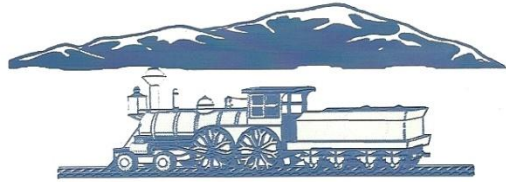


# PIKES PEAK "N" GINEERS



## MODEL RAILROAD CLUB THE RAILHEAD

### NEWS LETTER OF THE PIKES PEAK "N" GINEERS MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

Celebrating 25 years of model railroading  
October 2015 RAILROADING SINCE OCTOBER 13, 1989



D&RGW 168 in Antlers Park, John Grier photo

#### September Schedule of Events

- Oct. 1:** Setup at Village at Skyline at 5:30pm
- Oct. 2 & 3:** Run trains Friday 10am to 4pm. Run trains Saturday 10am to 3pm followed by teardown.
- Oct. 5:** Board meeting at Big Train, dinner at 6pm meeting to follow.
- Oct. 9, 23 & 30:** Friday work and run sessions, 7 to 9pm.
- Oct. 16:** Business meeting 7pm club room.
- Oct. 17:** Club anniversary party

#### Future Events

- Nov. 2:** Board Meeting
- Nov. 7 & 8:** Slim Rail Swap meet in Woodland Park
- Nov. 21:** "N" scale home layout tour in Denver area
- Nov. 30:** The Dec. board meeting will be held on this date in advance of the TECO 26
- Dec. 4, 5 & 6:** TECO 26 three day show

#### Superintendent's Corner

Hi Gang:

This month we start right off on the first day of the month, to set up at Village at Skyline. Be there at 5:30 to set up. We will run from 9 AM to 4 PM on Friday and 9 AM to 3 PM on Saturday. Tear Down follows shut down.

Then the only other event we have is the anniversary dinner on the 17<sup>th</sup>. I am sorry but I do not have much more information at this time as we still do not have a menu. I will keep you all up to date.

Have a great month.

Lester Coburn  
Superintendent  
Pikes Peak "N" Gineers

### **D&RGW 168**

Most of us know that 168 has been removed from Antlers Park to be rebuilt for operation on the Cumbre & Toltec Scenic Railroad. On our way back from Durango, CO we took the back way into Chama to see if 168 was there. We found out that 168 was in the engine house in Antonito, CO to get it out of the elements. We did check out the yards while we were there.

This would have been the trip to take to see the fall colors as they were spectacular. We then drove by the engine house in Antonito but the big doors were closed so we didn't get to see 168. Hopefully in two years we can schedule a trip to ride behind 168, something I'm looking forward to.



168 being loaded for its trip to Antonito, photos by Larry Green

### **Uhrich Locomotive Works Tour**

The day started late thanks to our Superintendent. Our tour Guides moved us to the Comanche Crossing Museum. The Museum is actually several buildings on about an acre of land and includes a depot, a school house, a farm house, a large barn, and three newer buildings all crammed full of everyday items from the past. A couple of scary items were two different electric hair curlers which looked more like instruments of torture and not of beauty. At 11 AM we returned to the shops to be led by Marlin Uhrich on a tour of the shops where we were shown several tools and a couple of 15 inch locomotives. We were shown a locomotive that was in the shop for a checkup that belongs to the Denver Zoo and while the drive rods and all are complete and correct the locomotive is actually driven by a small diesel engine in the tender. They also gave us a demonstration of how they cast parts. We then moved to the Thain Ranch for a BBQ lunch of Hotdogs and Hamburgers. Then came the fun time. We boarded a gondola car of the Comanche Crossing & Eastern Railroad and were connected to their Diesel electric switching loco and were pulled and pushed around their figure eight track. Then we were connected to Uhrich locomotive number 1 and again taken around the track which included a trestle

and a tunnel before we returned to the picnic area to set and swap stories. We would like to thank Marlin Uhrich, Robert and Joan Thain, and all the Volunteers for a great day.



Steam loco of the Comanche Crossing & Eastern

Denver Zoo loco in for checkup

### **Durango & Silverton Trip**

We had beautiful weather all the way to Durango. After check in we headed up the road to catch the trains coming back from Silverton. We waited for about an hour when a train finally came and of course we took many photos. We were going to stay and wait for the next train but it was getting late and we were hungry. We did hear the whistle of the second train around 7pm.

On Saturday we were at the depot by 7am so we could board by 7:30am. We left on time and there was a slight chill in the morning air so a light jacket was welcomed. As the trip progressed the jackets came off. We started seeing the aspens a few miles from Silverton. A few of us got some cinders in our eyes but finally were able to work them out.

Our brakeman, Dillon, is in his third year with the D&S and used to be a member of the Youth in Model Railroading until he reached 18. Dillon was into "HO" and has now converted to "N", am I a bad influence or what!!! Dillon and a couple of other "N" scales are trying to form a club so they can setup in the mall during Christmas season.

After a long day of train riding and photo shooting we met a classmate of mine and his wife and headed to the Palace restaurant for dinner. Glad we had reservations as the place was packed. Service was a little slow but gave us a chance to visit and relax. The meal was excellent so the wait was worth it.



Watching the train Friday night

Aspen view and yellow rocks by EPA





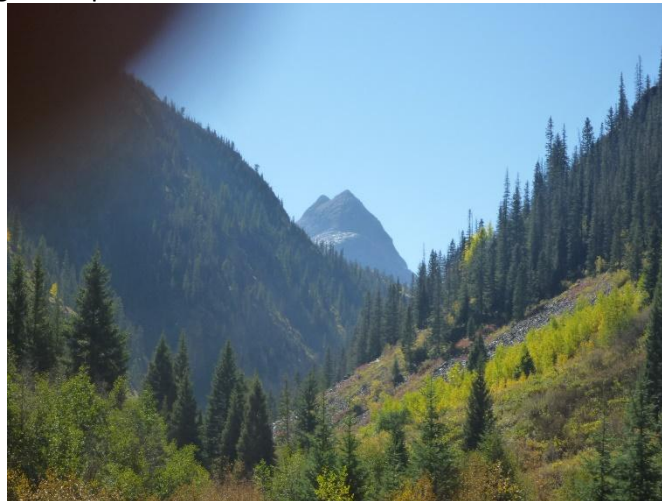
Aspen view

Dillon helping passengers disembark

We found out why the trains were late on Friday. The first train up broke a concentric rod on Locomotive 480 and had to wait for three hours for temporary repairs. The train we saw Friday night was actually train #2. The train crew babied the train back into Durango and that night. The night crew replaced the cracked rod so 480 was ready to run in the morning.

On Sunday we met for breakfast then headed back going our different ways. Lester, Rick & Scott road with the Peck's and so we took the back roads into Chama to see if we could get a shot of 168. At the Chama Depot we found out that 168 was in the engine house in Antonito. We spent some time walking the yards and taking photos then headed out. The aspens on the way to Antonito were spectacular so had a few more photo opts. Upon arriving in Antonito we noticed the engine house doors were closed so didn't try to stop and take photos.

We stopped in Villa Grove to eat and go pottery shopping then hit the road again. We got into the Springs in time to take photos of the super moon from the Peck's driveway. Then everyone headed home. All in all it was a great trip.



Movie buffs will recognize this shot from some old westerns.



The replaced concentric rod that broke



Mary in the Chama yards