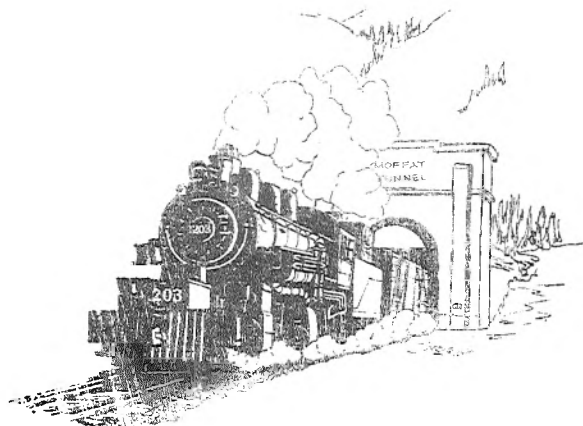


Rocky Mountain Rail Report



The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

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

EDITOR - - - - DARRELL ARNDT

MEETING NOTICE: DATE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1973
TIME 7:45 P.M.
PLACE SOUTHEAST WING OF CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 2900 S. UNIVERSITY AT BATES;
OFFSTREET PARKING AT REAR (EAST) OF MEETING HALL.

PROGRAM NOTES: JAMES R. (JIM) TROWBRIDGE WILL SHOW US 400 FEET OF MOVIES OF THE BLACK HILLS CENTRAL RAILROAD TAKEN DURING THE CLUBS EXCURSION IN JUNE 1972 AND ANOTHER 800 FEET COVERING THE CLUBS NARROW GAUGE HOLIDAYS IN 1971 AND 1972 ON THE CUMBRES AND TOLTEC SCENIC RAILROAD AND THE D&RGW SILVERTON BRANCH.

THE BLACK HILLS CENTRAL MOVIES WILL GIVE THOSE OF YOU WHO PLAN TO RIDE THE CLUBS SPECIAL TRAIN FROM HILL CITY TO DEADWOOD AND RETURN NEXT MONTH, SOME IDEA OF THE BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY THIS LINE TRAVERSES.

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BLACK HILLS CENTRAL - DETAILS OF THE CLUBS FALL STEAM TRIP OVER THE SCENIC BURLINGTON NORTHERN LINE BETWEEN HILL CITY AND DEADWOOD, SOUTH DAKOTA ARE IN THE ENCLOSED FLYER. ANYONE WHO WAS ABOARD LAST YEAR WILL ATTEST TO THE ENJOYMENT AND RELAXATION THIS EXCEPTIONALLY WELL MANAGED SPECIAL RUN HAS TO OFFER.

THE BLACK HILLS CENTRAL ALSO OPERATES ON A REGULAR SCHEDULE BETWEEN HILL CITY AND CUSTER, AND MAY BE RIDDEN AT THE DISCRETION OF THE VISITOR. REPAIRS TO THE KEYSTONE BRANCH, WHICH CONNECTS WITH THE BN MAINLINE AT HILL CITY, AND SUFFERED HEAVY DAMAGE IN LAST YEARS DISASTEROUS FLOODS, ARE ALMOST COMPLETE. HOWEVER, NO TRIPS ARE EXPECTED OVER IT THIS YEAR.

IT MAY BE NOTED THAT STEAM POWER ISN'T THE ONLY ATTRACTION TO KEEP THE BLACK HILLS VISITOR BUSY. CONCENTRATED IN THE REGION ARE SUCH POINTS OF INTEREST AS CUSTER STATE PARK WITH ITS UNUSUAL ROCK FORMATIONS AND VARIED WILDLIFE, WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK, JEWEL CAVE NAT'L MONUMENT, THE OLD MINING TOWNS OF LEAD AND DEADWOOD, THE RESORT TOWN OF HOT SPRINGS WITH ITS MANY FINE OLD STONE BUILDINGS, RAPID CITY, CHIEF CRAZY HORSE MEMORIAL, AND OF COURSE MT. RUSHMORE, ALWAYS IMPRESSIVE BY DAY OR NIGHT. TO THE EAST IS DEVILS TOWER NAT'L MONUMENT AND TO THE WEST THE BADLANDS NAT'L MONUMENT.

SO IF YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO EXPLORE THE BLACK HILLS REGION, BUT NEVER DID ANYTHING ABOUT IT, HERE'S A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO DO IT BOTH BY HIGHWAY AND BEHIND STANDARD GAUGE STEAM.

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MEMBERSHIP CARDS HAVE BEEN SENT OUT TO ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR 1973 DUES. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED A CURRENT DUES CARD, PLEASE LET THE TREASURER KNOW. WE ARE ENCLOSED IN THIS NEWS-LETTER A SEPARATE NOTE TO ALL THOSE MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT PAID THEIR 1973 DUES.

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DON'T FORGET THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN VECTURIST ASSOCIATION WHICH WILL BE HELD AUGUST 10-11-12 AT THE NEW DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY INN. THE AVA IS AN INTERNATIONAL, NON-PROFIT SOCIETY OF COLLECTORS OF TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING TOKENS, WITH MEMBERSHIP OPEN TO COLLECTORS OF ALL AGES. MEMBERS RECEIVE A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER, THE FAREBOX. THIS 12 TO 20 PAGE PUBLICATION COVERS SUCH PERTINENT TOPICS AS TOKEN HISTORIES, RECENT DISCOVERIES OF RARE TOKENS, HINTS ON HOW TO LOCATE OLD AND RARE TOKENS, AND NUMEROUS OTHER ASPECTS OF THE HOBBY. DUES ARE \$5 PER YEAR.

THE ORGANIZATION HOLDS THEIR ANNUAL CONVENTION IN VARIOUS CITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND DENVER HAS BEEN SELECTED FOR THEIR 25TH. NUMEROUS STREETCAR, RAILROAD, AND TRANSPORTATION RELATED DISPLAYS WILL BE ON EXHIBIT. A TOKEN AUCTION WILL BE HELD, AND A COLOR SLIDE PROGRAM BY ED HALEY AND DICK KINDIG WILL BE PRESENTED. CONTACT SYD JOSEPH, 870 S. HUDSON, DENVER FOR FURTHER INFO.

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JULY 11TH SAW THE INAUGURAL RUN OF A NEW TRAIN THROUGH DENVER THAT IS CONTRACTED TO RUN FOR AT LEAST 25 YEARS. THE BURLINGTON NORTHERN/COLORADO AND SOUTHERN BEGAN RUNNING A 110 CAR UNIT COAL TRAIN ON A 1,200 MILE ROUND TRIP EVERY 70 HOURS BETWEEN GILLETTE, WYO. AND THE NEW PUBLIC SERVICE CO. OF COLORADO'S NEW COMANCHE ELECTRIC GENERATING POWER PLANT NEAR PUEBLO. TWO HOURS ARE NEEDED TO LOAD THE 11,000 TONS OF LOW SULPHUR COAL INTO THE TRAIN, WHICH MOVES THROUGH THE LOADING AREA AT 6/10 MPH. UPON ARRIVAL AT THE POWER PLANT THE FLAT BOTTOM CARS, EQUIPPED WITH ROTARY COUPLERS, ARE INVERTED FOR EMPTYING WHILE REMAINING COUPLED, A PROCESS WHICH TAKES FIVE HOURS. SERVICING OF THE DIESEL UNITS AND THE PSC OF COLO. OWNED CARS IS DONE AT ALLIANCE, NEB.

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CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW RAIL LINE IS TO BEGIN SOON IN NORTHWESTERN NEW MEXICO. THE NINE MILE LINE WILL BE USED TO TRANSPORT COAL FROM A MINE TO THE FOUR CORNERS POWER PLANT. TWENTY-TWO 125 CAPACITY CARS AND THREE DIESEL LOCOMOTIVES WILL REPLACE FIFTEEN TRUCKS CURRENTLY HAULING THE COAL. THE ROAD MAY EVENTUALLY BE EXTENDED ANOTHER SEVEN MILES.

ANOTHER RAILROAD BUILDING PROJECT OF MAJOR PROPORTIONS ABOUT ONE HUNDRED MILES WEST OF THE FOUR CORNERS AREA IS WELL ON THE WAY TO COMPLETION. THE BLACK MESA AND LAKE POWELL WILL BEGIN CARRYING COAL BETWEEN KAYENTA AND A NEW GENERATING PLANT NEAR PAGE, ARIZONA NEXT YEAR. THREE ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVES WILL MAKE THREE ROUND TRIPS A DAY, SIX DAYS A WEEK OVER THE 78 MILE LINE, PULLING UP TO A MAXIMUM OF EIGHTY 122 TON CAPACITY CARS.

PARTICULARLY INTERESTING IS THE FACT THAT THE LINE WILL BE COMPLETELY ELECTRIFIED, WITH A FULLY AUTOMATIC TRAIN CONTROL SYSTEM. THE ENGINEER WILL TAKE OVER THE CONTROLS ONLY IN AN EMERGENCY OR UNDER UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES. CONTINUOUS WELDED RAIL ON CONCRETE TIES IS USED THROUGHOUT.

SHOULD YOU DRIVE OVER ROUTE 160, THE MAIN ROAD TO THE GRAND CANYON FROM COLORADO, THE NEW LINE CAN EASILY BE SEEN, AS IT PARALLELS THE HIGHWAY FOR SOME DISTANCE.

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AUTO TRAIN CORPORATION'S DESIRE TO BEGIN SERVICE BETWEEN LOUISVILLE, KY AND FLORIDA HAS BEEN BITTERLY OPPOSED BY AMTRAK. THE AUTO TRAIN WOULD BE COMPETING WITH PRESENT AMTRAK SERVICE. HOWEVER AMTRAK HAS NOT INDICATED IT HAS ANY CONCRETE PLANS FOR RUNNING ITS OWN AUTO CARRYING TRAIN BETWEEN KENTUCKY AND FLORIDA. THE SENATE RECENTLY PASSED A PROVISION WHICH WOULD ABOLISH THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT TO AMTRAK TO OPERATE AUTO TRAINS OVER ITS ROUTES.

A RECENT INQUIRY TO AUTO-TRAIN BY A LOCAL COUPLE FOR MOVEMENT OF A CAR AND FOUR PEOPLE, WITH PULLMAN ACCOMODATIONS, RESULTED IN THE SURPRISING INFORMATION THAT SUCH ACCOMODATIONS ARE SOLD OUT THROUGH JANUARY 1974.

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MISCELLANY --- A US ARMY ALCO ROAD SWITCHER WAS OBSERVED WITH REGULAR RIO GRANDE MOTIVE POWER ON AN EASTBOUND FREIGHT IN GLENWOOD CANYON JULY 21ST.

RIO GRANDE'S BUSINESS CAR WAS SEEN TACKED ON BEHIND THE CABOOSE OF A 15 SOME-ODD CAR NORTHBOUND FREIGHT IN COLORADO SPRINGS THE 12TH OF JULY.

DUE TO ITS ENTHUSIASTIC RECEPTION EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE ARTRAIN HAS ONCE AGAIN RETURNED TO COLORADO, SPENDING JULY 23RD THROUGH THE 28TH AT GLENWOOD SPRINGS.

RECENT FREIGHT CAR ORDERS BY THE RIO GRANDE INCLUDED 17 AUTOMOBILE CARS, 115 OPEN-TOP HOPPERS, 140 COVERED HOPPERS, AND 300 INSULATED BOX CARS. (WE DIDN'T NOTICE ANY PASSENGER CARS IN CURRENT ORDERS.)

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SWAP 'N SHOP - PERSONAL ADS ARE ACCEPTED FROM MEMBERS FOR ITEMS TO BE LISTED FOR SALE OR TRADE OR WANTED. WE CANNOT ENTER INTO ANY CORRESPONDENCE, NOR WILL WE APPRAISE ITEMS.

FOR SALE - WISH TO SELL TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER TWO (2) BOUND VOLUMES OF EMPLOYEES TT'S, MOSTLY 1930'S (OLDEST 1910 KCS). ONE VOLUME AND BINDER WEIGHS 181 LBS, THE OTHER 18½ LBS. TOO NUMEROUS TO LIST ALL OF THEM, ALL DIFFERENT. YOU PAY THE FREIGHT, USE SAE. BIDS CLOSE SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1973. R. HERVEY ANGLIER, 402 CHANNING AVE., SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78210.

FOR SALE: TWO BRAKEMAN'S OIL LAMPS. ADAMS & WESTLAKE, 10" HIGH, B&O RR, CLEAR GLASS, \$20. ARMSPEAR MFG. CO., 11" HIGH, B&O 1925, HEAVY RED GLASS SHADE, RIBBED, \$30. BOTH FOR \$40. A. L. CROSBY ROUTE 4, QUAKERTOWN, PA. 18951.

CHAS. MAX. PRESIDENT. F. J. HALEY VICE-PRES. BILL GORDON SECRETARY. CARL E. C. CARLSON. TREAS.