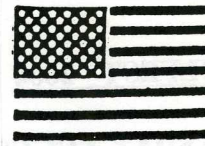


# TRACK N' FEATHERS



The Galloping Goose Historical Society of Dolores, Inc.

## SPRING & SUMMER, 2004

### Six-Year Maintenance

In preparation for Escalante Days in Dolores and Railfest in Durango and Silverton, all twelve wheels of Dolores' Goose No. 5 were removed for maintenance this spring by the Society. This is the first time they have been off the vehicle since the restoration of No. 5 was completed in 1998. Since 1998, the Galloping Goose has travelled over 7,000 miles. All bearings were dismantled, along with milling the wheel treads and brake shoes, as a safety precaution as summer runs approach. Although seven tons, the weight of Goose 5, is light by railroad standards, even so rails, wheels, and bearings "take a beating" in nearly 8,000 miles of travel. Goose No. 5 celebrated her 71st birthday on June 8. In view of the age of this machinery, the GGHS is extra cautious about safety. Nielsons Skanska and Frontier Machine Shop, both long time generous benefactors of the Society, performed all the machining where real know-how was required for such exacting work. As always, their expert machinists have done superb work on the running gear of Dolores' antique darling machine. Strange to say, No. 5 is probably in better mechanical condition today than it was when completed in 1933, when the Ridgway shop of the R.G.S. finished piecing together left-over odds and ends of machinery to create this ingenious rail travelling vehicle. The R.G.S. mechanics made heroic efforts to offset the Great Depression in Western Colorado's high mountains. We are blessed with their ingenuity to these many years after that depression.



Late Spring 2004 - Trucks (wheel sets) Being Removed for Maintenance

