

## NGPF Gives Grant to Complete #168 Rebuild



*Photo by Justin Franz, courtesy of the Washington Post*

At the 38th National Narrow Gauge Convention in September in Minneapolis/St. Paul, at its annual board meeting (see related story, page 2), the NGPF Board of Directors (BOD) voted to provide a \$15,000.00 matching grant, effectively raising \$30,000.00, to complete restoration of D&RGW #168. This Class T-12 4-6-0 last ran in the 1930's when it pulled passenger trains on the fabled narrow gauge Santa Fe branch of the Rio Grande from Antonito Colorado to Santa Fe, New Mexico. Abandoned in 1941, scant months before the US entry into WWII, it has often been postulated that the branch should have survived to assist in Project Manhattan, the building of the nuclear bomb that ended WWII. The Los Alamos lab, leading that effort was located just outside of Santa Fe.

As first reported in our Fall 2015 issue (V.2, #3), the D&RGW developed T-12's for passenger service late in the 19th century only to see them eclipsed by the K-28 class 2-8-2 in the mid 1920's and early 1930's on the Santa Fe branch. By the mid-thirties, the remaining two survivors of the T-12 class were placed on display in Alamosa and Colorado Springs.

As reported in the Fall 2015 newsletter, the NGPF initially granted \$10,000.00 to pay for the move of #168 from Colorado Springs to Antonito so the rebuilding effort could begin. With a project estimate of almost \$500,000.00 for the effort, NGPF support has proven crucial in allowing the work to continue and remain on schedule. As outlined in the Fall 2017 issue (V.4, #3), our next grant, \$20,000.00, for tender and truck restoration allowed this vital segment to be completed. Board Member Jimmy Booth even assisted in the cab rebuilding. As recently as the Spring 2018 issue (V.5, #1), we provided an update on the progress made.

Now, the C&TS has once again sought our assistance to

complete the project on time with this newest grant. The work remaining is important and illustrates the expense of restoring a steam engine when many of the parts needed must be custom fabricated. According to lead restorer, Stathi Pappas, the grant once matched, allows for the following important work to be accomplished: Driver tires, \$12,000; Tubes, \$10,000; Rod Brasses, \$4,000; Brake Shoe/Wedge material, \$5,000 and Running Boards, \$1,000. Understand these figures cover the cost of the materials and often not the volunteer labor to install them. The total estimated price of \$32,000.00 matches our grant closely and encourages economies.

According to Pappas, with this grant, restoration work can be completed by Spring 2019 with operation as early as Summer of 2019! The remaining work after this grant is cosmetic; new paint and lettering. Due in part to the NGPF, we will all have the opportunity to ride behind a genuine T-12 4-6-0, an experience not possible since approximately 1935. And do not forget that sister T-12 #169 sits in Alamosa also undergoing restoration, a past recipient of NGPF grants. Will we one day see doubleheader T-12's thunder up Cumbres grade? The answer lies with you, our members.



*Photo by Stathi Pappas*

## NGPF Board Commits to a New Era for the NGPF

At the 38th National Narrow Gauge Convention, the NGPF BOD met and agreed unanimously that the work of the NGPF was nowhere near being done and that continued existence of the NGPF was essential to a healthy narrow gauge community. Existing Board members, Bob Brown, Fred Hill, Sam Furukawa and Jimmy Booth voted resoundingly for interviewing and appointing new Board members to replace original Board members who left the Board last year, as reported in Summer 2018 newsletter (V.5, #2). A list of prospective candidates was identified and a subcommittee consisting of Board members Hill and Booth agreed to interview candidates and announce the results later in the year. Of course our Winter 2019 newsletter will provide details on our new Board and any other changes. The NGPF ad in the next issue of the *Narrow Gauge and Shortline Gazette* will advertise for prospective Board nominees.

In related news, Allen Pollock came forward as a candidate for Executive Director to replace Charles Getz, who had earlier announced plans to resign as of December 31st. The Board by unanimous vote confirmed Allen as the new ED, effective January 1st but with Getz transitioning in January to allow for a smooth hand-over of responsibilities. For those few of you not familiar with Allen, he has been a long-time narrow gauger, proprietor of *Fun and Games*, a leading figure supplier and *Missouri Locomotive Company*, an importer of large scale narrow gauge critters. Before retiring, Allen was in charge of a large Missouri state agency, so running a non-profit is not new to Allen. He is also a past President and past Board member of the NMRA. Allen promises to bring unique expertise and skills to the ED job.

Treasurer Fred Hamilton and Chair Bob Brown also

announced their retirement at year-end. Existing Board members Jimmy Booth, Sam Furukawa and Fred Hill will remain. With four new board members, a new treasurer and new ED, 2019 will truly see a new era dawning for the NGPF. But a NGPF re-invigorated and rarin' to go.

In other business, besides the important #168 grant reported on page 1, the BOD heard an update on a planned 2019 exhibit at the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden. This exhibit plans on using models from our extensive collection to illustrate the modeling of artifacts on display at the CRRM. Board member Sam Furukawa pledged an income stream to the NGPF from the sale of part of his personal collection of models. In addition, he is donating a significant collection of original artwork, many appearing on covers of narrow gauge books, to the NGPF as well as a rare stunning 1/2" scale brass painted Promontory Set of two 4-4-0's for possible use by the NMRA in its planned scale model railroading exhibit at Sacramento's California State Railroad Museum. The artwork may be displayed at either the CRRM or CSRM. Finally, it was reported that the NGPF Chama display, now located at the Chama Visitor Welcome Center may need to be moved due to closure of the Center. Board Member Booth will look into possible use of the display as part of the aforementioned NMRA exhibit in Sacramento.

So the BOD accomplished quite a lot but nothing more important than assuring a vibrant and healthy future for the NGPF, including much appreciation for our members who have literally been the foundation for our Foundation. Finally, through the generosity of the 38th NNGC committee, an auction was held benefitting the NGPF with over \$3,100.00 raised.

## Vail Estate Donates to the NGPF

Jim Vail, noted narrow gauge modeler and Gazette columnist, was the first Charter Member of the NGPF, a position he treasured and often mentioned. His passing earlier this year was a blow to us all and members of the NGPF Board and the ED contributed toward a commemorative bench at the Roaring Camp and Big Trees narrow gauge railroad, near Jim's home. The photo from Jim Blain shows NGPF chair Bob Brown, On3 modeler Dave Adams, Jim Blain and his wife on that bench. The Jim Vail estate recently donated \$461.00 to the NGPF (a significant number if you are an RGS fan). Such a nice gesture is appreciated. Rest in peace Jim







#### 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 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 amassed 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 consultant.

#### 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.

### From The Executive Director

As the lead story notes, the NGPF continues to make a difference by enabling completion of yet another important narrow gauge project. And the NGPF will continue as vibrant as ever. I congratulate ED-designee Allen Pollock on his appointment; secure in the knowledge Allen will do an outstanding job!

As reported last issue, we lost our very first Charter Member Jim Vail a number of months ago. We were proud to receive a donation from his estate. Jim was proud to be the first Charter Member and so were we.

We raised over \$5,000.00 at the 38th NNGC with the auction and individual contributions. If you have recently contributed, please do not be upset if you receive a letter seeking donations, as that is our lifeblood. Our members have been very generous over the years and narrow gauge has been the beneficiary of that generosity.

I will be editing one more newsletter in January before turning over the reins to Allen. So then I will express my thanks but as always, thanks to you all for being members, for your support and a happy holiday season.

*Charlie Getz*

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

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- 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](http://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
- Introduction to the new NGPF Leadership Team

### END OF YEAR LETTERS COMING!

It is that time of year again and soon we will be sending out renewal notices and our reminder letters to consider a donation by year's end to help the narrow gauge community. Under the new Tax Law, charitable donations remain fully deductible and can have a favorable tax consequence. So please renew your membership and also consider an extra donation to help us while helping yourself. And from all of us at the NGPF, a very happy holiday season to you and yours.



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## NARROW GAUGE PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

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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.