

# *Park County Historical Society*

*Newsletter - December 2016*

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## **Letter from the President**

As always, a huge thank you to Yvonne Garrison for continuing to publish and email the Newsletter to all the Park County Historical Society members. She does a magnificent job and is deeply appreciated. I'm still working on her to become a PCHS Director in the near future!

2016 has been a fun and profitable year. We have one more dinner and history presentation in October and will start up again in March of 2017.

Christie Wright was our first speaker on March 12th. We had 59 attendees. Her topic, of which she is quite knowledgeable, was about Buckskin Joe, a ghost town near Alma. Christie is doing a fantastic job as our Curator and is working hard getting historic documents and pictures organized.

Due to the weather, we had to cancel our April 16<sup>th</sup> dinner and history presentation by Dr Peter Modreski. He has been rescheduled to do his presentation on October 15th and will talk about the geological area of South Park that brought miners to Park County.

Our May 14<sup>th</sup> fundraiser was Bob Schoppe on the RR that came through Park County. We had a great turnout of 79 attendees and would like to invite Bob do the same presentation next summer in Hartsel.

June 18<sup>th</sup> was our very first dinner and history presentation in Hartsel. Our speaker was Linda Bjorklund. She educated folks on Sam Hartsel and did such an amazing job we asked her to come back on September 17<sup>th</sup> to talk about the town of Hartsel itself. There were 43 attendees on June 18th and 45 on September 17<sup>th</sup>. With her knowledge of Park County, we have asked her to do yet another presentation in 2017. She has accepted our request. I plan to also ask John Redmond if he will also do a presentation in Hartsel next summer.

Bailey Day was not quite as profitable as 2015 but we still did well. Allen McGlone educated folks on the Wren cabin which was built by his father, Dolly McGlone. Father John Dyer, portrayed by John Redmond, educated folks on the history of the Entriken cabin. In the Shawnee School House was Margaret Jaeger giving spinning wheel demonstrations and Cody Harris gave demonstrations of old time “spindle” music. Pat Mauro was in the caboose educating visitors on railroad history.

Speaking of Margaret Jaeger, she was able to acquire a spinning wheel for the Entriken cabin that dates back to the 1800’s. Elizabeth Entriken was a “spinner” so it fits that era perfectly.

Linda Watson, Vice President of the Park County Historical Society, spent two full days at Hartsel Days which was August 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. She does an amazing job and is greatly appreciated.

Visitors to McGraw Memorial Park have taken notice to how beautiful it is and have given some very generous donations. Clyde Johnson made two very generous donations so a sincere thank you to him. The ridge cap on the roof of the Entriken cabin was replaced by 1-Derful Roofing. Craig Christenson has since bat proofed the cabin so we are now bat free! Allen McGlone worked very hard on the Wren cabin during the summer doing restoration work and also bat proofed it. Keep in mind, Allen is now 84 years old.

*The mission of the Park County Historical Society is to educate folks on the history of Park County. The purpose of having history presentations is to fulfill that mission.* To all those who have helped make our events successful...THANK YOU! Those folks are: Craig Christenson, Linda Watson, Jim and Patsy Sapp, Christie Wright, Susan Borgardt, Karen and Toni Reese, Pastor Scheele, Lynn Griffin (owner of the Rustic Station), Jim and Sue Glenn, and Eric Scott (Manager of the King Soopers in Conifer). Most of all, a very special THANK YOU to our speakers!

To all our members, thank you for supporting the Park County Historical Society!

Karen Christenson  
Proudly, President of the Park County Historical Society

## **Newsletter in Review**

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Guanella Pass to Duck Lake  
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### **Vice President Letter**

*Happy Fall! Or at least it is at my home. A lot of changing leaves and cool nights. I hope all of you had a wonderful summer and a chance to get out and enjoy our wonderful Park County.*

*Our Historical Society has been fortunate enough to complete some goals this year. The first was having a dinner and guest speaker in Hartsel. Our speaker was Linda Bjorkland and we had standing room only. It was received so well that Sept. 17th will be our next dinner and speaker in Hartsel again. We anticipate a full house and will learn more from our guest speaker about the town of Hartsel.*

*The Historical Society also had representation at Hartsel Days which was a lot of fun with many new ideas and people who made this two day event a success.*

*McGraw Memorial Park is looking better than ever and many visitors are enjoying the mountains. I hope each of you have had a wonderful summer as we head into fall. Stay in touch for the latest news about upcoming gatherings.*

Linda Watson  
Proudly, Vice President  
Park County Historical Society

Visit the Park County Historical Society website at  
[parkcountyhistory.com](http://parkcountyhistory.com)

# Volunteers and Activities at McGraw Park in 2016

by Jim Glenn

## February 2016

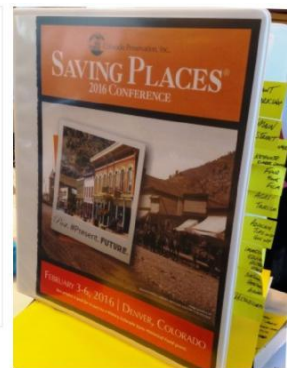
I received a grant to attend the Savings Places Conference in Denver, February 3-6, 2016. Classes taught ways to engage students, volunteers and the community to help preservation and improve small-town economics. I presented summary and notes to the board.

### Two main themes of the conference:

- Colorado pays for historic projects and how to apply (\$277,000,000 paid out since 1991)
- Historic preservation can revitalize a small town business area with extraordinary results



Highlight reel:  
[https://youtu.be/7\\_8KTEFmrJY](https://youtu.be/7_8KTEFmrJY)



John Hickenlooper gave the Keynote Address at the Saving Places Conference.

### Take-aways:

- 1) This conference **directly addressed** the goals of the Platte Canyon Chamber of Commerce
- 2) Consider a chamber member and historical society member attend in 2017

## January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Volunteers gave history presentations to three of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes at Deer Creek Elementary School – about 60 students at request of teacher Jennifer McGuire.



What is History?

Do you have history as a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader?

How about your parents?

How about your grandparents?

Do you have stories of growing up?

(your stories . . . are kinda like history)

Do your parents or grandparents have stories? History?

Dear Sue and Jim,

It was so fun for the students to have you here and introducing them to the history of our community. Our goal is to build a vibrant social studies curriculum that gets students excited and informed about where they live so they continue to take pride in the Bailey and Park County roots. You were a great example for this and I look forward to ongoing work with you and the historical society to develop our "grassroots" curriculum. Thanks again and enjoy the weekend.

**Thank you,**

*Dr. Vernita M. Vallez*

**Deer Creek Elementary Principal**

**Future: Cubs Scouts from Elk Creek Elementary will get a**

**history lesson on November 8<sup>th</sup> at the schoolhouse –  
requested by Candace Harvey.**

June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – planting volunteers

Volunteers added a new flower garden and planted perennials and annuals. Helpers: Marilyn Boccuzzi, Mary Jane Peterson, Linda Wood, Shira and Oz Palmer, Nicki Shields and Sue and Jim Glenn. The same day, John Rankin and Allen McGlone installed the historic privy on its permanent base behind the schoolhouse, then they repaired and painted it. Do **ask** John and Allen about their special technique to lift a privy.

Craig Christenson added shelves in the Artifact Shed, formerly called the Boathouse to better display artifacts. Craig also put in many hours closing all openings all around the roof in the Entriiken Cabin to keep out bats that wanted to roost there. Allen McGlone sealed up the Wren Cabin too, working many hours to prepare for Bailey Day.



Highlight reel: <https://www.facebook.com/jimglenncolorado/videos/vb.1293997222/10206922640046534/?type=2&theater>



Several volunteers helped with deliveries and set-up even before the planting started.



Nicki Shields ordered, picked up and delivered plants Shira and Oz Palmer hauled material and mulch

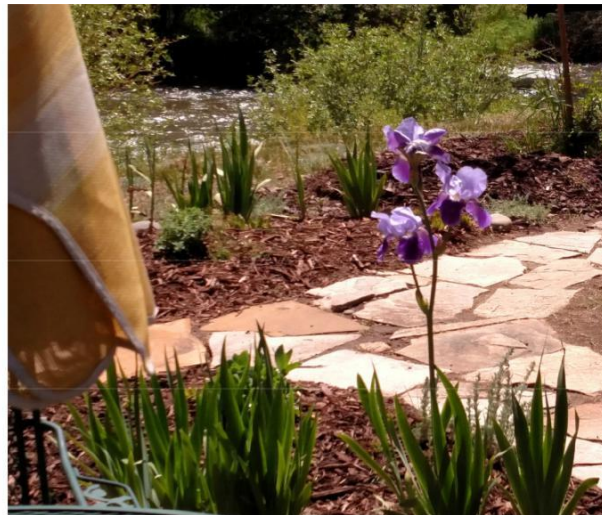
### June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 - Boy Scouts

Robert Anderson chose McGraw Park for his Eagle Scout Project. He formed a team of scouts to finish two flagstone paths on Saturday and Sunday supplying both the labor and materials. We welcome the Boy Scouts back for future projects.



Left to right: Mike, Robert & Leroy Anderson, Jim Hatz, Sandy Anderson, Sam and Ben Hatz, Joseph Melete, Jacob Despain (Otto Turnquist not in photo)

Some of the first flagstone to get set







Scout Project finished



The Eagle Scout Ceremony was held 9-22-2016  
at Platte Community Church

### **Throw-back Thursday from Glenda Marshall's photo scrapbook**

Long-time Bailey resident, Glenda Marshall, allowed some of her scrapbook photos of McGraw Park to be scanned and shared. Thank you Glenda!

**Take-away:** We aren't the first to volunteer at McGraw Park



Caboose installed – photo says Dec 1973



Glenda Marshall painting caboose



Volunteers at McGraw Park – photo from 1984



Glenda Marshall & Jesse Fitzsimmons 1984



## **August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – Bailey Festival**

Kayakers tell me that 200+ kayakers participated in Bailey Festival yesterday, many camping the night before and putting into the North Fork at McGraw Park enroute Pine Grove. Here's videos Of a few of them launching:

<https://youtu.be/RccRms5o-Jo> and <https://youtu.be/BqS8TBOUCgs>



Bailey Festival launched from McGraw Park. They gave permission for video.



That same day a gentleman enjoyed red currants from near the Entriken and picked some for his wife. Moria and I tried the currants too and they were not as sour as I expected.

Long-time McGraw Park neighbor, Gary Malpiede, called to donate 20 perennials including yellow iris. They will look good with our purple iris. Maybe someday they will look like this? Thank you, Gary!



**Finally . . .found at McGraw!** Are you missing artifacts?



**Hope to see you at the park!**

Jim



## Historical Society Tours Guanella Pass

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The Park County Historical Society headed up Guanella Pass last week to the home of Julie Holmes, located on the pass at Duck Lake.



### **Private tour**

*The Park County Historical Society visits the home of Julie Holmes at Duck Lake on Guanella Pass and enjoys a picnic lunch on the south bank of Duck Lake. (Photo by Pat Mauro)*

Julie, a resident of Duck Lake since 1967, was very gracious as our host to the site. 20 attendees met at the town of Grant and travelled together to the site.

We noted some of the historic structures there, such as the old blacksmith shop, post office, and former Maddox Ice home (moved there from Platte Canyon High School).

As we started our ascension of the pass, we stopped at the other former home of Louise Porter (aptly named the "On the Way" home). The large home is now part of the Tumbling River Ranch, and is a magnificent stone structure that Louise and John built.

The architect of the home was Jack Benedict, a well known Denver architect. We climbed further, and stopped at the falls, located on the s-curve (Falls Hill) as we climbed to Geneva Falls (Cowboy Flats). Driving past the former Geneva Basin Ski Area, we arrived at Julie's home on Duck Lake.

### **Connecting with your past**

*Julie Holmes (on the right with cane) talks to PCHS members on the history of Timberline Lodge. (Photo by Pat Mauro)*

Louise Porter and her husband John built the home between 1921-24. Louise was the first-born child of Adolph Coors, born in 1880 (nicknamed LuLu). She married John Porter (Porter Hospital was named after the Porter family), and they had both the Duck Lake and Stone House at Tumbling River Ranch built.



### **History stands**

*Ruins of the Timberline Lodge, looking south, can be seen at the former property of John and Louise (Adolph Coors daughter) Porter at Duck Lake on Guanella Pass. (Photo by Pat Mauro)*

The land parcel of the site is on 50 acres, including Duck Lake, which is a natural lake. The lodge, named Timberline Lodge, was a three-story structure with eight rooms, and a covered swimming pool.

Julie explained that the lodge burned down after one of the wood/coal furnaces caught fire Oct. 31, 1957. We were able to peruse the ruins of the once grand lodge, with its lake front view. The swimming pool was filled in, but we were able to imagine its glory, nestled in the trees on the north side of the lodge. Remnants of the sculpture were scattered everywhere.



*Historical Society tours Guanella Pass continued...*

Julie also explained that Bill Holmes had a ski lift built on the property in the 1950s.

The power for the lift was a former Sherman Tank. We made our way down to the south bank of Duck Lake, and everyone enjoyed their lunch in great beauty of the pass and lake.

This concluded another spectacular adventure of the Park County Historical Society. Join the society, to keep history alive in Park County! [www.parkcountyhistory.com](http://www.parkcountyhistory.com)

Pat Mauro

Visit the Park County Historical Society website at  
[parkcountyhistory.com](http://parkcountyhistory.com)

### **PCHS Tour to Wellington Lake Mining Area**

The Park County Historical Society headed up Park County Rd. 68, to a mining claim near Wellington Lake. The mining site was part of the Consolidated Feldspar Corp., located in Parkdale Co. We met at McGraw Park, and our entourage drove to the parking area near Windy Peak Outdoor lab (formerly Sylvania of the Rockies) We had to hike to the mine site after we had all parked. The hike was spectacular, as we wound up the hill to the mining site. We passed the remains of one of the buildings, when the Consolidated Mining Co. was in operation, circa 1950-60. The mining claim owner, Kirk was our guide to the claim. He explained how he has been working the claim for the last 5+ years. We were able to make our way around the pit, which had created a beautiful site itself. A pond is located in the pit, and it's believed there may be some great finds there, but it's been a trick for Kirk to drain it. The area has many aspen trees in the area, which were shining in their gold attire. Geologist Peter Medreski explained to our group, the many types of geologic formations in the area, that created the various types of gems/minerals in the area. Kirk explained the locations of various digs he's made in the pit, and showed examples of his finds, and how he found them. We had an enjoyable lunch in the pit area. This concluded another one of a kind adventure of the Park County Historical Society. Join the society, to keep history alive in Park County!  
[www.parkcountyhistory.com](http://www.parkcountyhistory.com)

Pat Mauro

## **PCHS Tour Up Guanella Pass to Duck Lake**

The Park County Historical Society headed up Guanella Pass to the home of Julie Holmes, located on the pass at Duck Lake. Julie, a long time resident of Duck Lake was gracious as our host to the site. 20 attendees made a caravan up the pass, after meeting at the Town of Grant. We noted some of the historic structures there, such as the old Blacksmith Shop, Post office, and former Maddox Ice home.(Moved there from Platte Canon HS) As we started our ascension of the pass, we stopped at the other former home of Elaine Porter. The large home is now part of the Tumbling River Ranch, and is a magnificent stone structure that Elaine had built.

We climbed further, and stopped at the falls, located on the S curve as we climbed to Geneva Park (Cowboy Flats). Elaine Porter and her husband Jim built the home between 1921-24. Elaine was the 1<sup>st</sup> born child of Adolph Coors, born in 1880. She married John Porter, and they had both structures built.(Duck Lake and Stone House at Tumbling River Ranch). The land parcel of the site is on 50 acres, including Duck Lake, which is a natural lake. Porter Hospital was named after the Porter family.

The lodge, named Timberline Lodge, was a 3 story structure with 8 rooms, and a covered swimming pool. Julie explained that the lodge burnt down after one of the wood/coal furnaces caught fire on 10/31/1957. We were able to peruse the ruins of the once grand lodge, with its lake front view. The swimming pool was filled in, but we were able to see how the pool was, nestled in the trees on the north side of the lodge. Remnants of the structure were scattered around the area. Julie also explained that the Porters had their own ski lift on the property, and would ski there, and could ski down the valley to Geneva Basin in later years.

This concluded another spectacular adventure of the Park County Historical Society.

Join the society, to keep history alive in Park County!

[www.parkcountyhistory.com](http://www.parkcountyhistory.com)

Pat Mauro



## **PCHS Geologic Trip Ascends Mt. Bailey**

By Pat Mauro

On Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup>, the Park County Historical Society took their 1<sup>st</sup> trip for the 2015 summer season. A group of 36 attendees met at Fawkland/Weeks Park in Burland Ranchettes. to ascend Mt. Bailey! Although it's not a long hike, the view obtained from the short hike is extraordinary! The trip was planned by the PCHS, to go back as far in history, as they'd ever gone! The purpose of the hike, was to study the geology of the mountain. Our trip leader who attended to educate the group, was Pete Modreski, geologist with the US Geological Survey. Pete was the guest speaker at the March PCHS Dinner Event, which he gave a presentation on geology in the Park County vicinity. Pete offered to host the geologic hike up Mt. Bailey, to educate us on the ancient history of the mountain, named after William Bailey, founder of the town bearing his name. As we hiked up the mountain, Pete would stop and speak to the crowd, on various rock types/formations. Explaining terms, such as Gneiss, Pegmatite, Granite, Sedimentary, Metamorphic, igneous and schist, everyone was enthralled to actually discover the various processes

and types of rock which makes up Mt. Bailey, and the other formations surrounding the area around the mountain. When we reached the top of the trail, the 360 degree panoramic view was truly inspiring! With the view of the town of Bailey below, we were able to pick out the various mountains/peaks, as Pete explained their age/formation type, with precise detail., as everyone soaked in the spectacular view! We hiked down Mt. Bailey,, back to the park and enjoyed our sack lunches. After lunch, we went back towards Hwy. 285, to the t-ball park next to the highway. Behind the baseball diamond, we could see the stagecoach grade of the Bradford Toll Road, which preceded the arrival of the railroad in Bailey in 1878. We then drove up Park County Road 43, where Pete had pointed out a pegmatite outcropping near Deer Creek Elementary School. With our newly found geological knowledge, we were able to discern the various rock types at this location. We ended another great trip with PCHS there. Our next trip is planned for 6/20/15, so look for the announcement coming soon! Keep history alive in Park County! [www.parkcountyhistory.com](http://www.parkcountyhistory.com)

## PCHS Tours Santa Maria/EM in Hartsel

By Pat Mauro

On Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup>, the Park County Historical Society headed west of Hartsel, to the Santa Maria/EM ranch. We had about 20 attendees, and day of perfect weather, as our hosts Merrill Wilson and George greeted our arrival. We started out in the barn, one of the original structures on the property. Merrill and George gave us an over view of the incredible activities they've done to restore/preserve the ranch. The ranch was started originally in the 1870's. It became the Santa Maria ranch in the 1950's named after a warm spring west of the ranch. The original name was the EM ranch, and it hasn't yet been determined where the name came from. After we reviewed old documents/pictures in the barn, we toured some of the outbuildings on the property. We then entered the beautifully restored main house on the property. Merrill and George spearheaded the restoration, and had the caretaker as the main contractor for the restoration. What was done to restore the structure, was nothing short of a miracle. The whole house was lifted in the air, so a new foundation could be built. With the house now on a solid structure, they were able to work on the restoration of the interior. Every piece of original wood or other structural material that could be reused, was. The interior is perfect example of how a historic structure that was almost lost, not only was saved, but will now thrive. There have been modern additions added, but every essence of the original design, is now preserved with integrity! We had lunch after the house tour, in the barn, passing stories around the crowd, with the added historical Park County banter in general. After lunch, we took a short hike

to the original Santa Maria warm spring. It never freezes, but isn't hot enough to be a hot spring. We enjoyed another hour on the porch of the cabin that Merrill and George stay in now, and enjoyed the beautiful view of Reinecker Ridge and the Middle Fork of the South Platte River. This concluded the tour, as most trip attendees stayed in Hartsel, to attend our 1<sup>st</sup> dinner/program there. It was a jam packed history day in Hartsel, that won't soon be forgotten.



*The Santa Maria warm spring, namesake for the ranch*



*PCHS members inside the barn, as Merrill Wilson explains the restoration done at the ranch*



*Antique organ in the ranch house*



## PCHS Tour of Lake George Geologic Sites

By Pat Mauro

The Park County Historical Society had the 2<sup>nd</sup> trip of 2016 on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. The group started in Bailey, taking the scenic route on Park County Rd. 77, with some quick stops on the way. of historic sites. We met at the Lake George Library, and our group size more than doubled! We gathered in the library, and USGS geologist Pete Modreski gave the group of 20, an overview of the geological formations of the 39 Mile volcanic area and the Lake George area. Pete explained how the volcanic area was formed about 30 million years ago, and how the volcano has changed since that time. As the volcanic area was a longer drive, Pete had sites in the area that he had examined previously, which he explained as to why the area is a haven for gem seekers, being one of the hot spots in the US for it. Our first stop was just east of town, and was a former feldspar quarry. Lake George is on the edge of the Pikes Peak geologic formation. Pete was able to show where the granite formation, converged with quartz and pegmatite to create the various geologic layers exposed by the feldspar mining. Everyone was able to view samples of the mineral types, as Pete explained how they were formed so long ago. From there, we went to the town park and had nice lunch in the covered picnic area at the park. After lunch, we drove to the Lake George Charter School. In the front of the school, as a base for the flagpole, numerous gems/minerals from the area, have been set in concrete, to exemplify the numerous gems found in Lake George. Gems like Amazonite, Feldspar, Rose Quartz, Black Tourmaline and Smoky Quartz are set in the display. Be sure to stop at the school when you're in the area, as the display is spectacular. From there, we drove to one of the mining claims west of town, to see how the mining is done now by local gem seekers. There are many claims in the Lake George area, and most of the claim owners are members of the Lake George Gem and Mineral Club. We hiked to the top of the claim, and Pete explained the process at one of the claims, as how the mining in the area is done. We ended the trip after stopping to look at a cabin, that dated back to the stagecoach era. Everyone enjoyed the trip, that went much deeper into Park County history, than most of the trips that we see in the county.



*Restored cabin in Lake George*



*Local gem display in concrete at the Lake George charter school*



*PCHS group picture at the feldspar mine near Lake George*



## Park County Historical Society Membership Form

Student K-12 \$5 ☐      Senior Individual (60+)\$10 ☐      Individual \$15 ☐  
Sponsor \$50 ☐      Sustaining \$75 ☐      Patron \$100 ☐      Corporate \$150 ☐      Life \$500 ☐

I would like to help with:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Education & Research
- ☐ McGraw Memorial Park
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Host
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Maintain
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Help with collections
- ☐ Local History Archives
- ☐ Membership
- ☐ Historic Preservation
- ☐ Publicity & Public Relations
- ☐ Staff Support

**Please join or renew your membership today!**

*Send check and completed form to:* Park County Historical Society, P.O. Box 43, Bailey, CO 80421  
Donations are fully tax-deductible – Park County Historical Society is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation

### 2016 PCHS Board Members

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