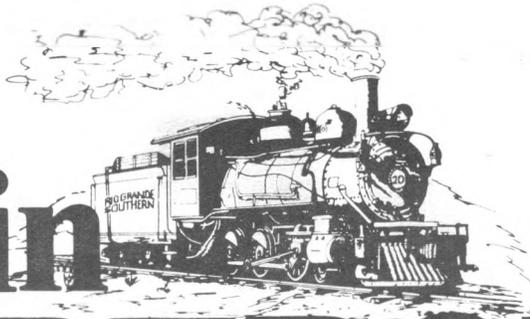


# Rocky Mountain RAIL REPORT



THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB

## MEETING SCHEDULE:

December 10, 1985 -- 7:45 p.m.

Southeast wing of Christ Episcopal Church, 2950 South University at Bates. Off-street parking at rear (east) of meeting hall. Please use the building's south entrance.

Jim Trowbridge..... Editor  
Les Grenz..... Associate Editor  
Keith Kirby..... President  
Erwin Chaim..... Vice President  
Bill Gordon..... Secretary  
Ardie Schoeninger..... Treasurer

Send all items for publication to: Rocky Mountain Rail Report; Jim Trowbridge, Editor; 502 South Cody Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80226.

COPY DEADLINE -- ALL copy for publication is due no later than the 15th of the month prior to month of publication

## CLUB MEMBERSHIP

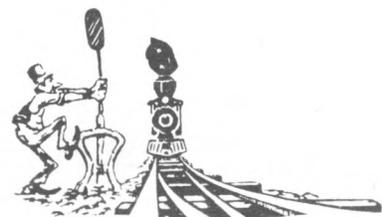
Membership in the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club can be obtained by sending \$19.00 (\$15.00 annual dues plus enrollment fee of \$4.00) to: ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB, P. O. Box 2391, Denver, Colorado 80201. After April of each year, new members may join for a payment of \$4.00 enrollment fee plus \$1.25 for each month remaining in the calendar year. Dues for the next year are solicited in December of the current year.

December, 1985..... No. 314  
Club Telephone..... (303) 431-4354  
P. O. Box 2391..... Denver, Colorado 80201

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

## DECEMBER 10 PROGRAM

Vice President, Erwin Chaim, has advised your editor that he has selected a short-subject, 16mm film entitled "Red Balloon." With elections and refreshments at the December meeting, little time is available for a regular program, so Erwin looks for a short subject for purely entertainment value. Your editor was prepared to present "The Lone Railfan, Part II," but received mysterious letters and phone calls from an "unknown" person suggesting I pick on someone else! "Pick" on someone else!!! Why... the Lone Railfan is definitely a Club Hero! Will we never again hear that exciting sound of the Lone Railfan urging his trusty steed onward with those immortal words..... "Hi Yo Silver Wagoneer, Away!"



## NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Seventy-nine people (over half arriving in 4-wheel drive vehicles) braved the weather to enjoy an outstanding program presented by Beyer Patton.

The program, entitled "Advance Forward," presented a view of the QJ 2-10-2 steam locomotive still being built in China for mainline service. About 300 of these coal-burning locomotives are produced each year and represents the last large-production steam locomotive in the world.

To enhance his 8mm movies, Beyer added music and even narration in Chinese at the Datong factory (which was translated into English).

All who were able to attend certainly enjoyed the program and we wish to thank Beyer for another great program.

## NEW MEMBERS

The Rocky Mountain Railroad Club wishes to enthusiastically welcome the following new member:

Jim Hollis

McCook, NE

## NOVEMBER 12 PROGRAM

## ELECTIONS

The December meeting is also occasion for annual elections of officers and three of the six board members. Hold-over board members this year include Rich Dais, Carl Carlson and Jim Ranniger and these men make up the nominating committee. Due to the early preparation of the newsletter for early mailing as required by the Club's by-laws, a full slate was not available for listing. In fairness to those not yet available for listing, we will announce the full slate at the December meeting. Club members are always welcomed to submit names to the nominating committee and may nominate from the floor.

# NOTICE

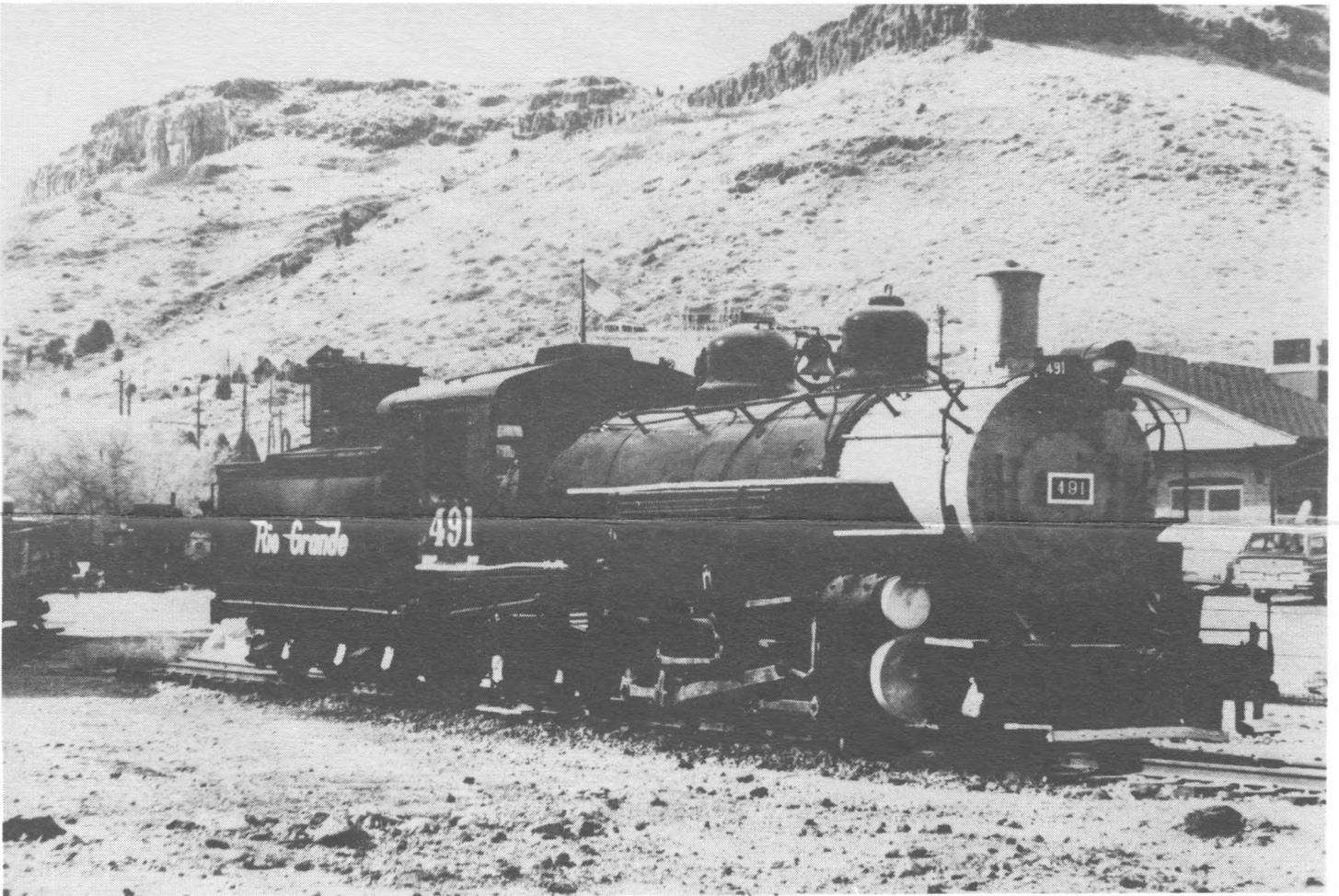
## 1986 DUES NOTICE!!!

Wrapped around this month's newsletter is your 1986 DUES notice. Please note the following requests: 1) Dues have been increased to \$15.00 per year, 2) Your early renewal is greatly appreciated, 3) PLEASE, check the mailing label for correct spelling of your name and current address information, and, 4) Book Drawing chances are \$2.00 each, not \$1.00! Perhaps the confusion on this in the past had to do with two coupons being supplied. You may send in just one chance (coupon) or as many as you wish at \$2.00 each. The books to be given in the drawing during the April, 1986 meeting include first prize of the Sundance Publication, "William Henry Jackson Rky. Mtn. R.R. Album." This book contains 76, 17"x24" sepia-tone prints. The book is out of print and has been known to sell for \$300.00. Additional books to be given away in this drawing include the Memorial Edition of the Denver, South Park & Pacific and several other titles to be selected. The proceeds from this drawing are placed in the Club's Equipment Fund and used to maintain and refurbish the Club's equipment at the Colorado Railroad Museum.

# Bulletin

## DATE CHANGED FOR FEBRUARY MEETING

Due to a conflict with a church meeting, we have agreed to change our February meeting to the 3rd (THIRD) Tuesday in February. We will again remind you of this change, but we would suggest that you mark your calendars now!!! That date will be Tuesday, February 18, 1986.



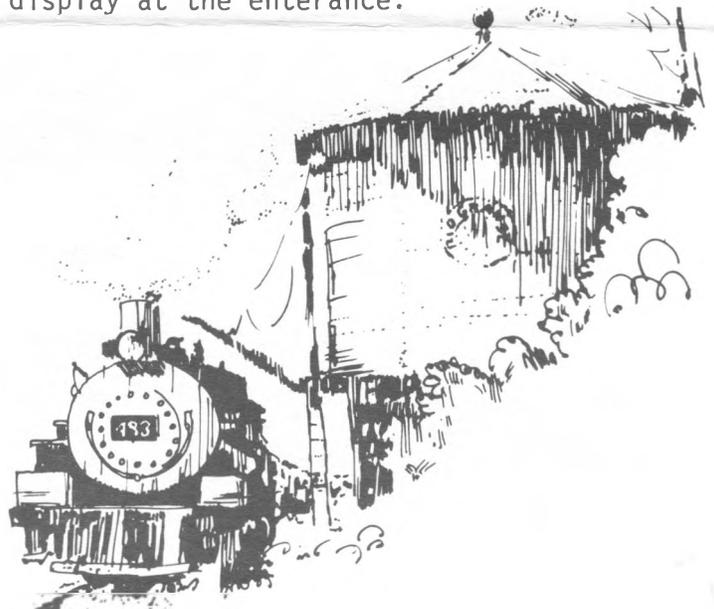
*Three-quarter view of the ex-D&RGW K-37, No. 491 after refurbishing by members of the Boulder Model Railroad Club. (Todd Hackett photo, courtesy of the Boulder Model Railroad Club)*

## **NO. 491 UPDATE**

As reported last month, a number of Club members of the Boulder Model Railroad Club have been working on the K-37 to restore it to a presentable display. The engine has now been painted on the exterior and lettered to appear as of its previous last painting some twenty years ago. Many of the engine's parts have been located and replaced including the front number plate which arrived the same day that the accompanying photos were taken. It is now being cleaned and repainted and will replace the temporary number plate shown in the head-on photo.

The Boulder Club still has the interior painting to do next spring and is looking for additional parts to complete the engine.

Compared to the condition the engine arrived in, it now looks magnificent and is a really fine addition to the museum, making a fine display at the entrance.





*A closer look at No. 491, showing the fine job of exterior refurbishing by members of the Boulder Model Railroad Club. (Todd Hackett photo, courtesy of the Boulder Model Railroad Club)*

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## **UNION STATION TREE DECORATION PARTY**

Darrell Arndt wishes to advise all Club members that the annual Christmas Tree decorating Party, sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club, the Intermountain Chapter of the NRHS and Amtrak Employees will be held on Saturday, December 14th in the early evening--if all goes as planned.

The Club has always been a strong backer of this event and has usually supplied the tree via a "tree-hunting" outing by Club members.

Confirmation of the date and time will be given at the December meeting and informa-

tion can be obtained after the meeting via the Club's telephone 431-4354 or calling 572-7868.

If interested, you can expect to have a fine time with fellow Club members, members from the NRHS and employees and family members of Amtrak.

## **EVENTS CALENDAR**

The Trip Committee and others have been working hard to establish a list of events for 1986. From what your editor has been told so far, 1986 should be a busy and exciting year for the RMRRRC. We hope to have the events calendar printed for insertion in the January newsletter.



## California Zephyr

### GLENWOOD SPRINGS WINTER EXCURSION

ALL ABOARD.....for a Rocky Mountain Railroad Club Weekend Excursion to Glenwood Springs, February 22-23, 1986.

Escape the winter doldrums and join the Club for a leisurely, fun-filled two-day excursion to Glenwood on Amtrak's finest--the California Zephyr.

Our trip will begin Saturday, February 22, 1986, when we depart at 8:10 a.m. from Denver's Union Station. Space for 40 passengers has been reserved aboard an Amtrak "high, wide and beautiful" Superliner Coach. If desired, passengers may enjoy breakfast and lunch in the high-level Superliner dining car and the bilevel lounge/cafe car will also be available to provide excellent viewing of the spectacular mountain and canyon scenery along the route.

Our 1:35 p.m. arrival in Glenwood will allow plenty of time to shop, relax or take an exhilarating swim in the world's largest outdoor heated mineral pool.

Our reserved accommodations will be at the Denver Hotel, which has just completed a total refurbishing. The Denver Hotel is conveniently located just behind the Glenwood Springs Passenger Station.

The fare for this trip includes a Saturday

evening banquet and program, Sunday breakfast, and, a 1-day swimming pass at the Hot Springs Pool.

Prior to our 3:15 p.m. departure on Sunday, Club members have the opportunity to breakfast, brunch or lunch. In addition, Sunday's activities can include a swim, shopping, church services, watching D&RGW mainline trains, relaxing or, perhaps, a visit to gunfighter, Doc Holliday's grave.

Our return trip to Denver once again provides sightseeing, relaxation and dining opportunities. Arrival back in Denver is scheduled for 9:05 p.m.

We hope to see you aboard!!!

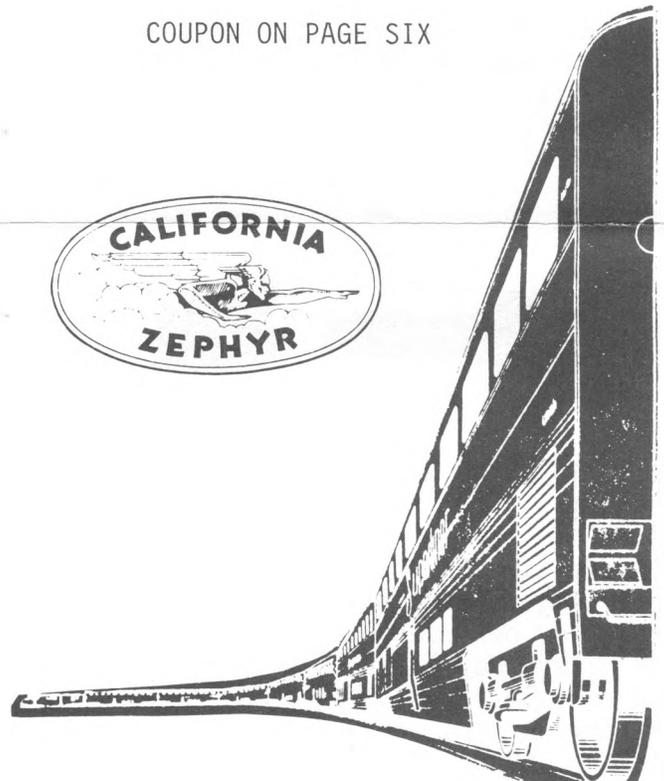
Fares for this trip are as follows:

\$125.00 / Adults / Double Occupancy  
\$155.00 / Adults / Single Occupancy

For children's rates, please call Al Miller at Alpine World Travel: (303) 752-0900, during business hours.

Reservations should be made as soon as possible as we have allowed for only 40 passengers. A \$50.00 deposit is required.

COUPON ON PAGE SIX



The coupon below is provided for your convenience.

Glenwood Springs Winter Excursion

ORDER FORM

Please reserve the following spaces for the February 22-23, 1986 Glenwood Springs Trip:

\_\_\_\_\_ Adult Fares (Dbl.) @ \$125 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Adult Fares (Sgl.) @ \$155 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as a deposit.

[ ] Please send me information based on

\_\_\_\_\_ Adults and \_\_\_\_\_ Children, ages \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Send remittance or questions to:

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAILROAD CLUB EXCURSION  
c/o Alpine World Travel  
1555 S. Havana  
Aurora, Colorado 80012  
(303) 752-0900 Attn: Al Miller  
Make checks out to Alpine World Travel.



## STEAM EXPO '86

Information is being prepared on this exciting trip. A flyer will probably be ready by next month's newsletter. The dates are May 21 through June 2, 1986. You may obtain early information through Al Miller, Alpine World Travel, 1555 S. Havana, Aurora, CO 80012. (303) 752-0900.

## MODEL RAILROAD SHOW

For Club members who enjoy model trains as well as the prototype, the Boulder Model Railroad Club is holding their 9th Annual Model Railroad Show on Saturday and Sunday, November 30th and December 1st from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. each day. The show is held in the Boulder Jaycee Depot (a beautiful old railroad depot) at 30th and Pearl Street. Admission is \$1.00 for adults, 50¢ for children and \$2.50 for the family.

Featured at the show will be demonstration clinics, displays, artwork, structures, movies, videos, operating layouts, free refreshments and door prizes.

Why not make this a family outing!!!

## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

With the increase in dues to keep the newsletter an important part of the benefits to Club membership, your editor can again request input from members.

While we try to cover railroading data from the Rocky Mountain Region first, we can, and often do include railroading data from other parts of the country and other countries! Newspaper articles, personal articles and photographs are welcomed.

As editor, I try to use all the information sent in to me. The exception is when I have too much material and then, if the material submitted is not timely, I keep it for use later. I strive to use good quality photos, the best being black & white glossies. If black & white glossies are not available, then we can make a b&w print off a good-quality color slide. Color prints usually cannot be used. Where a timely, important event is covered, we sometimes sacrifice quality to have the picture, but we prefer not to do this. The Goals Committee of the Club is recommending that we work to find Club members willing to take black & white photography of Club events in the future. If you are interested in helping out in this area, please let me know.

The newsletter is the one item that draws all 1100 Club members together. Why not use this medium to participate in the Club.

## THE KEYSTONE BRIDGE PROJECT STORY

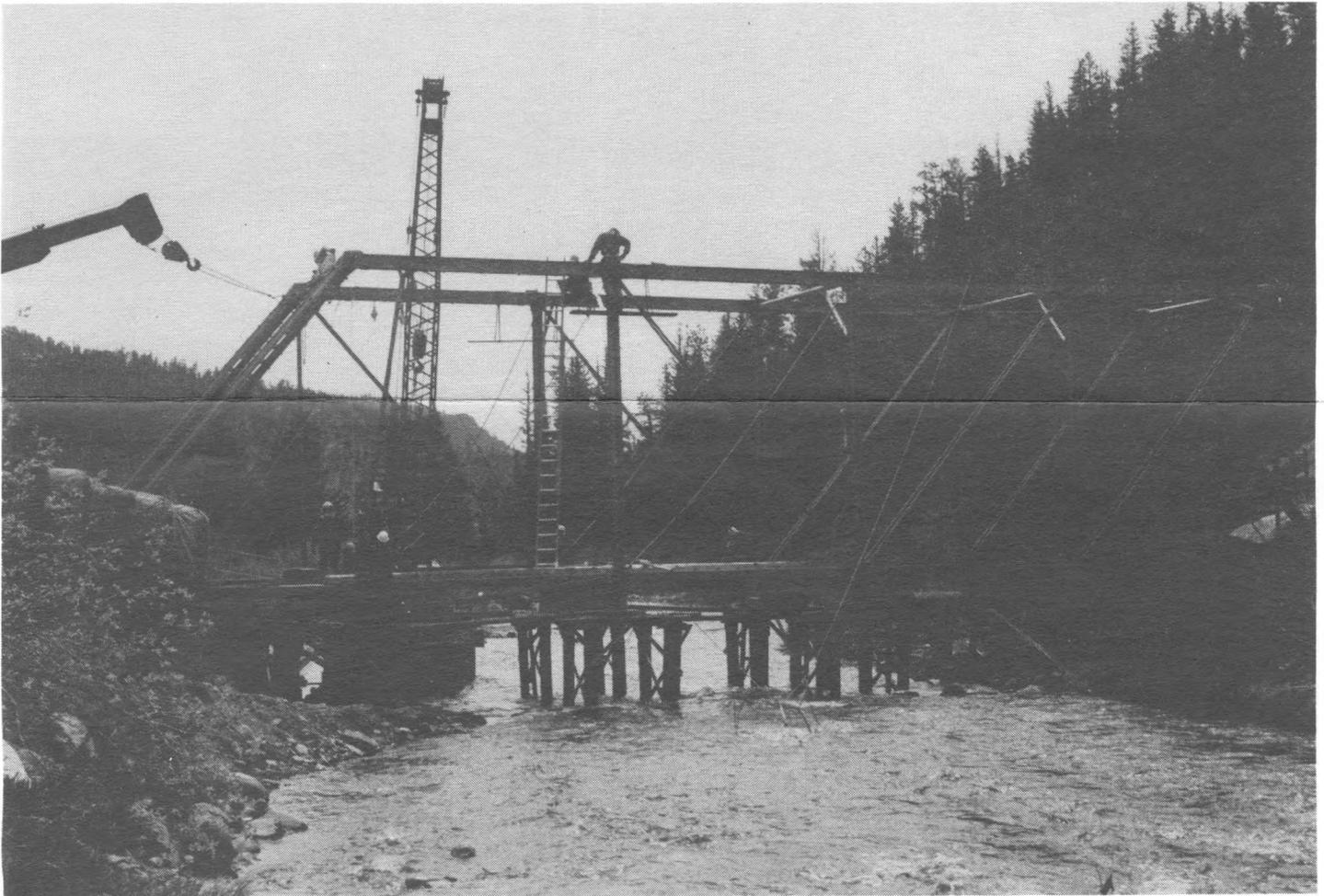
*Editor's Note: Darrell Arndt passed this fine article on to me and I thought you would enjoy it, along with some photos that I was able to obtain. The article was written by Rebecca Herbst, Staff Historian, Colorado Department of Highways.*

THE KEYSTONE BRIDGE, a rare wrought iron truss bridge fabricated about 1865, was recently reassembled--through the efforts of the Park County Historical Society--over the North Fork of the South Platte River at McGraw Park in Bailey. Following a ribbon-cutting ceremony held July 7th, the bridge has been open as a pedestrian walkway that will provide access to the hiking trails recently completed in McGraw Park.

Manufactured and prefabricated by the Keystone Bridge Company of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the structure was designed as a standard-gauge railroad bridge. The original location of the bridge is unknown. It was acquired by the Denver, South Park & Pacific Railroad sometime prior to 1903, at which time it was erected at Mill Gulch across the South Platte River on the railroad's line from Denver to Leadville. Also known as the Mill Gulch Bridge, it remained in service until the 1930's when the decline of mining in Leadville dictated abandonment of the railroad line. It was subsequently adapted in place for vehicular traffic, serving in that capacity for several decades.

The recent implementation of the Denver Water Board's Foothills Project required the removal and relocation of the structure,

*Army engineers reconstruct the Keystone Bridge. (Photo compliments of the Colorado Department of Highways)*



which was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. The 105-foot Pratt truss bridge is noteworthy as a characteristic example of the Keystone Bridge Company's patented wrought iron construction, which consists of columns of four sections held together with threaded bolts. It is the only known bridge in Colorado by the company, and is a rare example in the West.

The Park County Historical Society (PCHS) learned about the bridge's availability after it had been dismantled and moved to a storage facility by the Denver Water Board. The cost to reassemble the bridge, originally estimated at more than \$100,000, put the project far beyond the financial means of PCHS.

But the project organizers turned the bridge relocation into an impressive cooperative effort. The Denver Water Board generously paid for hauling costs--first, to the Midwest Steel Company for shotblasting, priming, and painting, and then to the erection site at Bailey. An inquiry from PCHS, followed up by Representative Ken Kramer of the Fifth Congressional District, led to the engagement of the 52d Battalion of the U.S. Army Engineers to reassemble the bridge as a training practice. Contractors helped keep material costs to a minimum, and everyone involved in the project gave generously of their time and efforts.

With such assistance, the project cost PCHS only \$14,000. PCHS received \$8,000 from the Colorado Lottery and \$4,000 from the Weckbaugh Foundation. Volunteers raised the

*The Keystone bridge after reconstruction, showing the walkway leading to trails that wind up to the top of "The Morrow Mountain of Meditation." (Photo by Todd Hackett, compliments of the Boulder Model Railroad Club)*



remaining \$2,000. (Editor's note: Our own Helen McGraw Tatum was instrumental in this endeavor through public showings of her fine film "The Old Colorado & Southern Narrow Gauge and Engine No. 9." You might remember our urging you to take this show in as all proceeds went to the Keystone Bridge relocation project) Reconstruction of the bridge was supervised by Douglas Frost, a retired civil engineer who is president of PCHS, and by John Mengel, a past president of the organization. The pieces of the bridge were marked so it could be reassembled precisely like the original. The only elements replaced were connection pins, rivets (bolts were substituted), and gusset plates, which were reproduced in steel. The entire reconstruction, from the laying of the concrete abutments to the completion of the superstructure, required about 160 hours of work. (Did you modelers out there recognize the fact that the bridge was made into a full-scale kit? Editor's note.)

The success of the Bailey project demonstrates that, with a creative approach, historic bridge relocations can be economically feasible. In fact, such projects may work out most advantageously when undertaken as cooperative community endeavors.

The Park County Historical Society, the community of Bailey, and all other parties involved in the Keystone Bridge project are to be congratulated.

## **THE MORROW MOUNTAIN OF MEDITATION—BAILEY, COLORADO**

*Editor's Note: Since many of the Club's members are able to visit the Keystone Bridge site and enjoy the area it serves, I thought you might also be interested in a short history of the property it leads to as written by Helen McGraw Tatum.*

As you walk quietly across the historic old Keystone railroad bridge in Bailey, watch the swift waters of the North Fork of the South Platte rush under it over the rocks en route to the Eastern plains of Colorado. You can imagine you hear in the distance the whistle of the little narrow gauge trains that had crossed this very bridge at

Mill Gulch near Waterton just below the new Strontia Springs Dam. All of this was part of the old Denver, South Park & Pacific narrow gauge railroad that ran from Denver to Leadville from 1878 to 1937.

Today, this bridge stands as a memorial to that old Railroad and gives you a bridge to go to the very face of the mountain. Here you will find the trails which the members of the Park County Historical Society have built for you. Trails that will lead you to the top across the ridge where you will see the traffic on their way down Crow Hill. See "little" Bailey all along the river's edge... It's a thrill!

From 1874 to 1878, the Hallack brothers, shareholders in the railroad Company, acquired quarter sections of land for cutting timber from the public domain. This mountain was one of these quarter sections (40 acres). In 1874, Thomas E. Bishop acquired these 40 acres

with script issued to the state of Florida for the purchase of land suitable for the benefit of colleges for agriculture and mechanical art.

Bishop had bought the script from Florida at a reduced price and had used it to acquire this public domain. The Deed was completed granting specific mineral and water rights. The Deed was signed by Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States, wherein he states: "I, Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States have brought these letters to be made patent, and the Seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto fixed."

During the four years, 1874-78, all of the timber was cut from this mountain and the barren mountain was furthered ravaged by fire. Edward McGraw and his wife, Blanche, came from Michigan as employees of the Hallack and Howard Lumber Mill. Ed ran the commissary and kept books. He was critically ill with TB and died in October, 1880. Blanche stayed on with two tiny babies, Alanson (Lance) and Edna. Mrs. McGraw bought a small tract of land from Mr. Bailey and started her store and boarding house. As the tourists began to arrive on the trains more and more each summer, Mrs. McGraw bought more land and began having summer

homes built (without kitchens--remember, she had a boarding house).

In 1885, William A. Morrow, from Tyron, PA, came to Hallack Lumber Mill as a carpenter. He was assigned to the lumber camp in Bailey. He soon became acquainted with Mrs Blanche McGraw, widow of Edward McGraw...Both loved Colorado...Mrs. McGraw and William A. Morrow were married in November, 1888. They both loved the old mountain across the river and were delighted when they noticed the little spruce seedlings cropping up all over the mountainside. Determined to see these grow to maturity, they inquired about buying the mountain. Park County advertised it for a tax sale. Morrow bought it and their vigil began. In March, 1892, William Morrow died and Mrs. Morrow carried on, shielding the mountain from even the "flower pickers" until her death in 1918.

It is over 100 years since Bishop first bought this tract of land...Land made barren by the ax of the timber men, then ravaged by fire and wind. Today, you will follow the paths, take pictures and admire with amazement the beautiful, huge pine, spruce, and Douglas fir. Even the beauty of the many wild flowers is a tribute to the two pioneers, William and Blanch Morrow, who loved the mountain and nurtured it to its maturity so that today you may enjoy it in peace and quiet as you walk up the trails to the top of.....The Morrow Mountain of Meditation--Bailey, Colorado.



## UP'S LARAMIE PASSENGER STATION TO HAVE NEW USE

Club member, Robert J. Fryml of Cheyenne, Wyoming, advises us that in a ceremony held last October 24th and attended by the Union Pacific Railroad's General Manager--Eastern District, various Wyoming Division railroad officers and representatives of the Laramie

Plains Museum Association, Inc., ownership of the Laramie Passenger Station was transferred to the Association.

The Association plans to use the building to establish a museum which will depict the history of the railroad and the City of Laramie.

It appears that future trips to Laramie via UP steam will have even more to offer in the way of railroading entertainment.

## STEAM RAILROADING MOVIES ON VIDEO

As mentioned in detail last month, two new videos have been released recently by Club members. Ron Ruhoff has put together a collection of his personal films depicting the Club's 3-day excursions from Alamosa to Durango/Silverton, the C&S No. 641 working the Climax branch and harvest time on the Great Western. This program includes appropriate narration and music. The tape sells for \$35.00 and, if you mention your membership in the RMRRC, Ron will donate \$7.00 to the Club's equipment fund. The other tape available is from WB Video Productions. Entitled "Rio Grande of the Rockies," this video captures the Rio Grande in both Standard & Narrow gauges. The material comes from the Irv August Collection, owned by the Club. It is a magnificent piece of railroad footage! The tape sells for \$64.95. Letting Bill Brown of WB know that you are a Club member gives a 30% return to the Club!

These tapes would be a wonderful addition to your personal library and also make excellent gifts.

The Ruhoff tape can be obtained from Ronald F. Ruhoff, Box 1361, Evergreen, CO 80439. Price: \$35.00. VHS or Beta.

The WB Productions tape can be obtained from WB Productions, 6447 S. Heritage Pl. West, Englewood, CO 80111.(303) 770-8421. Price: \$64.95. VHS, Beta II or 8mm. VISA and Master Card also accepted.

Be sure to let these folks know that you are a member of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club!!!