

ROCKY MOUNTAIN



RAILROAD CLUB

Denver, Colorado

November 30, 1964

P R E S I D E N T ' S L E T T E R

As another year draws to a close -- the 26th event-filled, productive year of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club -- it is time to take a look back to see where we have been, and to gaze hopefully at the future and what it holds for our organization.

Serving as Club president these past 12 months has been a wonderful, revealing and gratifying experience. And each occurrence has been a new highlight as the smoothly operating, well oiled machine that is the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club moves forward with sure strides and the precision of a Swiss watch.

Nowhere than in our Club is there more evidence of the time-honored rule that the whole is the sum of its parts. We are now nearly 1,000 strong -- and each member in one way or another has contributed to the continuing success and progress of the RMRC. Many long-familiar names and faces have been much in evidence during 1964, and their contributions of time and effort are gratefully acknowledged. Energetic and faithful Ane Clint, serving her sixth year as treasurer; trip committee chairman Ed Haley, bucking the tide of dieselization to provide us with as many excursions as humanly possible; Dick Kindig, serving again as book committee chairman, working with the members of his group to make "Colorado Midland" the finest book yet published by the Club; equipment chairman Bill Gordon who has performed so well at the unglamorous task of keeping Club equipment in "showcase" condition; former president and director, and current vice president, Herb O'Hanlon, whose efforts have resulted in a year of highly successful and entertaining meeting programs.

And there have been an equal or greater number who have labored behind the scenes at a myriad of time-consuming jobs. Immediate past-president Jackson Thode who during 1964 served as editor of the monthly Club newsletter, making it a publication that any organization would be proud to claim; Ed Lewandowski whose job it is to maintain the Club's several mailing lists with current addresses, and to produce the thousands of envelopes the Club consumes each year; director Bryant McFadden and his committee of volunteers who are responsible for "Colorado Midland" orders and deliveries; director Bert Fullman, without whose help the newsletter would never reach the post office; secretary Fay McKee who so ably handled the many pieces of correspondence that regularly reached the Club.

Your board of directors has served faithfully and well this year and deserves your vote of thanks: Rollin Cordill, Bert Fullman, Ed Haley, Bryant McFadden, Jack Morison and Bob Stull. Each has contributed a great many hours to the management of the Club so that we might all enjoy our membership to the fullest.

Not to be forgotten are those members who attended our monthly meetings, regularly or irregularly, and by their attendance showed their support of the Club and its activities. And those who so generously contributed to the Club equipment fund that we might maintain and improve the engine, trolleys and cars that we have undertaken to preserve that others may share our pleasure in them. A word, too, to the many members who have slipped a little note in with their dues check or an excursion ticket order to pass along a "thank you" or just to say "hi." To everyone out there whose Rocky Mountain Railroad Club membership

card is solid evidence of your support of Club purposes and goals.

To each of you individually -- to all of you collectively -- goes my deep appreciation for your continued support of the Club and its objectives. To everyone, sincere thanks from all of your officers, directors and committee chairmen. The whole is truly equal to the sum of its parts.

Where else have we been in 1964? We have been to Silverton on our 13th annual Denver and Rio Grande Western narrow gauge excursion. We have been to TRAINS Magazine, which honored the Club in its September issue with a heart-warming photo section on our past excursions. We have been to Cheyenne and Rawlins on the Union Pacific, with 80-miles-an-hour running behind the 8444. We have been to the Colorado Railroad Museum at Golden where much ground work was completed on our trolley line. And we have been to the book publishers where "Colorado Midland" is even now rolling off the presses.

Where will we go in 1965? January will see completion and mailing of the first copies of "Colorado Midland." We will, following completion of contract covering trolley operations at the museum, continue with our plans to put the Birney car in operation. We will go to Silverton. Several other items are on tap so watch for announcements as 1965 progresses. And we will go forward -- stronger than ever, united in purpose and goals.

My best wishes to each of you for a joyous Christmas and a most happy rewarding 1965.

Ted S. McKee
President