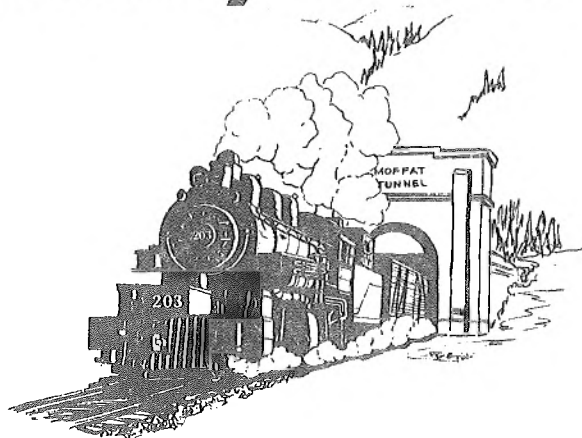


Rocky Mountain Rail Report



The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

P. O. Box 2391
November, 1976

Denver, Colorado 80201
No. 206

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, November 9, 1976
Time . . . 7:45 P.M.
Place . . . Southeast wing of Christ Episcopal Church, 2900 S.
University at Bâtes; offstreet parking at rear (east)
of meeting hall.

PROGRAM NOTES: For the November meeting, Charles Max will entertain us with his Super-8 movies of the Swissair Railroader #1, taken by a group of 28 rail enthusiasts, most of whom are Rocky Mountain Railroad Club members. During the 16-day tour, the party traveled extensively by train through Switzerland in a variety of accommodations pulled by a wide assortment of electric locomotives and even a few steam engines. Included in the scenes will be shots of the huge station in Zurich, activity at Lucerne, Andermatt, and the Gottard and Simplon Tunnels, the Simplon being the longest in the world at 12 miles. In addition, many cog and rack trains that the Alpine country is famous for will be shown, including the Pilatus-Bahn line up the side of Mt. Pilatus (50% grade!!) and others. Charlie will also have some film from a trip made to Austria in September of 1974, when he and his wife Dorothy traveled around that country and also parts of Germany and Switzerland. So be sure not to miss this interesting program on what you don't miss when you don't miss the trains of the Swiss that weren't missed by Charlie and Dorothy.

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THE ANNUAL BANQUET and October meeting on October 2nd was well attended, with those present enjoying a good dinner that provided all that a hearty appetite could ask for. Following the dinner, drawings for the door prizes were held, resulting in many lucky and satisfied winners. The winners and their prizes were:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRIZE</u>
Bill Youder	"Rails Along the Foothills"
Nickie Miller	Official Railway Guide
Barb Young	1940's Railroad Magazines
Ed Young	1940's Railroad Magazines
Tom Keeton	1940's Railroad Magazines
John Ingles	1943 Colorado Railroad Map
Ivan Duff	"Locomotives of America"
Wilma Johnson	"Railways"
Ruth Youder	"Echoes of Como, Colorado"
Shirley McFadden	D&RGW Desk Ruler

Harold Trace
Wilson Ruid
Joanne Berens
Maxine Sozin
Fern Cordell
Frank Gill
Bob Griswold
Allen Osthoff
Mildred Cherry
M. Pukinbrock

1943 Colo. Railroad Map by Trains Magazine
Rio Grande Jct. Ry. Stock Certificate
"Last Days of Steam"
Howard Fogg Print on Union Pacific
1943 Colo. Railroad Map by Trains Magazine
Two Switch Lamp Lense Ash Trays
Rio Grande Jct. Ry. Stock Certificate
Copy #3669 of "Colorado on Glass"
Relica of Alpine Tunnel Station Semaphore
Complimentary "Colorado Midland"

Our sincerest thanks to those who contributed items for the drawing: Western Federal Savings, Olie Larsen, Bob LeMassena, Sundance Limited. Jackson Thode, Jim Trowbridge and Doug Wornom of Chicago. The miniature replica of the semaphore used on the station at Alpine Tunnel was donated by Dow Helmers. Dow gave the semaphore to the club this past summer, only a short time before he passed away.

After the drawing was completed, Neal Miller began the program by showing a variety of film sequences on railroading of years past followed by the movie classic "The General" starring that master of silent comedy, Buster Keaton.

We would like to thank all who participated in the banquet, those who contributed door prizes for the drawing, and to Neal Miller, whose swell films rounded out a fine evening.

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THE CLUB'S MANITOU & PIKES PEAK COG RAILWAY EXCURSION for 1976 took place on Saturday, September 25, using one of the railway's brand new two car trainsets. The weather, unfortunately, was not as cooperative as it could have been, with clouds and fog prevailing around and about the mountain with snow falling at the top. Photo stops were held, however, and what better way could one go up a mountain under any condition other than in the comfort of a train?! Following the return to Manitou Springs many in the group proceeded to Guiseppe's Old Depot Restaurant for a delicious dinner.

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IT IS WITH DEEPEST REGRET to report the death of Reverend Gerrit S. Barnes who passed away on Monday, September 20, at the age of 71 as a result of a brain disease.

Gerrit was born in Colorado Springs and spent most of his life in Denver. He worked for the Milwaukee Road and after his retirement from the railroad as Manager of their Denver Traffic Office, he entered the ministry and founded Christ Episcopal Church, retiring from the church in 1974. Gerrit was a long-time member and good friend of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club and its members. An avid rail historian all his life, he contributed greatly to the club and also to a number of other organizations that he was active with; particularly the National Railway Historical Society, the Colorado Railroad Museum, the Denver Westerners and the Traffic Club of Denver, as well as holding responsible positions with various religious organizations. He is survived by his sister, Mrs. Helen Thurmon of Denver. Burial was in Crown Hill Cemetery in Denver.

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IMPROVED RUNNING TIMES on the San Francisco Zephyr will take place with the October 31st timetable change. Both the eastbound and westbound runs of the Chicago-Oakland train will be reduced in running time by about an hour. New arrival time in Denver from Chicago will be 10:35 A.M., departing for California at 11:20 A.M. Eastbound, the train will arrive at 4:55 P.M., and depart at 5:40 P.M.

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"SILVER SKY," the dome-lounge-sleeper-observation that brings up the rear of the D&RGW's Rio Grande Zephyr is scheduled to be taken out of service after November 16 for a major change in its inside configuration. The four bedrooms which are in the forward portion of the car are to be removed and the resulting space used to expand the lounge area. Infrequent purchase of space in the rooms, maintenance requirements, and a desire for more lounge space are primary reasons for the conversion. The car will be temporarily replaced by the Dormitory-Dome Buffet car "Silver Shop." Both cars have been with the Rio Grande since they were built in 1948 for the California Zephyr.

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ON THE GROUND - The eastbound San Francisco Zephyr left the rails of the Burlington Northern about six miles from its final destination at Chicago Union Station on October 18. Most of the cars of the eleven car train derailed with the rear cars separating from the rest of the train and blocking two of the BN's four mainline tracks. All cars remained upright, however, and close to the track. About 40 people received minor injuries.

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NO CHANGE FOR AWHILE - The Burlington Northern stated recently that the three diesel locomotives painted by the company in a red, white and blue Bicentennial paint scheme will remain that way after 1976, as there are no immediate plans to repaint them. Two of the units were seen here in Colorado on the Freedom Train.

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THE WHITE MOUNTAIN SCENIC RAILROAD that operated steam powered tourist trains with 40 mile round-trips out of McNary, Arizona, has ceased operations and sold its equipment to the Wasatch Mountain Railway (Heber Creeper) in Utah. The twelve year-old railways' operation began loading passengers at McNary earlier this summer. McNary and part of the rail line lies within the boundary of the Apache Indian Reservation. The tribe filed suit to prevent the company from operating on its land claiming that the railroad had no permit for such an operation. A spokesman for the Indians said their group just did not want the steam attraction running on their territory as it did not fit into the recreation objectives of the reservation, such as fishing, hunting, camping, and skiing.

So the two locomotives and five cars were to be shipped off to Utah. One of the engines apparently was not enthusiastic about leaving its neighborhood, however, and gave its owners something to think about north of St. Johns, Ariz. While rolling down U.S 666 on a flatbed trailer in early September, the laws of weight and strength compromised and the engine's 90 some odd tons split and crushed the trailer, crashing to the pavement and rolling over onto its side. The engine was undamaged, but the highway ended up with a gash three feet deep and 18 feet long. Highway crews had to build a bypass around the engine until it could be jacked and lifted onto another truck. Although that incident was probably the "highlight" of the 700 mile odyssey, the "easier said than done project" still had plenty of narrow roads, hills and restricted clearances to contend with, including grading bypasses through riverbeds to avoid bridges with 8 ton load limits.

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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 appraise items.

TRADE OR SELL: D&RG R.R. tall lantern with frame, M.M. Buck Co. It is a bell-bottom with oil font that has two round wick holes. Wick and globe are missing. Tin plated, tip top is brass where smoke comes out. Slight spotting of rust but has not been painted. Trade for RR

junk from Texas or Okla. RRs or Dr. Pepper give-away items such as calendars, clocks, lighters, knives, metal signs, Dr. Pepper freight cars, etc.

AVERY VON BLON, Box 6422, Waco, Texas. 76706 - No phone calls, please.

FREE!!! As long as supply lasts. Ten 8 X 10 full-color Sundance Limited calendar prints - assortment from '76 and '77. Just send two 13¢ stamps!!!

ALSO, if anyone would like copy of the deluxe, limited, autographed edition (33 color photos) of "Rio Grande...to the Pacific" contact me promptly. I have located a few copies in an out-of-state stock. ROBERT A. LeMASSENA, 1795 S. Sheridan Blvd., Denver, Colo. 80226

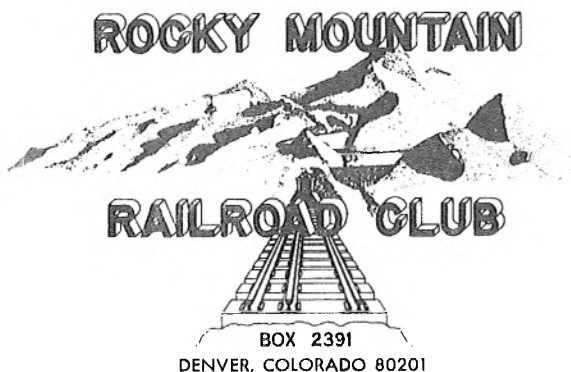
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