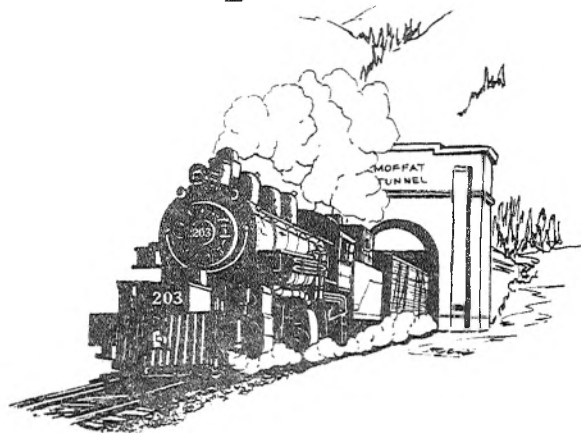


Rocky Mountain Rail Report



The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

P.O. Box 2391 Denver, Colorado 80201

JANUARY 1970

No. 124

CURRENT NEWS AND HISTORICAL NOTES OF
ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROADING PUBLISHED
MONTHLY FOR ITS MEMBERS BY THE ROCKY
MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB

Editor - - - Ed Schneider

MEETING NOTICE: Date Wednesday, January 14, 1970
Time 8:00 p.m.
Place . . . Western Federal Savings Bldg.,
(lower level meeting room),
17th & California Sts., Denver, Colorado

PROGRAM NOTES: Something new and different for our January meeting. We will have a movie called "Movin' On", put out by the United Transportation Union. This film was first shown back East last fall and has been "acclaimed by the critics".

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS: At the December 1969 meeting, the following officers and directors were elected for 1970:

Officers (elected for 1 year terms)

Jim Ehernberger President
Stuart Anderson Vice President
Bill Gordon Secretary
Ted McKee Treasurer
W. L. Van Patten Assistant Treasurer

Directors (elected for 2 year terms)

Carl E. C. Carlson
Milt Fick
Ed Schneider

The three directors elected in 1968 for two-year terms are:

Tom Gray, Jr.
Ed Gerlits
R. A. Ronzio

DUES! DUES! DUES! Dues are now payable for the calendar year of 1970 -
Colorado residents \$3.00
Out-of-State residents 2.00

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MORE ON MAGMA ARIZONA. We have received a letter from member Kent Stephens, informing us that "... the Magma Arizona diesel. It was reported as coming from the Henderson Lumber Company in Oregon. However, it was built for the Medford Corporation, a large lumber company at Medford (Oregon), and was sold by them to the Magma Arizona in May or June of 1968.

"This 850 horsepower diesel is an unique unit ideally suited for Magma Arizona's grades and operating conditions. It was a special order from Baldwin, designed to operated over Medford Corporation's logging

railroad. Basically a switch engine design, it was modified with extra fuel tanks, dynamic braking, low speed gear sets (to enable it to operate over steep grades with heavy trains) and high-capacity air compressors for extra braking power. No. 8 successfully replaced Medford Corporation's steam engines (several Willamette geared, Shay type locomotives) operating over their line from 1952 until 1961 when the logging railroad was abandoned. The two spare Willamettes were retired (No. 4 was put on display at Medford and No. 7 was stored for several years until donated to a planned railroad museum at Dunsmuir, California), and No. 8 was retained for plant switcher. In March 1968, a switching agreement was reached with the Southern Pacific and No. 8 was stored pending sale. It was sold to Magma Arizona within a few months. Shipped from Medford on July 16th, it made its first trip over the Magma Arizona on September 5th.

"In mid-1969, the Magma Arizona acquired a second, somewhat similar, Baldwin unit that had formerly been owned by the McCloud River Railroad in Northern California. Like Medford's No. 8, this unit had certain modifications such as dynamic brakes that enabled it to operate over McCloud's grades. It and seven other Baldwin units were retired by McCloud following the purchase of three new EMD SD38 units.

"Magma Arizona's diesel roster is as follows:

- 8 B-B Baldwin 75481 1952 850 hp 120 tons wt.
(Modified) Formerly Medford Corporation No. 8.
- ? B-B Baldwin 75913 10/1953 800 hp
Formerly McCloud River Railroad No. 31; sold to Chrome Crankshaft Company, Los Angeles (dealer) July 1969; re-sold to Magma Arizona, shipped from McCloud Sept. 1969."

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"WINGS INDEED!" From "The National Observer" of November 17, 1969, member Morris W. Abbott sent us the following clipping:

"Wings Indeed!

Railroads had no more vigorous advocate in their early days than Judge James Hall, editor of Illinois Monthly, who wrote in the October 1830 issue: 'Wings indeed! Even if the art of flying should be invented, who would endure the trouble of wearing a pair of wings and the labor of flapping them, when every gentleman may keep his own 'locomotive' and travel from the Mississippi to the Atlantic with no other expenditure than a teakettle of water and a basket of chips!'"

* * * * *

STOCK SHOW SPECIAL. #8444, the last surviving Union Pacific steam operative steam locomotive will head the Cheyenne Chamber of Commerce Stock Show Special Saturday, January 17, 1970, leaving Cheyenne at 8:30 a.m., arriving at the Coliseum at 11:15 a.m. after a Greeley stop, etc. It will return that night out of Denver at 8:30 p.m. with expected arrival into Cheyenne at 10:35 p.m.

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#8444 NRHS WINTER STEAM TRIP January 24th Denver to Laramie, Wyoming via the Borie Cut-off, leaving Denver 7:00 a.m. expected return 7:00 p.m. Contact Intermountain Chapter NRHS, Box 5181, Terminal Annex, Denver Colorado 80217 for further details.

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NARROW GAUGE NEWS From the Rocky Mountain News, Denver, Colorado, December 24, 1969, it appears that Colorado will have 'to go it alone' if any part of the Rio Grande Railroad's 235-mile narrow gauge line between the San Luis Valley and Durango is to be preserved. New Mexico finds that

it would be financially difficult to participate. The Colorado Railroad Authority will meet Jan. 6 to plan its next step. At the joint meeting between the Colorado and New Mexico authorities, Sen. Hugh Fowler, R-Littleton, Colo., declared that there are enough persons in the U. S. interested in preserving what's left of steam railroads who, if they contributed \$5 each, would provide funds necessary to acquire the trackage and right-of-way. Perhaps the final solution will be a national promotion for volunteer contributions.

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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 correspondence concerning an item, nor will we appraise items to be offered for sale. Send your listings to the Editor by the 20th of the month preceding publication.

Offers: Sheet music; The Midnight Flyer, by F. H. Hager arranged by E. T. Paull, Full color of Ft.W.&D.C. 4-6-0 at depot ready to leave for Trinidad, Pueblo, Colo. Spgs & Denver. 1903 9¼ x 12½, 7 p. Dedicated to the B of L. E. Ken & brass lock marked M V. RR. Steel lock N. E. O. Best offer or trade for other rr plunder. VON BLON 1208 Locust, Muskogee, Okla.

For Sale: One copy of "Colorado Midland". Make offer. Wm. J. Foley 824 Acoma St., Denver, Colorado

For Sale: One copy of "The Switzerland Trail of America" by Forrest Crossen. Book is in "new" condition. Make offer. E. B. Muth 3371 W. 36th Ave., Denver, Co. 80211 Phone 455-3245.

Wanted: Which cable was on top and which on the bottom at the intersection of 17th and Larimer on the Denver City Cable Railway? Will anyone who knows please write Prof. George W. Hilton Dept. of Economics, UCLA, Los Angeles, California 90024.

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THOT FOR TODAY If there were more self-starters, the boss wouldn't have to be a crank himself.

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Jim Ehernberger, President
Stuart Anderson, Vice President

Bill Gordon, Secretary
Ted McKee, Treasurer