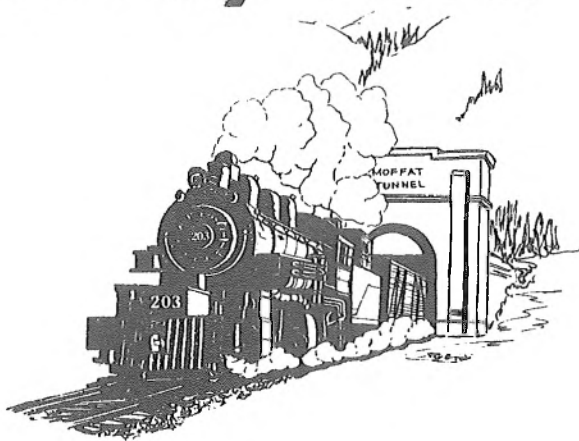


# Rocky Mountain Rail Report



## The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

P. O. Box 2391 Denver, Colorado 80201

July, 1975

No. 190

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

Editor - - - Darrel T. Arndt

MEETING NOTICE: Date . . . . Tuesday, July 8, 1975  
Time . . . . 7:45 P. M.  
Place . . . . Southeast wing of Christ Episcopal Church,  
2900 S. University at Bates; offstreet parking at rear  
(east) of meeting hall.

PROGRAM NOTES: The July program will be:

"Gold Rush to Alaska - White Pass & Yukon," by Jack Morison

In 1898, the last great gold rush occurred on the North American continent and sent men streaming to Alaska and the Klondike. To meet the needs of this last great gold boom, the White Pass & Yukon was built from Skagway to White Horse.

Our program will deal with that gold rush and weave the story around the building of the White Pass & Yukon and take us up to the present day operations. Those of us who have seen Jack's other programs relating to ghost towns, railroads and the west, know that we can expect to see an outstanding presentation on this fantastic narrow gauge line and the country it penetrates. Don't miss the July meeting.

AT THE JUNE MEETING Ed Haley and Jim Trowbridge treated us to tantalizing scenes of what to expect on the June 28th Black Hills Central excursion. With Ed showing slides and Jim running his movies of previous trips, we were once again reminded of the great scenery and fine railroading in store for the ticket holders of the upcoming trip.

We were also pleased to have back with us our Club President, Eldin Larsen, who could not attend the May meeting due to a two-week stay in the hospital for surgery and the necessary recuperation. Welcome back, Eldin!!!

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BLUE SKIES AND A WARM BREEZE provided ideal conditions in Boulder on June 15th as Ralph McAllister steamed up his railroad for the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club. Over 1,000 visitors stopped by through the day to see Mac's masterpieces in operation. With enthusiastic adults and kids everywhere, there was no shortage of passengers for the frequent trips around the track. Also operating were several stationary steam engines of various sizes and designs. A word of thanks is extended to all who attended and for the many thoughtful contributions that were given. The care and respect that was given to Mac's railroad and the grounds by everyone present was most appreciated. Our thanks to Mac for such an enjoyable day.

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THE FIRST ANNUAL RAILFAN WEEKEND AT THE GEORGETOWN LOOP took place on Saturday and Sunday, June 21 and 22. Engine No. 44 operated with a five car freight and the diesel ran with two passenger cars throughout both days to offer a ride that has not been possible for many years. The track is completed down to the first crossing of the creek and preparations are well under way to lay rails across the second bridge. The depot at Silver Plume is on its foundation and SeeBees are working on the platforms. To hear the barking exhaust of the engine working up the grade and the steam whistle echoing through the valley was enough to even give camera lenses the goose bumps. Needless to say, the operation provided a very pleasant way to spend the weekend.

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB DAY AT THE COLORADO RAILROAD MUSEUM will take place on Sunday, July 13. Your 1975 membership card will entitle you and your family to free admission to the museum and the grounds. Engine 346 will be steamed up and pulling a variety of freight and passenger equipment throughout the day. Club members are also invited to see the Denver HO Club's layout in action in the basement of the museum. You are welcome to bring your own HO equipment and operate it on the pike during the day. If you have HOn3, that can be operated as well. American Flyer "S" gauge and the Lionel "O" gauge will not be allowed, however, primarily because they just won't fit. So be sure to take advantage of these special arrangements and remember, the museum's gift shop is one of the best in the country.

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TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE for the three day trip in September to Utah. Over 1,200 miles of railroading behind diesel and steam on four different railroads, plus the Kennecott's electric railroad into one of the world's largest and deepest open pit copper mines. That's on September 12, 13, and 14. Send in your deposit now to hold your reservation.

\* \* \* \* \*

THE UNION PACIFIC is still working on the 8444 and has given no indication when it will be ready for operation. At the present rate of progress, however, it would seem that no trips behind the engine will be possible until next year. We will, of course, pass along any information in this regard as soon as it is available.

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SOUTHERN PACIFIC No. 4449 THROUGH DENVER - As this newsletter goes to print, the east-bound schedule of the SP 4449 is being firmed up, although no official notification has been released. It is (or was) to be in Denver on Saturday, June 28. The steamer is being routed through Denver via UP-BN on its way east to join the American Freedom Train. A color photograph brought to the last meeting by Dick Kindig of the engine in its present paint scheme, drew favorable responses from mostly all who saw it. The Freedom Train's visit to Denver has been changed to Oct. 1 through 5, but this is tentative and subject to further change.

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THE CUMBRES AND TOLTEC SCENIC RAILROAD began its regular 1975 operating season on Saturday, June 14. Necessary track repairs had been made prior to the first run and further upgrading of the line is being planned. A steady melting of the snowpack this Spring eased preparation work for the opening of the line and minimized water problems along the route. In C&TS motive power news, the DOT-FRA has granted flue extensions for locomotives 483 and 484.

While talking about the C&TS, it might be mentioned that a new western movie, "Bite the Bullet," premiered in Denver on June 18. The flick, starring Gene Hackman, was filmed in Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado, and portrays an 800 mile horse race in the early 1900's, a sport that was actually practiced around the turn of the century. In the movie, the race is sponsored by a newspaper, and the news officials followed the route and provided supplies to the participants by train. The rail scenes and a major portion of the rest of the movie was filmed on the C&TS. Easily recognizable locations include Chama and in the engine house there, Lobato, Cumbres Pass,

Mud Tunnel, and other locations covering just about the entire line. The movie has received good reviews in the Denver media. For anyone interested in the narrow gauge, particularly the C&TS and its locale, this film is a must to see.

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OVER IN DURANGO, plans have been created for a \$5 Million business complex in a three block site on Main street. The project encompasses the area adjacent to the depot on both sides of the street. Included in the plans is the resotation of the General Palmer House and the Grand Palace Restaurant and the development of some 50 stores, restaurants and specialty shops in downtown Durango. An Old West Victorian theme will be used.

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GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR POCKETBOOK - Hatch Book Stores in Cinderella City Shopping Center and in Boulder have announced they will allow members of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club a 10% discount on any railroad book in stock through December 31, 1975. All you have to do is show your 1975 membership card with your driver's license.

\* \* \* \* \*

CAN YOU HELP??? - Jerry Day is completing a three-year project on the history of the D&RGW's Crested Butte, Floresta and Anthracite branches for the Colorado Railroad Museum's Annual. He would appreciate hearing from anyone who has photographs from any era of these lines. Jerry is a professional photographer and can do all re-quired photo work (copying, printing, etc.). He would greatly appreciate hearing from anyone. Contact: Jerry B. Day, 7365 E. Severn Place, Denver, 80220; Phone: 333-5375.

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THROUGH THE GORGE - NOT AROUND IT - The eastbound Rio Grand Zephyr was routed through the Royal Gorge on Sunday, June 8, due to a rock slide on the Moffat Tunnel Route.

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TWO IS NOT A CROWD - The private car of Richard McKinley parked at Denver Union Station now has company in the form of ex-UP Business Car No. 113. The car, the "Anoakia," is owned by Ed and Jane Larsh of Denver, and was recently brought up from Corpus Christi, Texas where it sat neglected for a number of years. It was built in 1919, for Anita Baldwin by her father, "Lucky" Baldwin, owner of the Santa Anita Race Track in California, and was later obtained by the Union Pacific in the 1940's. The UP retired it in the mid-sixties and it was eventually sold to a party who stored it in Texas.

The car is to be repainted from its faded UP colors, the roof repaired, and the interior will receive complete restoration and remodeling. Included in the car's amenities is a full length bathtub. (Amtrak, are you listening??? Ahem.) Also of an unusual nature is the offset door to the rear platform that allows for a wide window at the end of the car.

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THE RIO GRANDE REPORTS that a \$176,000 project to upgrade the Pleasant Valley Branch in Utah is expected to be completed by October. Work includes new culverts, bridges, ballast, and replacing 85 lb. rail with 110-115 lb. rail. The line serves mines that have recently reopened due to the energy situation.

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SWAP 'N SHOP - Personal ads are accepted from members for items to listed for sale or trade or wanted. We cannot enter into any correspondence, nor will we appraise items:

FOR SALE: Antique coffee urn - silver plated, gigantic, ornate. About 18 inches high and 6-quart capacity, with alcohol burner. A real conversation piece for your private car or railroad-room.

ROBERT LE MASSENA - 1795 S. Sheridan Blvd., Denver, Colorado 80226

WANTED: BOB GRISWOLD, 2700 S. Kearney, Denver, Colorado 80222, would like to have any information about the "stage" operated by the San Luis Southern Railway from San Acacio to San Luis, Colorado in 1910.

WANTED: One annual pass from Northern Pacific and one from CMSTP&P - any year 1930-1956; New Orleans Streetcar or bus transfers, except St. Charles line; DNW&P/D&SL caboose roster data.

CHARLES ALBI, 460 S. Marion St. #306, Denver, Colorado 80209

FOR SALE: R&LHS of Boston Bulletin No. 73, dated May, 1948. A 90 pg. soft bound pamphlet which has the first published information on the Buckskin, Solid Silver, Watch Fob, and Silver Filigree passes issued by Otto Mears, 1888-1893. Written by Jose M. Crum. Best offer over \$15.00. Contact: JACKSON C. THODE, 2921 S. Locust, Denver, Colorado 80222.

FOR SALE: "The Lake Superior Iron Ore Railroads" by Patrick C. Dorin - Mint condition \$ 8.00  
"Chicago & Northwestern Steam Power" by C. T. Knudsen - Mint condition \$ 7.50  
"The Nickel Plate Story" by John A. Rehor - Mint condition \$13.00  
"Ghost Railroads of Indiana" by Elmer G. Sulzer - Very good condition \$10.00  
"Ghost Railroads of Kentucky" by Elmer G. Sulzer - Very good condition \$ 8.50  
"The Bessemer & Lake Erie Railroad" by Roy C. Beaver - Mint condition \$ 8.50  
"The Virginian Railway" by H. Reid - Mint condition \$ 8.00

Please enclose 40¢ with each book to help with shipping and handling. HARRY J. WAGNER III, E. Centennial Drive, Centennial Lake, Marlton, N. J. 08053.

WANTED: Dining car coffee pots and table cloths. Please advise road, condition & price. C. I. Rydberg, 34 Cumberland St., San Francisco, California 94110

FOR SALE: Caboose travel trailer. 26' self-contained - new price \$6,400 two years ago. Make offer. Details for self addressed stamped envelope. JOE KEITHLEY, 2871 N. Overton Road, Pueblo, Colorado 81004

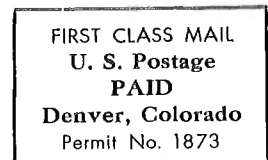
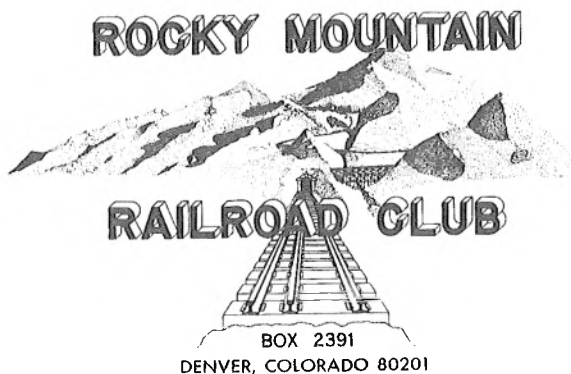
FOR SALE: 11" x 17" reproduction of Poage's "Old Depot" printed in black on heavy white stock. Suitable for framing. \$1.50 postpaid in mailing tube. H. E. WEST, Box 152, Orland Park, Illinois 60462

ELDIN LARSEN, President

BILL GORDON, Secretary

JAMES TROWBRIDGE, Vice-President

CARL E. C. CARLSON, Treasurer



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960 Brentnal Rd.  
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