

# RAIL REPORT

February 2012 • NO. 620



Rocky Mountain Railroad Club • Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation

## Maine Two-Foot Narrow Gauge

Gus Pratt & Stephen Hussar DVDs Presented by Ira Schreiber

February 14th, 2012 • 7:30 PM

Armed with a 16mm movie camera, 17-year old Gus Pratt set out in 1935 to document Maine's unique 2-foot gauge railroads. Growing up in rural Maine in the 1930s, he saw the narrow gauge dwindling and decided to capture it on film. He would show his Sandy River films now and then at meetings of the 470 Club, but for the most part kept the films locked away for over 60 years. Gus followed the rebirth of the Wiscasset, Waterville and Farmington Railway with great interest, and in 2006, at 88 years old, he donated his narrow gauge films to the WW&F Museum,

Continued On Page 2

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.**

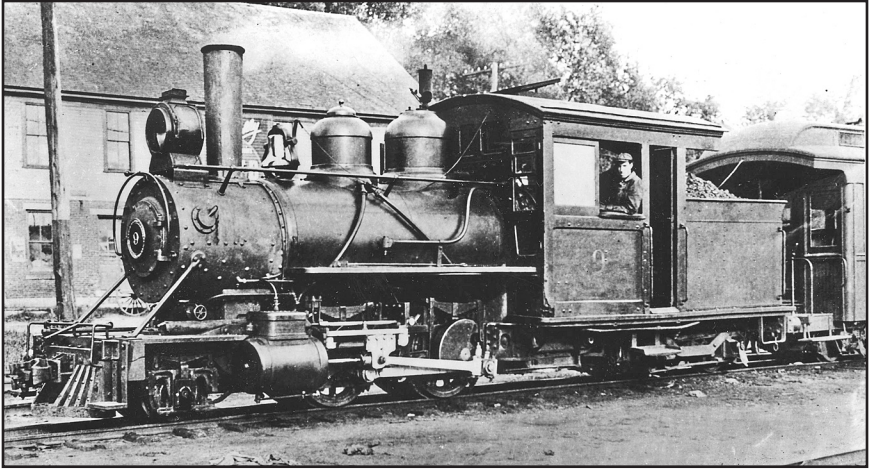
### RMRRRC 2012 Calendar

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| March 13th | Meeting and Program, "Chinese QJ steam locomotives of the Iowa Interstate." |
| April 10th | Meeting and Program, "Polish Narrow Gauge Steam."                           |
| May 8th    | Meeting and Program.  |

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

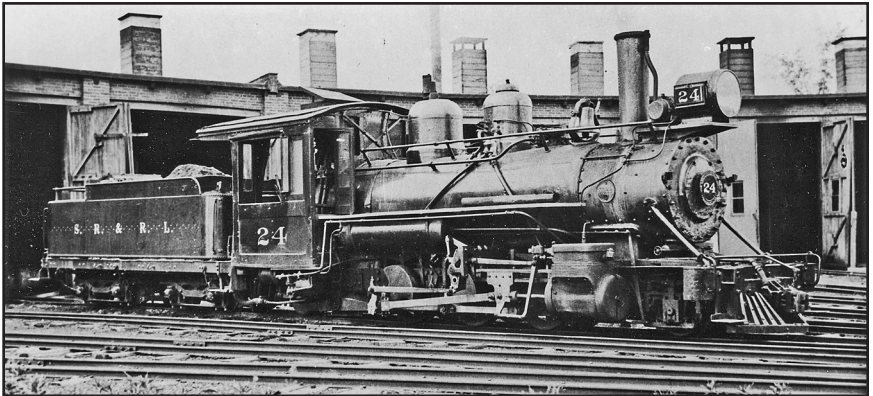
## Maine Two-Foot Narrow Gauge

See more photos on pages 10 and 11



Sandy River & Rangeley Lakes #9, a 2-4-4 T. A trim 2-footer on a passenger run probably leaving Phillips, Maine, in the early 1930s.

– Photo, Tom Klinger collection.



#24 Sandy River & Rangeley Lakes #24, a 2-6-2, outside a roundhouse all set to go. Location is probably Phillips, Maine, in the early 1930s.

– Photo, Tom Klinger collection.

---

## Maine Two-Foot Narrow Gauge

Continued From Page 1

for the sole purpose of raising funds. His phenomenal films have been professionally transferred to digital video, and at his request, meticulously dubbed with authentic sound. The DVD to be shown is a 30-minute time capsule chronicling the last days of the SR&RL, and WW&F shortly after abandonment.

## 75th Anniversary Committee

2013 will mark the Club's 75th year since it was established on March 30, 1938. To celebrate this milestone, the Board of Directors would like to form a 75th Anniversary Committee to help plan events and activities for next year. We would like six to eight volunteers to assist in putting together ideas for the celebration. Ideas might include a unique logo, special field trips or excursions, publications or website enhancements, a banquet and similar activities. One does not necessarily need to attend meetings in person as participation by email, long distance, may allow members not located in Colorado to participate. If you are interested, please call or email Dave Goss to volunteer (303-693-9933 or [dave@dcgoss.com](mailto:dave@dcgoss.com)).

*Watch for 75th anniversary updates here.*

## Notes From The President

By Dave Goss

Our thanks to Rich Luckin for his fascinating presentation at the January Club meeting on Amtrak's fortieth anniversary. Besides showing a high definition video, Rich shared with the attendees the behind the scenes efforts he and his colleagues experienced making the video. Amtrak clearly supported his efforts and Rich is to be complimented for balancing history, equipment and people stories in one excellent DVD. For those who missed this meeting, the DVD can be obtained at [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com) by clicking on the 40th Anniversary icon on the home page and then selecting the link "Celebrate with Amtrak Today." The DVD is *Amtrak: The First 40 Years*.

Next year will mark the Club's 75th

Anniversary, a milestone well worth celebrating. Following the tradition established with celebrating the 50th and 60th anniversaries, we'd like to make next year a memorable one for members. We have also starting planning some fun events for this year and will provide you updates on them as they are finalized.

Unfortunately, recently several of the Club's members have passed away and we were not aware of this until months later. I urge members to drop us a note or send an email to let us know if a friend in the Club has passed away.

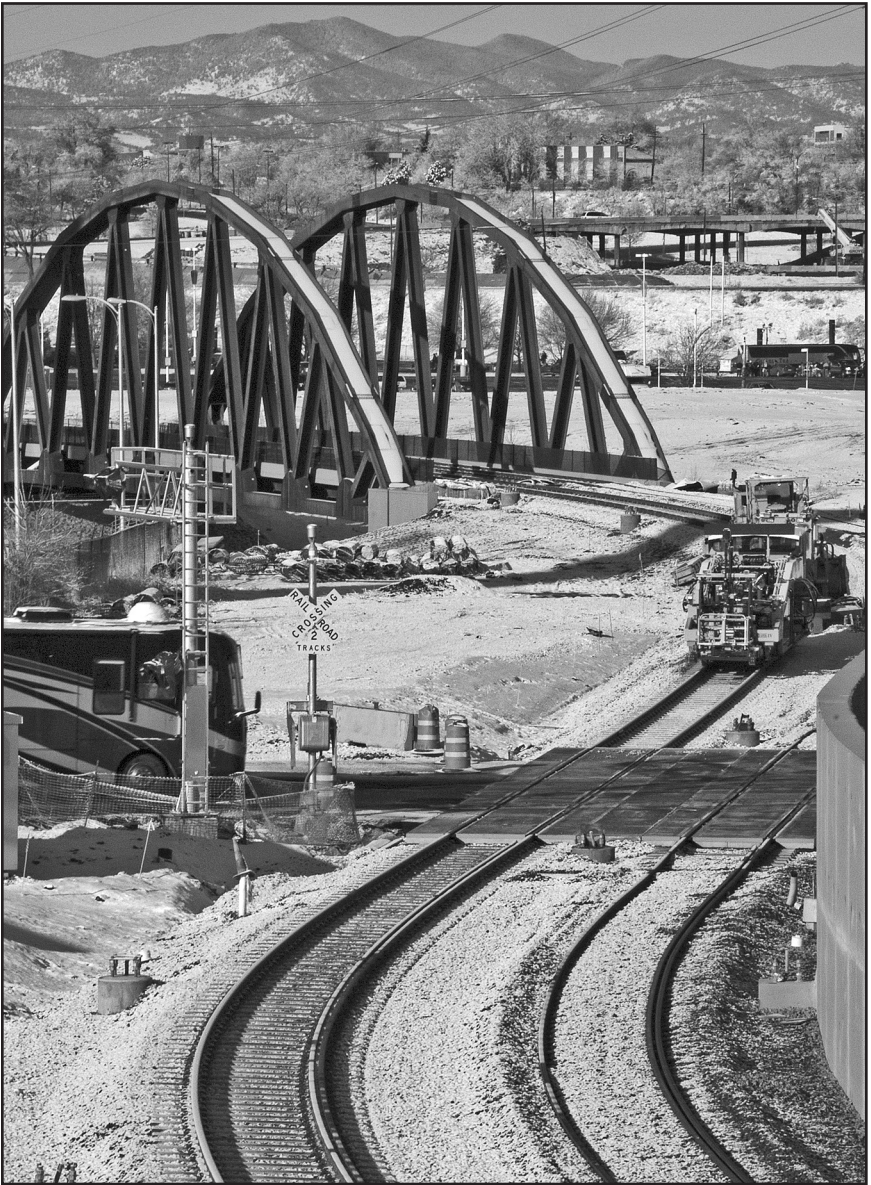
Please do not hesitate to contact me at [dave@dcgoss.com](mailto:dave@dcgoss.com) or call me at 303-693-9933.

### *In Remembrance* **Thomas Bainton**

We received notification that Thomas Bainton of Denver, a nine year Club member holding membership number 339 passed away last year.



## Railroad News And Notes



The Denver Regional Transportation District West Rail Line had laid both tracks for the future 12.1-mile West Rail Line west of I-25 in Denver on January 8, 2012. Maintenance of way equipment was on one track near the South Platte River Bridge. The line will have overhead catenary – note supports along tracks at left and near grade crossing. The line is scheduled to open in 2013.

– Photo © 2012 by Chip.





The Ski Train with 17-cars made its last runs in March 2009 – it now runs on the Algoma Central in Canada with a different paint scheme. Here between Rocky and Leyden, Colorado, on March 22, 2009. Business car Kansas, lounge car Utah and dome sleeper California were on the rear and were the only cars retained by owner Phil Anschutz. – Photo © 2009 by Chip.

---

## Railroad News And Notes

By Dave Schaaf

A recent estimate by BNSF indicates that building FasTracks rail service to Longmont, Colorado, will cost more than expected. The railway surpassed RTD's original estimate of \$894.4 million to a new figure of \$1.4 billion, based on costs for double tracking and sidings, environmental protection and moving utilities, and the cost to operate and maintain the train service. Year 2020 was considered to be the soonest that the Northwest Rail line could be completed, if voters approved a four-tenths of a cent sales tax hike.

The Durango and Silverton will operate a flanger train on February 19th for railfan photographers. Check the website at [www.durangotrain.com/events](http://www.durangotrain.com/events)

In Chama, New Mexico, they plan to display loco #483 along the main street after a cosmetic restoration.

Union Pacific reported it had another record-setting quarter in the last three months of 2011, and the year had been its most profitable ever. U.P. says 2012 is projected to be another top year, with

## Railroad News And Notes



Kansas City Southern 4778, ES44AC, led BNSF's Halstead, Texas, to Coal Creek Mine, Wyoming, train E HAFCKM 003a, with 120-car empty unit coal train. The KCS 4778 is one of the new General Electric locomotives delivered in 2011 painted in the Belle scheme (red on top, yellow and black). The train was moving north at South Denver past the former Gates Rubber factory on January 12, 2012. The Denver RTD South Broadway Station is at left. – Photo © 2012 by Chip.

plans to spend a record \$3.5 billion on capital improvement projects. About \$1 billion of that will be within Nebraska over the next few years. As part of UP's 150th birthday celebration, this special website was launched in January and includes news, schedules and special interactive features: [www.up150.com](http://www.up150.com)

Musket Corporation plans to open a crude-oil export terminal at Windsor, Colorado, for unit train shipments using a newly constructed four-mile loop on the Great Western Railway, which interchanges with BNSF and Union Pacific. The 320-acre site at the Great Western Industrial Park has fuel storage tanks with 48,000 barrels of capacity, which

will be converted to crude oil service. The site will have initial loading capacity of 5.8 million barrels a year and is designed for expansion.

GE Transportation plans to establish a new production facility in Grove City, Pennsylvania, to meet growing demand for diesel engine remanufacturing services. This increase is driven by routine locomotive overhaul cycles and the need to comply with EPA Tier 3 emissions standards for diesel engines by 2013. The new plant will be located at an existing site where General Electric currently makes about 2,000 new engines a year.

Rail car maker Greenbrier Companies

## Railroad News And Notes



BNSF wind energy blade train, Corpus Christi, Texas, to Pasco, Washington, train U CPSPAS1 11a, had Ferromex (FXE) units on January 12, 2012. FXE 4693 and 4607, ES44AC, led 37-loads past Pikes Peak (upper left) on main two of the Joint Line. The train had a 1,000-mile inspection done at BNSF's Rennick Yard, Denver, before continuing up the Front Range Subdivision via Boulder and Fort Collins, Colorado. – Photo © 2012 by Chip.

delivered 3,300 new rail cars in the recent quarter, compared with 1,050 in the same period a year ago.

U.S. railroads reported gains in 2011 rail traffic compared with the previous year, originating 15.2 million carloads, up 2.2 percent over 2010 and up 9.7 percent over 2009.

The Colorado Toy Train Group, LLC will hold their next auction on March 10 & 11, 2012. Send an e-mail to [coloradotoytrains@msn.com](mailto:coloradotoytrains@msn.com) or contact Jim Cathcart at 303-425-1198 for an auction list.

A disturbing new trend for profession-

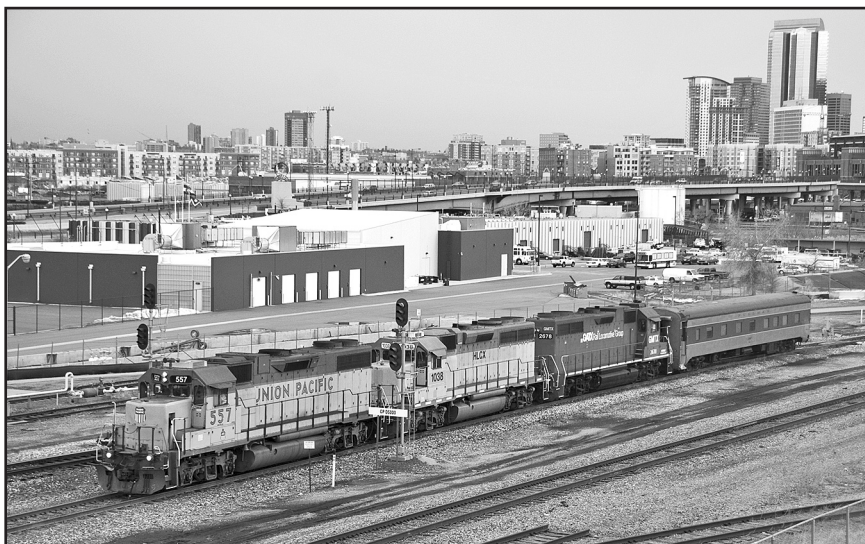
al portrait photographers is to use railroad tracks as a setting for high school graduation photos. These photographers set up their tripods in the middle of mainline tracks and pose students there. Another dangerous occurrence is that of fans placing video cameras between the rails for run-over shots.

We note the passing of Leonard Bernstein on January 4, at 95. Mr. Bernstein was at one time a California Zephyr Dining Car Steward. He retired from the D&RGW as Director of Passenger and Dining Car Operations, and was with the Rio Grande for over 50 years.

Much of the former Milwaukee Road



## Railroad News And Notes



Union Pacific RR dispatched an extra switch crew to move Yosemite Falls sleeper lounge from Amtrak's Denver Depot up to UP's North Yard, Denver. UPY 557, GP38-2, HLCX 1038 and GMTX 2678 handled ex-Southern Pacific Golden Mission (car to be renamed back to Golden Mission by new owner Iowa Pacific Holdings, LLC). The train passed Prospect Junction, Denver, control point DS 000, on January 16, 2012, enroute to a new home on San Luis & Rio Grande RR at Alamosa, Colorado. – Photo © 2012 by Chip.

---

trackage in South Dakota had been saved by the efforts of then-governor Bill Janklow. In the early 1980s he had persuaded the state legislature to buy the lines which were largely absorbed later into the BNSF. He was 72 when he passed away in January.

### California News Bits

The company that operates the Reno Fun Train and Reno Snow Train says 2012 will be its last season, since Amtrak is making fewer cars available and raising fees. The trains connect the San Francisco Bay Area with Reno, Nevada, and run through early March.

The Orange Empire Railway Museum has broken ground for an 8,400 square-foot, \$1.5 million library and research center. It will include a permanent exhibit honoring the Harvey Girls, who worked in Harvey House Restaurants along the Santa Fe. Online at [www.oerm.org](http://www.oerm.org)

The Pacific Locomotive Association will host its third annual Photographers Special on the Niles Canyon Railway on March 11, 2012. Info at [www.ncry.org](http://www.ncry.org)

San Bernardino Railroad Days will be April 21-22 at the Historic Santa Fe Depot. For event info call 909-888-3634 or see [www.sbtrainroadsays.com](http://www.sbtrainroadsays.com)

## Railroad News And Notes



Private Varnish Yosemite Falls, ex-Southern Pacific 4-4-2 sleeper / lounge arrived in Denver on January 16, 2012 via Amtrak train 5, the California Zephyr. The car was purchased by Iowa Pacific Holdings, LLC, and moved by Union Pacific to Walsenburg, Colorado, mid January 2012. The San Luis & Rio Grande Railroad moved the car to Alamosa, Colorado, where it will be renamed Golden Mission. The car is at the Amtrak Denver Depot on January 16, 2012.

– Photo © 2012 by Chip.



Mexican national railroad Ferromex has acquired about 100 of these units in the last year. This new EMD SD70ACe #4083 was moving through Denver on the BNSF on New Year's Day, 2012.– Photo © 2012 Dave Schaaf.

## Maine Two-Foot Narrow Gauge



Wiscasset Waterville & Farmington No.10 steams light, past Head Tide tank in Sheepscot Yard, Alna, Maine, on a cool and foggy morning on April 3, 2010. – Photo © 2010 Stephen Hussar.



Wiscasset Waterville & Farmington No.10 hauls an Easter photographer's special past Rosewood Crossing in Alna, Maine, on April 4, 2010. Special thanks to fireman Joe Fox, for providing that extra smoke! – Photo © 2010 Stephen Hussar.



## Maine Two-Foot Narrow Gauge



Wiscasset Waterville & Farmington Railway museum president Steve Zuppa throws the south switch at Alna Center while engineer Joe Fox and engine No 10 pause on the passing track on August 1, 2010. – Photo © 2010 Stephen Hussar.



Wiscasset Waterville & Farmington No 10 with a two car photo freight consist crosses Humason Brook Trestle heading for Sheepscot Mills, Alna, Maine, on April 11, 2010. – Photo © 2010 Stephen Hussar.

## **Denver & Intermountain Interurban Car No. 25 Is Officially A National And State Register Historic Property**

The National Register in Washington recently communicated that Car No. 25 was listed as a National and State Register property on January 12, 2012.

### **From The West Corridor Historical Rail Cooperative Board**

In late December, 2011, the Denver Rail Heritage Society (DHRS) sold its share of ownership to Car #25 (through the West Corridor Rail Cooperative - WCRC) to the City of Lakewood. The City of Lakewood and the DHRS had formed the nonprofit WCRC to purchase Interurban Car #25 from the Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation in 2010. The DHRS and the City of Lakewood were each 50% owners in the Cooperative, with two members representing each organization on the WCHRC Board of Directors.

During 2011 it became apparent that this WCRC model was not as practical as envisioned, although it provided an excellent method of ensuring the future of Car #25. In December, both the DHRS and City of Lakewood agreed that if Lakewood became the single owner it would enable many of the visions for Car #25 to be realized. The City of Lakewood is committed to building the Oak Street Transit Museum to house Car #25. The car will be integrated into the Heritage, Culture and the Arts Division of the City of Lakewood as an extension

of its focus on 20th Century Lakewood history. The Heritage, Culture and the Arts Division also manages Lakewood's Heritage Center 20th Century Museum, The Lakewood Cultural Center and the Washington Heights Arts Center.

Fundraising efforts will continue by the City through the Heritage, Culture and the Arts Alliance ([www.alliancechca.org](http://www.alliancechca.org)), a 501c3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to raise funds and increase awareness for heritage, cultural, arts, and educational programs of the City of Lakewood's Heritage, Culture, and the Arts Division. Spring 2012 will kick off a Capital Campaign for the Transit Museum and the City of Lakewood will need the help and support of volunteers and the community to make the plans for the Oak Street Transit Museum a reality. The City of Lakewood, the Denver Rail Heritage Society and the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club and Foundation are committed to continuing to work together as collaborators to support Car #25 and to promote a regional vision for historic transit.

---

### **The American Society for Testing and Materials**

The ASTM, an organization that develops industrial standards, recently announced the formation of a subcommittee that will turn its attention to min-

ature railroads. Subcommittee F24.60, Special Rides / Attractions, is working on two proposed standards for amusement ride trains.



The City of Lakewood continues to move forward on the Oak Street Transit Museum. Once an architectural and engineering firm team is selected, the City will move forward with design and construction documents. This conceptual renderings of the Oak Street facility was unveiled at the 100th celebration a year ago. The design will be refined during architectural process.

---

---

## The Club Seventy Years Ago

In 1942, the Club established the process of issuing numbered membership cards. At that time there was no Club roster and membership was less than one hundred. Many Club members would be forced to give up participating in Club activities as World War II grew in intensity. Meetings were held in the Sixth Floor Executive Board Room of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad Company general offices at 1531 Stout Street.

Preston George was President, Otto Perry was Secretary and Joe Schick was Treasurer (even though no dues were collected). Carl Hewett was the editor of the *Rocky Mountain Rail Fan* (the predecessor to the *Rail Report*). Issue number 4 in 1942 was the first issue in nearly two years. Hewett's prose was noteworthy for his passion and love of steam operations

in Colorado. There is no record of the Club having any excursions or field trips in 1942.

Also from the 1942 *Rocky Mountain Rail Fan*: "Probably the most important gain each of us can count consists of the many pleasant friendships we have formed during these four and a half years. We started out merely as a widely assorted group of individuals drawn together by the fact that, regardless of age, we had never outgrown our childhood fascination for "Choo-choo" trains. We have found keen satisfaction in pursuing our hobby in company with kindred spirits and we have each increased our knowledge of railroad history, locomotive photography and current railroad events by participating in the pool of such knowledge that accumulates at each Club meeting."



## Colorado Railroad Museum 2012 Scheduled Special Operation Days

For information call 303-279-4591

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

---

Black History Month / Railroads  
February 18  
Bunny Express Train April 7  
Dinosaur Train May 19  
Goose Fest June 16, 17  
Colorado Wine & Music Train  
(Fundraising Event) July 21  
Day Out With Thomas  
September 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23  
Trick or Treat Train October 27, 28  
Santa Claus Special  
December 8, 15, 16, 22

### Ride The Rails Saturday

January 21, March 17, April 21, July 21,  
August 18, October 20, November 17

### Galloping Goose Rides

February 4, 11, 25,  
March 3, 10, 24, 31,  
April 14, 28, May 5, 12, 26,  
June 2, 9, 23, 30, July 7, 14, 28,  
August 4, 11, 25,  
September 1, 29, October 6, 13,  
November 3, 10, 24, December 1, 29

---

### 2012 SCFD Free Museum Admission Days

Saturday, March 3 & May 5

(Rides on the Galloping Goose must be purchased separately on SCFD free days)

### 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.

## Intermountain Chapter, NRHS

### 2012 Event Schedule

For information call 303-298-0377

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

---

### Dinner Meeting At Lone Star Steakhouse February 17, 2012

Richard Luckin acquired a program produced by the BNSF, *Rising Above: The Floods of 2011*. From winter 2010 through summer 2011, historic flooding and other events along the Missouri River and further north had a dramatic impact on BNSF's network. This video tells the story of the floods and the extraordinary efforts of BNSF employees to protect and restore the network and BNSF's service to customers. Should be most interesting.

---

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.

## **Publishers Statement — Rocky Mountain Rail Report**

The Rocky Mountain Rail Report (ISSN 1040-9223) is published by the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club and the Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation.

First class postage paid at Denver, Colorado.

Postmaster, send address changes to:

Rocky Mountain Rail Report, PO Box 2391, Denver, CO 80201-2391

### **Club Information**

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

### **Club and Foundation Officers**

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

### **Club and Foundation Directors**

John Charles, Nathan Holmes, Andy Dell, Bernie Watts,  
Mike Tinetti, Nathan Zachman, Dave Schaaf, Randy Worwag.

### **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](mailto:selectimag@aol.com)

**Items for the March 2012 Rail Report should be sent by February 17th.**



BOX 2391  
DENVER, COLORADO 80201

