

At The Annual Board Meeting in Denver



Robert Staat, Fred Hill, Lindsay Raley, Jimmy Booth, Richard Rands, Chuck Lind, Editor, Allen Pollock, Executive Director. Not pictured are Sam Furukawa and Steve Frediani.

Project Completed



On the morning of September 18, 2023 a crane installed the blade onto the body of the historic West Side Lumber Company snow plow. The metal and wood blade weighted in at 11,000 pounds. This project was completed with a matching grant from the Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation. The plow will now be moved and put on display at Nevada City freeway exit where the museum has a kiosk. It should be quite an attention grabber. With the completion of this project the Nevada County Narrow Gauge museum has one of the most complete collections of restored West Side Lumber Company equipment.



Meet our Board Member Richard Rands

My interest in narrow gauge was sparked by my father Robert Rands. He started Rail Craft in the 1960's selling rail and track products and eventually flex-trak. I was earning money around the age of 10 weighing small HO/HOn3 spikes in 1000 piece packages on a gram scale. Many summer vacations were spent hiking the abandon railway grades around Colorado and visiting the ever expanding Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden.

After college I became involved in the model railroad industry when my father and I started a new company called Clear Creek Models that sold detailed models of some of the Colorado narrow gauge freight cars in HOn3. After the purchase of the HO & O scale lines of Tomalco, Durango Press, and Wheel Works the name of the company was changed to Micro Engineering. The purchase gave us a much more extensive line of HO and O scale narrow gauge rolling stock and other kits associated with narrow gauge railroads. In 1987 Micro Engineering and Rail Craft merged. I left Micro Engineering in 1998 to pursue other work.

However, the enjoyment of developing and producing model railroad products never left me. In 2013 my wife Donna and I bought Berkshire Valley Models and moved the business here to Fenton, Missouri. In 2017 we bought the Anvil Mountain line of HO building kits based on the Silverton, CO. Since then we worked full time adding numerous buildings, trucks, and wagons in HO, S, and O scale to the line. I am building an extensive mountainous On30 layout in our present house that has been featured in several of the modeling magazines. Many Friday nights are spent working on other narrow gauge modelers' layouts in our group called the Friday Boomers.

Donna and I attend 4 or 5 shows and conventions each year and a trip to the National Narrow Gauge Convention is always a must. I try to tie in visits to some of the remaining narrow gauge railroads around the country when attending shows. The Colorado lines, EBT, and Nevada County RR are a few of the stops.

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PO Box 105741
Jefferson City, MO 65110-5741
execdirector@thengpf.org
573-619-8532

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Thank You For Helping Preserve Narrow Gauge



Board of Directors

Sam Furukawa

samf712@gmail.com

Bob Staat

207 Pebble Point

Goshen, KY 40026

Cell: 502-594-2446

Robert.Staat@Louisville.edu

Fred Hill

P.O. Box 593

Del Mar, CA 92014-0593

Cell: 626-622-3751

carman@thecoachyard.com

Jimmy Booth

P.O. Box 769

Ukiah, CA 95482

Cell: 707-391-8444

jbooth@copper.net

Richard Rands

438 Morgan Woods Drive

Fenton, MO 63026

Cell: 314-401-4005

rands00@swbell.net

Lindsey Raley

208 Palmola St.

Lakeland, FL 33803

Cell: 863-287-1920

lindsay.raley@me.com

Steve Frediani

1325 N. Astor St. #7

Chicago, IL 60610

Cell: 909-241-4442

s7frediani@gmail.com

Allen Pollock, Executive Director

P.O. Box 105741

Jefferson City, MO 65110-5741

Cell: 573-619-8532

execdirector@thengpf.org

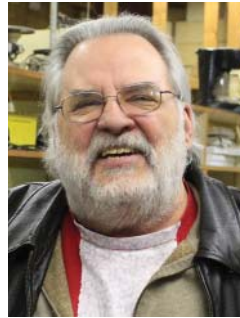
Chuck Lind, MMR, Editor

3680 County Road 324

Navasota, TX 77868

Cell: 979-219-3305

chucklind46@gmail.com



From the Executive Director

Allen Pollock

It was great to see all of you who were able to attend the Narrow Gauge Convention in Denver. We processed several renewals and gained new members. I trust everyone is already looking forward to the next convention in the Pittsburgh area next September. During the Denver convention, we were able to auction the Richard Dorman painting collection. All but two of these paintings have found new homes. This collection was featured in the Winter 2020 (Vol. 6 No.4) issue of the Preservation News, which can be viewed on our website, www.thengpf.org as can all our past issues of the newsletter.

It seems this is the time of year when all organizations ask their membership to consider an additional effort of support. The Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation is no different. The NGPF is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that is committed to restoring and preserving all things dealing with the narrow gauge in the United States. Please consider the NGPF for a donation during this holiday season. Our membership has been so very generous throughout the year, and I would ask you to consider us again. If you are reading this and are not currently a member, please consider joining and/or donating to the NGPF and helping to continue our mission.

The NGPF Board meeting held in Denver was mainly occupied by the recent bequest of Ron Kuykendall. It was made official that the money would be invested and treated as an endowment whereas a portion of the investment earnings would be made available, along with dues and other income, for projects fulfilling the mission of the NGPF. Also, thanks to Judy Hill for taking a picture of the board members, our editor and me, which is now posted on the website.

All of us here at NGPF extend to you a very special and happy holiday season. We couldn't do this without you! THANK YOU!

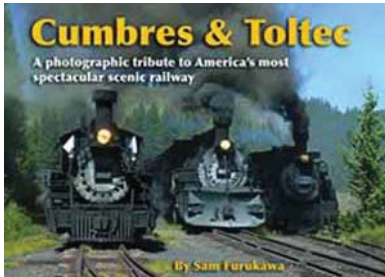


P.O. Box 105741
Jefferson City, MO 65110

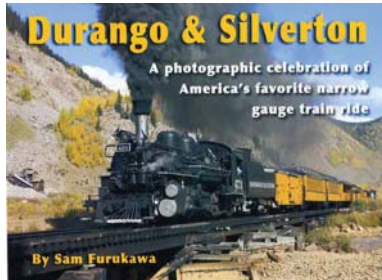
Book Discounts for Members

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.

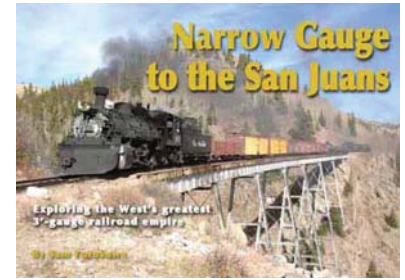
The books can be ordered from Bob Hayden at www.bobhayden.com; Please mention the discount and provide your NGPF membership number. Titles include:



Cumbres and Toltec.....\$49.95



Durango and Silverton.....\$49.95



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

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Narrow Gauge Preservation Foundation

To Contact Us, Please Call, Write or E-Mail Executive Director Allen Pollock

573-619*8532

execdirector@thengpf.org

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.