



RAIL REPORT

October 2022

No. 742

Rocky Mountain Railroad Club • Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation

There Will Be An October Meeting In Barnes Hall

Rebuilding Como

Presented Live And Via The Internet by Bob Schoppe

October 11, 2022 • 7:30 PM

Bob will discuss the progress restoring the railroad facilities of the railroads that served Como, Colorado. He will include a very brief review of Como history, what has been accomplished this year and plans for future work. There have been track improvements and expansion, locomotive work, the water tank reconstruction, and roundhouse improvements.

See Page 14 For Information On How To Participate Online.

Please join us for an enjoyable, educational evening at Christ Church at 2950 South University Boulevard (University Boulevard at Bates Avenue) where there is plenty of off street parking at the rear of the complex. Please bring a guest. **All programs are intended to provide an educational experience on railroading. The general public is welcome to attend. There is no charge for this meeting.**

RMRRRC 2022 Calendar

November 8 Monthly Meeting and program.

December 13 Annual Meeting and program.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, programs and dates are subject to change without notice. Please contact Dave Schaaf with program ideas at ds5280@comcast.net or 303 988-3456.

Renewals Are Around the Corner

By Denny Leonard, Past President and Membership Volunteer

Our next membership year runs from January 1, 2023, to the first Monday in January 2024. The renewal season is the two months prior with the renewal process beginning in November.

The club mails 2023 membership renewal invoices first week of November. The club uses the USPS for invoice delivery. Please be on the lookout for this mailing.

We know it is easy to overlook with all the solicitations you get in your mailbox. The response to paper invoicing is higher than with inserts in the *Rail Report* or by electronic mail.

The Club is holding the Regular membership prices at two levels. The cost of production and delivery is the basis for the different prices. For Regular members who receive their newsletters through email, the yearly membership is \$30.00. For Regular members who receive their newsletters by USPS mail, the yearly membership is \$45.00. For a Contributing, Sustaining or Patron level member the delivery method is their choice. International members receive their newsletters by email only.

Please consider taking the *Rail Report* by email, the digital color is great.



The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club membership card with seniority number 1 is currently held by Mr. Cornelius Hauck, a 75-year member of the Club.

Renewing using PayPal helps the Club. If you are sending a check, there will be a new membership PO Box to mail to this year.

Seniority numbers mean a great deal to some and have little meaning to others. Those who consider it important should make sure to renew on time. I consider seniority numbers to be a historic and important part of membership in the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club, but please realize that managing the numbers is a task.

— PLEASE —
Do Not Be Late Renewing

The renewal must be received by January 2, 2023, to maintain your seniority. Late renewals will receive a new beginning roster number!

The masthead features New York, Chicago and St. Louis R.R. (Nickel Plate Road) locomotive 742 at Westfield, New York, in August 1946.

– Photo from the Tom Klinger Collection.

Rebuilding Como



The new public entrance for the Como roundhouse.
– Photo © 2022 Bob Schoppe



The boxcar in the Como yards has been repainted, will be re-lettered and is planned to be returned to Boreas Pass in late 2025. – Photo © 2022 Bob Schoppe

Current Railroad Happenings



The Burlington Northern 12517 caboose has found a new home at The Hungry Moose Caboose next to the Jefferson, Colorado, depot as of August 18, 2022. Louise and Jeff purchased the retired caboose and had it placed on the long abandoned (rails pulled up September 1938) Denver, South Park & Pacific RR right of way (Colorado & Southern last ran trains here). Louise applied white primer over graffiti and was planning to paint the caboose green and yellow. – Photo © 2022 by Chip.



One OmniTrax (OMLX) unit had been painted orange in August 2022. OMLX 4011 with a Great Western Railway decal crossed the Cache la Poudre River north of Johnstown, Colorado, running on the Great Western Railway on August 10, 2022. The other three 4-axis units were painted gray. – Photo © 2022 by Chip.

Current Railroad Happenings



Former D&RGW GP-30 #3011 was recently repainted at the Colorado Railroad Museum, shown here outside the roundhouse on September 7, 2022. This is the first paint job since the locomotive left the factory. The museum crew had to repair a lot of rust areas and do lots of masking to make the lettering and stripes correct. – Three photos © 2022 Dave Schaaf.

D&RGW 3011 was owned and stored by Omnitrac for a number of years in Loveland, Colorado, after its retirement by UP. It was eventually donated to the Colorado Railroad Museum during February 2003. It sat at the Coors brewery until August 2004, when it and Coors switcher C998 were moved to the museum by truck.

Current Railroad Happenings



Colorado & Southern coach #70 has been on display at Idaho Springs for a long time. It is currently inside the restoration shop at Silver Plume, Colorado, shown here on August 4, 2022. The plan is to eventually return this narrow-gauge car to Idaho Springs. – Photo © 2022 Dave Schaaf.



The Georgetown Loop RR is in the very early stage of constructing a new passenger car at Silver Plume, here on August 4, 2022. – Photo © 2022 Dave Schaaf.



The locomotive line and group photo, on September 15, 2022, was an opportunity for the Steam Team to gather these engines for a photo while the weather is still good. – Two photos courtesy of Ed Dickens, Union Pacific.

Union Pacific Movements In The Cheyenne Yard

Ed Dickens and the UP steam crew pulled most of their steam locomotives (UP 838 is not shown) out for a group photo on September 15, 2022. In April 2022, the UP announced the donation of a few of their engines and cars.

On September 14, 2022, the UP steam crew used their restored Big Boy

locomotive to move the older UP 5511 around in the Cheyenne yard. The purpose of this was to free up the bearings on an engine that had hardly been moved in the last 50 years. The 5511 and a few other locomotives will eventually be moving out of Wyoming, and this was part of preparing for that re-location.

Union Pacific Movements In The Cheyenne Yard



UP 5511 (2-10-2) was pulled out of the roundhouse into the Cheyenne yard on September 13, 2022. – Photo © 2022 Dave Schaaf.



In September 2022, Ed Dickens and the UP steam crew worked to service locomotive UP 5511 to prepare for a move. – Photo © 2022 Dave Schaaf.

Union Pacific Movements In The Cheyenne Yard



UP 5511 was being moved around the Cheyenne yard by UP 4014 on September 14, 2022. – Photo © 2022 Dave Schaaf.



Adding grease to the bearings on locomotive 5511, an engine that had hardly been moved in the last 50 years. – Photo © 2022 Dave Schaaf.

Union Pacific Club Excursion History



On August 4, 1956, UP 535 led a Rocky Mountain Railroad Club excursion, shown here during a photo run-by near Centennial, Wyoming.

– Photo from an original slide by Emil Albrecht, from the James W. Watson collection, provided by Lance Garrels.

This 1956 Club UP standard gauge excursion ran from Laramie, Wyoming, to Northgate, Colorado, running over the Coalmont Branch (former Laramie, North Park & Western) using the 2-8-0 engine #535. The cost was \$6.00. Six cars made up the train, all Harriman style coaches with one baggage car.

The handout for this trip was printed on glossy paper and included photos, a map, roster information and text provided by Dick Kindig and Jim Ehernberger. The trip notice recommended several ways to get to Laramie, including driving or taking the train. Schedules for UP trains number 9/10 and 17/18 were included in the notice. Pullman cars were also available to passengers for \$26 to \$29 depending upon accommodations.

– Information from *Journeys to Yesteryear, A Chronological History of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club And Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation*.

Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation Donation Note

Donations should be by personal check made out to “Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation” and sent to: Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation, PO Box 2391, Denver, CO 80201-2391

Current Railroad Happenings



Amtrak 301, a 50th Anniversary unit ALC-42, left Denver on July 24, 2022, on train 5, the California Zephyr. The unit had been at Denver Union Station for crew familiarization. The train was entering tunnel 1 on UP's Moffat Tunnel Subdivision. – Photo © 2022 by Chip.



Sharp looking BNSF 4718, a C44-9W warbonnet, led the Provo, Utah, to Denver train with CP 8076 at Rollinsville, Colorado, on August 3, 2022. A westbound BNSF Denver to Provo, Utah, train passed with DPU BNSF 7947 about 4:20 PM. BNSF keeps the UP's Moffat Tunnel Subdivision rails shined.

– Photo © 2022 by Chip.

Current Railroad Happenings



Area 420 now owns nee-Missouri Pacific Lines No. 894 dome car. The dome was owned and repainted for the Minnesota Zephyr Dinner Train (named St. Croix) at Stillwater, Minnesota. Area 420 co-owner Whitney Justice purchased the dome and three other cars from the Iowa Pacific bankruptcy sale. Plans call to make the dome into a marijuana dispensary. The railroad cars were located on the west side of Moffat, Colorado, on August 20, 2022.

Missouri Pacific (MP) 894 was built by Pullman Standard in 1952. MP sold the car to the Illinois Central (IC) and it was renumbered 2210. IC retired the car in 1970. Later, the car went into private ownership. Starting in the late 1980s the car ran on the Minnesota Zephyr Dinner Train. The dinner train shut down in 2008. Around 2012, the car was sold to Iowa Pacific Holdings and moved to Colorado where it was stored at Alamosa, Colorado. – Photo © 2022 by Chip.



Union Pacific 3968, an SD70M, led the Stadler built bi-level commuter train built for CalTrain's new electrified operation at San Francisco, California. The train was westbound on Big 10 west of Arvada, Colorado, on September 14, 2022. The Stadler commuter train had been testing at the Transportation Technology Center east of Pueblo, Colorado, in recent months. It was headed for the Stadler factory in Salt Lake City, Utah. – Photo © 2022 by Chip.

Current Railroad Happenings



Ringneck & Western RR (reporting marks RWRR) WAMX 4023, a GP40-2LW also considered a GP38-3W, was on a push-pull unit rock train at Chamberlain, South Dakota, on September 12, 2022. The line was operated by Dakota Southern Railway until late May 2021. – Photo © 2022 by Chip.

The Ringneck & Western Railroad, a subsidiary of Watco, is a railroad that began operations in late May 2021 over 108 miles of former track between Mitchell and Presho, South Dakota. The railroad was formed after Watco purchased the 189.7 miles of track between Mitchell and Kadoka, South Dakota, from the state of South Dakota in 2021. The line beyond Presho is out of service with the US Highway 83 expressway crossing having been removed in the early 2000s during the years that the line was used only for car storage beyond Mitchell.

History: The line is part of a former Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad (CMStP&P) secondary built between Marquette, Iowa, and Rapid City, South Dakota, between 1880 and 1907. The line lost profitability and was embargoed in 1980 and subsequently purchased by the South Dakota Department of Transportation, which sold the line to Watco in 2021 for \$13,000,000. The Dakota Southern Railway, first under the ownership of brothers Alex and Dick Huff and later Mike Williams and Stan Patterson, from the 1980s onward operated and between 2011 and 2016 rehabilitated the line as far as Presho. The track beyond Kadoka to Rapid City has been removed.

Meetings Will Be Live Streamed on YouTube

Meetings are available to watch any time you like. Just search for “Rocky Mountain Railroad Club” on YouTube, click on “Videos” at the top, and you can watch the current meeting as it happens or replay most meetings since we started going virtual back in 2020.

The board believes live streaming may increase membership and make our meetings available to members who find it difficult to attend meetings in person.

Virtual Meeting And Program Access Instructions

Starting back in March, you won't need to send an email to reserve a virtual interactive spot at a Club meeting. All members who have provided an email address will be sent the Zoom invitation and login information.

Make sure your membership email information is up to date so you can receive Club emailed communications.

Colorado Railroad Museum

Colorado Rails & Cocktails – An Evening of Colorado History

Bar opens at 6:30 PM, presentation at 7:00 PM. – Admission: \$20 Adults. Ages 21+ only. Admission includes 2 beverages of your choice (beer, wine or soda) and snacks.

October 7, 2022 – Colorado, Railroads, and the World's Fairs

Historian Kris Autabee joins us for this fun look at how Colorado and its railroads participated in various World's Fairs.

Day Out With Thomas™ 2022 is sold out.

For information call 303-279-4591 or visit <http://www.coloradorailroadmuseum.org>

Colorado Railroad Museum Admission

Rocky Mountain Railroad Club Members in good standing, and upon presentation of a current membership card, are entitled to free admission. Members are invited to join the Colorado Railroad Museum (a Museum membership provides certain merchandise discounts), and members may participate in restoration or other maintenance programs as volunteers.

Intermountain Chapter, NRHS Events

The Intermountain Chapter will resume its monthly Saturday, Noon, luncheon meetings on October 8th at Malones Clubhouse Grill on the NE corner of the 64th & Indiana shopping area. **The program will be the Chapter's premier of Rich Luckin's new program on the Budd RDC.**

For current meeting information email railbob@icloud.com or call 303-883-2435

Publishers Statement — Rocky Mountain Rail Report

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Please use this address for legal, commercial, Foundation donations, and general business: Rocky Mountain Railroad Club, PO Box 2391, Denver, CO 80201-2391

Club Information

Rocky Mountain Railroad Club
PO Box 2391
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Web: <http://www.rockymtnrrclub.org>
Email: rails@rockymtnrrclub.org
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Club Officers

President Andy Dell
Vice President Dave Schaaf
Secretary Steve Subber
Treasurer Keith Jensen

Club Directors

Nathan Holmes, Pat Mauro, Debbie MacDonald, Michael Tinetti, Nathan Zachman
Past President – Dennis Leonard

Membership Information

Membership in the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club may be obtained online at www.rockymtnrrclub.org or by sending the annual dues to the Club address:

Rocky Mountain Railroad Club
PO Box 2391
Denver, CO 80201-2391

An associate membership for spouses and children is \$25.00 additional.

Regular membership dues are \$30.00 with email delivery of the *Rail Report* and \$45.00 if a printed, mailed *Rail Report* is desired.

Members joining after June may send a payment for half of the dues level they wish to join at for the remainder of the year.

International membership dues are \$45.00.
Contributing membership is \$50.00.
Sustaining membership is \$75.00.
Patron membership is \$100.00.

Members of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club are also members of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation, a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

Board Meetings

Members are always welcome to attend any board of directors meeting. Please contact any Club officer for the date, time and location.

Newsletter Contributions

Newsletter contributions and items for publication should be sent to:
Bruce Nall, Editor – Email: selectimag@aol.com

Rocky Mountain Rail Report
PO Box 620579
Littleton, CO 80162-0579

Items for the November *Rail Report* should be sent by October 9th.