It isn’t too late to purchase a 2014 Calendar of Wyoming history. Call 322-3014 to find out how!

The Heart Mountain Interpretive Center in Powell will feature an exhibit titled “Playing the Game: Sports at Heart Mountain” through April 15th.

The Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum in Casper is focused on creating opportunities to honor our veterans. They had an active holiday season and, through February 15 will feature an exhibit designed to illustrate how veterans survived the holidays.

Platte Valley Bank in Wheatland recently hosted a photographic exhibit of ranches in the Laramie Peak area sponsored by Laramie Peak Cattlewomen. The Platte County Historical Society is working with the group to copy the photographs for the local library and/or the museum.

(continued on page 3)
From the President...

Dear friends,
I wish you and yours a very healthy and happy 2014. With this issue I have asked Tamsen Hert, the Society’s 1st Vice President, to use this column as an opportunity to visit with you about our past activities and what you have to look forward to.

Rick

With the onset of a new year, I thought reflecting on our activities during our 60th year would be fitting. It was a year in which we witnessed an expansion of our website, growth in membership, traditional and new activities, and the loss of dear members and friends.

Thanks go out to those members and volunteers who hosted and organized our annual trek and annual meeting. Crook County could not have been more beautiful in June and we experienced wonderful tours to significant historic sites and enjoyed great food and impressive vistas – it was so lush and green in June! In September, we met in Torrington where we helped celebrate the 75th anniversary of Fort Laramie National Historic Site, learned about Fort Bernard, and viewed the winning National History Day performance, The Golden Age of Radio. Dinner was exceptional, again with a scenic view across the North Platte River Valley! At both functions we had the chance to visit with old friends and make new ones. Another tradition, the publication of Annals of Wyoming, filled our minds with new knowledge of our history. Did you notice the color?

We expanded our outreach to the state by staffing a booth at the Wyoming State Fair. As one who spent a couple of days in Dallas, it was well worth the investment. The opportunity to visit with Wyoming people and share our love of history was just fun. There was also the launch of WyoHistory.org, Wyoming’s online “encyclopedia.” One individual’s vision is now a reality and a benefit to the Society. Also check our newly redesigned website. I hope you were able to secure a deck of our 60th anniversary playing cards. They are destined to be a real collectors’ item, and are already sold out!

At our annual meeting in September the Executive Committee approved a partnership with WSHS member Michael Amundson. As a result we are pleased to announce that our application for a Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund Grant was approved in November. This will aid in the publication of Mike’s latest book, “Wyoming Revisited: Re-photographing the Scenes of J. E. Stimson.”

The 2014 calendar is already filling up with normal activities, Homsher Research Grant proposals, award nominations and our trek and annual meeting are all on the horizon.

(Continued on page 3)
From the President (continued)

The weekend of June 20-22 we will rendezvous in Jackson for the annual trek. I am looking forward to seeing all of you there to learn about their unique place in our history and see some of their new facilities. We will be traveling from west to east as we gather in Gillette September 5-7 for the annual meeting. Another great locale to expand our knowledge of Wyoming’s history.

Speaking of expanding. This is truly advance notice but mark your calendars for June 11-14, 2015 for Wyoming’s Quasquicentennial (125th) Statehood Celebration. The WSHS is sponsoring a conference June 11-14 in Laramie. I am conference chair and committee members are: Ann Noble, Leslie Waggener, Jeremy Johnston, Jessica Clark, Phil Roberts, Mike Strom, Patty Myers, Rick Ewig and Linda Fabian. The Albany County Historical Society will be our host. This is our opportunity to partner with other institutions and organizations across the state. The committee has prepared a call for proposals which you will find elsewhere in this issue. The theme for this conference is Our Place in the West . . . and Beyond: Wyoming at 125. The committee is interested in the broadest examination of Wyoming’s history, culture, and economy. We are requesting electronic submission of proposals with a June 30, 2014 deadline. Be imaginative. We look forward to seeing all proposals.

Tamsen Hert
First Vice President

Heard Along the Trail (continued from page 1)

Apologies to WSHS member John Fry, author of Almost Pioneers which was featured in the Nov-Dec issue of the newsletter. His correct e-mail address is john.fry@trnty.edu or you can also visit the book’s website at http://almostpioneers.wordpress.com.

On January 23rd in Casper, WSHS member Con Trumbull of Casper will present a program on the Battle of Gettysburg to members of the Natrona County Historical Society. Last summer Con participated in a reenactment of the event.

It’s not too late to start thinking about participating in the Colorado-Wyoming Association of Museums’ annual meeting to be held in Cody beginning May 8th. The theme will be “Advocate!” To discover more visit http://cwam-us.org/annualmeeting.

Congratulations to the Buffalo Bill Center of the West for receiving a two-year ($200,000) grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The funds will be used to process the “tons of material” on two locales in the United Kingdom and Germany where Buffalo Bill toured. Assistant Managing Editor Linda Clark said the materials will be collected, scanned, translated, transcribed, annotated and published online at www.codyarchive.org.

WSHS member and author Chip Carlson presented a new program about Tom Horn at the CFD Old West Museum in November.

Society president Rick Ewig was a guest at the December meeting of the Platte County Historical Society where he presented Leslie Waggener’s program “The Niobrara Oil Play.” The project is intended to visit with people before, during and after a boom and bust cycle.

Thanks to WSHS/Sheridan County Historical Society member Cynde Georgen for stepping in at a moment’s notice when weather prevented their guest speaker from arriving! Cynde presented a program about her grandmother titled “He Stands Ready to Marry Her.”

The Wyoming Humanities Council sponsors many wonderful programs on a variety of topics. To learn more visit www.wyominghumanitiescouncil.com or call 721-9243.

Thanks to the Weston County Historical Society for always remembering to celebrate Wyoming Day on December 10th!

Editor’s Note: The Society apologizes for misleading readers in Annals of Wyoming, Volume 85/2-3 as related in the story titled “The Partnership Years.” We understand how the sentence on page 31 was misleading in respect to Mr. Neal Miller’s service to the Society. The specific reference was not meant to imply that Mr. Miller was unqualified as Society president or director of what was then the Wyoming State Archives & Historical Department. The context of the reference was intended to explain that by educational background future directors held degrees in history, but in no way was intended to imply that Mr. Miller was incompetent in either his service to the Society or the department.
Our heartfelt condolences go out to the family of **Skyler Gabel**, who died October 26th. Skyler, age 18, died in Cody. He will be remembered as a promising Wyoming historian and a frequent recipient of numerous Society awards.

Thoughts and prayers also to Executive Committee member Trey Sherwood upon the death of her grandfather, **Corky Sherwood** of Wheatland. Also to Martin Lammers, president of the Fort Bridger Historical Association upon the death of his mother, **Margie Lammers**.

WSHS/Campbell County Historical Society member **Rick Lipka** died in Gillette on October 16th. A former law enforcement officer with the city of Gillette, Rick went on to earn his law degree later opening a firm where he worked until his death.

WSHS/Laramie County Historical Society member **Shirley Flynn**, a well-known historian and gracious lady, of Cheyenne died in Cheyenne on December 14th. Shirley was the first director of the Cheyenne Frontier Days Old West Museum, and heavily involved in the community. In 2004 she was inducted into the CFD Hall of Fame and, in 2008, received the “Spirit of Cheyenne” award. She loved to write about the history of Cheyenne and, in particular, Cheyenne Frontier Days. Her book “Let’s Go! Let’s Show! Let’s Rodeo!” is still sought after. In addition, Shirley co-authored “Cheyenne’s Historic Parks: From Untamed Prairie to a City of Trees,” and wrote “The Plains Hotel” with Bill Dubois. She and Bill also co-authored centennial histories for the Cheyenne Chamber of Commerce and St. Mark’s Episcopal Church. In addition, she wrote several articles for Annals of Wyoming, and did a great job portraying Mary Todd Lincoln. Friend and WSHS past president, Bill Dubois, said “Shirley was the consummate historian. Working together on so many projects over the years made us wonderful friends. She was always professional, a lot of fun and always upbeat — a true community servant.”
Welcome New Members and Thank You Donors

Wyoming Historical Foundation
(The long-term endowment)
Governor and Mrs. Mike Sullivan, Casper
Lee and Judy Wooderson, Bloomfield, NM
Samuel Forbes, Arvada, CO

In Memory of Gladys Hill
Dona Bachman, Carbondale, IL

In Memory of Dick Wilder
Ester Murray, Cody
Lucille Dumbrill, Newcastle
Dave Kathka, Loveland, CO
Phil Roberts, Laramie

In Memory of Rick Lipka
Campbell County Historical Society, Gillette

WyolHistory.Org
Jackie and Pinky Ellis, Casper
Central Wyoming BOCES, Casper
Newell B. Sargent Foundation, Casper
Shannon Smith, Laramie
Greg and Deborah Hammons, Worland
Ruth Robbins, Lyman
Maggie Layton, Riverton
Don Hartley, Rock Springs
Dave Kathka, Loveland, CO
Stu and Reva Hammersmark, Wheatland

Above and Beyond Dues Amount
Joyce Kelly, Elk Grove, CA
Ruth Manring, Lusk, WY

Wyoming History Day
Evelyn Brummond, Mesquite, NV

At Large
Mark Shelstad, Laramie
Christopher Parsons, Laramie
David Breeden, Fort Laramie
Alex Lang, Laramie
Darlene Rose, Cheyenne
Max and Sarah Miller, Douglas
Don Hartley, Rock Springs
Gary Rutkowski, Valley Village, CA
Cathleen Norman, Palmer Lake, CO

Albany County Historical Society
Meg and Grant Frost, Laramie
June Kilkenney, Laramie
Jerry Schmidt, Laramie

Fort Bridger Historical Association
Kurt and Debbie Devish, Robertson, WY

Johnson County Historical Society
Richard E. Branaman, Buffalo
Larry and Cheryl Gerard, Buffalo

Natrona County Historical Society
Vincent Crolla, Casper

Platte County Historical Society
Denise Diamante, Wheatland
Craig Frederick, Guernsey
Nedalyn Testolin, Wheatland

Sheridan County Historical Society
Connie Robinson, Sheridan
Kim and Rita Lee, Cheyenne
Nancy Rogers, Sheridan
Sam Rotellini, Sheridan
Robert Prusak, Clearmont,
Roy and Nancy Garber, Big Horn

Sweetwater County Historical Society
Larry Slocki, Rock Springs

Weston County Historical Society
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Barritt, Upton
Gloria Riehemann, Upton
This and That...

Congratulations to WSHS past president Dave Kathka (right) who recently completed two terms on the advisory board of the American Heritage Center. Assistant director of the AHC (and Society president) Rick Ewig presented Dave with a framed photograph of Grace Raymond Hebard’s Wyoming map.

The IRS: Chapters were recently unnecessarily alarmed by the Internal Revenue Service when they received a letter stating they did not file proper forms. Not true...the Society’s accountant takes care of all of those needs for the chapters and has done so in a timely manner. The IRS has been informed of this and (we hope) regrets the stress caused. Thank you for forwarding your letters to Society headquarters. Please continue to do so if you receive such letters in the future.

Thanks also to each and every chapter treasurer who made every effort to return their year-end financials by the deadline of November 15th.

The 2014 Awards Manual will be sent to chapter award chairs on January 19th! If you have not appointed one person in your chapter to be the awards chair then the manual will go directly to the president. There are some slight changes this year. One is that you cannot make more nominations in a category than there are awards given in that category. Secondly you cannot “cross-nominate.” In other words if you feel a nomination fits in more than one category you must select just one. You cannot nominate in both. Questions about the rules can be submitted to Lynn Houze, Awards Committee Chair, at ljhcody@ctwest.net. Nominations must be submitted no later than April 30th. The awards manual can also be found online at www.wyshs.org or received by contacting headquarters at 322-3014.

Congratulations to WSHS member Shirley Gillespie who recently completed her second book on Laramie, Wyoming. Her first book titled “Corner of Second & Grand” is a story about Shirley’s great-great grandparents. “Corner of Sixth and Grand” compliments the first and literally walks you through the historic downtown. Anyone who loves history, lives in Wyoming, or has been to Laramie will enjoy reading about the city during its early years. You can reach Shirley at 2407 W. Temple Street, Chandler, AZ 85224 or e-mail her at meinaz@aol.com.

Congratulations to WSHS/Campbell County Historical Society member Mary Kelley on the release of her second “Images of America” book. “Coal in Campbell County” features rarely seen images including photos and the history of the county’s coal industry. A portion of the profits will benefit the Rockpile Museum Association in Gillette. We encourage you to patronize your local bookstore when purchasing this book.
The Wyoming State Historical Society is sponsoring a conference in conjunction with the 125th anniversary of Wyoming’s statehood. Planning has already begun for the conference to be held June 11-14, 2015 (next year) in Laramie, Wyoming. The conference (and trek) will explore the history, pre-history, and culture of Wyoming and perhaps look to its future. The Society is inviting many other sponsors from across the state to participate, including the UW American Heritage Center, the State Parks and Cultural Resources Department, the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, Buffalo Bill Center of the West, and the UW Libraries.

The Conference Committee invites proposals that consider the relationship between Wyoming, the West, the nation, and the world. What gaps exist when researching and writing about Wyoming’s rich history, and its relationship with entities beyond its borders? Fresh perspectives await when exploring such topics as the state’s energy history, and dependence; its diversity, or lack thereof; its cowboy image juxtaposed to a reality of mining and tourism vocations. In the creative sphere, such as music, poetry, fiction, art, and food, are there certain characteristics that define Wyoming?

The conference committee encourages submissions incorporating an interdisciplinary, scholarly approach (i.e. literary studies, economics, cultural studies, history, archaeology, folklore, art history, etc.) as well as an artistic approach (music, poetry, traditional stories, etc.) that will provide the audience a new perspective of Wyoming’s past and present and its place in the West and beyond. Professional, avocational, graduate, and undergraduate historians, as well as artists, musicians, documentarians, and the general public, are invited to submit proposals and to enjoy the papers, panel discussions, presentations (including multimedia), and art show offered at this conference. Online registration will be available in early 2015. Proposals can be for complete sessions or for individual endeavors. When submitting an entire session or panel, include a brief abstract (250 words) that outlines the purpose of the session. Your designated contact person should submit the proposal. Each proposal, whether individual or part of a session, should include a one paragraph abstract and a one page resume with address, phone, and email for each participant. Indicate equipment and set-up needs, if any. The committee assumes that all listed individuals have agreed to participate. Electronic submissions are required and should be sent, with supporting materials, as a single document (PDF) to linda@wyshs.org. THE SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS JUNE 30, 2014.

For more information or disability accommodations, contact Linda Fabian at 307-322-3014 or linda@wyshs.org.

Proposals due June 30, 2014

SAVE THE DATE:

Our Place in the West . . . and Beyond: Wyoming at 125

Conference (and the Society’s annual trek) scheduled for June 11-14, 2015 (next year) in Laramie at the UW Conference Center at the Hilton Garden Inn, Laramie, Wyoming.

Wyoming History Day January-February 2014
Research Grant Applications due February 28th...

The Society is once again offering cash grants to people involved in research activities based on various aspects of the state’s history. The grants, ranging from $100.00 up to $1500.00 are awarded based on applications submitted to the Society’s Lola Homsher Endowment Fund Committee. The deadline is February 28, 2014 with applicants notified of the results in the spring. Grant monies are drawn from a fund established by the late Lola Homsher, a noted historian and state archivist. One of Homsher’s most significant contributions to preserve Wyoming history came when she spearheaded establishing the Wyoming State Historical Society in 1953. After her retirement Miss Homsher made a major donation to the Society that has been used as an endowment to help fund Society programs. The committee reviews all proposals and makes awards after the selection process has been completed, usually in spring. Preference is given to proposals that promise original research on topics related to Wyoming history. Wyoming residents are also given preference, but all applications are welcome. Proposals must include a statement of purpose, an explanation of the project, the value to Wyoming history and a description of how the public will benefit from the research. All recipients must provide the Society with a final report about their projects. Previous recipients, applications and rules can be obtained by visiting the Society’s website at www.wyshs.org, and then by selecting “Homsher Endowment.” Contact Society headquarters at 322-3014 or linda@wyshs.org to receive a copy of the application. Proposals are due February 28, 2014.

The late Lola Homsher was instrumental in the forming of the Wyoming State Historical Society in 1953. Prior to her death in the late 1980s she donated funds to the Society to be used for the purpose of providing funds for historical research.

(Photograph courtesy Wyoming State Archives)