

October 2004: The "Rolling Mud Fence" Photo Special with Norfolk & Western 4-8-0 475
(with a special appearance by CNR 2-6-0 89)



Roanoke, Virginia, August 6, 1932. Photo by Otto Perry

"A locomotive for night trains only . . . incorporates a staggering number of the elements of ugly . . . You could hold a high-school prom on that headlight bracket." – Ed King, Feb. 1985 TRAINS

Join Jim Gunning and John Craft for a photo special on the Strasburg Rail Road. For the first time since 1957, the Strasburg Rail Road's ex-Norfolk & Western 4-8-0 475 will operate in totally authentic livery. Two totally authentic liveries, in fact: one on the fireman's side, another on the engineer's side.

475 will appear as it did during ca. 1920-1950, with oil-headlight bracket, Pyle-National headlight and number wedge. This will be a very short-lived look: in the words of Strasburg Rail Road General Manager Linn Moedinger, *"as soon as you're done that ugly headlight and bracket is coming off my engine."*

We'll feature two different consists during the day: a two-boxcars-and-combine "Huckleberry" for a few morning runbys, and a longer all-freight mainline train for the majority of the day. No night photo session is planned (our apologies to Ed King).

We will also use Canadian National 2-6-0 no. 89 on runbys in the morning.

COST: \$350 for a one-day ticket. Combine this with either the East Broad Top or the New Hope & Ivyland for \$525. Attend all three for \$700. Price includes lunch or dinner, and light snacks during the day. (Spouses attend for half-fare.)

DEADLINE: We need 35 participants to make these trips viable, and we'll keep the maximum number to 40. We'll make our go-no go decision no later than September 1 based on the number of paid reservations we have, not on the number of "I'm coming, save me a spot" messages we've received. If we aren't confident then that we can attract enough participants, the trips will be canceled and all payments returned. Since our first payment is due to the Strasburg the following week, we won't be extending the deadline. Once we declare the trip a "go," we'll notify you. At that time the trip becomes non-refundable unless we can resell your ticket. Trip details and travel recommendations

PAYMENT: If you'd like to pay by check, send your payment to:

John Craft
Post Office Box 7772
Atlanta, Georgia, USA 30357 USA

Send your checks early - we will hold them without cashing them.

If you'd like to pay by credit card or PayPal, send your payment to payments@steamspecials.com. (To cover the charges we incur by this payment method, add \$25 to the ticket price.) Or visit <http://steamspecials.com> and use the shopping cart.

Sign up early, and remember that the only sure way to guarantee a spot in the photo line is to send a check!

(Feel free to pass this message on to someone you know that plays well with others and would be willing to pay, as opposed to showing up and freebooting).