

**WYOMING STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PRESS RELEASE**

June 29, 2011

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

This year's Homsher recipients are:

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

In addition to receiving research funds, each recipient receives a one-year complimentary membership in the Wyoming State Historical Society. Benefits include receiving the Society's scholarly journal, *Annals of Wyoming*, and the monthly newsletter, *Wyoming History News*. The Lola Homsher Grant is made possible from the endowment that prominent Wyoming historian Lola Homsher created for the purpose of promoting the research of Wyoming history. The deadline to apply for these research grants is February 28, 2012. To learn more about the Lola

Homsher Research Grant Program, or other aspects of the Wyoming State Historical Society, visit the website at www.wyshs.org or contact executive secretary Linda Fabian at 307-322-4237 or linda@dancewyoming.com.