



Wyoming State Historical Society
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Heard on the Historical Trail



Congratulations to WSHS member **Bruce Richardson** of Casper was recently recognized by National Assembly of State Arts Agencies as the recipient of the 2016 Distinguished Public Service Award. Bruce is an enthusiastic and steadfast advocate of the arts in Wyoming. His leadership significantly impacts public support for the arts, and he has often been called “Wyoming’s arts ambassador!”

The Rockpile Museum invites you to participate in a day-long field trip to visit the LX Bar Ranch on the Power River in northwest Campbell County on September 11th. The trip is free but pre-registration is required by calling 682-5723.

The Alliance for Historic Wyoming will host a preservation workshop at Spear-O Mountain in Sheridan on September 17th. The historic log buildings located at Spear-O Mountain will become an outdoor learning laboratory on renovating and preserving log structures.

(continued on page 3)

SPIRIT OF PHILANTHROPY

WSHS past president, **David Kathka**, was recently recognized by the Wyoming Community Foundation for his longtime commitment to the nonprofit community. The annual Spirit of Philanthropy Award honors an individual who has made an extraordinary personal commitment to preserving and enhancing the quality of life for Wyoming citizens.

In addition to being recognized for his generous spirit, Dave received a commemorative plaque and a \$5,000 cash award which he immediately donated to Wyoming History Day. Dave is responsible for bringing the National History Day competition to Wyoming in 1979, and was the first State History Day Coordinator. Since then his dedication to students has never ceased.

Dave has always had a passion for giving back to his statewide community. Over the years he has volunteered both time and money to charitable organizations and community projects, many related to the deep fondness he holds for Wyoming history. He has served the citizens of Wyoming in the classroom, as director of a major state

agency, and as a volunteer board member on countless boards.

A member for many years, Dave served as president of the Society in 1985. He currently holds a seat on the Society’s foundation board of directors, and on the Management & Oversight Committee. Dave is a consummate teacher, whether in the college classroom or in the office. He willingly shares his knowledge in such a way that learning becomes fun. Dave is the Society’s “go-to” guy, and never once denies us the opportunity to learn and grow.

WSHS members **Rick Ewig, Kristi Wallin and Charlene Busk** also attended the awards ceremony to help Dave celebrate.

Dave, shown below with his wife Linda, is the seventh recipient of the Wyoming Community Foundation’s Spirit of Philanthropy Award.



2017 Calendar of Wyoming History



This undated photograph of the Lovell High School Band, was taken by Hugh Janssen. If anyone recognizes these young musicians please let us know.

Historical photographs from the collections of the American Heritage Center are once again featured in the Society’s annual Calendar of Wyoming History. Each image is a visual reminder of how families and communities lived and worked in the early days. A fascinating “this day in history” tidbit is included on every day of the year. For instance, on September 3, 1931 a jury found a Gillette man not guilty of unlawful hypnotism. Another favorite is from the Torrington newspaper stating “person seeking a visit to Alcatraz robbed Torrington Post Office (1942).

Published since the early 80s, the calendars have become very popular and are a favorite fundraiser for chapters, and a profitable product to sell in local bookstores and gift shops.

Chapters and retailers can contact Society headquarters at 322-3014 or via email to linda@wyshs.org to find out about pricing.

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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.

Visit www.wyshs.org and "like" us on Facebook

From the President. . .



Greetings! September. It seems as though I was just writing about the wonderful number of opportunities before us as summer approached and here we are at September already! I hope you have all been able to get out and celebrate Wyoming's rich history by visiting so many of our remarkable historic sites. I have just returned from my third trip to Yellowstone to pursue research on the history of lodging and also to celebrate the centennial of the National Park Service. We are so lucky in Wyoming to be the home of the first national park, national monument and national forest.

With September comes the annual meeting! The **Johnson County chapter** has put together a wonderful itinerary for the gathering in Buffalo. I am so pleased that executive board member **Doug Cubbison** is going to talk about methods to get our youth involved in Wyoming history. This is one area I think we all need to focus on, beyond History Day. Among the youth will be the leaders of the Society for tomorrow.

Doug has done some amazing work in Casper. Once again, I am sorry that I will not be able to be at this year's meeting but the invitation to speak for the Gear Jammer's gathering in Yellowstone is something I could not pass up. I will be with you in spirit.

Don't forget to review the bylaw changes noted in the August newsletter. A large number of our members live beyond the borders of Wyoming but have expressed an interest in being able to serve the Society. Please consider carefully your vote at the annual meeting. Also, thank you for voting in the election! We appreciate the great candidates running for the executive board this year.

As you may know, WSHS member **Dick Kean**, Wyoming History Day coordinator, is retiring. I wish to thank Dick for his dedication to Wyoming's youth as he led this program for so many years. It has been my pleasure to serve as a judge for History Day. I have been in communication with American Heritage Center Director (and WSHS member) **Bridget Burke** regarding the selection of a new coordinator. More information will be forthcoming regarding the process.

Having learned of **Ester Johansson Murray's** passing in the last newsletter, I just want to note what an inspiration she was to me. Tireless in her pursuit of Wyoming's history, especially Park County's heritage, she will be deeply missed. I cannot forget the support she provided to me in my Yellowstone research and her determination to try to connect me with those who knew about the history of the Canyon Hotel. Thank you Ester for all you did for all of us.

Tamsen

Sunrise Mine

WSHS member **Alan Keimig** has long been an advocate of Sunrise, Wyoming. Over the past few years he has become active in working with WSHS members **George Zeimens** and **John Voight** in their quest to revive interest in the archaeological and anthropological history of the town. A couple of years ago, George and John started opening the area to tours. As a result, Alan put together a very informative booklet describing the fascinating history of the Sunrise Archaeological site and the Sunrise town and mine. George said, "Alan's research has made the tours of Sunrise interesting, informative and enjoyable."

The archaeological site, called the Powars II site, is a Paleoindian red ochre mine located directly across from the YMCA building, the first in the state of Wyoming, built by the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company for use by the residents of Sunrise. George, director of the Western Plains Historic Preservation Association and director of the Western History Center near Lingle, says the site is the largest Clovis site in the Americas. "This area has been the site of human activity for the last 13,000 years, and may be even older," he said. George added that the Powars II site is on the level of significance that it may qualify as a World Heritage Site, of which there are only 23 in the United States. Many of you who attended the recent annual Trek got to visit with George, and met the director of site security at the site, Filly. Filly has the standard markings for a border collie although anything that was white on her is now red, compliments of the iron ore!

In an article published in the *Prehistoric American* magazine (Spring, 2016), George described recovering over 1,000 artifacts from the Powars II Paleoindian Red Ochre Mine site. "So far we have recovered over 1,000 artifacts from the site," adding that the artifacts were salvaged from below what they assume to be a red ochre mine located on a steep hillside.

George went on to write that they discovered a rich and unique prehistoric chert and quartzite quarry during test excavations in a terrace located across the valley from the ochre

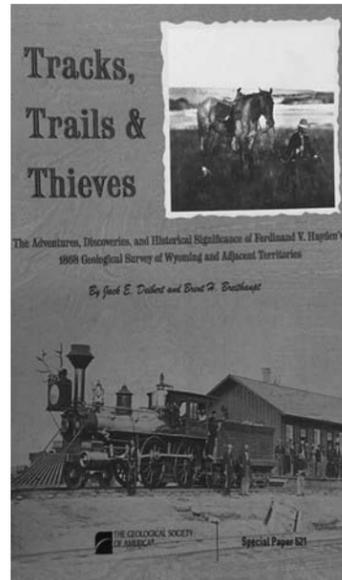
mine. "Most of the artifacts from the Powars II site on the hillside are made from this new type of chert and quartzite. We are calling this chert type John Voight chert, and the quarry the Voight quarry after the name of the landowner."

Anyone interested in touring the site should contact George at 575-2010. Proceeds of the tours benefit the Western History Center and include a three hour mine and town tour, and a no-host lunch at the historic Miners & Stockman's Steakhouse in Hartville.

[Editor's Note: Special thanks to Alan Keimig and George Zeimens for this article and their hard work to maintain the site. I wish you could see the red in these photos — especially on Filly. Black and white just doesn't do them justice. Guess you'll have to take a tour to see it with your own eyes!]



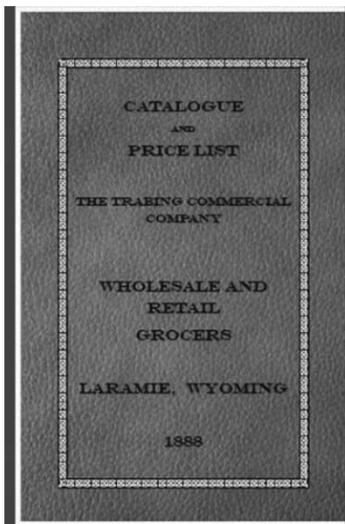
On the Book Shelf....



WSHS member **Brent Breithaupt**, along with co-author Jack Delbert, bring us "Tracks, Trails and Thieves," the first-ever detailed recounting of the first government sponsored geological survey of the Wyoming and adjacent territories in 1868. The historical significance of Ferdinand V. Hayden's survey are intertwined with the building of the transcontinental railroad. Brent noted that this project was directly supported by a 2006 AHC Bernard L. Majewski Fellowship, and an earlier Wyoming Humanities

Council Grant. To purchase this book, published by the Geological Society of America go to the GSA website at www.geosociety.org, or check with your local bookstore.

WSHS member **Nancy Mickelson's** book, "Catalogue and Price List: The Trabing Commercial Company," contains pictures and price lists for products sold by her great grandfather, August Trabing. The history of the Trabing Brothers as freighters and merchants provides a interesting insight into early businesses, and talks about the family's part in the early settlement of Wyoming. Besides listing prices of popular products during the time period,



the book also includes interesting statistics, including a chart for a woman's chance to marry by age! To purchase the book contact Nancy at 752-5873 or buy directly from Wayside Books at waysidebooks@vcn.com.

Support Your Local Bookstore

**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
WYOMING STATE HISTORY
DAY COORDINATOR**

The Society, in partnership with the American Heritage Center and the Wyoming Department of State Parks & Cultural Resources seeks someone to coordinate the academic competition Wyoming History Day.

The person in this position will work with educators statewide, district History Day coordinators, and administer the state competition.

For a copy of the complete job description visit the University of Wyoming's website, enter the word 'jobs' in the search box at the top, go to "Prospective Employees," then open "non-benefitted and student job opportunities." It is hoped that the position will be filled as soon as possible.



Heard on the Trail continued from page 1

To register for the preservation workshop, contact the Alliance for Historic Wyoming at www.HistoricWyoming.org or call 674-6446. There is a registration fee to participate.

WSHS/Platte County Historical Society members **Joe Fabian** and **Lee Alley** recently participated in a ceremony to honor Korean War Veterans in Wheatland. The event was part of a series of ceremonies being held throughout Wyoming and the nation. Mayor Fabian presented each veteran with a commemorative medal issued by the South Korean government in thanks for their service. Lee, vice chairman of the Wyoming Veterans Commission, traveled with the South Korean ambassador to present medals to veterans throughout the state.

Congratulations to WSHS members **Chuck and Mary Engebretsen** who were among a group of individuals from Lost Springs who earned the Wyoming Pioneer Association's Historical Restoration Award for refurbishing the Prairie View Cemetery located five miles south and east of Lost Springs.

Don't forget to register for the annual Wyoming State Historic Preservation conference to be held in Rock Springs over the weekend of September 22nd. The conference brochure can be viewed at <http://wyoshpo.state.wy.us> and then follow the links.

Members of the **Hot Springs County Historical Society** recently enjoyed a tour to Bates Battlefield. They enjoyed stopping at the Okie Mansion at Lost Cabin, and to the Spring Creek Raid Site, along with a stop at the Red Bank Ranch Murders. Summer activities were also enjoyed by members of the **Platte County Historical Society**, including tours of the Sunrise Mine and Archaeology Site.

Chapters across the state are gearing up for fall programs. In Laramie the **Albany County Historical Society** meets every third Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Alice Hardie Stevens Center at the Laramie Plains Museum. They have some great programs lined up beginning with September 20th when WSHS/Albany County Historical Society member **Kim Viner** will present "Carrie Burton Overton: First African American Girl to Attend the University of Wyoming." To find out more e-mail **Andrea Lewis** at flute42@yahoo.com or **Dicksie May** at dicksieM@yahoo.com.

Members of the **Campbell County Historical Society** enjoyed a very busy August with events throughout the month, each one geared toward the community's 125 anniversary.

The **Wyoming State Historical Foundation** is a participant in the Wyoming Community Foundation and is a part of the state's nonprofit sector. Nonprofits across Wyoming help individuals and families daily. They protect, feed, heal, shelter, educate, and nurture our bodies and spirits while investing significant financial and human resource in our communities. It is with great pride, that the Community Foundation presents the Wyoming Nonprofit Sector Report. The information in this report is intended to bring awareness to the breadth and scope of Wyoming's nonprofit sector and highlight the sector's combined economic impact.

Researchers have identified numerous indicators for a vibrant and healthy community. These indicators include educational opportunities, economic prosperity, access to quality and affordable healthcare, availability of safe and permanent housing, clean air and water, social stability and equity, and cultural, entertainment and recreational experiences. It takes the private, government and nonprofit sectors collectively planning and working in partnership to bring these attributes together to form strong communities.

The nonprofit sector's wide range of focus areas help to drive economic development, foster cultural identities, and understand and resolve social issues on a vast scale. Nonprofit organizations exist to foster a greater quality of life through strategic provision of social, civic and economic programs and services, leveraging scarce resources and uniting stakeholders for a common purpose. By virtue of their relative independence and in light of their mission-driven focus, these organizations are able to quickly adapt and respond to the changing needs, desires, and interests of a community, making them among the most important contributors to a dynamic political, economic, and environmental system.

Though the outcome of the sector's efforts is not always easily quantifiable, the ability to engage its citizenry through volunteerism and other acts of philanthropy, private partnerships, and government assistance can all be linked to a significant and tangible impact. Your contributions to the Wyoming Historical Foundation support the long-term sustainability of the Society. To learn more contact **Charlene Busk** at charbusk@gmail.com or **Linda Fabian** at linda@wyshs.org.

Wyoming History Calendar

September 9-10. Buffalo. WSHS Annual Meeting hosted by the Johnson County Historical Society.

September 10. Laramie. Archaeology Fair at Territorial Prison State Historic Site. E-mail Judy Wolf for details at judy.wolf@wyo.gov.

September 11. Gillette. Tour LX Bar Ranch. Register by calling 682-5723.

September 17. Sheridan. "For the Love of Logs," a preservation workshop. Call 674-6446 x 4502 to

register.

September 22-24. Rock Springs. Annual Historic Preservation Conference. To register visit the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office page and follow the link.

Note: Area Code for all Wyoming phone numbers is 307

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.

WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGY AWARENESS MONTH

Celebrated annually in September, Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month (WAAM) consists of a series of statewide activities and programs devoted to discussing archaeological issues and to educating the public about the importance of preserving and protecting Wyoming's archaeological heritage. This year we celebrate 100 years of Paleoindian archaeology in Wyoming. The centerpiece of WAAM is the poster we produce every year. It is distributed statewide, nationally, and internationally to more than 5,000 people and organizations. Wyoming posters have been honored with numerous awards in the State Archaeology Week Poster Contest sponsored by the Society for American Archaeology's Public Education Committee and Council of Affiliated Societies.

An Archaeology Fair will be held at the Territorial Prison State Historic Site in Laramie on September 10th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The fair will provide a fun hands-on learning experience for all ages. Planned events include flint knapping, atlatl throwing, blacksmithing and pottery making demonstrations. Featured entertainment include the Wind River Dancers and Buffalo Bill Boycott.

Each year the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office creates an award winning poster that is free for the asking (shipping/handling additional). Email Judy Wolf at judy.wolf@wyo.gov for more details.

...Of Particular Note to Chapters

Year-end financial forms will be sent out soon. Please make sure they are returned to Society headquarters no later than November 15th. Also, if you have not sent headquarters your updated Bylaws and Constitution, please do that soon. This is critical and relates to requirements of the Internal Revenue Service. Each chapter president, secretary and treasurer received a letter dated June 3 as to annual deadlines. If you need reminded please call headquarters at 322-3014 or e-mail linda@wyshs.org.

Welcome New Members and Thank You Donors

At Large

Laura Schwemm, Wilton, CT
Jack and Dorris Ashley, Cheyenne
Walter Jones, Salt Lake City, UT
Janet Hulbert Young, Riverton

Sheridan County Historical Society

June Kibben, Sheridan

WyoHistory.Org

Thomas Tisthammer, Bellvue, CO
Milton Lowrey, Los Angeles, CA

Wyoming Historical Foundation (The long-term endowment)

Ronald Douglas, Clinton, UT
Loretta Scott, Jackson
Chuck and Mary Engebretsen, Lost Springs
Jeanne Moore, Douglas
Betty Anne Johnson, Richmond, VA
Illa Collin, Sacramento, CA
Elizabeth Esterchild, Dallas, TX
Turner Rivenbark, Wallace, NC

To donate to the Wyoming State Historical Society's long-term endowment send your contribution to
WSHS
P. O. Box 247
Wheatland, WY 82201

We sincerely appreciate each and every contribution to the endowment. Please note that anything you contribute above your annual membership fee goes directly to the endowment.

In Memory....

Our condolences to the family of **Esther Grace Balden**, a member of the WSHS/Johnson County Historical Society. Esther died on July 18th and was 90 years old. She was born and raised in Buffalo, having graduated from Johnson County High School in 1945. She leaves behind two children and their families.

