



PRESIDENT'S CHAT

Narrow gauge railroading? Try it, you'll like it!

Now that the states of Colorado and New Mexico have finally agreed to a contract with Scenic Railways, the NGRRA seems to have an assured future with numerous exciting possibilities for involvement on the C&TS. After numerous recent conversations with Scenic's management, I am firmly convinced that if real problems arise over this involvement they will be of our own making. The necessary ingredient for the success of NGRRA activities on the C&TS is going to be responsible commitment by the volunteers on a steady basis. The pitfall we must avoid as volunteers is becoming overly committed due to our own unrealistic enthusiasm early in the season which may then slowly fade. Start considering the amount of time and effort you may be able to give this summer so that when called for service, you can give a realistic estimate of what the NGRRA may fairly expect of you. Please don't promise what you can't deliver!

I am looking forward to joining with you in the first of many new seasons of narrow gauge railroading on the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad.

Alan Stevens

Alan Stevens,
Presiding Participant, NGRRA

SCENIC AWARDED 20 YEAR CONTRACT

Scenic Railways of California (and Chama, New Mexico) was selected by the joint Railroad Authorities of Colorado and New Mexico for a 20 year operation concession of the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad.

The basic concepts of Scenic's plan were expressed by Scenic President, Bob Keller, at the first general membership meeting of the NGRRA last October. At that meeting, Scenic acknowledged the participation of the Association and indicated their desire

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ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED APRIL 10

The second general meeting of the membership of the Narrow Gauge Railroad Association will be held on April 10, 1972 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hospitality Room of the East Central Branch of the Albuquerque National Bank. All members are encouraged to attend.

Alan Stevens, President of the Board of Directors of NGRRA, reports that the general business meeting will be concerned with the adoption of the membership portion of the By-Laws as well as plans for the coming summer season of operation. The details of the membership plan are presented elsewhere in this NGRRA Telltale.

Special program material for the meeting will be a presentation by the representatives of Scenic Railways as well as a Safety program.

ENGINE #463 RETURNS TO ANTONITO

Engine #463, for years a workhorse on the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad, and most recently the property of Gene Autrey, has returned to Antonito, Colo. The engine is a gift of Mr. Autrey to the city of Antonito and will be on display with other equipment at the eastern terminus of the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad.

The engine was moved to Antonito over the rails of the Southern Pacific and the Denver and Rio Grande Railroads from California. In fact, the engine was loaded twice, since the original SP flat car load was leaning dangerously upon arrival in Los Angeles. For those interested, the tender is loaded on a Rock Island flat car.

The condition of the engine is unknown, but those who have examined the Baldwin built 2-8-2 express confidence in the ability to once again steam the engine and use it for special trains.

#463 was originally built as a Vauclain Compound in 1903. Known as class K-27, the original build of 15 engines were rebuilt as simple expansion locomotives with slide valves. At the time of their construction, these locomotives were among few Mikado type.

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS PROPOSED

The Board of Directors will submit to the general membership at the April 10 meeting the membership portion of the By-Laws of the NGRRA. The membership options were drafted by John Moore and Jim Rupley and approved by the Board. Basically, the plan includes the following options:

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP---available to all (except minors) with annual dues of \$5 which entitles the individual to the issues of the *NGRRA Telltale* as well as other Association benefits.

SUPPORTING MEMBER---available to any individual who contributes a minimum of \$25 to the NGRRA.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP---entitles additional members of a family unit to join at \$2 a year if one person is a general member of the NGRRA.

PARTICIPATING MEMBER-----available to those general members who desire to work on the restoration of equipment, act as car attendants (if such are required), or participate in any activities specified by the Board. An additional \$1 fee will be requested to cover the expense of special identification, insurance, etc. Participating Members will be required to hold current First Aid Certification and complete any required safety courses specified by the Board.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP---awarded to an individual by the Board of Directors for making significant contributions to the success or activities of the NGRRA.

Also available are Life and Special Memberships. This program will be presented to general membership at the April meeting.

SCENIC AWARDED CONTRACT (CONT.)

to continue a working relationship with the NGRRA. With their selection as concessionaire, a great deal of preliminary ground work and planning discussed at the conclusion of last summer's season can now be implemented. The relationship between Scenic Railway and the NGRRA will be a principal subject at the April general meeting.

The *NGRRA Telltale* is published by the Narrow Gauge Railroad Association, PO Box 4566, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106 and available to members in good standing of the NGRRA. Subscription price is included in the annual dues.
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NGRRA TELLTALE - FIRST PUBLICATION

This first issue of the *NGRRA Telltale* is the first of the official publications of the Association. Initially, most of the printed pages will be devoted to announcements, especially since the operating season is close at hand. When the several committees of the Association swing into full gear, the respective chairmen will provide much of the information you'll read in the *NGRRA Telltale*.

All correspondence regarding the *NGRRA Telltale* should be addressed to: Editor, *NGRRA Telltale*, PO Box 4566, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106.

Naturally, the *NGRRA Telltale* will reflect the interests of the members of the Association. Hopefully, it will be more than just the mouthpiece of the editor or president.

SPECIAL REQUEST----The association is considering the publication of several books covering certain aspects of the narrow gauge, particularly the portion now comprising the C&TS. These publications will provide revenue for financing projects of the NGRRA.

Each member is asked to search his personal files for photographs, preferably black and white but not a requirement. The photos will be included in a photo history of the reconstruction and renovation of the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railway. Your photos will be returned and credit lines will be used throughout.

This first request will be an indication of what kind of participation can be expected from the membership, and foretell the ability of the organization to make other publications in the future.

When you renew your membership in the NGRRA this spring, take time to jot down a few ideas of what you would like to see in the *NGRRA Telltale*.

FIRST AID OFFERED TO MEMBERS

Thru the efforts of Mr. Howard Breeding, 21 members of the NGRRA are now qualified First Aiders. The course known as Multimedia First Aid Instruction and includes eight hours of both instruction and practice of basic first aid skills.

As a sidelight to each course, there were various discussions of the type of treatments applicable to any emergencies which may arise while on the C&TS Railroad property.

The membership of the NGRRA is indebted to Mr. Breeding for volunteering his time and equipment.

To complement the first aid course already offered, the Board of Directors are making preparations for Railroad safety instruction courses. Scenic Railways have begun preparing a safety manual for operation of the C&TS.