

# THE DREAM KEEPER

"Never Give Up!"

Summer

## ANNUAL PICNIC HAS NEW LOCATION

The Dream Keeper staff and RPRA Board are hopeful you are surviving the summer. It seems as though the weather has been a little 'crazy' in a number of places: Many too WET and many more way too DRY! Can you believe there is still a little snow at Needles Eye Tunnel?

We are hoping for nice weather for the **ANNUAL PICNIC** (Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:00 noon). **NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATION!** It will be 1 block West at the turnoff in Rollinsville (CO 119). Look on the left side of the road. There will be signs posted. We are looking forward to re-connecting with our RPRA family and meeting some of our new friends and members. Bring a dish to share, a lawn chair, an extra 'fly' (portable canopy) would be nice to keep out the sun. RPRA will furnish soda, hot dogs, buns and watermelon. We'll see you there!

## Annual Meeting Review

The RPRA Annual Meeting was held on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Longmont Public Library. One of our newest LIFE Members, Ed Lehman, attended accompanied by his bride, Connie. We welcomed another new LIFE member, Robert Robinson, of Harker Heights, TX.

The group was told about contacts our members have made on behalf of the Rollins Pass Restoration Association:

Ron reminded us of his acquaintance with Don Deere, the tunnel expert. He is still in contact with Mr. Deere and would like more of the Board to meet with him. At that time we will make plans for an opportunity when the weather might allow us to take Mr. Deere up to the top for his assessment of the potential for repairing and reopening the Needles Eye Tunnel.

Juanita, Su, and Steve Green met with Patricia Calhoun, editor of the WESTWORD newspaper on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Patricia indicated she would investigate and consider a story on our efforts to reopen the Tunnel. At this point we are still waiting for further word.

The Board was contacted by the

Travel Channel and informed of their intention to include the Rollins Pass Road on an episode entitled "America's Wildest Roads". At the time of the Dream Keeper's publication, only initial contacts have been made along with our invitation to join us at the Annual Picnic.

Election of Officers for 2011 - 2012 was held. The present Board is willing to continue with their positions: Juanita Straight and Su Eckhardt, Co-Presidents, Ron Cheyney, Vice President, Marvin Burke, Secretary, Randy Eckhardt, Treasurer, and Alan Rogers, Honorary Consulting Engineer.

A highlight of the evening was Jack Reed's slideshow of his snowmobile tour up part of the West side of the pass during April. Now, we can also attest to the fact that there was LOTS of snow over there this year. Jack's family said that it was a great adventure. Jack was sorry more of us were not there. Thanks, Jack, for making it possible for us to see what the area looks like in winter through your lens.

Jack was also thanked for being our Moffat Road Web Master [http://moffatroad.org/RPRA/RPRA\\_Home.htm](http://moffatroad.org/RPRA/RPRA_Home.htm)

and monitoring our Facebook page <http://on.fb.me/q9PNC2>. There have been some interesting discussions on Facebook. Including asking how were you first "hooked" on Rollins Pass and the Tunnel? RPRA recommends you check it out. **It is an** I am sure membership has grown from the additional Internet exposure. This year, we had a request from a couple who wanted information on a "wedding site" on the West side. We're looking forward to seeing the wedding photos posted and where the couple ended up holding their ceremony. The rumor-mill says they also honeymooned on the Pass. It's wonderful to hear of new Moffat Road memories beginning.

In the May Dream Keeper we asked you, the membership, to write letters to your Senators, County Commissioners, the Forest Service, and even the President. Your Board is interested in whether you have answers from any of your letters? A few **people** members and interested supporters have notified us of whom they contacted and if there was a response. Please send us an e-mail at [straight2u@msn.com](mailto:straight2u@msn.com) or [seckhardt@q.com](mailto:seckhardt@q.com), a call will also be fine to: 303-730-3600.



PO Box 1082  
Longmont, CO  
80502-1082

## "Rails Over Hell Hill"

There are still a few copies of Art Wainwright's DVD "Rails Over Hell Hill" available. The cost is \$10. for members and \$15. for non-members and libraries. Orders may be

sent with check to P.O. Box 1082 Longmont, CO 80502 or by email to [straight2U@msn.com](mailto:straight2U@msn.com) followed with a check to the RPRRA snail mail address.

### -- A Special Thank You --

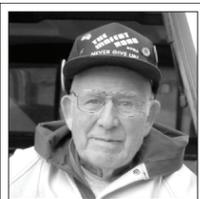
A thank you goes to Lynnette Presley Goebel for sharing her Blog comments and link on The Moffat Road Facebook page. She discusses various trips up the hill in an entry entitled, Corona "Top of the World" Memories" at [www.deepeningroots.wordpress.com](http://www.deepeningroots.wordpress.com).

Her closing line says it all:

*A temporary railway over the Continental Divide has left its mark on the mountain and on the people who still love the thrill of discovery, the tug of history, and the lonesome call of the train whistle.*

### Rollins Pass Restoration Association

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



Our Founder, Col. Dan Straight



Needle's Eye Tunnel, East Portal



Needle's Eye Tunnel, Wire Mesh is doing it's job!

### Rollins Pass Restoration Association Board of Directors

*Co-Presidents:* Juanita Straight & Su Eckhardt

*Vice President:* Ron Cheyney

*Secretary:* Marvin Burke

*Treasurer:* Randy Eckhardt

*Members-at-Large:*

Gary Edelmaier, Jack Reed & Errol Salter

*Honorary Consulting Engineer:* Alan Rogers