



Wyoming History News



Published for members of the Wyoming State Historical Society

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Volume 63, Number 9

Heard on the Historical Trail



Election Results: **Jonita Sommers, Lisa Thalken and Leslie Waggener** were each elected to the Executive Committee for three-year terms. Thanks to all of you who sent in your ballots.

The **Laramie County Historical Society** will host a tour of Charlie Messenger's Old West Museum in October. If you're interested in participating call 421-2732 for details.

Congratulations to **Chris Mather**, former president of the Goshen County Historical Society, on accepting a position as the museum registrar at Yellowstone! What an exciting career move — we wish you well, Chris.

Congratulations to WSHS member **Jessica Flock** who will take over as state coordinator for Wyoming History Day, beginning immediately! Reach her via e-mail at jflock@uwyo.edu

True West Magazine recently named the West Texas Trail Museum in Moorcroft among the top 6 in the category of "Cowboys, Cattle and Ranching Museums.

(continued on page 3)

Converse County Historical Society Spearheads Organization of Future Historians Groups

In an effort to engage the state's youth in year-round historical events and studies to supplement the successful and popular History Day program, the Society has initiated efforts to organize youth focused activities, based upon successful "Junior Historian" groups in Pennsylvania, Texas and North Carolina. Executive Committee members **Doug Cubbison** and **Lisa Thalken** introduced this concept at the Annual Meeting in Buffalo on Friday, September 9th. The Converse County Historical Society has volunteered to help organize the prototype chapters of two groups:

1. The Converse County Emerging Historians, will focus on young adults, from College through senior citizens, ages 18-50. They will begin meeting at the Camp Douglas POW Officers Club in Douglas early in 2017. This group will emphasize involving young adults, particularly young parents and families, in activities that emphasize local and state history. A focus is put on marketing through social media outlets, making programs interactive, entertaining and educational and incorporating family friendly activities as well as adults' only events. Events will be open to the public with preference given to Society members in reduced event fees and only including members in planning meetings as well as having member's only events.

2. The Converse County Future Historians will be focused on students,

from Sixth Grade through High School (ages 11-18). They will meet monthly at historic sites and museums, and perform a range of hands-on activities, beginning in the summer of 2017. In the future we would love to see this include Summer History Camp, specific awards for the Future Historians and possibly a scholarship program. Adult mentors will be available to help guide the teens with planning events, transportation and basic management of the group. Our hope is that the Emerging Historians will provide the needed adult mentors for the Future Historians.

Other chapters who are interested in forming their own chapters of Future Historians should contact Doug at douglas.cubbison@wyo.gov or Lisa at lmthalken@yahoo.com. Both are available to help chapters organize their own local young adult and youth groups.



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

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

From the President...

Farewell Summer, Hello Fall!

So sorry I missed what I have heard was a great annual meeting. Thanks to the

Johnson County Chapter and the **Jim Gatchell Museum** for hosting the WSHS this year. While you were enjoying the history of northeastern Wyoming, I was touring around Yellowstone in some of the historic White Motor touring buses maintained by a group known as the Jammer's Trust. A group of devoted individuals who are maintaining not only the vehicles but the transportation history of Yellowstone National Park. It is great to witness the number of park visitors who want to know about the vehicles and have their photo taken next to one of these treasures. I was able to meet some wonderful individuals and share my knowledge of Yellowstone's history with them.

I want to thank you all for the support you have given me the past two years and share my appreciation with you all for supporting me as your president for one more year. I look forward to the opportunities this brings. Welcome to our new board members: **Jonita Sommers, Leslie Waggener, and Lisa Thalken.**

Some shifting around of appointments has occurred as well and in that regard I want to thank **Sylvia Bruner** for her work as First Vice-President. **Doug Cubbison** will be filling that role

this year. **Lisa Thalken** from Douglas will be serving as Treasurer. Other board members are retaining their responsibilities. As we move into the next year, it is going to be necessary to identify potential committee members to help us continue our mission to share the history of Wyoming. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact Linda Fabian or send me an email.

It is also my pleasure to announce that there is a new History Day Coordinator. WSHS member **Jessica Flock** of Laramie started in her new position on September 19th. She brings a wealth of experience and a knowledge and passion for Wyoming's history to the position. I look forward to working with her on this important aspect of our mission.

Finally, congratulations to the 2016 winners of Wyoming's Top Ten Artifacts program. The top ten were announced at the annual meeting. Congratulations to the **Jim Gatchell Museum** for holding the 2016 top artifact, Metzger's Bugle. How wonderful to receive this award in your hometown. We had about 40 entries for this year's program. I would like to see a substantial increase in the participation. With so many budget reductions, it may not be possible to continue this program and so if you could let us know how important this is, I would sure appreciate it.

We have our quarterly board meeting in Casper on November 12. It would be great to see representatives of the county chapters at this meeting. I started attending the board meetings before serving as a chapter president and found them informative and a great way to meet members from across the state. We welcome your participation!

Tamsen

(Heard on the Trail continued from page 1)

The National Historic Trails Center in Casper recently announced their fall hours. They are open Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For details call 261-7780.

Members of the **Hot Springs County Historical Society** capped off their summer with a picnic at Anchor Dam.

Special thanks to members of the **Johnson County Historical Society** for hosting such a successful 2016 annual meeting. We appreciate all the effort that goes into hosting such an event. Next year the **Natrona County Historical Society** will host the Trek in June, and the **Park County Historical Society** will host the 64th Annual Meeting in September.

The Wyoming Veterans Museum is hosting a special exhibit on the role that comic books have played in American's recent history (WWII through Vietnam War). The exhibit is intended for younger audiences and will be on display through December. For details call 472-1857.

In last month's issue contact information for WSHS member **Nancy Mickelson's** book (*Trabing Catalogue*) was wrong. The correct email address for her is waysidebooks@wyoming.com.

Chapters are actively beginning their fall programming. The **Natrona County Chapter** meets the 4th Thursday of every month. If you're interested in joining them e-mail robinbroumley@gmail.com for details. To learn more about the **Platte County Historical Society** and its upcoming programs email spiritquest@wyoming.com. Don't forget that the **Albany County Historical Society** meets the third Tuesday of each month. Email dicksiem@yahoo.com.

Members of the **Sheridan County Historical Society** enjoyed a trek up the Black Diamond Trail. They can be reached via e-mail at news@sheridanmuseum.org.

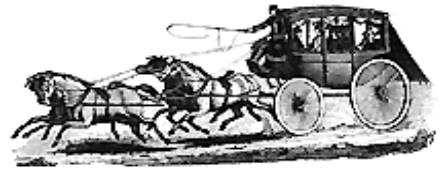
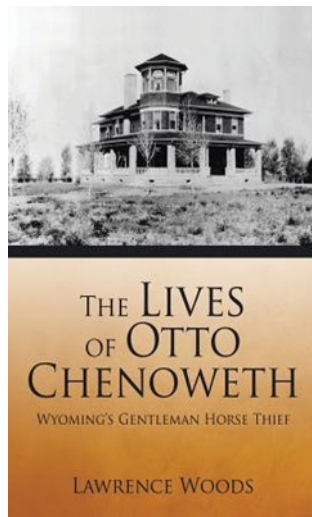
For the first time in many years EACH chapter sent in an annual activities report. Thank you all for doing that. If your chapter was not represented at the recent annual meeting please e-mail headquarters at linda@wyshs.org and materials will be sent to you.

Our friends at Wyoming Public Media announce a new episode of their podcast HumaNature which delves into a fascinating bit of history from 1946. The link is <http://humannaturepodcast.org/podcast/episode-12-home-on-the-waves-with-a-seafaring-cowboy/>.

On the Bookshelf....

WSHS member **Larry Woods** is pleased to announce the publication of "The Lives of Otto Chenoweth, Wyoming's Gentleman Horse Thief." This book shares the fascinating biography of a Wyoming horse thief who turned over a new leaf in mid-life and dispensed justice on the good side of the law.

To purchase this book contact your local bookstore or Larry at Lawrence@rtconnect.net.



THE EXCHANGE

WORLD WAR I: Any museums, historic sites or chapters that are performing special events, exhibits or programs commemorating the World War I Centennial (April 2017-November 2018) are asked to contact Doug Cubbison, Curator, Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum. He is compiling a master list of WWI activities throughout the state. Email him at douglas.cubbison@wyo.gov or call 472-1857.

IDENTIFY HOTEL CUBBY: This cubby (pictured below) was purchased at an antique store and the owner suspects it was from an old hotel west or southwest of Buffalo. If you have any information about 4-story hotels in Wyoming with 50+ rooms that have been torn down or renovated please contact Lyn VandeSteege in Hastings, MN at lynvandesteege@msn.com.



Wyoming History Calendar

October 29, Casper—Ghost Tour at Wyoming Veterans Museum and Casper Airbase Station Hospital. Call 472-1857 to register in advance (required/no fee).

Note: Area Code for all Wyoming phone numbers is 307

November 12—Casper—Tentative meeting date for Executive Committee. National Historic Trails Center beginning at 10:00 a.m. For details e-mail linda@wyshs.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 Editor, Wyoming History News, P. O. Box 247, Wheatland, WY 82201.

Most Significant Top Ten Wyoming Artifacts 2016

Congratulations to the following institutions whose artifacts were selected by the general public as the TOP TEN:

1. Metzger's Bugle. Held by the Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum in Buffalo.
2. Steatite Bowl. Held by the Dubois Museum.
3. Painted Buffalo Hide War Shirt. Held by the Brinton Museum.
4. Hand-carved Granite River Stone. Held by the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation.
5. Jim Bridger's Powder Horn. Held by the Fort Bridger State Historic Site.
6. Bison Antiquus Cow. Held by the UW Archaeological Repository.
7. American Flag w/ an additional star to represent Wyoming. Held by the American Heritage Center, Laramie.
8. Hide Painting. Held by the Wyoming State Museum in Cheyenne.
9. Ben's Big Turtle. Held by Tate Geological Museum in Casper.
10. POW Keepsake Box. Held by the Saratoga Historical and Cultural Association.

...Of Particular Note to Chapters

Year-end financial forms will be sent out soon. Please make sure they are returned to Society headquarters no later than November 15th, along with your chapter's updated Bylaws and Constitution. This is critical and relates to requirements of the Internal Revenue Service. Each chapter president, secretary and treasurer received a letter dated June 23 as to annual deadlines. If you need reminded please call headquarters at 322-3014 or e-mail linda@wyshs.org.

***Welcome New Members and
Thank You Donors***

At Large

Patrick Brady, Cheyenne

**Wyoming Historical Foundation
(The long-term endowment)**

Clint Gilchrist, Pinedale
Michael O'Neill, San Francisco, CA
Michael LaSalle, Hanford, CA
Sam Drucker, Pinedale
Peggy and Jim Ingram, Fort Collins, CO

WyoHistory.Org

Lucille Dumbrill, Newcastle

Have you moved recently? Please let the Society know your new address. E-mail headquarters at linda@wyshs.org.

Editor's Personal Note: Thank you all for your kind thoughts, cards and best wishes on behalf of my husband, Joe, and myself. We are working on getting through his serious health issue and cannot thank you enough for your thoughts and prayers.

Linda

A time to consider...

The Wyoming Historical Foundation was created in 1967 to support the work of the Wyoming State Historical Society. The Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit corporation. Your donations to the Foundation support:

- Wyoming History Day, a national academic competition for students in grades 6-12.
- Homsher Research Grants that provide financial assistance for Wyoming history research projects.
- Historical Society Awards Program that recognizes individuals and organizations that preserve Wyoming history.
- Special Projects such as the Schwiering Print project and the David Paulley History in Art Project.
- Julia Yelvington Adams Memorial Publications Fund the provides resources necessary to assist authors in publishing books.
- WyoHistory.Org, the Society's on-line encyclopedia that features original articles based on Wyoming's eclectic legacy.

In 2009 the Foundation and the Society established an endowment to assure the long-term sustainability of the Society. It is managed for us by the Wyoming Community Foundation. Your donations can be sent to the Wyoming Historical Foundation. P. O. Box 247, Wheatland, WY 82201. We sincerely appreciate each and every contribution. Please note that anything you contribute above and beyond your annual membership fee also goes directly to the endowment. You can also designate a specific program (above) to where you might like your donations to go. Unspecified gifts always go direct to the endowment.

Current foundation board members include Robert Melonuk, Fort Laramie; Rick Ewig, Cheyenne; David Kathka, Loveland, CO; Charlene Busk, Gillette, Pinky Ellis, Casper, John Waggener, Laramie and Joe Fabian, Wheatland. For details call 307-322-3014 or linda@wyshs.org.

Award Recipients 2016

Buffalo provided the backdrop for this year's highly anticipated awards luncheon. The nominees came from all areas of the state to represent their hard work resulting in publications, oral histories, and more. Nominations were submitted by various chapters and Society members, with final selections made by the Society's Awards Committee comprised of Jessica Clark, Chair, Rock Springs; Cindy Brown, Cheyenne; Jane Gebhart, Gillette and Ruth Lauritzen, Green River. Due to space limitations the judges comment's had to be edited. View the full version at www.wyshs.org or e-mail headquarters at linda@wyshs.org for a copy that includes contact information. Thank you to everyone who submitted nominations.

Publications—Book:

Fiction

Robert Lee Murphy—Bear Claws.

Non-Fiction—1st Place

Orval C. Harrison for "History of Star Valley; Natural, Cultural and Economic."

2nd Place—T. Paul Stauffer for "Pharmacists and Pharmacies of Star Valley."

Honorable Mention: A.J. Wolff and J.L. Ehernberger—Union Pacific's Cheyenne Facilities, 1868-1925.

Biography or Autobiography

Gap Pucci for "We do the Damndest Things: Jackson Hole."

Self-Published Work

Kim Viner for Melville c. Brown: Frontier Lawyer and Jurist. Nominated by the Albany County Historical Society.

Honorable Mention: Karen Ballek and Leon Washut for "We Are One Family."

Reference Work on a Wyoming Subject or Locale

Randy Byers, Megan Rux and Laurence Blake for "University of Wyoming Historic Preservation Plan and Architectural Guidelines."

Pamphlet

Linda Fleming for "Carbon County Poor Farm."

Brochure

Alexis Mitchell, David Mead and Brie Blasi for "Rock Formations of Sweetwater County."

Newsletter

Maxine Kaul, Peggy Jording and Weston County Historical Society for "Bridge to the Past."

Calendar

Judy Erickson for Calendar of Star Valley History.

Magazines and Newspapers

Article/Series of Articles on Wyoming

1st Place: Judy Knight for "Laramie's Living History."

2nd Place: Jim Schellinger for "Sheridan Chronicles: History Revisited."

Wyoming History Contribution

Amber Leberman and Jeff Obrecht for Wyoming Wildlife Magazine

Audio/Video Documentary

Professional Audio

Jim Kearns for University of Wyoming Today (podcasts)

James Ehrenberger for "Strom of the Century: The Blizzard of '49"

Honorable Mention: Shane Sellers, Cathy Becker and Collin Rudkin for Gertie at 30

Fine Arts Awards

1st Place: John Kirk for "A Sentimental Journey

2nd Place: Tom Warnke for "Conner Battlefield Diorama"

Young Historian Award

Grades 3-5

1st Place: Jayden Smith for "Mary A. Mickey Toman"

2nd Place: Brace Vickery for "The Ol' Family Recipe"

3rd Place: Kason Brent for "The Hamsfork Valley"

Grades 6-8

1st Place: Sheridan Blackburn for "Becoming Sheridan, Wyoming."

Grades 9-12

1st Place: Kaitlynn DeFord for "Making of a Murder/Suicide."

2nd Place: Julia Cook for "Dance in the Park."

3rd Place: Alicia Kaine Leger for "Cassie's"

Junior Activities Award

Grades 3-5

1st Place: JJ Lipp for "The Mules of Cambria Coal Mine"

2nd Place: Colton Mobley for "O'Neal Gray, A Wyoming Homesteader"

3rd Place: William Beastro for "Wyoming Homesteads."

Grades 6-8

1st Place: Luke Knudson for "Forgotten Spaces of Trail End."

Grades 9-12

1st Place: Andrew Mathis, Ashley Thompson, Tristyn Palmero Reeves and Tyler Trentacosti for "Off the Beaten Path."

Activities Award

Tour

Ranch Tour Committee of Albany County Cattlewomen for the 64th annual Albany County Ranch Tour

Honorable Mention: Sheridan County Historical Society and Museum for Cemetery Tour

Educational Project

Steve Dacus, Con Trumbull and Doug Cubbison for "150th Anniversary Platte Bridge and Caspar Collins Day."

Honorable Mention: Laramie Plains Museum and Kim Viner for "Leading Up to Statehood: Daily Life and Politics in Albany County in 1890."

Museum Activities

Homesteader Museum and Rowene Weems for "Garland: The Town Forgotten."

Individual or Group Historic Preservation

Weston County CLG and Lucille Dumbrell

Honorable Mention

Patsy Parkin for Reburial of Pioneer Remains

Wyoming Family History Project

Albany County Library Foundation, Caitlin White, Bara Charles and David Love for "The Love Family Celebration."

Annual Services Award

Linda Grosso, Sheridan County Historical Society

Chapter Awards

1st Place: Platt County Historical Society for Reburial of Pioneer Remains

2nd Place: Albany County Historical Society for website development

The Clara M. and Henry Jensen Outstanding Wyoming Teacher Award

Tyson Emborg, Sheridan High School

Mable Brown Cumulative Contribution Award

Judy Knight, Albany County

L. C. Bishop Award

Larry Cundall and Robyn Rankin for Oregon/California/Mormon Trail Stewardship

Henryetta Berry Memorial Award

Big Horn Basin Foundation and Jessica Lippincott for Dinosaur Academy Program

Maurine Carley Historic Preservation Award

Newcastle Hardware Store



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***Chapter deadlines noted on page 4.
Thank you in advance!***

2017 Calendar of Wyoming History



*The Deluxe Tourist Camp at Rawlins, Wyoming
1920. From the Frank J. Meyers Papers.
1921. Photo courtesy of the AHC.*

Historical photographs from the collections of the American Heritage Center are once again featured in the Society's annual Calendar of Wyoming History. Each image is a visual reminder of how families and communities lived and worked in the early days. A fascinating "this day in history" tidbit is included on every day of the year. For instance, on October 11 in 1952 a 1,400 lb. bear was killed near Buffalo. Another favorite is on October 31, 1890 when a local butcher at Merino was arrested for stealing cattle!

Published since the early 80s, the calendars have become very popular and are a favorite fundraiser for chapters, and a profitable product to sell in local bookstores and gift shops.

Chapters and retailers can contact Society headquarters at 322-3014 or via email to linda@wyshs.org to find out about pricing.