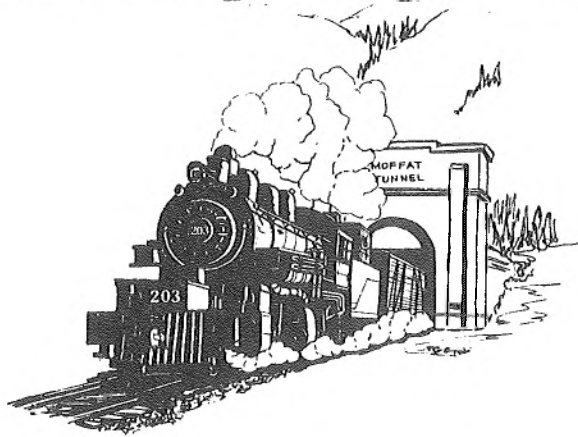


Rocky Mountain Rail Report



The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

P. O. Box 2391 Denver, Colorado 80201
May, 1977 No. 212

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

Editor - - - Darrell T. Arndt

MEETING NOTICE: Date. . . Tuesday, May 10, 1977
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 GREAT BLIZZARD OF '77

In mid-March, one of the worst blizzards in years for railroads and ranchers swept down across the western plains in a fury that won't soon be forgotten. With drifts deeper than trains, the railroads found themselves faced with an awesome task of opening their lines and rescuing stranded trains. Using 15 wedge plow trains, four rotary plow trains, and 52 diesel locomotives, they fought their battle with the elements. At the May meeting, Charles Weart will present a slide/movie presentation that will show with incredible action, shots, the railroad's snow-fighting operations in Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming. This is sure to be a GREAT program!!

"Whatawaytorunarailroad!!" could have been an optional title to "Modern Coal Burning Steam Locomotives," the first film shown by Jim Lenahan at the April meeting. The well done, professionally produced color feature provided an interesting and unusual insight into the birth of a modern mainline locomotive of that period. The movie then took us along on a run of the engine as it pulled one of the Norfolk & Western's fast trains through Virginia, West Virginia and Ohio to Cincinnati and return. The movie proudly stressed the need of little enroute maintenance and how the quick-servicing and remarkable turn-around time was accomplished at the western end of the run. The beautiful streamline locomotive portrayed in the movie, from the drawing board to steam-up was one of N&W's 600 class 4-8-4's. Bob Le Messena mentions that the 602 seen in the movie was considered the most powerful 4-8-4 type ever built, with 80,000 lbs. tractive effort, plus an additional 13,000 lbs. gained from a trailing truck booster, resulting in 5,300 hp rating. Despite 70" drivers, the engines were regularly assigned 90 mph schedules, and had easily exceeded 110 mph with a test run on the Pennys's main line. Interestingly, all of these engines were designed and built by the N&W in its own shops at Roanoke, Va., where various types of motive power were constructed from 1884 until 1953. A review of an

impressive 4-6-6-4 was also provided in the film. A second film traced a car of freight from its origination to destination on the N&W in the early 1950's showing occasional steam and a lot of sharp operating. A final film covered various steam and some early diesel powered freight and passenger train movements of the Pennsylvania Railroad as they attacked the grades in the Horseshoe Curve region of the railroad in western Pennsylvania. Our thanks to Jim for coming up from Colorado Springs and presenting such an outstanding program!!!

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THE DRAWING FOR THE DENVER SOUTH PARK & PACIFIC MEMORIAL EDITIONS was held at the April meeting and, unlike last year, the winners were both residents of Colorado! J. T. Annis of Arvada and Charles Barnard of Lakewood were the the lucky recipients. Needless to say, the proceeds from the drawing will certainly help the club. Thanks to those who participated.

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A reminder that May 14th, Saturday, is our outing on one of American's most spectacular rail lines, the Pikes Peak Cog Railway. Our train will make several stops along the way, of course, and there will be ample time to stretch legs and take in the view. The train will depart Manitou at 1:10 P.M., with arrival back at the base station around 4:30. For those who desire, tables will be reserved and waiting at Guiseppe's Old Depot Restaurant in downtown Colorado Springs. Adult fare is \$8.50, kids 5-11, \$4.25, and tickets should be ordered in advance. Of course, please indicate a preference for reservations at the restaurant if needed. Remember, this

is a good opportunity to get all those winter cobwebs out of the system and unwind with a congenial bunch.

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THE UNION PACIFIC has notified us that word is still being awaited from the government examiners for their approval of the 8444 for operation.

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NEW ROSTER ON THE WAY - The club's Board of Directors recently approved the printing of a new roster for the membership and work has already begun on this rather involved chore. The rosters, in the past, have been printed roughly every two years because of the substantial expense involved, so this one won't be too far from the norm. It should be ready this summer, but it's still too soon to predict exactly when.

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ROCKY RAILS '77 - Plans are well under way for the National Model Railroad Association's national convention, which will be held in Denver this year on July 19-24. "Rocky Rails '77" will be comprised of just about everything that pertains to model railroading and will include operating layouts, clinics, displays, model contests, movie and slide shows, auctions and swap tables, manufacturer's representatives, etc. To accommodate the convention, four major hotels have been booked up, and the entire Currigan Exhibition Hall and annex is reserved.

- WANTED: Would like to buy or swap 1894 and 1887 Colorado Midland Annual Passes, also Colorado and Southern Annual (Type A) Pass for 1901. Have several of each road before 1910 to swap only.
PHILIP A. RONFOR, 158 Spring St., Santa Cruz, California 95060.
- FOR SALE: To the highest Bidder. RAILROAD MAN'S MAGAZINE and successors, starting April, 1917 through June, 1966. (There are "gaps" in these but complete volumes for 1935 through 1947 and complete March 1950 through August, 1954). TRAINS magazines starting June, 1941 through December, 1967. (Also with "gaps" but complete (including Vol. II bound) from 1943 through 1955, and 1962 through 1967). LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS JOURNAL, 1941 through 1954, with "gaps." Canadian Pacific elaborate 20 page brochure RESORTS IN THE CANADIAN PACIFIC ROCKIES, with 17" x 34" fold-out topographic map in color of the region. 1927. Baldwin (Locomotive Co.) Magazine, 1932 through 1948, with "gaps." General Motors, 1947 large-page TRAIN OF TOMORROW brochure in color and 74 page press book with 8" x 10" glossy prints, "Facts - Figures - Features on the General Motors TRAIN OF TOMORROW."
JOHN P. DECAMP, 4040 Egbert Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220
- FOR SALE: Make offer on a 1917 CB&Q Rules and Rates of Pay for Locomotive Engineers. Booklet is in mint condition.
J. C. CLAYTON, 214 West Union Avenue, Litchfield, Illinois 62056.
- WANTED: I am collecting photos "by the number" on the Denver Tramway Co. street cars and would like to buy or trade for any of the following cars, if you have a photo of them to fill in vacant spots: No's. 12, 22, 60, 61, 77, 78, 79, 80, 82, 83-88, 89, 91, 92, 94, 96, 98, 99, 101, 103, 108, 113, 116, 117, 312, 316, 335, 338, 356, 363-365, 369, 370, 373, and 386-392. Write to:
JAMES E. KUNKLE, Denver Tramway Historian, P.O. Box 2984, Denver, Colorado 80201, or call 893-5498.
- FOR SALE: THE MOFFAT ROAD - No. 198 First edition by Bollinger and Bauer, \$35.00; SILVER SAN JUAN, by Ferrell, first edition, \$35.00; MANSIONS IN RAILS - No. 1699 first edition by Beebe, \$50.00; DENVER SOUTH PARK & PACIFIC PICTORIAL SUPPLEMENT - No. 285 by Kindig, Haley, and Poor, \$175.00; COLORADO MIDLAND - No. 285 by Cafky, \$150.00; SWITZERLAND TRAIL OF AMERICA - No. 1644 by Crossen, \$135.00; RIO GRANDE - No. 982 by Beebe and Clegg, Deluxe first edition - \$40.00.
MRS. FORD COOLEY, 4672 Gravenstein Hy. N., Sebastopol, Calif. 95472.
- FOR SALE: 100 Colorado public timetables 1882-1970. All originals, including some real rarities. Send large stamped envelope for list. Also RM R.R. Club newsletters for sale. Phone 922-0357.
ROBERT A. LE MASSENA, 1795 S. Sheridan Blvd., Denver, Colo. 80226.
- WANTED: We have received a query from a non-member who is looking for early Colorado bank checks. He also mentions he has "some rare Colorado railroad items for trade."
DON HAVENS, 5125 W. Alameda, Denver, Colorado 80219.
- WANTED: Seeking pamphlets and books about T&BV, SA&AP, Cotton Belt, Burlington, K.O.&G and Muskogee Union Ry. Offer copy of Lathrop's LITTLE ENGINES & BIG MEN and a 1948 Pennsylvania wall calendar for best offer. No Phone calls.
A. VON BLON, 1111 Colcord, Waco, Texas.

Around 1,400 participants have paid the \$25.00 to \$35.00 advance reservation fee already, and the total number of registrations is expected to reach 3,000. In addition to the convention, activities are planned on the Rio Grande Zephyr and nearby tourist and historical rail attractions are preparing for additional patrons during that week. The GB&L ry. at Georgetown Loop, the Colorado Central RR at Central City, the High Country RR at Heritage Square, Ralph McAllister in Boulder, the DOT Test Track, Tiny Town, the Colorado Railroad Museum and the Denver HO Club at the museum, Forney Transportation Museum, the "0" gauge club in Union Station, several private layouts and the C&TS and the Silverton are among those looking forward to entertaining portions of the crowd. Further information and a brochure can be had by writing "Rocky Rails '77," Terminal Annex, P.O. Box 17182, Denver, Colorado 80217.

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ANOTHER RAILROAD SHOW is now well past the planning stages that will precede "Rocky Rails '77", and that will be "Railfair 77." Sponsored by the Intermountain Chapter of the NRHS, the show is to include displays and tables manned by numerous organizations and groups representing the railroad industry, publishers, hobby suppliers, collectors and sellers of railroadians, and others. "Railfair '77" will be held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds on July 9 and 10. For further info, contact Dick Luckin, C/O the NRHS, P.O. Box 5181 Terminal Annex, Denver, Colorado 80217, or phone (303) 420-3758.

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IF THEY COULD HAVE ONLY JUSTIFIED KEEPING THE SUPER CHIEF!! - Certainly one of the most impressive trains to burnish the rails of Denver's Union Station in recent years, was the Santa Fe's 14-car Director's Special that arrived in town for a brief visit on April 25 and 26. Pulled by three diesels, the train included all stainless steel equipment with the exception of the steam generator car in silver paint, and was in keeping with Santa Fe's reputation, absolutely immaculate from the trucks on up. With numerous sleepers and business cars the consist from the head end looked like this: Steam generator No. 139, Royal Manor, Topeka (open platform), Regal Lane, Regal Hunt, full length dome, diner No. 61, Regal Spa, Regal Lark, lounge No. 62, Mountainair, Atchison (open platform), Santa Fe (open platform), and their unique Track Inspection Car. The inspection car has an all-glass end with seats facing back on a sloping floor. The train was to have stopped in Colorado Springs and also at the railroad's new piggy-back loading terminal south of Denver.

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AMTRAC made a number of schedule adjustments throughout its system on April 24th, with a fairly substantial change in the timing of the San Francisco Zephyr. Westbound the departure from Chicago is now two hours earlier, leaving at 4:00 P.M., arr. Denver 9:20 A.M., lv. 10:05 A.M., Ogden at 10:50 P.M., arr. Oakland 3:30 P.M. Eastbound, the train will run about 2½ hours later than the old schedule, leaving Oakland 1:00 P.M., Ogden 7:30 A.M., arr. Denver 7:45 P.M., lv. 8:30 P.M., arr. Chicago 3:35 P.M. This will do away with any chance of a same-day eastbound connection with the Rio Grande Zephyr at Ogden-Salt Lake, although the new Seattle-Salt Lake City train will fill the void. That train, which for some reason will be called the Pioneer, is slated to start on June 7. It will connect with the SFZ, according to Amtrak's plans.

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BACK IN THE LIMELIGHT - New display cases obtained by the club for two of its live steam locomotives were recently installed in the basement of the Colorado Railroad Museum. Through the efforts of Jerry Cutshall, Ivan Duff, Wally Porter, Robert Relf, and especially Milt Fick, the locomotives were removed from storage, and along with the display cases, were wrestled and talked down the stairway of the museum. The third engine that had been on the first floor was also moved. The locomotives have quite a history to them, and a detailed description was placed in each case. One engine spent part of its life at the Manhattan Beach Amusement Park, an almost forgotten attraction once located next to Sloans Lake in west Denver, and the other engine worked at Elitch Amusement Park a number of years ago. Be sure to stop and gawk on your next museum visit.

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A RAILROAD TOUR of the British Isles will be hosted in September of this year by Meridian Travel of Lakewood. The tour is limited to twenty people and will be a personally conducted tour that includes all expenses, air fare Denver-London and return, a first-class rail pass covering England, Scotland, and Wales, and lodging each night in a first-class hotel. Cost of the 15-day trip from Denver will be \$889.00. For further info, contact Neal Murry at Meridian Travel, 8529 W. Colfax Avenue, Lakewood, Colorado 80215.

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MUSIC TO THE EAR - A newly released long-playing record, "The Stack Music Spectacular," is now available to all connoisseurs of steam engine talk. Recorded and edited by Vinton Wight of Canon City, Colorado, a club member and retired radio and electronics engineer, the sequences were captured on the Union Pacific in Wyoming and Nebraska, plus a bit on the Burlington in Illinois, the N&W and #42 steaming around the short-lived Magic Mountain trackage near Denver. Included with the record, is a two-page written commentary on the different types of engines and the locale in which they were recorded. Three other records by Vinton that were released in 1958 are still available, all titled "Sounds of Steam Locomotives" with a subtitle on No. 1 "Stack Music," No. 2 "Make up of Train" and No. 3 "Colorado Narrow Gauge." All four records are \$6.98 each, and can be obtained by writing Folkways Records, 43 West 61st Street, New York, New York 10023.

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RED FACES were probably in abundance at Amtrak's Washington headquarters a few months ago, according to a recent wire service news story. Seems the organization thought it could save some money by eliminating ticket and baggage services at the Laramie, Wyoming station, so it petitioned the ICC for permission to do just that. This raised the blood pressure of Laramie officials, and the Wyoming congressional delegation, since the Union Pacific finances and provides the ticket and baggage services at Laramie. Much to the delight of Laramie residents, Amtrak quickly withdrew the petition when this fact was brought to its attention.

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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 any correspondence, nor appraise items.

FOR SALE: Collection of 127 size 616 negatives of Illinois Central steam engines. \$250.00. Also miscellaneous 616 negatives of steam on other roads.
J. A. PFEIFER, 11325 S.W. Timberline Drive, Beaverton, Oregon 97005.

WANTED: Engine headlights, builder plates, whistles, marker lamps and any other railroad hardware.
BRUCE RANNIGER, 30294 Inverness Lane, Evergreen, Colorado 80439.

FOR SALE: 1. COLORADO MIDLAND By Cafky. First edition, 1965, Book 2529 of 6000, author autographed. World Press (with map pocket and 5 enclosures). A-1 condition (467 pp). 2. SUGAR TRAMP Colorado's Great Western Railway by Gary Morgan. First edition 1975 Centennial Pub. (map pocket with 5 enclosures) No. 364 of 1500 author autographed, A-1 cond. Highest bid. 3. IRON HORSES by E. P. Alexander, first edition 1941 W. W. Norton Co., 238 pp, A-1 cond. Highest bid. 4. HIGH IRON - A BOOK OF TRAINS by Beebe, first ed., 1938, Bonanza Books, 225 pp, A-1 cond. Highest bid. 5. LOCOMOTIVE CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN PRACTICE, Tenth edition, 1938. Compiled and edited for the Assoc. of American Railroads - Mechanical Division. Simmons-Boardman Pub. Co., A-1 cond. 1232 pp - 12" x 8½". Highest bid.
DARRELL BREWER, Box 693, Kentfield, California 94904.

FOR SALE Rebound copy THE AMERICAN RAILROADER (?). No title page ca. 1890.
OR TRADE: Many Colorado woodcuts. \$35.00 or trade for stereo views or photo's of Colorado mining towns and railroads.
F. B. RIZZARI, 1716 Viewpoint Road., Denver, Colorado 80215.

WANTED: Pacific Fruit Express - wanted photo's or negatives of reefers taken in 1960's or before. Especially need photo's, painting information, drawings of wood side reefers.
F. H. PEACOCK, 103 Reel Road, Longview, Texas 75604.

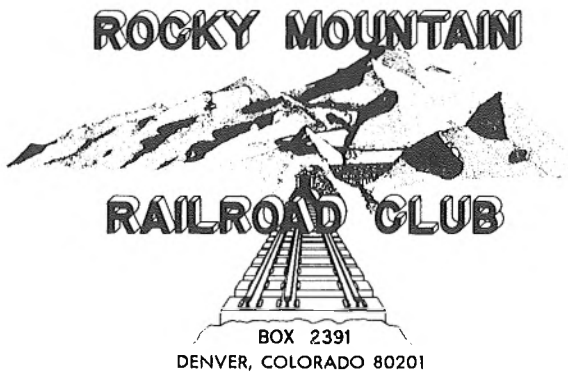
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