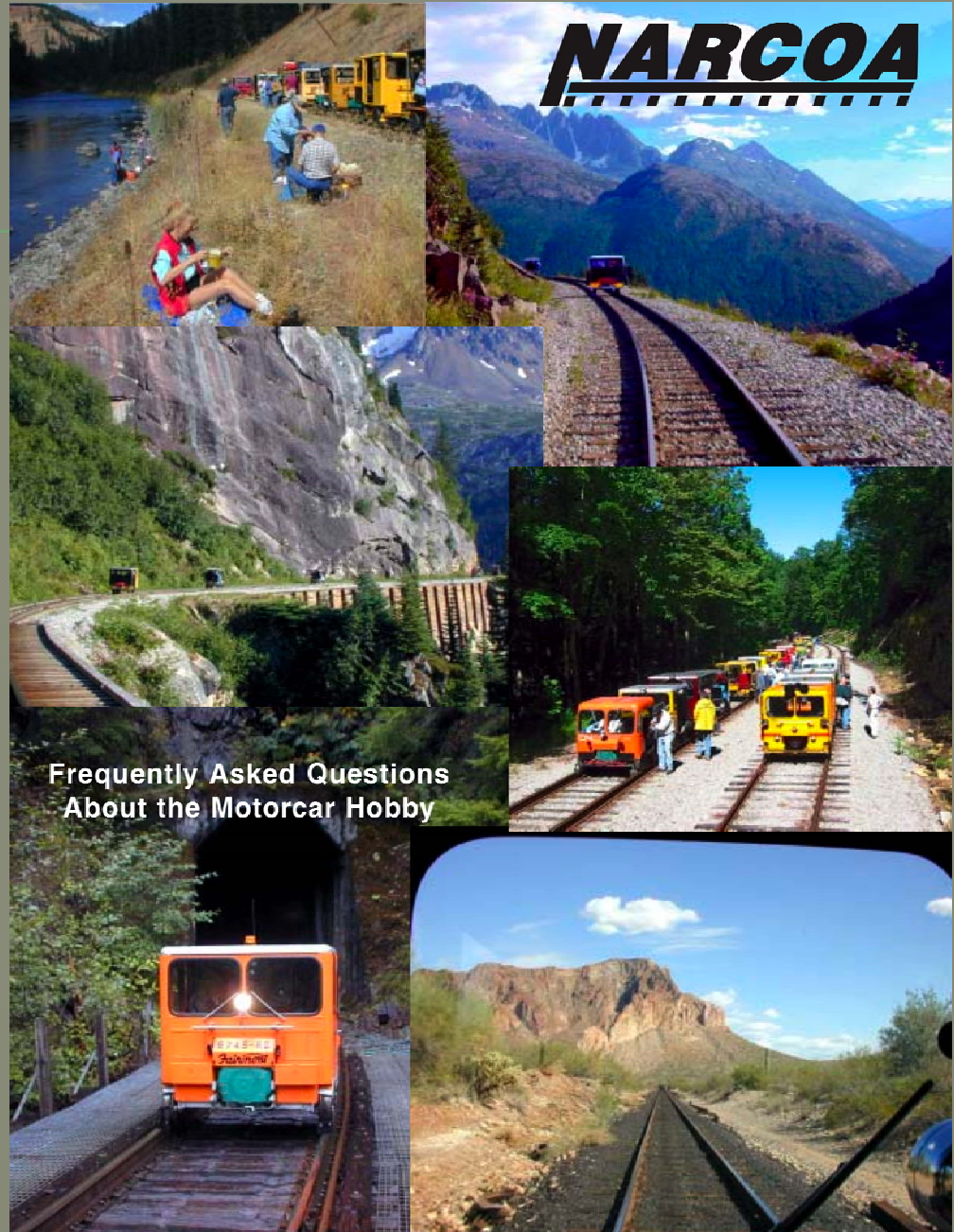




Motorcars & Speeders Riding the Rails

North American Railcar Operators Association



Who is NARCOA?

- **NARCOA, or the North American Railcar Operators Association, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and safe, legal operation of railroad equipment historically used for maintenance of way.**
- **NARCOA operates on up to 200 railroads every year all over North America, including short lines, regional railroads, and Class 1 railroads.**
- **NARCOA has over 1,800 members worldwide.**
- **NARCOA members are individuals, couples, and families.**

Why Do We Do This?

- Look where we've been!

- NARCOA Affiliates operate rail excursions annually in almost every State and Province in North America.
- We get to travel to places which can only be reached by rail, in some of the most beautiful sections of the Continent.
- We are people who enjoy railroads, and the camaraderie of others who do, too.

NARCOA Members come from all Walks of Life

- Our members are career teachers, mechanics, machinists, doctors and nurses, EMT's, musicians, salesmen, technicians, retired, and just folks.
- Some are professional railroaders; from operating companies and even former employees of the FRA.
- Professional railroaders who become members enjoy visiting and operating on rail properties which they would never have had the opportunity to see while on the job.

Various Interests of Members

- Social Aspects- Making New Friends
- Rebuilding and Maintaining Motorcars
- Seeing the Countryside from the Rails
- Traveling to Excursions

Affordability- Costs to Members

- The motorcar hobby is reasonably affordable
- A NARCOA ready motorcar can be bought for about \$5000.
- Dues and Insurance total about \$140 per year.
- Most weekend events cost about \$100-\$175, plus travel expenses.
- Week-long summer trips can cost considerably more, but are on a par with summer trips in general.

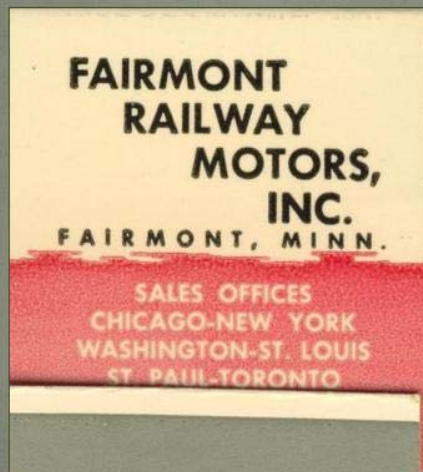
History- Railroad Maintenance of Way Vehicles

- ❖ Invention of the bicycle-like Velocipede- 1879
- ❖ Development of hand powered Pump Cars- 1890's
- ❖ Evolution as Rail Motorcars- 1920's
- ❖ Arrival of the Hy-Rail Truck- 1954
- ❖ Eventual retirement of Motorcars in favor of Hy-Rails by Railroads- 1985
- ❖ Beginning of hobby of recreational restoration and operation of Motorcars- 1985

Motorcar Makers

- Many Motorcars were built by Fairmont, now a part of Harsco.
- Other historical makes included Woodings, Buda, Kalamazoo, and more.

Fairmont Railway Motors, Inc.
It Can't Be Matched!



- The Velocipede was invented by George Sheffield in 1879 to get to work on the railroad- Railways saw the benefits and bought them.



Fig. 1. New Track Velocipede.



Fig. 2. New Track Velocipede with Toolbox and Extra Seat Attached.

- Here is a classic type of Velocipede- It was mostly made of wood- you pushed the handles back and forth to make it go.



- Hand powered Pump Cars were in use for many years, but Motors were soon offered as an improvement!



Types of railroad workers who used motorcars

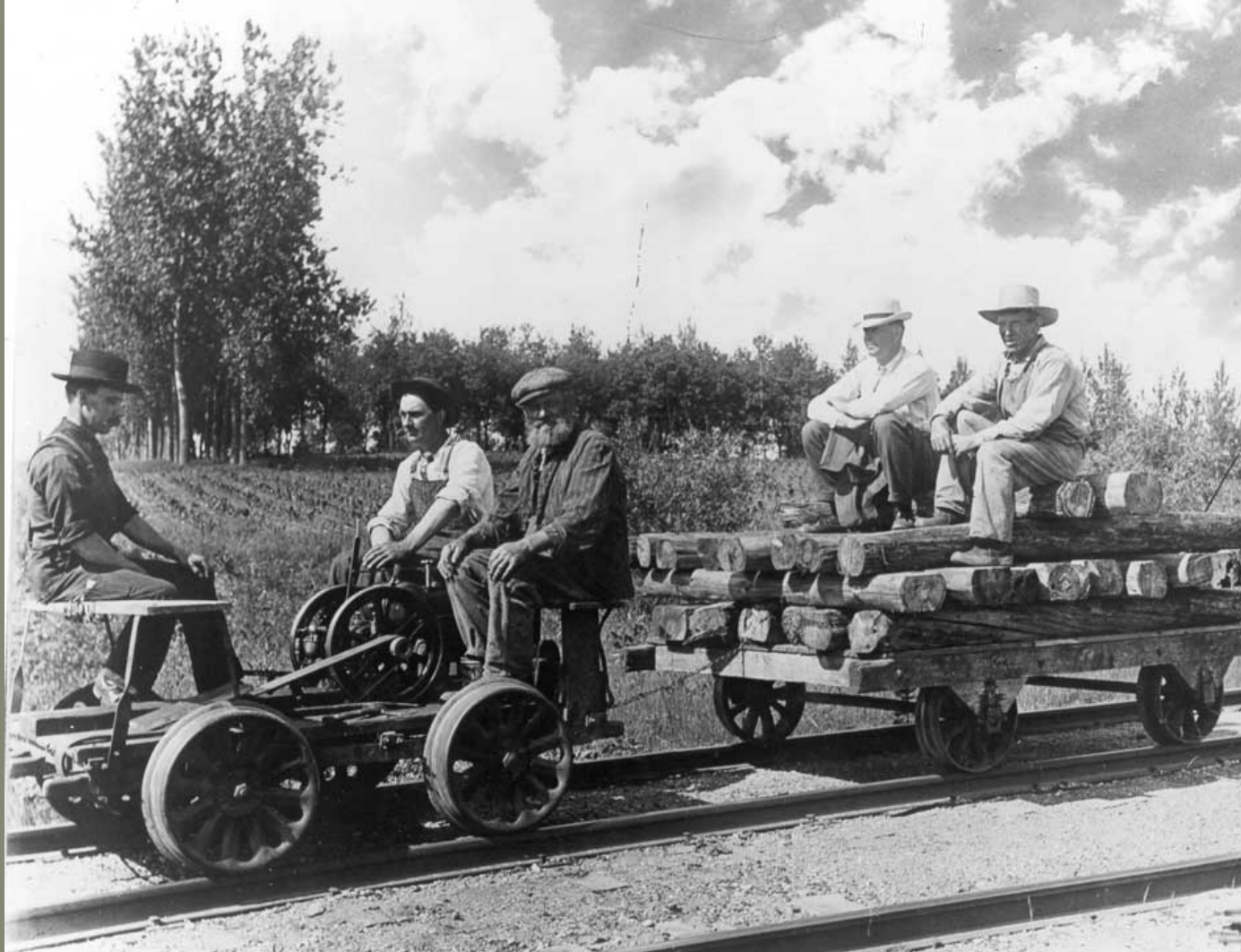
- ◆ Track Crews & Inspectors
- ◆ Signal Maintainers
- ◆ Bridge Maintainers
- ◆ Western Union
- ◆ Supervisors



- Section Gangs took care of 12 to 20 miles of track, riding to work on motorcars



- Motorcars often pulled trailers carrying track parts



- A more Modern motorcar- Track Inspector, 1960's



- A modern Hy-Rail Truck



NARCOA Rulebook

- The NARCOA rulebook is in force at all events.
- Our rulebook is based on motorcar rulebooks developed by the Class 1 railroads over many decades.
- Local Affiliate Clubs can add reasonable rules for a particular event.
- The Host Railroad can add or delete any rule to suit their requirements.

The logo for NARCOA, featuring the word "NARCOA" in a bold, italicized, sans-serif font. The letters are black with a white outline. Below the text are several horizontal black lines of varying lengths, creating a stylized underline effect.

**NORTH AMERICAN RAILCAR
OPERATORS ASSOCIATION**

Book of Rules

Version 6.3

Effective Date: January 1, 2009

This version supersedes all previous versions.

NARCOA Excursions

- NARCOA regional Affiliate Clubs are responsible for working with Railroads to secure and supervise Excursions
- Excursions may last just one day, covering only 25 miles
- Or they may last a week or ten days, covering 1000 miles, in more than one country.

- NARCOA has more than 20 regional Affiliate operating clubs, even one “Down Under”!



Railcar Operators of the Carolinas

Heart of the Heartlands Inc.



First Iowa Division

NERCA

Great Lakes Railcars

Atlanta Railcar Transportation LLC

NORTH CENTRAL RAILCARS, LTD

Volunteer Railroaders Association Inc.

Central PA Excursions

Southwest Railcar Limited

Fallen Flag Excursions, LLC



Australian Society of Section Car Operators



Benefits to Railroads

- NARCOA pays modest fees to railroads for the time and use of track. There are very few associated expenses for the railroad, so fees go straight to the railroad's bottom line.
- NARCOA charity donations are often made in the name of the host Railroad.
- NARCOA events can create good will for railroads with the local population- People love to see motorcars operate!
- NARCOA events can create activity on branch lines in order to keep citizens aware of a railroad presence.

Towing to the Site



How do we get there ?



Arriving in the morning



Getting on the tracks



Lining up....





Alaska
Railroad
2008

- Every event day is required to begin with a Safety Meeting, where the plan for the day is discussed.
- This is the same process used in Job Briefings in the Railroad industry all across North America.



- Here is a colorful photo of an annual “Motorcars Operators West” Affiliate excursion



THE 2009 PACIFIC NORTHWEST TOUR

- When help is needed, it is nice to have someone to watch!



Family Involvement-

- Kids over 5 enjoy it, too.



Central Montana Railroad
Sage Creek Bridge



Sage Creek Bridge
Central Montana Railroad
June 10, 2009

Denver & Rio Grande Railroad Creede Branch, Colorado



D&RG RR Creede Branch
Wagon Wheel Gap, CO
June 3, 2007

- Some members most enjoy the friendship and community that exists in the hobby...



West Virginia Central

The *“Railroad on Stilts”*

Great Northwest Railroad

(Former Camas Prairie Railroad- Lewiston, Idaho)



- Canadian National/BC Rail- Near Pemberton, BC



- A train meet south of Anchorage, on the Alaska Railroad- 2008



- When a motorcar group meets a train, excursion participants are required to remain outside the motorcars on the side opposite the live rails.

Alaska Railroad-2008



- Getting in the Clear-
Alaska Railroad- 2008



- Nenana Depot, Alaska
Alaska Railroad- 2008



- Passing coal Unit Train under catenary on formerly electrified line
CN Tumbler Ridge Subdivision, British Columbia- 2007



- Copper Canyon, Ferromex Railroad
Sierra Madre Mountains, Mexico- 2005



- Some excursions are held on Narrow Gauge railroads, which have a track width of three feet, instead of 4 feet, 8.5 inches Standard Gauge



Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad

- Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad- Railfest 2008



- Animas River Bridge crossing- Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad, Colorado- 2008



- Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad- 2008



- White Pass & Yukon Narrow Gauge Railroad
Skagway, Alaska 2007



- Excursions back East are just as pretty as out West-
Algoma Central, Ontario 2006



- “*Fall Mist*”, Georgia Northeastern Railroad
Blue Ridge, Georgia



- Great Smoky Mountain Railroad
Western North Carolina- 2008



- A Colorful Parade- St. Mary's Railroad, SE Georgia



St. Marys Railroad
St. Marys, GA
Nov 21, 2008

- Toys for Tots event
North Shore Railroad, Berwick, PA- 2008



Toys for Tots Run
North Shore Railroad
Berwick, PA
Dec 13, 2008





















Conway Scenic RR Crawford Depot, NH

