



Wyoming History News



Published for members of the Wyoming State Historical Society

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Heard on the Historical Trail



Special thanks to WSHS members Tom Rea and Russ Tanner for manning the Society's booth at the recent OCTA convention.

Congratulations to the Museum of the Mountain Man (Sublette County Historical Society) in Pinedale for recently publishing Volume V of the *Rocky Mountain Fur Trade Journal*.

Also to Homsher Grant Recipient and WSHS member Mike Mackey who published "*Wyoming In The Twentieth Century: Topics in the History of the Cowboy State*." His new efforts will be focused on the legacy of Henry Asa Coffeen from Sheridan who served in the Fifty-Third Congress as Wyoming's Representative. Mr. Coffeen died in 1912 and is buried in Sheridan.

The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum recently held another successful W.C. Slim Lawrence BBQ. The annual event benefits activities of the museum.

(continued page 3)

Record Number of Nominations Received for WSHS Awards Program

Awards program chair, Judy Musgrave, reports that 115 nominations were received for the 2010 program year. "For the previous two program years only sixty-nine nominations were received," she said. "This is the most nominations received since 2005 when I first joined the committee, and represents an increase of 67% over last year."

According to Judy nominations came in from eighteen affiliated chapters—up from twelve last year—and eleven individual WSHS members—up from four last year. Nine of the chapters submitted five or more nominations, while Weston and Sheridan County chapters submitted fifteen each, and Star Valley sixteen. "I wholeheartedly congratulate the chapter award chairmen and individuals who took the time to find worthy projects and write nominations for them," says Judy. The Awards Committee, in addition to Judy Musgrave, includes Cindy Brown, Cheyenne; Lynne Houze, Cody and Linda Fleming, Baggs.

Award winners receive two complimentary tickets to the awards luncheon which will be in Evanston on September 10th. There they will receive a certificate, a plaque or an Honorable Mention. Previous award winners in the Publications Category have said that this recognition from the Society really does help sell more books!

The complete list of recipients will be in the October issue of *Wyoming History News*.

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The Wyoming State Historical Society's vision is to ensure that Wyoming's past remains accessible to present and future generations.

The Society's mission is to educate, support and foster the study of Wyoming history.

Visit www.wyshs.org

From the President. . .



Dear Friends ---
A highlight of my month was to attend the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation's opening of the Interpretive Learning Center on August 20. It was an amazing weekend filled with wonderful events. More than two hundred former internees and their families attended. Friday evening about seven hundred attended the Pilgrimage dinner enjoying a wonderful talk by Tom Brokaw. The official dedication ceremony took place Saturday with more than twelve hundred people attending. Senator Daniel Inouye of Hawaii was the keynote speaker, along with former Senator Alan Simpson and former member of the U.S. House of Representative and Cabinet Secretary Norm Mineta.

Three Heart Mountain Goodwill Ambassadors, former internees Tak Hoshizaki, and LaDonna Zall, the curator and archivist for the Foundation, cut the wire (instead of a ribbon) opening the Interpretive Learning Center. Afterwards people were allowed to enter the ILC and view the exhibits documenting the life of the internees. The ILC's introductory film, *All We Could Carry*, produced and directed by Academy Award winning documentarian Steven Okazaki was also shown. Mr. Okazaki's father was interned at Heart Mountain.

The Foundation hosted a banquet attended by approximately eight hundred people. One highlight was a panel discussion examining the internment experience from various perspectives. Panelists included Judge Lance Ito, a Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge (his parents first met at Heart Mountain); Secretary Norm Mineta; Dr. Melba Vasquez, president of the American Psychological Association, and Irene Hirano Inouye president of the U.S.-Japan Council.

The dedication of the ILC received great press. The *Wall Street Journal* carried a story on Saturday, and on Sunday the *Casper-Star-Tribune* carried a front page story, and the events also were covered extensively by the *Billings Gazette*. Wyoming Public Radio broadcast stories before and after the dedication and on Friday, August 26, "On Point," a program created by Boston's Public Radio Station and broadcast on NPR devoted an entire hour to the story of the Heart Mountain Relocation Center. Shirley Higuichi, president of the Foundation, Eric Muller, a member of the Foundation and one of the co-chairs of the Program Committee which created the ILC exhibit, and Toshi Ito, a former internee and mother of Judge Lance Ito, were guests on the show.

As a Foundation board member, I played a small role in the creation of the exhibits and take great pride in what the Foundation has accomplished. I encourage all of you to visit the ILC and learn about the internee experience at the camp.

Rick

(Heard continued from page 1)

The new Visitors Center at Legend Rock Petroglyph Site in Hot Springs County was dedicated in late August. The historic site is administered by staff of Hot Springs State Park.

The Papers of William F. Cody is proud to announce the release of its second publication, *The Life of Hon. William F. Cody, Known as Buffalo Bill*. For details contact the University of Nebraska Press at <http://www.nebraskapress.com>.

The Albany County Historical Society will sponsor a walking tour of community buildings in Laramie on September 9th. Tickets are \$10 per person. For details call 745-4195.

Happy Birthday to long-time WSHS member and committee volunteer, Amy Lawrence of Laramie. Amy is at that "perfect age" and a party is being held in her honor on Sunday, September 11 from 1-4 p.m. at the Alice Hardy Stevens Center in Laramie. Cards can be sent to Amy at 15 Lawrence Rd., Laramie, WY 82070. And congratulations also to long-time WSHS members Dick and Marge Wilder on their 65th wedding anniversary! Dick is a past president and Marge served as treasurer. They both volunteer on several Society committees.

WSHS member John Voight is the new owner of the historic Sunrise mine located in Platte County near Hartville. His goal is to restore the buildings and eventually make the historic site open to the public.

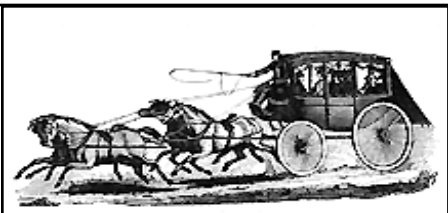
The Weston County Historical Society recently celebrated the grand opening of the Weston County Fair Event Center. WSHS past president Mike Jording pre-

sented a talk for the event titled "Fred Perino: The Story of the Auctioneer."

Rumor has it that year-end Internal Revenue Service reports will be due around November 15th. Chapter treasurers should be watching their mailboxes for the form that will arrive in October. The Society's accountant, Rick Reimann, expresses his appreciation in advance for your timely responses.

Congratulations and thank you to everyone involved in the recent celebration at Heart Mountain. The editor of *WyoFile* notes that it has been almost seventy years since the Heart Mountain War Relocation Center began operations. The grand opening of the Heart Mountain Interpretive Living Center was dedicated by a cast of many the weekend of August 19th. To learn more about *WyoFile* visit www.wyofile.com.

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: The new Interpretive Learning Center at Heart Mountain (near Powell) is now open. Hours after Labor Day are Wednesday through Sunday from 10-5 p.m.
: WSHS president and Heart Mountain Foundation board member Rick Ewig said we now have another great museum in Wyoming that will educate many students and visitors from around the country about the internment experience. For details go to www.heartmountain.com or call the ILC at 754-8000.
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The Exchange

Chapters—please send in names and contact information of your new officers.

The Preservation of Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program will begin accepting grant applications on Thursday, September 1, 2011 for FY 2012. Applications must be received by November 1. For details contact karamiyagishima@nps.gov or call 303-969-2885.

Tracks Across Wyoming, a nonprofit network of museums and historic attractions along the I-80 corridor recently launched www.tracksacrosswyoming.com.

The UW School of Energy Resources has asked the AHC to conduct oral history interviews with people involved in, and impacted by, the potential energy boom in eastern Wyoming. To participate or to find out more call Leslie Waggner at 766-2557 or lwaggen2@uwyo.edu.

The Federation of State Medical Boards is preparing for its Centennial year in 2012. Anyone with information about the Wyoming Board of Medicine or its members is asked to contact Drew Carlson via e-mail at dcarlson@fsmb.org or call 817-868-4043.

Year-end taxable contributions to the Wyoming Historical Foundation can be sent to P. O. Box 247, Wheatland, WY 82201.

con-ver-gence *noun*:

the act of converging and especially moving toward union or uniformity

The Wyoming Department of State Parks & Cultural Resources, in cooperation with a host of other agencies and organizations, will conduct the first ever Convergence Conference: Culture, Creativity, Community. The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in Cody, October 6-8 (Thursday-Saturday).

The conference is designed to bring together Wyoming's creative, cultural and historical resource groups to take an introspective look at the state's cultural heritage. The goal is to increase cooperative planning across communities, and to unite under common goals. According to conference planners interactive sessions and cultural tours will allow participants to share resources, learn from cultural projects, and generate partnerships that will increase cultural outreach efforts statewide. Anyone interested in the arts, humanities, libraries, history, historic preservation, and education are encouraged to participate. Discussions will focus on how to identify what topics mean and to find out what Wyoming is doing about them. The outcome will help all these diverse groups work together to make Wyoming successful.

Among the topics identified so far include What is Cultural Heritage tourism? What is the Creative Economy? What are Best Practices in Advocacy in Wyoming? What is the Status of Culture in Wyoming? What does the Creative Vitality Index Mean? What does it take to implement these ideas? What resources are available?

Speakers and panelists will address these topics and will highlight case studies from programs within the state that are cur-

rently successful in Wyoming communities.

Cultural tours throughout the conference will include the Buffalo Bill Historical Center, the Historic Irma Hotel and Buffalo Bill Dam, and the Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center.

Additional sponsors include Wyoming Libraries, Wyoming Main Street, Wyoming Humanities Council, the University of Wyoming, the Buffalo Bill Historical Center and Warehouse Twenty One (a Wyoming marketing firm). The Wyoming State Historical Society is also participating in the conference, and president Rick Ewig encourages chapters to send a representative. He said, "This will be a unique opportunity for the Society's chapters to not only share their successes, but to also learn what others are doing to stay successful."

Details about registering will be announced in the October issue of *Wyoming History News*. In the meantime, for more information, contact WSHS member Ashley Rooney at 777-7566 or via e-mail at ashley.rooney@wyo.gov. Ashley works for the Department of State Parks & Cultural Resources and is the departmental liaison for the Society.



WIDE VARIETY OF PROJECTS RECEIVE RESEARCH GRANTS

The Wyoming State Historical Society announces recipients of its 2011 Lola Homsher research grants. The committee selected eight applicants who will receive a total of \$12,000 for their individual research projects. Chairman Mary Kelley said the Homsher Grant program is one of the most important ways the Society reaches out to the public and makes an impact on preserving Wyoming's wonderful history. Anyone doing research about Wyoming that will result in a tangible project is eligible to apply for the research grants. Kelley said this applies to members and non-members alike, amateur and professional historians, and students. For details visit www.wyshs.org. This year's Homsher recipients are:

- **Ellen Sue Blakey of Thermopolis** received \$1,000 for her project titled "Forgotten Stories: Outlaws & Bootleggers of the Wind Rivers and Absarokas."
- **Mike Mackey of Sheridan** received \$1200 for his project that will result in a book titled "Henry Coffeen: A Political Life."
- **John W. Shields of Cheyenne** received \$500 for his project that will describe the genesis of the foundation elements of Wyoming's water law as developed by Elwood Mead.
- **Robert Legoski of Sheridan** received \$1700 for a book project titled "Absaraka Park Revisited."
- **Sue Castaneda of Cheyenne, and the Wyoming State Archives** received \$2,000 that will assist in producing a coffee table style book about the historic Hitching Post Inn.
- **The Jackson Hole Historical Society & Museum in Jackson** received \$2500 to assist in producing an hour-long documentary titled "The Coach: An American Crossroads."
- **Laura Lee Scheiber of Bloomington, Indiana** received \$1100 that will assist her in completing research for her project titled "Conceiving the Wilderness: Image, Place and Ritual in the Rocky Mountain West."
- **Kristin Raesi and the Northern Arapaho Tribe** received \$2,000 that will result in research and oral histories of past Native Americans who served in the Armed Forces during WWII and the Korean War.

In addition to receiving research funds, each recipient receives a one-year complimentary membership in the Wyoming State Historical Society. Benefits include receiving the Society's scholarly journal, *Annals of Wyoming*, and the monthly newsletter, *Wyoming History News*. The Lola Homsher Grant is made possible from the endowment that prominent Wyoming historian Lola Homsher created for the purpose of promoting the research of Wyoming history. The next deadline to apply for these research grants is February 28, 2012. To learn more about the Lola Homsher Research Grant Program, or other aspects of the Wyoming State Historical Society, visit the website at www.wyshs.org or contact executive secretary Linda Fabian at 307-322-4237 or linda@dancewyoming.com.

Wyoming History CALENDAR

September 8-11, Evanston—Fifty-eighth annual meeting of the Wyoming State Historical Society. Pre-registration required. Call 322-4237.

September 15, Pinedale—Public Meeting regarding the Green River Drift National Register of Historic Places Nomination. Call 777-6179 or laura.nowlin@wyo.gov.

September 23-24, Buffalo—Lawman Symposium: A Comparison of Tom Horn and Ed Cantrell. Call 684-7793 or 684-7064.

Through September—Archaeology Awareness Month. Contact Judy Wolf at judy.wolf@wyo.gov or 766-5366; or Ashley Rooney at ashley.rooney@wyo.gov or 777-7566.

October 6-8, Cody—Convergence Conference: Culture, Creativity, Community Info. Call 777-7566.

All Wyoming phone numbers in WHN are preceded by the same area code—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.

Welcome New Members

* Denotes status as formerly an At Large Member

Greater Yellowstone Historical Society

Charles Chester, Cambridge, MA

Laramie County Historical Society

Don and Amy Threewit, Cheyenne

Platte County Historical Society

Roy and Mary Jo Birt, Wheatland
Gale and Evelyn Smith, Wheatland

At Large

Michelle Parker, West Fargo, ND

Curtis Johnson, Green River

Susan Scratchley, Laramie

Steve Haack, Lincoln, NE

Will Bagley, Salt Lake City, UT

Myron West, Cheyenne

Helena Linn, Big Piney

Quackgrass Sally, Bridger, MT

Syd Love, San Diego, CA

2012 CALENDAR OF WYOMING HISTORY AVAILABLE NOW!

Thomas Kennet-Were, an English gentleman and artist, traveled across the United States in 1868 and 1869. He documented his trip by writing "Nine Months in the United States," and by painting many scenes in watercolor. He crossed Wyoming along the not yet completed Union Pacific Railroad line and, in March 1869, a snowstorm west of Laramie delayed the train for twenty-six hours. From this experience Kennet-Were painted "Snowed up in the Rocky Mountains." His painting is depicted on the cover of the 2012 Calendar of Wyoming History in splendid color which can not be fully appreciated here.



If you have not yet placed an order, or if you're a new vendor and wish to place an order please do so soon. Quantities are limited, so make sure you don't miss out. Chapters—you too. The calendar is a sure-fire fundraiser and has been known to help increase memberships. They make wonderful gifts for friends and family, or business associates. *Order now!*

Available (so far) at the following locations:

Casper: Ralph's Book Store, Natrona County Historical Society (Jackie Ellis)
Cheyenne: Wyoming State Museum, City News
Cody: The Thistle, Park County Archives
Evanston: Uinta County Museum
Ft. Bridger: Fort Bridger Historical Association
Glendo: Glendo Historical Museum
Gillette: Rockpile Museum, Campbell County Historical Society (Charlene Busk)
Green River: Sweetwater County Historical Museum
Hanna: Hanna Basin Historical Society
Laramie: American Heritage Center (Rick Ewig), UW Bookstore
Lander: Fremont County Historical Society (Pat Schultz)

Powell: Powell Office Supply
Rock Springs: Rock Springs Museum
Sheridan: Sheridan County Historical Museum
Sundance: Crook County Historical Society (John Shoffstall)
Torrington: Goshen County Historical Society (Dick Glandt or Bob Melonuk)
Thermopolis: Hot Springs County Historical Society
Wheatland: Platte County Library

Vendors: To purchase calendars e-mail linda@dancewyoming.com or call 322-4237.
 They are going fast!

DONORS

Special thanks to *Michael O'Neill*, San Francisco, CA
Geoffrey Dobson, St. Augustine, FL and *Frank Bertagnolli*, Carlsbad, NM for donating above and beyond the regular dues structure.

Renewing your membership helps keep programs of the WSHS strong. Membership makes a great gift for that special someone, a professional colleague or for the person who has everything...everything that is but a membership in the WSHS. At Large members can renew via PayPal at www.wyshs.org. New At Large members can also join via PayPal or the Postal Service.

Something new on the horizon Inserted in this issue of Wyoming History News is the Foundation's newest informational piece designed to heighten interest in potential donations. The Foundation's board of directors have been working hard to determine the best way to encourage donations to the new endowment created in December 2009. The board, at that time, set a goal of \$100,000 over a two-year period. They believe this informational card will help explain the overall goals of the Foundation. This piece will be distributed to accountants, financial planners, banks and other businesses who work with individuals in developing estate plans and donations in general. If you have questions feel free to contact Mike Jording, President, Wyoming Historical Foundation, at P. O. Box 594, Newcastle, WY 82701.

The Society's website will host a link to the Foundation which is <http://wyshs.org/content/wyoming-historical-foundation>.



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