

**GALLOPING
GOOSE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

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GGHS Calendar

GGHS Board Meetings,
421 Railroad Avenue
Dolores, CO
April 16, May 21, June 18
6 PM to 9 PM
Open to the public

Summer hours (beginning May
18th): 9 AM—5 PM Monday
through Saturday

Excursions begin July 1st

Email Reminder

A big thank you to all of you who provided us with your email addresses. Sending the newsletter out by email saves the GGHS money, time, and resources! I hope you enjoyed the “photo extra” that comes with the emailed edition. The photos attached to this emailed newsletter focus on Winter scenes that many of you summer travelers don’t get to see. If you haven’t yet given us your email address, please do so today!

Jeanne Becker, Editor

Track 'n Feathers

Spring 2015

Livestock Drives to Dolores

Sheep, cattle and hogs are driven up to 30 miles to be loaded in stock cars



Looking down the chute in the stock pens at Lizard Head Pass. This photo, taken in October 2013, shows sheep waiting for transport by truck. During the RGS days, sheep would be transported in stock cars.

Lew Matis, President of the GGHS, and Chuck McAfee, grandson of local ranchers, were interviewed on public radio station KSJD on January 20, 2015. Sarah Syverson of the Big Fat Farm Show was interested in the historic movement of livestock on the Rio Grande Southern in the early 20th century.

(<http://ksjd.org/post/railroads-and-historic-food-distribution-southwest-colorado>)

Chuck talked about memories his mother has of driving hogs to Dolores. “My grandparents would drive a few dozen hogs to Dolores on foot. The 12 mile trip from Lewis took them two days,” Chuck said.

Lew read from a summary table of livestock movement, which showed 155 stock hogs

shipped out of Dolores in two stock cars on September 13, 1923, headed for South Omaha. “Stock travelled on narrow gauge cars to Alamosa,” Lew explained, “where they were transferred to standard gauge cars for Denver and points east.”

Sheep, cattle and hogs were all shipped from Dolores. But by 1922, delays of up to two months were common, with livestock deteriorating in condition as they awaited shipment out of Dolores and Mancos.

Lew referred to The RGS Story (Vol. VII) by — Cook, McCoy, and Collman, which states that by the early 1920’s,

the D&RGW 5500-series of narrow gauge stock cars was in a poor state of repair.

“September 1923 saw the introduction of the new 5900-series stock-car fleet, which brought instant improvement to the shipping service,” Lew said.

During the “Fall Livestock Rush of 1923” a total of 60 new 5900-series cars were used in shipments from Dolores.

Derailments between Dolores and Mancos were common. “If a car tipped over, they had to break it open to release the livestock,” Lew said.

Sheep grazing in the mountains were driven to the stockpens at Lizard Head and loaded onto stock cars there. These stockpens continue to be used today.

Livestock Movement Out of Dolores, Colorado, Between November 2, 1922 - October 15, 1923

Date	Class	No. of Animals	Origin	Company	Class	Head	Head	Miles	Destination	Cars	Cost
11/02/22	Cattle	11,400	Thornton	Evans Stockmen Com Co.	Cattle	118	16	44	Hansen City	8	1000.00 00.00 1000.00
11/03/22	Cattle	11,400	J.L. Stewart	Evans Stockmen Com Co.	Cattle	220	19	44	Hansen City	14	1000.00 00.00 2000.00
11/03/22	Cattle	11,400	J.L. Stewart	Evans Stockmen Com Co.	Cattle	118	19	44	Hansen City	8	1000.00 00.00 1000.00
11/03/22	Cattle	11,400	J.L. Stewart	Evans Stockmen Com Co.	Cattle	118	19	44	Hansen City	8	1000.00 00.00 1000.00
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From The RGS Story, Vol. VII, page 170.

Excursion Schedule for 2015

4th of July Special on the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad

July 1st through July 5th

Wednesday, July 1

Chama/Osier/Chama - \$89 (\$71)
Dep Chama 8:30 AM, Return Chama 4:30 PM

Thursday, July 2

Chama/Antonito - \$89 (\$71)
Motorcoach departs Antonito 4:30 PM

Friday, July 3

Antonito/Chama - \$89 (\$71)
Motorcoach departs Chama 7:00 AM
Goose departs Antonito 8:30 AM,
Arrives Chama 4:30 PM

Saturday, July 4th

Chama/Cumbres Pass/Chama - \$115 (\$92)
Late afternoon departure, Includes BBQ
and entertainment on Cumbres Pass and
fireworks display at end of track in Chama.
Depart Chama 4:15 PM

Note: Goose returns to Chama at 10:30
PM; those wishing to skip the fireworks
can depart at Chama depot at 8:15 PM.

Sunday, July 5

Chama/Cumbres Pass/Chama
\$45 (\$36) (no lunch)
(Children 12 and under 20% off)
www.cumbrestoltec.com



Fall Colors Special on the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad

*See the Colorado and New Mexico
mountains in their beautiful fall
splendor!*

Sept 30th through Oct 4th

Wednesday, September 30

Chama/Antonito \$89 (\$71)
Depart Chama 8:30 AM
Motorcoach departs Antonito 4:30 PM

Thursday, October 1

Antonito/Osier/Antonito \$79 (\$63)
Depart Antonito 8:30 AM; return 4:00 PM

Friday, October 2

Antonito/Chama \$89 (\$71)
Depart Antonito 8:30 AM; arrive Chama 4
PM (motorcoach departs Chama 7 AM)

Saturday, October 3

Chama/Osier/Chama \$89 (\$71)
Depart Chama 8:30 AM; return 4:30 PM

Sunday, October 4

Chama/Cumbres Pass/ Chama
\$45 (\$36) (Half day, no lunch)
Depart Chama 9:30 AM; return 1:00 PM
(Children 12 and under 20% off)

True West Railfest on the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad

August 13 to 16, 2015

Trips scheduled to Cascade Creek,
Railroad Park, and Silverton.

It is expected that Goose No. 4
will come from Telluride to run
with Goose No. 5

Watch the D&SNGRR website for
details – www.durangotrain.com



Financial Report: With the generous help of our membership and the receipt of several grants, Denise Bowyer reported that the GGHS was able to finish 2014 in the black. “Our total income, less cost of goods sold in the gift shop, was \$43,150. Our expenses for the year totaled \$41,265, for a net profit for the year of \$1,885,” Denise said. In addition, we received \$6,500 in grants from the Colorado Grand (\$5,000), the Ballantine Family Fund (\$1,000) and Empire Electric (\$500). These grants are earmarked for specific projects in 2015, including a marketing initiative and support for our school programs,” Denise explained.

New Switch Stand Exhibit Installed on East End of Depot

This past fall, a new outside exhibit was installed at the GGHS Museum. The five switch stands displayed in the exhibit were used at various points along the RGS railroad to enable trains to be guided from one track to another, such as at a branch siding or a junction.

The five stands were donated to the GGHS over the years by the Bud and Arveta Haun Family, the Barbara Hamilton Family, the Alex Vigil Family and the Larry Spencer Family.

The exhibit was designed and installed by Joe Becker, volunteer for the GGHS. "Facing the exhibit, the stand on the far left is a 38 inch tall yard switch stand," Joe explained. "It has an open base and was originally used at the Montezuma Lumber Yard in McPhee." (The town of McPhee no longer exists. It was covered by the McPhee Reservoir in the 1970's.)

Joe continued to describe the remaining stands. The second one is a 60 inch tall Buda Switch Stand with a closed base. It was

cast by the Buda Foundry in Harvey, Illinois and was used on the RGS house track in Dolores.

The third, also a Buda Switch Stand, is missing its target. It was cast for the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad. It is similar to a 3-way stub switch stand that was located on RGS tracks entering the Town of Dolores.

The fourth has a yellow target and is 7 feet tall. It was used on the RGS passing siding at Dallas Divide.

The last is a Harp Switch Stand (missing its target) and is similar to one located on the RGS tracks that went to the Goose Barn in Dolores. The Harp Switch Stand, so called because of its characteristic shape, was typically used in conjunction with the stub switch.

"We're thrilled to finally have



these switch stands on display," said Marie Richmond, curator for the museum. "They've been in storage for a long time."

"The exhibit will be finished this summer," said Joe. "We'd like to mount an educational plaque that describes the history of these switch stands and acknowledges the donors. In addition, there's a need for some landscaping around the base of the stands."

"We estimate that the plaque and landscaping will cost about \$500," said Marie. "If you're interested in providing some funding for completion of this exhibit, please contact Denise."



Ed Latham (on right) with volunteer John Kelly at the 2014 GGHS annual meeting.

Profile of Retiring Board Member Ed Latham

After seven years as a GGHS Board member, Ed Latham stepped down at the 2014 Annual meeting. He first joined the Society in the late 1990's. His 40 year career as a truck driver made him a natural for taking on the responsibility of motorman and mechanic for the Goose. Ed has many memories of driving from Chama to Antonito, but one stands out. "We had stopped by the Rock Tunnel to take photos," Ed said. "Everyone was back on board except for one woman, who was sitting up on a rock. When I went to get her, she had tears in her eyes. 'My husband's ashes are buried up here,' she said as we walked back to the Goose."

One of Ed's earliest train memories was when he was five. He and his father were hauling coal from Hesperus to Cortez. Their truck drove along side a steam engine going west from Durango. Ed waved at the fireman and the fireman waved back! Ed still remembers this.

Spring Fundraiser Showcases New Thank You Gifts!

This year, a spring fundraiser is being launched by the GGHS in order to even-out our cash flow throughout the year. “Typically, most of our individual gifts and membership renewals come in during the fall,” explained Denise Bowyer, GGHS Business Manager. “Our cash flow is tight in the spring, before gift shop sales and excursion income start coming in.” To address this issue, the GGHS has designed and acquired several unique and high quality thank you gifts for donors who can make an extra donation this spring.

Two types of gifts are available, shirts and decorative plates. “The long sleeved denim and chambray shirts are high quality and have never been offered for sale in our gift shop. The plates were made for Jackson Hardware in Durango. They are relatively rare and difficult to acquire,” said Denise. “Either can be yours for a donation to the Galloping Goose Historical Society!” Fill out the donation form and send it in today, for the best choice of thank you gifts.



Heavy weight denim shirt made of dark blue, stonewashed fabric. No back pleat. (S to 4 XL) Thank you gift for donation of \$150.00



Charcoal gray 65/35/ cotton/ polyester soft texture classic chambray long sleeved shirt. (S to 4 XL). Thank you gift for donation of \$125.00



Medium blue, 100% cotton long sleeved denim shirt. No back pleat. (S to 4 XL) Thank you gift for donation of \$125.00



50/50 cotton/polyester ash gray t-shirt. (S to 4 XL) Comes in short sleeves and long sleeves. Short sleeve t-shirt for donation of \$40. Long sleeve t-shirt for donation of \$60.



Decorative 10 1/2 inch china plates manufactured in the 1940's and 1950's for Jackson Hardware in Durango, Colorado. They come in three designs (Galloping Goose, Emma Sweeney, and The San Juan) and four colors (brown, red, blue, and multi-colored). A complete set of brown plates is shown here. We have a very limited selection, so there is no guarantee that we can provide your first choice of color and design. Each plate is a keepsake! One decorative plate is a thank-you gift for a \$200 donation (8 plates are available in red, blue, and multi-color). A set of three plates is a thank-you gift for a \$500 donation (2 sets available, brown and red).

The GGHS Seeks Ownership of Galloping Goose No. 5

It had always been the understanding of the Society that Goose No. 5 was sold to the Dolores Rotary Club in 1952. In 2002, the original bill of sale was found in the safe of one of the five men who had put up the \$250 to purchase Goose No. 5 from the RGS.

The cover letter accompanying the bill of sale explained that, to save a few dollars in sales tax, the bill of sale was made out to the Town of Dolores rather than the fledgling Rotary Club, which did not yet have tax exempt status. Prior to the discovery of the bill of sale, the GGHS had entered into restoration and operating agreements with the Dolores Rotary Club.

Some talks and negotiations were entered into over the years with the town, but nothing was finalized. In 2012, the Directors of the Society formed a committee to study the situation, compile documents, and draw up a timeline. During a January 2015 presentation to the Rotary Club and the Town of Dolores, the Society outlined the history of Goose ownership and presented a proposal to transfer ownership of the Goose to the GGHS. The Town responded in March with a lease agreement.

For more discussion on this topic, see Marie Richmond's letter posted on our website (<http://www.gallopinggoose5.com>). Also, read Jim Mimiaga's February 2, 2015 story online in the Cortez Journal (www.cortezjournal.com). Search for "Historical Society Wants Goose No. 5."

Galloping Goose Historical Society 2015 Spring Fundraiser				
Donation Form				
Thank you gift	Quantity	Size(s)	Color and Design Preference for Plates	Donation Amount
Heavy-weight denim shirt (\$150)				
Chambray shirt (\$125)				
Med blue denim shirt (\$125)				
Long sleeve t-shirt (\$60)				
Short sleeve t-shirt (\$40)				
Decorative Plate (\$200)				
Set of Three Plates (\$500)				
TOTAL DONATION				

Check enclosed

Credit card (Visa, Master Card, Discover)

<p>Mailing address: Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____</p>	<p>Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Amount: _____ Signature: _____</p> <p>Billing address: <input type="checkbox"/> same as mailing OR Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____</p>
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Thank you for your donation!

Delivery takes approximately 2 to 4 weeks. Call Denise with questions (970-882-7082).



*The Galloping Goose Historical Society
of Dolores, Inc.
421 Railroad Avenue
P.O. Box 297
Dolores, CO 81323*

Wintertime on the RGS 2014 -2015



Pre-school visitors in
early December 2014

Christmas in
Dolores Colorado
2014



“Teddy Bear Excursion”



Former GGHS
President Wayne
Brown's alter ego



GGHS Museum

Dolores Colorado
snowstorm
February 2015



RGS Water Tower
in Rico Colorado



RGS Gallagher trestle area

Lizard Head Peak





GALLOPING GOOSE TRAIL

Lizard Head Pass



WELCOME

Experience the area's rich railroad history on the Galloping Goose Trail. This 18-mile trail follows the historic route of the Rio Grande Southern Railroad.

MAP SYMBOL	DEPARTING FROM	TO	MILEAGE	START/END POINT ELEVATIONS
	Lizard Head Pass	Matterhorn Campground	3.5 miles	10,222 to 9,520 feet
	Matterhorn Campground	Ames Trailhead	6.0 miles	9,520 to 8,620 feet
	Ames Trailhead	Ilium Trailhead	3.7 miles	8,620 to 8,142 feet
	Ilium Trailhead	North Trailhead	2.6 miles	8,142 to 8,753 feet
			18 miles	

Information

- The trail follows dirt roads and single track trails.
- Mountain bikes, horses, and hikers are allowed on the single track portions of the trail.
- Enjoy the many historic sites along the trail, from railroad trestles to water tanks. They are well over 100 years old.
- Leave artifacts where you find them.
- Photograph and enjoy historic features, but do not climb on or enter them. They are fragile and unstable.



An RR train, pulling stock cars, travels south over Lizard Head Pass, circa 1921. Rio Grande National Museum Collection.



Clayton K. and Jan Ann Wilcox Family





Stock pens at Lizard Head Pass

Final approach to Lizard Head Pass from Trout Lake



Groomed Lizard Head Cross-Country Ski Trail

RGS Trout Lake Trestle



Helicopter skiing
from Trout Lake





RGS Trout Lake Water Tower



Valve pulley in attic
above tank inside
Trout Lake Water
Tower

Valve inside tank
of Trout Lake
Water Tower



Approach to
Telluride Colorado
from above

Sibling Goose #4 in Telluride Colorado

