

28. February, 2021

Tourist Railways Featuring Operating Steam Locomotives

New Jersey

Whippany, New Jersey

Regarding Whippany Railway Museum's ongoing restoration of former U. S. Army 4039, 0-6-0 (ALCO / Schenectady 70421 / 1942): "The new firebox has returned to Mammoth Boiler Works in Colorado and will soon be joined to the new barrel. Once that is done, the new tubes can be installed." – Posted on the Railway & Preservation News BBS on 12. February, 2021 by Al Holleuffer.

Whippany Railway Museum: <http://www.whippanyrailwaymuseum.net/>

West Virginia

Ridgeley, West Virginia

On 08. February, 2021, the Cumberland Times-News reported that, following an inspection of its permanent way, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) determined before the operation of tourist trains may be resumed, Western Maryland Scenic Railroad must purchase and install 50,000 new sleepers (crossties) at an estimated cost of EUR 1.65€ million (USD \$2 million).

- Western Maryland Scenic Railroad 1309, 2-6-6-2 (BLW 74278 / 1949), ex-Chesapeake & Ohio 1309, serviceable

Western Maryland Scenic Railroad: <https://wmsr.com/>

Ohio

Mount Vernon, Ohio

On 05. February, 2021, the American Steam Railroad posted a link to an update regarding repair progress to Reading 2100.

- Reading 2100, 4-8-4 (Reading Company Shops [no builder's number] / 1945), Reading class T-1. This locomotive was extensively rebuilt from Reading 2020, 2-8-0 (BLW [builder's number unknown] / 1925), Reading class I-10sa

American Steam Railroad: <https://www.americansteamrailroad.org/>

Colorado

Como, Colorado

- Klondike Mines 4, 2-6-2 (BLW 37564 / 1912), 36-inch gauge, "Klondike Kate"

The South Park Rail Society have changed their Internet address. One public event is planned for 2021: Boreas Pass Railroad Day, scheduled for 21. August, 2021.

South Park Rail Society: <http://dspphs.org/>

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New Mexico

Chama, New Mexico

C&TS will operate regular, steam-powered tourist trains during the period 05. June – 24. October, 2021.

C&TS 489 is under repair, expected to be ready for 2021 tourist train operations.

- Cumbres & Toltec 489, 2-8-2 (BLW 58590 / 1929), D&RGW class K-36

“A lot of work is happening at the C&TS on K-36 locomotives! 489 in Antonito is nearing the end of her 1472, smokebox replacement, and oil conversion. Super heater units are being prepared for reinstallation, and indicator boxes and the headlight have been painted with high performance urethane for long term durability. In Chama the boiler repairs on 488 are well under way with the inner throat sheet components being trimmed and prepared for installation. On the outer throat sheet, cracking in several staybolt sleeve holes was uncovered and a patch will be installed to eliminate these problem areas.”



In addition to normal tourist trains operated during summer and fall months, during the period 21. - 29. August, 2021, C&TS plan to stage, "Victorian Iron Horse Round-up," a week-long event during which several 19th century steam locomotives will power special trains between Antonito, Colorado and Chama, New Mexico.

A list of potential locomotives planned to be featured at the “Victorian Iron Horse Round-up” follows:

- D&RG 168, 4-6-0 (BLW 6670 / 1883), Denver & Rio Grande (D&RG) class T-12
- D&RG 425, 2-8-0 (BLW 14352 / 1895), originally Florence and Cripple Creek Railroad 315
- Eureka & Palisade 4, 4-4-0 (BLW 3763 / 1875), "Eureka"
- Carson & Tahoe Lumber & Fluming (C&TLF) 1, 2-6-0 (BLW (Burnham, Williams & Co.) 3712 / 1875), "Glenbrook." This is the oldest steam locomotive operating in USA.

Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad: <https://cumbrestoltec.com/>

Friends of the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad: <https://www.cumbrestoltec.org/>

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Arizona

Williams, Arizona

Grand Canyon Railway plans to resume operation of steam-powered tourist trains between Williams and Grand Canyon South Rim. Grand Canyon Railway plans to operate GCRY 4960 on the first Saturday of each month March through October, 2021. Additional details, including dates of planned steam operations, can be found on the Grand Canyon Railway website.

- Grand Canyon Railway 4960, 2-8-2 (BLW 56809 / 1923), former Chicago, Burlington & Quincy 4960, CB&Q class O-1A

Grand Canyon Railway: <https://www.thetrain.com/>

Nevada

East Ely, Nevada

On 02. February, 2021, Nevada Northern Railway announced a steam charter event sponsored by Trains Magazine to be staged on 08. – 09. – 10. October, 2021 featuring Nevada Northern 81. Cost: USD \$595.00 per person. Additional details are available at the Nevada Northern Railway website.

- Nevada Northern 81, 2-8-0 (BLW 45351 / 1917), under repair

Nevada Northern Railway: <https://nnry.com/>

California

Sunol, California

Niles Canyon Railway have announced dates during spring, 2021 on which a steam locomotive will be used to power tourist train excursions. All trains will depart from the Sunol, California depot:

13. – 14. & 21. March, 11. & 18. April and 09. & 16. May, 2021

The excursions scheduled for 13. – 14. March, 2021 will feature the operation of Robert Dollar 3:

- Robert Dollar 3, 2-6-2T (Alco / Schenectady 67544 / 1927)

Niles Canyon Railway: <https://www.ncry.org/>

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Alaska

Skagway, Alaska

Account COVID-19 travel restrictions, White Pass & Yukon (WP&Y) did not operate passenger trains in 2020. On 09. February, 2021, Trains Magazine reported that WP&Y operations in 2021 are also in jeopardy. Transport Canada issued a directive prohibiting ships carrying more than 100 passengers from docking at Canadian ports until February, 2022. Since most WP&Y passengers arrive via huge cruise ships which visit both Canadian and American ports, it is unlikely that 2021 will offer sufficient passengers to justify the operation of WP&Y trains.



Above: White Pass 69, 2-8-0 (BLW 32762 / 1908), 36-inch (914 millimeters) gauge, taking water at Fraser, British Columbia, Columbia, Canada. June 11, 2011. Image: Thomas R. Schultz

White Pass & Yukon: <https://wpyr.com/>