

Volume 2, 2019

New Mexico Steam Locomotive & Railroad Historical Society's Official Newsletter*

AT&SF 2926 NEWS



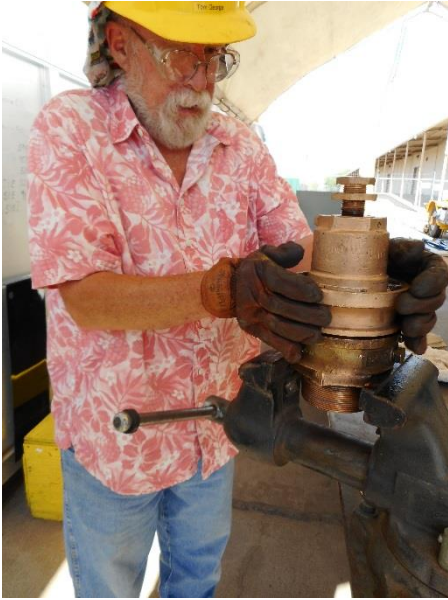
Running as third 23 "Grand Canyon", 2926 heads west through Summit, California in June 1952 with a military train consisting of seven 16-section tourist Pullmans likely bound for the Pacific port of embarkation at Fort MacArthur with troops headed for Korea. © 1952 by Don C. Richardson

* The NMSL&RHS Newsletter is changing. We'll present news as it occurs and work on new styles and formats to compliment the website (www.2926.us) and keep our members up to date as important things happen.

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THIRD TIME IS A CHARM: STEAM UP TO 290 PSI

Remember that the last fire up on July 29, 2019 was cut short at a boiler pressure of 265psi when the first safety valve opened prematurely. The July 29, 2019 steam up was a grand success in all other respects. Once the boiler was cooled and cleaned the three Coale safety valves were removed and disassembled. The newly remade valve springs were studied. The manufacturer, Diamond Wire and Spring Company of Texas agreed to remanufacture the springs under warranty after errors in their fabrication were discovered. The remade springs were received in September, a calibration device was manufactured, and the safety valves were adjusted.



Inside that valve is a really big spring.

The machinists built a test rig...



...that was used to set valve release pressure with a pressure transducer and nitrogen pressure.



On October 23rd, 2019 the crew loaded 6,000 gallons of water in the tender and another 6,000 gallons in the boiler and added a chemical brew of anti-scale agents, sulfites, and caustic under the direction of chemist Roger Jutte. The crew did a Wednesday walk through of steam up procedures and practiced getting up with a scissor lift to adjust safety valves during steam up.



Supervised by AT&SF 3751 CMO Bob Kittel, the crew began arriving at Thursday at 7:00 AM to spot the locomotive with the firebox over the pit, do a valve line up, and safety briefing.



Safety briefing by Safety Officer Jon Spargo.

Bob Kittel, 3751 CMO and Dan Lucero, FRA



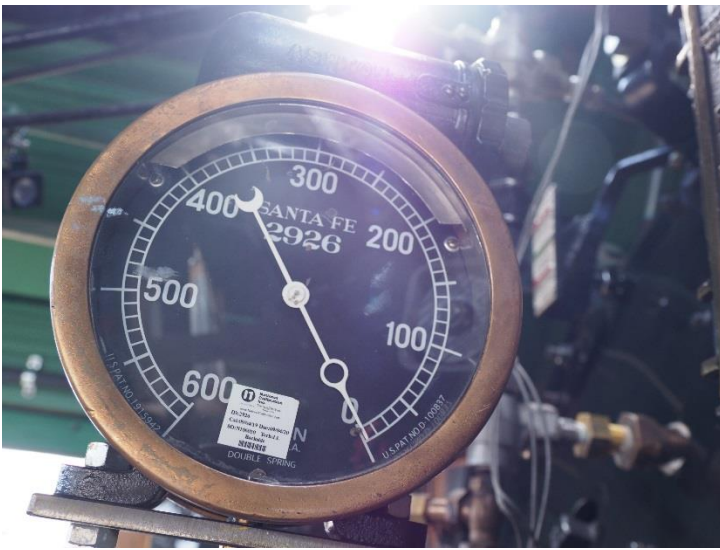
A rented high capacity air compressor was hooked up to run the atomizer and blower and the burner was first lit at 9:00AM and gained steady ignition at 9:28AM. The fire produced a barely perceptible thin gray haze.



A thin whisp turned into a steady column of steam as the boiler gained a temperature of 180°F.



The scissor lift got Tom George, Bill McSweeney and Bob Kittel up for a look at the valves.



With the vent closed the gauge needle just lifted off the pin at 1:35PM. A blowdown adjusted the water level in the boiler as the pressure rose at 2:24PM.



At 2:40PM the fire was killed with about 150psi in the boiler. Henry opened the root valve and Bob Kittel switched the atomizer and blower to steam. The fire was promptly re-lit.



At 3:00PM when the pressure reached 296psi the first safety released. (The lower two valves were caged so they could not lift.) A few turns of the wrench by Pecos Bill adjusted the valve's huddling ring (to control the pressure at which the valve would close itself). The boiler pressure

was again inched up to let the now unchanged second valve to lift at 292psi. The procedure was repeated with the last uncaged valve which lifted at 3:45PM at 290psi. By 5:00PM the fire was out and the happy crew secured the area.

FUNDRAISING FOREVER – TRACK UPGRADE PROJECT

An urgent appeal went out in August, 2019 asking for help raise \$29,882.77 needed to bring our zone 5 spur and switches up to class 2 compliance so the heavy and long AT&SF 2926 can move on it without fear of derailment. By the end of September almost \$28,000 had been raised.



The work commenced on Thursday, September 26 by Herzog Transit Services, Inc. under contract with Rio Metro Regional Transit District and was finished by the end of the following week. Now the 2926 can be moved safely to allow the entrance of the NMSX #3939 Tool car onto the repair site at 1833 8th St. NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Thanks to all who helped get this job done.

Mike Hartshorne
President and Fundraising Chair, NMSL&RHS

HELP THE AT&SF 2926

(The NMSL&RHS is a 501(c)(3) non profit – donations are tax deductible)

1. Become a member. \$30/year individual. \$50/year family. \$500 lifetime. See www.2926.us for a membership application.
2. Make a cash, check or paypal donation of any amount. See www.2926.us for paypal or mail a check.
3. Use GoFundMe to help with the Tool Car campaign (see the website home page).
4. Use Smith's Community Rewards.
Visit SmithsCommunityRewards.com
Sign on to your Online Account or create an account
Select as your organization (Nonprofit Organization # JK328) and click save.
5. Use SmileAmazon.com and select New Mexico Steam Locomotive and Railroad Historical Society as your charity. You can "Change your Charity" in "Your Account" at any time. Remember to use Smile.Amazon.com when you shop.
6. Buy stylish 2926 merchandise at the gift shop at the locomotive.
7. Add to your legacy by naming the New Mexico Steam Locomotive and Railroad Historical Society in your will.
8. Use funds from your 401(k) required minimum distribution starting the year in which you turn 70½ years old. Funds transferred directly from that account to the NMSL&RHS avoid income taxes on the donated amount. Stock transfers can be made to Account Number 3VK-683463, DTCC clearing broker number 0443 (check with your financial advisor).

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THE 2019 OPEN HOUSE AT THE AT7SF 2926

September 28th, 2019 from 9AM to 5PM our volunteers hosted the 18th annual free open house at the locomotive. More than 2000 guests came for a great fall day at the 2926.



The 2926 volunteers are ready for the show to begin.



Up close with the massive locomotive.



Live country and rail road music from Los Radiators was enjoyed by all.



Dr. Rock and jazz a la Carte kept toes tapping for hours.



Holy Water and Whiskey with sweet melodies.



Is that a Harvey Girl ! ?



Flags in the breeze.



Speeder rides carried hundreds of happy kids and their parents back and forth through the engine house.! Henry and Joe drove smoothly with smiles all around.



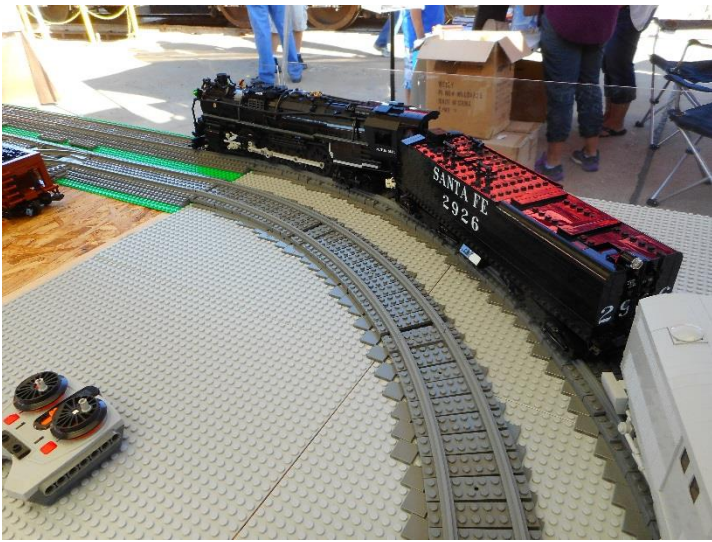
B&H Popcorn smelled great all day. Did you get some? Hot dogs for everyone.



The South West Model Railroad Club.



The Rio Grande Model Railroad Club



Chris Stone had a Lego 2926 running.



Ward McCartney set up a Garden Narrow Gauge layout.



Rail Runner and Operation Life Saver came.



Face and arm painting was popular.



Lots of happy shoppers made it a long day in the store.



Railroad romance. (sigh!)