

8. David Arday's WMSRR 2-8-0



This photo of Western Maryland Scenic RR 2-8-0 #734 was taken at about 9:30 a.m. on 18 October 2010, during a rail-fanning trip organized by Karl Franz. I shot it from the inside of Helmstetter's Curve. The engine, nicknamed "Mountain Thunder," was originally built by Baldwin in 1916 for the Lake Superior & Ishpeming RR. The WMSRR acquired it from the Illinois Railway Museum in 1992 and restored it to service.

Unfortunately, #734 has been out of service for about eight years, awaiting a Federal Railway Administration mandated rebuild, while the WMSRR has devoted most of its resources toward restoring and now operating ex-C&O 2-6-6-2 #1309.

David Arday, Chesapeake Division