



October 2005

THE DREAM KEEPER

1 The picnic was great. I don't remember ever having such glorious weather. We have had rain, hail, snow, and of course wind but not this year. I sure thank the individuals that pitched in to set up the dining fly and screen around



Robert Frahm traveled from Kansas to play an American tribute on Rollins Pass

the throne. This time the old striped dining fly was used to block hot sunshine. We had 41 members attend. V.P. Ron Cheyney brought wife Regina, Secretary Matt Gaudynski and Karen Lucier. Treasurer Randy Eckhardt and family came. So all of our Board attended. Robert Frahm came from Wichita, Kansas with his coronet and provided music. It certainly is appropriate to have patriotic music as background in such a beautiful setting. Thank You Bob! Clyde Brehm came from Vallejo, California accompanied by Shea O'Leary. They traveled Amtrak into Denver, and then rented a vehicle to come up the Pass. The food was outstanding as usual. Juanita even baked beans which were all cleaned up. Sue Eckhardt grilled hot dogs and chicken wings. Winners of the raffle were: Lewis Hedrick (cap); Jeanette Headrick (T-shirt); Al Glassburn won the original Forest Service Tour Guide written by Rev.

E.T. Bollinger and Forrest Crossen. A number of attendees hiked the area and climbed to Jenny Lake. I should add that I used a cane on the uneven ground, but my new hip is doing well, as is Juanita's knee replacement.

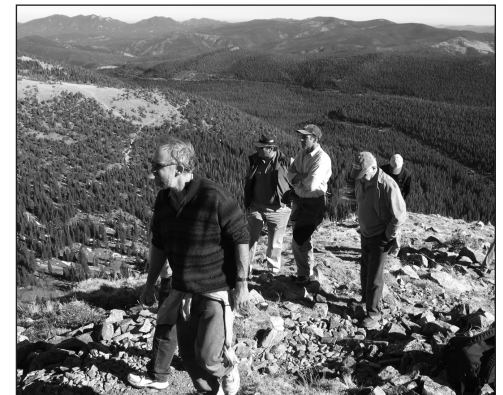
2 The visit by commissioners to the tunnel and trestles was on October 7th. I received a letter from the Boulder County Commissioners stating they would attend. Ron Cheyney drove me up to Rollinsville to meet the group. We were to meet at the Stage Stop at 2 pm where Marshall Mills provided iced tea, cokes and chips as we waited for everyone else to arrive. Gilpin County Commissioner, Jeanne Nicholson, called to say that the Gilpin County Commissioners would be in meetings at the Statehouse in Denver, but all were familiar with the Pass. Grand



Beautiful weather at the Rollins Pass Annual Picnic with 41 members attending

County Commissioner, Duane Dailey, arrived to lead the group. Scott Bruntjen, with the Tourism Board of Western Boulder County joined us. Then, Boulder Commissioners Will Toor, Ben Pearlman and Tom Mayer arrived and after discussing the trip we headed up the Pass.

We arrived at the road-block below Needles Eye Tunnel. Ron accompanied the group while I stayed in the truck. I don't have the stamina for hiking yet. They went up to the tunnel, looked in, even climbed to the top of the concrete barrier, then climbed over the top to the west side of the tunnel. A bit of snow was starting to gather but the tunnel floor is still clear of fallen rocks.



The Rollins Pass Commissioners climb over the tunnel

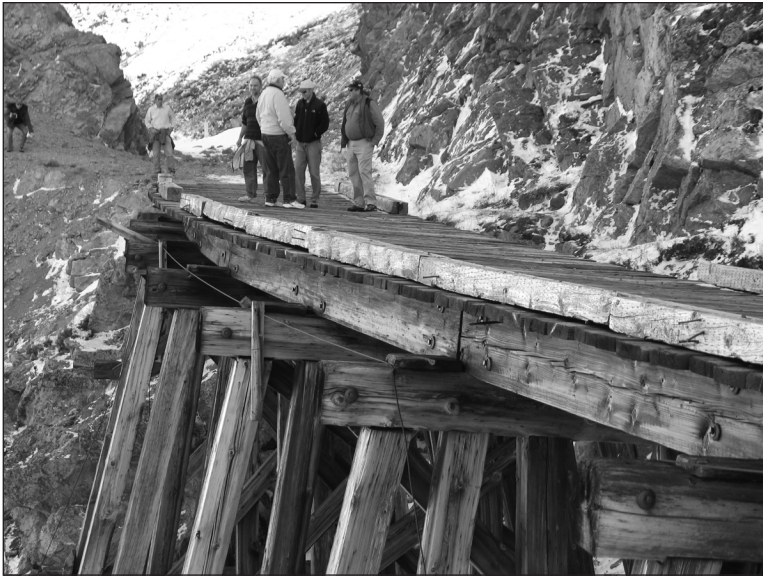
Then they hiked on to the trestles and walked across discussing their status. Snow was starting to build up and it was turning cold by now as the sun got lower. The group started to return. Scott Bruntzen and two of the Boulder commissioners walked the Wagon Road down to Yankee Doodle Lake. It was after 5 pm when we started down. The trip was very positive.

3 The Commissioners are now planning another meeting; this time in Boulder with U.S. Representative Mark Udall present.

Dan E. Straight
President



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**The Commissioners
walking out on the trestle**

Photographs by Ron Cheyney