

TURNTABLE

Volume XX, Nos. 1 & 2, Winter/Spring 2009
Thomas L. Radinsky, Editor

Visit our website at DenverTrolley.org



2009 IS OUR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Tom Abbott, President

Hello in 2009--to all of our *DRHS-PVT* Family! Our Members, Our Volunteers, and Our Friends of the Organization.

We ended the 2008 season on very positive notes. **One:** Our annual yearend membership banquet at *The White Fence Farm* came off in grand fashion. A record attendance, a record auction, and some pretty darn good chicken and hush puppies too. The banquet truly is a highlight of belonging to the *DRHS*. **Two:** In the dark, at the end of the last Bronco game in December, the crew put the 1977 away for the season. I am sure that I heard the little car give a sigh of relief, as we all said "Thank You" to her faithful service for the entire 2008 season. And I think I heard her say "Thank You" back to all of the great *PVT* volunteers who work so hard all year to take care of her, so that she can sell the tickets that pay the mortgage, and the insurance, and all of the diesel fuel and maintenance stuff that allowed "The Trolley" to complete her 19th successful season along the South Platte River.

And that segues nicely into the next item. 2009 is the 20th Anniversary of the operation of the *Platte Valley Trolley*. It's pretty amazing that the trolley, which was simply suggested as an idea to give the *Denver Rail Heritage Society* a visible public presence, assisting towards our baseline goal, which was to "save" historic railroad architectural artifacts still existing in the lower downtown areas of the old railyards around 1989. Union Station, the Moffat Station, the turntable and remains of the roundhouse in the old Rice Yards, the rail bridges across Cherry Creek. With the exception of the roundhouse; those things were in fact saved, through the efforts of the *DRHS* and other preservation-minded organizations and individuals. Now we find ourselves 20 years later, and "the tail" (the trolley) has become "the dog." **The PVT:** An amazing effort, over a long period of time, by a lot of people; not the least of which were our long-time friends *Serendipity* and *Lady Luck*. Your board of directors is planning on some celebratory events and items over the course of 2009, in celebration of our 20th Anniversary. Stay tuned and keep involved.

Coincidentally, another group here in Denver is celebrating their 20th Anniversary in 2009. The *Scientific and*

Cultural Facilities District, the *SCFD*, is also twenty in 2009. Related to that, and of particular importance to the *DRHS*, is that I am most proud to inform everyone that your *DRHS* has been accepted by the *SCFD* as a member organization. We can now proudly display "The Bear" on *DRHS* literature, correspondence, and the trolley itself (look for the Polar Bear logo the next time you visit the trolley). Being accepted into the *SCFD* "community" is a very proud moment for the *DRHS*, and a very tangible indicator of how far this organization has come. How well we are operating, and how well we are managed. A committee is diligently working through a grant application to request *SCFD* funding in the 2009 application cycle. Everyone keep your fingers crossed that our application is successful this first year. Your in-house committee is working very hard on this effort.

Committees are also working on updating the Bylaws, the Operating Rule Book, and a 2009 training curriculum for Operators and Conductors (we'll be in touch with everyone on training dates etc.). The Mechanical Committee is working on things during the off-season to get "Molly" ready to go on the first weekend in April. Watch the Yahoo page for info.

See you along the River in 2009, and Keep On Track'n.

MYSTERY PHOTO

Gary Collins



Mystery Picture

The photo above was taken by Gary Collins from Car 25 in October of 1952. Who can guess **where** this picture was taken?

2008 ANNUAL BANQUET AND AWARDS

Tom Radinsky and Tom Abbott

The 2008 Annual Banquet was again held in a private banquet room at the *White Fence Farm* and was again very well attended. As in 2007, many *Society* members were encouraged to attend by a special discount offered to all volunteers who substantially contributed to our operations during 2008. This included not only those who operated the trolley, but also the many people who did vital behind the scenes activities essential to our successful operation. Thanks to Erwin Chaim who again made the arrangements for this year's banquet and again brought a cake.

Additionally, \$1,369 was raised from the after dinner auction to support the *Denver Rail Heritage Society*. Thanks to everyone who donated items and to everyone who had a successful bid as well. Plus, a special thanks to Edie Bryant, who made a very generous donation to the *Society*.

Awards for **Volunteer/Board Member of the Year** were also made at the Banquet. Two awards were given this year and both happen to be Board members, although they also perform many other essential roles as well.

The "Volunteer of the Year" award was to **Keith Dameron**, which was really long overdue. In addition to being on the Board (through even the roughest years), Keith has been heavily involved in a wide variety of aspects of the *DRHS* for most of its existence. Keith has operated the trolley on a regular basis, as well as sold tickets for the Bronco Shuttle almost from the trolley's inception. His long tenure has even spanned the years of both his retirement from the Colorado State Patrol and his marriage to Tammy Riley. He has also been especially helpful in several very critical ways, such as: Being our "RTD-City of Denver-and other Quasi-Governmental Issues" Liaison, making sure the fares collected from operating the trolley are deposited on a prompt and regular basis, working one-on-one with our downtown bank on loan and savings account issues, persuading the company that fuels the Amtrak trains to fuel our trolley as needed, and by getting up early once a week to start the trolley and take it down to the fueling area. Many thanks from all of us for all of these things and for many more too numerous to enumerate. Keep up the good work Keith, you are irreplaceable.

Another "Volunteer Recognition" award was given to **Cyndi Trombly**, who also wears multiple hats in the *Society*. In addition to serving on the Board of Directors, and being the *Society's* past treasurer, and current financial and tax advisor (responsible for acquisition of our IRS 501c3 status), Cyndi often helps out with ticketing for Bronco games and assisting with special events like this year's Halloween special. She enjoys travel, history and architecture very much, including trains, ghost towns, and light houses. Cyndi is an avid photographer, an avocation which she shares with her husband, and *DRHS* treasurer, Ardie Schoeninger. Cyndi is also very active with another railroad club, the *NHRS Inter-Mountain Chapter*, and she and Ardie own an authentic and fully restored and operating railroad sleeping car *The Pine*. Cyndi Trombly typifies

the dedication to the organization that has "turned around" the *DRHS*.

New for 2008 was the presentation of two *Certificates of Recognition* awards.

One was presented to **Bruce Vincent**, who has really jumped in. Initially, he began operating the trolley on a regular, almost weekly basis. He then became interested in other aspects of the *DRHS* and became a member of the Board. More recently, he has been involved in three important areas. The first has been working with the board of the *RMRR Foundation* to help ensure that their interurban Car 25 can stay in Colorado, and might someday run along the *DRHS* tracks beside the South Platte River. The second is to work constantly towards achieving the *DRHS* goal of achieving a "car-house and museum" along our right-of-way. The third is to help update our procedures for recruiting and retaining new volunteers. Expanding the *Society's* volunteer pool is essential to the organization's success. This activity is highlighted by our need to cut back on our operating days in 2009 due to a shortage of trained operators and conductors. It's unanimous, we all enjoy working with Bruce Vincent.

Another "Certificate of Recognition" was given to **Liz Cohan**. Liz has become an active and enthusiastic *Society* member, rapidly gaining her Conductor and Certified Operator status. Again, the initial involvement centered on operating the trolley, but it quickly expanded to include becoming a member of the Board. She took over the post of Membership Coordinator and has helped keep our membership information up to date and accurate, and our membership renewal process more efficient. Liz was also the main driving force behind getting the trolley decorated with gobs of orange LED lights for our Halloween Trick or Treat Street operations and has helped perfect the working concept of the Confluence Park ticket table. When the call goes out for special duty, most often Liz Cohan is there. Liz is leading the way for the younger group of volunteers that is necessary to the long-term growth of the *DRHS*.

"Thanks" to all four of these great volunteers. Without the work of you individually and collectively, the *DRHS* and *PVT* would not have achieved the successes of 2008.

If it looks like you need to be a member of the Board of Directors to receive an award, there is a reason for it. The *DRHS* has always encouraged the existence of a large board of directors. It is a point of pride within the organization that we are a "working board of directors." It is an expectation that every board member wears multiple hats, working on-the-ground in several areas of responsibility. This, in addition to attending monthly board meetings and participating in the multiple decisions that affect the *DRHS* at every meeting. When a volunteer shows an ongoing commitment to become involved in multiple aspects of the organization, they may very well be asked to consider serving on the board of directors. However, serving as a director is most certainly not a requirement for receiving the formal appreciation of the organization. We are all eligible for that.

Photo Credits: Darrell Arndt: All photos in this issue except Mystery Picture on Page 1 from Gary Collins.

DRHS/PLATTE VALLEY TROLLEY GRANTED ELIGIBILITY INTO SCFD

Tom Abbott

It is with the greatest of pleasure that I follow-up on Chairman Wally Weart's announcement that your *DRHS* has been granted eligibility into the *Scientific and Cultural Facilities District*, the *SCFD*. It is with great pride that your *Society* will now be part of the *SCFD* and be able to use the *SCFD* slogan "Making it Possible" and to include the "Polar Bear" logo (see below). It is my personal belief that becoming a member of the *SCFD* family of organizations will open the doors to a myriad of new opportunities for your *DRHS* and its *Platte Valley Trolley*. Being eligible to display the *SCFD* Polar Bear logo earns us huge credibility and conveys to us a considerable, and very significant, responsibility related to our *DRHS* mission statement and the mission statement of the *SCFD* itself.

Congratulations! For the year-long effort by your *DRHS-SCFD* Committee of Wally Weart, Darrell Arndt, Robert Williams, and Keith Kirby. As I sat in myself on all of the committee's activities, I can tell you that this was a super effort by your volunteer committee. They went to *SCFD* sponsored classes and met with *SCFD* staff one-on-one, to discuss the requirements for the application for eligibility. They completed studies and compiled statistics in order to complete the very comprehensive application form. They expanded upon follow-up questions by the *SCFD* staff during their careful and extensive review, and they kept the faith and worked as a team towards the singular purpose. It was a terrific effort.

I am also quite proud to report that eligibility could not have been accomplished without the years of preceding effort by all of the members, past and present, of *The Denver Rail Heritage Society*. All of the efforts, by all of us, over all of the years, made it possible to adequately complete the *SCFD* application process. You can be honestly assured that you personally played a role in this success, through your personal efforts as a *DRHS* Member and Volunteer.

***Thank you to the SCFD. And again,
Congratulations to the DRHS!***



**Scientific & Cultural
Facilities District**

Making It Possible.

2008 RIDER AND REVENUE SUMMARY

Dan Carroll and Tom Radinsky

The table below compares ridership and revenue data for 2007 and 2008 by month from April through October, which is the Trolley's official operating season. It does NOT include any business from the Bronco Shuttle, which is summarized elsewhere in this newsletter. Also excluded from this table are the free rides given primarily to children three and under. Data for free rides has not been collected until recently, so year to year comparisons for non-fare riders are not yet meaningful.

2007 vs. 2008 Comparison

Month	Riders		Revenue	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
April	620	96	\$1,281	\$389
May	3,115	1,874	5,977	4,922
June	4,108	2,845	10,375	6,980
July	4,513	2,967	11,604	7,124
August	3,601	3,062	8,782	7,541
September	1,944	1,032	4,091	2,740
October	1,550	2,144	2,430	4,624
Total	19,451	14,020	\$44,540	\$34,320
Average	2,779	2,003	\$7,888	\$4,903

Over the seven months of our operating season, there was a 28% decline in passengers and a 23% decline in revenues. The large drop in April was due to a very late start necessitated by the complete renovation of the motor end of the trolley's power truck. The one month that did show an increase, October (up 38% in passengers and 90% in revenue) benefited from mild weather during most of the month plus exceptionally good business during the Children's Museum Halloween event called Trick or Treat Street. This year for our Halloween operations, we increased our fares compared to prior years, ran some extended hours, and changed the operating format to include stops at both REI and the Aquarium. This three day operation, from Wed., Oct. 29 through Fri., Oct. 31, alone generated \$2,595, or 56% of the revenue for the entire month of October (see Halloween Special article).

The remaining five months had a 31% decrease in passengers and 28% decrease in revenue. Most of this decline can be attributed to fewer operating hours. In 2007, we ran five days per week, Wednesday through Sunday during the busy summer months of June, July and August and four days for most of the other months. In 2008, we operated only four days per week, Friday through Monday and only three days for the other months. The decrease in business closely mirrors the decrease in operating hour. The primary reason for decrease was that we did not have enough operators to run the same schedule we had in 2007. The revenue showed somewhat less decline than the passengers because some of our fares were increased for 2008 compared to 2007.

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF DENVER TO SELL TROLLEY TICKETS

Tom Abbott and Robert Williams

A committee consisting of Robert Williams, Tom Petyone and Tom Abbott, at the request of the *DRHS* Board, approached the management of *Children's Museum* this spring to ask if they would consider offering trolley tickets for sale to their customers at their front desk. As we have been successfully doing with the *Downtown Aquarium*, we offered them a split of the revenues from tickets they sell within their building.

I am very pleased to report that they graciously accepted our offer, and have entered into an agreement with us. They will be placing "Ride the Platte Valley Trolley" signs in several locations throughout the museum, their ticket sellers will have a "Ride the Trolley" button to wear, we will be allowed to place a new additional sandwich board sign right up at their front door, and we will be included in their Monster Machine events.

Unlike the *Aquarium's* computer printed tickets, the *Children's Museum* ticket counter will be provided with pads of the same tickets that we sell on the trolley. It is recommended that conductors "punch" all tickets, including those sold by the *Children's Museum*, to prevent recycling.

As a fellow *SCFD* entity, we both benefit from this organized collaboration in the eyes of the *SCFD* grant application committee. It is the prediction of several of us that this new program will result in a significant increase in our ridership from the *Children's* stop, and therefore a corresponding increase in our revenue for the trolley. This collaboration is a formal agreement, and "business-to-business" based. This is exactly what we need to increase our funding base.

GETTING A SWITCH

Darrell Arndt

On Wednesday Nov. 5th, Don Hulse relived his days on the *Denver & Rio Grande Western* by swinging a pick and pulling spikes at the Denver Federal Center as we removed a switch stand and ties for later installation under Speer. We will be making several safety improvements around the switch and this stand will not require bending over to throw it like our current one does. Unfortunately our "finger crossing" on these ties was not enough as we found them to be rotten beyond use when pulled out and turned over. There might be a few others nearby that we will check out. The 14 foot ties are longer than the ones currently in use at our switch. Our thanks to the GSA at the Federal Center for donating the stand and digging out most of the gravel from the tie ends which saved our backs some extra exercise.



Don Hulse Removing Switch at Federal Center

RESULTS FOR BRONCO SHUTTLE

Keith Dameron and Tom Radinsky

The table below compares the Bronco Shuttle business for 2007 and 2008. There were a total of ten home games each year consisting of two pre-season games (which are combined on the first line of the table) and eight regular games. In addition, the Shuttle ran for the CU/CSU game, making a total of eleven football games for each year.

Over all, the two seasons were quite similar. Of the eleven games, five had increases in 2008 while six showed decreases. The two preseason games declined while the CU/CSU game improved considerably, with the result that the first three games were nearly the same for both years. The eight regular season games were also nearly the same for both seasons. Overall, there was about a 4% increase in riders and 2% increase in revenue. One of the main differences between the two seasons was the selling of Shuttle tickets by Proto's pizza shop. They started selling tickets for the second regular season game and sold a total of 165 tickets during the remainder of the season. Without these additional ticket sales, it appears that there might have been a slight decline in business rather than a slight increase. The Proto's tickets also account for the difference between the increase in riders and revenue. A moderate discount is given for the tickets sold through Proto's, so they generate somewhat less revenue per ticket than the tickets sold at the trolley.

Bronco Shuttle 2007-2008 Comparison

Game(s)	Riders		Revenue	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
Pre Season	439	392	\$2,047	\$1,781
CU/CSU	191	289	805	1,188
Game 1	386	314	1,793	1,441
Game 2	359	372	1,696	1,732
Game 3	347	308	1,622	1,462
Game 4	244	333	1,145	1,537
Game 5	331	317	1,569	1,426
Game 6	333	320	1,575	1,462
Game 7	206	304	995	1,445
Game 8	208	232	975	1,076
Total	3,044	3,181	\$14,222	\$14,550
Average	277	289	1,293	1,323

Thanks to everyone who helped make the 2008 Bronco Shuttle a great success yet again. Volunteers who helped for four or more games included Tom Peyton, Keith Dameron, Tom Abbott, Tim Turley, Cyndi Trombly, Don Hulse, Robert Williams and Mark Ballard. Other volunteers who helped for up to three games included Liz Cohan, Susan Treadway, Miriam Goetzke, Kaia Dameron, Mike Nolan, Gene McCullough, Rosann McCullough, Chuck Mackey, Lee Ryan, Bruce Vincent and Reef Abbott. Everyone's help is very much appreciated. Apologies if anyone was inadvertently overlooked.

FIXING SWITCH UNDER SPEER BRIDGE

Darrell Arndt

On October 21, Greg Copeland of Pueblo was returning from Rock Springs, Wyoming and stopped in to inspect our turnout under Speer for needed repairs that Dennis Olin and I had previously discussed. Both the frog and the switch point needed attention. Greg had a little time before he needed to continue to get back to Pueblo, so he elected to repair the switchpoint and adjacent rail head that had probably created the defect. The frog will take longer to repair so it will have to await some future trip.

This is quite specialized work and so we decided to take advantage of Greg, who has done this work for about 30 years. The damaged steel must be removed and new welds of a special rod used for the best, long term result. This work was done in the late afternoon just after some nasty weather moved through the area. As Greg finished up and left, the skies opened back up. The Trolley Gods were smiling upon us for this project.



Greg Copeland Repairing Switch Point

I was surprised to learn that Greg is also a ski instructor during the winter in addition to being available for track repairs. More recently he did quite a bit of work on the light rail track installations around Denver. It was obvious that he takes pride in quality work.



Greg Copeland

In addition, Dennis Olin drove all the way down to the trolley from Littleton to introduce us to each other, and then had to hustle back home for a family engagement. We are most fortunate to have fine people like Dennis and Greg to assist and guide us in the world of track maintenance.

MILE HI RAILFAIR

Darrell Arndt

On Saturday, Jan. 31, our *Platte Valley Trolley* set up a display at the Intermountain Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society's Mile Hi Railfair event. This display is turning out to be a very nice way of presenting our trolley to the community at public events. With all of our display components in place it essentially costs us nothing beyond the volunteer time. Special thanks to June Strum Roller and Tom Peyton who were the primary volunteers for event. Thanks also to Bruce Vincent for the loan of the lighted display. Robert Williams stopped by to assist while he was helping with his NRHS duties.



June Strum Roller and Tom Peyton at Mile Hi Railfair

The fair had a nice mix of collectables and there was a lot of "good visiting" to be had. We had items for sale, information about the trolley and complementary tickets for the kids. Hopefully we will see them and their parents on the trolley this summer. The candy bowl was quite popular at the corner of the table. It was almost empty at the end of the day (I only took one piece!).



Tom Peyton and Visitor Larry Lombard at Mile Hi Railfair

NEW WINDSCREENS

Tom Abbott

Dec. 7, 2009. When we got down to the trolley operate the Bronco Shuttle, Darrell Arndt and Tom Peyton were just finishing up the installation of our new windscreens. The new ones just look terrific, and they work great! Tim Turley and I made all the runs today for the Shuttle, before and after dark, and we were both very pleased with the results. The heavy plastic sheets are so clear that you really don't notice them any more than you do your windshield. Running after dark, we were very concerned with the possibility of glare from inside the car, but there was none. The pitch that the Plexiglas is mounted at precludes any glare when operating from a standing position. The whole installation flexes totally with all of the twisting motions of the car, and yet is very stable when pushed against, either by wind from the outside or people from the inside. Just enough air/wind passes over the top to give the operator a comfortable breeze and sense of motion. I am very pleased with the results of this effort by Darrell and Tom, and I know that you will be also. Thanks, guys, for a terrific effort.



Bronco Shuttle at REI Stop with New Windscreen



Tim Turley Operating Bronco Shuttle with New Windscreen

GREAT TRAIN EXPO BOOTH

Darrell Arndt

It was quite worthwhile for the *Platte Valley Trolley* to be represented at the *Great Train Expo* at the National Western Complex Exhibition hall on November 8th and 9th.

We used the wonderful display that Bruce Vincent has loaned to us that had been put together for a previous convention (see photo below). Erwin Chaim brought his "back 'n forth" trolley, Tom Peyton brought PR items and trolley tickets for the kids. On Sunday, I brought the trolley gong and a computer photo show of the *Trolley*. Tom Peyton gave away the kid tickets with the idea that the kids will bring their parents with them next season.

We met quite a few people who were familiar with the trolley but, interestingly, quite a few who were not. We gave out quite a number of rack cards. It was a fun time visiting with all of the people and promoting the *Platte Valley Trolley*. The promoters projected an attendance of over 6,000.



Liz Cohan, Erwin Chaim and Tom Peyton (Left to Right)

Tom Peyton arranged for us to have two free tables and electricity as well as several free exhibitor passes. Other participants were Erwin Chaim, Liz Cohan, Bob Williams and June Roller.



Young Visitor Reaches Across Trolley Tracks

This entire procedure was repeated in February, on the 21st and 22nd. It was at the same location and the same props (tables, display board, operating model trolley, etc.) and mostly with the same people. The photos were taken at the November show.

Thanks to everyone who participated and helped out. Be on the lookout for some of the free tickets that were distributed during these two shows.

HALLOWEEN SPECIAL

Darrell Arndt and Tom Radinsky

October, 2008, was the only month of our official operating season of April through October to show an increase in riders and revenue compared to 2007. This increase was primarily due to the great success of our Halloween operations in connection with the Children's Museum's Trick or Treat Street activities. It was also helped out by several other factors. To start with, the weather was unusually mild for this time of the year and Halloween fell on a Friday, so there was no conflict with a Bronco home game for any of the Trick or Treat Street days, which started on Wednesday, Oct. 29th. We also increased our fares from \$1 to \$2 and we operated north to the Confluence Park stop instead of going south to Decatur. In this way, we were able to take on fares at both the REI and Aquarium stops. The Aquarium did sell tickets for this event, but not many compared to the number sold at the Children's stop, which was further helped by setting up a ticketing kiosk near the Museum's entrance to Children's. Finally, we decorated the trolley for Halloween. Thanks especially to Liz for making this Halloween fun and different for riders and crew alike.



Liz Cohan Decorating the Trolley for Halloween



Trolley Decked Out for Halloween with Elitch's in Background

Here is Darrell Arndt's report on the first day of our Halloween operations:

When Tom Peyton and I arrived at the Museum around 11 am on Wednesday to do some trolley stop preparation chores, the parking lot was packed, including the dirt hill! They were not letting anyone in at that point. I think it was a couple of hours before spaces started to open up. A Museum staff member told me that school was out for these three days and that situation would add to the activities. We started operating around 12:30 with Tom Peyton running, which he did most of the day, and I selling tickets up by the sidewalk. We set up a canopy to provide more visibility for us. I am pretty sure that having a presence there makes a difference for borderline passengers, to answer questions that don't have to be handled at the trolley and do advance ticketing. I'd tell people that the trip was a quicker than normal trip at about 15 minutes, a mile round trip and we went to the "waterfalls at Confluence Park." I started mentioning "waterfalls" (such as they are at this time of the year) to paint a better picture of an attraction at that location and that it was just not just a piece of grass. It may help for those not familiar with the area. About mid-evening, the Children's Museum fire alarm went off and they had to empty the building for about 30 plus minutes. Somebody was taking a smoke in a bathroom! We operated until a little after 8 pm and brought in \$605 for the day.

Tom Abbott provided a portable generator which worked out great for lighting our area after dark, including the canopy at the sidewalk.



Daylight Halloween Operations at Children's Museum

And here is Tom Abbott's wrap up at the conclusion of this special Halloween operation:

I talked with Darrell and Liz today, and it seems apparent that the combination of the great strings of orange LED lights encircling the roof of the trolley, the staffing of a ticket kiosk right up on Children's sidewalk, and the active engagement in conversation between the customers and our "sales people," really pushed the impulse buyers that we were targeting. Great marketing on our part, and a lot of fun to boot.

The financial outcome of this three day event (\$2,595) was just startling. Thanks to all of you who worked so many hours on this effort. You can truly walk tall and those of us who were skeptical of the possible monetary gain are in your shadow.

NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING

The Denver Rail Heritage Society's Next Quarterly Meeting Will Be Thursday, April 16th at 7:15 p.m. in the REI Sporting Goods Store at 1416 Platte Street, which is near 15th Street and the Platte River

The next quarterly meeting will be presented by Tom Keller. The program will focus on the accomplishments of Nikola Tesla. Nikola Tesla was an amazing inventor and engineer. He was responsible for the development of alternating current (AC) systems. He pitted his AC against direct current (DC) which was being advocated by Thomas Edison in the "war of the currents." Even though AC was eventually accepted as the better system, America's trolley systems mostly used 600 volts DC. Although Tom's program does not relate directly to trolleys, exploring the "world of electricity" should be of interest to anyone who finds electric propulsion systems intriguing.

We will also have a short slide presentation about the last year or so of *Platte Valley Trolley* operations. If there are any questions about the program, call Darrell Arndt at 303-797-8444. The meeting will be preceded at 6:00 p.m. with a *DRHS* Board meeting and any member of the *Society* is welcome to attend.

The meeting will conclude by 9:00 p.m., which is when REI closes. Ask for directions to the meeting room at the information desk just inside the building's entrance. Lite refreshments will be available, for which a small donation would be appreciated. The public is invited, so feel free to invite your friends to join us in a casual atmosphere of socializing and enjoying the evening's program. Please park in the underground garage.



RTD West Corridor Light Rail Bridge Just West of Perry Under Construction on Jan. 24, 2009

DRHS TURNTABLE
DENVER RAIL HERITAGE SOCIETY
POST OFFICE BOX 1348
DENVER, CO 80201-1348