

THE NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

Dear NGRRA member:

Hopefully this newsletter will mark the beginning of better communication with all of you. Since last November there have not been any issues of the Telltale for numerous reasons, not the least of these being the resignation of our editor, Jim Rupley, who did such an attractive job with the issues he produced. Also the members here in New Mexico have been busy with a new handbook and milepost guide which will hopefully be out by June, and which will include a great deal of information for members. Also, those of us who have been heavily involved in the NGRRA and have been working on the C&TS the past three years, found many put off duties in other areas taking our attention over this winter.

There is new hope however, especially for those of you at some distance from the C&TS in the form of new blood in the organization and new officers taking over the organizational duties. The Board of Directors has elected new officers and there is a new editor for a newsletter which hopefully will be published on a more scheduled basis, though in somewhat simpler form.

There is much to be done on the C&TS this summer with the car attendant program being continued and much equipment in need of protective and restorative work as crews can be gathered to accomplish it. The operations are being expanded to four day weekends from May 26 through mid October and additional runs the other three days during the peak of the season in July and August.

Early in May there will be a large newsletter with a complete operating schedule and many other NGRRA items. This will include a schedule of planned NGRRA participation and information concerning ways the members can get involved as well as persons to contact for scheduling your participation. We hope that as many of you as possible will become involved on the C&TS this summer for there is much to be done and much fun to be shared.

To all members I would personally like to thank you for your participation and support. If you feel that things have been slow and somewhat disorganized, I am afraid that the fault is totally mine. I do apologize for any oversights that may have been mine and urge your continued support of the NGRRA as it attempts to grow and to fulfill its aims in serving the C&TS RR. Hopefully with the duties better distributed you will find the Assn. more responsive to your needs and wishes as members and I will try to lend all the support I can to those who are presently trying to serve the Assn.

All of us here, especially on the Board are looking forward to the coming season with anticipation for there is nothing that can replace the smell of coal smoke and the whistled notice of steam operation on the greatest of the narrow gauge lines, The Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad. See you there!

Sincerely,

F. Alan Stevens
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Past President

NGRRA

April 1973

NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad is gearing up for the coming operating season. The first regular run is scheduled for May 25th. At present there are two locomotives receiving major work. #487 is receiving a new set of flues, and #488 is receiving the best flues from both #487 and #488. Both should see use this summer. It will be the first time these ex-D&RGW steamers have run as C&TS engines. If both #483 and #484 are also put to use again this summer it will give the railroad four operating steam locomotives. It looks as though it will be a great season.

There will be a General Meeting at Los Alamos, New Mexico on Friday, April 27th. The meeting will be held at the Fuller Lodge with directions to the meeting to be posted in the lobby. The meeting is scheduled to start 7:30 P.M. Hope to see you all there.

The annual General Membership Meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held on June 1st in Albuquerque. Time and place to be announced.

As you undoubtedly know, the NGRRA Telltale has not been published as often as it perhaps should be. This warrants a bit of explanation. To put out the Telltale in the form it has been produced is a very time-consuming job. Frequently news which is to be put into the Telltale is received on extremely short notice and it is not possible to put out the Telltale before the news is obsolete. Therefore steps are being taken to remedy this situation. A mimeographed newssheet is planned as this can be put out easily and quickly. It will come out at least once a month during the operating season of the railroad and once every two months and whenever the situation warrants. Also in the works is an NGRRA publication of sorts which will be published twice a year as now planned. It will be concerned with primarily the historical aspect of the line as opposed to news and current events. It will be in a magazine format with articles and photos illustrating the history of the railroad. The first issue is very tentatively scheduled to be out this fall. It is shaping up to be a fantastic issue. The publication will be given to all NGRRA members in good standing.

PLEASE send in any address corrections or changes!

Send to:

NGRRA

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