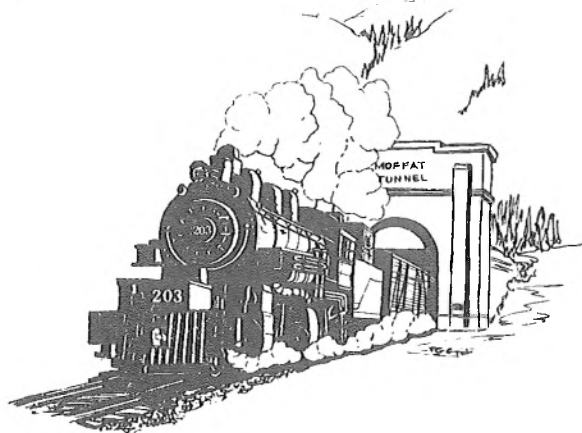


Rocky Mountain Rail Report



The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

P. O. Box 2391 Denver, Colorado 80201
May, 1978 No. 224

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

Editor - - - Darrell T. Arndt

MEETING NOTICE: Date . . . Tuesday, May 9, 1978
Time . . . 7:45 P.M.
Place . . . Southeast wing of Christ Episcopal Church, 2900 So.
University at Bates; off-street parking at rear (east)
of meeting hall and north along Bates. Use the west
doors to enter the hall.

PROGRAM NOTES:

The May program will be put on by Bill Daney of Pueblo, which will consist of a variety of railroad subjects such as a Rio Grande Southern Sheep train from Ridgeway to Placerville; the last run of Rio Grande No. 1 and 2 shot at Pueblo, Canon City, Salida and various scenes in the gorge; Marshall Pass and the Baldwin Branch; C&S excursion at Lyons; Stillman's 15 inch gauge railroad which is 5 inch scale at Scottsdale; along with scenes in McKormick Park and Indian Bend Road. This latter equipment is modeled after the D&RG narrow gauge equipment. Also, to be included is the Edaville two foot gauge steam passenger train with yellow cars.

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Prior to the program presentation at the April meeting by Tom Keeton and Gene Loftus, several items of business were tended to first. If Neal Miller wished to have his birthday kept low key, he probably won't use the same Wishing Well next time around. He was presented with a cake to commemorate the occasion! The three candles each represented 40 years, according to one of his good friends.

The drawing for the two books also took place at the meeting, with Edward C. Perkins of Loveland, Colorado winning the COLORADO MIDLAND and Richard H. Jahns of Stanford, California being picked for the SUPPLEMENT TO THE DENVER SOUTH PARK & PACIFIC. We would like to thank everyone who supported the drawing by obtaining chances. The proceeds go to a very worthwhile cause, the club's equipment fund. Major repairs have been done and are about to be done on several pieces of equipment and material and the necessary professional help can't be bought for chicken feed, nowadays.

A short slide presentation was then given, describing the upcoming Georgetown Convention, Denver Division Rocky Mountain Region of the National Model Railroad Association on May 26, 27 and 28. Various programs, clinics, contests,

tours, auction, and other activities pertaining to model railroading will be on the agenda and the narrated slides explained how it all was going to work. (Further info on the convention can be obtained by writing Denver Division, 12235 West Texas Drive, Lakewood, Colorado 80228.)

Tom and Gene then began the evening's program about train travel around Great Britain. Their routing on a recent trip took them across the southern end of Britain and then up to the northern part of the country. Some nice views of the English countryside and along the ocean were shown, as well as different cities and towns. Their new high-speed train was seen, sharply contrasting to the elderly steam locomotives on display in the railroad museum. The program left the impression that England is still a passenger train enthusiast's next best answer to heaven. Our thanks to Tom and Gene for an interesting program!

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MAY 13 - WORK DAY AT THE COLORADO RAILROAD MUSEUM - Here is a golden opportunity to get those winter cobwebs out of the system by lending a hand at the Colorado Railroad Museum on Saturday, May 13. In addition to giving attention to the club's equipment, we will also cut grass and try to spruce up the museum grounds for the summer visitors. Some mowing, week cutting, sweeping, plus window washing on the club's equipment will be involved. The club will provide lunch for those volunteer workers in the form of hamburgers grilled right on the spot with plenty of pop to wash them down. Don't feel it is necessary to spend all day. If you can stop for 3-4 hours during the morning or afternoon, you'll be most welcome. Should anyone like to bring a mower along, it would surely make the grass-cutting a lot quicker. We'll get going around 8:00 A.M. Here is your chance to personally help out the club and the museum, and get to know some of your fellow members!!

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A VISIT TO CRIPPLE CREEK - Plans are under way for a one-day bus tour to the Cripple Creek mining district on Saturday, June 17. The trip will include riding the Cripple Creek & Victor Narrow Gauge Railway, a mine tour, and stopping at a number of sites in the Cripple Creek and the Victor areas. Plenty of time will be allowed to wander the streets of Cripple Creek and visit the museum and shops. Going by bus will eliminate having to drive for a change, and will allow for a more relaxed day. More details and cost will be in the June newsletter.

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8444 TO RUN ON AUGUST 12 - The Union Pacific has just given the green light for the club's 1978 excursion behind the famous steamer to be operated on Saturday, August 12. The train will be operated via the Dent Branch northbound, and will consist of streamline coaches, baggage car and dome lounge. A box lunch will be included in the price of the ticket, and rolls and beverages will be available in the baggage car. One fare will be available, \$39.00 per person. The popularity of this outing never seems to diminish, and because of the mid-summer date, prompt ordering of tickets would be recommended. A flyer will be included with this newsletter.

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THE TRANSPORTATION TEST CENTER TRIP took place on Friday, April 21st, using two chartered buses for the all-day affair. Prior to departure from the Villa Italia Shopping Center parking lot, coffee and donuts were provided, and a

rather smashing attempt at dispensing apple cider was also made. Pleasant weather was the rule of the day, and for a different approach, the group headed south via Sedalia and Palmer Lake. First stop was in Pueblo at the Pueblo Union Depot, still open and looking fairly decent, considering passenger trains no longer stop at the landmark. After a brief stop to view ATSF No. 2912, the 4-8-4 on display near the downtown area, a lunch stop was made at the Furr's Cafeteria. Then it was west along the ATSF/MP mainline to the test center. There a representative gave a talk on the various facets and goals of the Center, its history, answered questions and then showed several movies. One explained the FAST track at the center, where track and conventional rolling stock is tested under accelerated conditions, and another explained tank car safety, tests that have been done to determine how safety can be improved, and solutions to this serious problem. A trip was then made out on the grounds to visit several of the projects now in progress. Returning to Denver, a two-hour stop was made at Giuseppe's in Colorado Springs for supper. All in all, it was a pretty enjoyable and informative day.

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RUMOR HAS IT THAT UNION PACIFIC'S 8444 will head west soon to join some sort of transportation affair in Boise, Idaho. It may depart Cheyenne on May 12 with about half a dozen cars of some kind.

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THE CUMBRES & TOLTEC SCENIC RAILWAY fired up Rotary OY, Engines 487 and 484, and with caboose 0503 in tow, operated the first working rotary snowplow train to open the entire Antonito-Chama line in many years. The railroad decided to run the train in order to be able to move equipment from Chama to the Antonito area for the filming of the childhood of the characters whose later exploits were dramatized in the movie released several years ago, entitled "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid."

Prior to running the plow train, a bulldozer was used to break up some of the snow below Cumbres. There was still plenty of work left for the plow to do, and it made quite a spectacular sight under the blue but cold skies. The special train left Chama on Friday, April 21st, and made its way to Cumbres by early afternoon, where the snow was still level with the cab windows. Saturday, the consist left Cumbres around mid-morning, and reached around Tanglefoot Curve where a problem of sorts was encountered by John Coker, the fireman on the rotary, that caused some delay, but everything finally came out all right. The train then returned to Cumbres for the night. Sunday, the special left Cumbres and plowed 3-5 foot drifts to Los Pinos tank, where it was watered, and then continued around to Los Pinos Siding, returning to Cumbres. On Monday, the train ran past Los Pinos to Toltec Creek. A speeder from Antonito was able to open the line from the east end to that point, and after blasting a couple of rocks on the tracks, the line was open. Coaling of the train took place at Cumbres with a front end loader during the operation, with water being obtained at the Cumbres and Los Pinos facilities.

The equipment to be in the movie was to be ready and on location west of Antonito by around April 27th. Engine 484 is already in a sort of pea soup green paint scheme, and caboose 0503 now sports a salmon color. A number of equipment cars have been given the Hollywood treatment so they resemble passenger cars. A depot is reportedly to be built in the desert west of Antonito, to be used in the filming.

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SWAP 'N SHOP SUPPLEMENT

May, 1978 Issue

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAIL REPORT

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

- FOR SALE: COLORADO MIDLAND - still in original package from publisher - numbered. \$175.00 or trade for SWITZERLAND TRAIL. EMERY M. CROUSE, c/o Public Service Company, 5525 E. 38th Ave., Denver, Colorado 80207.
- FOR TRADE: Have Sunset On3 C-16 TRO. Want PFM HO GN M-2 2-6-8-0. Send SSAE for list of On3 and HO kits for sale or trade. BRAD DOBBINS, 825 Park Lane, S.W. Roanoke, Virginia 24015.
- WANTED: Copy of COLORADO MIDLAND. ROBERT D. HAACK, 4567 Hooker Street, Denver, Colorado 80211.
- WANTED: Wanted to buy, borrow or ?? Book, THE ROYAL GORGE WAR, a 6" x 9" book on the railway battle for the right of way. Also wanted is a 616 negative carrier for an Omega D-2 enlarger. ROBERT HARMEN, 470 Calle Entrada, Fountain, Colorado 80817.
- WANTED: February, 1947 OFFICIAL GUIDE. KEVIN E. CORWIN, 7645 Irving Street, Westminster, Colorado 80030. Phone: 427-2567.
- FOR SALE: 1. COLORADO MIDLAND by Morris Cafky, limited edition of 4,000 volumes. No. 2050 autographed. Excellent to mint condition. \$175.00.
2. THE COLORADO ROAD by F. Hol Wagner, Jr. Limited collector's edition No. 902, autographed. Limited to 1,000 copies. Complete with slip case. Mint condition. \$50.00.
3. SLIM RAILS THROUGH THE SAND by George Turner. Limited first edition, No. 751, autographed. Excellent condition. \$20.00.
4. EARLY AMERICAN STEAM LOCOMOTIVES by Reed Kinert, first edition. Excellent condition. \$10.00
MIXED TRAINS DAILY by L. Beebe. First edition. Had been purchased used and has seen use, but it is sound and complete. Fair condition. \$10.00.
No's 1, 2, and 3 will be shipped post-paid and insured for full amount. No's. 4 and 5, please include 45¢ on each book to help with the cost of shipping and handling.
HARRY J. WAGNER III, E. Centennial Drive, Centennial Lake, Marlton, New Jersey 08053.
- FOR SALE: For best offer: Marker bearing IGN RR made by Adlake, missing bracket at the base and oil font. Sell or trade for Colorado Gold, timetables, passes, switch keys not tool house, etc., photos. Items related to Texas Rangers (Peace Officers); Donovan, Manchester & Oneida Ry., Kelly, American Wood Type; World Wide Mag. Dec. 1919; Hargarave, Pioneer Indiana RR; the Empire: That Missouri Pacific Serves; Stilwell, Canibals of Finance, also other titles.
A VON BLON, 1111 Colcord, Waco, Texas 76707.

A PHOTOGRAPHERS DAY will be held on the V&T Railroad at Virginia City, Nevada, on Saturday, May 20, 1978. Special consists and runbys will be featured. Any profits from the all-day activity will go to the soon-to-be-formed Nevada Railroad Museum. Fare is \$20.00; tickets limited and should be ordered by May 13. For reservations, write to Tom Armstrong, Box 1416, South Lake Tahoe, California 95705.

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A SINGLE TRUCK ELECTRIC TROLLEY CAR from Lisbon, Portugal, passed through Portland early this year on its way to Aspen, Colorado, reports the WESTERN RAILROADER. Built in 1899 by the St. Louis Car Company, the car was purchased by the Aspen Street Railway for use on a 1-mile line. They also have an option to buy nine more cars.

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OVER 30 CARS of a BN freight train derailed near Wiggins, Colorado on April 19. It took a day to reopen a line through the scattered cars.

IN CALIFORNIA, a wreck on the Union Pacific forced the re-routing of two eastbound hotshot UP freights via the Santa Fe from Barstow to Denver, via Raton Pass and Palmer Lake recently. ATSF No. 1, LAX6 had UP units 6919, 6942, 6933, while ATSF No. 2 LAX6 had UP 6900, 8026 and 6920 on the head end, mentions Bob Harmen. Both trains passed through Colorado Springs shortly after 2:00 A.M. on April 8. The five Centennial units over the Santa Fe created an unusual and impressive sight.

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THE B&O'S 151st BIRTHDAY - If your travels take you to the midwest and east this summer, you might be interested in the Chessie Steam specials to be sponsored from April through October on the C&O/B&O system commemorating the 151st birthday of the B&O Railroad. The trips operate from Illinois to Michigan, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, and Ohio, and other states just to give an idea of the area covered - over 50 trips, with the 19-car train pulled by Reading Engine No. 2101. For details, write to Steam Special, Box CJ, 2 North Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201.

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