



RAIL REPORT

JULY - AUGUST 2007

No. 572

Rocky Mountain Railroad Club • Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation

We Will Not Have A July Or August Membership Meeting In Barnes Hall

**Club Day At The Colorado Railroad Museum
Saturday, July 21, 2007**

Instead of our regular July meeting at Christ Episcopal Church, join your fellow Club members at the Colorado Railroad Museum. Present your current RMRRC membership card for free admission. Narrow gauge equipment will run between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

**Denver & Intermountain Car 25 Roll Out
Saturday, August 18, 2007**

Instead of our regular August meeting at Christ Episcopal Church, join your fellow Club members at the Denver Federal Center. Ride the trolley from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

2007 RMRRC Calendar

September 29 Event Annual Luncheon Banquet
October 9 Meeting
November 13 Meeting
December 11 Meeting

The Club's future program listing is limited to three or four months. This will provide members adequate advance information for planning. Proposed 2007 meeting dates are shown. Due to circumstances beyond our control programming and dates are subject to change without notice. Please contact Joe McMillan at jmcmillan20@comcast.net or phone 303-456-4564 with program ideas.

From the President

By Jim Ehernberger

The South Park field trip was very successful with more than 50 participants. The group assembled near the caboose in the park at Bailey. The first stop was made at Kenosha Pass where the group viewed the reconstruction of a wye track. The clear weather and the gorgeous vistas of distant snow capped peaks were outstanding at the near 10,000 foot elevation. The next stop was at the old Jefferson depot where refreshments were available in a "sort of" caboose looking restaurant.

The highlight of the day, of course, was being able to tour the old Como roundhouse. Considerable restoration work has been completed, and it is a real relic of the old Denver South Park and Pacific railroad. Many enjoyed lunch at the Como hotel, and several ventured over Boreas Pass to Breckenridge. Pat Mauro was the coordinator and we appreciate his efforts, and wish to also thank any others involved, as well as the attendees for participating in a great outing.

Please remember July 21st will be the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club Day at the Colorado Railroad Museum. You will need to present your current membership card for free admission. On this date the museum will have a steam locomotive operating, and there will be food available through a food vendor. There is no time set, just come when you can, and stay as long as you wish.

We have been collecting additional items to sell at the Car 25 roll-out on August 18th. When we open at 10 AM,

we will surprise "early bird" arrivals with a great selection of items. Recent donors of books, framed pictures, videos and other railroadiana, to whom we wish to extend our thanks, are David Salter, John Dillavou, Erma Morison (in memory of Jack) and John Holzman. And, of course, Car 25 will be open for rides too!

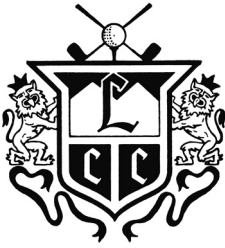
Mark your calendar and plan for a special program at our Annual Luncheon Banquet on Saturday, September 29th. Long-time Club member Ed Gerlits will be the presenter. Ed currently holds card number 18. The title of the program will be "Remembering Otto Perry" and we plan to provide some special film clips.

Otto was a pioneer Denver railroad photographer, and one of the charter members of our Club. His 20,784 photographs are now at the Denver Public Library. The Club acquired his great 16-mm movie collection, and utilized them in our current video productions. Otto's camera sometimes focused on some unusual and entertaining subjects! Brief comments from anyone who may have had personal experiences with Otto are welcome. We expect this to be a unique presentation, and a tribute to a fine person who preserved railroad history on film.

Members may contact me at:
RMRRCPresident@sisna.com
Phone: 307-637-4011

Rocky Mountain RR Club – President
PO Box 2391
Denver, CO 80201-2391

Annual Luncheon Banquet Saturday, September 29, 2007



The Rocky Mountain Railroad will again host the Annual Banquet at the Lakewood Country Club.

Please join your fellow Club members and guests for a cash bar at noon and lunch at 1:00 PM. Enjoy visiting with your railfan friends. Posters and prints will also be available.

This year long-time Club member Ed Gerlits will present the program, "Remembering Otto Perry," featuring film clips from the pioneer Denver railroad photographer. You will not want to miss this presentation.

Guests will have their choice of:

Roasted chicken breast with herb roasted potatoes.

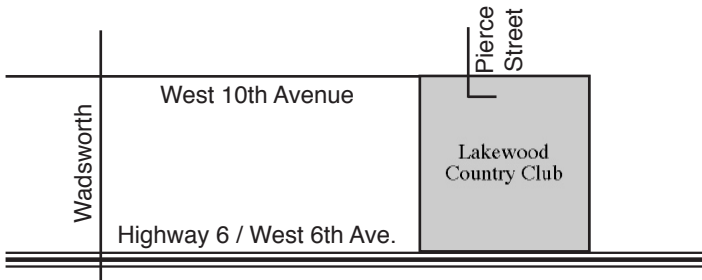
OR

Medallions of beef marinated and grilled with savory mushroom gravy and rice.

The menu also includes a house salad with your choice of two dressings, market vegetables, Petit Pans, rustic bread and butter, coffee, decaffeinated coffee or tea and chocolate mousse with whipped cream for dessert.

Please look for further information on the insert in this Rail Report and return your reservation no later than September 20, 2007.

Lakewood Country Club, 6800 West Tenth Avenue, Lakewood, Colorado



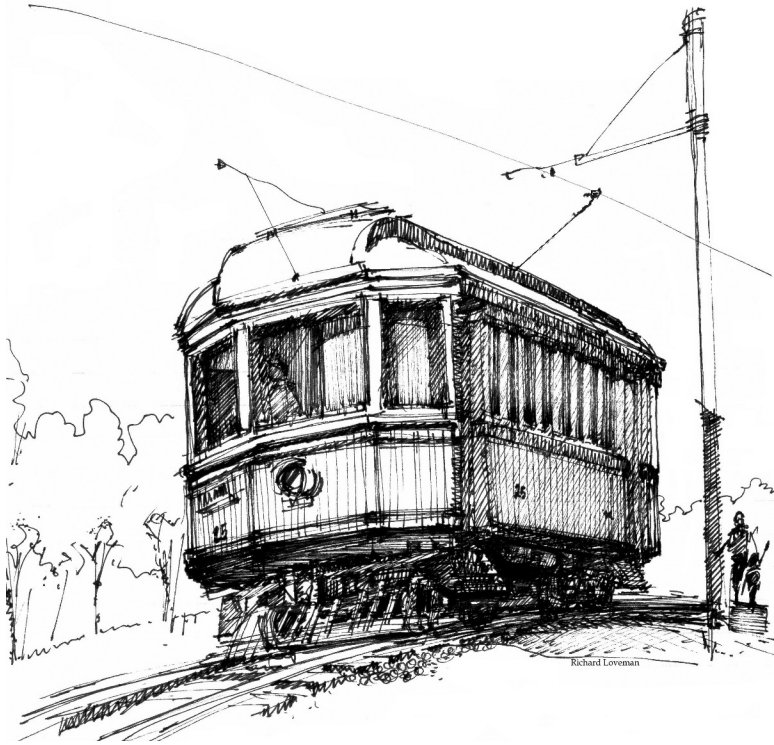
See Union Pacific Steam Locomotive 844 In Denver

Union Pacific steam locomotive 844 will be arriving in Denver on July 19th, and will be on display at Union Station on the 20th, departing at 7 AM on the Denver Post Cheyenne Frontier Days special leaving on July 21st and returning that evening. Return departure from Denver on July 22nd is scheduled for

1 PM. The schedule is shown on their website at: <http://www.upsteam.com>.

The Colorado State Fair train (with 3985) will operate on Saturday, August 25th. An Oklahoma tour will leave Cheyenne on September 3rd and returns on September 24th.

**Denver & Intermountain Car 25 Roll Out
Trolley Open House
Denver Federal Center – Building 78
Saturday, August 18, 2007 – Rides From 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**



Enjoy A Ride On A Real, Restored Denver Interurban Trolley Car

*Spend An Hour Or Spend The Day.
Bring The Whole Family And All Your Friends.*

All are invited to this year's open house and "roll out" of D&IM Interurban No. 25 at the Denver Federal Center. This will be an opportunity to experience the restoration effort, ride the car and visit with the volunteers who have been working on the project. In addition, a significant number of books and other memorabilia have been graciously donated to the foundation for sale for the express purpose of raising funds for the

restoration. These items will all be reasonably priced and are sure to provide some great reading.

A special attraction this year will be a railroad art show presented by long time Club member Joe Prisela. Many members are familiar with Joe's works that include steam, diesel and electrics. His paintings have captured the essence of Colorado railroading through the

Denver & Intermountain Car 25 Roll Out Trolley Open House

years and provide a wonderful glimpse of Colorado's railroad history. This year he will include some paintings of "alternative" forms of public transit. Over half a dozen paintings will be displayed for your viewing pleasure. Joe has made numerous contributions to the Club and Foundation over the years including serving as Club president, working on trip committee projects and putting many hours into the No. 25 project and the Platte Valley Trolley.

This will be an "open house" for everyone in the community so feel free to bring your family, your friends and your neighbors. Rides are free but donations will be gratefully accepted.

Enter the Federal Center at Gate No. 1 off Kipling St. south of 6th Avenue and just north of Alameda. Tell the guard you wish to go to Building 78 for the trolley open house and then follow the yellow trolley signs.

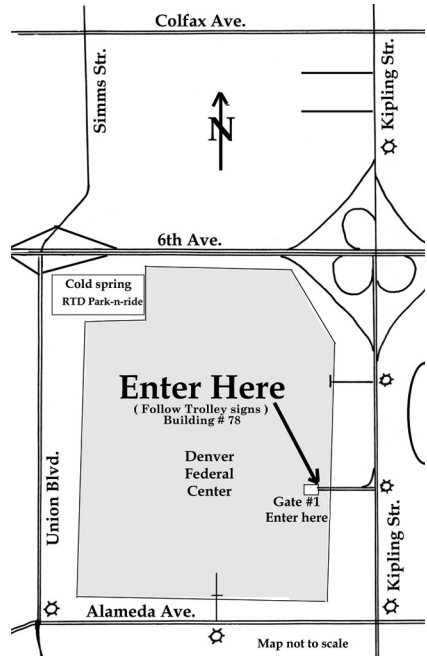
Government issued photo ID's are required for adults.

Sorry, pets are not permitted and there are no rest room facilities.

If you need directions, the Building 78 phone number is 303-232-6386.

Questions? Call Darrell Arndt at 303-797-8444 before August 18th.

Rocky Mountain Railroad Club
Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical
Foundation
www.rockymtnrclub.org



Another attraction will be a "miniature" No. 25 trolley from Club member Gary Collins. The car is making a return visit to provide fun rides for the little ones (and adults with rubber backbones.) Gary's extremely creative car is a fun, visual overload both inside and out.
– Photo © 2005 Bruce Nall.

Construction On RTD's FasTracks Light Rail West Corridor

By Darrell Arndt



Dignitaries with spike pullers remove spikes from the Remington Arms Spur off the former Denver and Intermountain line. – Photo © 2007 Bob Wilson.

On May 16th the Regional Transportation District initiated construction of the new West Corridor light rail line with a ceremony in Lakewood at the current end of the ex-interurban line to Golden. After a number of speeches, numerous dignitaries were provided with spike pullers to remove spikes from the Remington Arms spur, a stretch of track that branched off to the Denver Federal Center. A table was set up by our Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation to illustrate the history of the line and we passed out flyers promoting the No. 25 open house.

In the weeks following the ceremony, the RTD contractor started track and tie removal from 6th Avenue to Knox Court. Utility relocation will be the next work to follow.

As the track disappears, the last remnant of Denver's once extensive electric railway system also disappears. The old

high voltage rail bonds at the track joints and the tall poles that held the overhead wire gave hints at the line's historic past. It was built in 1890 as a standard gauge steam line to Golden to provide passenger and freight service and was electrified in 1909. The portion between Golden and Lakewood was removed in 1953 and diesel freight service continued until the mid-1980s at which time RTD purchased the line for future light rail transit.

The new 12.1-mile light rail line taking its place will connect Denver with west Denver neighborhoods, Lakewood and Golden including the Denver Federal Center and the Jefferson County government center. Opening date is scheduled for 2013, inaugurating a new era in electric transit to the west of Denver.

Also coming to a close is the operation of the Denver Rail Heritage Society's Platte Valley Trolley west of the Platte River to Sheridan Boulevard. Every operating day the first trolley would depart Confluence Park and take passengers on a one hour trip along the South Platte River and then west over rails once bur-nished by D&IM No. 25. Most surprising to the passengers was the wonderful parklike setting that the car passed through, a "greenbelt haven" little known to most Denver area residents.

The last "Route 84" run is on July 8. The trolley will continue regular service along the river and as far as Knox Court until next year.



An era comes to a close as the Platte Valley Trolley, operated by the Denver Rail Heritage Society, makes one of its final runs to Sheridan Boulevard through the bucolic park lands of West Denver. Last runs to Sheridan will be on July 8th.



Removal of the Associated Railroad line to Lakewood began on the west end. Here we see rails being removed and loaded just east of Kipling Street.
– Two photos © 2007 Darrell Arndt.

OS Colorado – Current Railroad Happenings

By Chip Sherman

“OS” are the initials for On the Sheets, a reference to what station agents did to notify the train dispatcher that a train had passed his/her station and been noted on the train register. OS Colorado is a joint effort to note the rail activities occurring in and around Colorado.

BNSF Railway Employee Special

Folks took a double look when they noticed a passenger special operating on BNSF's Front Range Subdivision for several days in early June. BNSF employees, their families and invited guests were given passenger train rides June 7 and 8, 2007 from Denver Union Station, Denver, north through Rennick Yard across Utah Junction and up to Broomfield or Boulder, Colorado. The afternoon train of 6/8/07 made it to 75th Street east of Boulder. The train rolled to a stop right at the overpass over 75th. Minutes later it pulled forward a few car lengths, and the crew swapped ends. Fans at Legion Park were disappointed the train didn't get further into Boulder (milepost 27.3). The 75th Street overpass is located about milepost 22.

The 13-car train featured a variety of BNSF passenger cars. Among them were several gems: club lounge VALLEY VIEW – BNSF 29, an ex-ATSF 62 (unnamed), built as a club lounge, 1348 (also unnamed) produced at Pullman in 1947. Full length dome lounge BAY VIEW – 31, ex-Atchison, Topoka & Santa Fe dome 60 was sandwiched in between bi-level coaches COLORADO RIVER and FLATHEAD RIVER. Diner FRED HARVEY, BNSF 11, served lunch to the Boys and Girls Club out of Denver the afternoon of 6/7/07. Recently out-shopped head end power car SNOQUALMIE PASS, BNSF 51,

sported new BNSF Powerbar emblems. The car now features stainless steel fluted sides. BNSF 51 was BNA 30, same car name.

The 2007 BNSF Railway Special operated push-pull mode with the crew changing ends when needed to reverse direction. BNSF ES44DC 7628 and 7746 were the units used during the Colorado visit. The train came west from Sterling, Colorado, on 6/6/07 via the Brush line. It was parked at Denver Union Station on track two.

The western tour included stops at McCook, Nebraska, Sterling, Colorado, Denver, Guernsey, Wyoming, Casper, Greybull, Great Falls, Montana, Havre, North Dakota, Sheridan, Wyoming, Gillette and Edgemont, South Dakota. The train went northward over the Front Range Subdivision changing crews at Cheyenne Wyoming, on 6/10/07.

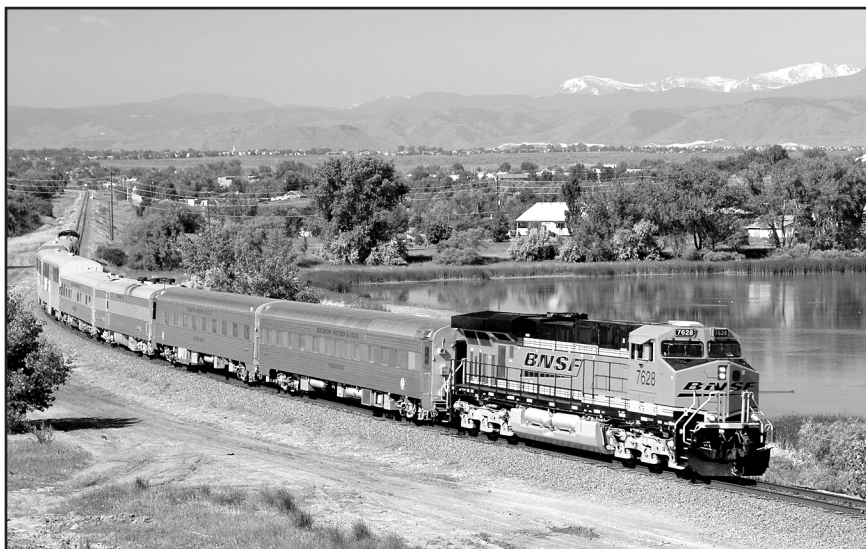
San Luis & Rio Grande RR Adds Former LMX 8577 To Operation

A former LMX General Electric B39-8 8577 was refurbished by Relco Locomotive in Iowa for service on the San Luis & Rio Grande RR (owned by Permian Basin Railways, Inc.), operating out of Alamosa, Colorado. The model B39-8 locomotive was repainted into a burgundy and yellow stripe/lettering paint scheme with “Rio Grande” on its long

Continued on page 10, column 1



BNSF Railway operated a 13-car passenger special for its employees and invited guests from Denver up the Front Range Subdivision June 7 and 8, 2007. The train operated push-pull mode; BNSF ES44DC 7746 on the east end and ES44DC 7628 on the west end. Train was northbound with BNSF 7746 on the rear with Longs Peak at the left 6/8/07. Trains operated north as far as Broomfield or Boulder depending on traffic and time. – Photo © 2007 by Chip.



The BNSF passenger special passes Lower Church Lake on its northbound run to Broomfield on June 8th, 2007. – Photo © 2007 Darrell Arndt.

OS Colorado

Continued from page 8, column 2

hood. It was out shopped in April 2007. Union Pacific moved it from interchange at Liberty, Missouri, via Kansas City, North Platte, Nebraska, and Cheyenne, Wyoming. SLRG 8577 arrived UP's North Yard, Denver on 4/29/07.

The unit will be used on the steep and winding Walsenburg to Alamosa line over Le Veta Pass. Permian Basin Railroad president Ed Ellis continues to seek motive power that can handle the tough La Veta Pass grade to keep the nocturnally operated freight train running out of the San Luis Valley.

San Luis & Rio Grande RR Receives 8542

San Luis & Rio Grande (SLRG) Railroad received another former LMX General Electric model B39-8 unit, SLRG 8542, in mid-June. Union Pacific moved it south on their North Yard, Denver to Pueblo, Colorado, train early 6/11/07. The unit was in the middle of the train. It was painted burgundy with gold lettering; "Rio Grande" on the long hood. This is the second ex-LMX 8500-series unit to arrive at Alamosa. SLRG 8577 was received earlier in 2007. It worked the two-car Antonito Express over Memorial Day. —*BNSF Pinlifter*

UP 3985 to Colorado State Fair

Union Pacific Railroad will operate their Challenger 4-6-6-4 #3985 on Saturday, August 25, 2007, on the Colorado State Fair Express excursion train

from Denver to Pueblo and return.

Details are online at:

<http://www.up3985.net/fairexpress.htm>

It's been ten years since UP steam operated south of Denver over the Joint Line. The steep grade up the Palmer Divide should provide quite a spectacle. UP and BNSF now operate the former Denver & Rio Grande Western RR and Santa Fe operation. Union Pacific's last public steam excursion happened in June 1997 using Northern 4-8-4 #844. The steam special with E-units operated from Denver south to Pueblo then west via the now railbanked Tennessee Pass line to Salt Lake City, Utah.

The train is expected to have 15 cars. The 119-mile Denver to Pueblo trip is projected to take four hours and 15-minutes. Compare this to the Denver & Rio Grande Western RR's 1956 passenger timetable which showed the diesel streamliner "Colorado Eagle" taking two hours 30-minutes with one stop on its way to St. Louis. The Royal Gorge was carded with three hours and 50-minutes with two stops and six flag request stops en route to Salt Lake City. Watch out for lumbering BNSF coal trains on the line!

While in southern Colorado check out San Luis & Rio Grande Railroad's standard gauge steam operation from Alamosa to La Veta, CO. They are using ex-Southern Pacific 2-6-0 #1744. This scenic route hasn't seen steam power since the 1950s. Steam power is planned for Saturdays and Sundays until mid-October. Excursion trains operate weekdays with diesel power.



Colorado & Southern No. 9 sits outside the Silver Plume engine house on May 3rd, 2007. The Colorado Historical Society and Railstar Corporation postponed the opening day of the Georgetown Loop Railroad to June 15th due to setbacks and delays preparing the engines for the season. – Photo © 2007 Dave SchAAF.



RGS motor car number 2 paced the CRRM Fathers day weekend train at a safe distance all day, June 17th. Goose 2 was taken out of service a few years ago because the flanges on the drive wheels were severely worn. New wheels were cast and along with a lot of care to the cab and some new brakes RGS 2 was back in action. – Photo © 2007 Denny HaefeLe.



With whistle and steam, SL&RG 1744 departs Alamosa on May 26th, 2007, for its first public run to La Veta.



SL&RG No. 1744 arrives at Alamosa on May 26th, 2007 after a successful round trip to the Town of La Veta and climbing over 9,242 foot La Veta Pass.
– Two photos © 2007 Darrell Arndt.



South Park Adventure host Pat Mauro stands beside an original DS&P boxcar in front of the Como Roundhouse.



The South Park Adventure group poses at the railroad exhibit on Kenosha Pass. – Two photos © 2007 Bob Wilson.

Trains Unlimited, Tours 2007 Tentative Trip Schedule

Discounts on tours are available to Club members.

Just provide your Rocky Mountain Railroad Club membership number.

For TUT information call 1-800-359-4870

or visit our Club web page at: www.trainsunlimitedtours.com/rmrrc/

August 24-26	Domes To Feather River RR Days	September 26-29	Rio Grande Durango Rail Adventure
September 8-16	Railroads Of Ecuador	October 5-8	Modoc Rail Adventure
September 19	Georgetown Loop Railroad Railfan Day	October 6-14	New England Fall Colors
September 20	Rio Grande La Veta Pass I	October 13-18	Rocky Mountain Express
September 21	Rio Grande La Veta Pass II	Oct. 26 - Nov. 16	Great Argentinian Rail Adventure
		November 8-15	Mexican Copper Canyon Rail Adventure

Colorado Railroad Museum

2007 Scheduled

Special Operation Days

For information call 303-279-4591

http://www.crrm.org/train_trips.htm

RMRR Club Day	July 21
Wine and Cheese Train	July 21
General Steam Up	July 22
Day With Thomas	September 15-16, 21-23
Trick-or-Treat Train	October 27
Santa Claus Special	December 1 - 2

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.

Please contact the volunteer coordinator at the CRRM, telephone 303-279-4591.

Intermountain Chapter, NRHS

2007 Event Schedule

For information call 303-298-0377

<http://www.cozx.com/nrhs>.

The 30th Annual Mile High Rail Fair
Saturday, July 28th, 2007
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Jefferson County Fairgrounds,
15200 West 6th Avenue in Golden, CO.

General Public Admission on July 28:
\$5.00 per Adult
\$1.00 per Child from 5 to 12
Children under 5 are admitted free
\$10.00 maximum per Family

A \$10.00 Early Entry Pass is available and is good for entry at 7:30 AM Saturday.

August 17, 2007: Dinner meeting at Rossi's Catering – Richard Luckin, collector and local authority on railroad china and all the accoutrements that go with it, will share the history of railroad china, including visuals of dining cars, advertising, menus and more.

Publishers Statement — Rocky Mountain Rail Report

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Club Information

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Denver, CO 80201-2391

Club Officers

President	Jim Ehernberger
VP - Projects	Darrell Arndt
VP - Programs	Herb Edwards
Secretary	Roger Sherman
Treasurer	Jimmy Blouch

Web: <http://www.rockymtnrrclub.org>

Membership Information

Membership in the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club may be obtained by sending the annual dues to the Club address listed above.

Regular membership dues are \$35.00. Overseas regular membership dues are \$45.00.

Contributing membership is \$50.00. Sustaining membership is \$70.00.

Patron membership is \$100.00. Golden membership is \$500.00.

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

Members joining after April may send a payment of \$3.00 for each month remaining in the year.

Members of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club are also members in the Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club.

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

Fax: 303-978-0402
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Items for the September Rail Report should be sent by August 17th.



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