



Wyoming History News



Published for members of the Wyoming State Historical Society

May 2022

Volume 69, Number 4

Heard on the Historical Trail



Three seats on the WSHS Executive Committee will be up in September. Interested in running? Email linda@wyshs.org for details.

Please send your program dates or other news in by the 15th of each month. For the May issue items need to be sent asap.

Mark your calendars now to attend the 2022 Trek hosted by the **Fremont County Historical Society** the weekend of June 10th. Accommodations are listed on page five, and the registration form is online at www.wyshs.org, or from linda@wyshs.org. This event is sponsored in part by a grant from the Wind River Visitors Council.



WYOMING HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH

Each year during the month of May the Alliance for Historic Wyoming (AHW), in cooperation with the Wyoming Humanities Council, the Wyoming Business Council and others, supports preservation efforts and events in communities across the state.

Megan Stanfill, executive director of AHW, said that this year they have over 20 participating partners, hosting in-person events, tours and social media campaigns.

As part of the Sublette County Centennial celebration, the Green River Valley Museum in Big Piney will


host a presentation on the early history of Big Piney and Marbelton. Using information and photographs from the Historic Building survey completed by the AHW last summer, participants will get a look at the buildings that have been lost over time. To find out more about the celebration in Sublette County email subcocentennial@gmail.com or “like” them on Facebook.

The AHW will host a calendar of events at www.historicwyoming.org.

CELEBRATE WYOMING'S HISTORY!

Historic Preservation Month is a time for Wyoming communities to show why historic preservation matters.

Presented with







CELEBRATE
WYOMING'S
HISTORY THE
ENTIRE MONTH
OF MAY!

Alliance for
Historic
Wyoming

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Leslie Waggener, President, At Large
lwaggen2@uwyo.edu

Vickie Zimmer, 1st VP, At Large
prairiecreekbooks@gmail.com

Jane Gebhart, 2nd VP, At Large
janegebhart@hotmail.com

Cindy Brown, At Large, Secretary
Cindy.brown@wyo.gov

Sandra Holyoak, Treasurer, NE Rep
Holyoak.sw@earthlink.net

Alena Wagner, At Large
alena.wagner@yahoo.com

Jonita Sommers, SW Rep
jonitasommers@gmail.com

Cheryl O'Brien, NW Rep
cherobrien@dteworld.com

John Shields, At Large
jshieldswy@gmail.com

Executive Secretary and Editor
Linda Fabian, 307-322-3014

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

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

Preferably via email to
linda@wyshs.org

HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

John Waggener, President
waggener@uwyo.edu

Jeremy Johnston, Vice President
Jeremy@centerofthewest.org

Charlene Busk, Treasurer
charbusk@gmail.com

Linda Fabian, Secretary
linda@wyshs.org

Judy Musgrave
judy@musgravemt.com

Pinky Ellis
jnellis1010@gmail.com

Rick Robbins
rarob@wyomingwisp.com

Amanda Benson
curator@sweetwatermuseum.org

**Visit www.wyshs.org and “like”
us on Facebook**

**From the
President. . .**

As I write this, I'm in Florida visiting my mom and enjoying the temperatures in the 70s.

Poor Robert is still shoveling snow and fighting the wind in Laramie. During my trip, Mom and I visited her attorney. Dad

passed away in 2020, and there are still matters to be addressed, in this case Mom's will. While talking to the attorney, the discussion turned to planned giving. "Are there any legacy gifts to be included in the will? Mom and I looked at each other blankly. We hadn't considered it. Mom is a generous soul and gives to charities frequently, but this was something she knew nothing about. Now, she's considering what her legacy gift will be.

In a nutshell, planned giving is a gift to an organization, beyond the donor's lifetime. So, unlike an annual gift—which is an outright gift made for current use—a planned gift is for the future. It can be cash, appreciated securities/stock, real estate, artwork, partnership interests, personal property, life insurance, a retirement plan, etc. The benefits are not just for the organization, but the donor, too.

I've now been researching this a bit and have learned that planned gifts can offer tax savings to donors, especially on appreciated properties and securities. A planned gift can reduce income tax and avoid capital gains tax. Depending on the type of planned gift it can assist with the financial needs of a spouse or loved one, provide inheritances for heirs at a reduced tax cost, diversify an investment portfolio, and more.

As a membership-driven educational organization, the Society and its fundraising arm, the Wyoming Historical Foundation, depend heavily on private funding to fulfill its vision "to ensure that Wyoming's past remains accessible to present and future generations." WSHS financially supports vital programs such as Wyoming History Day, the Lola Homsher Research Grant program, historic preservation, and annual awards to authors and Wyoming students. The Society also assists its chapters in hosting treks and annual meetings. Funding is critical for the WSHS to grow and address the changing needs of the communities it serves. When you're considering your own legacy, consider your love of Wyoming history and help us to strengthen and further develop our Society.

See you next month for the trek in Fremont County!

Leslie

(Continued from page 1)

The history of Afton, a free program hosted by the **Star Valley Historical Society** and presented by Radawn Ruud and Betty Davis, will be Friday, May 13th, 7:00 p.m. at the Salt River Center. Email tbateman205@gmail.com for details.

On Tuesday, May 24th the **Johnson County Historical Society** will host WSHS member **John Davis** who will talk about the Spring Creek Raid of Ten Sleep. The program is free and open to the public, 6:30 p.m. at the Johnson County Library.

Congratulations to WSHS member **John Waggener** on his new position as University of Wyoming Archivist and Historian. John serves as president of the Wyoming Historical Foundation, the Society's fundraising arm.

WSHS/Hot Springs County Historical Society member, **Barb Vietti**, recently presented "Hot Springs County Cemeteries, Burials and Graves" to chapter members. Her program was full of information about the myths and legends of various cemeteries; a topic that many of us find interesting.

Many chapters are hosting programs online. The Society is working toward developing a database of these programs that can be accessed at any time. WSHS president, **Leslie Waggener**, said this opportunity will provide wonderful public programs, and a source for chapters to utilize. If your chapter is hosting an online program please email Society headquarters at linda@wyshs.org. Our goal is to have these programs on our website by fall. Additionally, headquarters can assist you in getting the word out to members about upcoming online programs.

Check out the calendar of events on page 4 to find out more about the many wonderful things happening across Wyoming.

May is National Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month. The month of May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants. The event is packed with speeches all over the country and includes talks by WSHS member **Sam Mihara**. Visit <https://asianpacificheritage.com> for a schedule of events, or contact Sam at www.sammihara.com. Additionally, the Wyoming State Library has created an online exhibit about life at Heart Mountain Internment Camp near Cody. Visit <https://places.wyo.gov/about/exhibits/heart-mountain>.

WSHS member, **The Museum at the Bighorns**, located in Sheridan, is open for the season from Tuesday through Saturday, 1-5 p.m. You can visit their website at museumatthebighorns.org.

On July 9th the **Natrona County Historical Society** will enjoy a trek to nearby Converse County. If you are interested in participating contact **Robin Broumley** at robinlbroumley@gmail.com, or email **Becky Steensland** at bsteen@bresnan.net.

Through May 8th the Fort Caspar Museum will present "A View from Center Street," featuring photographs by Tom Carrigan. Many of these historic photos feature images of Casper and its residents from the 1920s to the 1950s. The Veteran's Museum, also in Casper, has a Korean War exhibit that will be on display throughout

the summer.

WSHS member and author **Bud Alley** from Signal Mountain, Tennessee, was a recent guest to the Show of Shows in Louisville, Kentucky. Bud said the event is the world's largest military memorabilia convention.

Have you registered for the 2022 Trek hosted by the **Fremont County Historical Society**? Registration forms can be found online at www.wyshs.org, or by emailing linda@wyshs.org.

The Wyoming State Archives hosts a year-long speakers series. If you are interested in participating as a speaker please contact WSHS member **Robin Everett** at robin.everett@wyo.gov. The research should be Wyoming based and include primary resources. On June 9th you can enjoy a talk by Brad Pearson titled *Eagles of Heart Mountain*, and on August 11th you can participate in a program by WSHS member **Dave Marcum** titled *Bombing Wyoming: Operation Fu-Go and the First Intercontinental Missile Attacks Against the United States: 1944-1945*. Presentations are streamed live on the Wyoming State Archives Facebook page, and posted on its YouTube Channel.

Congratulations to those in Worland who worked so hard to get the "Spanish School" on the National Register of Historic Places. The school, built in 1936 during the Great Depression, was for Spanish-speaking kids in Worland. Learn more by visiting <https://www.wyomingpublicmedia.org/open-spaces/2021-03-05/the-spanish-school-mexican-segregation-in-northwest-wyoming>.

Wyoming History Calendar

April 30—Deadline to submit nominations for awards.

May 1-30-Laramie Yellowstone National Park Poster Exhibit, UW Coe Library.

May 1-Douglas. Tours of Pioneer Cemetery and Oregon Trail Ruts. Sponsored by Douglas Historic Preservation Commission.

May 7-Casper. Mother's Day Tea, Historic Bishop Home. Call 307-237-2443 for details.

May 13-Afton. The history of Afton, a program hosted by the Star Valley Historical Society.

May 24-Buffalo. Johnson County Historical Society hosts talk by John Davis.

June 5-8. Bozeman. "Collecting Yellowstone." Register now at <https://collectingyellowstone.com>.

June 10-Fremont County Annual Historical Soci-

ety Trek. Details at www.wyshs.org. Sponsored in part by Wyoming's Wind River Country.

June 24-25—Douglas Fort Fetterman Days. For details contact heidiho2202@yahoo.com.

July 29-30-Heart Mountain. Pilgrimage will feature groundbreaking for the new Mineta-Simpson Institute. For registration see www.heartmountain.org.

August 26-28-Glenrock. Annual Sheepherder's Rendezvous. Call 307-436-5652 for details.

August 28-Sept. 3—Casper. 40th Annual Convention of the Oregon-California Trails Association. Register at <https://octa-trails.org/>.

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 linda@wyshs.org

WYOMING WOMEN'S HISTORY HOUSE NOW OPEN!

Wyoming Women's History House is now open throughout the year! The History House, with Louisa Gardner Swain's statue welcoming you to the courtyard, sits at 317 S. 2nd in Laramie's Historic Downtown, and heralds the many *firsts* for women that were able to occur because of Wyoming Territory's Suffrage Act of 1869 giving women rights fully equal to men.

The revised interiors and exhibits reopened on March 1, 2022, with renewed appreciation for just how relevant and interactive this site of Wyoming's history can be. The Grand Opening, complete with reenactments about events led by significant women of Wyoming, will be held in late June, but for now, you can come see the History House, Tuesday through Saturday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00. At this time there is no entrance fee. Organizers hope that locals and visitors will visit the house to learn

more about this important part of Wyoming's history.

Just twenty-one years after the First Woman's Convention was held in Seneca Falls, New York in 1848, the Wyoming Territorial Legislature gave women rights equal to men, a full 50 years before women would receive those rights nationally! It is remarkable history for us to note, to celebrate, and to showcase for visitors from around the world, when our beautiful western state is more often remembered for rough and tumble cowboys and vast prairies than suffrage significance.

The Wyoming Women's History House stands just a stone's throw from where Louisa was able to cast that first vote on equal terms with men, and where those first women sat in humble patriotic duty as the first women jurors in the world.

(Continued on page 5)

Other Wyoming firsts like Esther Hobart Morris, 1st woman Justice of the Peace; 1870.

Nellie Tayloe Ross, 1st woman governor and 1st woman director of the National Mint; Martha Symons Boies, 1st woman bailiff; Mary Godat Bellamy, 1st woman elected to Wyoming's State Legislature; Marilyn Kite, 1st woman appointed to Wyoming's Supreme Court and Wyoming's 1st woman Chief Justice; Liz Byrd, 1st African American elected to Wyoming's Legislature, are also recognized at the History House. It's definitely a place to see when you're in southeast Wyoming and worth a visit to Laramie's charming downtown. Visit www.louisaswainfoundation.com to learn more.

Editor's Note: Thanks to WSHS member Kim Viner for this information and for the image of Louisa .



The all new Wyoming Women's History House in Laramie features artist John Baker's statue of Louisa Gardner Swain in its courtyard. Louisa was the first women

2022 TREK ACCOMMODATIONS—BOOK NOW FOR THE WEEKEND OF JUNE 10TH

Rodeway Inn and Suites
Pronghorn Lodge
50 Rooms Blocked until 05/10/2022
\$140.61 per night
150 E Main ST
Lander, WY 82520
307-332-3940

Shoshone Rose Casino and Hotel
20 Rooms Blocked until 05/10/2022
\$132 per night
5690 HWY 287
Lander, WY 82520
307-206-7000

Travel Lodge
The Inn at Lander
260 Grand View
Lander, WY 82520
307-332-2847

Holiday Lodge
Motel and RV Site
\$95 per night motel
210 McFarlane DR
Lander, WY 82520
307-335-5166

Holiday Inn Express
1002 11th ST
Lander, WY 82520
307-332-4005

Sleeping Bear RV Park
715 E Main ST
Lander, WY 82520
307-332-5159

Twin Pines RV Park
7345 State Highway 789
Lander, WY 82520
800-986-4008

**SIGN UP NOW: LEARN THE MANAGEMENT, PRESERVATION AND DIGITIZATION
OF ARCHIVAL RECORDS SPONSORED BY
THE WYOMING STATE HISTORICAL RECORDS ADVISORY BOARD**

The Wyoming State Historical Records Advisory Board (WY SHRAB) announces a free two-day workshop, Archives and Digitization 101, to be held June 21-22, at the Wyoming State Library. Please contact Sara Davis at the Wyoming State Archives at 307-777-8691, email at sara.davis@wyo.gov, or use the online form at <https://wyoarchives.wyo.gov/index.php/news-events> to register for the workshop.

During this event, participants will learn basic archival best practices for managing, preserving, and digitizing collections. Those working with local history collections or working in smaller archival repositories and those who may not have any formal archival training are encouraged to attend.

While day one will be instructor-led sessions by Leigh Jeremias and Amy Hitchner, day two of the workshop is dedicated to 1:1 sessions with historic collection specialists for collection consulting or hands-on digitization training. Digitization kits will be provided for use by the Colorado State Library. Digitization kits from the WY SHRAB via the Wyoming State Archives will be available to view. Participants will learn how to check out a digitization kit for their own historic collection needs.

Leigh Jeremias is the Digital Collections Coordinator for the Colorado State Library where she manages the Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection and the Plains to Peaks Collective, the Colorado-Wyoming Service Hub of the Digital Public Library of America. Ms. Jeremias has over 21 years experience working to make historical collections more accessible to the widest audience possible. She has extensive experience in the development, care and refinement of archival and digital collections as well as knowledge of several collection management databases, metadata schemas and aggregation, copyright and risk assessment, and project management. Prior to working at the State Library, Ms. Jeremias worked at History Colorado and the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia, PA. In her current role she works to expand state and national access to all types of historic collections found at both small and large cultural heritage institutions.

Amy Hitchner is the Metadata and Integration Services librarian for the Colorado State Library, where she manages CVL Collections, a program that helps small cultural heritage organizations get their digital collections online using the Omeka platform. The program is also an on-ramp to participate in the Plains to Peaks Collective, the Colorado and Wyoming hub of the Digital Public Library of America. In addition to managing CVL Collections, Amy publishes the Friday Grab Bag, a weekly series highlighting Colorado library programs and events. She has 15 years of library experience in cataloging, metadata, technical services, electronic resources, serials, and collection management at academic and school libraries.

For more information about the board and events, please contact **Sara Davis**, WY SHRAB coordinator and Wyoming State Archivist, Wyoming State Archives, Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources at (307) 777-8691, or visit the SHRAB web site at <https://wyoarchives.wyo.gov/index.php/about-archives/state-historical-records-advisory-board>. Please email Sara Davis, sara.davis@wyo.gov, and/or Leigh Jeremias, ljeremias@coloradovirtuallibrary.org for more information about this workshop. The Wyoming SHRAB promotes the identification, preservation and dissemination of the state's historical records, by encouraging and supporting ongoing training programs for state, tribal and local governments, local repositories, organizations, and others involved in records care in Wyoming. Grants are made available through the Wyoming SHRAB by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The program is administered by the Wyoming State Archives, which is part of the Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS AND THANK YOU DONORS

At Large

Laura and Steve Brown, Worland
Joel Hollenbeck, Sheridan
James Radda, Jackson

Albany County Historical Society

Marilyn Engstrom, Laramie
Joanie and Robert Martino, Laramie

Campbell County Historical Society

Alexis Steiner, Moline, IL

Natrona County Historical Society

Roy Barnes, Cheyenne

Wyoming Historical Foundation

Randy Hein, Casper
Tom Hill, Laramie
Michael and Marion Jablin, Billings, MT
Sandra and Wayne Holyoak, Rozet
Joseph and Stephanie Russin, Glendale, CA
Rick Ewig, Cheyenne
R L Hudson, Thermopolis
Lucille Dumbrill, Newcastle
Michael Messenger, Thermopolis
Tom Hill, Laramie
Sally O'Brien, Casper
John and Dana Corkery, Gillette
John and Joyce Gammon III, Buffalo
Margo Mader, Buffalo
Tad Herz, Denver, CO
Susan Bishop, Denver, CO
John and Barbara Vietti, Thermopolis
Art Kidwell, Clark
Tom Rea, Casper
Tara Darling and Sam Freedberg, Wheatland
Del and Sandy Tinsley, Wheatland
Ruth Vaughn, Chugwater
Mary and Bobby Marcum, Cheyenne
Ralph and Jean Kingan, Wright
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Carollo, Jr., Green River
Bud and Carolyn Alley, Signal Mountain, TN
Judy Musgrave, Sheridan
Ann Chambers Noble, Cora
Robert and Martha Hellyer, Lander
Jonita Sommers, Pinedale
Barbara Costopoulos, Guernsey
Dennis Knight, Laramie

William and Jan Hill, Centerbeach, NY
Gae Perkes, Yukon, OK

Homsher Research Grants

Sandra and Wayne Holyoak, Rozet
Lucille Dumbrill, Newcastle
Susan Bishop, Denver, CO
Tom Rea, Casper
Ann Chambers Noble, Cora
Lee Varvaro, Gillette
William and Jane Hill, Centerbeach, NY
Gae Perkes, Yukon, OK

Wyoming History Day

Sandra and Wayne Holyoak, Rozet
Lucille Dumbrill, Newcastle
Jeanette Chambers, Glendo
Sally O'Brien, Casper
Don and Beverly Kurtz, Cody
Susan Bishop, Denver, CO
Joyce and Raymond Jacquot, Laramie
Jeff Wilhelm, Wheatland
Tom Rea, Casper
Billie Zumo, Cheyenne
Ruth Vaughn, Chugwater
Dona Bachman, Carbondale, IL
Bud and Caroline Alley, Signal Mountain, TN

WyoHistory.org

Marcia Britton, Laramie
George and Dorothy Oliveira, Helena, MT
Sandra and Wayne Holyoak, Rozet
Vincent Szafranko, Denver, CO
In memory of his loving wife
R L Hudson, Thermopolis
Lucille Dumbrill, Newcastle
Bess Arnold, Cheyenne
Susan Bishop, Denver, CO
John and Barbara Vietti, Thermopolis
Tom Rea, Casper
Tara Darling and Sam Freedberg, Wheatland
Judy Musgrave Sheridan
Ann Chambers Nobel, Cora
Jonita Sommers, Pinedale
Barbara Costopoulos, Guernsey
William and Jan Hill, Centerbeach, NY



Wyoming State Historical Society
P.O. Box 247
Wheatland, WY 82201



*Trek Registration form online at
www.wyshs.org or linda@wyshs.org.
Special thanks to the Wind River Visitors Council for its support.*

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cheyenne, Wyoming
82009
Permit No. 71

Address Service Requested

WORKING TOGETHER TO CREATE A COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Albany County Public Library Assistant Director Cassandra Hunter has called upon the **Albany County Historical Society (ACHS)** to lend its expertise to help create a collection development policy, which does not currently exist, for the thousands of items in the Wyoming Room at the main library. Over the years the collection had become a repository for many important items, oftentimes potentially duplicating the mission of other Wyoming archives. It also had expanded to include items not relevant to Albany County's history, which is the new proposed focus of the collection. Hunter says that some of the items date back to an early subscription library that predates the first Carnegie library in Laramie opened in 1903. A list of all the items currently in the collection is being reviewed by Kim Viner, a local historian, and Jane Nelson, former ACHS president, to ascertain their relevance. One immediate change was integrating most of the fiction items into the general circulating collection. Making these item-by-item decisions will help create a new collection development policy which will give guidance regarding future acquisitions. Those items not fitting the new collection development parameters will be deaccessioned and possibly offered to other institutions in Wyoming. With a formal collection development policy, the library will be able to apply for grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities in order to digitize the collection, increasing access for researchers and scholars outside Albany County.

(Thanks to WSHS member RoseMarie Aridas for this article)