

RAIL REPORT

April 2021

No. 726



Rocky Mountain Railroad Club • Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation

There Will Not Be An April Meeting In Barnes Hall

Keepin' It Light and Bright, Mostly – A Retrospective

Presented Via The Internet By Dennis Livesey

April 13, 2021 • 7:30 PM

In the halcyon days of the 1950s, a young Dennis A. Livesey (Live-z) collided with the New Haven Railroad, Lucius Beebe, photography, the movies, rock and roll and even l'amour. It has only gotten better since. After high school years of playing lead guitar in rock bands and having the lead in several school plays, he graduated NYU Film school and embarked on a 32 year career as a motion picture camera assistant and operator.

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See Page 14 For Information On How To Sign Up And Participate.

RMRRRC 2021 Calendar

May 11th	Monthly meeting and program by Bruce Barrett about his experiences with trackage rights.
June 8th	Monthly meeting and program.
July 13th	Monthly meeting and program.
August 10th	Monthly meeting and program.
September 14th	Monthly meeting and program.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, programs and dates are subject to change without notice. Please contact Dave Schaaf with program ideas at ds5280@comcast.net or 303 988-3456.

Keepin' It Light and Bright, Mostly – A Retrospective



N&W No. 611 at the coal dock in Vickers, Virginia, on May 8, 2016.

– Photo © 2016 Dennis A. Livesey.

After hobnobbing with Rocky Balboa, Kermit the Frog, and surviving the machinations of Law and Order's courtroom, he is now assisting budding film makers at the nation's largest privately owned electronics store.

Since 2009, he has had great satisfac-

tion in seeing his railroad photographic work enjoyed, be it online, in magazines, galleries, interviews and the publication of his first book, *Smoke Over Steamtown*. For almost 42 years, he has shared his life and love with wife Mel on the Upper East Side of Manhattan.

The *Rail Report* masthead features D&RG 726 at the Brooks Locomotive factory at Dunkirk, New York, in May 1899. The locomotive was scrapped in December of 1928. – Photo from the James L. Ehernberger Collection.

Keepin' It Light and Bright, Mostly – A Retrospective



New Jersey Transit GG-1 No. 4883 at 60 MPH, eastbound and 1,000' to go to the North River Tunnel and Penn Station in October 1982.

– Photo © Dennis A. Livesey.



Don, Tom, Bruce, and CN No. 3254 at Moscow, Pennsylvania, on November 24, 2012. – Photo © 2012 Dennis A. Livesey.

Keepin' It Light and Bright, Mostly – A Retrospective



CN No. 3254 at Moscow, Pennsylvania, on November 24, 2012.
– Photo © 2012 Dennis A. Livesey.



New York City Transit Q train coming upgrade from the 72nd Street Station to the 86th Street Station, Second Avenue, Manhattan, New York, on September 14, 2017. – Photo © 2017 Dennis A. Livesey.



Crossing the trestle on Denny's model Lake City and Ouray Railroad.
– Photo © 2021 Denny Leonard.

RMRRRC President Denny Leonard Springing Forward

On the narrow gauge Lake City and Ouray Railroad water is always a concern. First to fill the tenders and conversely it becomes a dangerous force to damage the track and roadbed. Crews constantly have to watch for water damage most of the year. 473 is crossing a

trestle over the stream that results from the waterfall in the background.

Along with gold and silver, water was also one of the treasures of Colorado which is geographically speaking, high prairie. Quoting from the CSU.edu

RMRRRC President Denny Leonard Springing Forward

water website, "...that unlike any other state, Colorado adopted in the 1860s, a set of laws regarding water use and land ownership known as the Colorado Doctrine. This doctrine established four essential principles of the state's water law that helped distinguish it from Riparian Law, which is the water law framework commonly followed in wetter, humid portions of the U.S. where there is less concern for reduction of overall flows:

1. The state's surface and groundwater is a public resource for beneficial use by public agencies, private persons and entities;
2. A water right is a right to use a portion of the public's water supply;
3. Water rights owners may build facilities on the lands of others to divert, extract, or move water from a stream or aquifer to its place of use;
4. Water rights owners may use streams and aquifers for the transportation and storage of water."

For railroads and fishermen, statutes govern used of stream, rivers and other waterways. Water allowed our cities to grow along with the famous sugar beet processing Great Western sugar company that supported the industry that I watched as a boy. The fall of the year from Brighton north was busy with the harvest and the private Great Western railroad kept the steam locomotive fleet

busy into dieselization. The railroad today is still busy, now with wind turbine traffic. The club had some great excursions there over the years.

The many sugar producing plants had their own saddle tank 0-4-0 switchers and many survived into the 1970s. I used to watch them at lunchtime. Sugar beets are still grown in a few select areas around the country, including near the Oregon/Idaho state line; areas of Wyoming, northern Colorado, Montana; North Dakota and Western Nebraska.

As the weather clears, consider visiting various railroad museums around the state. Much work and car restoration has been done by many groups. This state is blessed with many active groups.

I am excited to see progress at Como this year. They have added more rolling stock and track and I certainly support more grants for them. Who ever thought there would be a working yard again at Como, Colorado?

* Please consider giving to the historical foundation. It may be tax deductible. We are in the final stage of accepting applications for our 2021 grant program.

I appreciate your opinions and knowledge, please feel free to contact me by email at denny@amerm.com or my cell at (303) 809-9430.

* Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation donations should be by personal check made out to "Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation" and sent to:

Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation
PO Box 2391
Denver, CO 80201-2391

Colorado Railroad Museum Update

The Museum is open Tuesday-Sunday, adhering to all COVID restrictions and guidelines for everyone's safety with plenty of room for social distancing!

Saturday Train Rides operate through mid-May. Advance ticket purchase is recommended, as train capacity is still reduced. Trains are pulled by the trusty diesel-electric locomotive No. 4, departing every half-hour from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, except there is no departure at 12:30 PM when the crew takes a lunch break. Train Ride frequency will increase for the summer after mid-May. Train Tickets (separate from admission) are \$4 for adults, \$2 for seniors, and \$2 for ages 2-17. Members can reserve a train time free of charge online.

Colorado Rails & Cocktails returns for 2021! Enjoy an evening of Colorado railroad history. Every other month from April through October, a different, illustrated topic will be presented by a guest lecturer. Relax, enjoy a beverage, and travel back in time. The bar opens at 7:00 PM and the presentation starts promptly at 7:30 PM, a time change from previous years. This popular evening event will be held in the recently

enclosed outdoor Picnic Pavilion. Because the year still remains uncertain, selected events and online ticketing reservations are being released only a few weeks in advance, in case changes become necessary. Check the website for future presentation titles.

As part of the museum's initiative to remain "Still On Track!" for 2021 and beyond, in the depot building's upper and lower galleries are two new exhibits. "Colorado Railroads and the Black Experience" will remain on exhibit through November 28, 2021. "Across the Fruited Plain: Migrating West to Colorado by Rail" continues through January 2, 2022. Both of these new exhibits focus on some of the diverse people who influenced and were affected by railroads in Colorado. Entry to both exhibits is included with admission.

A New Colorado rail annual is at the printer. *Colorado Rail Annual No. 34: Take The Pike's Peak Route* by Adrian and Art Hundhausen looks at the Colorado Midland's history from 1887 to 1900.

Get the latest updates online at:
www.ColoradoRailroadMuseum.org

2021 Mini Grant Applications Due This Month

Do you have a railroad history-related project that could use a small grant for this summer? The Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation is looking for up to five individuals or organizations who have a summer project that could use up to \$1000. Full details and the application form can be found on our website:

www.rockymtnrrclub.org/index.htm

Applications must be received by USPS or email no later than April 30, 2021. The board will review applications at the May board meeting, and the 2021 recipients will be announced in the June 2021 *Rail Report*.

Current Railroad Happenings



The Prairie Line TPLX 2001, GP9R, was delivered to the Anheuser-Busch Budweiser Brewery northeast of Fort Collins, Colorado, on February 19, 2021. The unit will likely take over in plant switching from SSRX 1393, MP15, that had been doing the brewery work. – Photo © 2021 by Chip.

In Remembrance Audrey Lee Anderson

Audrey Anderson of Boulder passed away on February 23, 2021. She joined the Club in 1957 and held seniority number 7 at the time of her passing.

A mutual interest in railroads brought Audrey and her husband, Stuart together, starting when they both went on a three-day excursion sponsored by the Club. It was the beginning of a true railroad courtship. They enjoyed more excursion trips, took photos of old railroad towns, trains and equipment. Stu proposed in style while parked along a railroad siding. Their story was chronicled in the *Denver Post's Empire Magazine* entitled "They Found Love by a Railroad Track." Audrey and Stu celebrated 50 years together before he passed in 2010.

She worked at Leanin' Tree Publishing in Boulder for 17 years and also volunteered at the Colorado RR Museum in Golden, helping to repaint equipment.

Current Railroad Happenings



S&S Sales & Leasing SSRX 1393, an MP15, was working the brewery trackage at Budweiser (Anheuser-Busch) on February 19, 2021. The brewery is northeast of Fort Collins, Colorado. – Photo © 2021 by Chip.



Rock & Rail (RRRR) 201, a GP40M-2, and 501, a GP40, spotted covered hoppers at the huge Lafarge Holcim cement operation at Portland, Colorado, on March 9, 2021. Cement operations have kept busy during the COVID-19 pandemic. – Photo © 2021 by Chip.

Current Railroad Happenings



On February 26, 2021, leased locomotive PRLX 4685 was southbound on the San Luis & Rio Grande, approaching Antonito on this former D&RGW line that once went all the way to Santa Fe, New Mexico. The crew picked up several hopper cars and slowly headed back north to Alamosa on low-speed track.
– Photo © 2021 Dave Schaaf.



BNSF trackage rights trains on UP's Moffat Tunnel Subdivision met at Rocky, Colorado, west of Arvada on March 6, 2021. In the foreground; BNSF 4228, ES44C4, on westbound Denver to Provo, Utah, train waited at Rocky Siding. Above; BNSF 7016, ES44C4, made its way past Eisele (formerly known as Fireclay) with BNSF's H PVODEN (Provo, Utah, to Denver) train. – Photo © 2021 by Chip.

Current Railroad Happenings



Kyle RR was busy delivering empty covered hoppers to the Arriba, Colorado, grain elevators with Utah Railway 5002, MK50-3, on March 1, 2021. The second unit was Kyle 8041, SD40-2. The train was headed for Limon, Colorado, to interchange with the Union Pacific. – Photo © 2021 by Chip.



Union Pacific moved Stadler built Caltrain double decker electric train on TEXX flatcars from Salt Lake City, Utah, to North Yard, Denver, on February 23, 2021. The cars laid over at Union Pacific's North Yard, and were interchanged to BNSF at Denver, on February 24th. The EMU train set was enroute to the Transportation Technology Center, Inc. (TTCI) east of Pueblo, Colorado. Stadler refers to this equipment as KISS double-decker EMU. – Photo © 2021 by Chip.

Current Railroad Happenings



Boeing B-737 NG MAX fuselage on BNSF 800112 passed the National Western Complex redevelopment at Denver on March 12, 2021. The fuselages came from Spirit AeroSystems in Wichita, Kansas. Spirit AeroSystems is one of the world's largest non-OEM manufacturers of complex structures for the commercial aerospace industry. – Photo © 2021 by Chip.



Canadian National 3236, an ET44AC, handled BNSF train U CBXNCC (Clovis, New Mexico, to Natrona, Wyoming), a unit oil train on BNSF's Front Range Subdivision at Highland, Colorado, north of Longmont. The CN unit had a 100th Anniversary decal. – Photo © 2021 by Chip.

Mystery Trip and Fifty-Year-Old Humor – Part 2

By Dave Goss

In Part 1 of this story, we were introduced to a trip report found in the Club archives titled “DISORGANIZED RAILROAD TOURS LIMITED (VERY) – Presents a Round Trip, March 27, 1971.” We are still awaiting an epiphany as to the source of this document and the Rio Grande ticket stubs to Winter Park. To date, nothing has surfaced to clarify this fifty-year old mystery. The trip continues:

When we reach the principal avalanche shelter, a 6-mile long hole on top of which James Peak was later constructed by the well-known brothers Jesse and Jay G. James, the train will inquire whether the hole is open today. If it is not (it is sometimes used to store snow which is later spread out for summer skiing), we will have to use the old route via the cigar plantation Corona-Corona. There may be some delay while the track is repaired or replaced, but this time can be used to send to Denver for additional motive power for the steeper grade; perhaps the Union Pacific will be willing to loan us a steam engine which just happens to be standing in their yards today.

During this waiting period, we would like to remind our guests that the slot machines in the club-observation-dormitory-RPO-dining-lounge-dome-baggage car are available to one and all. (The slot machine at the far left accepts only Swiss francs, but it has a very good payoff - a guaranteed 100% - made possible by routing the coin chute directly from the coin slot to the open Jackpot receptacle.)

Should we finally reach our destination at Winterthur, there are endless possibilities for recreation for our passengers, such as making snowmen, snowballs, or snowburgers, or perhaps spending an enjoyable afternoon freezing your feet by just walking around in the stuff.

We hope you will enjoy this trip, and will make it often. The railroad has generously offered to continue running the “California Zephyr” forever, so it will be easy to make this trip 3 times a week, 52 weeks a year. We might point out, however, that in using those regular trains there is a 36-hour wait at this location between westbound and eastbound Zephyrs.

Happy snowshoeing!

Signed, X THE MANAGEMENT

Prepared by the Public Relations Department of the Denver and Rio Grande Eastern Railway & Snow Company.

So ends this “historic” trip. At least there is some accuracy in report as the California Zephyr does run three times a week. How did they know this back in 1971?

Virtual Meeting And Program Access Instructions

To register ahead of time, please send an email to rmrrc-show@drwg.net asking for the RMRRRC virtual meeting address and password. Please send your request no later than the Monday night before the meeting and we will send you the meeting connection information. Please be patient as we all learn this new technology.

We will be holding the meeting via Zoom. Please ensure you have the Zoom client (<https://zoom.us/download>) installed on your computer, phone, or tablet before the event so that you're ready to go.

Zoom Meetings Will Also Be Live Streamed

As a view only option, Zoom supplies us the ability to live stream our meetings to YouTube. Those wishing to **only view** our meetings without the option to participate will not have to email us for a meeting ID and Password any longer. The club has our own YouTube channel. This channel is for posting our club meetings and significant events. After the live event you may still view the meeting any time at your convenience.

You can find our YouTube channel in several ways. The first is enter the URL shown below in your browser:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCPUDXhWLazlbsHFO9DUUeoA

For those whose typing skills are challenged by the URL above, a second method is search for "Rocky Mountain Railroad Club Channel" in the YouTube search bar or your search engine i.e. Google, Edge, etc. You may be surprised at all the items that come up. If you are familiar with YouTube and found the channel home page you can always subscribe. The third and last method is to browse our club web page. Right below the Facebook link is a new link to the YouTube live stream location.

The board believes live streaming may increase membership and make our meetings available to members who find it difficult to attend once we return to in person meetings.

Colorado Railroad Museum

New To The Museum

Masks Required — Closed On Mondays — Train Ride Tickets Purchased In Advance

For information call 303-279-4591 or visit <http://www.coloradorailroadmuseum.org>

Colorado Railroad Museum Admission

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.

Intermountain Chapter, NRHS Events

For current meeting information email railbob@icloud.com or call 303-883-2435

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Club Information

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Club Officers

President	Dennis Leonard
Vice President	Dave Schaaf
Secretary	Andy Dell
Treasurer	Keith Jensen

Club Directors

Nathan Holmes, Ron Keiser, Pat Mauro,
Debbie MacDonald, Steve Subber, Michael Tinetti.

Membership Information

Membership in the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club may be obtained online at www.rockymtnrrclub.org or by sending the annual dues to the Club membership address:

Rocky Mountain Railroad Club
PO Box 620953
Littleton CO 80162-0953

An associate membership for spouses and children is \$25.00 additional.

Regular membership dues are \$30.00 with email delivery of the *Rail Report* and \$40.00 if a printed, mailed *Rail Report* is desired.

Members joining after June may send a payment for half of the dues level they wish to join at for the remainder of the year.

International membership dues are \$45.00.
Contributing membership is \$50.00.
Sustaining membership is \$75.00.
Patron membership is \$100.00.

Members of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club are also members of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation, a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

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 – Email: selectimag@aol.com

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PO Box 620579
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Items for the May *Rail Report* should be sent by April 2nd.



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