



# The



# Telltale

## NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

BOX 4566, ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87106

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### \*\*DENVER CHAPTER FORMS\*\*

A meeting to form the Denver Chapter of the Narrow Gauge Railroad Association was held on April 25th, 1974 at the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden, Colorado. A petition to the Board of Directors of the NGRRA requesting recognition as an official chapter was signed by 34 members from the Denver, Boulder, Golden Loveland and Colorado Springs area. The Board of Directors approved the petition making it official at their June 6th meeting, making the Denver chapter official.

Temporary officers elected were: J. W. Putz of Boulder; Chapter Vice-President, Jerry B. Day of Denver; Chapter Secretary and Shirley E. Burke of Denver; Chapter Treasurer.

Following the general business meeting, a slide-tape program on narrow-gauge snowfighting was given by Jerry B. Day.

The next meeting of the Denver Chapter was held on May 30th, 1974 at the Colorado Railroad Museum. Future projects, problems with the NGRRA were discussed; and some proposals were made. Following the business meeting, a slide presentation of D&RGW and C&TS narrow gauge freight trains was given by Jerry B. Day.

The June meeting of the Denver Chapter will be held on June 29th, 1974 at the Colorado Railroad Museum. In conjunction with the meeting, a two-day clean-up program at the museum will be accomplished by Denver Chapter members. A movie program of the C&TS rotary run and a film on the Rio Grande Southern Railroad will be presented.

The Denver Chapter membership includes many volunteers who work at the Colorado Railroad Museum. Several are crew members (including engineers and firemen) on locomotive number 346 when it is operated at the Colorado Railroad Museum. Many of our members are active in projects at the museum and our membership includes Mr. Robert W. Richardson, director of the Colorado Railroad Museum and Mr. Mallory Hope Ferrell, author of the Silver San Juan history of the Rio Grande Southern Railroad.

Our membership expects to become involved in much of the historical research and planning for the C&TS. Because of the great distance involved and the energy crunch, our members are not able to visit Chama as often as our New Mexico members; but we do have the capability of contributing significantly through the historical end of the projects.

Jerry B. Day  
Secretary, Denver Chapter  
NGRRA

### C&TS NEWS

There has recently been somewhat of a minor debate between The State Railroad Authorities and Scenic Rwy's, concerning the operation of the diesel, known to all as the Pineapple. As most people know, this "beloved" piece of machinery has been operating

passenger trains over the line and will operate passenger trains over the line from Cumbres to Sublette. Regular steam operation will not begin until the first weekend in August. This has upset members of the authorities who point out that the contract states that the purpose of the C&TS RR is to operate steam powered passenger excursions. They state that approval of the Diesel Thursday "Pineapple Specials" in 1972 was temporary; Scenic has indicated that they thought it was permanent. The New Mexico Attorney General has ruled that indeed the diesel excursions are in violation of the contract but any action has been put off until a later date. By the way, The "Pineapple" has lost its faded yellow paint and lettering of Oahu Rwy. (which always seemed out of place in the mountains of New Mexico and Colorado), and acquired a new coat of red and yellow paint more befitting its new role as passenger engine. The Authorities have also indicated their wish that certain timbers be replaced in the Cascade Creek Trestle.

The Chama Bicentennial Committee is busying itself with plans for the Railroad and the Chama area. State and Federal funds are available on a matching basis, so that to get these funds Chama must come up with some money of its own. Toward this end The Chama Bicentennial Committee has chartered a steam powered train for a moonlight trip the evening of July 6th, Sat. Departure from Chama is scheduled for 6:30 P.M., with one or more photo runs going up the hill. The village of Chama is providing a western dinner and entertainment at Cumbres, with the return trip after everyone is fed and happy under the just past full moon. The train should be back in Chama before midnight. If the ticket sales go well train will be double-headed (and it won't be the "Pineapple" working as the helper engine) to meet the demand. The price... \$15 single, \$25 couple; including meal, ride, the whole works... Steam on Cumbres! It can't be beat. Dress Warmly! By the way, the NGRRA member selling the most tickets may ride as car attendant for this trip.

The Chama Bicentennial Committee has many projects in mind, which include building new Chama depot, rebuilding Chama turntable and roundhouse, work on water tank and other structures in Chama. Now if you are wondering what will happen to the old depot if they build a new one. It is projected to become a museum for the railroad. When and if the museum is established it will be in need of loans and donations of appropriate items, so you might keep this in mind. Also the Chama Committee is in need of a cheap or free source of used brick. They can pick it up... Its value can be used as part of the matching funds.

#### CHIEF CAR ATTENDANTS

If you wish to work as car attendant it is suggested that you contact the following people for arrangements:

July...Greg Palmer, 1721 California NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110

August 3- Sept. 1...Ted Reed, 7617 Summer Ave. NE,  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110

Sept. 7- Oct. 6...Jim Case, 1985 40th St., Los Alamos,  
NM 87544

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