

THE FLUME

The Park County Republican & Fairplay Flume

Park County Historical Society heads to Glen-Isle Historic Lodge built in 1900

By Pat Mauro, Contributor

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GLEN-ISLE LODGE
(Photo courtesy Pat Mauro)

May 11, the Park County Historical Society headed to Glen-Isle to tour the historic 119-year-old lodge and surroundings. There were about 38 attendees who toured the lodge, cabins and Kiva building.

The lodge, built in 1900, has had a fresh update, but still has the charm and splendor that many of us recall from previous visits to the lodge.

Our gracious hosts, the new owners of Glen-Isle, Greg and Mary Ruth Vincent, explained how they had acquired the grand lodge and surroundings in 2016, purchasing the property from the Tripp family.

Barb Tripp passed away in 2012, right after our last trip had, to be able to reopen the lodge, and preserve the rustic ambience of Glen-Isle as it was originally designed.

It was built by a group of Denver businessmen. We made our way through all the rooms in the lodge, including the dining room, guest rooms, kitchen, gift shop and pool room (equipped with a 1900 Brunswick pool table).

Many pictures from the early days at Glen-Isle adorn the walls in the lobby, and a railroad crossing crossbuck remind us of the Denver South Park and Pacific/Colorado and Southern railroad that was the original connection for travelers to arrive at Glen-Isle.

Tripp once told the story of when she and former PCHS President Bob Wonder would hop on the train from Glen-Isle and ride for free to the town of Bailey. After viewing the lodge, we then visited the Kiva Room, which was built by the Tripps in the 1950s.

We viewed the recent updates to the bathroom and a nice shiny wooden floor. The Kiva is where square dances were held during the Tripp era, along with Tripps' Christmas sales.

We then hiked up the hill to the Glen-View lodge, one of the larger cabins on the resort property. We passed the horse stables, and visited with them. The Vincents would like to bring back some of the old traditions from Glen-Isle, like the chuck-wagon dinners that the Tripps had done in the past, and a coffee shop in the lodge dining room.

At the Glen-View lodge, we noticed the new updates to the bathroom and kitchen, while still preserving the original rustic feel that all the cabins of Glen-Isle have, with each cabin having its own unique design.

We then ate lunch, and ended our tour of Glen-Isle. We thank the Vincents for their hospitality, and are excited about the future of Glen-Isle. Stay tuned for more PCHS upcoming tours and programs. For information about upcoming activities visit www.parkcountyhistory.com, and see us on Facebook.