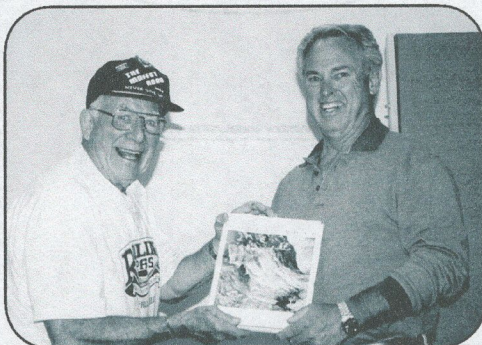


THE DREAM KEEPER

FROM THE PRESIDENT

SEPTEMBER 2001



Dr. Dave Neil receives Moffat Road Book from Dan Straight.
Photo by Juanita Straight

1. This edition is a bit late due to the tragedy in New York City, at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania. What a horrendous loss and such devastation. It was unbelievable to witness the mass destruction and loss of life on television. I hope and pray the ones responsible will be identified and that our country can proceed in a controlled manner to gain justice without escalation to full-scale war.

2. Our picnic at Ranch Creek Wye was **OUTSTANDING**. Nita and I arrived at Idlewild Campground to set up on Friday. We drove up the pass Saturday and 4-wheeled over the Wagon Road. The weather was perfect and the road in fairly good shape. There were a number of others on the pass. On Sunday morning we went back up to Ranch Creek Wye to set up for the picnic. Ken Shaffer, Don Neuman, Randy and Su Eckhardt arrived early to help set up. Then from down the road we heard a train whistle. It sounded like the Moffat was back in business. On each cure the whistle shrilled and we looked for a train to come into

view. It was Dwight Miller and Jean who drove up pulling a large air compressor on a trailer. Dwight had mounted a 1905 railroad whistle in the pickup bed and the compressor provided the air. The area was filled with the sound of railroad memories. Las year Warren and Helen Donahue brought a railroad bell on top of their pickup. What a thrill! We had a number of attendees get to pull the rope. Others held their ears. Harvey Radke came from Wisconsin with real cheese. Clyde Brehm came by AMTRAC into Denver from California and brought Joe Luphur along. The companionship, weather and food were outstanding. It would be impossible to list the dishes that were placed on the tables to share. Of course we had hotdogs grilled by daughter Su, Nita's baked beans, watermelon and a half dozen choices of cookies, cake and brownies. A big surprise was Brian Adams, who designed our Rollins Pass logo, who presented me with a large carved RPRRA wooden logo. Thanks again Brian. "Harv" Radke had written saying he could not attend Annual Meetings and wanted to see what was presented. To satisfy him I loaded our generator in the back of my pickup and using a rear projector screen, tarp and slide projector gave my slide presentation of the history of the wagon road and Moffat Road. Then it was time to take down, load up and end a great day. Thanks to those that helped. Many drove on up to Corona, others went back to visit the cemetery at Arrow.

3. On September 14 Nita and I drove back up to Winter Park to attend the Great Outdoors Colorado, Colorado State Trails Symposium, at the Iron Horse Resort. The recreational trails grant program has been expanded to include Off-Highway Vehicle Grants. I was invited to attend by Gene King, Land Use Chairman, of the Colorado Association of 4-Wheel Drive Clubs. On Saturday, Nita attended the grant information program while I presented my program on Rollins Pass and the Moffat Road to another group. It was well received and following the presentation many went up the pass with bicycles and hiking plans. I gave them copies of our Tour Guides. The Moffat Road qualifies as an Off Highway Vehicle Road. RPRRA CAN APPLY FOR A GRANT. After reading the material; with three counties, the Forest Service, and the Colorado Historic Society involved we must apply for a grant. We have contacts with cities, Chambers of Commerce, newspapers and many others who can write on our behalf. I can also add that the Amendment offered by U.S. Representative Scott McInnis to the James Peak Wilderness proposal by U.S. Representative Mark Udall includes the provision of technical assistance and cooperation in repairing the Rollins Pass road sufficiently to allow two-wheel drive vehicles to travel between Colorado State Highway 119 and U.S. Highway 40. So I am asking for your assistance. Who has grant preparation experience? The paperwork must be submitted by November 30, 2001. Please call or Email me. Phone (303) 772-9475, Fax (303) 774-0281, Email straight@peakpeak.com

Rollins Pass Restoration Association

P.O. Box 1082 • Longmont, Colorado • 80502-1082



4. With new auto Tour Signs a number of people have asked if they could buy one. The signs are 8 1/4" X 15 1/4" on 1/8" aluminum, reflective background, with our train engine imprinted. A cost of \$25.00 plus postage has been established. We thank all who contributed to the sign project and maybe we will make a profit by selling them. (Anything to make a bit of money)

5. We have had a number of members include notes or letters stating their first time to drive the pass, even ride the train over, and why they are interested in the area and want to contribute to RPRA. I have been at it since 1982 and really am proud to represent you and this organization. If you would take time and drop a line to give your background and interest I would like to collate a description of our membership. If you wish these can be sent to me by e-mail at straight@peakpeak.com. Or mail to our P.O. Box 1082, Longmont CO 80502.

6. The Annual Picnic is on the Westside at Ranch Creek Wye... See the notice.

Dan E. Straight
President