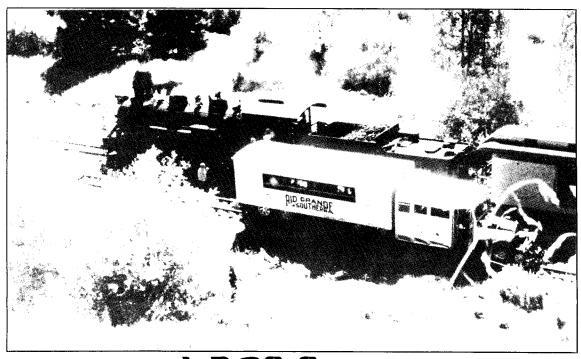
# Track N' Feathers



The Galloping Goose Historical Society of Dolores, Inc.

Winter 1999



## A RGS Scene

D&SNG RR Engine #481 and RGS Motor Car #5 passing at Elk Park in September 1998 Photo by Wayne Brown

Galloping Goose #5 returns to the Durango yards after a 47 year absence. Even if the Geese did not run out of Durango to Silverton, Goose #5 was right at home running up the Animas Canyon. The first day of operations was a trip to Silverton. The next day were runs out of Silverton to Elk Park. Yes, the fuel pump failed again, but this time, we were ready. A 6 volt fuel pump "first aid kit" was aboard and it was quickly installed in about eight minutes. Wayne Brown was motorman during the Durango runs. He put in an essential 200 hours as apprentice motorman, with Earl Knoob on the C&TS run and was ready for the task. For Wayne to operate on the D&S RR Earl Knoob provided a letter stating Wayne's qualifications. With out Wayne having apprenticed under Earl (a 17 year

veteran of the C&TS RR) the D&S run could not have happened. During the next excursion, Jim Granflaten will be the apprentice motorman. Both these guys have put in hundreds of hours during restoration, and backshop maintaince, thus they know the Goose as intimently as anyone can. Bill Colley served as the pilot during the D&S runs. Bill operated Goose #3 at Knotts Berry Farm prior to coming to the D&S. Don Conner, rode with us one day, he is motorman these days for #3. There are not a lot of motormen out there. but we do know a few. The crew continues to learn and work in a true team effort. with Railroad Safety, passengar comfort (never a restroom on board though!) and "physic gratification" always a major part of operating Goose #5.

## 1999

# **Excursions**

We plan on two runs in 1999. One will be on the C&TS RR in May and the other will be on the D&SNG RR in August. This year there will be more runs out of Antonito, so there will be more tunnel photos. The D&SNG is planning their first ever Railfest. Goose #5 will be apart of it. The Eureka, and Motorized popcars are all part of the festivities.

Contact either host railroad for information and passage on the Goose.

#### For Passage on Goose #5 in 1999

Contact either
C&TS RR
for the excursion
from May 20th to June I
at
I-800-724-5428
or
D&SNG RR
for the excursion
from August 25th to August
31
at
970-247-2733

# GGHS Recieves Donations

The GGHS has recieved two substantial donations recently from members. Proceeds from both will go towards laying of trackage in, or around the area of Dolores, and the future operations of Motor #5. A saving account for the purpose has been set up at the Dolores State Bank.

The first donation was the book by James L Ehrenberger of Cheyenne, Wyo. Sunset on the Rio Grande Southern, Volume II, is an autographed hard cover book of 192 pages with 325 rare photos and previoulsy unpublished material. The books are sold for \$50.00. When all the books are sold, Ehrenberger's donation will total around \$5,000.

Jan P Rons, a member from Phoenix, AZ, donated 100 Galloping Goose prints for \$20.00 each. When they are all sold the total donation will be \$2,000. They are suitable for framing.

#### **Donation of Track**

As many of you are aware of our future track laying plans in the Dolores River Valley, I bet you didn't know that we have a potential source for "free" rail, switches, and associated hardware! We are currently working with the owners in hopes of solving the logistics of aquiring and transporting the mass of iron to Dolores (15 miles of 30 foot sections) Storage should be no problem, as Val, has offered use of some of his "space". We shall keep you posted on this exciting development. hwb

### **Loading Pit for #5**

The permanent loading pit for # 5 will be completed before our next C&TS run. It will be 24 feet in length, including the trailer ramp on the East end, in front of the RGS Depot. It will be of concrete construction with drains and approximately 3 feet in depth. When not in use, it will be covered with timbers set in to a step on the North and South wall of the pit. The track panel used on the truck bed during transporation will be stored above the covered pit on its own temporary ties. We will be having a work session when this happens. Nielsens, our gracious contractor, expects it will take 2 days to complete. hwb

# Galloping Goose Historical Society of Dolores, Inc. PO Box 297 Dolores CO 81323 Website link from

Website link from the Goose heading at the Dolores Chamber of Commerce's Web site at http://www.doloreschamber.com

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"G" Gauge	Custom RGS Rolling Stock		C is al 19 C is spin C is spin as a part is a spin as a spin
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	Total S	Souvenior & S&H	We
	Total RO	GS Rolling Stock —	
	rado Residents add 3% Sales Tax ountry freight will be billed at current rates		

#### From the Motorman's Side:

Hello Fellow #5 Supporters:

What a year we had! We completed the restoration of Goose #5 and were able to operate her on both the C&TS and the D&S, without incident! We must not forget what it took to get us to this point, however. Let us do hats off to a few we must not forget.

Bob Gotthelf, has moved out of the Dolores area, due to work considerations, but he kept us alive in spite of numerous obstacles, Dave Wilson, also left the area due to work requirements, worked tirelessly to see our goals, Richard Baker one of the original believers, and Frank and Ruby Gonzales, who continue to work hands on with the Society (Ruby's dad orginally worked for the RGS)! And last, but certainly not least, Janet Wagner, for putting up with all us railfans.

We must also thank Earl Knoob (C&TS) and Dan McCall (D&S) for trusting our restoration, and my pilot on the D&S, Bill Colley, who trusted both me and #5 to behave properly (Earl Knoob broke me out as Motorman, so I was able to operate #5 on all of the D&S runs). And without the Colorado Historical Society 's belief in us, we would not have had near so much fun this year!

As you know, we have been invited to operate #5 again this year on Colorado's two premier narrow gauge railraods. This sounds simple, but we must remember that a piece of equipment, of this age, requires constant attention to it mechanical components.

So thank you for your continued support, and I hope to see you folks this summer.

Motorman, Chief Mechanical Officer H.W. Brown President, GGHS

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