The Wyoming State Museum announces their newest exhibit, “Fort the Benefit of the People: National Park Service in Wyoming.” The museum is located at 2301 Central Avenue, Cheyenne.

Congratulations to the Wyoming Veterans’ Memorial Museum on receiving a grant from the Casper Museum Consortium that will help fund the development of two school programs about World War I.

Fort Laramie recently reported that a new National Park Service reports shows that 57,455 visitors to Fort Laramie National Historic Site last year spent $3,358,700 in communities near the park. The peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis was conducted by the National Park Service.

Summer camp for future historians will be held in Casper at the Historic Bishop House and the Wyoming Veterans Museum. Registrants will learn how to be docents, lead tours, and install exhibits.

(Continued on page 3)

HOMSHER RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

The Society announces recipients of its 2017 Lola Homsher Research Grants. Doug Cubbison, chair of the committee, noted that four out of eleven applications were approved for a total award of $5,505.75. He said the committee was very impressed with the research projects that people from throughout Wyoming are pursuing. “Each application described a unique aspect of Wyoming’s history. I’m sorry we couldn’t fund each and every one of them.”

Doug added, “This program is just one way the Society reaches out to the public to support efforts in preserving Wyoming’s legacy.” Members and non-members alike, amateur and professional historians, and students are eligible to apply for the Research Grants as long as their end result is tangible. This year applications were reviewed by members of the Society’s Project Committee including Doug Cubbison (Casper), Chair; Patty Kessler (Laramie); and Kem Nicolaysen (Casper). The recipients for the 2017 round of research grants are:

- **Andrea Graham**, Laramie. $1154.00 for “Wyoming Community Halls.” Andrea is a Folklife specialist in the American Studies Program at the University of Wyoming.
- **Katherine Kasckow**, Laramie. $1351.75 for “Cheyenne’s African American Community.” Katherine has her B.A. in History with minors in Museum and African American and Diasporas Studies from the University.
- **Elizabeth Watry**, Pinedale. $1,500.00 for Abbot-Downing Stagecoaches, Yellowstone National Park. Elizabeth is a researcher, author, speaker and scholar. She is the curator for the Museum of the Mountain Man in Pinedale.
- **Johanna Wickman**, Casper. $1,500.00 for “Colonel Preston Plumb and the 11th Ohio Volunteer Cavalry on the Overland Trails.” Johanna holds four degrees including an MA in History. She provides museum consulting and historical research services to individuals and institutions.

Applications for Homsher Research Grant funds are due each year on the last day of February. For details, and to see previous recipients, visit www.wyshs.org.
Happy May!

Indeed, spring is in the air. Last Monday I served as a judge for Wyoming History Day. It is always rewarding to see such a great turnout of participants from across the state. It was personally rewarding for me thanks to one parent/teacher who sought me out to tell me thanks for all that I have done each year. I really appreciated hearing that. Like so many of the other judges, we do this because it is rewarding to all of us and so very important in teaching the value of historical research. Congratulations to all!

The Homsher Research Grants have been awarded to four very worthy projects. Congratulations to Andrea Graham, Elizabeth A. Watry, Johanna Wickman, and Katherine Kasckow on research endeavors. We had eleven submissions this year. Let me remind you of one of my goals as president. As a former Homsher awardee, I have earmarked some of my donations towards a Homsher Grant fund. As a new president, I challenged former grantees to donate to this fund. It is important to make this sustainable for the future. Please, if you are so inclined, consider donating to this worthwhile project so we could support additional projects in the future.

I was disappointed with the number of nominations that we received for the 2017 Wyoming’s Top Ten Artifacts program. However, the nominations we did receive were terrific! The panel of judges once again reviewed all nominations and this year, reduced the number of those moving forward to fifteen. Please be sure to vote from now through the end of July. You can read about each nomination and cast your ballot online at: http://www.lib.uwyo.edu/wyoming/top_ten_historical_artifacts/T10SelectionTmb.cfm?yr=2017

As we move toward the summer months, there are already a number of programs on my calendar and I hope that you would include them on yours as well. You received information on the Trek in the last issue of WHN, registrations forms are in this issue. As I mentioned before, we have two national historic landmark dedications in July, and many other opportunities to attend landmark celebrations across the state. Please check the calendar for those.

Finally, yesterday I had the opportunity to hear author Timothy Egan speak. I enjoyed the stories he shared about his research and his concern about the lack of history education. We do our best to encourage this and certainly History Day celebrates that. He talked about the inheritance of memory.

I have been working on my own research and have connected with a Colorado family who have a remarkable legacy in Montana, Wyoming and Colorado. I have been the recipient of emails filled with their stories and I am so thrilled to have those available to me. I wish I recalled the stories of my childhood because we were not included in those stories of Kentucky or Illinois. He also mentioned that in doing history, it is important to fall in love with your topic. Important elements in writing a good history.

I look forward to seeing you all in Casper in June!

Tamsen
Summer camp is an exciting opportunity to learn first hand about being an historian! The camp will be held in Casper on July 12th and 13th. There is a $50.00 registration fee for students in grades 6-10, ages 12-15. For details call 472-1857 or e-mail douglas.cubbison@wyo.gov.

Wyomingites - are you ready for the celestial phenomenon taking place August 21st? This is going to be an historic event for Wyoming. The ideal path for viewing the first solar eclipse in decades crosses through Wyoming’s midsection. For more information visit http://eclipse.travelwyoming.com.

WSHS/Laramie County Historical Society member Marietta Dinneen was the special guest of the Laramie County Chapter last month. Marietta shared her expertise about a Tea Wagon that was used in the very fist Cheyenne Frontier Days parade.

The Rockpile Museum in Gillette is planning an exciting summer series. For details call 681-5723 or e-mail rockpile@vcn.com.

Wyoming Historical Society charter member (1953), Jim Ehernberger, will speak at the Rockpile Museum about “The Burlington Comes to Wyoming!” The program is May 11th at 7 p.m. For details call the number in the above paragraph.

There are TWO big National Historic Landmark dedications coming up in July. The Ames Monument celebration will be July 7-8 in Laramie, and the Hell Gap site will be dedicated in Goshen County on July 22nd. For details about either of these events e-mail WSHS member Judy Wolf at jkwolf@uwyo.edu. The Society is proud to be a co-sponsor of these dedications.

On May 18th the Crook County Historical Society will host a program featuring WSHS member Bill Sniffin. Bill is an author, historian and columnist and loves everything there is to love about Wyoming. For details e-mail WSHS/Crook County Historical Society member Barbara Byrne at byrno@rangeweb.net. The program will be held at the Library beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Congratulations to WSHS member David Kathka for being first to identify the correct person mentioned in WSHS member C.J. Box’ newest book Vicious Circle. WSHS member Rick Ewig is described as “young and earnest, just two years out of the law enforcement academy in Douglas, and wasn’t in a good mood.” There are many familiar names in the book and thank you to all who participated. Also to WSHS members Jenny Barclay and Pete Clark who correctly identified the bandstand/gazebo at the Fort Bridger State Historic Site!

Seems like 2017 is the year of significant events in Wyoming’s history, including the 125th anniversary of the Johnson County War, the 150th anniversary of Cheyenne, and the year that President Woodrow Wilson asked congress for a Declaration of War against Germany. Those of you participating in this year’s Trek, hosted by the Natrona County Historical Society, will have the chance to visit the WWI exhibit at the Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum.

Members of the Hot Springs County Historical Society enjoyed a program sponsored by the museum highlighting what the staff is doing to make the museum more researchable, more relevant and up to date, and a destination for those visiting Thermopolis. The museum is located at 700 Broadway.

The Town of Sundance recently received $2,452,104.00 from the State Loan and Investment Board for the renovation of Old Stoney, a historic school building near downtown. The renovation will provide a suitable location for the Crook County Museum and cultural Center, along with 2,400 square feet of rental space for businesses and events. Congratulations to the committee -- this is very well deserved!

Members of the Weston County Chapter enjoyed “Wars Voices: Are you Listening?” The program, about POWs during WWII, was sponsored in part by a grant from the Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund.

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.

SHRAB GRANTS: The Wyoming State Historical Records Advisory Board is offering grants of up to $2,500 for projects promoting preservation and access to Wyoming’s historical records. The deadline is June 1. For more details call 777-7020 or e-mail michael.strom@wyo.gov.

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.
Wyoming History Calendar

May 13 - Sheridan. “A View from the Governor’s Mansion.” For tickets contact the Sheridan County Historical Museum.
May 18 - Sundance. The Crook County Historical Society will host a public program featuring Bill Sniffin, author, historian and columnist. 7:00 p.m., Library. Email byrnc@rangeweb.net for details.
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 4 - Cheyenne. Kickoff for 150 years of Cheyenne’s history. Romero Park. Email wypoearl@gmail.com for more information.
July 22 - Goshen County. Dedication of the Hell Gap National Historic Landmark. A lunch will follow the ribbon cutting and dedication. E-mail jkwolf@uwyo.edu for details.
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, Wheatland, Douglas 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

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.

VOTE NOW FOR YOUR FAVORITE 2017 ARTIFACT

The Society, in partnership with the University of Wyoming Libraries, invites everyone, young and old, to participate in selecting “Wyoming’s top Ten Most Significant Artifacts” for 2017. Submissions received from libraries, museums, historical societies and other institutions, were reviewed by a panel of independent judges to determine the top fifteen. The public is now invited to vote on the final top ten. Voting ends on July 31st.

Society president, Tamsen Hert, noted that the program was created in 2015 to celebrate the state’s 125th anniversary. “I think our judges narrowed the field of submissions in such a way that it gives the public an opportunity to choose the top ten.” Tamsen added that the program draws attention to the many fine institutions around the state that work diligently to preserve Wyoming’s heritage. “In these days of budget cuts it is critical to continue to focus on our state’s history.”

You can begin your voting NOW. Winners will be announced in September at the Society’s annual meeting. All ages are encouraged to vote as many times as you wish. Votes must be submitted electronically by going to the Society’s website and clicking on the link “What’s New,” and then following the tab for 2017 voting. The link to the images AND the ballot is:

http://www-lib.uwyo.edu/wyoming/top_ten_historical_artifacts/T10SelectionTmb.cfm?yr=2017

Vote Now, Vote Often!!


### 2017 Wyoming History Day Winners

The 2017 State History Day competition was held in Laramie on April 10th. Students in grades six through twelve participated in the event, having moved up from their district level competitions. First and second place winners (listed below) have an opportunity to attend National History Day in June on the campus of the University of Maryland. Recipients of special Awards are also listed. The full description of each entry can be found by visiting [www.wyshs.org](http://www.wyshs.org) under the link “What’s New.”

#### Junior Papers

#### Junior Individual Documentary

#### Junior Group Documentary
2nd Place-Jake Hicks, Rodee brown, “The Risk they Took.” Wheatland Middle School. MaryJo Birt.

#### Junior Individual Performance

#### Junior Group Performance
1st Place-Haiden Wiggins and Khayla Otero, “The Unwelcomed.” Wheatland MS, MaryJo Birt.

#### Junior Individual Exhibits
2nd Place-Daniela Garcia, “The Undercover Hero.” Jackson Hole MS. Barb Sanchez.

#### Junior Group Exhibits
2nd Place-Annika Peacock and Skye Eddy, “Operation Vittles.” Jackson Hole MS. Greg Poduska

#### Junior Individual Web Site
1st Place-Homer-Wambeam, “Painting Outside the rules.” Homeschool. Laurie Homer.
2nd Place-Mary Grace Beastrom, “OSHA.” Jackson Hole MS. Gregory Poduska.

#### Junior Group Web Site

#### Senior Papers
1st Place-Hazel Homer-Wambeam, “Taking a Stand.” Homeschool. Laurie Homer.

#### Senior Individual Documentary
1st Place-River Gayton, “Race, Religion and College Football.” Jackson Hole HS. Jeff Brazil.
2nd Place-Daiven Francis, “Tupac.” Natrona county HS. Deanna Barnes.

#### Senior Group Documentary
1st Place-Maya Wheeler and Sophie Delahaye, “Standing with Weapons.” Jackson Hole HS. Jeff Brazil.
2nd Place-Britney Force and Amanda Haller, “Jesse Owens.” Natrona County HS. Jeff Crouse.

#### Senior Individual Performance
1st Place-Gabriel Lewis, “Edward cope and Othniel Marsh.” Jackson Hole HS. Jeff Brazil

#### Senior Group Performance
2nd Place-Emily Ransom and Shannon Greene, “Petticoat Government.” Jackson Hole HS. Jeff Brazil.

#### Senior Individual Exhibits
2nd Place-Lyla Kirkpatrick, “God Hates Angels?” Jackson Hole HS. Jeff Brazil.

#### Senior Group Exhibits
2nd Place-Reisha Foertsch and Samantha Schmidt, “Mardy Murie.” Jackson Hole HS. Jeff Brazil.

(Continued on page 6)
Editor’s Note: Students will be raising money for their trip to the National History Day competition at the University of Maryland. Their costs are all-inclusive and include travel, lodging, the competition and educational side-trips. Please, if you have an opportunity to donate to these students who have worked so hard, do so. Invite them to your chapter meeting, contact the teacher to see if they need assistance, check with the schools to see if the students are receiving travel funds. Do whatever it takes to help these students represent Wyoming. If you would like to contribute directly to assisting the kids get to National send your donation to Jessica Flock, Wyoming History Day coordinator, 1000 E. University, Laramie, WY 82071. Email her atjflock@uwyo.edu. Recently many of you contributed donations to the Society specifically earmarked for History Day. Those funds go directly into the History Day endowment. Any travel funds you might consider donating would be above and beyond.

SPECIAL AWARDS

We are especially grateful to the following individuals and organizations who sponsor monetary awards in recognizing of those students whose entries represent a topic near and dear to the sponsors. This year’s recipients are:


DAR History Award to Kaitlyn Flath and Emerald Jordan for “Susan La Flesche Picotte,” Greybull MD. Michelle Stebner.

Clara Jensen Award (WHS) to River Gayton for “Race, Religion and College Football,” Jackson Hole HS. Jeff Brazil.


American Heritage Center Primary Sources Award to Kristina Macleod and Sophie Scholl for “The White Rose,” Jackson Hole Middle School, Greg Poduska.

The Liz Byrd Cultural Diversity Award to Bailey Schupp and Brooke Horberger for “Dorothea Dix,” Pinedale High School, Rose Robertson.

Florence Sommers Jensen History Award to Martha Olson for “Barbra Weston,” Jackson Hole MS. Greg Poduska.


Colonial Dames Heritage Award to Kristina Macleod and Sophie Scholl for “The White Rose,” Jackson Hole MS. Greg Poduska.

Wyoming Humanities Council Giving Voice Award to Bailey Schupp and Brooke Horberger for “Dorothea Dix,” Pinedale HS, Rose Robertson.

Bill Nye Historic Newspaper Award to McKenzie Ferguson for “To Stand Upon…” Wheatland MS. MaryJo Bitt, and to Aspen Waldron for “E.T. Payton,” Jackson Hole HS. Jeff Brazil.

Roger Williams International History Award to Reilly Wade for “Jose Maria Castro Madriz,” Jackson Hole CS. Cheryl Katz.

UW History Department Award to Hazel Homer-Wambeam for “Taking a Stand,” Home School, Laurie Homer.

Gerald and Jessie F. Chambers Awards to Theresa Bautz for “The Ludlow Massacre,” Lander MS. Gayla Hammer, and to Sam Roubin for “Lewis Hine,” Jackson Hole CS. Cheryl Katz. (Continued on page 7)
Wyoming State Historical Society Scholarship ($1,500) to Alan Harley and Toni Kerr for “Irena Sendler,” Kelly Walsh HS. Inga McCoy
American Heritage Center/UW Scholarship ($1,000) to Lynora Anderson and Aisha Auradou for “Love and Sacrifice,” Pinedale HS. Rose Robertson.
Taco John’s International Scholarship ($3,000) to Lynora Anderson and Aisha Auradou for “Love and Sacrifice,” Pinedale HS. Rose Robertson.

Welcome New Members and Thank You Donors

At Large
Daniel Buck, Washington, D.C.
Park County Archives, Cody

Fort Bridger Historical Association
Denice Wheeler, Evanston (formerly an At Large member)

Laramie County Historical Society
C.J. Young, Cheyenne
James and Carol Hecker, Cheyenne
Joe and Jane Betts, Cheyenne
Robert McKee, Cheyenne
Jenny Barclay, Cheyenne (formerly a member of the Fort Bridger Historical Association)

Wyoming Historical Foundation
(the long-term endowment)
Ann Noble, Cora
Daniel Buck, Washington, D.C.
Terry Winchell, Jackson
Michael Messenger, Thermopolis
Charles and Billie Zumo, Cheyenne

Homsher Research Grant Project
Ann Noble, Cora
Michael Messenger, Thermopolis

Wyoming History Day
Ann Noble, Cora

WyoHistory.Org
Ann Noble, Cora
Michael Messenger, Thermopolis
On the bookshelf…

WSHS/Platte County Historical Society member, author and historian, Barbara Costopoulos, announces the release of her latest book, “The Legend of John “Posey” Ryan.”

Civil War veteran John “Posey” Ryan came to Wyoming and set up ranching on the Laramie River. He was a freighter and, at one time, owned the Guernsey Hotel. Barbara became interested in him when she saw his cabin at the old Walker ranch in 1967, and her curiosity didn’t stop there. In 1909 Posey was convicted for the murder of his wife and her daughter at a restaurant in Cheyenne. Barbara says you’ll have to read her book to find out what exactly happened.

The book was published by Mountain States Lithographing in Casper, and is available from your local booksellers.