May is National Historic Preservation Month. This is the perfect time to highlight the work you’re doing in your community to the general public and elected officials. If you have questions contact Erica Duvic at Erica.duvic@wyo.gov. She is the Community Preservation Coordinator for the Wyoming SHPO and would be very interested in any activities you plan.

It’s also time to consider nominating a family-owned and operated ranch for the Centennial Ranch program. Again, contact Erica for details.

Members of the Western Wyoming Community College Historical Society enjoyed a presentation by Amanda Benson about Sweetwater County. Amanda is the curator at the Sweetwater County Museum.

The Sheridan County Historical Society and Museum will host their annual fundraiser titled “A View from the Governor’s Mansion” on May 13th in Sheridan.

Did you know: Natrona County was named for the deposits of natron that are found in the area.
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.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Tamsen Hert, President, SE Rep.  460-3135 wyshspresident@gmail.com
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Jessica Clark, 2nd VP, At Large  382-1864 jclark@westernwyoming.edu
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Rick Robbins, At Large  331-3024 rarob@wyomingwisp.com

Carl Hallberg,  Secretary, At Large
Lisa Thalken, Treasurer, At Large
Rick Robbins, At Large
Tamsen Hert, President, SE Rep.

It is also time to begin looking toward our summer festivities. The March issue of WHN mentioned the recent Wyoming additions of National Historic Landmarks and the “Save the Date” information for the festivities celebrating this achievement for the Ames Monument. Our annual Trek will be in Natrona County and I look forward to seeing many of you there.

The Executive Committee held its quarterly meeting in Rock Springs on March 25th. We extend a very special thank you to board member Jessica Clark and her team of amazing students (WSHS/WWCC members Savannah McCauley, Megan Lord, Jorden Pitt and Kathy Wegner), who helped coordinate the meeting at Western Wyoming Community College. Having our meeting there gave us the opportunity to see the outstanding results of their efforts to transition into a new chapter, the Western Wyoming Community College Historical Society. Their mission to plan, promote and sponsor educational programs for the chapter and general public on historic subjects pertaining to Southwestern Wyoming has been hugely successful thus far, and we expect it to continue to do so. If you have any questions about the chapter please don’t hesitate to ask. We’ll direct you to the right person.

Meeting in Rock Springs also gave us a chance to visit with Lincoln County chapter officers, Dennis and Donna Oden, and from the Fort Bridger Historical Association, Martin Lammers. It was a delight getting to hear from each of you.

Enjoy the beautiful Spring season in Wyoming. . .

Tamsen

From the President . . .

Spring Greetings to our members and friends!
You can always tell it is Spring in Wyoming because the weather influences your travel plans. We had to postpone the WSHS Board meeting in February due to a major statewide storm. Spring also marks the beginning of our major activities. On April 10th it will once again be time to gather in Laramie for Wyoming History Day. I wish all participants the best as they present their research in various formats in this important program.

Two other programs are well underway as well. WSHS member Doug Cubbison is in charge of the Homsher Research Grants this year and they have received several excellent applications! It is always interesting to see what new areas of Wyoming’s history are yet to be uncovered. And, our newest program, Wyoming’s Top Ten Artifacts, is also moving ahead. The panel of judges are reviewing the nominations and will be reducing these to a pool of 15. From what I have heard, all nominations were qualified and this reduction is going to be difficult. I do want to say that we did not receive as many nominations as in the first two years of this program. I always have hope that we will get something from all qualifying institutions.

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THE EXCHANGE

Please: When you forget to tell us your new address it costs the Society $5.69 for the post office to return your Annals of Wyoming, and $2.64 to return Wyoming History News.

2017 Heart Mountain Pilgrimage-July 28-29: If you are interested in sponsoring this event, or supporting a scholarship for students to attend please contact WSHS member Sam Mihara via email to smihara12345@gmail.com.

Executive Director Sought: The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum is seeking applications for the position of Executive Director. Resumes should be sent to jkhunt@gmail.com by April 30.

Annals of Wyoming: The Society has numerous copies of back issues if you are interested. They are $6.00 each plus postage. To order send an e-mail to linda@wyshs.org. Several volumes/issues are available for the following years:
- 1921 to 1968
- 1992 to 2006
- 2008 to current.

This is a perfect opportunity for libraries and individuals to round out their collections.

Chapters: Easy fundraiser...Wyoming: A Pictorial History and Schwiering Prints. Contact Society headquarters for details at linda@wyshs.org.

Congratulations to Converse County Historical Society for hosting a successful Prohibition fundraiser last month in Douglas.

A hearty thank you to the following volunteers from the Campbell County Historical Society who spent a total of 27 hours working on the “Non-Event Gala” mailing. They are Sandra Holyoak, Myrna Sharp, Susan Kirk, Nola Wallace, Diane Hackett, Jeff Busk and Charlene Busk.

The Fort Bridger Historical Association’s annual James Bridger Birthday Celebration was held March 19th and was a huge success by all accounts.

Back issues of Annals of Wyoming (taking up approximately 1,900 square feet of space) have now been inventoried, thanks to the help of Alex Lockman of Wheatland. See “The Exchange” if you need to round out your collections.

WSHS member Cheryl O’Brien, author of Camp Dubois in the Autumn 2015 issue of Annals, continues her research which includes contacting US military personnel and German officials who were assigned to the camp, and may still be living. She was recently contacted by German officials advising they have located one former German POW from Camp Dubois and he does wish to be contacted. That’s great news! We’ll look forward to hearing the “rest of the story.”

Members of the Albany County Historical Society recently enjoyed a presentation by Jennifer Lawrence who spoke about the history and living conditions of army laundresses.

The State History Day competition is coming up fast (April 10). To find out more visit www.uwyo.edu/ahc/historyday/.

WSHS member David Wolff reminds us that there will be a symposium in South Dakota on June 1-3 titled “Forts, Wars and Treaties on the Northern Plains.” For details call him at 605-642-6361.
April 8-Casper. Wyoming Veterans Museum reception for “Wyoming in the Great War.” Contact douglas.cubbison@wyo.gov for details.
April 10-Laramie. Wyoming History Day.
April 13-Casper. Spring dinner with OCTA and the Natrona County Historical Society.
April 19-Green River. WWCC chapter will host Dr. David Tate. For details e-mail wegner13@msn.com.
April 23-Cheyenne. Laramie County Historical Society hosts Marietta Dinneen.
April 30—Deadline for Society Award Nominations.
May 13-Sheridan. “A View from the Governor’s Mansion.” For tickets contact the Sheridan County Historical Museum.
June 1-3-Fort Meade. “Forts, Wars and Treaties. For details email david.wolff@bhsu.edu.
June 23-25-Casper. Natrona County Historical Society will host the annual Trek.
July 28-29-Powell. Annual Heart Mountain Pilgrimage. Register online at shopheartmountain.org/pilgrimage. If you’re interested in being a sponsor of this event e-mail smihara12345@gmail.com.
August 21-Total Solar Eclipse. Glendo and Casper are planning huge celebrations. Watch your local calendars for details.
September 8-9-Cody. WSHS Annual Meeting hosted by the Park County Historical Society.

Note: Area Code for all Wyoming phone numbers listed throughout the newsletter is 307

BOOK NOW FOR THE TREK
Ramkota Hotel—$84.99—307-266-6000
Courtyard Marriott—$83.00 307-473-2600

This past fall the Ames Monument in Albany County in Wyoming was designated a National Historic Landmark. The large pyramid, which has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1972, honors brothers Oakes Ames and Oliver Ames, Jr., who were instrumental in the construction of the first transcontinental railroad. There will be a celebration July 7-8 in honor of this designation in Laramie and at the site. Call 777-7696 for details.

If you can identify where this winter wonderland picture was taken (hint: a popular state historic site) send an e-mail to linda@wyshs.org to receive a special gift.
Note: Certain people are not eligible to answer — you know who you are.
Welcome New Members and Thank You Donors

Wyoming Historical Foundation  
(The long-term endowment)

- Michael and Marion Jablin, Billings, MT  
- Lynn Sutton, Stockton, CA  
- DeeBee Worthington, Gillette  
- Del and Sandy Tinsley, Wheatland  
- Tom and Betsy Bradley, Spokane  
- Bertha Ward, Laramie  
- Art Kidwell, Clark  
- David and Linda Kathka, Loveland, CO  
- Jodale Russell, Wheatland  
- Chuck and Katie Brown, Wheatland  
- Dave Foreman, Cheyenne  
- Peter Colley, Casper  
- Kim Nelson, Benicia, CA  
- Robert Murray, Beavardam, VA  
- Lucille Dumbrill, Newcastle  
- Ken and Tamsen Hert, Laramie  
- Robert and Beth Melonuk, Fort Laramie  
- Jonita Sommers, Pinedale  
- Benjamin Roman, Story  
- Sandra and Wayne Holyoak, Rozet  
- Jeff and Charlene Busk, Gillette

Wyoming History Day

- Jeanette Chambers, Glendo  
- Alan and Ann Simpson, Cody  
- Bertha Ward, Laramie  
- Dave Foreman, Cheyenne  
- Virginia Capron, Ralston  
- Lucille Dumbrill, Newcastle  
- Mary Ostlund, Cheyenne  
- Robert and Beth Melonuk, Fort Laramie  
- Jonita Sommers, Pinedale

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- Bertha Ward, Laramie  
- Vincent Szafranko, Denver  
- Nancy Curtis, Glendo  
- Dave Foreman, Cheyenne  
- Lucille Dumbrill, Newcastle  
- John Voight, Chugwater  
- Robert and Beth Melonuk, Fort Laramie  
- Jonita Sommers, Pinedale

Homsher Research Grant Project

- Bertha Ward, Laramie  
- David and Linda Kathka, Loveland, CO  
- Ken and Tamsen Hert, Laramie  
- Robert and Beth Melonuk, Fort Laramie  
- Jonita Sommers, Pinedale

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Wyoming History News  April 2017

At Large
Bob Ruby, Mesquite, UT  
John R. Olson, Sheridan  
Ed McAusian, Riverton  
Joel Ivey, Riverton  
Katherine Kasckow, Laramie  
Atlantic City Historical Society  
Jim and JoAnn Kearns, Laramie  
Frederick Drake, Ten Sleep  
Ken Steele, The Woodlands, TX

Albany County Historical Society
RoseMarie Aridas, Laramie  
Albany County Tourism Board, Laramie  
Linda Waggener, Laramie

Carbon County Historical Society
Gilberta Funk, Rawlins

Converse County Historical Society
Mark Nelson and Veronica Holmes, Douglas  
Carolyn Morin, Douglas  
Alicia Malcomson, Douglas  
Sherri Mullinex  
Margaret Farley  
Jody Young

Fort Bridger Historical Association
Sara and Brian Hooten

Hot Springs County Historical Society
Rick Hudson, Thermopolis

Laramie County Historical Society
Morgan Martin, Cheyenne  
Richard McKee, Cheyenne  
Lloyd Eisenhauer, Cheyenne  
Karen and Edwin Gibson, Cheyenne  
Mr. and Mrs. David Hansen, Meriden  
Claudia and Dale Wilen, Cheyenne

Natrona County Historical Society
Wayne and Sue Clements, Casper

Platte County Historical Society
Henry Poling, Wheatland

Sheridan County Historical Society
Jeanne Konkel, Sheridan

Western Wyoming Community College  
Historical Society
Kaitlynn Snell, Rock Springs  
George Eckman, Green River

Continued on Page 6
Donors
(Continued from Page 5)

Wyoming Historical Foundation
Campbell County Historical Society
Chuck and Mary Engebretsen, Lost Springs
Scott Alston, Tulare, CA
Kenilynn Zanetti, Rock Springs
Tom and Barb Rea, Casper
Patsy Parkin, Wheatland
Carol Seeger, Gillette
Rick Ewig, Cheyenne
Barbara Abrahamer, Albany, NY
Ronald Hansen and Julianne Couch, Bellevue, IA
Judy Musgrave, Sheridan
Darwin Pace, Cheyenne
The Esther J. Murray Trust, Cody
John and Diana Marie Waggner, Laramie
Robert and Kathleen Ahrens, Sheridan
David Ebertz, Gillette
Louise Raimondi, Cheyenne

History Day
Campbell County Historical Society
Myrna Sharp, Gillette
Dona Bachman, Carbondale

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Campbell County Historical Society
Tom and Barb Rea, Casper
Judy Musgrave, Sheridan

Homsher Research Grant Project
Campbell County Historical Society
John Shields, Boulder City, NV
Tom and Barb Rea, Casper
John and Diana Marie Waggner, Laramie

Editor’s Note: Thanks to everyone who participated in our “Non-Gala” event by donating. You are very much appreciated.

NOMINATIONS FOR SOCIETY AWARDS ARE DUE APRIL 30TH

The updated Awards Manual for 2017 has been mailed to chapters statewide. It is also available at www.wyshs.org or by contacting Society headquarters at linda@wyshs.org.

Nominations must be postmarked on or before April 30th to be eligible for consideration. One exception are the Youth Awards which are to be postmarked by June 1. Certificates, plaques and (in some cases) monetary wards will be presented at the Society’s annual meeting in September, hosted this year by the Park County Historical Society.

The Awards Committee consists of WSHS members Jessica Clark, Chair, Rock Springs; Ruth Lauritzen, Green River; Jane Gebhart, Gillette, and Cindy Brown, Cheyenne. The committee will meet in July to judge the nominations.
On the Book Shelf... Please support your local booksellers first. If they don’t have what you want ask them to order it.

WSHS member Robert Murphy continues his trilogy “The Iron Horse Chronicles” with the publication of “The Golden Spike.” Robert’s previous publications have been recognized by the Society in recognition of the outstanding accomplishments and contributions to Wyoming’s legacy. Robert is an avid outdoorsman, railroad aficionado, and history buff. In conducting research for his trilogy Robert traveled the route of the railroad, from Omaha, Nebraska to Sacramento, California, visiting museums and historic sites along the way.

WSHS member C.J. Box is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of more than twenty-two novels including the Joe Pickett series. A proud Wyoming native, C.J. has won numerous awards for his works which have been translated into 27 languages. In his latest novel, “Vicious Circle,” the past comes back to haunt game warden Joe Pickett and his family with devastating effect. Tidbit: Did you know that C.J. donates all his papers to the American Heritage Center and that’s where he kicks off his newest works?
IN MEMORY….  

The WSHS/Carbon County Historical Society lost a dear friend when Joan Lawrence died on February 5th. Joan joined the WSHS/Carbon County Chapter in 1987. In 1994 she signed the chapter bylaws as president, and served in that capacity again (and treasurer) from 2007 to 2010. Joan was a strong advocate for Fort Fred Steele State Historic Site, and the Wyoming History Day program. Plus, she probably sold more Calendars of Wyoming History that anyone else in the state! Joan was well-known for her exquisite photography which led her to be named “Wyoming Photographer of the Year.” She leaves behind four children, six grandchildren and six great-grand children.

The Sheridan County Chapter and all of Wyoming lost a good friend with the death of John D. (Jack) McDermott who died on New Year’s Eve, 2016. Friend and fellow historian, Lee Noyes, wrote “Jack will be remembered for his notable contributions to the study of the Plains Indian Wars, as well as his distinguished federal government service. Few have matched his impact on so many.” Jack joined the National Park Service in 1960 as chief historian at Fort Laramie. Twenty-six years later he retired as policy director of the President’s Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C. and moved to Sheridan. He became a friend and an advisor to the Fort Phil Kearny/Bozeman Trail Association and helped write the state’s first master plan for those sites. He also served as president of the Sheridan County Historical Society, and more. Jack’s reach will be remembered in his books, and all of his many contributions to Wyoming’s history.