Non-Event Huge Success

The Wyoming Historical Foundation’s second annual “non-event” has turned out to be quite the success according to Charlene Busk, treasurer. “To date we have received more than $7,000 in donations,” she said. “Donors chose to give to the Society’s long-term endowment, WyoHistory.Org, Wyoming History Day or the Homsher Research Grant Project.” “Many donors have split their gift amongst several.”

Mike Jording, past president of both the Society and the Foundation Board of Directors explained, “The Wyoming Historical Foundation by its name infers something from the past. The past is the cultural and preservation activity of Wyoming people who have been members of the Society for many years; their vision represents the knowledge and hope of people who could be identified as Wyoming patriots; some are alive, and others have passed on. They loved learning about Wyoming and sharing Wyoming with others. They personally invested in the Wyoming idea. Some became self-educated in Wyoming’s history, and some taught others about Wyoming’s past. In so doing, they became patriots wanting to ensure that the trail was not lost.

Who among our members would not have enjoyed the knowledge and experience of Wyoming had it not been for the Society? Would we have been able to visit Cambria in Weston County, the Dale Creek Bridge site in Albany County, or the TA Ranch in Johnson County had it not been for our association with the Society. Would our members like Tom Rea have researched the history of Ella Watson and James Averell, or would have Mary Kelley have done the Arcadia book on Gillette, or would have Starley Talbott done the Platte County book if it were not for relationships with the Wyoming State Historical Society? It is important to support the activities of the Society and Foundation as they lay the groundwork for the next decade or century. Financial contributions are a way to keep that light of patriotism alive in Wyoming; it is a means of giving support to the organization that provided us the pathway to learning about and loving Wyoming.” Your gifts are deeply appreciated (see page 6 and 7).

Thank you!

Heard on the Historical Trail

The Platte County Historical Society created a year-long exhibit of members of the community who served in WWI. The exhibit has been on display at various locations throughout Platte County. The Ora Call Unit of the American Legion is preparing for its 100th anniversary in 2018 and will be utilizing the exhibit as part of that celebration.

WSHS president Doug Cubbins recently presented Indian Doughboys in the Great War to members of the Sheridan County Historical Society. Doug is very interested in visiting chapters. Please contact him direct at whitestar1864@hotmail.com or call 472-1857.

Congratulations to WSHS member Dr. Bridget Burke on being named University of Oklahoma Libraries Associate Dean for Special Collections.

Members of the Hot Springs County Historical Society enjoyed their annual Christmas Holiday get together.

(Continued on page 3)
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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whitestar1864@hotmail.com
Leslie Waggener, 1st VP, At Large
lwaggen2@uwyo.edu
Jane Gebhart, 2nd VP, At Large
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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 e-mail to linda@wyshs.org

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

From the President...

Fort Fetterman was established in July 1867 as the southernmost military post on the Bozeman Trail. The Army closed Fort Fetterman in 1882, and the fort became Fetterman City, anticipated to become the county seat of the new Converse County. But in 1886 the railroad bypassed Fetterman City, and Douglas was founded instead. The next year Theodore Pringle established a tent saloon along the muddy morass that constituted the city’s Main Street—shortly afterwards followed by a frame structure. In 1906 Theodore Pringle constructed a substantial two-story brick building on the same location, which he named the College Inn Bar. The College Inn Bar was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979, and is the oldest continuously operated business in Douglas and Converse County. The historic structure still retains the spectacular 1906 Brunswick Bar and its furnishings.

Unfortunately, by early in 2017 the bar had suffered from years of minimal maintenance, was in extremely poor repair, listed for sale, its survival in doubt. WSHS/Converse County Historical Society members Scott and Jacey Bauman purchased the College Inn Bar in August 2017. Following an extensive rehabilitation, during which all historic components of the bar were faithfully protected and preserved, Scott and Jacey reopened the College Inn Bar in early November. Even the pair of golden eagles that greeted visitors since the day that Theodore Pringle first opened the swinging doors of his saloon were carefully cleaned and returned to their place of honor. When you enter the College Inn Bar, you literally step back into Wyoming’s past, and are experiencing firsthand our nation’s lore and legacy. If you listen carefully you can hear the voices of yesteryear discussing sports, politics, international events, the economy, livestock, horses, hay, business, service and sacrifice…and yes, the Wyoming weather.

This is a textbook case of how historic preservation contributes to our economy. Today, an important business that was in danger of closing its doors forever just months earlier, keeps the lights burning along North 2nd Street. The College Inn Bar serves as a “bookend” to the historic downtown of Douglas. The 1906 building has been saved, retaining the historic appearance and architectural persona of one of the Cowboy State’s most distinctive communities, and maintaining the ability of the town and county to attract tourists and visitors off the interstate. Through the efforts of Scott and Jacey this small, locally-owned business continues to employ workers, support community events, sustain local vendors, and contribute state and local taxes. And they are representative of hundreds of other small business owners throughout the state, who are utilizing historic preservation to foster the Cowboy state’s heritage tourism based economy. The Converse County Historical Society will host our Annual Meeting next September, and I encourage all our Society members to discover the history and heritage of Douglas and Converse County. In the meantime, if you find yourself driving the byways of our wonderful state, support Society members Scott and Jacey and over eleven decades of Wyoming saloon legacy at the College Inn Bar!

Linda and the board and committee members of the Society wish all our friends and colleagues a very Happy New Year!

Until Next Time,
Doug
(Heard on the Trail continued from page 1)

WSHS member Sam Mihara who was raised at the Heart Mountain Internment Camp during WWII, has scheduled speaking engagements statewide (see calendar on page 4 for details). If you would like to have him speak for your group contact him direct at smihara12345@gmail.com or call 714-813-6291. Hearing Sam recall his experiences is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

WSHS member, Author and historian, John Waggener, has been enjoying presenting “Snow Chi Minh Trail” to audiences statewide. The book is available at local bookstores across Wyoming, or by contacting the Society at linda@wyshs.org.

The Albany County Historical Society enjoyed a recent talk by author Lori Howe about her book, Voices at Twilight. The book was a first place winner at the Society’s annual meeting last September.

As is their tradition, the Weston County Historical Society recently celebrated Wyoming Day by featuring women artists of Weston County. If you are interested in helping at the chapter level please contact Mike Jording at 746-2113.

If you’re in Casper make time to visit the historic Bishop Home on 2nd Street. The home demonstrates how people lived over a century ago and welcomes tours. Call 235-5277 for details.

The Goshen County Historical Society will host WSHS member George Zeimans at their meeting on January 23rd. For details e-mail bondhouser@gmail.com.

The Wyoming Veteran Museum’s collection of George Ostrom’s WWI artwork will be on display at the Nicolaysen Art Museum in Casper through January 14th. The museum is located at 400 East Collins Street. A story about the Wyoming soldier turned artist can be enjoyed on the Society’s online encyclopedia, WyoHistory.Org.

The Fort Bridger Historical Association will host the Society’s annual Trek on June 29-July 1. They’re hoping you’ll consider staying over for the commemoration and reenactment of the 150th year signing of the 1868 Treaty between the US government and the Eastern Shoshone and Bannock Nations.

WSHS member Bob King, of Casper, will be the guest of the WWCC Historical Society on January 10th when he will present “Checkerboard Wyoming: Oil Refineries and Railroad Affects.” Email wegner13@msn.com for details.

SNOW CHI MINH TRAIL: The History of Interstate 80: The second edition will be out soon. Order your copies now! Author John Waggener is available for presentations to your chapter if you’re interested. Contact Society headquarters at linda@wyshs.org for details.
**Wyoming History Calendar**

Through January 14—Casper. George Ostrom’s WWI artwork is on display at the Nicolaysen Art Museum.

January 25—Sheridan. Sheridan County Historical Society & Museum Gala featuring Michael Martin Murphy. For details about the event please email john.woodward@sheridanmuseum.org.

March 14—Sheridan. WSHS member Sam Mihara will be the guest speaker at the Sheridan Museum. Call 675-1150 for details.

March 15—Buffalo. WSHS member Sam Mihara will be the guest speaker at the Jim Gatchell Museum, and the high school. For details call 684-9331.

March 16—Gillette. WSHS member Sam Mihara will be the guest speaker at the Gillette High School.


June 29–July 1—Fort Bridger. The Society’s annual Trek will be hosted by the Fort Bridger Historical Association. Watch for details.


*Laramie turns 150 years old in May, 2018.*

*Watch for details!*  

**Note:** All phone numbers are Area Code 307

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2018 Calendar of Wyoming History Available at...

- **Buffalo** – Jim Gatchell Museum
- **Casper** – Natrona County Historical Society, Wind City Books
- **Cheyenne** – City News and Wyoming State Museum
- **Cody** – Legends Bookstore, Park County Historical Society
- **Douglas** – Converse County Historical Society
- **Encampment** – Grand Encampment Museum
- **Evanston** – Uinta County Museum
- **Fort Bridger** – Fort Bridger Historical Association
- **Gillette** – Campbell County Historical Society, Rockpile Museum
- **Glendo** – Glendo Historical Museum
- **Green River** – Sweetwater County Museum
- **Hannah** – Hannah Basin Historical Society
- **Jackson** – Jackson Hole Museum
- **Lander** – Lander Pioneer Museum
- **Laramie** – AHC, Second Story Books, UW Bookstore, Albany County Historical Society
- **Lusk** – Stagecoach Museum
- **Rawlins** – Carbon County Museum and Frontier Prison
- **Riverton** – Meadwlark Books and Fremont County Historical Society
- **Rock Springs** – Rock Springs Historical Museum
- **Sheridan** – Best Out West and Sheridan Stationary and Sheridan Museum
- **Sundance** – Crook County Museum
- ** Thermopolis** – Hot Springs County Museum and Story Teller Books
- **Torrington** – Goshen County Historical Society and Prairie Creek Books
- **Wheatland** – Platte County Library and Wandering Hermit Bookstore
- **Wright** – Wright Centennial Museum

Or, Society Headquarters at linda@wyshs.org
Editors’ Note: Several times a year I am asked “What is that monument on Interstate 25.” On October 13, 1998, Wyoming Highway Patrolman Chris Logsdon was responding to a report of a drunk driver going the wrong way on the interstate. Upon Trooper Logsdon’s arrival at the scene he found himself head to head with the driver, and served to avoid a head-on collision, causing his patrol cruiser to flip several times. The driver turned out to be a 92-year old motorist who was not drunk at all, but lost and confused, and driving on the wrong side of the divided highway. Patrolman Logsdon died instantly, leaving behind a wife and four children. So, the next time you’re traveling south on Interstate 25, outside of Wheatland, take a moment to remember those who gave all.

(Photo by Linda Fabian)

Society president, Doug Cubbison, with WSHS/Converse County Historical Society members Scott and Jacey Bauman at the historic College Inn Bar in Douglas. Scott and Jacey purchased the bar in August, 2017 and have been working on renovations. The bar will be one of the stops during the 2018 annual meeting in Douglas this September.

Michael Martin Murphey will be performing for the Sheridan County Historical Society & Museum Gala on January 25th. For tickets call the museum at 675-1150.
Welcome New Members and Thank You Donors

At Large
Barney Voerdin, Cody
Charles Carpenter, Columbia, SC
Christopher Sudol, Laramie
Cody Switzer, Gillette
Craig Hines, Casper
Dave Lively, Grand Lake, CO
David and Julie Danielson, Prescott Valley, AZ
Elizabeth Kretchmer, Redmond, WA
Eric Waltzer, Riverside, CA
Gary Walden, Carpenter
Jackson Yager, Cheyenne
Joanna Pace, El Cerrito, CA
John Moran, Laramie
Kathy Dolan, Casper
Ken and Chris Pasley, Wheatland
Linda Kiisk, Cheyenne
Lucas Fralick, Gillette
Marian Betancourt, Brooklyn, NY
Matt Johnson, Dayton
Tucker and Jean Smith, Jackson
Vance and Sandy Brewer, Pinedale

Albany County Historical Society
Jamie Green, Laramie

Campbell County Historical Society
Judy McCullough, Moorcroft
Lorna Whisler, Natural Bridge, VA

Carbon County Historical Society
Elaine McDonald, Rawlins
Gary Chapman, Rawlins, WY
Jacob McDonald, Rawlins
Mark Flaherty, Oklahoma City, OK

Converse County Historical Society
Ammia Murray and Shelden Poage, Lost springs
Bruce and Debbie Murray, Lost springs
David Austin, Douglas
Frank and Theresa Eathorne, Douglas
Michelle Bingham, Douglas
Tammy Delyea and Emily Velasquez, Douglas

Fremont County Historical Society
Paul and Suzanne Crofts, Lander

Johnson County Historical Society
Randy and Sharon Miller, Buffalo

Laramie County Historical Society
Adele Beldie, Cheyenne
Charles Rand, Cheyenne
Dan Lyon, Cheyenne

Natrona County Historical Society
Robert and Helen Lamb, Casper

Park County Historical Society
Joyce Harkness, Ralston

Platte County Historical Society
Dave Miller and Tandi Wise, Wheatland
Edith Privratsky, Wheatland
Frances Heller, Wheatland
Jeff Loseke, Wheatland

Sheridan County Historical Society
Beki Sersland, Sheridan
Tempe Javitz, Menlo Park, CA

WWCC Historical Society
Basil and Eileen McCulley, Rock Springs
Carlos Gonzales, Rock springs
Rhys Forsgren, Rock Springs

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Homsher Research Grant Project
Ann Husky, Gillette
Ann Noble, Cora
Bertha Ward, Laramie
Bud Alley, Signal Mountain, TN
Dan Brecht, Wheatland
David Kathka, Loveland, CO
George and Sharon Martin, Cheyenne
Jennifer Tennican, Jackson
Lynn Houze, Cody
Margaret McCoy-McCreery, Gillette
Marge Wilder, Cody
Richard Osman, Denver
Robert and Beth Melonuk, Fort Laramie
Robert Murray, Beaverdam, VA
Sandra and Wayne Holyoak, Rozet

Wyoming History Day
Alma O’Hare, Reliance
Ann Husky, Gillette
Ann Noble, Cora
Bud Alley, Signal Mountain, TN
David Kathka, Loveland, CO
Don and Marjorie Sanborn, Glendo
Dona Bachman, Carbondale, IL
Donna Wallace, Golden, CO
Gail Robinson, Green River
George and Sharon Martin, Cheyenne

(Continued on Page 7)
Wyoming Historical Foundation
Al Carollo, Jr., Green River
Alan and Ann Simpson, Cody
Alma O’Hare, Reliance
Ann Huskey, Gillette
Ann Noble, Cora
Ann Whitehead, Manville
Art Kidwell, Clark
Barbara Abrahams, Albany NY
Barbara Costopoulos, Guernsey
Benjamin Roman, Story
Bertha Ward, Laramie
Bud Alley, Signal Mountain, TN
Clint Gilchrist, Pinedale
Dave Foreman, Cheyenne
Don and Marjorie Sanborn, Glendo
Dona Bachman, Carbondale, IL
Donna Kenney, Cody
Gary Blyth, Sheridan
George and Sharon Martin, Cheyenne
Governor Mike and Jane Sullivan, Casper
Harry Konkel, Portland ME
Howard Robb, Lusk
James Storey, Cheyenne
Jane and Kirk Hamish (In Memory of Gene Palen)
Jeanne Moore, Douglas
Jeff and Charlene Busk, Gillette (Foundation Board Member)
Jim and Susan Anderson, Casper
Joe and Linda Fabian, Wheatland (Foundation Board Member)
John and Diana Waggener, Laramie (Foundation Board Member)
John Freeman, Green River
Judy Musgrave, Sheridan (Foundation Board Member)
Kathleen Coe, Casper
Kim Viner, Laramie
Lance McNees, N. Salt Lake UT
Lee and Judith Wooderson, Bloomfield, NM
Leonard Nakk, Newcastle
Lucille Dumbill, Newcastle
Margaret McCoy-McCreery
Marge Earlywine, Cheyenne
Marge Wilder, Cody
Margo Mader, Buffalo
Mary Ostlund, Cheyenne
Max Willard, Casper
Michael O’Neill, San Francisco, CA
Myron Harrison, Jackson
Nancy Gerlock, Casper
Nancy Weidel, Laramie
Patty Myers, Buffalo
Peggy Ingram, Fort Collins
Pete and Lynne Simpson, Cody
Richard Kutz, Windsor, CO
Richard Osman, Denver
Rick and Arlene Robbins, Wheatland (Foundation Board Member)
Rick Hudson, Thermopolis
Robert and Beth Melonuk, Fort Laramie (Foundation Bd.
Member)
Robert King, Casper
Robert Murray, Beaverdam, VA
Sandra and Wayne Holyoak, Rozet
Susan Bishop, Denver
Thomas and Barbara Bradley, Spokane, WA
Wayne and Sally Davis, Gillette

WyoHistory.org
Ann Husky, Gillette
Ann Noble, Cora
Barb Vietti, Thermopolis
Bud Alley, Signal Mountain, TN
Chuck and Katie Brown, Wheatland
David Kathka, Loveland, CO
Don and Marjorie Sanborn, Glendo
Dona Bachman, Carbondale, IL
Elise Prayzich, Newburg, OR
Fort Caspar Museum Association, Casper
Gary Rea, Montgomery Village, MD
George and Dorothy Oliveria, Helena, MT
Jennifer Tennican, Jackson
John Hines, Gillette
Judy Musgrave, Sheridan
Karen and Paul Everett, Cheyenne
Karen Dickenson, Los Altos, CA
Kim Viner, Laramie
Lance McNees, N. Salt Lake UT
Margaret McCoy-McCreery, Gillette
Marge Wilder, Cody
Myron Harrison, Jackson
Myron Harrison, Jackson
Nancy Curtis, Glendo
Newell Sargent Foundation, Casper
Patty Myers, Buffalo
Phil Roberts, Wyoming Almanac
Philip White, Laramie
Pinky and Jackie Ellis, Casper
Rick Ewig, Cheyenne (Foundation Board Member)
Robert and Beth Melonuk, Fort Laramie
Robert Fife, Cheyenne
Robert King, Casper
Robert Murray, Beaverdam, VA
Sandra and Wayne Holyoak, Rozet
Tom Rea, Casper

(Wyoming History Day continued)....
Ken and Pat Kennedy, Wheatland
Margaret McCoy-McCreery, Gillette
Marge Wilder, Cody
Myrna Sharp, Gillette
Patsy Parkin, Wheatland
Peg Espy, Rawlins
Priscilla Baker, Laramie
Richard Osman, Denver
Robert and Beth Melonuk, Fort Laramie
Robert Murray, Beaverdam, VA
Sandra and Wayne Holyoak, Rozet
Steve Roberts, Cheyenne
In Memory...

Our condolences to the family of WSHS/Hot Springs County Historical Society member Larry Marcott who died in September. Larry was a proud Wyoming native with an amazing career in the Peace Corp, as a National Park Ranger, and director of the Hot Springs County Museum.

And to the family of Jean Geer, a member of the WSHS/Campbell County Historical Society. Jean was born in McFadden and lived in Wyoming her entire life.

Also to the family of Lowell Anderson, a life member of the WSHS/Park County Historical Society. Lowell attended more Treks than any other member it seems. He was always cheery and you could always expect to receive his card with the word of God on it. A military funeral was held on November 9th in Riverton.

WSHS/Park County Historical Society member Donald Nafus died in Cody at the age of 94. Don also served in the military as an aircraft mechanic and an engine specialist.

WSHS/Laramie County Historical Society member Lois Mottonen died on December 6th in Cheyenne. Lois was a past president of the chapter, and actively involved in the community. She was a pioneer in the field of accounting.

Condolences to the family of WSHS past president Ruth Lauritzen Ruess upon the death of her husband, Donald Ruess, who died on December 7th in Green River.