



FREIGHT TRAIN ON CUMBRES PASS

Railfans will get to see a mixed freight train with engines #483 and #484 on the point and caboose 0503 bringing up the rear challenge Cumbres Pass on Sunday, October 22. Jointly sponsored by the NGRRA and Scenic Railways, the train will depart Chama at 8 p.m. and after reaching Cumbres, will be preceded by a regular excursion train to Big Horn and return.

The NGRRA will sponsor a photo caravan from Chama to Cumbres. The Association will sell courtesy tickets of \$5 per carload along the route. The funds will assist in financing this rail special. Photo location maps and souvenir bumper stickers will be given to the shutter-bugs.

Tickets for the passenger train, operating from Cumbres to Big Horn and return, as well as bus transportation to and from Chama and a lunch at Osier are \$25 for adults and \$7 for children. Photo stops will be made between Cumbres and Big Horn for those riding the train.

The format for this year's operation is somewhat experimental. If successful the "freight" train run will become an annual event.

In preparation for a mixed freight a few last minute jobs need be done. These include checking car journals, car condition, and assembling the train on Saturday, as well as selling courtesy tickets on Sunday and general publicity of the trip. Details will be announced at the October 16 general meeting, or contact a NGRRA Board Member.

FULL COLOR SLIDES AVAILABLE

The Narrow Gauge Railroad Association is offering a set of twenty-five 35 mm colored slides of the Denver and Rio Grande Narrow Gauge prior to its abandonment in 1970. All of the photos were taken between Antonito and Chama and depict operations on the line during both summer and winter operations.

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GENERAL MEETING OCTOBER 16

The next general meeting of the NGRRA will be held October 16 at 7:30 pm at the Albuquerque Federal Savings and Loan Building, 4901 Central NE. The meeting space is upstairs in the Hospitality room, and the building is a unique round structure. Program for the meeting includes plans for the freight train to be run October 22 and a slide show depicting freight operations on the line prior to abandonment by the D&RGW.

The Board of Directors of the NGRRA has voted to schedule regular general meeting dates for the third Monday of odd numbered months (Jan, Mar, etc.). Meeting places will be announced.

The regular meetings of the Board of Directors will be held the first Thursday of each month. Board meetings are open to any member and are held at Ken Pruitt's, 6209 Loftus NE, Albuquerque. To confirm the meeting time and place contact Alan Stevens at the NGRRA mailing address or at 266-5229 evenings.

MEMBERSHIP GROWS TO 250

At press time the membership cards for the NGRRA were being printed and may be included in this mailing.

All members, especially those who have just joined, may be wondering if their memberships have been received and recorded. Due to present Chama activities, the membership committee has not been able to keep up with all mailings.

NGRRA membership has grown to over 250 with members representing twenty different states and Canada. A recent advertisement on the back cover of the August issue of Model Railroader which was generously donated by Mr. Don Drew of Pacific Fast Mail, as well as comment in Railroad Model Craftsman and other mailings, has stimulated national interest in the Association.

All members are entitled to attend general meetings, participate in the projects of the Association, and receive the mailings of the NGRRA.

BOARD CONSIDERS LOCAL CHAPTERS

The Board of Directors is considering the formation of Local Chapters of the NGRRA. With the increase in membership, there are several geographic areas where members are concentrated, such as Albuquerque, Los Alamos, El Paso, Denver and others. Local Chapters would be allowed to program their own activities, meetings, etc. The Chapter format would provide an organizational structure for communicating NGRRA activities. For many members, a trip to Chama or Antonito is a significant venture. The Local Chapter format may relieve some of the difficulties in travel to and from work projects.

A new membership roster will be available next month. Members in the close proximity of one another should consider forming a Chapter. Detailed information is available from the Board on request.

SLIDES (CONT.)

This first photo set includes #497 helping on a tank car train at Windy Point, Rotary OY on a plow turn near Los Pinos and at Phantom Curve, a summer freight upgrade near Cresco, #476 & #478 on a doubleheaded caboose hop in the snow at Antonito and Lava, #483 & #493 on the last mid-train helper operation west out of Antonito, the 1968 National Parks excursion, a tank and flanger train east out of Chama in heavy snow, the San Juan upgrade near Cresco in 1950 the last ever D&RGW train run on December 5, 1968, night shots at Chama, and more. An itemized list is included in the picture set.

This is an endeavor of the NGRRA to obtain funds necessary for projects planned for 1973. If successful, other sets will be offered on a semi-annual basis. Regarding quality, these slides are not mass produced. Al Chione has offered to duplicate these slides.

Price of the 25 slide set is \$10.00 postpaid. Mail checks or money orders to the NGRRA, PO Box 4566, Albuquerque, N. Mex., 87106. Allow ten days for delivery.

EMBLEMS, PLATES, JACKETS FOR SALE

The NGRRA emblem which appears in the upper left corner of the *Telltale* masthead is now available to members. Choices include a cloth embroidered patch (2x3 inches) for \$1.00 or a plastic license plate for \$3.00. The colors are black and red on a white background.

Charcoal gray service jackets have been chosen as an identifier for members working as car attendants. These may be purchased for individual use, and are available in sizes 34-50, short, regular or long. The price of \$9.50 includes the NGRRA patch and your first name stitched above the breast pocket. Zip-in liners are also available.

When ordering please specify size and name, allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

NGRRA ACTIVITIES DURING SUMMER

Activities of NGRRA members during the past summer have included painting and lettering locomotives, riding the C&TS trains as car attendants, preparing rotary OM for display at Cumbres, restoration of mileposts, and reconditioning of the Bunk House at Chama.

The car attendant program has again been a successful addition to the normal activities on the C&TS, as well as providing many NGRRA members their first ride on the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad. The NGRRA jacket has served as a prominent identifier of volunteers and many passengers have expressed their gratitude in having members enlighten their trip.

Dead engines in Antonito and Chama have been repainted in D&RGW colors and re-lettering for the C&TS is still in progress. Included in the lettering of the engines is a herald prototypal of that used by the D&RGW and designed by NGRRA member Ernie Robart.



Rotary OM is now on display at the Cumbres Pass Depot (old section house). The rotary was rehabilitated with a new roof, windows, and paint, as well as the accompanying water car.

Mileposts along the 64 miles of C&TS trackage have been repainted and numbered. A few mileposts have yet to be replaced.

Of course, during this time there are always those behind the scenes activities which make these and other projects of the NGRRA possible. Everyone's participation is appreciated.

C&TS EQUIPMENT--BOX CARS

Twenty-six box cars were obtained from the D&RGW when the states of Colorado and New Mexico purchased the "Toltec Gorge Route". The cars were built in 1904 and have a nominal capacity of 50,000 pounds. Inside dimensions are: length - 29'5", width - 7', height - 6'1". Car numbers are:

3014	3278	3537
3064	3316	3691
3071	3331	3570
3073	3414	3592
3156	3469	3605
3161	3475	3643
3231	3476	3719
3244	3524	3742
3254	3527	

Next issue will list those converted to excursion train service.

The NGRRA TELLTALE is published by the Narrow Gauge Railroad Association, P.O. Box 4566, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106 and available to members in good standing of the NGRRA.
Edited by Jim Rupley