

# TRACK N' FEATHERS



*The Galloping Goose Historical Society of Dolores, Inc.*

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## SPRING 2012

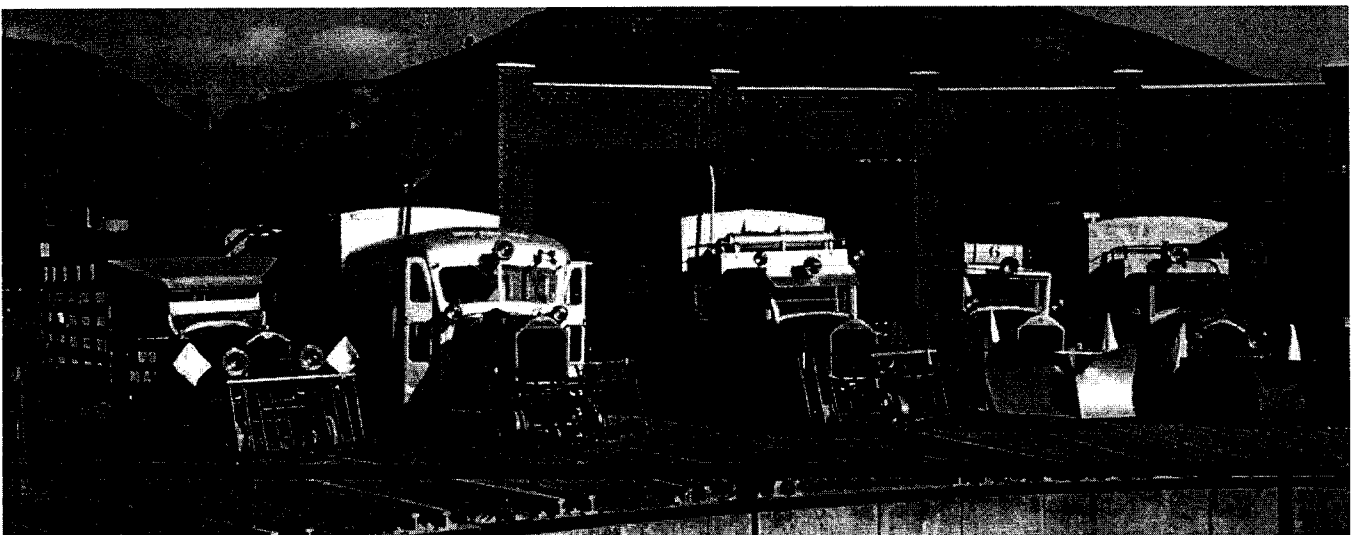
### GOOSE FEST 2012:

### All Seven Galloping Geese Together After 60 Years

For the first time in sixty years—since abandonment of the Rio Grande Southern Railroad in 1952—all seven Galloping Geese will gather in one place! The Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden, Colorado will sponsor Goose Fest with all seven Galloping Geese over Fathers Day weekend, June 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. This is a once in a lifetime event, so plan on being there if you can!

The event is made possible by the successful restoration of Goose No. 4 by the Ridgway Railroad Museum in Ridgway, Colorado and by an agreement reached to bring Goose No. 3 from Knott's Berry Farm in Buena Park, California. No. 4 which belongs to the Telluride, Colorado Volunteer Fire Dept., is the last Goose to be restored. No. 3 on the other hand is the longest operating Goose, having been a major feature at Knott's Berry Farm since it was purchased in 1952 when the Rio Grande Southern was abandoned. Also traveling to the event are Karl Shaeffer's beautiful replica of Motor No. 1 from the Ridgway Railroad Museum and our Goose No. 5 from Dolores! Because the original No. 1 was scrapped in 1933, before the term "galloping goose" was used, No. 1 is referred to as "Motor," which was the official RGS name for the vehicles. The visiting Geese will join Geese Nos. 2, 6, and 7 that reside at the CRRM in Golden.

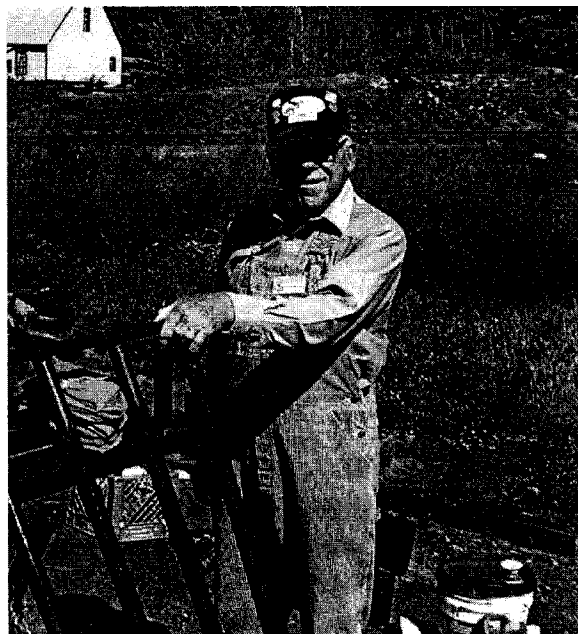
This will be a special event with opportunities to ride the larger Geese Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 7 throughout both days. The smaller Geese, Nos. 1, 2, and 6, will be running but have limited seating capacity and will require purchase of a special VIP package in order to ride on them. You will need to contact the CRRM for details. The hours at the CRRM are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and it is located at 17155 W. 44th Avenue, Golden, CO 80403. Phone numbers for information are 303-279-4591 and 800-365-6263; their web address is [www.coloradorailroadmuseum.org](http://www.coloradorailroadmuseum.org).



*Shown above are five of the seven Galloping Geese that will be in Golden, Colorado on June 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. This photo was taken in 2009 when the first "reunion" took place. Left to right, they are No. 1 (replica from Ridgway); No. 5 (GGHS, Dolores); No. 7 (CRRM, Pierce Arrow body); No. 6 (CRRM, the "work goose"); and No. 2 (CRRM, smaller, two truck version that still has its freight box). Geese 3 and 4 have Wayne bus bodies and are very similar to No. 5.*

## A Friend of No. 5 Passes

Fred Springer of Santa Fe, NM, a long time supporter and close friend of the GGHS died on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Fred was an ardent railroad fan and was particularly fond of the RGS and the Galloping Geese. We met Fred shortly after the GGHS formed, and from that time on, he was a dedicated and generous supporter. He occasionally served as a crew member and is shown below on the left likely entertaining passengers with stories about the time he road Goose No. 3 in 1950 on the RGS as a young man. Below the photos of Fred is a remembrance of Fred by GGHS board member Larry Spencer.



Both photos by Larry Spencer

Fred Springer was directly and intimately involved with the Galloping Goose Historical Society pretty much from its beginning in 1987. Because of his love of the Rio Grande Southern and the Geese he kind of took Galloping Goose No. 5 under his wing, personally seeing to it that it was able to operate on a couple of occasions when it looked like we would not be able to! He also was one of the principal benefactors when the Society purchased RGS Passenger Coach 256 in 1999.

On a personal level Fred was a great friend! He was always fun to be around and always seemed to be in a good mood! His wife, Dale, is also a pleasure to be with – she is a very nice lady. Fred could keep any group of railfans entertained for hours with fascinating stories of his railroad adventures from all over the world! On those occasions when he was a member of the Galloping Goose No. 5 crew, he was an absolute pleasure to work with. Our passengers had nothing but good to say about him after their ride – they just couldn't help but like the man and all his interesting stories. He was also a valuable asset to the crew from the operating standpoint. He loved working onboard the Goose as a crew member! When I was the Motorman I relied on him many times for special duties like helping passengers on photo run-bys or as a flagger when we were stopped on the main for one reason or another. He'd also jump in and get his hands dirty when needed! In the above right picture you'll see him helping out with a slight mechanical issue with the Goose on top of Cumbres Pass a few years ago. And of course, as a devoted railroad photographer, he always had good ideas as to where a good photo run-by location might be – he had his favorites!

A great man has left us but his spirit and legacy will live on! I am really going to miss him!

Larry Spencer

2011 – 2012 Membership

Due on 9/1/2011

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- \$30.00.....Individual Annual
- \$40.00.....Family Annual
- \$50.00.....Business Annual
- \$500.00.....Life Member
- \$1,000.00.....Patron
- \$5,000.00.....Benefactor

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Special Donations:

- Galloping Goose No. 5 on-going maintenance..... \_\_\_\_\_
- RGS Passenger Coach 256 restoration..... \_\_\_\_\_
- GGHS General Operating Fund ..... \_\_\_\_\_

**Souvenir Items:**

- Galloping Goose **baseball cap** (embroidered)..... \$18.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_
- Galloping Goose **baseball cap** (ironed-on patch)..... \$18.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_
- Chasing the Narrow Gauge , Vol. 1 & 2**(book)..... \$64.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_
- Chasing the Narrow Gauge , Vol. 3, Bob Richardson's Rio Grande Southern** (book)..... \$64.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_
- \*NEW BOOK\* Tin Feathers, Wooden Trestles, and Iron Men: The Galloping Geese of the Rio Grande Southern Railroad** \$14.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_
- R.G.S. Story (Sundance Books)** 12 vol. set – call for pricing and availability... \_\_\_\_\_
- Sunset On The Rio Grande Southern** (book)  
Autographed Special (Vol. 2 only)..... \$35.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_
- Return Of The RGS (DVD) Bowyer Productions**  
3 film special edition..... \$25.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_
- Railroad Classics (DVD) Bowyer Productions**  
6 film special edition..... \$25.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_
- T-shirts – Adult,**  
(Please circle size) S, M, L, XL, XXL..... \$17.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_
- T-shirts – Child,**  
(Please circle size) 6-8, 10-12, 14-16..... \$12.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_
- Galloping Goose silver pen..... \$4.00 each or 2 for \$7.00 \_\_\_\_\_
- Lapel pin..... \$6.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_
- Mouse Pad with #5 at Taft Trestle on D&S** ..... \$14.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_
- Galloping Goose No. 5 at the Dolores Depot in 1950**  
(Coker painting – signed print 12x18)..... \$28.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_
- Galloping Goose No. 5 painting in watercolor**  
By H.L. Scott 12x18..... \$25.00 (ea) \_\_\_\_\_



Running Goose



GGHS Logo

All prices include shipping and handling within the U.S.

Colorado residents please add 3% sales tax.....

GRAND TOTAL.....

Credit Card type ( ) # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Check or Money Order also accepted – Check or Money Order # \_\_\_\_\_

## Three More Exciting Excursions Scheduled This Summer

In addition to Goose Fest at the Colorado Railroad Museum in June, we have three more excursions in 2012, two on the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad and one on the Durango and Silverton. Dates for the excursions are listed below, along with contact information for the host railroads. For daily schedules, departure times, ticket prices and reservations you'll need to contact the host railroads.

### **Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad**

**[www.cumbrestoltec.com](http://www.cumbrestoltec.com) or call 1-888-286-2737**

**July 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>—Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad.** New this year is a Moonlight/Dinner Special on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. No. 5 will depart Chama in the afternoon, with dinner at Osier and return in the light of a full moon! A Fourth of July Special includes a barbeque dinner and entertainment at Cumbres Pass and VIP seating for the fireworks display upon return to Chama.

**Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>—Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad.** In addition to the spectacular fall colors, there will be another Moonlight/Dinner Special during the full moon on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **The Durango & Silverton Railroad—True West Railfest**

**[www.durangotrain.com](http://www.durangotrain.com) or call 1-888-872-4607**

**Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>—True West Railfest.** Highlights include trips with visiting Eurika and Palasade No. 4, tours of the Tacoma Power Plant, and runs from Durango to Silverton and Silverton to Durango.

**The following events are scheduled at the GGHS Museum this summer.**

**Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>—**The Museum opens for the summer season. It will be open daily Monday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup>/Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup>—**Escalante Days in Dolores. On Saturday Goose No. 5 will operate every hour on the hour, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. On Sunday at 9:00 a.m., Lew Matis will again lead a half day, car and walking tour of the New Mexico Lumber Company's logging railroads that operated north of Dolores from 1926 to 1938.



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