

NGPF BOARD APPROVES THREE NEW PROJECTS



Westside Snowplow #2

The Yosemite Mountain & Sugar Pine Railroad (outside of Yosemite Park) has donated their former WSLC #2 Snowplow to the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad Museum. The plow along with several other pieces of former West Side railroad equipment were caught in the Railroad Fire in 2017 which also burned some of the railroads track; there was no serious damage to their facilities. This allowed them to get quickly back into rail service after the fire.

The NCNG railroad museum was advised by the YM&SP Railroads' new manager Larry Jensen that the plan was to keep only revenue producing equipment, and that his board of directors decided to donate the snowplow to the NCNG railroad museum. This would enable it to be restored and join the collection of seventeen other West Side cars.

Data on the WSLC #2 Snowplow is scarce, other than it was the second one built by the West Side Lumber Company date unknown. It survived until West Side operations ceased in 1961 and later became an exhibit at the West Side & Cherry Valley Railroad tourist operation in 1972 through 1981. The plow was later sold to the Yosemite Mountain & Sugar Pine RR in 1986.

Some of the distinguishing characteristics of the plow are that it had solid truck bolsters and no brakes. The plate steel plow section was bolted to a heavy wooden frame and there was

a locomotive oil tank above the rear truck weighted with water. The plow had one link and pin coupler and was pushed by a Heisler or Shay geared locomotive.

The NGPF is proud to partner with the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad Museum for the restoration and preservation of the WSLC #2 Snowplow.



South Park Rail Society

As can be seen in the photograph above, the South Park Rail Society has been busy with the restoration of the Como facilities, as well as the preservation of rolling stock. Part of that progress has been with the help of the NGPF. Current projects include rehabilitation of the original 1881 locomotive service pit in stall 3 of the roundhouse, reconstruction of more yard trackage, and the early stages of building a replica water tank.

They continue with The Como Project, for the preservation and restoration of original Colorado & Southern rolling stock. To that end, they have acquired the only remaining C&S gondola in existence from Central City and hope to have the restoration completed and operational next year. Likewise, they obtained the only example of an early "Type 1" wooden frame C&S boxcar from a farm field north of Denver, which was decaying in place. This sole example has been

cosmetically restored and on display at the developing South Park Railway Heritage Center in Como (see photo to the left).

The next immediate priority, in which the NGPF has committed to partner with SPRS is (1) for the purchase and shipping of "Type 2" boxcars No. 8179 and No. 8168 from Olathe, Co to Como, (2) purchase a set of Bettendorf cast steel trucks from the Black Hills Central Railway in South Dakota and shipped to Como, and (3) secure the ownership of "Type 3" boxcars No. 8313 and No. 8336, currently in Skagway, Alaska, the property of the White Pass & Yukon Railway.

The NGPF member's dues and donations have made possible the participation with this worthwhile effort to save the history of the examples of C&S rolling stock.



Cumbres & Toltec Scenic RR Rotary OY

The C&TSRR is celebrating their 50th Anniversary in 2020. To properly launch the celebration, they are committed to running the rotary

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snowplow in 2020. This will be the first time OY has been operated and been in service since 1997, providing a powerful public outreach to raise awareness for narrow gauge heritage. Over the last 22 years, the wooden car body has begun to deteriorate. The metal roof has begun to leak aggravating the deterioration problem. At this point in time, the damage is highly localized and so far, has not begun to compromise the machinery nor the boiler. Without remedial work on this treasured piece of equipment, the long term viability of this artifact will be in question. The Friends of the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad have stepped forward to do the wood rehabilitation, including the replacement and repair of the windows and doors providing greater security and resistance to weather while in storage. This will make the rotary more robust in service, and therefore safer for the crew. The Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad shops will conduct the mechanical and boiler work necessary to return the machine to operation. This partnership and teamwork highlight the benefits of collaboration within the narrow gauge community.

However, all these efforts will be hampered if strong preventative measures are not taken to further preserve this work. The exceptional mechanical condition of the rotary can be attributed to few operating days and the fact that now everything is protected from the elements by the favorable condition of the car body. The immediate problem is that the rotary has a metal roof that is failing to prevent water infiltration into the car. It is the opinion of both the Friends and the Railroad that this metal roof is in need of replacement with a new soldered seam, lead washed copper roof. This type of roof treatment is historic and will offer an almost 100 year solution to the ongoing roofing maintenance. This roof system, along with the already approved maintenance activities mentioned above, will ensure that rotary OY will effectively be protected from major deterioration and the multitude of ongoing maintenance requirements that have not been able to be addressed for the past 20 years.

The Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation is excited about partnering with the Friends of the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad, as well as the C&TS RR itself to protect and preserve this wonderful relic of the D&RGW Railroad. This project will continue the long and previous support for this operation by the NGPF.



Ridgway Railroad Museum Ceremonial Silver Spike Commemorating Loop Completion

In the photo above, Ridgway Railroad Museum president Karl Schaeffer and Ridgway Mayor John Clark drive the ceremonial spike May 11, 2019 to officially dedicate the new ½ mile operations loop, called the Ridgway Division of the Rio Grande Southern Railroad. More than 50 visitors attended the dedication. During the day, 70 event attendees and other visitors were given free rides on the museum's recreation of RGS Motor 1. They will be providing free rides every Saturday during June, July, August and September. Definitely plan a visit to Ridgway to see the progress that the museum is making in preserving their collection.



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

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 and videoed the operations of the surviving narrow gauge lines of Colorado and New Mexico.

FRED HILL

is the owner of the original Whistle Stop in Pasadena, and has long been active in railroad preservation for both narrow and standard gauges. Fred is involved with 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

W. LINDSAY RALEY Jr.

Is from Florida and operates his family citrus business. An avid Sn3 modeler, Lindsay is involved in Friends of the C&TS as well as other preservation activities.

STEVE FREDINI

Is President/CEO of the Heico Companies, a family owned business and past president and current member of the Slim Gauge Guild. He is active in the Sn3 community including Symposiums and Narrow Gauge Conventions

BOB STAAT

Has been involved in all aspects of the model railroad industry including running hobby shops, co-ownership of San Juan Car Shops and currently is co-owner of the American Model Train Exchange.

RICHARD RANDS

Has been involved in the hobby since his childhood with father Robert Rands starting Rail Craft (Micro-Engineering) and Clear Creek Models. Richard owns Berkshire Valley and Anvil Mountain models.

Executive DIRECTOR

ALLEN POLLOCK

Owns Fun and Games and Missouri Locomotive Co. He is past President of the NMRA, and retired from heading a government agency.

Stamp Commemorating Narrow Gauge History

The NGPF office has been contacted by several of our members who are also stamp collectors, asking about the possibility of asking the United States Postal Service to issue a commemorative stamp highlighting the contributions of the narrow gauge railroading to the history and development of this country. While we all recognize that the USPS has just issued a stamp commemorating the Golden Spike and 150 anniversary of the transcontinental railroad, it will be some time before they will consider another railroad related stamp. However, we can start gathering the necessary information, such as historical listing of narrow gauge railroads that operated in the US, as well as current functioning narrow gauge railroads. If you can contribute to this listing, please send information of the executive director.

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- Joseph Cammalleri
- Micro Engineering
- NCRNGRR Museum
- Raggs to Riches
- Rio Grande Models
- Trout Creek Engineering Inc.
- Warren Munson
- William J. Lock Esq.

BOOK DISCOUNT for MEMBERS!

At the Denver 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.

From Executive Director Allen Pollock

I must apologize to the Board Members and the membership for the delay in getting this newsletter in your hands. The May 22nd tornado that swept through Jefferson City did hit our house. The electric grid was restored two days following the storm, but the internet connection took an additional two weeks to be restored. That also delayed the sending out of renewal notices to the membership. Those have now been mailed. Please respond to that notice, consider a donation when renewing your dues, and continue to help us carry on the mission of the NGPF.

Current work in progress include a revision to the web pages, including a brief description of the accomplishments of each of the Hall of Fame, a new brochure explaining the work of the NGPF, and a new power point presentation for use as clinics and other advertising opportunities.

The best advertising about the role and activities of the Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation is word of mouth from our members. Please tell your fellow railfans and model railroaders about the NGPF and encourage them to support our efforts to preserve the narrow gauge. Stop by the booth at the narrow gauge convention in Sacramento and say hello.

Allen Pollock

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW CONTACT INFORMATION EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

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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.

A board of directors who do not receive compensation administers the foundation. The NGPF is proud that less than ten percent of its funds are spent on administrative costs. Thus, ninety plus 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 formerly at Chama. As with that Chama exhibit, future exhibits 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 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 Short line 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.