

## Progress Report

### West Side Lumber Company Snowplow and updates of other projects at the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Museum

*by John Christensen*



We have made good progress on the snowplow. The chassis had been completed prior and during the end of the Covid-19 episode, but the plow blade has not been finished. Currently the plow blade is on WSLC gondola #10 and the seven timbers that need to go into it are positioned on WSLC flat car 265. The timbers have been milled to fit into the blade and we are just waiting until the wet weather subsides so we can insert them into the blade. No easy task with these 12" x 12" x 18-foot-long sticks. I am expecting that we will do this in April or May and then move both sections to Railroad Avenue to be assembled using a crane. The plow will go on display at the Nevada City depot site where the depot kiosk is located along with 300 feet of track. The plow will be at the end of the track for display and will sit in front of SPNG gondola #233 until we get our proposed one-half mile of track extension up to the kiosk site and pull the car out and to the museum.

The WSLC heavy duty flat #2 is currently one of our inside winter jobs. Most of the Douglas Fir timbers were donated as well as the milling in the Rough & Ready area. There are six 12" x 12" x 24-foot-long timbers on this car. It's a monster when you consider all the wood in this car. The two center sills are already in place on the

restored body bolsters and trucks. The draft gear sills are also in place. This Monday we should be attaching the needle beams. The two intermediate sills will be arriving Friday and we may place them on the car Saturday if we can get the Robinson Timber forklift over to the museum in the afternoon. I plan on wrapping up this project by mid to late April so I can get the car out of the shop before the next Sierra Narrow Gauge Conference, which is being planned for May 31st, June 1, 2 & 3. We will have two steamers operating at that time.

Once the conference is behind us, the NCNG tank car #185 project will begin. When this car is built, it will be used as a fuel car for NCNG engine #5. We already have all the timbers for this car. We also have the timbers for WSLC long cabooses #3 and expect it to be moved from Oroville to the museum so we can rebuild it for our next winter project. Also, once F&CC coach #52 is finished this year, F&CC coach #56 will be going into the shop to begin its 5-year restoration process. We may want to talk to you about some further grants to help us with this one. We have already started some of the preliminary work on the passenger trucks that will go under this car.

# Share with a Friend

First, we want to thank you for being a member of the Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation. Without your membership and support we would not be able to help fund the many projects we have supported over the years. In this issue you can read how the West Side Lumber Company snowplow is being brought back to life with matching funds from the NGPF and the work of the crew at the Nevada County Narrow Gauge Museum. This was a plow that was on the brink of being lost forever and will now be fully restored for the next generation to see the plow that once worked to keep the line open in the Sierra Mountains of California between the woods and the sawmill in Tuolumne. For those of us that model the West Side it will continue to help us measure and photograph to help us build an accurate model for our empire.

Please consider sharing the below Membership Application with your friends so that we can continue to help in the efforts to restore more narrow gauge equipment that we all love.

Thanks again for your support



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 573-619-8532

## Membership Application Form

Name:				
Address:				
City:		State:		Zip:
Phone:		Birth Date:		Scale:
Email:		Company Name:		

Membership Type		1 year	Total
Regular Member:	membership includes NGPF quarterly newsletter	\$45.00	
Corporate Member:	membership includes NGPF quarterly newsletter and attribution therein	\$90.00	
Sustaining Member:	membership includes NGPF quarterly newsletter plus DVD	\$150 and above	
<i>Additional Donation in any amount (tax deductible)</i>		\$	.00

Please return this form with your payment in USD. Make checks payable to NGPF

We also accept major credit cards. If you prefer, you may e-mail this form with card information to the above e-mail address.

Credit Card No:     -     -     -     -

Security Code

Expiration Date:       \_\_\_\_\_

Month                      Year                      Signature

You can also pay for your membership and/or donations using PayPal. Visit the PayPal web site, and use our PayPal payment email address: [excdirector@thengpf.org](mailto:excdirector@thengpf.org) When on the PayPal site, you can either use your PayPal account or your credit card. Please include the above information on your PayPal payment transaction or mail a copy of this application to the address given above.

*Thank You For Helping Preserve Narrow Gauge*



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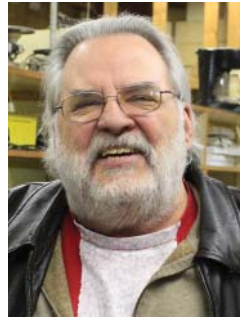
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## From the Executive Director

*Allen Pollock*

Using email to deliver our Preservation News has worked very well for the last two newsletters so we will continue using email for our delivery. There are only 20 or so members that have not supplied an email address for this purpose. In many of those cases, our members don't have an email to supply to us. In those cases, we simply print out a copy of the Preservation News and mail it in an envelope.

Another issue concerning our Preservation News is trying to gather a complete collection of the issues of the Preservation News. This is for our master collection as well as the issues available on our web site. There were times when four issues a year were not provided nor published. We are working to update the web page listing, which will show each issue that was published, and make those issues available for viewing and/or downloading. At the present time, we are looking for a copy of Volume 1, No. 4, Volume 3, No. 1, and Volume 4, No. 3. If you have any of these issues, can you please supply our office with copies. Electronic copies are welcome in an email. Please take a minute to check to see if you can help us in this matter. My email and snail mail contact info are available elsewhere in this issue.

In closing, I want to applaud the generosity of our membership. It is this act of sending in an amount greater than our membership fee that allows the NGPF to help in so many areas of our preservation efforts.

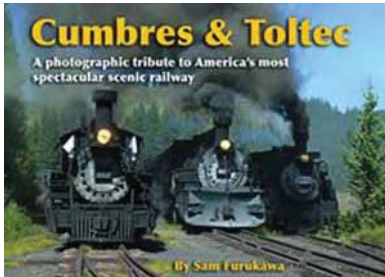


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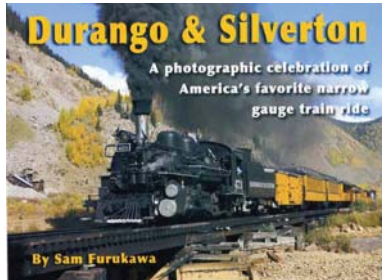
## Book Discounts for Members

Bob Hayden is offering a members only discount of the three book published by Sam Furukawa. Buy one title and receive a 25% discount off retail; buy two and receive a 35% discount off retail and if you buy all three books receive a 50% discount off retail.

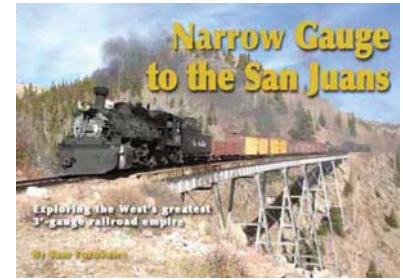
The books can be ordered from Bob Hayden at [www.bobhayden.com](http://www.bobhayden.com); Please mention the discount and provide your NGPF membership number. Titles include:



*Cumbres and Toltec*.....\$49.95



*Durango and Silverton*.....\$49.95



*Narrow Gauge to the San Juan*.....\$53.95

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### WHO WE ARE – WHAT WE DO – 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 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 cost. 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 the 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 donations from members of the public, which not only shows support for the 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 NGPF are tax-deductible, acknowledged and appreciated. By donating, you support a variety of worthwhile projects and thereby enhance preservation of Narrow Gauge