



Wyoming History News



Published for members of the Wyoming State Historical Society

April 2016

Volume 63, Number 3

Heard on the Historical Trail



WSHS member and long-time professor at the University of Wyoming, **Dr. Phil Roberts**, will be the special guest for the Albany County Historical Society's annual meeting on April 13th. For details contact chapter president, **Andrea Lewis**, at 399-4061 or flute42@yahoo.com.

Don't forget that you can nominate individuals and organizations to receive a prestigious award from WSHS. Nominations are due April 30th. For details contact **Jessica Clark** at jclark@wwcc.wy.edu. The manual can be found online and hard copies were also provided to each chapter. Awards are presented in September at the annual meeting, hosted this year by the Johnson County Historical Society.

If you are interested in learning more about Wyoming's contribution to the WWI Centennial please contact WSHS board member **Doug Cubbison** at 472-1857 or via e-mail to douglas.cubbison@wyo.gov. For details visit the official website www.worldwar1centennial.org.

Get Swept Away in Platte County

The Platte County Historical Society is pleased to host the 2016 Trek, and to share our fascinating history with you, including our remarkable views! Chapter president, **Patsy Parkin**, said members are eager to make and renew old friendships with fellow history buffs.

The 2016 Trek "at a glance" will kick off with the quarterly meeting of the WSHS Executive Committee on Friday, June 10th at 9:00 a.m. If you choose to arrive a bit later then registration will open at 1:00 p.m. in the lower level room of the Platte County Library in Wheatland. Beginning at 3:00 p.m., and throughout the afternoon, wagon tours will leave the library and travel through town to showcase our award winning murals and historic buildings. Some of our residents who "live upstairs downtown," just might be willing to share their renovation stories with you, and show you around. That evening we'll showcase Chugwater Chili and enjoy a delightful supper, hopefully at our Pocket Park, if the weather cooperates.

Saturday the 11th will find us loading onto busses generously provided by Platte County School District #2 (Guernsey), for tours that will include Guernsey Lake,

lunch in historic Hartville, and a rare tour of the National Historic District of Sunrise and Sunrise Iron Mine, led by WSHS member **John Voight**. The site has a rich economic and ethnic heritage history, and was the key source of iron for the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company for eighty years. And, of course, we won't miss the opportunity to visit Register Cliff and the Oregon Trail site. That evening we'll enjoy the traditional banquet.

Sunday, June 12th will include breakfast at the Laramie Peak Museum where we will unveil the Jesse Cole headstone and exhibit, then tentatively a tour of the Missouri Basin Power Plant.

There is so much to enjoy in Platte County — we're thrilled to have the opportunity to share it with you. Registration is due no later than June 1st, so please don't delay. The form can be found on **page six** along with hotel and motel information.

If you have specific questions please call Patsy at 322-9365.

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**All correspondence, membership
issues and questions
should be addressed to:**

Wyoming State Historical Society
Linda Fabian, Executive Secretary
P. O. Box 247
Wheatland, WY 82201

The Wyoming State Historical Society, a non-profit, membership driven organization, encourages the study of Wyoming history. We believe to study the past is to understand the present and prepare for the future. Our vision is to insure that Wyoming's past remains accessible to present and future generations.

**Visit www.wyshs.org and
"like" us on Facebook**

From the President...



Greetings to our members and friends!

It is hard to believe that it is already April. There is so much going on

with the Society as we prepare for our summer activities. As I mentioned last month, a number of celebrations are occurring this year that include some of our historic landmarks. In May, Yellowstone National Park will be celebrating the 125th anniversary of the opening the Lake Hotel. The Lake Hotel is the oldest hotel built inside a national park. Thanks to the National Historic Preservation Act, we are able to hold this celebration in conjunction with its recognition as a National Historic Landmark. On May 13, 2016 there will be a public celebration at the hotel as the plaque is revealed. The WSHS has partnered once again with Wyoming's State Historic Preservation Office to celebrate this event through the 2016 Historic Preservation Month poster. I also want to thank the Yellowstone Park Foundation and Xanterra Parks & Resorts, Inc. for contributing to the production costs of this poster. Posters will be distributed at the May event.

Other Society activities include the Homsher Research Grant program and the 2016 Wyoming's Most Significant Artifacts program. Both of these important Society efforts are in the review stage. We received fewer Homsher Grant applications this

year but the ones we did we receive were interesting and worthy of support. **Sylvia Bruner** will be announcing those winners shortly. I was hoping that more than 41 entries would be submitted for the 2016 artifact program ... but once again we received 41! Our select panel of judges are currently reviewing these submissions and narrowing the number to 25. Keep an eye on our webpage as well as our Facebook page for the announcement regarding both of these.

Also, don't forget to submit nominations of individuals and organizations to receive one of the Society's prestigious awards. The deadline to submit nominations is April 30th. Anyone can be nominated, but you must be a member of the Society to submit a nomination. The awards will be presented in the Fall. Chapter presidents and award chairs received hard copies of this year's Awards Manual several weeks ago. It can also be found online at www.wyshs.org, or by calling Linda at 322-3014.

As you will read in other parts of *Wyoming History News*, planning is well under way for this year's Annual Trek. Platte County has hosted previous treks and annual meetings and consistently provided us all with an entertaining and educational weekend. I am looking forward to seeing all our members there and adding to my knowledge of Wyoming's vast history. The Trek will convene in Wheatland on June 10th. Details can be found on **page six**.

The Executive Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, June 10th. You're all welcome to attend. Until then....

Tamsen

(*Heard on the Trail continued from page 1*)

Shane Smith, long-time director of Cheyenne's botanical gardens, was the guest speaker at a recent meeting of the Laramie County Historical Society. His talk focused on the history of the former USDA High Plains Horticulture Research Station.

"Growing Up in Thermopolis" is the theme for a talk by Joe Doak to members of the Hot Springs County Historical Society. The program will take place on April 9th. For details call chapter president **Barb Vietti** at 921-1551.

WSHS/Natrona County Historical Society member, **Johanna Wickman**, has founded a new museum networking website at www.networkmuseums.com.

Check it out to find enjoy a host of tips, forums and interviews. Also making the news were members **Becky and Larry Steensland** who presented a slide presentation to the chapter about the history of roadbuilding, and **Peggy Brooker** who updated chapter members about the current historic district in Casper.

Special thanks to members of the Platte County Historical Society who recently assisted Linda with some office work. Specifically **BJ Durr, Mary Ann Koons,** and **Sam Freedburg**. Together they made light work out of a tedious task!



Congratulations to WSHS/Albany County Historical Society member **Julia Stetler** on becoming a United

States Citizen!

The Fort Caspar Museum and the National Historic Trails Center Foundation are presenting a major fundraiser on Friday, April

22, in Casper. Advanced tickets are required for this fun event sure to expose some lesser known historic facts about Casper's historic Sand Bar district! Tickets are available through the Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum, National Historic Trails Center, and at Fort Caspar. Call 472-1857 for details.

The Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office recently announced that the Bairoil Town Hall, the Church of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Rock Springs, and the Wold Bison Jump have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Johnson County Historical Society has enjoyed several programs recently, including a first person presentation by Cindy Barlow portraying Eva Leis, a German from Russia who settled in the Clear Creek Valley around 1912. Thanks also to Jeb Taylor who presented a program on the protohistoric history of Plains Indian technology, and to **Con Trumbull** who shared stories about the Galvanized Yankees.

The Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum in Casper invites you to view "The 1916-1917 Deployment of the US National Guard to the Mexican Border." The exhibit will be on display through June 16th.



THE EXCHANGE

PHOTOS SOUGHT: The Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum is looking for interior photographs of the Buffalo, Wyoming Carnegie Library building. Do you have any photos? The museum is also trying to track down the six original Wyoming State Flags manufactured by the Lauterer Company of Chicago. They have one; and the Natrona County Library has one, and perhaps the Carbon County Museum. Who has the others? E-mail Sylvia at registrar@jimgatchell.com.

INTERESTED IN SERVING: The Wyoming State Historical Society seeks individuals willing to run for a seat on the Executive Committee. Currently there are three seats that will be open: two At Large positions (can be from anywhere in the state), and one from the SW Region (Teton, Lincoln, Sublette, Uinta and Sweetwater Counties). Two of the three current board members are eligible to run again, but if you are interested please do not hesitate to throw your hat in the ring. You must let us know no later than June 1, 2016. Contact Society headquarters for more details. 322-3014 or linda@wyshs.org.



Wyoming History CALENDAR

April 9—Thermopolis. “Growing Up in Thermopolis.” Contact Barb Vietti, 921-1551.

April 11—Laramie. Wyoming History Day. Contact rkean@uwyo.edu for details.

April 13—Laramie. Albany County Historical Society Annual Meeting. Contact **Andrea Lewis**, at 399-4061 or flute42@yahoo.com.

April 22—Casper. “Murder in the Sand Bar.” For more details about this fundraiser call 472-1857.

April 23—Fort Bridger. Dinner and open house to honor site supt. Linda Byers for her many years of service. E-mail El-Carta@outlook.com for details.

April 28—Casper. Natrona County Historical Society and OCTA joint banquet. For details e-mail maryhein@tribcsp.com.

April 28-30—Casper. 2016 Annual Meeting of the Colorado-Wyoming Association of Museums. For registration details visit www.cwam-us.org.

April 30—Deadline for WSHS Award Nominations. Call 322-3014 for details.

May 14—Lingle. Guided tour of the Paleoindian Red Ochre Mine Site. Advance tickets required. For details call 575-2010.

June 1—Wheatland. Registration deadline for annual trek hosted by the Platte County Historical Society.

Note: Area Code for all Wyoming phone numbers is 307

Wyoming History News welcomes information about events of interest to the general membership and others. Information should be sent at least a month in advance and should reach the WHN editor by the 15th. Send items to Editor, Wyoming History News, P. O. Box 247, Wheatland, WY 82201.



The 2016 Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month poster is now available. This year the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office celebrates 100 years of Paleoindian archaeology in Wyoming.

Posters are available free of charge and may be picked up in Cheyenne at SHPO, 3rd Floor, Barrett State Office Building, 2301 Central Avenue.

If you would like a poster mailed to you a \$12.00 charge is necessary to cover mailing costs. Send your request with a check or money order payable to “Wyoming Archaeology Month,” along with your name and address to:

Wyoming SHPO
Attention: Judy Wolf
Dept. 3431, 1000 #. University Avenue
Laramie, WY 82071

Welcome New Members and Thank You Donors

At Large

John Laughlin, Laramie
Gary Hedlund, Salt Lake City, UT

Goshen County Historical Society

Nancy and Dave Zimmerer, Lingle

Natrona County Historical Society

Jamie Wait, Casper
Bill and Mary England, Casper
Alena Wagner, Casper
Connie Jacobson, Casper
Johanna Wickman, Casper

Park County Historical Society

Valerie and Mark Harvey, Cody

Sheridan County Historical Society

Sheri Prout, Sheridan
Calvin Stevens, San Jose, CA

Star Valley Historical Society

Earl and Kathy Walker, Afton

Wyoming Historical Foundation

*Donations to the Foundation go to the long-term
endowment for the long-term sustainability
of the Society.*

Judy Jennings, Dayton



Congratulations to **Charlene Busk**, former WSHS board secretary and current treasurer of the Wyoming Historical Foundation, and current chair of the Society's Publication Committee, upon her recent retirement from the City of Gillette. Charlene has served and will continue to serve the Society in many ways. Charlene, all your friends at the Society wish you and Jeff the very best. We sincerely appreciate all that you do.

Registration – Deadline June 1, 2016

Wyoming State Historical Society
Annual Trek – Hosted by Platte County Historical Society
June 10-12, 2016

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email (please print clearly) _____

Phone _____

Number of People Attending _____ @ \$80.00 a person, early registration
\$85.00 at the door the day of arrival

Total amount enclosed \$ _____ Dietary Restrictions? _____

Please make checks payable to Platte County Historical Society mail to:

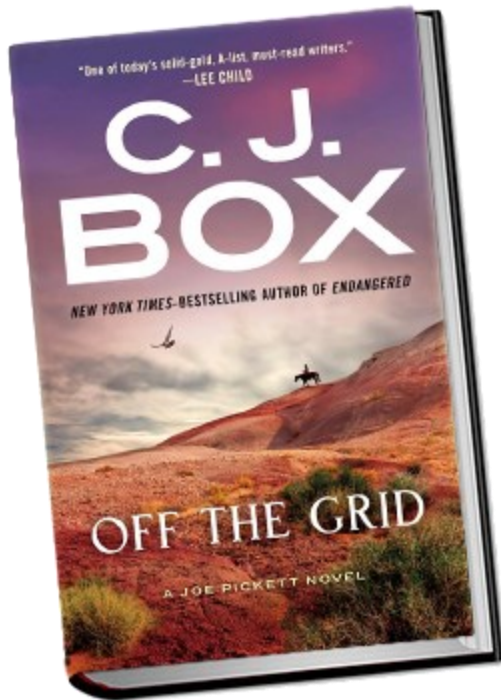
Platte County Historical Society
WSHS Trek
245 Jefferson
Wheatland, WY 82201

The committee has worked hard to keep registration fees reasonable. Because of this it will not be possible to offer refunds or to break the registration into separate pieces. We look forward to sharing the treasures of Platte County with you. Accommodations are in no specific order. Please mention the Platte County Historical Society when making your reservations.

- Torchlite Best Western, 1809 N. 16th Street, \$99.99 plus tax, Full Complimentary Breakfast, Nonsmoking 307-322- 4070
- Super 8, 2401 N. 16th, \$83.00 plus tax, Muffins and coffee, Nonsmoking. 307-322-2224
- Motel 6, 95 S. 16th, \$76.29 plus tax, coffee only, Nonsmoking. 307-322-1800

The above hotels have been blocked. The block expires May 25th. You can also call the Bunkhouse Motel in Guernsey at 836-2356 or visit the Platte County Chamber of Commerce website for additional options.

On the bookshelf...



Congratulations to WSHS member C.J. Box on his latest release “Off the Grid.” The book debuted on the New York Times Best Seller list a few weeks ago at #1!

Said by many that this may be his best book yet, “Off the Grid” takes place in the Red Desert “*The Red Desert of Wyoming is a bleak, beautiful, punishing place for anybody, but never more dangerous that it is now for Joe Pickett, Nate Romanowski, and the one who should never have been there....Joe’s daughter, Sheridan.*”

C.J.’s books can be purchased at any local bookstore, or an several Wyoming museums.

Fact: Did you know that C.J. donates all his research papers to the American Heritage Center, and often does a reading there as each new book is published?



This historical photograph provided by the Wyoming State Archives depicts a celebration at Sunrise, in front of the YMCA Building. We’re hoping it will be re-enacted when members of the Society visit there in June for the annual Historical Society Trek! Registration form on page six needs to be returned no later than June 1, 2016. “Get Swept Away in Platte County!” We’ll see you there.



Wyoming State Historical Society
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IN MEMORY...

Condolences to the family of **Laura J. Makie**, a long-time WSHS/Sweetwater County Historical Society member who died in Green River on March 18th at the age of 85. Laura received her teaching degree at Kearney State College, and taught for more than thirty-four years, retiring in 1987. She was very active in her church and other civic organizations. She and her husband, Dean, enjoyed spending time with their children and grandchildren.

