

CHANGES COMING TO THE NGPF; WE NEED YOUR HELP

Since 2002, the Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation has made a difference in preserving narrow gauge prototype artifacts and significant models. In the past, this Newsletter has highlighted many of those projects and we continue to tell our story in this issue featuring an article on the preserved models of pioneer narrow gauge modeler, Len Madsen (see page 2). In 2002, our original Board consisted of Chair Bob Brown, Treasurer Fred Hamilton, and members Sam Furukawa, Fred Hill and Bob Hayden. With the exception of Hayden, their bios can be found on page 3 and few need an introduction to Bob Hayden, a pioneer in narrow gauge modeling. A number of years back, Board member Jimmy Booth joined the Foundation.



Our Board has always been hard working and dedicated to the mission of the NGPF, as set forth on page 3. For over 15 years, the NGPF BOD has met and overseen project after project ranging from restoration of D&RGW engines 463 and 315 to preserving narrow gauge equipment from Maine to North Carolina to California. That work continues with current projects in Como, Antonito and Laws. In addition our book and model collections are second to none.

In Denver, original Board members Bob Hayden and Fred Hamilton announced their retirement although Fred has graciously remained as Treasurer. Jimmy Booth will be leaving soon due to family obligations. It is clearly time for new Board members to step forward and continue the work of our original Board. We therefore need three dedicated and selfless individuals to step up and join the best Board in Narrow Gauge Preservation. Though unpaid, the NGPF is a non-profit corporation recognized under section 501(c)3 of the IRS code. That means any necessary and non-reimbursed expenses can be deducted from your income tax. However, your true satisfaction will come from the contribution you make to Narrow Gauge Society by being a part of one of the most effective and respected rail preservation organizations in the industry. You will need to help fundraise, oversee projects and meet once a year at the Narrow Gauge Convention.

Cont'd on Page 2





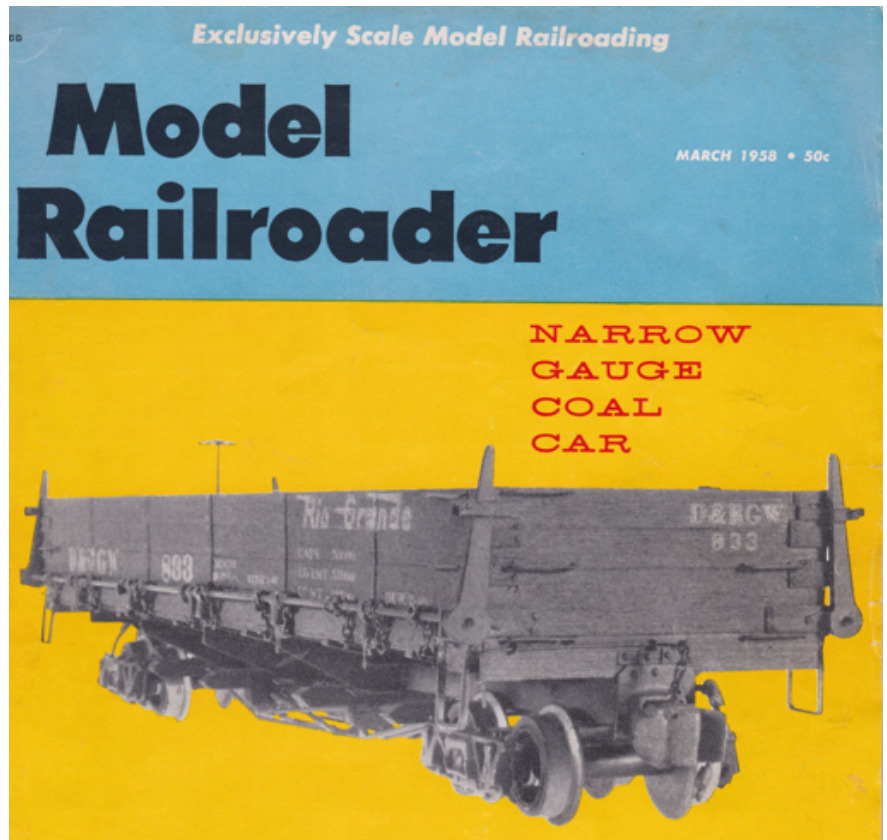
In addition, Executive Director Charles Getz, who has served since 2000, has indicated his interest in retiring by the end of the year. The position of ED is the only paid position in the NGPF. Along with our new Board members, we will also need a new ED. Applicants for any of these positions should contact NGPF Board member Fred Hill by either calling Fred at (626) 796-7791 or by sending an email to Fred Hill c/o "info@thewhistlestop.com. We need a new generation of leadership to continue the Mission of the NGPF and to insure many years of preservation to come.

The Models of Len Madsen

As mentioned on Page 3, one aspect of the NGPF Mission is to "... preserve, exhibit and interpret significant model Narrow Gauge artifacts." None of our artifacts is more significant than the models and sections of layout of the late Len Madsen. Len, from Kankakee Illinois, was a pioneer modeler in HO_{n3}, becoming a narrow gauge modeler in 1954, whose groundbreaking articles in *Model Railroader* magazine in the late 1950's and early 1960's were influential to a generation of modelers. One such article was in the March 1958 issue of *Model Railroader* on building a D&RGW "Coal Car" or Drop Bottom Gondola. Building such a complex car was no small feat in an era long before Grandt Line Products or Blackstone RTR offerings. Yet this article was an exercise in craftsmanship presented simply enough to encourage building one. Len followed this article with a two-part article in the February and March 1960 issues of *Model Railroader* on building the Chama New Mexico Coal Tower on the D&RGW, an article that no doubt led to creation of Campbell's significant kit a few years later.

In January 1963, Len described his models of the RGS facilities at Lizard Head. The hewn log station (actually the old section house) and snow shed were described again in sufficient detail and with enough simplicity that you were encouraged to build your own Lizard Head complex. Len's influence and encouragement to try narrow gauge modeling in an era of little commercial support no doubt influenced manufacturers to take a second look at the narrow gauge market. It is not coincidental that shortly after the Lizard Head article, Grandt, Tomalco and other early narrow gauge manufacturers began offering products to the new narrow gauge market. Executive Director Charlie Getz recalls buying a section of Kurtz-Kraft HO_{n3} flex-track in 1963 and a Binkley D&RGW stock car kit for his 4'by 6' HO layout, then under construction.

Len passed away many years ago but through the foresight of narrow gauge modeler Lee Gustafson (a friend of Len's, also from Kankakee), the NGPF was offered Len's models and sections of his pioneer HO_{n3}





Mission

The Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation will preserve, exhibit and interpret significant prototype and model Narrow Gauge artifacts, as well as educate the public on the importance of Narrow Gauge railroading

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOB BROWN

is editor and publisher of the Narrow Gauge and Shortline Gazette, the premier magazine devoted to Narrow Gauge. Since 1975, the Gazette has documented the history of narrow gauge in articles, plans, photos and has acted as a focus for the Narrow Gauge community. Bob Brown, a Master Model Railroader as recognized by the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA), has been building narrow gauge models for over sixty five years and has a massed a collection of pioneer narrow gauge models reflecting his own interest in the history of Narrow Gauge. Bob also serves on the Museum Committee of the NMRA. Bob is the chairman of the Board.

SAM FURUKAWA

is a recognized photographer of Narrow Gauge, author and modeler. Retired from a long career at Microsoft Corporation, Sam is now a professor at Keio University in Tokyo, Japan. He is an author of three books on Colorado's preserved narrow gauge railroads. He has extensively photographed the operations of the surviving narrow gauge lines of Colorado and New Mexico and some of his videos have recently been released to the public by the NGPF.

FRED HILL

is the owner of the original Whistle Stop in Pasadena, a major hobby shop in Southern California. He has long been active in railroad preservation for both narrow and standard gauges and is involved with two model companies, The Coach Yard and Thin Film Decals. He has served with distinction for many years as an officer and board member on several hobby trade associations.

JIMMY BOOTH

comes from a distinguished career as a principal at P-B-L (Peter Built Locomotives), a major supplier and importer of Sn3 locomotives and equipment. He also has dedicated much of his life researching the history of D&RGW narrow gauge equipment and has served as a historical advisor to both the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic and Durango and Silverton Railroads. Jimmy volunteers at a local museum as a steam

VACANT

TREASURER

FRED HAMILTON

was a long time employee for Kalmbach Publishing serving on the sales staff of both Trains and Model Railroader Magazines. Fred is also an avid On3 modeler and remains close to the model railroad industry. In the past, he has served as President and Executive Director of the industry's trade association.

layout. That layout, built in the 1950's featured hand-laid track, Len's superb scratch-built buildings including a version of the Como roundhouse, and scenery with "zip-texturing", an early 1960's style scenery method using powdered colors. The work done illustrates layout-building techniques in the early years of HOn3 modeling and is worth preserving for future display. We all owe a debt to Len for the expansion of narrow gauge modeling interest due to his pioneering articles and for his superb models which hold up well even by today's more exacting standards. We thank Kalmbach Publishing Company for the reproduced cover illustrating this story.

From The Executive Director

As the lead story notes, it is time for a new leadership team to come forward and our members are a natural place to start. No pay but a lot of satisfaction in accomplishment. So if you have the time, dedication and especially, if you can raise money, contact Fred Hill. If we do not succeed in this effort, we will have to close down the NGPF and that would be a shame.

We have much left to do and no shortage of worthy projects. I hope we have no shortage of willing helpers.

I look forward to seeing you at the NMRA in Kansas City and the Narrow Gauge Convention in Minneapolis/St. Paul. We will be holding a fund-raising auction there so come on by and participate.

Above all, a big thanks for being members! Sadly we lost our very first Charter Member Jim Vail a few months ago. We dedicate this issue to his memory.

Charlie Getz

Since 1975, Charlie has written a column for the Narrow Gauge and Shortline Gazette and has been active in the NMRA, currently serving as its President. He has been Executive Director of the NGPF since its inception.

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- Trout Creek Engineering Inc.
- Warren Munson
- William J. Lock Esq.
- Young Goldstein Architects, Inc.

BOOK DISCOUNT!

At the 2017 NGPF Board meeting, a member only discount on the three published books by Sam Furukawa was announced. Buy one title and receive a 25% discount off retail; buy two and receive 35% and if you buy all three, 50%! Titles include the *Cumbres and Toltec* (\$49.95), *Durango and Silverton* (\$49.95) and *Narrow Gauge to the San Juan* (\$53.95). Books can be ordered from Bob Hayden at www.bobhayden.com; mention the discount and provide your member number.

UPCOMING ISSUES

- Displays at the Colorado Railroad Museum
- The Agnew Depot on the SPC
- Steam returns to Como
- Update on the NGPF Leadership Team



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WHO WE ARE - WHAT WE DO AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

The Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation (NGPF) was first established as the Narrow Gauge Trust in 2000. It was the dream of one of our board members to help preserve Narrow Gauge in both its prototype and model form. In 2002, the Narrow Gauge Trust Fund was incorporated as the Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation, and acquired non-profit status both within the State of California and as recognized by the Federal government. As a non-profit public benefit corporation, our mission is to establish interactive exhibits where the public can learn of the significant history of Narrow Gauge railroading as well as to support preservation activities and projects wherever possible.

The foundation is administered by a board of directors, which does not receive compensation. The NGPF is proud that less than five percent of its funds are spent on administrative costs. Thus, ninety five percent of the funds raised go toward preservation efforts.

Our primary function is the creation of interactive exhibits where the public can be told the story of Narrow Gauge, such as the one at Chama. As with the Chama exhibit, each exhibit will include interactive video presentations and models as well as dioramas, photographs and other graphics to explain the significance of the Narrow Gauge railroading experience. As a secondary function, the NGPF assists Narrow Gauge preservation efforts across North America. These efforts to date have exceeded over one million dollars and in some cases have made the difference between preservation and loss of significant artifacts.

The foundation is also unique in supporting the efforts of Narrow Gauge Preservation projects throughout the United States rather than concentrating on one area or one particular project. To date, the organization has supported projects on the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad, Ardenwood Park in California, Friends of Denver and Rio Grande Engine #169, the Southern Pacific Narrow Gauge Railroad Foundation, The Colorado Railroad Museum, the Southeast Narrow Gauge and Shortline Museum in North Carolina and the Durango Railroad Historical Society, among others. In addition, we have preserved the collections of prominent narrow gauge modelers, extensive libraries of books as well as important art pieces depicting narrow gauge scenes.

One of the unique aspects of the NGPF is the use of matching grants to encourage the receiving parties to reach out to the public for support. Many of our grants require that the receiving agency establish within a set time frame, an equal number of individual new donations from members of the public, which not only shows support for the particular project, but also provides new sources of funding for the organization. As a result of this policy, organizations receiving our grants have reported increased donations. Donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible, acknowledged and appreciated. By donating, you support a variety of worthwhile projects and thereby enhance preservation of Narrow Gauge.