

October 2024

RAIL REPORT

Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

Rocky Mountain Railroad
Historical Foundation

Issue 766



--- October 8 meeting at Barnes Hall ---

The Art of Railroad Photography

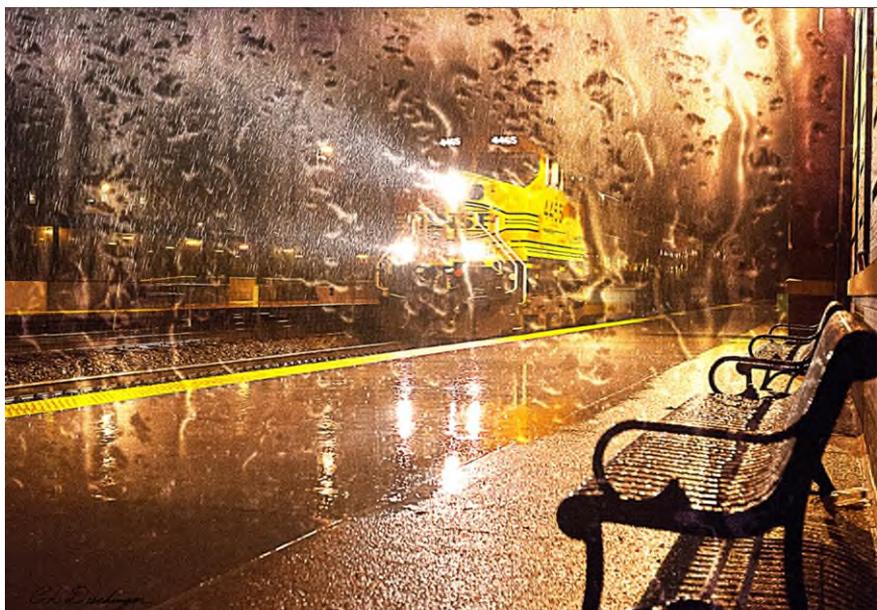
Charlie Dischinger's program is more about the "art" of railroad photography than it is about the subject matter. It will begin with a show entitled: "Just a Figment of My Imagination" which is an

introduction and explanation of the reasoning behind Charlie's images. Following his opening introduction is the show entitled "Back to the Future 3.5" which highlights how spending just a few minutes in programs like Photoshop, Lightroom, or Adobe Bridge can transform the initial capture of an image into more of a work of art. Charlie is retired from the Frisco railroad, among other things. He is driving out here from his home in Missouri.

Charlie was an artist first. He grew up in the shadow of his father, a freelance commercial artist specializing in photo retouching, and cannot remember a time while growing up when he was not going to follow in his father's footsteps. He was learning rudimentary skills of photo retouching before starting high school. He had the equivalent of about two years of practical experience as a commercial artist by the time he started studying art in college. After obtaining his BFA degree, he worked in the printing business before making a career change to his second love, trains & railroading.

His interest in photography waned until about 1991 when he got back into it. At the time, he began searching for new and more creative ways to create images beyond documentation. But it wasn't until the advent of the digital age that he was truly inspired. He has been retired from the railroad for nineteen years, and shortly after retiring, he went back to school to take several digital graphics courses.

It has been a long but interesting photography ride. He now has over 50 thousand pictures (mostly trains). He experienced the transition from B/W to color film, witnessed the loss of Kodak's rein on the film world, experienced the transition from analog film to the digital world, and experienced the growth of digital photographic capabilities. He can now do photographic retouching in minutes, which used to take hours or days to do with an airbrush and paintbrush. We can now do things that were only imaginable 30 years ago. Charlie says it has been an amazing journey.



Three images above © by Charles Dischinger.

Upcoming Events:

November 12 meeting -- Jim Ehernberger, self-propelled rail passenger vehicles on branch lines.

December 10 meeting -- Rich Luckin ski train video.

U.P. Big Boy 4014 will wrap up the Heartland of America Tour in October 2024. Train will be in Houston, TX, on October 6th. Additional route details with locations and times are available on UP Steam Schedule on the internet. UP 4014 is scheduled to stop at Strasburg, Colorado, on Monday, October 21, 2024 at 3:45 PM.

Union Pacific Heartland of America Tour



Union Pacific 4014 Big Boy passed under classic signal bridge east of Ogallala, Nebraska, on August 30, 2024. Heartland of America tour started with freight cars and a caboose. Passenger cars swapped onto train at Council Bluffs, Iowa. ©2024 Chip.



Left, Ed Dickens of UP Steam Program, caught up with Grace Llewellyn (36 years of service) at North Platte, Nebraska. They had worked together in Denver, CO. Burnham Shop closure in Feb 2016 forced Ms. Llewellyn to move to the North Platte Diesel Facility where she retired from UPRR as of October 2024. Aug 31, 2024. ©2024 Chip



Union Pacific held an Employee Family Day event Saturday, August 31, 2024 at the North Platte Diesel Facility, Bailey Yard, North Platte, NE. Great turnout by employees and their kids. ©2024 Chip



Big Boy UP 4014 stormed out of North Platte, NE, on Sunday, September 1, 2024. Engineer Ed Dickens put on quite a display leaving town that morning headed for Grand Island, NE. ©2024 Chip

UP RR HERITAGE CONSIST

- UP 4014.....BIG BOY, 4-8-8-4
- JOE JORDAN.....WATER CAR
- JIM ADAMSWATER CAR
- UP 4015.....SD-70 DIESEL
- ART LOCKMAN.....MAINTENANCE TOOL CAR
- HOWARD FOGG.....POWER CAR
- LYNN NYSTROM.....BAGGAGE CAR
- WILLIE JAMES.....CREW SLEEPER
- 2055.....POWER CAR
- PONY EXPRESS.....STEAM SUPPORT CAR
- OMAHA.....DELUXE SLEEPER
- PROMOTORY.....BAGGAGE RECREATION CAR
- WALTHER DEAN.....DOME LOUNGE
- CITY OF DENVER,.....DINER
- LINCOLN.....BUSINESS CAR

BNSF Donates Turntable to Railroading Heritage of Midwest America

SILVIS, IL – BNSF Railway has agreed to donate the former Chicago, Burlington & Quincy turntable from its Cicero Yard complex near Chicago, IL, to the Railroading Heritage of Midwest America (RRHMA) for use at its Silvis, IL. shop. Once at Silvis, the

135-foot table will be the largest turntable to be preserved in the United States. Union Pacific has a Big Boy-sized turntable in Cheyenne, WY, but it is still in active service.

While Silvis once had a turntable that served the Rock Island shop complex, it was removed and the turntable pit filled in decades ago. The “new” turntable is needed to handle the large size of Union Pacific 4-6-6-4 *Challenger* currently being restored at the shop complex along with a 2-10-2. Older railroad fans will recall that the Cicero turntable was used to turn Burlington Route’s two famous excursion steam locomotives in the 1960s, Mikado #4960 and 4-8-4 #5632.

RRHMA President and Chief Operating Officer Steve Sandberg thanked BNSF Railway for the donation and said RRHMA is seeking donations for the movement and installation of the turntable at Silvis. (Info courtesy of the RRHMA, August 2024)

Private Varnish Visited Denver



Dome lounge Warren R. Henry and sleeper Evelyn A. Henry arrived Denver, CO, August 27, 2024 on Amtrak’s California Zephyr using BNSF’s Buck Main. Cars laid over at Denver Union Station during Labor Day Weekend. ©2024 Chip

Patrick Henry Creative Promotions cars departed St Louis, MO, on Saturday, August 24th on trip from St. Louis to Chicago at 5:40 pm. High profile charter for 6 guests started at Denver to Kansas City.

Newly Painted Unit to US Sugar



U.S. Sugar has acquired another SD40M-2 locomotive. WRIX 3001 was painted by Columbia Rail Group in Richland, WA. Ex-Tacoma Rail 3001. Unit moved by BNSF on the Q-train Spokane, Washington, to Alliance, Texas, passed through Denver on August 25, 2024. ©2024 Chip

Boreas Pass Railroad Day Aug 17, 2024



Delightful summer weather August 17, 2024 at Como, CO, for South Park Rail Society Boreas Pass Day. Klondike Kate #4, a Baldwin 2-6-2, is undergoing a conversion from being a wood burner to an oil burner. Locomotive was on the Como turntable for the open house. ©2024 Chip



Boreas Pass Day hosts Kathy Brantigan (center) and Dr. Chuck Brantigan greeted guests at Como, CO, on August 17, 2024. Tracks around the hand operated turntable had recently received gravel to improve walking surface. ©2024 Chip

Host Jimmy Scoville provided visitor's information on track construction, and Mike Sharp also provided Roundhouse / Turntable information to visitors.

The Merchandise Store was extremely busy, with Manager Lauren Revis, Jan Guerra and April Myers.

September 7 - Chris Tome had made arrangements to accept and pick-up a wonderful donation from Chris Hoyt of Parker, a Laguna Bandsaw, Grizzly table saw, a Grizzly Planner and a Grizzly dust collector. Equipment was unloaded and positioned by Jim Scoville, Bob Petersen & Mike Sharp within the cleaned-out Como Roundhouse bay #1 until a shop is built that will be useful in future car restoration. (Info courtesy of Tom Lawson)

Rocky Mountaineer Adds #8600 to Runs



Rocky Mountaineer RMRX 8600, SD40M-2, was pressed into service September 18, 2024. The 8600 received positive train control (PTC) equipment during the summer. Train had RMRX 8021 and 8020, GP40-3, and 10-cars on Union Pacific's Utah Junction Bypass north of Denver, CO. The 8600 was acquired from Horizon Rail Leasing back in April 2024. ©2024 Chip

Grand Canyon Railway News

Grand Canyon Railway put together their three Alcos for a work train from Williams, AZ, to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon and back September 19, 2024. The mission was to return FPA-4 #6776 to the Canyon for static display, drop the set of rolling steps loaded on the flatcar, and reposition a tank car used to hold water for the steam trips. Then FPA-4 #6793 and FPB-4 #6860 returned to Williams. The ATSF caboose, which belongs to the NRHS Williams Chapter, is used occasionally on work trains.

Grand Canyon Railway has bought more F40s and sold two of their Alcos to the Cuyahoga Valley RR. The remaining ones' days on this railroad are numbered. With 6776 already out of service for display, this might very well be the last A-B-A lashup we see on this line.

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Regular membership dues are \$35.00 with email delivery of the Rail Report or

\$50 if a printed, mailed *Rail Report* is desired.

Contributing membership is \$55.00.

Sustaining membership is \$75.00.

Patron membership is \$100.00.

An associate membership for spouses and children is \$20.00 additional.

Members joining after June may send a payment for half of the dues level they wish to join at for the remainder of the year. Members of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club are also members of the Rocky Mountain Railroad Historical Foundation, a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

Board Meetings

Members are always welcome to attend any board of directors meeting. Please contact any Club officer for the date, time and Zoom meeting information.

Newsletter contributions and items for publication should be sent to:

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