

SPECIAL DOUBLE ISSUE!

Wyoming History News

The Newsletter of the Wyoming Historical Society - Est. 1953

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www.wyshs.org

Volume 72, Number 7

A JOURNEY THROUGH CONVERSE COUNTY'S RICH PAST

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"School's Out!" - Various attendees of the Annual Trek leave the center of the Shawnee Community, their school house, which miraculously still has its working bell. Preservation and restoration efforts of the school are ongoing as shared by a presentation by former students of the school.

DOUGLAS, WY

The Wyoming Historical Society (WHS) celebrated another resounding success with its 71st Annual Historical Trek, held this year from June 19-22 in picturesque Converse County. Over 100 history enthusiasts converged to explore the region's diverse and captivating heritage, making it one of the most well-attended treks in recent memory.

The 71st Annual Historical Trek in Converse County echoed the spirit of the

pioneers - quietly enduring, deeply rooted, and rich with stories waiting to be told.

"The overwhelming participation and positive feedback are a testament to the enduring appeal of Wyoming's history and the dedication of our volunteers and local partners. These treks are a cornerstone of our mission to explore, preserve, and share the stories of our state, and this year's event certainly continued that legacy of success," remarked Aley Philp,

WHS Executive Director

The trek kicked off with a poignant visit to Camp Douglas, the site of a significant WWII POW camp. Attendees gained a deeper understanding of the camp's history and its role during the war. The welcome reception, a delightful gathering held at the Douglas Railroad Museum, set a warm and inviting tone for the days to come.

The history of Camp Douglas as a World War II

continued on page 4

UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 16th - Midnight to Midnight



**WYO
GIVES**

**WYOGIVES
DAY**

WyoGives, an initiative of the Wyoming Nonprofit Network, is a powerful statewide 24-hour online fundraising event designed to raise funds and awareness for

Wyoming's nonprofits. Support the Wyoming Historical Society on July 16. Our goal is \$15,000 to help support our mission. On July 16, visit the following website to donate:

https://www.wyogives.org/donate?campaign_id=238159

July 17th

Local Lore with Bob Richard: 100 Years of Yellowstone

Join historian, photographer, and former Yellowstone ranger Bob Richard for this unique look back on Yellowstone National Park's first 100 years, 1872 - 1972.

*Buffalo Bill Center of the West
12 noon*

720 Sheridan Avenue, Cody, WY

August 4th through 15th

The Boneman Returns: Bison Articulation at the Draper Natural History Museum

Join The Boneman at the Draper Natural History Museum, August 4-15, to see a bison skeleton articulated bone-by-bone in this live, hands-on workshop.

*Buffalo Bill Center of the West
12 noon*

720 Sheridan Avenue, Cody, WY

August 14th

Greek Community in Cheyenne

Patrick Pace will present on the Greek community in Cheyenne, Wyoming. The Speaker Series events are held the second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. These events allow participation in-person or virtually. 307.777.7022

7:00 PM

*Wyoming State Museum
2301 Central Ave, Cheyenne, WY*

August 16th

The Great South Pass City History Hunt!

More information coming soon!

Visit southpasscity.org/historyhunt

TBD

South Pass City, WY

September 11th

State Hospital and Disabilities Presentation

Elisabeth DeGrenier from the Wyoming State Museum will present on the Wyoming State Hospital and disability. The Speaker Series events are held the second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. These events allow participation in-person or virtually. 307.777.7022

7:00 PM

*Wyoming State Museum
2301 Central Ave, Cheyenne, WY*

September 12th through 14th

WHS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

We invite one and all to our annual conference! Check out pages 13-15 of this newsletter for more information.

Historic Sheridan Inn

856 Broadway St, Sheridan, WY

September 20th

Buffalo Bill Center of the West Patron's Ball

This elegant, black-tie gala is one of the signature social events of the year in Wyoming, and a major fundraiser for the Buffalo Bill Center of the West.

Patrons from near and far gather to renew friendships, network with leaders of industry and government, and make new acquaintances. Immersed in Western art, culture, and the history of the West, this event allows Patrons to enjoy companionable conversation, an exquisite dining experience in the Center's museums. After dinner, dance the night away to live music from Modern Retrospect!

*Buffalo Bill Center of the West
6:00 pm*

720 Sheridan Avenue, Cody, WY

Please send events for this calendar list and for Heard Along the Historic Trail by the 10th of each month prior to info@wyshs.org.

THANK YOU DONORS

Frank Ahearn
Sharon Atwell
Gene Baldwin
Nancy Beck
Martha Benedict
Joe & Jane Betts
Thomas & Betsy Bradley
Connie Brasel
Gene Bryan
Mark Brosseau
Mike & Crystal Carpenter
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Barbara Costopoulos
Jerry Dilts & Elizabeth Philp
Richard & Barbara Dinjes
Linda Fleming
Drew & Donna Folk
Lynn Follum
Samuel E Forbes
David Foreman
Janean Forsyth
Melvin Gabel
Jerome Gabriel
Melissa Hall
Thomas & Rita Haygood
Kathleen Hones
Hulett Museum & Art Gallery
Larry Jansen
Robert John
Don Jording
Duane & Pamela Kerr
Robert Kelly
James & Carol Kinney
Judy Knight
Ivan Laird & Glenda Hlavnicka
Roger Lawson
Donald Lebar
Edwin Makie
Catherine & Frank Middleton
Mark Miller
Lovell-Kane Area Museum
Connie McCaslin

Ryan McKee
Kevin Melson
Jocelyn Moore
Marilyn Nida
Harley & Winifred Parsons
Frank Pexton
Alexandra Philp
Janet Philp
Elise Prayzich
Phyllis Preator
Ben Ridgely
David Santoyo
William Schwem
Braeden Sersland
Hunter Sersland
Judy & Dean Sersland
Ray Shaffer
Jake & Sandi Shook
Hope Sieck
Joni Smith
Beki Speas
Brady Speas
Jerrold D. Speas
Gary Stone
EJ Strannigan
Scott Trabing
Dan Turnquist
Sandra Vanatta
Cary & Barb Voss
Alena Wagner
Jancy Walter
Nancy Weidel
Charles Weigley
Kaelyn Wessel
Jeff Wilhelm
Carole T. Wills
Lesley Wischmann
Wyoming Stock Growers Assoc.
Vickie Zimmer

Wyoming History Day
Barbara Costopoulos

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For a full calendar of events,
please visit wyshs.org/events.

For comments
or questions regarding
Wyoming History News,
please call 307.322.3014
or email info@wyshs.org.

**WHS Member names
appear in bold.**

The Wyoming Historical Society (WHS) is a
501 (c)3 non-profit organization and is
funded through donations and membership dues.
The Wyoming Historical Society is not part of the
Wyoming State Government.

Wyoming Historical Society
PO Box 33
Riverton, WY 82501

Aley Philp, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
executivedirector@wyshs.org



"Shaky" kept everyone going with his signature and historic Camp Coffee station!

'Trek' continued from page 1

Prisoner of War (POW) camp is extensively documented, notably in Cheryl O'Brien's book, ***World War II POW Camps of Wyoming***. O'Brien's work delves into the experiences of the Italian and German prisoners held across Wyoming's nineteen POW camps, highlighting the unique relationships that developed between the prisoners, U.S. military personnel, and local residents. These camps played a vital, yet often overlooked, role in the state's wartime efforts, with POW labor contributing to local agricultural and timber industries.

Friday's itinerary was packed with historical gems. The group explored Fort Fetterman, a vital military outpost during the Indian Wars, and then journeyed to the somber Casper Kid WWII B17 Crash Site, a powerful reminder of wartime sacrifices. The charming town of Glenrock welcomed the trekkers, showcasing its

historic bridge and park, symbols of the community's enduring spirit. A highlight of the day was a fascinating presentation by Con Trumbull on the devastating passenger railway train wreck that occurred just outside of Glenrock in 1923, bringing a forgotten piece of local history to life. The day concluded with a picturesque dinner hosted at the Ayres Monument State Historic Site, offering stunning views and a chance to reflect on the monument's rich history as a natural bridge and a landmark for travelers for centuries. Before dinner, attendees explored Careyhurst site and the Bixby Ranch, learning about their significant contributions to the region's ranching heritage.

The tragic 1923 train disaster, often referred to as the Cole Creek Train Wreck, was a significant event in Wyoming's

history. Con Trumbull's book, ***Steam, Steel, and Silence: The Story of the Cole Creek Train Wreck***, provides a comprehensive account of this devastating incident. On a stormy September night, Burlington train No. 30, en route from Casper to Denver, plunged into Cole Creek after a washed-out bridge gave way, resulting in Wyoming's worst passenger rail disaster. Trumbull's research brings to light the human stories and difficult circumstances surrounding the wreck, which claimed numerous lives and left a lasting impact on the local communities.

Saturday was equally engaging, beginning with a visit to the intriguing town of Lost Springs, where attendees learned about James Edwards, an African-American early homesteader who arrived in the region in the late 19th century,



Pieces from the 'Casper Kid' - the B17 (#42-5102) that crashed near Glenrock close to midnight on February 25, 1943 while returning to the Casper Army Air Field. The memorial stone close to the highway reads "The entire Machala Crew gave the last full measure."



Attendees to the 71st Annual Wyoming Historical Society Trek talk to a descendant of the owner of this homesteader's house in Glenrock at the Deer Creek Museum located near Rock in the Glen. The "Rock in the Glen," located on the western edge of Glenrock, Wyoming, is a historic sandstone outcrop etched with the names and dates of 19th-century emigrants who traveled the Oregon Trail. This natural landmark served as a notable campsite and waypoint for thousands journeying westward, including John C. Frémont's 1842 expedition guided by Kit Carson. The surrounding area, once home to Deer Creek Station, played a vital role as a Pony Express stop and telegraph relay point during the mid-1800s. Today, visitors can explore the site and still find faint carvings left by pioneers, offering a tangible connection to Wyoming's frontier past.

enduring the harsh conditions of the Wyoming frontier to establish his home and livelihood with his highly accomplished wife. A scenic drive through Wyoming's varied landscapes led to their Homestead on the way to Lance Creek.

James Edwards (1871-1951) was a remarkable African American homesteader whose perseverance shaped a successful life in Wyoming. Born in Ohio, Edwards moved west in 1900 and eventually found work on the Running Water Ranch near Lusk, where

he rose to the position of foreman. In 1914, he married Lethel Dawson, and together they established a thriving ranch in the Harney Creek area. Their homestead was notable for its early adoption of modern amenities, and they actively encouraged other African Americans to settle in the Lusk region. Edwards' story of resilience and success, which was even featured in a 1949 *Ebony Magazine* article, serves as a testament to the contributions of early homesteaders in Wyoming.

The morning also featured a

captivating presentation on the oil and gas history in Lance Creek, highlighting the industry's profound impact on the area, followed by an exclusive look at the impressive Miller Museum. Lunch was provided by the 3 Sisters in Manville, providing a delicious break at this historic and well known stop. The afternoon was dedicated to the ongoing quest to restore the center of the Shawnee community, their schoolhouse, which miraculously still retains its original bell, a beacon of its

continued on page 6



The Miller Museum at Lance Creek was an unexpected delight full of treasures and stories untold.

'Trek' continued from page 5

past. The day concluded with a presentation and tour of the Shaw - Gray Ranch south of Orin Junction. The Gray Ranch, with its deep roots in Wyoming's ranching history, has been a prominent fixture in the landscape for generations, contributing significantly to the state's agricultural heritage.

WHS President Beki Speas extended her heartfelt gratitude



Antique saddles passed down through the generations at the Shaw-Gray Ranch. The historic house is both a museum and a functioning home.

Make sure you check out our Facebook page for more photos and videos of the event!

to all those who contributed to the Trek's success. "This truly was an amazing event, and we owe immense thanks to everyone who helped host it – from the dedicated site hosts to the knowledgeable presenters and the countless volunteers," said Speas. "The Wyoming Historical Society is committed to making history accessible and engaging for everyone, regardless of their level of enthusiasm. We warmly invite all history lovers to join us for

our Annual Conference in Sheridan in mid-September, where we will continue to explore and celebrate Wyoming's incredible past."





The Wyoming Historical Society extends a special thank you to all the generous sponsors and dedicated volunteers who made the 71st Annual Historical Trek possible:

3 Sister's Truck Stop
307 Decor and More
307 Shirts
Ace Hardware
Ann's Home Care
Ayres Natural Bridge Park
Ashley Hinckley

Camp Douglas State Historic Site
Christ Episcopal Church
Converse County Bank
Converse County Tourism Board
Con Trumbull
Deer Creek Museum
Converse County School District #1
Douglas Senior Center
Dominos Pizza
Douglas Railroad Museum

Douglas Community Club
Douglas Historic
Preservation Commission
The Enterprise
Fort Fetterman State Historic Site
Friends of the Old Shawnee School
Glenrock Main Street
Friends of the Wyoming
Veterans Museum
Gary Mains
Glenrock Boys & Girls Club, Granny's
Unique Treasures
Grasslands Market
Gray Ranch
Jen's Books

LaBonte Hotel
Town of Lance Creek
Mark Nelson
Melissa Hull
Memorial Hospital of Converse County
Miller Museum
Mocha Molly's
Niobrara County Museum
Northgate Liquor
Points West Bank
Ramos Cafe
Ron's Supply
Bob Russell
Saddleback Trucking LLC
Sigma Delta Phi Zeta Masters
Smith Sheep Company
Sookie & Jim Dugan
Sunset Liquor
Town of Glenrock
Town of Lost Springs
True Ranches
UniWyo Credit Union
Wildflower Yoga
Wyoming Pioneer Memorial Museum
and especially lead organizer
Heidi McCullough

MEET YOUR CANDIDATES FOR EXEC

THREE MEMBERS OFFER THEIR TIME, TALENTS, & COMMITMENT

Each year, there are several open positions for the Wyoming Historical Society's Executive Board. There are two positions open this year. One of the elected this year will need to specifically represent the Southeast Region (Converse, Niobrara, Platte, Goshen, Laramie, Albany Counties); and the other does NOT have to be particularly from certain Wyoming locations or counties.

The newly elected officers will serve until the September 30, 2029. We thank the three candidates for offering their time, talents, and commitment to the Society. All three candidates are new to the Executive Board but are dedicated to the mission of the Wyoming Historical Society.

"It is vital that people never forget. It is very encouraging to see Native history and culture getting wider acknowledgment. I would be thrilled to serve on the Historical Society's Board."

- BEN RIDGLEY

Ben Ridgley is a Northern Arapaho elder, former director of the Tribal Historic Preservation Office, a counselor, and a federal tribal consultant.

An expert on the Sand Creek Massacre, Ridgely is

the tribal expert and representative on the tragedy and is also a direct descendant of one of the survivors.

Ridgely was instrumental in getting the trail signage along the historic route and modern highways in the early



2000's and the national historic site near Eads, Colorado expanded in 2022.

He is a graduate of the University of Wyoming and credits Dr. Phil Roberts for encouraging his passion for history.



"Wyoming's history isn't just about dusty old buildings; it's the living story of who we are. Understanding our past, the struggles and triumphs of those who came before us, is how we build a stronger future for this state we all love."

- ZANE FROSS

Zane Fross is a lifelong Wyoming resident with deep roots in the state, having dedicated 26 years as a ranch hand and 22 years as a contractor.

Since December 1998, he has served as the devoted overseer and caretaker of the

historic J.B. Okie Mansion, residing in the home since April 2009. Fross is passionately committed to preserving Wyoming's heritage, as evidenced by his ongoing mission to restore the 122-year-old mansion.

He also actively shares the

mansion's rich history and stories, offering tours and highlighting the achievements of its original owner, J.B. Okie.

His extensive experience and dedication to local history make him a compelling candidate for the WHS Board.



“I’m honored to run as a board member to help advance the WHS. A lifelong history buff, I especially enjoy Wyoming’s rich past and look forward to supporting the Society’s continued progress.”

- SCOTT TRABING

Scott Trabing is a Wyomingite. After graduating from Hot Springs County High School, he attended and graduated from the United States Air Force Academy.

Trabing then served eight years as an Air Force pilot before beginning a 32-year career with Northwest/Delta Airlines as a

commercial pilot.

Now retired, Scott and his wife Cathy raised their four children in Buffalo and are proud grandparents of five. They currently reside in Cheyenne, where they remain closely connected to their Wyoming roots.

Scott has a deep appreciation for the state’s history and is excited to serve on the board of the Wyoming Historical Society. He looks forward to helping secure the Society’s future while supporting its continued success in fulfilling its mission.

Vote for one for Southeast Representative,
and one for general Board Member
to serve for a four-year term (2025 - 2029.).

Household Memberships are allowed two votes, one per person.

Institutional Memberships are allowed one vote.

If you need a replacement ballot, or for any questions, please contact WHS Headquarters.

1st Vote
Board Member, vote for ONE:

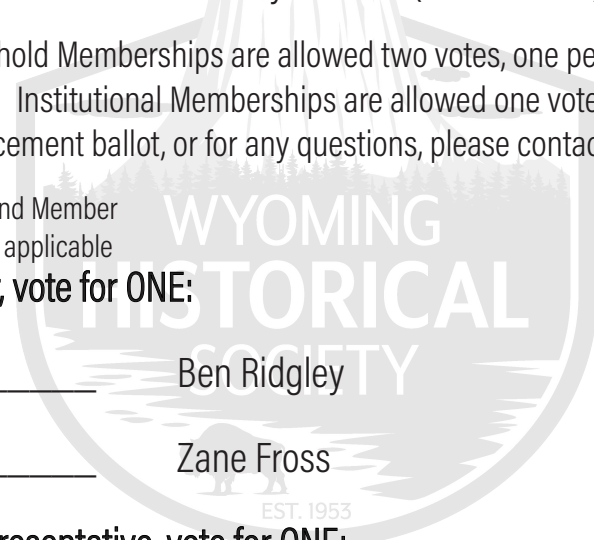
2nd Member
if applicable

Ben Ridgley

Zane Fross

Southeast Representative, vote for ONE:

Scott Trabing



HOW TO VOTE

- Read each candidate bios on the previous pages and consider your vote(s) carefully.
- **VOTE** by filling out the ballot.
- Tear along the perforated edges, place a stamp in the top right corner, and drop your ballot into your nearest USPS Mailbox for return to Headquarters.
- Make sure that the ballot is received by Headquarters NO LATER than **AUGUST 15, 2025**.

If you have any questions, please contact:
Aley Philp, Executive Director
307.322.3014 or executivedirector@wyshs.org



AFFIX
STAMP
HERE

WYOMING HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PO Box 33
Riverton, WY
82501

WHS MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We are thrilled to announce an incredible outpouring of support for our mission and new direction over the last month. This remarkable wave of generosity has reaffirmed the historical community's commitment to preserving Wyoming's rich history and provided the necessary funds to cover the cost of our upcoming audit, which is currently in its beginning stages with an anticipated completion date of April 2026.

For the past four months, the Society aspired to pursue an audit to ensure transparency and accountability in our operations. However, due to limited funds, we were unable to move forward with this important initiative. We owe a significant portion of this accomplishment to a generous anonymous donor and the overwhelming support from recent contributions, all of which have bolstered the trust and confidence of our community.

The Society has always been a beacon for those passionate about Wyoming's heritage. The Wyoming Historical Society is committed to openness and responsibility, and the successful completion of the audit is a crucial step in maintaining the trust and confidence of all of our supporters. This recent surge in donations and letters of support is a testament to the unwavering dedication of our members and donors. Their contributions are vital in ensuring that we can continue our work in preserving and sharing the stories that define our state.

We are deeply moved by our patrons' response. The support we've received in such a short period is truly inspiring and demonstrates the collective commitment to our mission. These donations will not only cover the audit costs but also help us in our ongoing efforts to protect and promote Wyoming's treasured heritage.

We also want to emphasize the importance of all levels of supporters. The Wyoming Historical

Society remains steadfast in our commitment to responsible financial stewardship and transparency. Your support, in all capacities, is crucial in helping us maintain our integrity and continue our mission.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed, whether through financial donations or letters of support. Their generosity is the cornerstone of our success and enables us to forge ahead with our mission. We ask for your continued support on WyoGives Day, July 16, 2025 by donating through the following website:

<https://www.wyogives.org/organizations/wyoming-historical-society-9a882d90-6fc6-4c1e-985d-83f29c121f4e>

The Wyoming Historical Society Executive Board is also pleased to share the voting results of the recently proposed Bylaw changes. A total of 589 members, out of our 1,364 members, participated in the Bylaws vote. This unprecedented 43% voting member participation demonstrates the commitment of our members to the democratic process and the Wyoming Historical Society. We appreciate everyone's involvement and continued support.

One of the main reasons for the change in the Bylaws last September was to give all members a chance to vote on the Bylaws and the future of the Society, rather than limiting it to the approximately 30 members who were able to attend the Annual Meeting each year. The Executive Board of the Wyoming Historical Society, in accordance with Article V, Section I, No. 2 of the September 2024 WHS Bylaws, certifies to all members that this vote, conducted anonymously as promised to all members, was valid, accurate, and legitimate. This ensures a fair and democratic process accessible to all current members of the Society.

Overall, the changes to the Bylaws passed by at least 70% on all accounts. We are enthusiastic
continued on page 12

LETTER FROM THE WHS EXECUTIVE BOARD

Membership Update continued from page 11

about embarking on a path that will ensure the longevity of the Society for future generations. We recognize that change can be challenging and, at times, difficult to embrace. However, it is a crucial step to secure a sustainable future for the Wyoming Historical Society.

We, the Executive Board, are committed to listening to and engaging with all stakeholders of Wyoming History and our members. Your voices are invaluable in shaping the future of our Society, and we encourage you to continue sharing your thoughts and ideas with us. Together, we can build a stronger, more vibrant community that honors and preserves our rich history for generations to come.

Following the recent updates to our Bylaws, which are available on our website, we have formally removed the designation of chapters from our organizational structure. This means that while individuals formerly affiliated with county chapters remain valued members of our Society, with all of the same member benefits and privileges as before, the chapters themselves will no longer be under WHS oversight.

All current memberships will be honored until the start of the new fiscal year, October 1, 2025; at which point all memberships will reset. Any donor who donates \$25 or more is a member and will receive the publications digitally; any donation of \$50 or more will also receive a physical copy of the publications.

This shift reflects a larger vision—one that ensures local historical groups can operate with greater autonomy, flexibility, and local control over their missions and management. Each organization will now have the opportunity to establish itself as an independent nonprofit entity, shaping its own future while continuing to preserve and share Wyoming's history in ways that best serve their communities.

While the Wyoming Historical Society will no longer provide administrative oversight for our former chapters, we remain deeply committed to supporting all Wyoming historical organizations across the entire state through programming, educational resources, and marketing assistance. Our future relationships with local historical societies—many of which were formerly known as chapters—will be those of affiliates, rather than overseers. This new structure will allow us to expand our mission statewide, offering assistance not only to these groups but to historical institutions, such as small museums across Wyoming, who are in desperate need of additional support right now.

We truly believe that local control is the best path forward, allowing historical societies to tailor their operations to the needs of their communities while still benefiting from WHS's expertise and support. This is an opportunity for growth, not retreat—an opportunity to ensure Wyoming's rich history continues to be preserved and celebrated without bureaucratic constraints limiting its reach.

Change can be daunting, but it also offers exciting new possibilities. We ask for your continued trust and support as we take this step together, ensuring that Wyoming's history remains vibrant, accessible, and deeply rooted in the communities that cherish it.

We are greatly looking forward to continuing to move in a direction that will preserve the longevity of the Society for generations to come, making our mission and vision more accessible and increasing public awareness in the coming months and years.

We again thank you for your continued support of the Society and ask that you stick with us during these transitions for a better future, ensuring we can continue to share Wyoming's history with this and many generations to come.

- The WHS Executive Board

WHS ANNUAL CONFERENCE ANNOUNCED

You're invited to the Wyoming Historical Society's Annual Conference in Sheridan, a captivating journey through the heart of Wyoming's rich past! From Friday, September 12, to Sunday, September 14, we're rolling out an immersive experience designed for every history enthusiast, regardless of your specific interests or background.

DISCOVER SHERIDAN'S CHARMS THROUGH EXCLUSIVE TOURS

This year, we've curated an exceptional lineup of tours that promise to bring history to life. Kick off your conference experience on Friday afternoon with a guided tour of the ****Don King Museum****, offering a unique glimpse into local heritage.

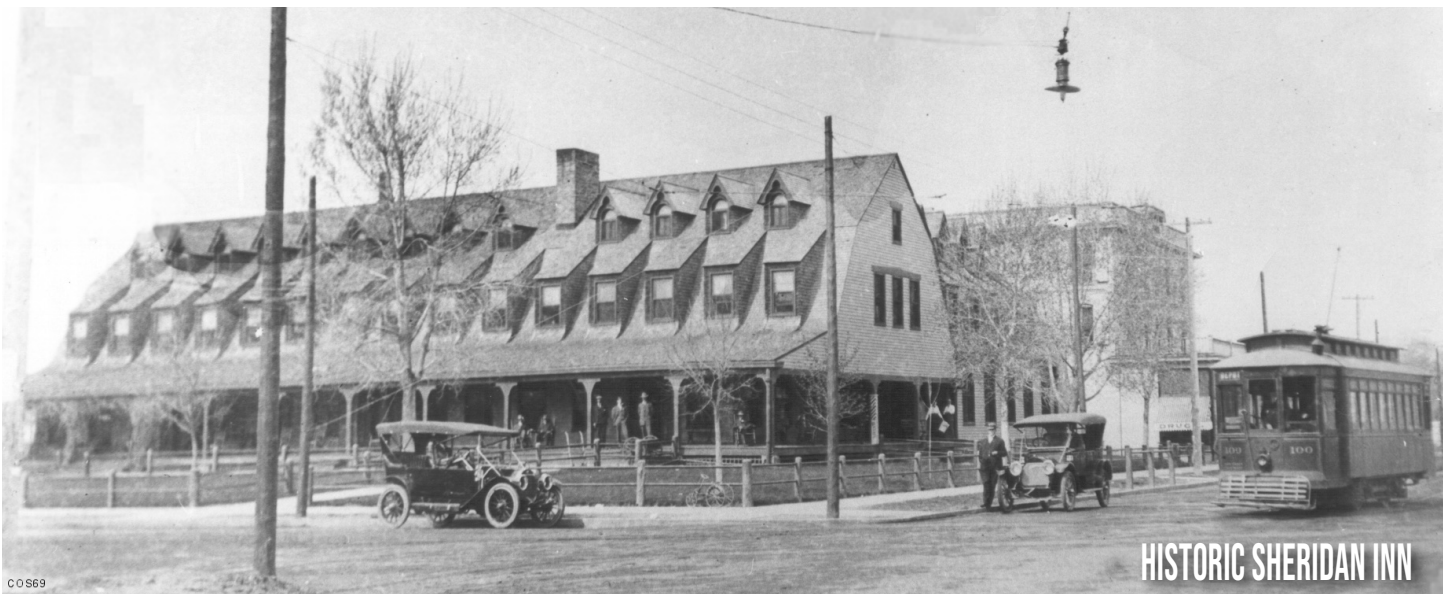
Afterward, stretch your legs on a walking tour of Historic Downtown Sheridan, where every building tells a story. Friday evening culminates with an exclusive reception and tour at the Museum of the Big Horns followed by a catered dinner at the iconic Historic Sheridan Inn. You'll then enjoy a

fascinating presentation by Shari Shada from the Trails End Historic Site.

Saturday afternoon offers even more opportunities for exploration. Choose between an in-depth tour of the Trails End Historic Site and Kendrick Mansion with Shari Shada or delve into the military history of the region with Misty Stoll at Fort Phil Kearny. And on Sunday morning, don't miss our special historic ranch tours, a chance to experience Wyoming's enduring agricultural legacy firsthand.

ENGAGING SPEAKERS & UNFORGETTABLE EVENINGS

Beyond the tours, our conference boasts a dynamic roster of speakers. On Saturday morning, following a delicious breakfast buffet, our annual membership meeting will feature opening remarks from Camden Easterling of Peaks Consulting. That evening, prepare for the highlight of the conference: the President's Banquet at the Historic Sheridan Inn. Enjoy a happy hour before our keynote address by the



PROMOTE. PROTECT. PARTICIPATE.

Are you passionate about history? Do you want to make a meaningful impact? Look no further!

Whether you're interested in preservation, research, or community outreach, we have a place for you!

If you have an interest in any of these areas, please reach out to Nancy Tabb, WHS Secretary, (sec.whs@gmail.com) about serving on a Committee for the 2025-2026 year.

- America 250 - Wyoming 250 (Semiquincentennial)
- Publications
- Historic Preservation
- Oral History
- Marketing, Outreach, & Fundraising
- Grants (Gifting & Applying)
- Publications

By volunteering, you'll contribute to preserving our heritage, organizing events, and shaping our historical narrative. Join us in celebrating the past and building a vibrant future.

Your time and talents will help connect communities across generations, inspiring others to discover the stories that make Wyoming special. Remember, your commitment can make a difference!

distinguished Bill Yellowtail, followed by captivating musical entertainment from Wyoming's own Jalan Crossland.

A WELCOMING GATHERING FOR ALL HISTORY BUFFS

The Wyoming Historical Society is dedicated to preserving and sharing the diverse stories of our state. This conference is a fantastic opportunity to connect with fellow history buffs, share insights, and deepen your understanding of Wyoming's past. Whether you're a long-time member, a seasoned historian, a student, or simply someone with a burgeoning interest in the rich tapestry of human experience, you'll find a welcoming community here. We believe history belongs to everyone, and we encourage all perspectives and passions to join us.

Mark your calendars and prepare for a weekend of discovery, learning, and camaraderie. Check our website for the most up-to-date itinerary and registration details. We can't wait to see you in Sheridan!

LODGING OPTIONS

ASK FOR THE WYOMING HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL MEETING RATE

HOST HOTELS: BOOK SOON IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND!

Historic Sheridan Inn
307.674.2178
856 Broadway Street
Sheridan, WY

Rates may vary
based on room type.
Limited rooms available.
Average rate is
\$200 per night.

Best Western Sheridan
307.674.7421
612 North Main Street
Sheridan, WY

Rates may vary
based on room type.
Average rate is
\$150 per night.

Most activities take place at the Historic Sheridan Inn.



ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Registration Form

Friday Sept.12 - Sunday Sept 14, 2025
Sheridan, WY & Surrounding Area

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____
MAILING CITY STATE ZIP

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

REGISTRATION IS DUE NO LATER THAN AUGUST 25, 2025

Cost \$150 per Person; includes 3 meals and tour transportation.

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS: _____

Attending: _____ **ALL EVENTS**

or

_____ **FRIDAY ONLY - \$50**

_____ **SATURDAY EVENTS - \$100**

_____ **SATURDAY ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING ONLY - \$25**

_____ **SATURDAY AWARDS LUNCH ONLY - \$35**

_____ **\$750 TABLE SPONSOR - TABLE FOR 8**

_____ **\$50 PER PERSON INDIVIDUAL TICKETS**

_____ **SATURDAY PRESIDENT'S BANQUET ONLY**

_____ **\$750 TABLE SPONSOR - TABLE FOR 8**

_____ **\$50 PER PERSON INDIVIDUAL TICKETS**

_____ **SUNDAY TOURS PROGRAM ONLY - \$40**

ONLINE REGISTRATION PREFERRED.

Registration opens July 15. Please visit wyshs.org/events to sign up and pay by credit card.

If registering by mail, please send a check to WHS with one form per person to:

Wyoming Historical Society Annual Conference

PO Box 33

Riverton, WY 82501

For more information [Sponsorship](#) and [Volunteer Opportunities](#) please contact

Beki Speas - pres.wys@gmail.com

THURSDAY
DINNER FOR
EXECUTIVE BOARD

FRIDAY
11a - 5p: CHECK-IN
Best Western Sheridan

2p: Don King Museum
Guided Tour

3:30p: Walking Tour of
Historic Downtown Sheridan

5p: EVENING RECEPTION
at *Museum of the Big Horns*
with Exclusive Tour

6:30p: CATERED DINNER
at *Historic Sheridan Inn*
7:30p: Presentation
by Shari Shada,
Trails End Historic Site

SATURDAY
CHECK-IN
8a - 12n *Historic Sheridan Inn*

7a: BREAKFAST BUFFET

WHS ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
8:30a - *Historic Sheridan Inn*
Opening Speaker:
Camden Easterling,
Peaks Consulting

WHS AWARDS LUNCHEON
12n - *Historic Sheridan Inn*

TOURS / PROGRAMS
2:30p
Shari Shada
Trails End / Kendrick Mansion

Misty Stoll:
Fort Phil Kearny

PRESIDENT'S BANQUET
Historic Sheridan Inn
5:30p - Happy Hour
6:30p - Bill Yellowtail, Keynote
7:30p - Jalan Crossland,
Musical Entertainment

SUNDAY
8a: CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

TOUR
9a - *Ranch Tours*
TBD

*Annual Conference Schedule
is subject to change. Please check
our website for the most
up-to-date itinerary
and information.*

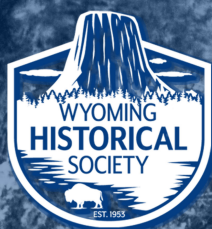


Wyoming Historical Society
PO Box 33
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INCLUDED INSIDE: MAIL IN BALLOT - ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION



Save the Date
JULY 16, 2025

