

RAIL REPORT

May 2010 • NO. 601



Rocky Mountain Railroad Club • Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation

Changing Seasons on the Narrow Gauge

Presented by Nathan Zachman

May 11th, 2010 • 7:30 PM

Enjoy images from all four seasons “some in the same day.” This show covers most of the operating Narrow Gauge Railroads in Colorado and Northern New Mexico. You will see freight and passenger specials along with scheduled passenger trains on the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad, Durango and Silverton, Colorado Railroad Museum, Cripple Creek and Victor plus guest locomotives and Rio Grande Southern “Geese” Motor Cars on narrow gauge railroads.

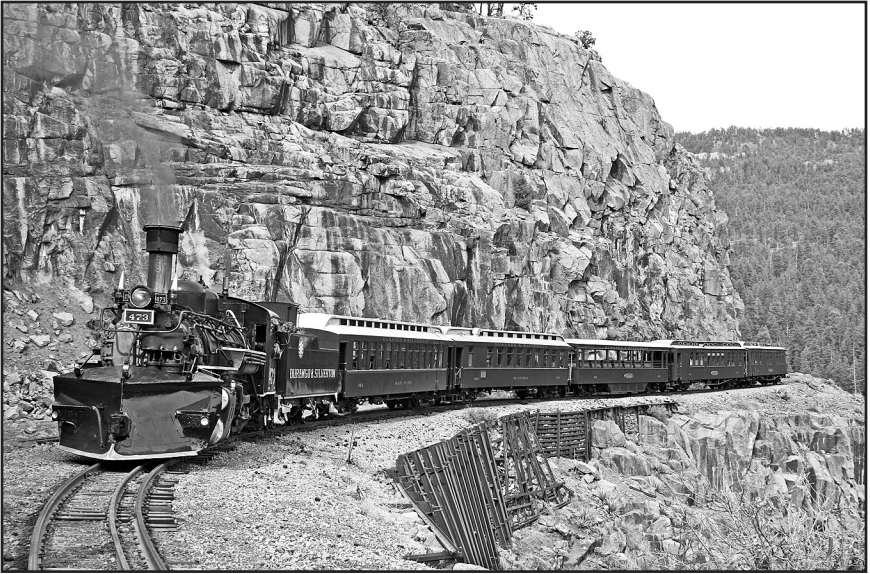
Please come join us for an enjoyable, educational evening at Christ Episcopal Church at 2950 South University Boulevard, University at Bates, where there is plenty of off street parking at the rear of the complex. Enter into Barnes Hall, where we hold the monthly meetings, on the mid-south side doors. 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 Calendar

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|-----------|--|
| May 15th | Tour of UP Cheyenne roundhouse and shops. |
| June 8th | Tuesday Meeting, video program “Rockies by Rail.” |
| July 13th | Tuesday Meeting, presentation on the restoration of Rio Grande pile driver “OB.” |
| July 23rd | Steam photo charter train at the Georgetown Loop. |
| August | There will not be a meeting in Barnes Hall in August. |

Due to circumstances beyond our control, programs and dates are subject to change without notice. Please contact Pat Mauro at pkmauro@yahoo.com or phone 303-838-7740 with program ideas.

Changing Seasons on the Narrow Gauge



Durango and Silverton K-28 No. 473 on the Highline Shelf just north of Rockwood, Colorado, on May 1, 2009. – Photo © 2009 Nathan Zachman.



Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad K-36, No. 487, crosses Lobato Trestle on Independence Day in 2009. – Photo © 2009 Nathan Zachman.



The Georgetown Loop Railroad unloaded #60 on April 8, 2010, at Silver Plume, Colorado. The diesel appears to be #60 from the Roaring Camp & Big Trees, a 56-ton GE originally built for Bethlehem Steel operation at Los Angeles, California, as their #12. The engine needs work as it was not operational when photographed on April 9, 2010. – Photo © 2010 by Chip.

From The President

By Dave Schaaf

In last month's newsletter, we gave details about two narrow gauge excursions that are coming up soon. The C&TS photo special from Antonito on May 25 has some seats left, but the cabooses may be full by now. The Durango to Silverton special on August 19 has seats available on our Pullman-green coach, and there may be a seat left on the Silver Vista. See pages 12 & 13 in the April *Rail Report* for information.

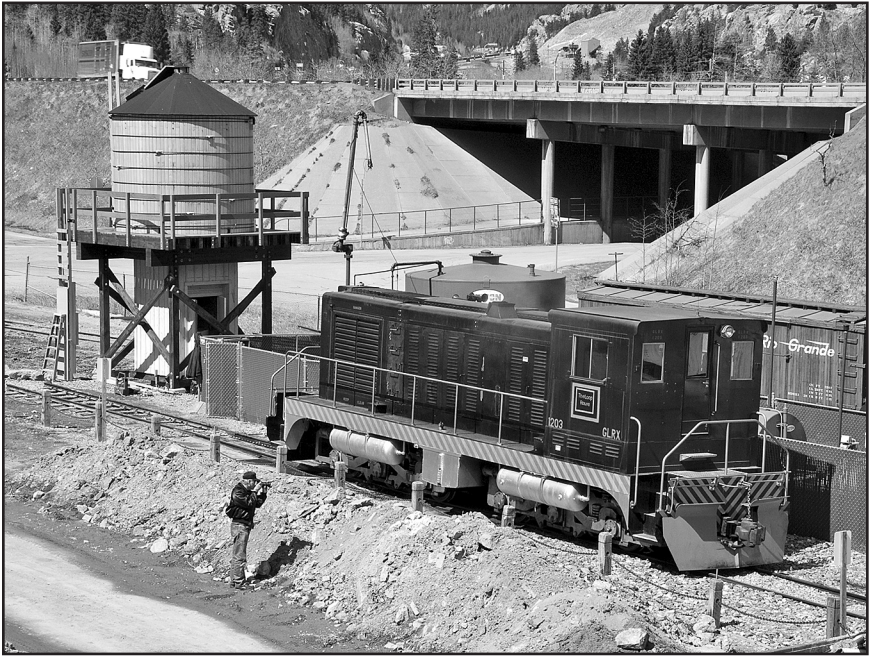
We have added a Rocky Club charter train on the Georgetown Loop on July 23rd. Details are given in the insert in this newsletter about the Friday afternoon steam special.

From Alamosa, Colorado, one out of

every six Rio Grande Scenic Railroad customers rode a concert train last year. In 2010, the railroad has expanded the concert series into the "Roots and Boots Summer Music Festival" featuring 31 concerts spread from June 4 to August 24. In addition to Michael Martin Murphy, a wide variety of performers will entertain. Information and tickets are available at www.coloradotrain.com or by calling 877-726-7245.

Since double-stacked trains from the Port of Oakland began crossing Donner Pass since last November, the number of daily trains running through Reno, Nevada, has increased from 15-18 to 20-25. Union Pacific has said there could be 40 trains daily after more work is completed

From The President



The Georgetown Loop RR remodeled their Silver Plume water tank with this wooden structure (upper left). The earlier water tank was a tall metal tank. GLR #1203, a 75-ton Porter, was taking on fuel on April 9, 2010. – Photo © 2010 by Chip.

on the pass. Last year, UP enlarged tunnels so double-stacked trains could use Donner Pass rather than the Feather River canyon route, which is 73 miles longer. Union Pacific plans to reconstruct a 7-mile stretch of track that was taken out by Southern Pacific Railroad. Once rebuilt, that will result in a double set of tracks all the way across Donner Pass, eliminating delays and allowing more trains to cross.

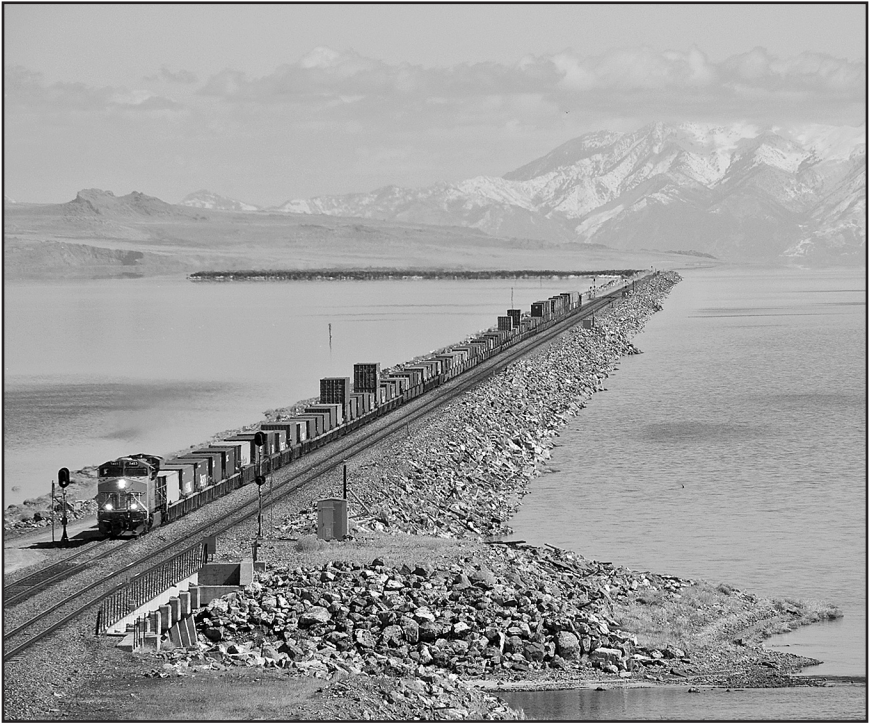
Union Pacific has assembled a fairly large group of older diesel locomotives at the Burnham Shops in Denver, awaiting an auction in July.

Electro-Motive Diesel Inc. (EMD)

has established warehouse operations in China to support their growing fleet of 6,000-horsepower diesel locomotives. The warehouses are located in the north-east section of China, close to customer maintenance operations, according to EMD. The company has also opened a new traction motor maintenance, rebuild and overhaul facility in San Luis Potosi, Mexico. The new 110,000-square-foot facility began operations in March and is expected to employ more than 150 people at full capacity.

Amtrak will host its third National Train Day on Saturday May 8, 2010, with events across the country designed to celebrate America's love of trains.

From The President



UP 7403 ES44AC train I G2OA 09 (Global II, Chicago to Oakland, California, headed west) crossed the Great Salt Lake on the Lucin Cutoff approaching Lakeside, Utah, on March 11, 2010. The train ran with distributed power; 1 x 1, UP 8399 on the rear. The Lucin Cutoff zig-zags to the north mid-way in the lake. The Wasatch Range is at upper right. – Photo © 2010 by Chip.

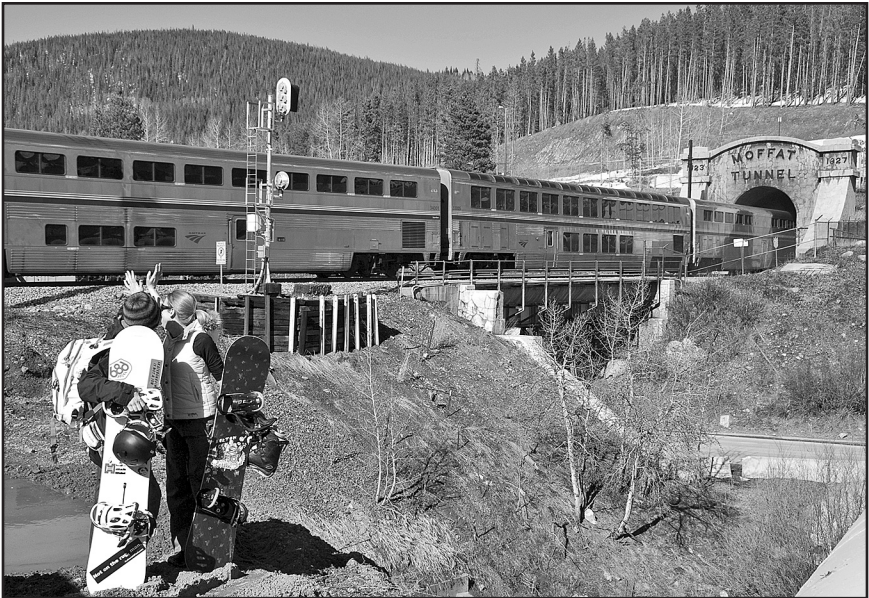
More than 140 communities around the country will be involved, arranging events for the public. Four Amtrak stations – in Washington, Chicago, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles – will host large-scale celebrations. Each station will offer live entertainment, interactive and educational exhibits, kid's entertainment, food demonstrations, model train displays, and tours of private railroad cars, Amtrak equipment, freight, and commuter trains.

Traffic on freight railroads rose 7.5

percent in March, the first rise since July 2008. The Association of American Railroads said shipments compared with March 2009 rose for 16 out of 19 commodities it tracks. That included increases of 66% for primary metal products, 20% for grain and 15% for chemicals. The group noted that volume was still down 11% from March 2008.

In late April, the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) began work on rebuilding the North Temple viaduct as part of the Airport TRAX light-rail project. The con-

From The President



Snowboarders Dan & Julia waved to Amtrak train 6, the California Zephyr, as it entered the Moffat Tunnel at Winter Park, Colorado, on April 14, 2010.

– Photo © 2010 by Chip.

How soon will Amtrak say good-bye to the current Superliner fleet? The Superliner I cars were built by Pullman-Standard between 1979 and 1981, that makes the cars about thirty years old. Superliner II cars were built from 1994 to 1996 by Bombardier based on the Pullman-Standard design. The cost to replace each Superliner is about \$4.5 million. All new equipment will be fully compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Amtrak's study, "Building a Sustainable Fleet for the Future of America's Intercity and High-Speed Passenger Railroad" addresses these concerns.

struction of the viaduct, which crosses Union Pacific Railroad and UTA tracks, is expected to take 18 months to complete. The project includes roadway improvements, pedestrian walkways, bike lanes, security lighting and a passenger transfer from TRAX to FrontRunner. The Airport TRAX line is a 6-mile light-rail extension that will connect with the existing TRAX system and run to Salt Lake International Airport.

The Rio Grande depot in Salt Lake City will celebrate 100 years in 2010. Now the home of the Utah State Historical Society and a Mexican restaurant, it was built in 1910 for three quarters of a million dollars.

Watch our web site for trip updates, photos, and more. Members may contact me by e-mail ds5280@comcast.net or at (303) 988-3456.

Current Railroad Happenings



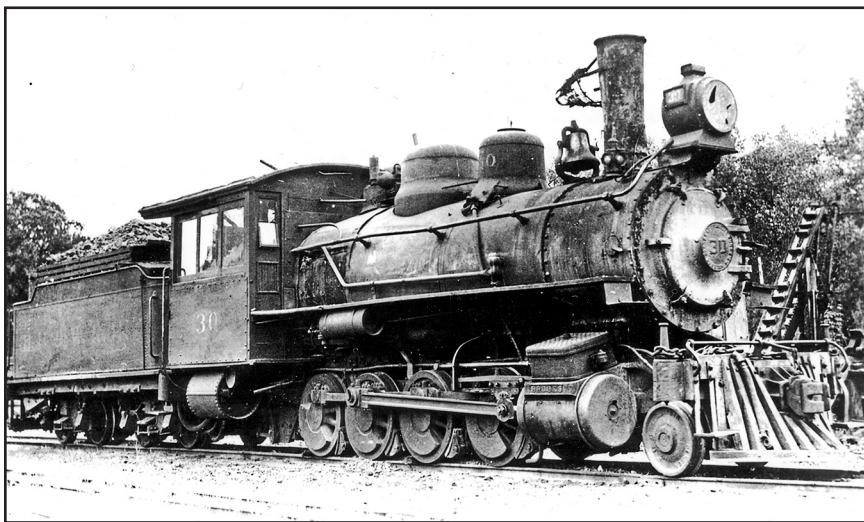
On Saturday April 10, 2010 BNSF sent a MOW Train hauling machines for a section crew over the line from Trinidad, Colorado, to Sands, New Mexico, here passing the beautiful ex-Santa Fe Railroad Station in Raton New Mexico.

– Photo © 2010 Nathan Zachman.



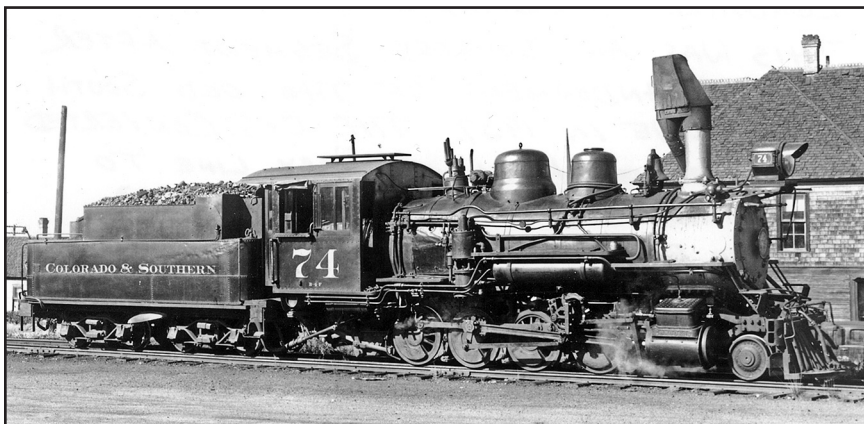
The April 10, 2010 MOW train passing through a set of Classic Santa Fe Semaphores in Watrous, New Mexico. – Photo © 2010 Nathan Zachman.

Narrow Gauge Locomotive Photo Gallery



Denver, Boulder & Western engine No. 30 was built in 1898 for the Colorado & Northwestern Railway. This line operated between Boulder and Ward and between Sunset and Eldora, a total of 46.8-miles. The DB&W took over the C&NW in 1909. Due to financial difficulties the line was authorized by the ICC to stop operations in 1919 and the rails were removed in 1920. Number 30 was sold to the Colorado & Southern Railway in 1921 and became their No. 74.

– Otto C. Perry photo from the James L. Ehernberger collection.



Colorado & Southern engine No. 74, formerly DB&W 30, operated on the Leadville to Climax line until 1943. This was an isolated segment after the abandonment of the old South Park line in 1937. The C&S converted the 14-mile Climax line to standard gauge in August 1943. Morse Brothers, scrap dealers in Denver, obtained No. 74 and offered it for sale. The Rio Grande Southern purchased it in 1948. – R. H. Kindig photo from the James L. Ehernberger collection.

Narrow Gauge Locomotive Photo Gallery



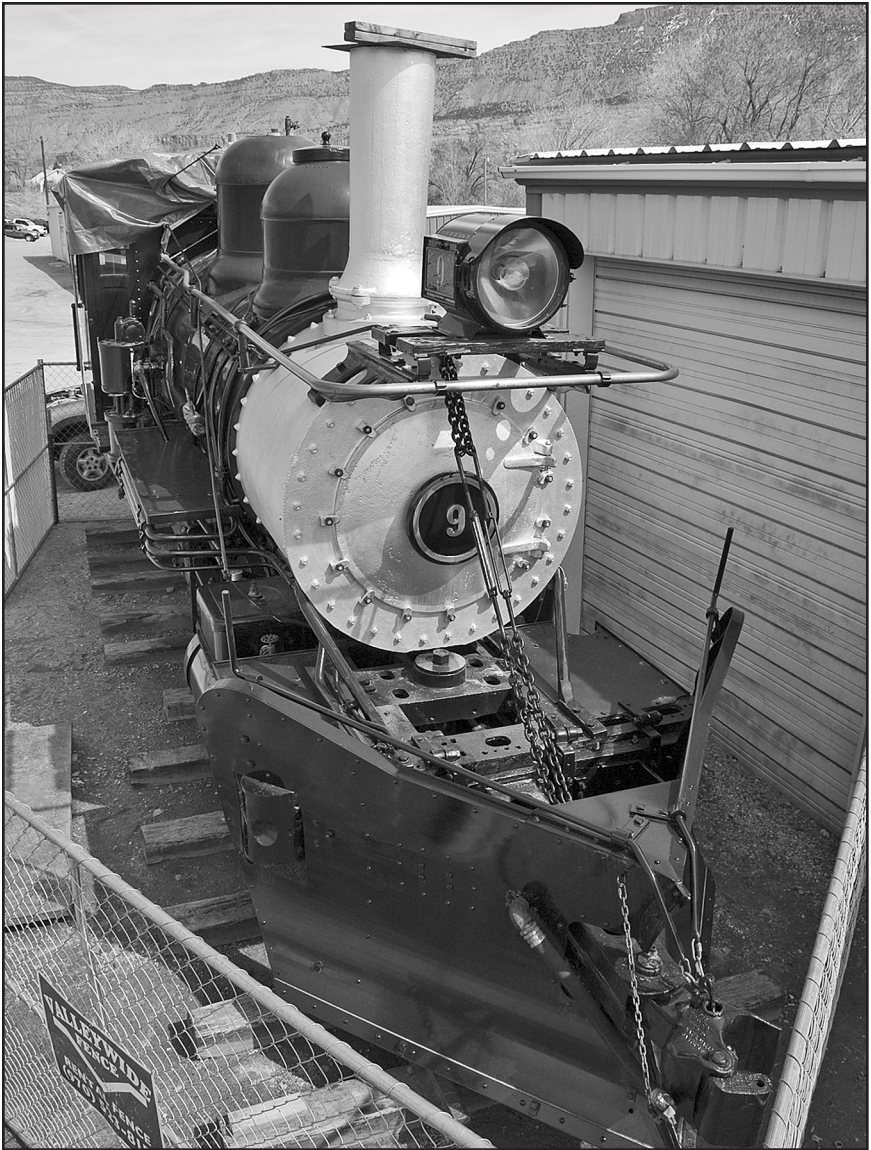
Locomotive No. 74, handled two excursion trains for the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club in 1949 and 1951. These trips were two day excursions between Ridgway and Lizard Head, overnighiting at Telluride. The last day a passenger train operated on the RGS is shown at Placerville on September 2, 1951, with the Club special being pulled by engine No. 74, formerly C&S, DB&W and C&NW. The RGS ceased operating before the years end.

– Phil Ronfor photo from the James L. Ehernberger collection.



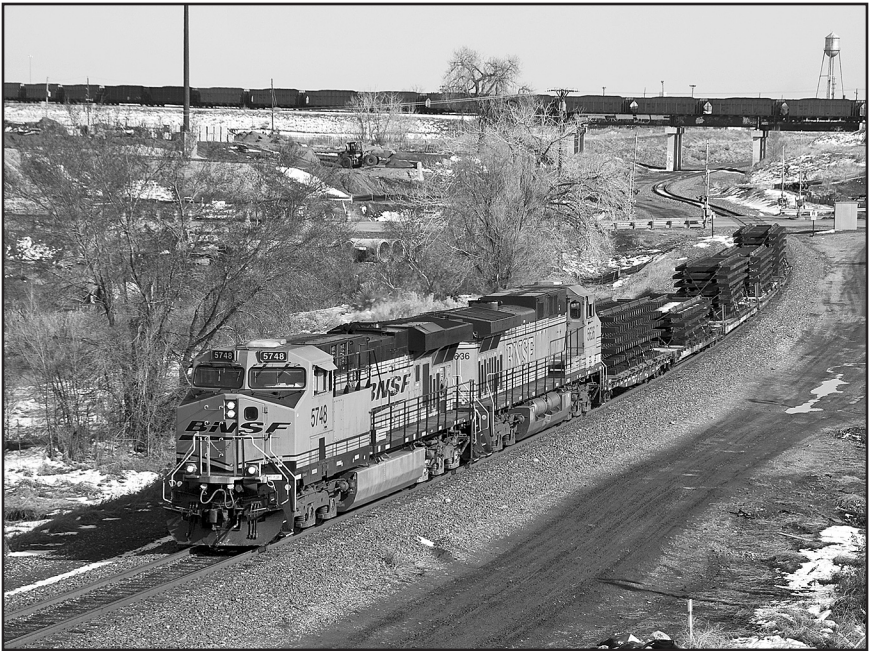
After the Rio Grande Southern was abandoned, the city of Boulder purchased engine No. 74 and placed it on display. Old No. 30 came back home and was lettered for its original owner – the Colorado & Northwestern. A cosmetic restoration is currently underway and when complete the locomotive will be returned to Boulder. – George Trout photo from the James L. Ehernberger collection.

Current Railroad Happenings



Colorado & Southern Railway 2-6-0 #9, built in 1884 at Cooke Locomotive Works, is nearing completion of restoration work at John Braun's Mammoth Locomotive Works in Palisade, Colorado, on March 18, 2010. Her tender is undergoing work at Strasburg, Colorado. The locomotive will likely move in June 2010 to Silver Plume, Colorado, where it will be kept in the Colorado Historical Society display building until Breckenridge, Colorado, can build a covered structure to display C&S #9. – Photo © 2010 by Chip.

Current Railroad Happenings



BNSF 5748 ES44AC and BNSF 5636 departed Denver, passing Utah Junction with five flatcars loaded with track panels. The train headed for Horse Creek, Wyoming, where a coal load derailed. The Antelope Mine, Wyoming, to Rawhide Generating Station north of Fort Collins, Colorado, train symbol C ATMPRR 040 left the rails March 25, 2010. BNSF 5748 North was called a work train by the Front Range Subdivision dispatcher, shown here near Pecos Street on March 25, 2010. – Photo © 2010 by Chip.

ColoRail Meeting

The Colorado Rail Passenger Association will hold its Spring 2010 general membership meeting at the Englewood Public Library, 1000 Englewood Parkway, Englewood, Colorado, on Saturday, May 22. The meeting will start at 10:30 AM, with casual socializing for 15 to 20 minutes beforehand. All railroad advocates are welcome!

Our guest speaker will be Marc Magliari, Amtrak's Media Relations Manager from Chicago. There are a

number of recent Amtrak topics which Marc will address. There will also be some discussion of events in our neighboring state of Kansas, which is showing interest in intercity rail services.

The meeting will conclude with a showing of *Denver Union Station – Portal to Progress*, by Havey Productions. This recently made documentary traces the origins of rail transportation to Denver and the importance of Denver Union Station to our city and state.

Current Railroad Happenings



Kansas City Southern locomotives; KCS 4051 SD70ACe and KCS 4615 AC4400CW, helped BNSF 4045 put together empty grain train at Union Equity Elevator at Commerce City, Colorado, on March 29, 2010. The power had run light from Denver to Commerce City where covered hoppers were gathered for an eastbound train. – Photo © 2010 Chip

In Remembrance **Richard (Dick) Dorman**

Architect Richard Dorman was born in 1922 in Los Angeles. He was drafted during World War II and flew a B-24 plane named Tropic Knight while in the Army Air Corp. After the war, he attended the University of Southern California on the GI Bill and graduated in 1951 with a degree in architecture. He designed dozens of buildings in Southern California, Seattle and elsewhere and won numerous awards. He also won a competition to design a trade fair pavilion for the U.S. Department of Commerce in Thessaloniki, Greece.

In 1975, Richard Dorman moved to Santa Fe, where he continued to design buildings with partner Larry Breen. After moving to Santa Fe, he pursued one of his other passions – railroads. Dorman researched and wrote 13 books on narrow-gauge railroads. He also spent the better part of 30-years building a miniature railroad model that took up about 750 square feet of space in a specially built room adjacent to the home he designed on Santa Fe's north-east side.

Current Railroad Happenings



Union Pacific Railroad 844 stormed up snowy Archer Hill east of Cheyenne, Wyoming, on April 2, 2010 beginning an 8-state tour to Brownsville, Texas. Winds gusting to 40 MPH had ground blizzards creating icy roads for the hearty soles that braved the wintry conditions. UP 844 had 9-cars including the water tender. – Photo © 2010 by Chip.



UP 844 passed a westbound doublestack near the refinery departing snow covered Cheyenne, Wyoming, on April 2, 2010. The train had a water tender and the Reed Jackson car in the 9-car train. Congratulations to Ed Dickens, Jr., newly promoted Manager, Heritage Equipment and Facilities. Steve Lee moves to Superintendent, Heritage Operations. – Photo © 2010 by Chip.

Colorado Railroad Museum 2010 Scheduled Special Operation Days

For information call 303-279-4591

<http://www.coloradorailroadmuseum.org/event-listings>

SCFD Free Days:
November 13

May 8 & 9 Mother's Day Goosefest
June 26 & 27

GermanFest – Presented by MillerCoors
July 24 & 25 Buffalo Bill Wild West Days
August 21 Wine Train
August 21 & 22 KidFest

Day Out With Thomas
September 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, & 26

October 30 & 31 Trick or Treat Train
November 27 & 28

Thanksgiving Goosefest
December 4, 11, 12, 18
Santa Express Train

Saturday Special:

Ride in Goose 7 or in a 19th century passenger coach pulled by Locomotive No. 4. Rides begin at 10:00 AM Every Saturday,

Weather Permitting

Adult / Senior Fare: \$4 per ride

Child Fare: \$2 per ride

Operate A Locomotive:

Call for reservations to operate Locomotive No. 4. \$150 puts you in the Engineers seat of this diesel for an hour!

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

2010 Event Schedule

For information call 303-298-0377

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

Dinner Meeting at Lone Star Steakhouse
May 21, 2010

One of our favorite presenters, G. Steve Patterson, returns with a program about rare or different passenger service in North America performed by self-propelled RDC cars only. He will point out two RDC runs still in service.

Steve retired from the Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railway in 2007 after 42 years' service. He last presented a show to us on Switzerland Rails. Steve usually volunteers one day a week at the Denver Public Library and one day out at the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden. He's also appeared in several railroad-related Luckin Productions.

PLEASE NOTE: Dinner meetings are in the Alamo Room of the Lone Star Steakhouse at 7450 W. 52nd Avenue, Arvada (exit north on Wadsworth off I-70). Reservations are STILL necessary, so call the office (303-298-0377) EARLY in the week, or by Noon on Thursday, before the program. "Social Hour" and dinner ordering will be from 6:00 to 7:15 PM. The evening's program begins at 8:00 PM and should end around 9:00 PM. Supporting our guest speakers also supports your Intermountain Chapter. Because Lone Star provides us with a private room without charge or set-up fees, we have guaranteed them that each attendee will spend a minimum of \$10.00 in the purchase of food and/or drink, excluding the 18% automatic gratuity.

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Club Information

Rocky Mountain Railroad Club
PO Box 2391
Denver, CO 80201-2391
Web: <http://www.rockymtnrrclub.org>

Club and Foundation Officers

President	Dave Schaaf
Vice President	Pat Mauro
Secretary	Roger Sherman
Treasurer	Keith Jensen

Club and Foundation Directors

John Charles, Andy Dell, Don Hulse, Mike Tinetti, Dave Goss, Dave Wagner

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
E-mail: selectimag@aol.com

Items for the June Rail Report should be sent by May 14th.



BOX 2391
DENVER, COLORADO 80201

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