

# **Rocky Mountain Division – Train Collectors Association**

## **Mission Statement**

1. **Train Collectors Displays and Educational Shows.** The Train Collectors Association Rocky Mountain Division (Rocky Mountain Train Collectors) schedules annual as well as other public gatherings and opportunities for its members to show and share exhibits and demonstrations of toy trains. These public gatherings focus on opportunities for people to learn about trains and pertinent and relevant lessons from their history. Trains changed communities and the nation. Trains were engineering feats. At the shows members bring unique artifacts and trains and materials to make available for other members and the public to view, learn from, and talk about the trains and historic events around their creation, design, and use. People who love trains and learning about trains come to the shows and bring others who become fans of train history. The Rocky Mountain Train Collectors has a YouTube channel that documents some of its activities. The organizations officers and volunteers conduct this activity at places provided by interested parties or rented. Admission fees are charged to participate in the shows. Educational history and charitable activity are part of these shows. Approximately 55% of the organizations time and effort is allocated to this activity.

2. **Education and Preservation of Train History and Culture.** The Rocky Mountain Train Collectors members possess model and toy trains, artifacts, and other items of historical and cultural value and interest. The organization assists where possible and provide opportunities for members to preserve, restore, and utilize such possessions for the benefit and learning of the general public. The organization also organizes a lending library for its members and the general public. There are books and other resources that are available for education, learning, reading, and compiling information and applying it to telling the story of trains and railroading. The organizations officers and volunteers conduct this activity at opportunities requested or through developed relationships. Educational history and charitable activity are part of these activities. Approximately 15% of the organizations time and effort is allocated to this activity.

3. **Public Demonstrations and Exhibits.** Rocky Mountain Train Collectors regularly accept invitations to group events, public gatherings, and schedule exhibits and education events of trains and train history. These have and will continue to include such things as appearing at and donating train and track layouts and assisting in advising on trains at senior centers and museums. You can see the train layout that organization members and volunteers assisted with at the Moffat Railroad Museum in Granby Colorado here: <https://youtu.be/abaJ7g5750M>. The art displayed will be work selected to be shown from its exempt activity. The organization will seek to provide information either in written or spoken form in conjunction with these events that further the public's understanding of trains, train history, and their impact and benefits to the nation, economy, and to the community. Organization members and volunteers carry out these education opportunities. The organizations officers and volunteers conduct this activity at opportunities requested or through developed relationships. Educational history and charitable activity are part of these activities. Approximately 15% of the organizations time and effort is allocated to this activity.

4. **Educational Activities for Youth.** Rocky Mountain Train Collectors will provide learning opportunities for children and youth. The organization provides two different clubs for children and youth who are train enthusiasts or to build train enthusiasts of these youth. There is a TCA Kids Club which promotes learning about trains to those under the age of 12. Once they are 13 they can join and participate as part

of the TCA Teens Club. Kids get to learn about real railroads, how they operate, and how they are an important industry for our country, communities, and the world. Through the club and organization activities, kids learn about trains by getting to see toy trains, operating them, and getting to assemble train layouts with complicated wiring and design and computer controls. The organization also provides activities, including at its train shows for Boy Scouts to learn and participate in ways intentionally to meet the requirements for these youth to earn their Railroading Merit Badge. The organization donates tickets to its annual train show to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Denver, Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Denver, Children's Hospital Colorado, and The Adoption Exchange so children, youth, their families, and caregivers can attend and learn the history and workings of trains. The organizations officers and volunteers conduct these educational and charitable activities. Approximately 15% of the organizations time and effort is allocated to this activity.