

Trip to the Big Creek & Southern
2016
By Gary Taylor

The morning of June 2nd found us headed east toward Arizona. Us, being George and Linda Pruitt, Mike and Bessie Reeves, Gary and Julie Taylor, Barry and Lynne Thompson, and Robert and Arlene Butler, on our way to Kingman AZ. From Kingman we went up to Durango, Colorado, not for the Silverton ride, but to the Ute Pass 7.5 gage railroad of Philip Nilsson. Philip gave us camping space and the next morning we got the tour and a ride up and across his hand built mountainside pike.



We left Colorado headed south toward the Little Creel Resort at Chama New Mexico the next day.

At Little Creel we visited with Harry and Linda Hass and met up with Lowell and Linda Dietz.

The 5th of June we were seated on the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad with Harry at the locomotive throttle and headed up the hill, around “windy point” and through the hills canyons and tree covered points to eventually cross the prairie where our busses were waiting to take us back to our campground



June 6th we headed out for the Royal View Camp Ground in Canon City, Colorado for breakfast and a trip up the Royal Gorge.





A side trip, not far from the campground took some of us up this narrow road to view Dinosaur footprints on the side of the mountain.



June 9 found us on the road headed for Pleasant Hill Mo, and Pat McCarthy's Big Creek Southern Railroad.





We stayed at Pats for several days enjoying the fun, excitement and the rails of his Spring Run Meet while we all attempted to get used to the humidity of Missouri in the Early Summer.



While at Pats, we some of us did a Side trips to the Museum for the reclaimed stern wheeler Arabia, and to the Truman Presidential Library.



Another of our (after supper) side trips took us to a (completed) O gage railroad modeled by Jim Eudaly after the C & O railroad and done completely in Fall colors. His wife gave the girls and additional tour of their house and potting shed.



June 13 we were loaded up and headed west to Hays Kansas for a visit with the Eisenhower Museum in Abilene, Kansas, while the Butlers continued eastward on their vacation.



June 15 found us riding the Georgetown Loop Railroad in Colorado. We stayed in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. (Also known for the last place that Doc Holliday stayed) Neal and Mary Lundwall met up with us here to ride the train .



By the time June 17 rolled around, we were in Ely Nevada after traveling Highway 50, the most desolate hwy in the U.S., for a date with the Northern Nevada Railroad. WE stayed at the KOA. Here we took the train ride, met

up with Keith Nelson, toured the engine house and machine shop and met a very dirty, but friendly shop cat.



Louie and Debbie Fields joined us at Carson City on the 19th and we all took the train to Virginia City. Mike Reeves rode did a cab ride in the

locomotive both directions as a Father's Day gift from Bessie, and Yvette Taylor came down from Incline Village to meet and ride with us.





The trip home was on June 20 through Carson City and down Hwy 395.