



RAIL REPORT

Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

Rocky Mountain Railroad
Historical Foundation

September 2023

Issue 753

September 12 -- Club meeting at Barnes Hall.

Few railroad passenger vehicles have had as long of a lifespan as the Budd Rail Diesel Car. Introduced in 1949, these unique self-powered passenger cars have plied the rails for nearly three-quarters of a century, providing economical service for railroads nationwide.

With the downturn of rail passenger traffic after World War II, the RDC was the right product at the right time. It reduced passenger losses on branch lines and then played a major role in commuter service in the Northeast region of the United States.

Rich Luckin will be in-person to present his video that traces the history of these unique vehicles. It follows along all the way through to today's current operations and includes interviews with engineers who operated RDC's, as well as passengers.

We meet at 7:30 pm in Barnes Hall, on the south side of the church at 2950 S. University Boulevard in Denver, Colorado. Or Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86251105134?pwd=VWRwRUVCbVoyTzhwMWhYbm5scTlqdz09> Meeting ID: 862 5110 5134 Passcode: 496652

Upcoming Events:

September 16: Open house for interurban car #25 at the Federal Center in Lakewood, Colorado. Free event. Our organization owned and restored this car over many years.

September 16: Club visit to Colorado Live Steamers Open House, north of Byers, Colorado.

October meeting program to be announced soon.

Budd RDCs in action.



Rail Bikes at South Fork, CO.



Revolution Rail bikes were lined up this summer at Don Shank's depot in South Fork, Colorado. This line is also called the Wagon Wheel Gap Route and the owner has called his operation Denver & Rio Grande RR. ©2023 Chip



At South Fork, Colorado, a company called Revolution Rail has leased the former D&RGW Creede Branch to run their pedal bikes. Nice trip up the branch for about 2 miles.

Their web site is <http://www.revrail.com>. 888-738-0123

(Information courtesy of Denny Leonard)

Siemens Built VIA Venture Trainset to Canada



Union Pacific 3093, SD70AH-T4 Tier 4, handled a new Siemens VIA 6-car Venture trainset across Sherman Hill, WY, on August 2, 2023. This train originated at the Siemens factory in California. ©2023 Chip



Union Pacific moved new Siemens 6-car Venture train set from California to Toronto, Ontario, Canada, here crossing Wyoming on August 2, 2023. Rear power unit VIA 2207, a model SCV-42, passed Pine Bluffs, WY. ©2023 Chip

BNSF Plans Expansion at Hudson, Colorado



BNSF operated a 1x1 passenger special to Hudson Logistics Park, Hudson, CO, in July of 2023. Invited guests arrived by bus to a luncheon hosted by BNSF. Dome lounge BNSF 35 named Canyon View was one of the cars. ©2023 Chip



BNSF operated a 6-car with two locomotives (1x1) special in the Denver area on July 19, 2023. Train departed Denver Wednesday morning, July 19th going east on BNSF's Brush Subdivision to Hudson, CO. A busload of invited guests dined aboard the train at the existing Hudson Logistics Park. About 2:00 PM the train without guests headed west to Denver. A new crew at Denver left about 3:40 PM for a run down the Joint Line towards Pueblo and La Junta, CO, and east to Garden City, Kansas.



Photo above is the westbound California Zephyr near McCoy, Colorado.

Photo below is a westbound BNSF Denver to Provo manifest using trackage rights on the Union Pacific at the west end of Range Siding.

These two images on the Dotsero Cutoff were made on 20 July 2023
© by Dave Schaaf.



Interurban Car 25 annual rollout

**DENVER & INTERMOUNTAIN
INTERURBAN
CAR NO. 25 OPEN HOUSE**

← ● →

**Saturday, September 16
10 a.m.–3 p.m.**

Denver Federal Center
Gate 1 Entrance, Follow signs to Building 78

Lakewood.org/HistoricTransit

FREE RIDES

All adults need a government photo ID (e.g., driver's license) to enter the Federal Center. Pets are not permitted.

A vintage yellow and brown interurban car, numbered 25, is shown on tracks. The car has a large front window and a smaller one on the side. A sign with the number 84 is visible on the roof. A purple circular badge in the bottom right corner says "Weather Permitting".

Entry for the Car 25 event is at the Security Gate #1 north of Alameda Avenue on the west side of Kipling Street in Lakewood, Colorado.

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Membership Information

Membership in the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club may be obtained online at www.rockymtnrrclub.org or by sending the annual dues to the Club address:

Rocky Mountain Railroad Club

Membership

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Regular membership dues are \$30.00 with email delivery of the Rail Report and \$45.00 if a printed, mailed *Rail Report* is desired.

International membership dues are \$45.00.

Contributing membership is \$50.00.

Sustaining membership is \$75.00.

Patron membership is \$100.00.

An associate membership for spouses and children is \$25.00 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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