

Award Recipients – 2011

The Wyoming State Historical Society honored several residents and organizations at the Society's 58th annual meeting held recently in Evanston. The Society's prestigious awards program recognizes individuals and organizations from all across the state whose work honors and preserves Wyoming's legacy. The nominations were submitted by members of the Wyoming State Historical Society and its various chapters.

Publications Awards—Books—Fiction

Nominated by the Natrona County Chapter

Gene Gagliano and Zachary Pullen for *Dee and the Mammoth*

This children's story as told by Dee, a shy girl on a dig site, tells of her father who is a geologist digging up the bones of the largest Columbian mammoth. The geologist braves blazing summer heat, blizzards, flash floods, rattlesnakes, and dust storms. Credit is given to the backhoe operator who discovered the site while excavating on a ranch.

The DVD chronicles the events of finding the bones, to the completion of the project with the mammoth on display at the Tate Museum. Interviews are featured with Dee, the backhoe operator, the ranchers, and members of the dig team. Over 1,000 unpaid volunteers contributed to this project.

Publications Awards—Books—Non-fiction

Self-Nominated

John W. Davis for *Wyoming Range War: The Infamous Invasion of Johnson County*

Attorney John W. Davis has produced what is likely to be the definitive history of the "infamous Invasion of Johnson County". That is due to his diligence in researching not only the events of 1892, but the years leading up to the invasion, and then following through with what happened after the invasion ended. Davis spent years researching this book, reading period newspapers, documents, letters, and public records. His meticulous account is not only deeply researched, but better, highly readable.

AND

Nominated by the Park County Chapter

W. Hudson Kensel for *Dude Ranching in Yellowstone Country: Larry Larom and Valley Ranch*

W. Hudson Kensel has written an outstanding biography of Larry Larom and his ownership of Valley Ranch located approximately 50 miles southwest of Cody. A Princeton student, Larom rode a stagecoach in Buffalo Bill's Wild West show at Madison Square Garden in 1910 and was then determined to live in the West. He and Winthrop Brooks of Brooks Brothers men's store in New York City purchased Valley Ranch in 1915, but Larom soon became the sole owner. Larom founded a boys' prep school and turned Valley into a dude ranch. He became a civic leader, conservationist, and founder and president of the Dude Ranchers' Association.

Honorable Mention:

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

Cynde Georgen for *In the Shadow of the Bighorns: A History of Early Sheridan and the Goose Creek Valley of Northern Wyoming*

In the Shadow of the Bighorns is a collection of short stories that explore a number of factors that made Sheridan more than just a cowtown or a whistle stop on the railroad. The reader will learn about the history of the Goose Creek Valley from 1804 when Francois Antoine LaRocque came through the area with a fur trapping party to 1931 when the Sheridan WYO Rodeo Association incorporated and held their first rodeo. They will discover how the area blossomed and grew into the commercial and cultural hub of northern Wyoming. The book is well laid out and chockfull of photos and illustrations – both in color and black and white. There is a comprehensive timeline in the back along with a detailed index, endnotes, and a select bibliography.

Honorable Mention:

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

Tom Ringley for *Wranglin' Notes! A Chronicle of Eatons' Ranch*

Wranglin' Notes is filled with stories, photos, and archival tidbits from Eatons' Ranch's own *Wranglin' Notes* newsletter. It tells the complete story of this unique enterprise over the last 131 years and features original caricatures by Joe DeYong, protégé of Charlie Russell, who was employed at the ranch for several years.

Custer Trail Ranch which later became Eatons' Dude Ranch, was started by the Eaton brothers in 1879 near Medora, SD. Theodore Roosevelt's Maltese Cross Ranch was nearby, and he was a friend of the brothers. Originally a cattle ranch, the Eaton brothers' generosity toward eastern guests led to the development of their dude ranching operation. Moving to Wolf, WY, in 1904, Eatons' was perhaps the first actual dude ranch built for the purpose of accommodating guests in Wyoming.

Honorable Mention:

Nominated by the Crook County Chapter

Rocky Courchaine and Pam Thompson for *Images of America: Sundance*

This book is an interesting account of the beginning years of the Town of Sundance and Crook County – those who passed through and those who stayed. It has informative paragraphs and many, many pictures.

Honorable Mention:

Nominated by the Platte County Chapter

Starley Talbott for *Images of America: Fort Laramie*

Fort Laramie, published by Arcadia Publishing, is the second "Images of America" book written by author Starley Talbott. This book has national and international significance because of the importance of Fort Laramie (originally Fort William) in our early military history. The Fort was an important stop for emigrants traveling the Oregon, California and Mormon Trails. It was also a gathering place for Native Americans and, in fact, hosted the 1851 and 1868 treaty councils. The list of characters that passed through Fort Laramie included Robert Stuart; the first known white person to visit the site in 1812. Alfred Jacob Miller was the first artist to record the Fort Laramie landscape during an expedition in 1837. Religious leaders, military men, Native Americans and other noteworthy characters all, at one time or another, were at Fort Laramie.

Honorable Mention:

Nominated by the Fremont County Chapter

Carol Thiesse, Traci Foutz, and Joe Spriggs for *Images of America: Lander*

*Carol, Traci, and Joe present the history of Lander, Wyoming, and the surrounding area in their book, **Images of America: Lander**. Each chapter begins with a brief narration that quickly springs to life as the reader explores the photos that illustrate this extensive history. From the early 1800s through the 20th century, the reader can explore this record with thorough, page by page reading; or by “jackalope” style, jumping around from photo to photo.*

Honorable Mention:

Nominated by Starley Talbott Thompson

Linda Graves Fabian, Carol Price Tripp, and the Wyoming Pioneer Memorial Museum for *Images of America: Douglas*

***Images of America: Douglas** features historic images of the town located in east-central Wyoming. The authors are childhood friends and were especially thrilled to collaborate with the Wyoming Pioneer Memorial Museum to obtain the photographs featured in this book. All proceeds from the book go to the Museum. This book is an important addition to preserving Wyoming’s history.*

Honorable Mention:

Nominated by the Campbell County Chapter

Mary Kelley for *Images of America: Gillette*

This book is one of the books in the Arcadia Publishing series of bringing home town histories via photos to the people. Encouraging interest in the population’s hometown, this book helps bring to life the days of past to the current residents of Gillette. From the ol’ timers who make this country to the modern day coal miner who is a transplant here like so many others, there has been great interest in this book which brings out many of the “flavorful characters” of the town. With such a large transplanted population, this book has helped many folks to become curious about learning more about Gillette’s history. Mary’s book has become a definite reference book when there are questions about when something happened or who did such and such in town.

Publications Awards—Books—Autobiography or Biography

Nominated by the Park County Chapter

Lawrence M. Woods for *Horace Plunkett in America: An Irish Aristocrat on the Wyoming Range*

This is an outstanding work on a little-known Irish immigrant who came to Wyoming in 1879, specifically to the Powder River Basin. He came not only for his health, as his doctor recommended, but also to make his fortune. As Woods says in his introduction to this work, it is not a full biography of Plunkett as that has already been done. But, it does deal with Plunkett’s ranch life here in Wyoming. It is well-researched and well-written and not to be missed.

Honorable Mention:

Nominated by the Natrona County Chapter

NCHS Class of 1950 for *More Memories of Casper*

*A contribution to the written history of Casper on the occasion of their 60th class reunion 2010, **More Memories of Casper** shares life with the struggles and challenges of growing up in the 1930s and 40s, graduating in the post-World War II era. Memories of Woods Men’s Store,*

neighborhood stores, names of people that played a part in Casper history on both sides of the law including James Alexander who buried his wife in the basement of their house, only to have the dog locate the body. Stories tell of the oil industry and the failure of the leaking wells at the tank farm. Some details like using wooden matches for money in card games and many other memories of that generation.

Publications Awards—Books—Self-published

Nominated by the Cokeville Chapter

Eva N. Clark for *Cokeville: Biographies of Her Colonizers, 1870-1900*

Eva Clark has spent the past 20 years researching and collecting data, articles, and information on the early settlers of Cokeville. She worked especially hard to sync the finishing touches and publication of her book with the centennial of Cokeville's incorporation. This was a service project to let folks know the real history of Cokeville and her colonizers. To quote from the preface: "Approaching the centennial eve of the town of Cokeville's incorporation, it is fitting that a biography collection of its early colonizers should be created. About twenty years ago, I acquired an interest in the early people who came to Cokeville; these settlers planted the seed that created such welcoming spirit to the people who came later...thus began a twenty-year journey of collecting data from descendants of the early residents."

Publications Awards—Books—Single Chapter in a Book

No Nominations

Publications Awards—Books—Reference

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

John D. McDermott for *Red Cloud's War: The Bozeman Trail, 1866-1868*

Paul Hedren, a retired National Park Service Superintendent, historian, and author wrote, "This book is laden with insights, is extraordinarily well-researched, exhaustively and irrefutably documented, and destined to become the definitive account of this fascinating Northern Plains Indian war." Also, he writes, "From this remarkable (body of material) he has written a delightfully good read."

*Despite it being a "good read", McDermott's **Red Cloud's War** is very much a scholarly work which thus deserves the review of fellow scholars in the field. The book was published in two volumes by Arthur H. Clark and Co. with the University of Oklahoma Press as part of their Frontier Military Series.*

Publications Awards—Poetry

No Award Given

Publications Awards—Pamphlets/Newsletters

Nominated by Linda Fabian and David Kathka

Dr. Michael Cassity for *A Brief History of Wyoming Homesteading, Ranching, and Farming, 1860-1960*

Dr. Michael Cassity prepared this booklet for the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office whose Planning and Historic Contest Development Program helps us understand the significance of specific historical events and places. This is the first context to be developed for this project.

Featuring historic images and, in some instances, first-person primary resources, the 64-page, full color booklet includes an introduction into the landscape and the past; a heritage of

homesteading, ranching and farming; and a critical timeline. It gives us an opportunity to not just view homesteading, ranching, and farming as totally separate activities but to see how they have overlapped and transitioned through the years.

AND

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

Nathan Doerr, Editor for *The Log: The Official Newsletter of the Sheridan County Historical Society*

*In 2009, the Sheridan County Historical Society and the Sheridan County Museum combined their newsletters to create a larger publication with historical content. Under the leadership of Editor Nathan Doerr, each issue of the newsletter has become better. We estimate that we have picked up an additional 50 or more Museum and/or Historical Society members because of **The Log**. We have a circulation of 400 plus and sell approximately 25 of each issue in the Museum Mercantile.*

Articles are solicited from the readership following a theme chosen by the editorial staff. Each time, in addition to the historical articles, there are featured artifacts, historical photos, and a short bio of a member along with SCHS, WSHS, and Museum news. In addition, as is the case with most newsletters, we have a section listing donors, new and returning members, and membership/donation information.

Honorable Mention:

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

Downtown Sheridan Association for *Historic Downtown Sheridan Walking Tour*

*The 2010 **Historic Downtown Sheridan Walking Tour** pamphlet begins with a timeline of important dates in Sheridan's history and is updated from the original walking tour pamphlet with additional research by several area residents. There are photos of the original buildings and sites noted on the tour along with lengthy captions telling their history. A detailed map of the downtown area with corresponding "Where are you?" coding is easily found in the back of the pamphlet.*

Funded in part by the Sheridan Travel and Tourism, with a few paid advertisements, the pamphlet is available free of charge at many Sheridan locations. It will be provided to WSHS trekkers and will, no doubt, prove to be a popular choice of activities during the June Trek in Sheridan.

Publications Awards— Brochures/Newsletters

Nominated by Natrona County Chapter

The Wyoming Monument and Markers Tribal SHPO for *The Sand Creek Massacre Trail in Wyoming*

The brochure tells of the 1864 Sand Creek Massacre in eastern Colorado and the trail used in Wyoming that leads to the Wind River Reservation. The brochure tells of the reason behind the massacre – the discovery of gold in Colorado. The influx of white man looking for gold created tensions between the whites and Indians. Colonel John Chivington led federally enlisted Colorado volunteers on a November dawn raid of the Arapaho and Southern Cheyenne camp at Sand Creek killing many women and children. The brochure gives enough information that wets the thirst of knowledge for the entire episode – what led up to the massacre and ensuing results of the massacre.

AND

Nominated by Weston County Chapter

News Letter Journal, Bob Bonnar, Editor for *Western Heritage Summer Guide*

The News Letter Journal's publication, Western Heritage, brings Weston County's history to the forefront to be re-lived by residents and visitors alike. From the recounting of Diamond Slim's demise to the legacy of Stinking Bear, this tab, which was available throughout the summer at numerous local businesses, shows the rich history of the area and makes it available to everyone.

Publications Awards—Calendars

Nominated by the Lincoln County Chapter

Judy Julian & Fossil Country Museum for *Kemmerer Inside and Out*

The Fossil Country Museum Historical Calendar for 2011 features interesting photos of the inside and outside of twelve businesses. There are also historical tidbits included for many days of the year.

Honorable Mention:

Nominated by the Platte County Chapter

Rick Ewig and Vicki Schuster, AHC, for the *2011 Wyoming Historical Calendar*

The 2011 Calendar of Wyoming History has once again been successful in highlighting the state's history through the use of historic photographs. Each image depicts the people, the businesses, and the various events that make Wyoming unique.

Since the early 1980s, Rick Ewig has been instrumental in producing the calendar. Since 1995, he has received the assistance of WSHS member Vicki Schuster, layout and graphics design artist, along with staff at the AHC who assist in locating daily tidbits from newspapers around the state. The calendar is used as a major fundraiser by historical society chapters around the state.

Publications Awards—Magazines and Newspapers

Nominated by the Platte County Chapter

Casper Star Tribune, Chad Baldwin, Editor for *They Served With Honor*

*The Casper Star Tribune has dedicated time and space in honoring Wyoming's World War II Veterans. The feature, **They Served With Honor**, began in September 2009, and every Sunday since the beginning they have run an interview with a Wyoming WWII vet, each one over eighty years of age, featuring them in a full page story with photographs. The reporters involved have sought these people out and gone to their homes, wherever they might be in the state. The result has been overwhelming. Full videos of the interviews are available online at www.trib.com/honor. In addition, a travelling exhibit has been created, featuring the "newspaper plates", in cooperation with other Casper businesses and is circulating around the state.*

AND

Nominated by the Sublette County Chapter

Museum of the Mountain Man for *The Rocky Mountain Fur Trade Journal: Volume 4*

The Rocky Mountain Fur Trade Journal is an academic, peer-reviewed publication that showcases new ideas and topics related to the Rocky Mountain fur trade era in

American history. Published annually, the Journal continues its effort to increase knowledge and bring fresh perspective by encouraging research and debate in the academic arena. Each article is a well-written, heavily researched article that explores a different topic. The Journal is nicely illustrated with period (and a few modern) illustrations in full color.

The Journal is edited by Jim Hardee, a well-known fur trade historian who has written articles for a variety of publications, given numerous presentations, and recently published his first book on the subject.

AND

Nominated by the Park County Chapter

Nathan Bender and Richard Singer for *The Sacred Sport of Apsaalooke Arrow Throwing* from *Annals of Wyoming*, Spring 2010

This article tells the history of spear throwing in the Native American culture, a subject which has seldom been written about in historical journals. It is both highly informative and well-written. The accompanying historic images are excellent and give the reader a better understanding of the skill involved in throwing arrows. It is a sport that continues today. It is evident that the two authors work well together as this piece is quite enjoyable.

AND

Nominated by the Natrona County Chapter

Steven C. Haack for *Platte Bridge: A Grand Effort and Enduring Mystery* from *Journal of the West*, Winter 2010

Mr. Haack gives a detailed history of the North Platte River Bridge and the Battle of Red Buttes given from the Indian perspective...from the details of the fight to the ensuing search for the actual battlefield and the graves of the soldiers in later years. The article is illustrated with drawing, photos, and maps.

Internet Website Awards

Nominated by Natrona County Historical Society

Tom Rea for www.tomrea.net

Tom Rea maintains a website that is a wonderful resource for those who wish to learn about our great state of Wyoming. Tom goes into great detail in all of his research. The home page includes internal links to Tom's events, books, and links to other relative sites. Tom has been a journalist for the Casper Star Tribune, is a poet, and a non-fiction author. His work has been used in the public school system and PBS and he continues to give talks on various Wyoming historical topics.

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Natrona County Historical Society – Vaughn Stephen Cronin

Audio-Video Documentary Awards - Professional

Nominated by the Fremont County Chapter

Wyoming PBS for *Alan K. Simpson*

Culled from many hours of conversation, the documentary tells Simpson's story in his own inimitable words; but there are other voices as well: brother Pete Simpson, friends Ted

Kennedy and George HW Bush, sometimes opponents Trent Lott and NPR's Nina Totenberg. The documentary is illustrated with photographs and news clippings from various collections and features never-before seen family films.

AND

Nominated by Linda Fabian and Karla Toomer

Sue Castaneda and Mark Junge for *Survivor is My Name: Remembrances of the Cokeville Elementary School Bombing*

Sue Castaneda and Mark Junge have joined forces to create an oral history of the Cokeville, Wyoming, elementary school hostage crisis that happened on May 16, 1986. They spent time in Cokeville interviewing fourteen individuals involved in that crisis now referred to by most as "The Cokeville Miracle". This was the day that the entire school population was taken hostage and held at gunpoint and a bomb. They were able to meet face to face with several individuals who were personally affected by this event. The mental anguish continues to this day. This project will serve to provide first person resources to this tragic event. The podcast is available at www.wyospcr.state.wy.us and has also been a feature of WPR.

Honorable Mention:

Nominated by the Park County Chapter and the Fremont County Chapter

Wyoming PBS for *Main Street Wyoming: Charles Belden – Cowboy Photographer*

This documentary, written and produced for WYPBS by Tom Manning, chronicles the life of Charles Belden. Although born in California and an MIT graduate in Engineering, Belden moved to the Pitchfork Ranch in Northwestern Wyoming after marrying the daughter of owner L.G. Phelps. He became an excellent photographer, and, with the eyes of an artist, he captured on film the transition of cattle ranching from the old traditional ways to the modern covering decades of change. In thousands of images, Manning and the PBS crew blended Belden's photographs and home movies with views of the present-day Pitchfork Ranch and surrounding area adding both color and motion into an informative and entertaining film. In Belden's own words, "If a picture doesn't tell a story, it isn't worth taking."

Audio-Video Documentary Awards - Non-Professional

No Nominations

Fine Arts Award

Nominated by the Weston County Chapter

Eileen Nistler for her painting, *Skirt Swirl*

*Eileen's **Skirt Swirl** depicts a young girl wearing clothes which belonged to the artist's great-grandmother who homesteaded in Wyoming beginning in 1906. This painting has won awards in Art of the West, American Plains Artists 2010, and Paint America top 100, 2010. It is currently touring with Paint America.*

Nominated by the Star Valley Chapter

Allene Heiner for her historic musical play, *The Other Side of the Window*

The play is about some of the events in Star Valley in the early 1900s. According to the author, the story is real with a lot of fiction mixed in. The locations are real. The script has roles

for both adults and youth, and they all learn more about Star Valley's past. Mrs. Heiner composes her own music for the dramas she creates. The play is a great way to share and preserve history.

Nominated by the Park County Chapter

George D. Smith for his painting *Tex Crockett on South Dakota*

*George "Dee" Smith, who goes by his middle name casually, is a local Cody artist who has been painting for 35 years. He began his professional career as an architect but soon found his niche in painting. **Tex Crockett on South Dakota** was painted in 2009 and was picked by the Cody Stampede Board to be used for their annual Stampede poster for 2011. It is an oil painting and measures 28" high by 22" wide. Tex Crockett, who rode South Dakota in the 1919 Stampede – its very first year – was an outstanding cowboy in the years after WW I.*

Young Historian Awards - Grades 3-5

Nominated by the Lincoln County Chapter

1st Place – Matthew Jones for his essay, *Papa*

Matthew interviewed his Great, Great-Uncle Bob known as "Papa" about his life growing up in Kemmerer. Uncle Bob talks about his parents arriving at Ellis Island from Finland and how their name was changed from Miettynen to Johnson. Like many people coming from Europe, they left all their relatives behind starting a new life and a new family in a new country. He talks of the fun they had swimming and fishing in the creek. "Papa" never remembers going shopping or going out with his family because, with eight kids, there were too many to take out. What a wonderful experience this was for Matthew interviewing "Papa".

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

2nd Place – Chelsey Swaney and Addie Rosenlund for *The History of Sheridan, Wyoming*

Chelsey and Addie did a great alphabet book for the history of Sheridan, Wyoming. After deciding what topic to use for each letter, they researched it and found a photo or drawing for most of them. Their work is neat and attractive. It is obvious that they enjoyed working together to create this project.

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

3rd Place – Alex Palmer for *Traveling Through Wyoming Game*

*Alex created a cleaver game board for his **Traveling Through Wyoming Game**. He then wrote history and fact questions along with a bonus question. Some of the questions are pretty tough. Alex surely learned a lot about Wyoming history through this process.*

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

Honorable Mention – Marissa Brenneman for *Who Am I? Booklet of Wyoming History*

Marissa chose several people and places in the Sheridan area and wrote created a riddle about each ending with who am I? The next page reveals the answer and more information about the topic. She did a nice job in creating her striking booklet.

Young Historian Awards - Grades 6-8

Nominated by the Natrona County Chapter

1st Place – James Bisiar, Casper, for *Believe It or Not: Wyoming's Wildest*

*To create interest in his very unique project, James created “Wyoming Believe It or Not Blocks”, which give a hint as to what will be included in his book. Several subjects of interest are covered by these blocks including: Wyoming Political Figures, Animals, Geology, and History. James included a copy of his thorough research as part of his project. The capstone of his project is a book, **Believe It or Not: Wyoming's Wildest.***

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

2nd Place, Jessica Ross for her website, *The Farmers' Story and the Prisoners' Glory in Wyoming During the 1940s*

Jessica's thesis statement for her 2010-11 History Day project is, “Although the Third Geneva Convention only guaranteed the fair treatment of captured and wounded military personnel and civilians during wartime, farmers and prisoners of war both benefited from the success of this diplomacy, which resulted in a unique and emotional bond.” It is a statement befitting of the 2011 theme, Debate and Diplomacy in History.

*For her project, Jessica chose to do a website entitled, **The Farmers' Story and the Prisoners' Glory in Wyoming during the 1940s.** She skillfully tells the story of German prisoners of war from the camp in Douglas who were taken to the Clearmont area in eastern Sheridan County to farm sugar beets.*

Jessica won first place at the Regional competition and third place at the State competition. However, because the first place winner at state was unable to go to the National History Day competition in June, Jessica attended winning the award for the Outstanding Junior Entry from Wyoming.

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

3rd Place, Libby Jost and Hannah Wiley for their exhibit, *The Great Wolf “Debate”*

Libby and Hannah took a closer look at the debate on wolf extermination in the west by focusing on individuals from different sides of the debate: John Kendrick as the anti-wolf politician; George Ostrum as the wolfer; and Gordon Eastman as the conservationist. Through their exploration of these three individuals, Hannah and Libby determined that the extermination of wolves in the west was “a great debate with many consequences, both good and bad, that helped shape our nation.” As part of their project, Hannah and Libby interviewed George Ostrum, Jr. and gained wonderful insights into his father's role as a wolfer – turned wolf admirer. Part of this nomination is the notebook they compiled with artwork and stories about wolves mostly done by George Ostrum.

Libby and Hannah won first in their category at the Regional History Day competition but did not place at the state level. However, they did win the Clara Jensen Award from the Wyoming State Historical Society for the best entry on a Wyoming topic.

Young Historian Awards - Grades 9-12

Nominated by the Park County Chapter

1st Place, Skyler Gabel for *The Power of a Greenhorn*

Skyler has written an excellent paper on the friendship between George Bird Grinnell and Theodore Roosevelt and their mutual interest in conservation, wildlife management policies, and the founding of the Boone and Crockett Club. These policies benefitted the country's national parks as well, helping to make them the treasures that they are today. Skyler writes of their similar backgrounds and traces the similarities in their lives that eventually brought them together. Their friendship continued from 1885 through Roosevelt's presidency and the rest of their lives.

Nominated by the Weston County Chapter

2nd Place – Tania Garcia for *Movies, Movies, Movies*

In giving some interesting history of Newcastle's historic Dogie Theater, Ms. Garcia highlights one of the most-loved buildings in downtown Newcastle as well as one of the area's best-loved personalities.

Junior Activities Awards - Grades 3-5

Nominated by the Crook County Chapter

1st Place – Mrs. Marlatt's 4th Grade Class for *Rough and Tough – An Alphabet Book about Wyoming Cowboys*

This year, the Hulett Elementary students in 4th grade researched, wrote and illustrated an alphabet book about Wyoming Cowboys and the history of the cattle industry in Wyoming. Many of the students were celebrating their own heritage in the area while they produced the pages for the book.

A variety of sources were used for the information contained in the book. The most critical and widely used were the primary sources: the people who shared their ranches and businesses. The students had a more practical knowledge base for their information because of their exposure to the real experiences and artifacts.

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

2nd Place – Deb Hofmeier for *Tongue River Elementary and Big Horn Elementary History Club*

The 2010 topic for the twenty-two students from Tongue River and Big Horn Elementary Schools involved was the exploration of Holly Sugar and growing of sugar beets in the Clearmont area. Based on what they were interested in learning, students were broken up into small groups to explore the following areas: What is a Sugar Beet; Sheridan County Sugar Beets; How to Make Sugar Beet Sugar; Limestone and Sugar; and The Story of the German POWs and the Sugar Beets in Sheridan County.

Students conducted research in the Wyoming Room at the county library to explore sugar's role in Sheridan County. The students were able to go on a tour of the old Holly Sugar Factory in Sheridan, as well as a tour of the Holly Hybrid greenhouses and to the site of a limestone quarry. Students further expanded their knowledge of sugar beet farming throughout an oral history lunch at the Museum, during which they met and interviewed Sheridan area residents whose families had farmed sugar beets. Some of the guest historians had also had experiences with the German POWs who were brought into the area during WW II to help harvest sugar beets.

*To share what they had learned, each group made a presentation on their topic to the others, and also completed a page for the booklet **The History of Sugar in Sheridan County, WY.***

Nominated by the Natrona County Chapter

3rd Place – Janet Wragge, Anne Halle and Paul Taylor for *Rainbow Snake*

*As an activity encompassing almost one hundred 4th and 5th grade Oregon Trail School (Casper, WY) students working together to increase their knowledge of local and state history, this project remarkable fulfills the requirements for a WSHS Junior Activities Award. The **Rainbow Snake** tells the history of humans along the North Platte River in Wyoming in a way that excited and involved the children. The mural/banner will hang in the Oregon Trail School library and will be used as a teaching tool. It continues to be shared with the community.*

Junior Activities Awards - Grades 6-8

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

1st Place-Sharie Prout for Trail End Historic Site's *Hands-On History*

*In the summer of 2010, Sharie began a **Hands-On History** Program at the Trail End Historic Site in Sheridan. Eight Junior High School aged kids examined and researched never-before-displayed artifacts donated recently by the Kendrick family. The goal of the program is to have another way for kids to learn about history – a hands-on approach.*

The students created an exhibit entitled Old, New and Original as a group with each of them choosing an object to learn about and put into the exhibit. It was “real work” not “busy work” as they cleaned, measured, described and researched their chosen artifact and then wrote exhibit labels. What they did benefitted the Trail End staff in saving them the time it took to do those tasks. The research started with books and moved on to the internet, if needed. They also talked to local residents about the artifacts.

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

2nd Place-David Peterson's Sheridan Junior High School 8th grade Social Studies classes for their *Sheridan: Then and Now Quilt Project*

*David Peterson's 2010-11 Social Studies classes produced the fifth quilt in the Sheridan History series with **Sheridan: Then and Now**. For the 2011 quilt project, all sections of Peterson's Social Studies classes participated. They were required to locate, research, and recreate the photos shown on the quilt. Along the way they analyzed photos, journaled, and produced an essay about their experiences. The attempt was to show Sheridan, Wyoming, at least 50 years or more ago and compare it to Sheridan today in 2011.*

The Wyoming Room at the Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library, the Sheridan County Museum and the Trail End Historic Site and their staffs provided a wealth of information for research. The students made each individual quilt block themselves being responsible for supplying their own fabric and quilting their block with a sewing machine. After all were finished, Peterson stitched them together to make the quilt. Each year, the current quilt hangs at the Trail End Historic Site in Sheridan during the summer and then joins the others in one of the stairwells at Sheridan Junior High School in a permanent display.

Junior Activities Awards - Grades 9-12

No Nominations

Activities Awards - Well-Planned, Well-Conducted Tour or Tours to an Historic Site

Nominated by the Star Valley Chapter

2010 Wyoming State Historical Society Trek

The Wyoming State Historical Society Annual Trek was held June 17-20, 2010. It was hosted by the Star Valley Historical Society. There were 107 people who attended. Visitors were treated to the first presentation of their Summer Theatre held in the Old Rock Church plus a visit to see the Bar J Wranglers in Jackson. Other sites included the Star Valley Tabernacle and Family History Center as well as the Star Valley museum complex that includes four separate buildings. A popular event was a trip up the Grey's River with a lunch stop at the Box Y Ranch.

Honorable Mention

Nominated by the Platte County Chapter

Platte Valley Historical Society and Wheatland Kiwanis Club for Platte County Historic Ranch Tour

The third annual Platte County Historic Ranch Tour was held in July 2010. The focus of the tour was the historic 14 Ranch west of Glendo, WY. The Platte County Historical Society and the Wheatland Kiwanis Club work together to create an authentic experience for the participants, which has grown to about 80 people. This endeavor is a fundraising activity for both organizations. One tangible result of all the work is encapsulated in a pamphlet that each participant receives. Not only is this a treasure for the participants, but it is especially appreciated by the host ranch as a wonderful memorial to their historic legacy.

Activities Awards - Outstanding Educational Project

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

City of Sheridan Public Arts Committee for Sheridan's Historic Sculptures

The City of Sheridan Public Arts Committee has been active since 1999 in obtaining sculptures to assist in the beautification of Sheridan's downtown area. Each year they obtain from the artist, for a \$500 honorarium, and display a number of sculptures that are for sale in addition to the 42 downtown area city-owned sculptures that have been donated by businesses, individuals, or the Public Arts Council.

A new Art On Display guide to public art lists the locations of these and other artworks in the community that are available for public viewing.

Honorable Mention

Nominated by the Converse County Chapter

Lee Ann Siebken for Talk of the Town: Douglas, Wyoming – A Frontier Town's True Story

In 2009, the Douglas Historic Preservation Commission received a grant from the State Historic Preservation Office to produce a classroom workbook for all Douglas third graders. The commission felt that a local history book for 3rd graders might offer a preview to the Wyoming history sessions taught in 4th grade.

Lee Ann Siebken was contracted to write the manuscript, a 10-chapter story of Douglas complete with activity pages and test questions. Lee Ann carefully researched and wrote of Douglas, its founding, people, buildings, and events.

Honorable Mention

Nominated by the Carbon County Chapter

Linda Fleming for Baggs, Wyoming: Incorporation Centennial, 1910-2010

Baggs, named for early day cowman, George Baggs, had its first post office in 1879. It became and incorporated town in 1910 only because of the passage of the 1909 Senate File 43 legislation which required county commissioners to issue liquor licenses only to incorporated towns and cities. Thus, Baggs, never short on taverns and outlaws, could not see its future without being incorporated. Baggs became incorporated 31 years after being established.

A major activity for the Baggs Incorporation Centennial was to research the history of the town and educate the Snake River residents about the town. In observation of the Centennial, each issue of the Snake River Press contained articles that were later bound into the book.

Activities Awards - Promotion of Museum Activities

Nominated by the Park County Chapter

Rowene Weems, Homesteader Museum for *Bridges of Park County*

The exhibit opened in August 2010 to rave reviews and is one of the most popular exhibits that the Homesteader Museum has ever done. The exhibit displays images of bridges that are long gone and ones that are in out-of-the-way places. Rowene has also taken the show on the road with a power point presentation and talk that she has made for many local groups including the Park County Historical Society's September luncheon.

Activities Awards - Promotion or Restoration of Local Historic Sites

Nominated by the Weston County Chapter

Newcastle Lion's Club for *Preserving and Restoring the Cambria Cemetery*

In 2002, Leonard Nack, Lion's Club president, recognized the need and organized the plan to restore the Cambria Cemetery from the deterioration from the elements and vandals. Together with other members of the club, he has replaced 50 wooden crosses, up-righted markers that have fallen or tipped, and mowed the tall grasses and bushes that have tried to overtake the old cemetery north of Cambria, WY.

Ever since the project began, the organization gathers each summer for a day to restore the cemetery. Some members spend winter days in shops at their homes making the wooden crosses that dot the cemetery.

Activities Awards – Interpretation of Local Historic Sites

No Nominations

Activities Awards – Family History Project

Nominated by the Star Valley Chapter

Evan & Bessie Call Family History Project

As a family, the children of Evan and Bessie Call decided to restore the home where they grew up and turn it into a museum. Bessie had collected heritage items throughout her life. She always felt the importance of preserving history for future generations.

Twelve of Bessie and Evan's children were involved in the project along with Bessie. Each contributed what they could, and, with everyone helping, they had adequate skills and expertise to complete the project.

In order that the museum would be effective in sharing with the over 500 descendants, it was decided that a large building should be built on the 100 acre farm. This would provide a place for families to come and stay a week or so to enjoy the museum along with getting away and being together. A 300-350 member family reunion was held with a ribbon cutting for the new building and tours of the museum in 2010.

Annual Services Award

Nominated by the Converse County Chapter

Arlene Ekland-Earnst, Converse County Historical Society

Arlene has been a member of the WSHS/Converse County Chapter since 1995. She became curator of the Wyoming Pioneer Museum in Douglas in 1986 when it was independently owned – later transferred to the Wyoming Department of State Parks & Cultural Resources as an historic site. In 2008, management of the Fort Fetterman State Historic Site was turned over to her. She has been involved with the chapter for many years, and it looks to her for leadership.

For many years, the CCHS has been instrumental in activities at the Fort Fetterman Historic Site. Every year Arlene steps up to the plate to help us and make sure our plans are fulfilled. She is right there with us in our efforts – almost as a volunteer herself – but, for sure, an interested member of the chapter, one who just happens to be responsible for the site.

Arlene has many other job-related and volunteer activities in which she makes sure to engage the chapter as often as possible. Her efforts have brought new attention to the chapter and, without her; the chapter would not be nearly as active.

CONTACT:

Nominated by the Weston County Chapter

Maxine Kaul, Weston County Historical Society

In the past year, Maxine has served as the secretary of the Weston County Historical Society. She has also done extensive research and numerous oral histories in order to write a story on local refineries with information that would soon have been lost to future generations.

Maxine also researched Upton history for a year to commemorate Upton's centennial year. Maxine is active in the local VFW Auxiliary and promotes preservation of military history, as well. Maxine does research on many subjects upon requests from the Anna Miller Museum.

Maxine has done the research for the "Bridges to the Past" newsletter – Weston County Historical Society's quarterly newsletter. This entails a lot of time, research, and oral histories.

Nominated by the Star Valley Chapter

Gordon Tueller, Star Valley Historical Society

Gordon has served as president of the Star Valley Historical Society for several years. In 2010, he truly went the extra mile to make sure the chapter was ready to host a memorable State Trek as well as to continue to organize and support many other ongoing projects. Among them: planned and conducted monthly Board meetings, organized a monthly lecture series, made sure each meeting was publicized and all members called and invited to attend each meeting and event, drove Jermy Wight to Cheyenne and back to bring back a private library of books and bookcases donated to the Lander Trail Museum, prepared all Society building for the summer season and State Trek, organized the State Trek attended by 107 participants, hosted the Annual Summer picnic, helped with the restoration of the Snyder Basin log cabin, supported the Rock Church play and the Crow Creek Trail project, winterized the three Society museums, represented the Society at the 2010 Annual Meeting in Worland, and made sure that everyone who helped the Society in any way in 2010 was recognized at the Awards dinner in November.

Gordon has given untiring service to his community and to the Star Valley Historical Society by creating programs and treks that have attracted wide interest both in the community and beyond. He has truly exemplified the mission of the Society to advance the appreciation and study of Star Valley Wyoming. His dedication and influence will be felt long after his time of formal service has ended.

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Chapter Awards

Nominated by the Sheridan County Chapter

1st Place, Sheridan County Chapter for 2011 and 2012 Summer History Education Programs for Children at the Sheridan County Museum

The Sheridan County Museum has had a Tidbit Tuesday program in place for the past three summers. Tidbit Tuesdays (which sometimes morph into Tidbit Saturdays) are programs geared for children aged 5 to 10 that offer the opportunity for the child and their parents and/or teenaged sibling or babysitter a chance to listen to a history-based story and then work together on a related, fun, hands-on project. Miss V, the Gypsy Cowbelle from Pinedale, presented a Tidbit Saturday program on Homespun music during which the children learned cowboy songs and created their own homemade instruments from household items.

A new summer program will be launched the summer of 2011. Young Archaeologists will be a weeklong history camp that explores the past and provides participants with an opportunity to apply archaeological concepts as they investigate Plains Indian shelters using primary data sources such as maps, artifact illustrations, historic photographs, and oral histories. Lessons will take place both at the Museum and in the field. Young Archaeologists is open to children entering grades 4 through 7. Young Archaeologists will incorporate the Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelters curriculum, which was developed as a joint project of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, and Montana State University. These activities promote citizenship, build personal ethics and character, and achieve deeper cultural understanding. Community volunteers will assist with both the Tidbit and Young Archaeologists programs/projects.

Through the course of these programs/projects, the students will develop not only an appreciation but also a passion for history. Projects such as this help children to realize just how fun exploring the past can be, but it also teaches them lessons about the process—that you don't always find the answers you are looking for and that the process isn't always easy. Despite the struggles and the dead ends, the pride these students take with them is indescribable.

Nominated by the Weston County Chapter

2nd Place, Weston County Chapter for Blue Grass Music Celebration

Weston County Chapter coordinates their own celebration of bluegrass music with bluegrass music's national celebration. Bill Monroe's centennial birthday would have been September 13, 2011, and there is a national movement to honor bluegrass music and Monroe's contribution to the style of music that is home to rural roots. Weston County Chapter will show to the community a 90 minute award-winning movie (The Father of Bluegrass Music, DVD Documentary, 1993) that details the history of bluegrass music and its performers, allow a community discussion of bluegrass music locally, and provide entertainment by local bluegrass musicians such as the Cambria Bluegrass Band.

There already exists strong community support for bluegrass music in Weston County, and there are several talented musicians who perform the music and others who play it for fun and socialization. The opportunity to collaborate with the national celebration of Bill Monroe's centennial year supports the art form locally and ties Weston County and Wyoming to the national celebration. The educational opportunity will provide an avenue for others to appreciate the music's impact on Wyoming culture.

The Clara M. and Henry E. Jensen Outstanding Wyoming Teacher Award

Nominated by the Platte County Chapter

Mary Jo Birt, Wheatland Middle School Teacher

Since Mary Jo started teaching at Wheatland in 2000, she has been extremely successful in incorporating the History Day process into her curriculum. As a result, she has taken many students from the district to the state to the national competition. In addition, she has become the co-coordinator for the Laramie, Goshen, and Platte Counties District.

Her students learn in and out of the classroom. They leave with a deeper knowledge of how to be a successful learner. They have “added value” to their educational experience learning about local, state, and national history and the people who have added to that legacy. They gain practical experience that is applicable throughout their lives – no matter what profession or level of education they seek. Mary Jo truly makes a difference in the lives of her students. Her impact is significant.

Mabel Brown Cumulative Contribution Award

Nominated by the Weston County Chapter

Michael A. Jording, MD, Weston County Chapter

Mike Jording has been president of the Weston County Chapter of the Wyoming State Historical Society for most of the past fifteen years, as well as being past president of the state society. Dr. Jording is the only man to be both president of the Wyoming State Historical Society and the Wyoming Medical Society. From large statewide projects like “Barn Again” to local Weston County history, Mike has poured his heart and considerable energy into digging up the state’s buried history. His contributions to the preservation of Wyoming’s historical past are extensive and professional. Dr. Jording also makes a continuing effort to reach out to fourth grade students across the state and has presented to at least twenty-one Wyoming schools in the past years. Mike’s passion for Wyoming’s past has a way of inspiring others to love the search and research of Wyoming history, and he enjoys sharing his knowledge with others, especially the younger generation.

L. C. Bishop Award

Nominated by Pinky & Jackie Ellis

Gary Duane Long for *The Journey of the James G. Willie Handcart Company, October 1856*

The Journey of the James G. Willie Handcart Company, October 1856 by Gary Long covers a topic of much interest to trail buffs as well as Wyoming citizens – the saga of late-starting Mormon emigrants headed west for Utah. Often the story is related in terms of the itinerary and location, stressing key events (campsites, deaths, burials), told emotionally but not always accurately. To clearly present sustainable conclusions, this book uses a variety of sources including recently discovered journals and other materials as well as on-the-ground verification.

As a BLM employee, the author spent more than 30 years involved with historic Wyoming trails. While reading the journal of William Woodward, clerk of the Willie Handcart Company, Mr. Long visualized each campsite but recognized many of these were not the locations presently presumed. Correlating journals and diaries along with modern maps and technology, Gary Long has corrected assumptions in **The Journey of the James G. Willie Handcart Company**, a much needed reference book.

Henryetta Berry Memorial Award

Nominated by the Star Valley Chapter

Allene Heiner, Star Valley Chapter

Getting youth to participate in activities is one very effective way to promote Wyoming history among young people. Allene Heiner has certainly done that for many years. Beginning in 1993, a historical play has been presented during the summer months at the Old Rock Church, a restored building which dates to the early days in Star Valley. There have been 19 plays of which Allene wrote the narrative and composed the music for 17. In addition to writing and composing, she helped with the directing and also played a role in four of the performances.

It is obvious that Allene has spent a tremendous amount of time writing about historical events. More importantly, she has involved the young people in a very meaningful way. Each play called for a number of young characters. Last year alone, because of double casting the roles, there were almost 20 youth with the youngest being 6 years old and the oldest being juniors in high school. Her personality and expertise resonated with the youth. They seemed anxious to audition, rehearse, and perform. Through the years, she has worked with 150 different young people. Some of those came back for as many as five years. These youth not only heard about history, they played the roles and, in this way, got a sense of how things really were. All in all, Mrs. Heiner, while using her talents as a playwright and composer, has certainly promoted Wyoming history among young people for many years.

Judge and Mrs. Percy W. Metz Memorial Award

Nominated by the Albany County Chapter

Alan K. Simpson Institute for Western Politics, Leslie Waggener, Archivist

The UW American Heritage Center's Alan K. Simpson Institute for Western Politics and Leadership at the University of Wyoming implemented an oral history program to explore the social, environmental, and economic impacts of Wyoming's latest energy boom in Sublette County and the more recent downturn. A key purpose of the program is to provide raw perspectives for Wyoming residents and officials, humanities scholars, and scholars in other disciplines, to analyze the reaction and adjustment that occurs due to community impact created by environmental, sociological, and economic changes brought about by energy development.

The program conducted over forty audio oral history interviews with those involved in, and impacted by, the activities to develop and extract the state's natural gas resources in Sublette County. Interviewees included those most directly impacted by the energy boom including landowners, ranchers, environmentalists, town leaders, energy industry officials and workers, business owners, social services personnel, school administrators, and others.

Long-term, broad access through an online presence on the AHC's website is allowing faculty, students, and scholars at UW and elsewhere the opportunity to integrate the program's findings into their research and curricula. The oral interviews, transcripts, and related materials have become an AHC collection and will be preserved long-term.

The 2010 **Historic Preservation Committee** includes Pam Thompson (chair) of Aladdin, Art Kidwell of Clark, Amy Lawrence of Laramie, Pam Thomson of Aladdin, John Reynolds of Wheatland, and Gregory Kocken of Wisconsin. The committee spent considerable time debating the projects again this year. Each nomination had merits for receiving an award. The quantity and quality of projects nominated are a testament to the many historic preservation projects occurring around the state. Awards for both projects include \$300 to be used for future preservation work, a plaque, and a print of the Teton Range from the original oil painting done by noted Wyoming artist Conrad Schwiering.

Outstanding Preservation Project Award

The Outstanding Preservation Project award is awarded to an individual or an organization in recognition of an outstanding project in the field of historic preservation that does not focus on the preservation of a historic building or site.

Nominated by the Weston County Chapter

The recipient of the 2011 Outstanding Preservation Project Award is Lucille Dumbrill for her sourdough starter. One of the most important efforts for the preservation of this wonderful sourdough is sharing it with many others so that if one person's starter dies, there will always be other starters in existence to keep the history alive.

The sourdough starter dates back to a sheepherder's wagon in the Kaycee area in 1889. A student of Floyd Clarke, Lucille's father, gave him some of the starter. Lucille's husband, Dick, asked for a starter and began making pancakes often for his and Lucille's family and guests. Dick made pancakes from this starter through all of Alan Simpson's political campaigns. The Dumbrill family has taken the starter as far away as Michigan to give others a little taste of Wyoming. They even tried to take some along to Hawaii, but it kept blowing up.

Whenever Lucille shares this sourdough with family and friends she instructs the recipients that the way to keep the sourdough active and "happy" is to not to worry if it is pretty. The instructions she gives are part of the preservation effort that could possibly let this sourdough live forever.

Maurine Carley Memorial Award

The Maurine Carley Award is awarded to an individual or organization in recognition of outstanding historic preservation projects related to building properties and sites. Maurine Carley was a long-time member of the WSHS, acted as treasurer for twenty years, wrote the guide, and led many of the society's summer treks. She was dedicated to the preservation of Wyoming history.

Nominated by the Goshen County Chapter

The 2011 Maurine Carley Historic Preservation Award has been awarded to Western Plains Historic Preservation Association for its continued project of archaeological and historic importance of the Fort Barnard trading post.

During the past three years the Western Plains Historic Preservation Association has been engaged with this project of archaeological and historic importance at the site of the Fort Barnard trading post and Gratiot House, located on the Oregon and California trails. The trading post is located in Goshen County.

The efforts to record and protect this site have been conducted by volunteers and local high school students under the direction of George Ziemans, a professional archaeologist, and are intended to preserve the site and develop a viewing area with interpretive displays