



THE DREAM KEEPER

FROM THE PRESIDENT

JULY 2004



SNOW BLOCKED WEST ENTRANCE TO NEEDLES EYE TUNNEL

Ranch just west of Winter Park, on your right if you headed west out of town. Bring a dish to share. RPRA will provide soft drinks, hot dogs, Nita's baked beans and watermelon. We will depart about 2:30 for the Mountain Lodge in Winter Park to see Earl Salter's multi-media presentation "Dave Moffatt's Dream." This will be about an hour long. There will be hours of daylight left for those of you who want to drive up the pass.

EAST SIDE: Sunday August 22, 12:00 noon at the Stage Stop in Rollinsville. There will be a 'free will' donation for hot dogs or hamburgers, grilled by the Stage Stop. Iced tea will be available. Soft drinks can be purchased. Bring a side dish for pot-luck - RPRA will have watermelon (and maybe Nita's beans). Earl Salter's multi-media presentation will follow immediately upstairs at the Stage Stop. There will again be daylight for anyone who wants to drive up the pass. The Stage Stop is half a block East at the intersection of #119 where you turn West to go to the East Portal of the Moffat Tunnel or up the pass.

It would be helpful if we had a number from you who plan to attend. We need to have these figures for planning purposes by Aug. 15. Please notify us by e-mail, snail mail or phone 303-772-9475 (leave a message) straight2u@earthlink.net or box 1082, Longmont CO, 80502



LEFT: INTERIOR OF NEEDLES EYE TUNNEL ON JUNE 26'

RIGHT: EAST ENTRANCE OF NEEDLES EYE TUNNEL

Photo by Michael Arnold

1. On June 1, 2004 Gilpin County mailed a letter to Ann Veneman, Secretary, US Department of Agriculture, which stated that the James Peak Wilderness and Protection Area Act / Rollins Pass Road would provide technical assistance and other cooperation with respect to repairing the Rollins Pass road if requested by one or more counties. i.e. Boulder, Gilpin or Grand Counties. "Would you please consider this a formal request, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners of Gilpin County, to begin this process?" Clear Creek County has also asked to be included since a "Loop Trail Study" and the establishment of the "James Peak Fall River Trailhead" is authorized in the basic legislation. At this time nothing has been received through channels. But we have certainly started on the process for discussions to repair the road.

2. We also received a letter from Colorado Preservation requesting we again submit the Rollins Pass road to the "Saving Places" list. Some specific suggestions were included with the letter. The Counties have been asked to comment and hopefully this will provide support for funding the project. Things could come together.

3. **CELEBRATION: 100 years ago the first train crossed the Continental Divide!** In honor to this special 100th year anniversary we are having two picnics: one on the West Side, and one on the East Side in August.

WEST SIDE: Saturday August 7, 12:00 noon at Cousin's



COUSIN'S RANCH, WINTER PARK

4. Nita and I drove up to Yankee Doodle Lake on June 19th. The bulldozer was stopped at a large snow bank so this was as far as we could go. On June 26 on the west side we drove up to Corona and then 4-wheeled over the top. It was really beautiful up there. Flowers were coming out. I walked to the Needle's Eye Tunnel and found the west portal filled with snow.

Dan Straight
President

Rollins Pass Restoration Association
P.O. Box 1082 • Longmont, Colorado • 80502-1082

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Don't forget to attend our
ANNUAL PICNICS

WEST SIDE - SATURDAY AUGUST 7, 2004 NOON AT
COUSIN'S RANCH AT WINTER PARK

EAST SIDE - SUNDAY AUGUST 22, 2004 NOON AT
STAGE STOP, ROLLINSVILLE

Please Call with Number of Attending