

RAIL REPORT

October 2011 • NO. 616



Rocky Mountain Railroad Club • Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation

Annual Luncheon Banquet

Saturday, October 22nd

Social Time – 11:00 AM to Noon • Lunch At Noon

The Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities
6901 Wadsworth Boulevard in Arvada.

The Banquet Program Is

Along Steam's Last Main Line

Presented by Scott Lothes

Along Steam's Last Main Line, produced by Scott Lothes with photography by Scott Lothes and Ron Olsen. Fascinated with the last all steam main line operation in the world, the two American photographers planned a 5-day, 92-mile photo trip by bicycle between Daban and Chabuga in China's Inner Mongolia province.

RMRRC 2011 Calendar

November 8th Meeting and Program, "Pueblo Railroad History."

December 13th Annual Business Meeting and Film, "C&S Narrow Gauge."

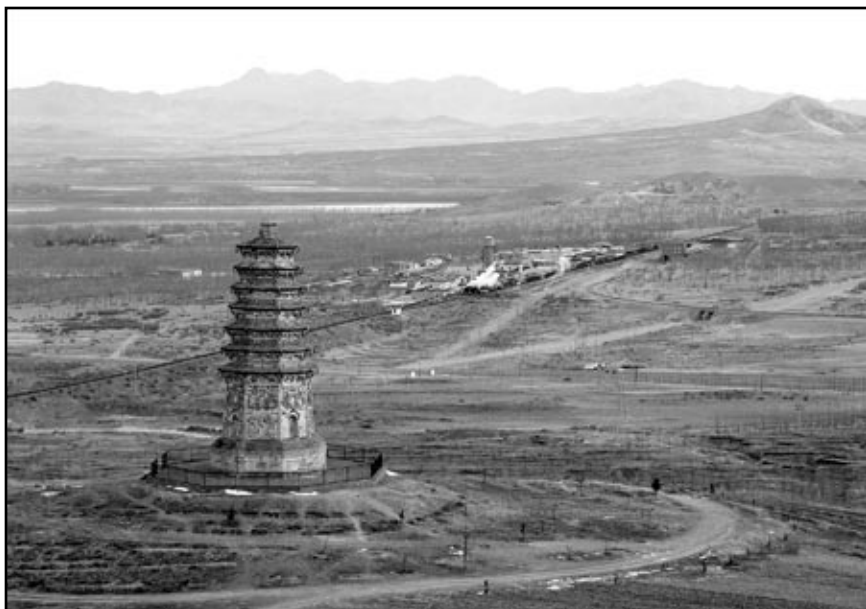
RMRRC 2012 Calendar

January 10th Meeting and Video, "Amtrak 1971-2011."

February 14th Meeting and Program.

March 13th Meeting and Program.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, programs and dates are subject to change without notice. Please contact Pat Mauro at pkmauro@yahoo.com or phone 303-838-7740 with program ideas.



A pagoda near the Lindong rail facilities. – Photo © 2003 Keith Jensen.

Annual Club Luncheon Banquet Saturday, October 22, 2011

**Please join your fellow Club members and guests at the
Rocky Mountain Railroad Club's Annual Banquet
At The Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities**

Black Forest cake, good friends, drawings for prizes and a special slide program – what better way to spend a Saturday afternoon than at the Club's annual Banquet? This year's banquet includes the re-establishment of a drawing for books, rail tickets, calendars and other gifts that each ticket holder will have a chance to win.

The menu includes your choice of London Broil or Chicken Wellington. Both lunch choices include salad, vegetables, dessert and coffee or tea for only \$28.00 per person.

Please make your reservation using the insert in the September *Rail Report*. **Reservations must be received – postmarks don't count – by Friday, October 14th** in order to meet the Arvada Center's deadline. We cannot issue refunds on cancellations received after October 14th. Last minute orders and / or "will calls" must be prepaid by credit card with the Club Treasurer at 303-781-8616.

Don't Procrastinate — Make Your Reservations Today!



D&SNG Railfest photo special with K-28 #478 crossing the Las Animas River just south of Silverton, CO on 20 August 2011. – Photo © 2011 Keith Jensen.

Notes From The President

By Dave Schaaf

Over the course of many weeks, BNSF and Union Pacific crews have been building levees and raising tracks in areas flooded by the Missouri River. High water has delayed shipments and caused trains to be routed far out of the way to get to their destinations. Amtrak's California Zephyr has also been impacted by these issues. Some rail lines could still be underwater until sometime this fall. Conversely, heat and drought conditions in Texas have caused track problems and slow orders there too.

Iowa Pacific Holdings has sold the Arizona Eastern Railway (AZER) to Genesee & Wyoming Inc. The AZER is made up of 265 miles of track in New Mexico and Arizona, with a 52 mile trackage rights connection over the Union Pacific.

The Anschutz Corporation purchased The Oklahoma Publishing Co. Some of the assets include the Manitou & Pike's Peak Railway and The Broadmoor Hotel, both in Colorado.

Notes From The President



Rio Grande Scenic Railroad #18 performs a run-by across the Rio Grande River during a photographer special on August 22, 2011. – Photo © 2011 Keith Jensen.

The contractor building the light rail line from downtown Denver to Golden has donated \$50,000 worth of labor, materials and equipment for a project at the Colorado Railroad Museum. The Regional Transportation District says Denver Transit Construction Group built 300 feet of track for the museum in Golden in one day at the end of August.

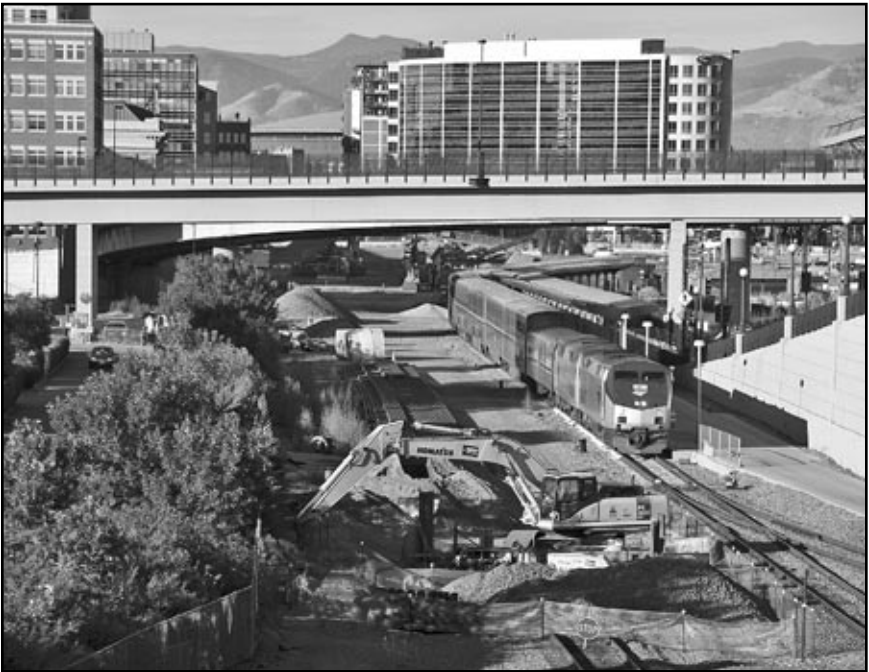
At Independence, California, recently, the S.P. #18 received a roof over its head for the first time in years. In addition to the tent raising, some tender frame work was completed to allow the tanks to be replaced on the frame and the firebox

tube sheet was cleaned up on this narrow gauge engine. In Utah, restoration of D&RGW #223, the last Grant-built C-16 loco continues. Follow the status at www.trainweb.org/GoldenSpikeLRHS/

In mid-September, members of the American Society of Civil Engineers were riding the C&TS in recognition of the reconstructed Lobato trestle. This structure near Chama, New Mexico, had been damaged by fire in June of 2010.

Amtrak will partner with country music superstar Martina McBride to launch her upcoming album, *ELEVEN*. In cel-

Notes From The President



Denver Regional Transportation District (RTD) Union Station Redevelopment had all the tracks removed along with the light rail station behind Denver Union Station on Labor Day, September 5, 2011. A Komatsu PC 400 LC shovel was working on the old lead where Union Pacific rails had entered the station tracks. Amtrak's California Zephyr, train 5, Amtrak 67 and 192 on the point, was running out of Denver to Emeryville, California, only due to the August 26, 2011, accident at Benkelman, Nebraska temporarily causing no train service between Denver and Chicago. – Photo © by 2011 Chip.

celebration of this new album, Martina's tour will include 11 stops, starting in Los Angeles and culminating in New York City in October. Fans will be treated to performances in Albuquerque, Chicago and NYC.

At the annual North Platte Rail Fest in mid-September, most of the Union Pacific heritage paint scheme diesels were in attendance. Steam loco #844 was there, along with some modern commemorative units. Fans were able to

tour the world's largest train yard at this Nebraska location.

The Leviathan and the Nebraska Zephyr were operated at the Illinois Railway Museum Showcase Weekend recently. Leviathan #63 is a replica of the Central Pacific 4-4-0 engine built in 1868 by Schenectady. This is said to be America's newest working steam locomotive, and was built in the last ten years.

BNSF Railway has launched a website

Notes From The President



The eastbound California Zephyr was derailed in late August by a construction crane in western Nebraska. Both locomotives and a few cars went off the track near a grain elevator just west of Benkelman. There were 21 people injured, but none critically. The lead loco was damaged badly enough to be scrapped on site, shown here on August 29, 2011. – Photo © 2011 Dave Schaaf.

called “Friends of BNSF” that will provide exclusive content to folks interested in BNSF or freight rail transportation. The URL is <https://www.friendsofbnsf.com/> Military Times EDGE magazine has named the Class I railroad as the No. 1 “Best Employer for Veterans” in the United States.

Readers of the Narrow Gauge & Short Line Gazette may be familiar with the HOn3 model railroad of Harry Brunk. His famous Union Central and Northern is based on the Colorado & Southern’s line up Clear Creek in Colorado. After moving around quite a bit over the years, this layout will soon find a permanent home in the Cheyenne Depot Museum in Wyoming. Harry will likely be participating, advising and rebuilding the layout in its new location. The planned opening for the public will be during Depot Days in May of 2012.

North American rail car owners reduced the number of stored units by 5,539 in August, bringing down the total unused fleet to 271,404 idle cars as freight traffic grew in the same period, according to the Association of American Railroads.

Wally Maxwell, son of rail photographer John W. Maxwell, recently passed away. Wally had been very active in the model railroading community. Another recent loss is Pacific Northwest rail photographer and author Warren Wing at 93.

Please take an occasional look at the Club’s website. Color photos of current events are updated every few days on the news page. If need be, members can contact me at ds5280@comcast.net or at 303 988-3456.

Current Railroad Events



Amtrak train 5, the abbreviated California Zephyr, only operated between Denver, and Emeryville, California, in early September 2011. Amtrak 67 and 192 departed with a 10-car train at Prospect Junction, Denver, on September 5, 2011. An accident at Benkelman, Nebraska, on August 26, 2011, where a late running Amtrak train 6 hit a crane near the BNSF track caused the disruption. Amtrak units 174 and 100 were turned on their sides and four cars derailed. Amtrak suspended all California Zephyr trains from August 27 to September 2, 2011, because one set of Superliners remained in Nebraska after the incident. Amtrak had been operating the trains 5 and 6 over nearly its full route, missing only a short detour and stop at Omaha, Nebraska, because of high water. Amtrak resumed service between Chicago and Emeryville on September 9, 2011. – Photo © by 2011 Chip.

In Remembrance

Carl Reich Jr.

Neal Reich's brother and 31-year Club member, Carl Reich Jr., passed away in Novato, California, September 8, at age 95. Carl was born in Denver on May 17, 1916, although the family lived in Pine Grove, Colorado, where his father, Carl Sr. was the agent for the Colorado & Southern Railway Co. In later years the family also lived in Como and Leadville before moving to Cheyenne, Wyoming, where Carl Sr. worked in train service for 31-years for the Union Pacific Railroad Co. Carl Jr. spent a lifetime in the newspaper business and was an avid railfan and photographer, especially of Colorado and Wyoming railroads. Carl held Club seniority number 164.

Steam Locomotive Photo Gallery



This 0-6-0 switcher, D&RGW #57, was found at Salt Lake City, Utah, on October 14, 1939. – Photo Tom Klinger collection.



D&RGW #779 is at Montrose. What better fun for two boys than chasing a train! Note the RGS stock car to the left. – R. Steimetz photo, Tom Klinger collection.

Steam Locomotive Photo Gallery



D&RGW #1407 taking water with the coal chute at Helper, Utah, to the left.
– Photo Tom Klinger collection.



D&RGW #3404 is the helper for #1801 on the passenger train that will climb out of Minturn, Colorado, and then up Tennessee Pass on October 6, 1940.
– Photo Tom Klinger collection.

Current Railroad Events



On the way home from the 2011 D&S Railfest I stopped in Ridgway, Colorado, to see the recently restored RGS Goose #4. It has taken several years for the folks in Ridgway to return the Goose to operating condition but on August 23rd it moved under its own power for the first time in several decades. It is unknown when it will return to its home in Telluride, Colorado. – Photo © 2011 Nathan Zachman.



A dozen volunteers from the Sherman Hill Model Railroad Club repainted Big Boy 4004, located in Holliday Park in Cheyenne, completing the project on September 10th, 2011. The Laramie County Historical Society covered the expense for the paint and supplies. Obviously, the strong sun and other weather conditions cause serious problems keeping an old relic in good shape. – Photo © 2011 James L. Ehernberger.

Current Railroad Events



In the shadow of Interstate 70, BNSF 2828, GP39-2M (built as a GP30) picked up cars from the Denver Rock Island Railroad on September 10, 2011. Tracks at right are BNSF's 38th Street / Brush Line tracks. The Jersey Line track is at lower left next to milepost 539.86, Denver. At upper right is the National Western Stock Show complex. – Photo © 2011 by Chip.



On August 30, this Kyle RR hopper train at Goodland, Kansas, had a couple of former SP tunnel motors on the head end. – Photo © 2011 Dave Schaaf.

Current Railroad Events



Westbound BNSF 9869 empty coal train at Granada, Colorado, on September 3, 2011 in transit over the former Santa Fe transcon from Newton, Kansas, to La Junta, Colorado, due to flooding along the Missouri River. From La Junta, the empty coal unit trains traveled to Trinidad to due to the one-way eastbound traffic between Pueblo and La Junta. It appeared that only about four trains a day each way were making it over this line. The rest of the diverted traffic was going through Amarillo, Texas. – Photo © 2011 Keith Jensen.



DeBruce Grain, DBGX 6634 (painted green and yellow with black trucks), SD18M, Southern Railway 2510, serial number 25606, frame number 5606-9, model SD24 10/1959. Unit became CNW 6634 SD18M, AGPX 6634 SD18, WSOR 6634 SD18, and NREX 6634 SD18M. DBGX 6634 ran north on BNSF Belen, New Mexico, to Denver, train on August 23, 2011. Found on UP's North Yard boom track August 29, 2011, getting its air brake system worked on. – Photo © by 2011 Chip.

Current Railroad Events



Georgetown Loop Railroad 12, a 2-6-2, built by the Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, completed on February 19, 1929 was caught crossing the Devil's Gate Bridge west of Georgetown, Colorado, on Labor Day, September 5, 2011. In the 1950s, it was the last steam engine still in use by the Kahului Railroad Company on the Hawaiian Islands. The Colorado Historical Society will ship the 12 to Mount Pleasant, Iowa, once the ex-West Side Lumber Shay 9 is running. Shay 9 is undergoing boiler work at the Silver Plume enginehouse in 2011.
– Photo © by 2011 Chip.

Colorado Railroad Museum 2011 Scheduled Special Operation Days

For information call 303-279-4591

<http://www.coloradorailroadmuseum.org/event-listings>

Trick or Treat Train:
Steam-Up Event October 29 & 30

Santa Claus Special:
Steam-Up Event December 3, 10, 11 & 17

SCFD Free Days – Saturdays:
January 8, March 12 & November 12

Saturday Special:

Ride in Goose 7 or in a 19th century passenger coach pulled by Locomotive No. 4. Rides begin at 10:00 AM Every Saturday, Weather Permitting

Adult / Senior Fare: \$4 per ride
Child Fare: \$2 per ride

Operate A Locomotive:

Call for reservations to operate Locomotive No. 4. \$150 puts you in the Engineers seat of this diesel for an hour!

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. Please contact the volunteer coordinator at the CRRM.

Intermountain Chapter, NRHS

2011 Event Schedule

For information call 303-298-0377

<http://www.cozx.com/nrhs>

Dinner Meeting At Lone Star Steakhouse October 21, 2011

Chapter member Keith Kirby has an interesting tale to tell about his recent trip to Cuba. The U.S. State Department just relaxed the rules regulating Americans traveling to Cuba. To visit Cuba you must be part of a State Department approved group. In April, Keith became part of one of those groups.

Spoiler Alert! There are only four pictures of trains in his program. He saw only one train running while there. However, he did see many old American automobiles and would estimate that about a third of the cars on the roads of Cuba are American cars from the 40s and 50s. Shots of these cars, along with examples of Cuban architecture and the people of Cuba, are represented in the program.

Keith is a retired Denver Public Schools teacher. As an infant, he was fed from a bottle heated on the pot-bellied stove in a Burlington mixed train during World War II. When he was 8, Burlington train crews used to regularly buy him ice cream cones as they came off duty.

PLEASE NOTE: Dinner meetings are in the Alamo Room of the Lone Star Steakhouse at 7450 W. 52nd Avenue, Arvada (exit north on Wadsworth off I-70). Reservations are STILL necessary, so call the office (303-298-0377) EARLY in the week, or by Noon on Thursday, before the program. "Social Hour" and dinner ordering will be from 6:00 to 7:15 PM. The evening's program begins at 8:00 PM and should end around 9:00 PM. Supporting our guest speakers also supports your Intermountain Chapter. Because Lone Star provides us with a private room without charge or set-up fees, we have guaranteed them that each attendee will spend a minimum of \$10.00 in the purchase of food and/or drink, excluding the 18% automatic gratuity.

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Club Information

Rocky Mountain Railroad Club
PO Box 2391
Denver, CO 80201-2391
Web: <http://www.rockymtnrrclub.org>

Club and Foundation Officers

President	Dave Schaaf
Vice President	Pat Mauro
Secretary	Roger Sherman
Treasurer	Keith Jensen

Club and Foundation Directors

Dave Wagner, Dave Goss, Mike Tinetti, Bernie Watts,
Nathan Holmes, Andy Dell, John Charles.

Membership Information

Membership in the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club may be obtained by sending the annual dues to the Club address listed above.

Regular membership dues are \$35.00. Overseas regular membership dues are \$45.00.

Contributing membership is \$50.00. Sustaining membership is \$70.00.

Patron membership is \$100.00. Golden membership is \$500.00.

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

Members joining after April may send a payment of \$3.00 for each month remaining in the year.

Members of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club are also members in the Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club.

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
Rocky Mountain Rail Report
PO Box 620579
Littleton, CO 80162-0579

Fax: 303-978-0402
E-mail: selectimag@aol.com

Items for the November Rail Report should be sent by October 16th.