

Rocky Mountain Railroad Club • Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation

Annual Meeting
Southeastern Railroads
Presented by Nick D'Amato
December 10th, 2013 • 7:30 PM

The program will cover the photographic highlights of Nick's six years living in North Carolina (2005-2011). He will be sharing three smaller programs of 10-15 minutes each. The first focuses on Norfolk Southern's "Old Fort Loops" in the Blue Ridge Mountains near Asheville, where railroad engineers were confronted with the task of gaining nearly 1,000 feet of elevation in only 3 miles. The answer was construction of nearly 9 miles of looping track with 7 tunnels, and today the Loops remain one of more impressive feats of railroad engineering in the eastern US and are among the few remaining places to see manned helper operations. The second

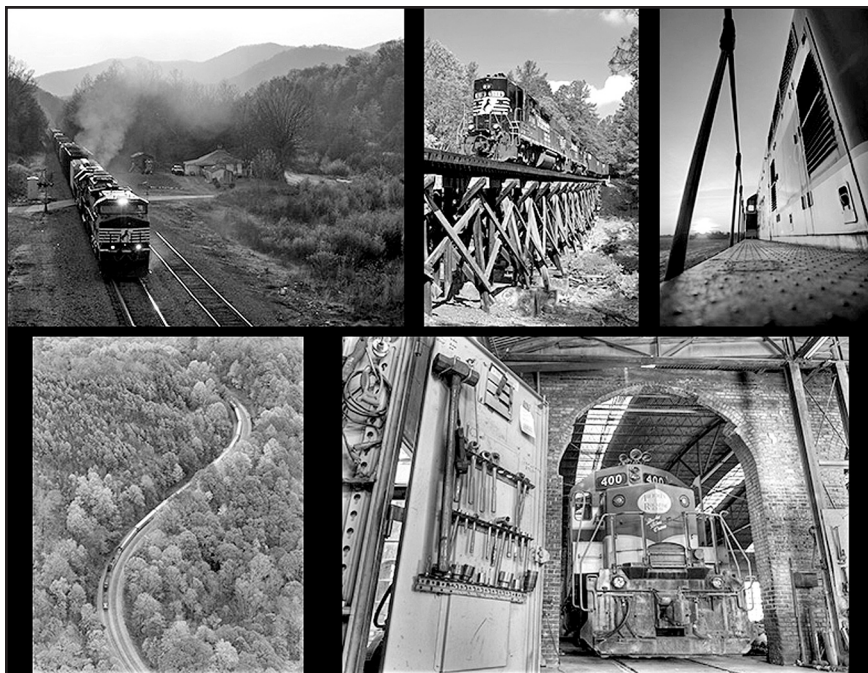
Continued on Page 2

Please 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.**

RMRR 2014 Calendar

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| January 14th | Monthly Meeting and Program, "Durango to Darjeeling" presented by Dan Edwards. |
| February 11th | Monthly Meeting and Program by Cliff Smith of the Comanche Crossing Historical Society. |

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.



Railroad scenes from North Carolina. – Photos © Nick D'Amato.

Southeastern Railroads

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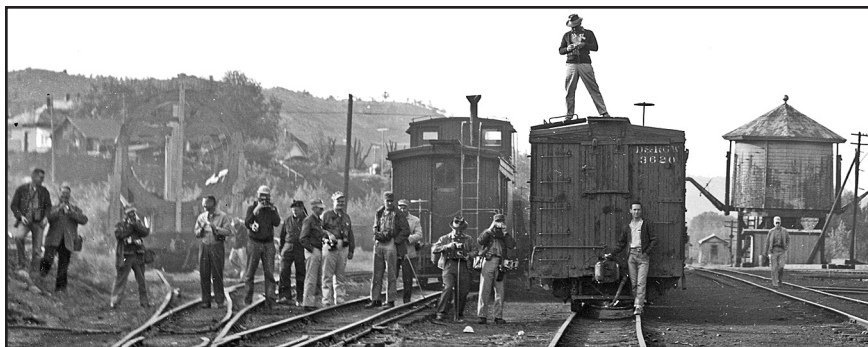
program covers the Aberdeen & Rockfish RR, a family-owned short line in the Sandhills region of North Carolina using vintage EMD power, including the last GP-7 still working for its original owner. Finally, the third program travels North Carolina from east to west showing a huge variety of motive power as we hit the major cities and many of the interesting short lines and branch lines along the way.

Notice Of Annual Meetings

The annual meetings of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club and the Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation will be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, 7:30 PM at Christ Episcopal Church, 2950 South University Boulevard, Denver, Colorado. These meetings are called for the purpose of electing Officers and Directors for both organizations. At these meetings the Club or Foundation may conduct any other business as may properly come before these meetings.

75th Anniversary Masthead Photo Notes

For the last 75th Anniversary year *Rail Report*, the masthead features a Stephen Hussar photo of Flagg Coal 75 heading down the line.



In the Durango Yard for a 1960 Club Memorial Day excursion, everyone was lined up facing the trip's engine, the 491. Ed Haley is on top of the car and Dick Kindig (with the monopod) is in front of the caboose. To the left of Dick Kindig are Jim Ozment (in front in track) then Ross Grenard. Standing in the track on the left is Morris Cafky. – Graflex photo by Cornelius W. Hauck.

Notes From The President

By Dave Goss

In this, my last column as your President, I want to thank all the current Club members, the Officers and Directors for their continuing support of this fine organization. Seventy-five years is a notable achievement and as we look back, we should be proud of the many accomplishments. Our membership today is 471, and ten years ago it was 975. Sixty-two percent (293) of our current members live in Colorado, while the remaining are in thirty-seven states and three foreign countries. More than 220 have been members twenty-five years or longer.

We continue to be a reflection of today's society, with great diversity, but an organization that finds it difficult to recruit new members. Younger generations are not joiners, as can be seen the declining memberships in churches, civic organizations and other social groups. The Internet and social media have replaced the need for many people to attend meet-

ings, when they can garner information and read of history without leaving their homes. The computer, smart phone and streaming movies satisfy many who would have otherwise been members of these groups in the past.

Nonetheless, we have offered remarkable opportunities for those who have been members of the Club over the years. Excursion opportunities like the Union Pacific 9000 or those with the Galloping Geese in the late 1940s and 1950s. Who can forget the Fall Foliage Trips for which we became renowned, or trips behind 8444 - 844, 3985 and C&S locomotives. Trips to Chicago, Mt. Pleasant, Strasburg, Pike's Peak, the Royal Gorge, South Fork, Northgate, and excursions hosted by the Great Western, CB&Q, Georgetown Loop, RTD, Durango & Silverton and Cumbres & Toltec have entertained and amazed members and guests alike.

Notes From The President

We have taken our historical knowledge and produced memorable books, videos, brochures, maps and other valuable documents, some of them the seminal works on their subject. The list of members who have been or are famous photographers and historians is lengthy and reads like a who's who of American railroad history. We have been fortunate to rub shoulders with and have the chance to hear and talk to noted authors, videographers, editors and personalities who have shared their life experiences with us.

The "greatness" of the Club is only because of the countless individuals who have stepped up to serve as Officers or on the Board of Directors, to keep track of finances and membership, to write, publish and mail the *Rail Report*, to plan trips and excursions, to present programs, to share their wisdom and humor with us, all the while not asking for any thanks or other rewards. Those who have attended our meetings and shared with us their memories, feelings, thoughts, opinions and fellowship have been just

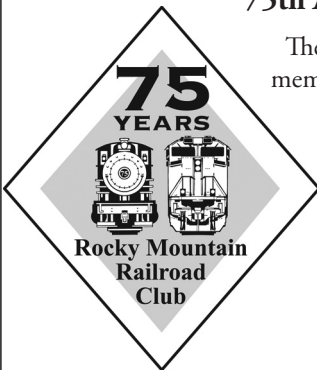
as important as all the many others who have been members from afar, unable to attend our monthly meetings. Collectively, the membership has allowed the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club and Historical Foundation to flourish and continue, year after year for seventy-five years. Each of us is a small but important part of this remarkable organization's history. For that we should all be grateful and proud.

The visionaries in 1938 who established our Club had the foresight to realize that there will always be an interest in railroading among the public. Even though they had no idea what we would become, they set a foundation through their actions that has endured, and we hope will endure for many more years. We have attempted to maintain their visions through our activities and even today, I think they would be proud to have seen us celebrate 75 years. We are a tribute to them and through our renewals in 2014 will begin another decade of rail heritage and memories.

Thank you all.

75th Anniversary Commemorative Items

These commemorative items are available for sale to members at Club meetings and on the Club website:



- Anniversary DVD:

Journey to Yesteryears – 1938-2013 (\$16.00)

- Baseball caps with embroidered logo, choice of khaki or black (\$18.00).
- 16 ounce glass mug with logo (\$10.00)
- 75th Anniversary logo patch (\$4.00)
- Enameled logo lapel pin (\$5.00)

A Call For Nominations For Officers And Directors For The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club Historical Foundation

The election of officers and two directors will be during the annual meetings of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club and the Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, 7:30 PM, at Christ Episcopal Church, 2950 South University Boulevard in Denver, Colorado.

Nathan Holmes has been nominated to serve as President and Dave Schaaf has been nominated to serve as Vice President. Denny Leonard and Charles Moffat have been nominated to serve as directors to fill the seats currently held by Dave Schaaf and Dan Edwards.

Current officers Roger Sherman (Secretary) and Keith Jensen (Treasurer) and directors John Charles, Andy Dell, Dan Edwards, Mike Tinetti, Nathan Zachman, and Don Hulse have agreed to serve another term.

Any member wanting to volunteer or nominate another member for either an officer or director position should contact the nominating committee, Andy Dell or Nathan Holmes through the Club website or by mail to the Club's post office box. We will accept nominations from the floor at the annual meetings in December.

Did You Lose Your Renewal Invoice?

Renewal invoices were sent out last month. If you cannot find yours please contact us by sending an email to rails@rockymtnrrclub.org and request a replacement which will be sent to you. If you do not use digital media you can send a request for a new invoice to The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club, PO Box 2391, Denver, CO 80201-2391.

Each renewal form has spaces provided to correct any errors with your contact information. Members, if you use email please make sure we have the correct information.

The membership year is January 1st through December 31st of each year. There will be no increase in dues for 2014. To maintain membership in

RMRRRC, your dues for the upcoming year should be paid by December 31st. Multimember households should return each membership form, but a single payment for the household is desired.

The club would greatly appreciate if all of our members renew by the end of year. We do allow for a month grace period in January. The re-sequencing of seniority numbers is performed the first week in February. If you wish to keep your seniority please make sure you have renewed by then.

Your membership card will be mailed to you in mid-March. More information about this mailing will be provided in the *Rail Report* at a later time.

Please note a correction to the photo caption on the bottom of page 6 in the October 2013 Rail Report: The location of UP #2888 and #812 should be Greeley NOT La Salle.

RTD Line To Arvada, Colorado



North from 48th Avenue and east of the BNSF container yard is the new RTD line being built to Arvada, Colorado, here on November 10, 2013.

– Photo © 2013 Dave Schaaf.



To build the new RTD line to the northwest part of metro Denver, the Rocla railroad tie factory had to be demolished. The plant previously turned out a huge pile of concrete ties and stacked them at 48th Avenue for use on the new construction.

– Photo © 2013 Dave Schaaf.

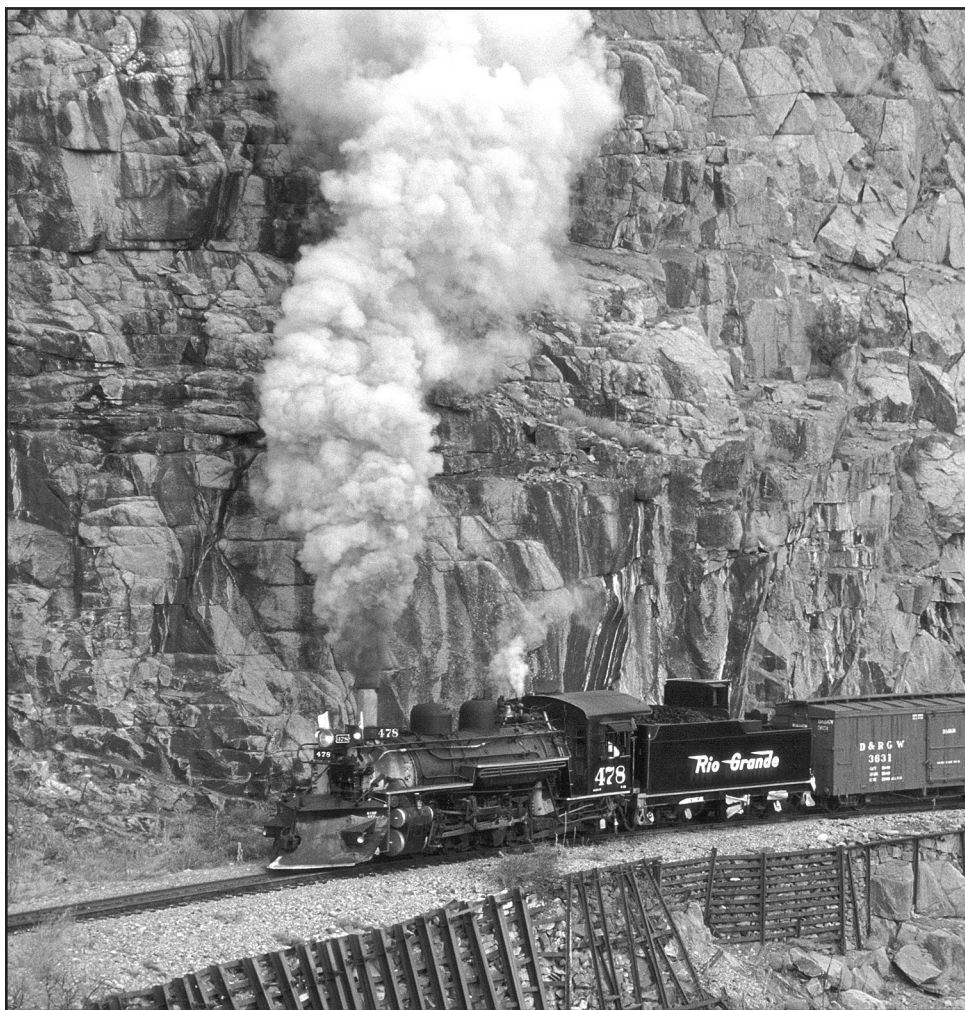
Current Railroad Happenings



Colorado Sweet Gold, LLC, 63, an SW-1 (ex-Great Western Railway, ex-Elgin, Joliet & Eastern) named 'The Kernel', was switching the Johnstown, Colorado, operation on November 7, 2013. GMTX 150 did the work on November 9, 2013. Both units will be retained to work Colorado Sweet Gold plant in 2013.
– Photo © 2013 by Chip.



Colorado Sweet Gold had GATX Locomotive Group GMTX 150, an SW-1500, being serviced by Railway Mobility Service of Cheyenne, Wyoming, at the Johnstown, Colorado, facility on November 7, 2013. – Photo © 2013 by Chip.



The Club's "Silverton Mixed" on the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad High Line on its way back to Durango. – Photo © 1998 Bruce Nall.

The Durango & Silverton Railroad “Silverton Mixed” From 1998

By Walter Weart

On Saturday, December 5, 1998, 89 passengers departed from Durango on the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. The group included riders from as far away as Japan and Canada as well as many states in the US. They had gathered to ride the first “Silverton

Mixed” to operate over that line since the Denver & Rio Grande Western gave up freight service to Silverton in the early 1950s. The D&S staff went all out to recreate the most authentic appearing train as possible.

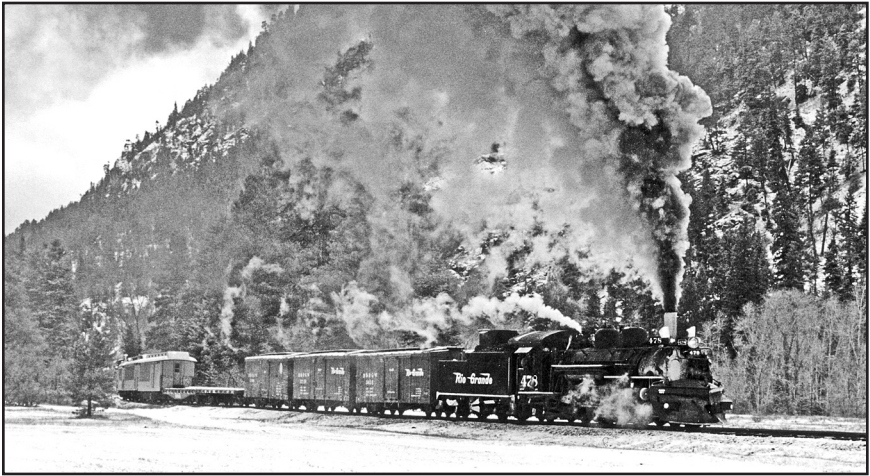


Engine 478 was restored to its 1950s appearance, removing the spark arrester stack and replacing the brakeman's "dog house" on the tender among other changes. Appropriately lettered and painted freight cars included three boxcars and two flat cars, combine 213, San Juan coaches 312 and 327 with caboose 0505 bringing up the markers. The boxcars were lettered with either the "Flying Grande" logo or the circular herald from an even earlier era. The flat cars repre-

sented both the wood frame truss rod equipped style as well as the more modern steel cars which the Rio Grande cut down from standard gauge. Magnetic strips restored "Denver & Rio Grande Western" to the letter boards of the passenger cars.

The cars were correctly painted with such small details as shop dates accurate to the era. Resplendent in Rio Grande paint and lettering, caboose 0505 had

The Durango & Silverton Railroad “Silverton Mixed” From 1998



The first run of the excursion train at Tall Timber. – Photo © 1998 Dave Gross.

the correct kerosene markers installed. 478 was completely backdated with the typical plow the Rio Grande used. 478 even had the correct “class” lights to complete the transformation. It looked just as it did in 1952 as pictured in page 86 of *Colorado Memories of the Narrow Gauge Circle*.

The Club excursion had the run of the entire railroad, as the regular train had been annulled for the special. This meant stops for photos wherever wanted. If the group liked the runby, the train crew could do it again!

There were runbys at the east switch at Pinkerton Siding, then a chance for classic Colorado winter photography. At the next photo line, the snow started falling with large flakes and enough wind to create a mini blizzard. The falling snow and the appearance of the train through the swirling flakes made for dramatic photography.

More stops were made at Mile Post 474 and Tall Timber on the way to Cascade. Upon arrival at Cascade Wye, the train backed into the wye and the riders unloaded for a group picture. Lunches were handed out and those that wished to could walk to the east switch for a picture of our train as it reentered the main line. The train then backed up to the bridge at Mile Post 477.8 for two runbys.

Another stop at Tall Timber as well as at Tacoma led up to the double runby on the High Line curve. The last stop was at Rockwood where there was just enough daylight for one last set of photos.

Upon arrival at Durango, there was an outstanding shops tour then after a break for dinner, Al Chione hosted a slide show with pictures dating from 1950 through 1968. December 5, 1968, was the date of the last D&RGW operation from Durango to Alamosa.

Neal Miller's Annual December Gift Prints



Beginning in 1952, Neal Miller (left) presented “Christmas Gift” copies of a photograph of his choice to members at the annual meeting. The photograph was then published in the *Rail Report* for the enjoyment of those members unable to attend the annual meeting. This photo of C&S #634 on a caboose hop in Longmont, Colorado, is credited as being the first of the Christmas photos by Neal Miller to Club members. – Photo © Neal R. Miller from the Tom Klingner collection.



Neal Miller's last annual gift print was in 2006 and featured Union Pacific locomotive 835 in Laramie, Wyoming, on September 1955. – Photo © Neal R. Miller.

Current Railroad Happenings



Union Pacific 1995, SD70ACE Chicago & NorthWestern Heritage unit, led an 83-car loaded auto unit train from Michigan into Cheyenne, Wyoming, on October 24, 2013. Auto manufacturers General Motors, Mercedes-Benz, Ford and Chrysler vehicles were aboard. Two units were added ahead of UP 1995 for the trip down the Greeley Subdivision and autos were dropped at the Rolla auto unloading facility. Power continued into North Yard, Denver. – Photo © 2013 by Chip.



BNSF 8280, SD75i, U CHENW00 20t (Swan Ranch Industrial Park, Cheyenne, Wyoming, to New Orleans, Louisiana) unit oil tank train passed Niwot, Colorado, on November 7, 2013. This was the 20th unit oil train out of Swan Ranch to New Orleans. The train passed retired Chicago, Burlington & Quincy cabooses 14649 along the BNSF's Front Range Subdivision. – Photo © 2013 by Chip.

Current Railroad Happenings



OmniTrax's Great Western Railway DLCX 6051, an SD40-3 with GEC Alsthom Transport lettering, is leased by this busy shortline. Great Western Railway was fully operational by end of October 2013 from the devastating September 2013 flooding. Flood debris were still around this wooden trestle which held up against the raging river south of Windsor, Colorado. DLCX 6051 was on the Windsor to Officer Junction, Colorado, transfer on November 14, 2013.

– Photo © 2013 by Chip.

**Colorado Railroad Museum
2013 Scheduled
Special Operation Days**

For information call 303-279-4591

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

Santa Claus Special

December 7, 14, 15, 21

**Colorado Rails & Cocktails
An Evening Of Colorado History**

The American Hobo

December 13 – 6:00 PM

Hobos are often thought to be a product of 1930s America, but in fact the hobo experience spans over 140 years of railroad history. Between 1870 and today, a cornucopia of different people rode the rails for free, including immigrants searching for a better life, American socialists agitating labor movements, displaced war veterans searching for a little peace, adventure-seekers chasing the thrill, and even out-of-work railroadmen looking for the next job. Join us at the Colorado Railroad Museum as Museum Curator Lauren Giebler explores the rich history of the American hobo and discusses what exactly it is that keeps people ridin' the rails.

Ride The Rails Saturday

Train rides every Saturday. Catch a ride behind one of the Museum's steam or diesel locomotives in passenger cars from different eras in Colorado railroad history or on the uniquely Colorado Galloping Goose. Rides operate 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

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.

*Happy Holidays
And
Best Wishes
For The New Year*

From

*The Rocky
Mountain
Railroad Club*

And

*The Rocky
Mountain
Railroad Historical
Foundation*

**Intermountain Chapter,
NRHS**

2013 – 2014 Event Schedule

For information call 303-298-0377

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

**The Intermountain Chapter Takes
December Off
There Will Not Be A December
Dinner Meeting**

**The Intermountain Chapter
Will Not Have An Annual
Jeffco Train Show In 2014**

Publishers Statement — Rocky Mountain Rail Report

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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 Goss
Vice President	Pat Mauro
Secretary	Roger Sherman
Treasurer	Keith Jensen

Club and Foundation Directors

John Charles, Nathan Holmes, Andy Dell, Dan Edwards,
Mike Tinetti, Nathan Zachman, Dave Schaaf, Don Hulse.

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

E-mail: selectimag@aol.com

Items for the January 2014 Rail Report should be sent by December 19th.



BOX 2391
DENVER, COLORADO 80201

