING THE NATION'S MAJOR RAILROADS

Route Miles	Employees	Railroad Operating Revenues (in billions)
1. Union Pacific‡ 24,074	1. CSX 38,864	1. CSX \$4.6
2. Burlington 23,476	2. Union Pacific‡ 32,326	2. Union Pacific‡ 4.1
Northern	3. Burlington 31,859	3. Burlington 4.0
3. CSX 21,494	Northern	Northern
4. Norfolk 17,254	4. Norfolk 31,261	4. Norfolk 3.3
Southern	Southern	Southern
5. SP/DRGW 15,046	5. Conrail 29,964	5. Conrail 3.1
6. Conrail 13,341	6. SP/DRGW 26,279	6. SP/DRGW 2.5
7. Santa Fe 11,709	7. Santa Fe 21,219	7. Santa Fe 1.9

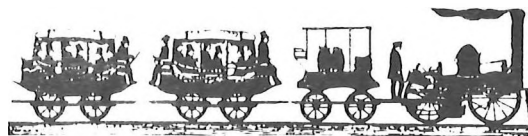
‡Includes Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad
All figures based on 1987 year end reports to the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The Santa Fe/Southern Pacific merger was seen as a great threat to the D&RGW, thus, Rio Grande attorneys rounded up 1,000 shippers to support the view that the merger would create a mega-line that could control freight rates throughout the West and put Rio Grande out of business.

In 1986, the Interstate Commerce Commission stunned the industry, siding with Rio Grande and rejecting the merger. Last year, it ordered the breakup of Santa Fe-Southern Pacific Corporation, formed in anticipation of the merger. Southern Pacific, a major prize, was put on the block. Immediately, Santa Fe-Southern Pacific came under siege.

Rio Grande and Anschutz persevered, winning over the Henley Group and the Kansas City Southern. Although many felt Kansas City Southern had the inside track, Anschutz won the bidding hands down with an offer made up of his Rio Grande stake, cash

raised through the investment firm Morgan Stanley & Co. and \$900 million in bank loans and other debt. Kansas City Southern's offer was rejected because its financing was not as strong. Anschutz's bid got a huge boost from a \$300 million judgement against Kansas City Southern.



50th ANNIVERSARY TRIPS— ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

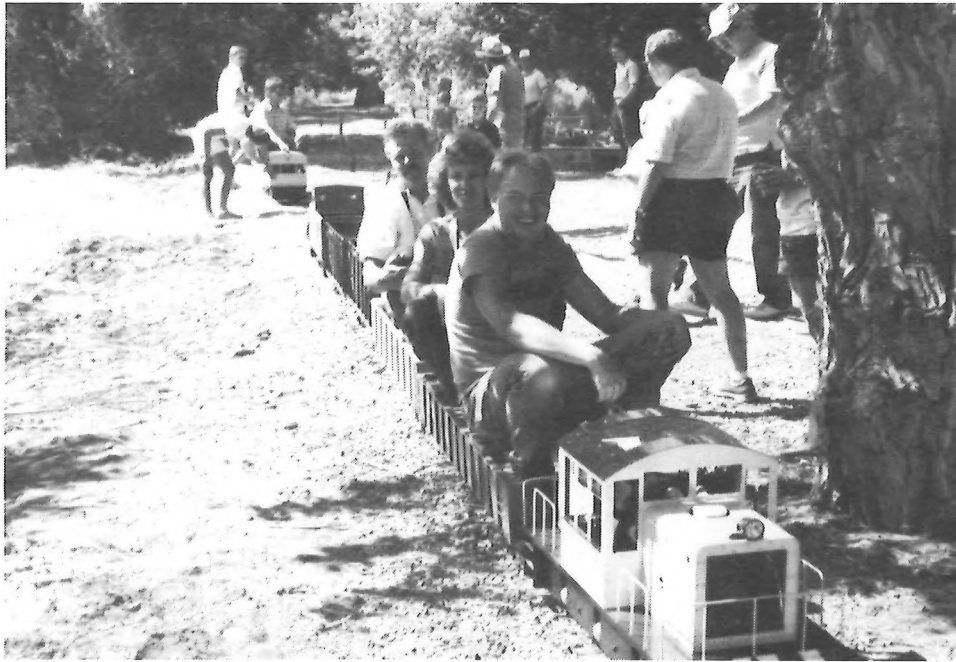
One sad result of the ICC approval and buyout by Anschutz is the retirement of the century-old independent D&RGW line into the history books. For now, Rio Grande's name will be used only in the Rocky Mountain West region. The Denver line's locomotives, with the distinctive yellow and black Rio Grande colors, won't be repainted. But the D&RGW name will not appear on trains of the much larger Southern Pacific, the surviving company.

We mentioned a number of folks who were responsible for much of the work on the Club's Anniversary Trips in the August newsletter. We unintentionally missed an important contributor--Bill Gordon. Bill normally checks our mail a couple times a week, but, during the months prior to the trips, he made the trip downtown every day to pick up mail to facilitate the quick response to those wishing to obtain tickets and information. Our thanks to Bill for his extra effort.

The merger should be finalized legally sometime in late September. (Denver Post)



The 50th Anniversary Field Trips provided many historical sites to investigate. Here, we see folks checking out the coal facilities at Vance Junction on the Rio Grane Southern RR. A complete story can be found in the August Rail Report. (Andrew Wittenborn Photograph)



Perhaps the highlight of our visit was the opportunity to ride the many trains made available by the Colorado Live Steamers. Here we see Club members, Dennis and Kay Turan of Apache Junction, Arizona enjoying their ride. Our friendly engineer was, we believe, Ken Scheer. (Jim Trowbridge Photo)



Here we see the completed Wye. The trackwork in this area is something to behold. Dual gauge (note the switch entering the trestle and the track on the trestle), crossovers, switches, yard tracks--it was a modelers delight! The Pole Barn, center right, is the new Jerry Cutshall Hall. (Jim Trowbridge Photograph)

OPEN HOUSE WITH THE COLORADO LIVE STEAMERS

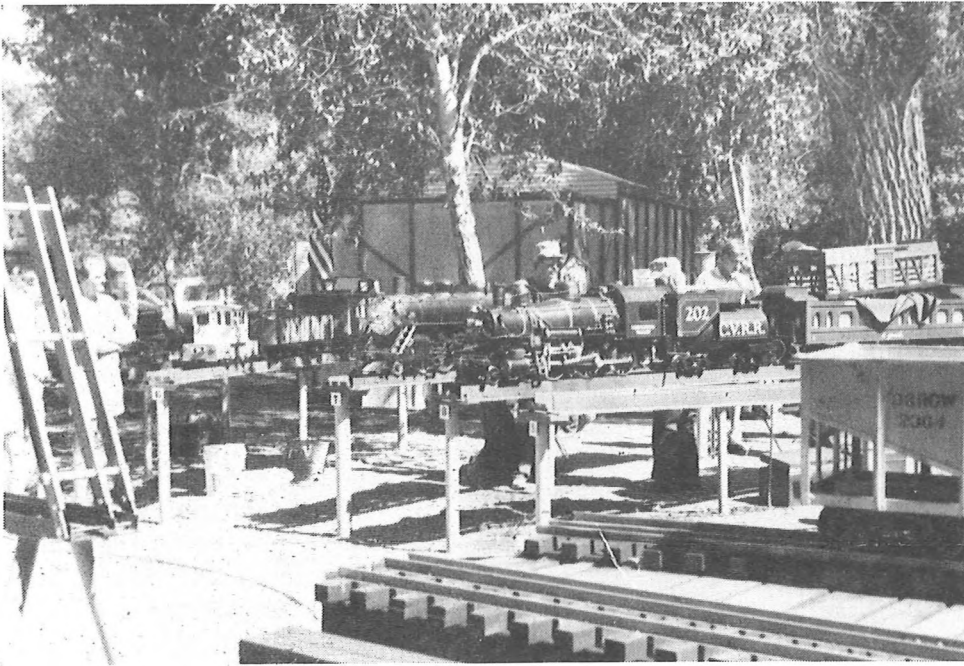
Saturday and Sunday, August 13 and 14, 1988 found many RMRR members at Waterton to take advantage of the Open House at the Colorado Live Steamers' out-standing layout.

It has been several years since our last visit and the changes were obvious. Trackage has been extended, not only on the mainlines (which include 1", 1½" and 3/4"), but the Wye is now fully operational.

There were all sorts of equipment--engines of every description from steam to diesel and numerous pieces of rolling stock. It was an eye-opener to see how simple some of the power units were and how easy it could be to become involved in this facet of the railroading hobby. Of course, the other end of the spectrum was in evidence as we admired the numerous live steam locomotives.

The highlight of our visit, as always, was to ride the many trains around the large ovals of track! The Colorado Live Steamers are a most gracious group and provided all the rides that visitors could desire.

Refreshments were available--some complimentary. These could be enjoyed in the new memorial JERRY CUTSHALL HALL. Jerry was a long-time



A close-up of the turntable area, showing some of the many engines and rolling stock. The building in the background is a workshop.
(Jim Trowbridge Photograph)

member of the RMRRRC and the Colorado Live Steamers. He is fondly remembered by many in both organizations. Club members may recall the reprinted Denver Post article in our Rail Report on Jerry's home layout entitled "Riding Thru The Pumpkin Patch."

We wish to extend our thanks to the Colorado Live Steamers for their hospitality. We had a great time and hope to be invited back soon.

(Jim Trowbridge)



MANY THANKS

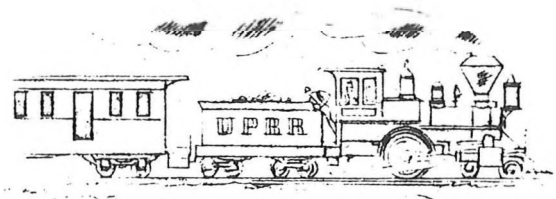
One project undertaken by the Club to help highlight our 50th Anniversary year was to publish a calendar illustrating past activities of the organization, with emphasis on the many varied and memorable excursions sponsored over the years. Such an endeavor that incorporates the photography of some seventeen members with almost three dozen photographs depicting a wide variety of trips plus narrative captions that required a fair amount of research is not a project that is wrapped up after a few nights working on the kitchen table, but required many individuals contributing many hours. These folks, who deserve acknowledgement, included Mat Anderson, Bob Andrews, Elbert Bidwell, Bill Brown, Carl Carlson, Steve Cottrell, Staff at the Denver Public Library--Western History Department, Jim Ehernberger, Alan Greene, Dave Gross, Ed Haley, Dick Kindig, Tom Klinger, Bob Le Massena, John Maxwell, George Meister, Neal Miller, Jack and Erma Morison, Jim Ozment, Steve Patterson, Jack Pfeifer, Steve Rasmussen, Dave Salter, Ardie Schoeninger, Jack Thode, Mike Trent, Cynthia Trombly and A. J. Wolff. In addition, the quality typesetting and final layout of the artwork and printing

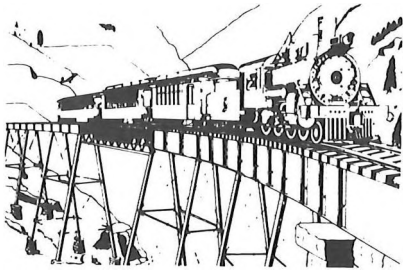
done by Cottrell Printing of Englewood must not be overlooked. The cooperation, encouragement, suggestions and enthusiasm by Steve Cottrell and his staff helped us cover this "new territory" in fine fashion.

All of these participants worked under tight time constraints and every one of them played an important part in this undertaking. Of course, this work would have been "all for naught" without our members who supported the project by purchasing one or more of the calendars. Again, a big Thank You, albeit belated, to all who contributed time and/or material to the 50th Anniversary Calendar.

(Darrell Arndt)

[Editor's note: Space constraints did not allow for the printing of the full page and one half of acknowledgement that Darrell submitted. I am sorry that I could not include the in-depth descriptions of work performed by the above mentioned people]





**RMRRRC NIGHT AT THE HISTORIC
PARAMOUNT THEATER**

As a grand finale to the Club's 50th Anniversary celebration, we offer "A Railroad Night at the Historic Paramount Theatre" on Saturday, October 15, 1988.

FEATURING: A classic Buster Keaton comedy, "Our Hospitality". Starring in this movie is Buster Keaton, Natalie Talmage (his wife), Buster Keaton, Jr. and Joseph Keaton (his father), and, also, a replica of the Stephenson Rocket (which is now in the Smithsonian).

Also on the bill: a Helen Gibson episode of "Trial Run".

We will also feature the Dual Wurlitzer Consoles and a world renowned guest organist.

COST: \$7.00 before October 1st, \$8.00 the day of the performance. Mail your request and check to:

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

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

The books have arrived! The first copies arrived the afternoon of the August meeting and many members received their copies that night and were able to have all three authors sign their copies as Dick Kindig presented the Otto Perry Program, Bob Griswold brought the books and Cyndi Tromble was there to help Bob in the distribution of books.

If you haven't already purchased your copy of the book, an order form is included for your convenience. The price of the book is \$27.50 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling. Colorado residents please add \$1.75 sales tax.

Send orders to:

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

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I enclose \$ _____ in check or money order.

_____ Copies @ \$27.50 \$ _____

Postage @ \$2.00 per book _____

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Enclosed is my check or MO for \$ _____

to cover the cost of _____ tickets.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN



RAILROAD CLUB

PRESERVATION UPDATE AROUND COLORADO

Despite the rumors you may have heard as of July 28, plans are being made to restore the old Rio Grande water tank at South Fork, according to Mrs. Pat Pluck. Over \$2500 has now been raised for the restoration of the tank and two structural engineers from Albuquerque have made an evaluation as to what needs to be done. As soon as a new lease has been acquired from the Rio Grande Railroad to the land where the water tank stands, it is hoped that restoration work will finally become a reality.

Another interesting restoration project is at Marble, Colorado, where Oscar McCollum, President of the Marble Historical Society and Museum, has acquired one of the old cabs used on the electric trolleys which operated between the quarry and the mill. The cab is now located behind the Marble Museum. This might be a project that several Club members would like to do. Some carpentry skills and tools will be needed. A perfect two-day activity for several retired or interested folks! The Marble Museum will furnish all needed materials. Further details will be forthcoming, including photos and what actually needs to be done. What a beautiful place to spend several fall days in Colorado!!! Please let me know if you are interested via the Club's PO Box.

(Hugh H. Wilson, Sr.)

PRESERVATION FUND AND BOOK DRAWING

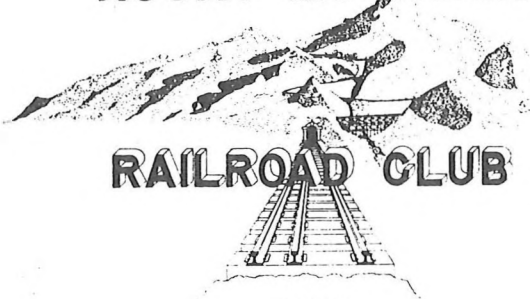
Prizes and winners at the August meeting are as follows:

Gary Ellison(NJ) / West Side--Narrow Gauge in the Sierra
Earl Pate / Pennsy Power
John Holzman / The Story of Amer. RRs
John Holzman / Rails West
John Holzman / Locomotives in My Life
Alan Wise / Toy Train Treasury--Vol. I
Derek Ranniger / Toy Train Treasury--Vol. II
Donald Smith / All-Time Index--RR Mags.
Jeff Rothlisberger / The Keystone--RR Dining Cars
Lloyd Crews / 20 Large Post Cards
Hugh Wilson, Sr. / PULLMAN Coat Hangers
Mat Anderson / 3 Railroad Wall Plaques
Don Zielesch / Henry Huntington & The Pacific Electric

Club members continue to enjoy the monthly book drawing. With the generosity of fellow Club members, the Club has not had to buy prizes, and thus, all monies collected go directly into the preservation fund. Should you have donations or wish to participate, please contact Roger Callender at: 2573 So. Williams St., Denver, Colorado 80210. Again, we wish to thank the many donors!!!



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