



Park County Historical Society

Quarterly Newsletter - October 2014

From PCHS President

As our summer season is coming to a close we look forward to our first Halloween event chaired by Keriba Blattel November 1st at the McGraw Memorial Park. Also Cowboy Christmas on December 7, at the McGraw Memorial Park.

We now have two new signs designating the McGraw Memorial Park along Highway 285 thanks to the huge effort by Craig Christenson. The signs placed by CDOT are brown and white, standard colors for historical designations.

Much work has been done in the park this summer. Although I mentioned some of this in the last newsletter, and some is ongoing; other items have been completed. This is true dedication by hard workers and appreciated by all our visitors to the McGraw Memorial Park and the Park County Historical Society Board of Directors.

- Mowing by Jane Gilsinger, Jim Sapp and Craig Christenson
- Trimming by Janet Burke
- Flower planting by Sue Glenn and Marilyn Boccuzzi
- Painting the caboose by Craig Christenson and Jim Glenn
- Painting picnic tables and benches by Jim and Sue Glenn
- Painting the Shawnee School House door by Sue Glenn
- Painting part of the Glenn Isle Way Station by Keriba Blattel
- Removal of log piles by Larry Blattel
- Replacing the railroad ties in front of the large artifact shed by Larry Blattel
- Painting the "Bailey" sign on the front of the large artifact shed by Dee Brown and Craig Christenson
- Weekly cabin cleaning by Keriba Blattel
- Weekly trash removal by Linda Wood
- Chipping and scattering of all the slash/willows on the Morrow Mountain trail was done by Jeffery and Rhonda Guernsey

September 13 was our first history presentation for the season by our President, Dee Jackson Brown. She gave a condensed history of the Fur Trade and ended with the 200th anniversary of Frances Scott Key writing the "Defense of Fort McHenry" during the war of 1812, which became our national anthem "The Star Spangled Banner", in 1931.

The Board of Directors welcomes two new members to our board: Larry and Keriba Blattel.

Dee Brown, President and Curator
(303) 838-6025/wfbdjbuis@aol.com

Newsletter in Review

From PCHS President
Mark Your Calendar!!!
News from the Shawnee Branch
A Letter from the Vice President
PCHS Visits Dversville

Dream Sheet
To Be Announced
Membership Renewal Form
2013/2014 Board Member List

Mark Your Calendar!!!

Saturday, November 1

PCHS is hosting a free all-age family friendly Historical Halloween event on Saturday, Nov. 1st at McGraw Memorial Park in Bailey, CO. It is our goal to educate folks with local history and what better way to do that than with a party! The event is from 1-5 p.m. and includes historical building tours with trick or treating for the kid. Our members will be in costume representing actual historical figures from the area. Kids are encouraged to come in their Halloween costumes for a few more tricks and treats. There will also be several showings of "It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown" complete with gourmet popcorn bar in the schoolhouse. The caboose tour will include spiced cider, musical jams and sing-a-longs. Anyone who plays an instrument should bring it with them. Era appropriate games and a pumpkin patch will be scattered throughout the park. The event will happen no matter the weather so dress appropriately for outdoors and have fun with history!

Saturday, November 8

Rex Rideout talking about the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. (this year marks the end of the anniversary). Tom Cordas will have his Civil War artifacts on display.

Sunday, December 7

Cowboy Christmas on December 7, at the McGraw Memorial Park.

NEWS FROM THE SHAWNEE BRANCH

The current board of directors are seeking additional leadership to be involved with the Shawnee Branch of the Park County Historical Society, the only National Historic District in Park County!

We are currently working on updating our Historic Walking Tour, Shawnee Cemetery, Annual Shawnee History Day, Fundraising and Historical Holiday Open House in December.

For more information visit us at

www.historicshawnee.com

teashawnee@aol.com

303-880-8193

A letter from the Vice President – September 20, 2014

I personally want to acknowledge and thank all the members who helped last spring in making our fundraisers successful. These members are: Dee Brown, Craig Christenson, Linda Wood, Jim and Sue Glenn, Jim and Patty Sapp, Bill and Lyn Kulenburg, Torrey Shutes, Keriba and Larry Blattel, Linda Watson, John and Beth Atherton, Glenda Marshall, James Price, Pat Mauro, and Marie Chisholm. To anyone I missed...thank you! You are all appreciated more than you know.

Thank you Dave Rogers, Manager of King Soopers, for providing a store gift card to purchase food items we need for our events.

A special thank you to the speakers we've had so far for our 2014 fundraisers. Those are: John Woodward, Chad Watkins and Dee Brown. Thank you Pat Mauro for the very educational field trips, especially the trip to Dyersville.

Thank you Nikki, owner of the Bailey Garden Center, for giving the PCHS a discount on flowers purchased from you. Craig Christenson, Linda Wood, Jim and Sue Glenn, Janet and Jerry Burke, Jane Gilsinger, Keriba and Larry Blattel, Marilyn Boccuzzi, and Jim Sapp have all contributed endless amounts of time to make and keep McGraw Memorial Park looking beautiful! Many visitors are impressed and have also commented on how wonderful it is to have the buildings open.

Dee and I are in need of people to learn about McGraw Memorial Park and occasionally donate their time, as docents, to educate visitors of its history. Please call Dee if you're interested in volunteering some time. She can be reached at (303) 838-6025.



Members Jeffrey and Rhonda Guernsey volunteered to chip up all the willow piles that were left on the river banks across the bridge and spread the shavings on the trails. Thank you Jeffrey and Rhonda for all the time and sweat you put into taking on that task! Fantastic job!



On a hot day in the Park, our grandkids (Matthew and Camryn) and a visitor (Hunter) enjoyed running through the sprinkler.



Local resident Troy Phillips restored the cushions in the caboose.



Craig Christenson, PCHS Director, after sanding down the entire caboose, has given it its first coat of new exterior paint. The caboose is coming back to life and it's starting to shine again!

After months of working with CDOT to get signs on 285 for our Park there are now two that say McGraw Memorial Park with an arrow pointing to its location. Many folks, local and out of town visitors, are enjoying hiking the Morrow Mountain trail, having lunch in the Way Station or simply touring the buildings in the Park.

We now have 201 members which is more than we had in May of 2011. Anyone is welcome to join. The annual cost is minimal: \$5.00 for students; \$10.00 for seniors (60 and over); \$15.00 for individuals.

Thank you and we hope to see many new faces in the years to come.

Karen Christenson
Park County Historical Society Vice President/ Events Coordinator/Membership
(303) 838-8241

**-- Park County Historical Society visits Dyersville --
Como, Boreas Pass and Selkirk Tank site also on itinerary**

By Douglas Stephens, Correspondent

Saturday July 12 the Park County Historical Society visited the site of Dyersville, a mining camp founded by Father John Dyer, the Snowshoe Itinerant. The trip had special meaning to leader Pat Mauro. "My recently deceased mother first took me to this site. This trip was a memorial to her," said Mauro in a phone call with *The Flume*. "My Mother Dolores 'Dee' Mauro had recently passed, and I made a tribute to her, as the inspiration of the trip to Dyersville, as we had first visited the site with my family in 1975," he said.

In a written account of the trip Mauro told of the founding of Dyersville. "Father Dyer made the mining camp in the 1880 era, after retiring to Breckenridge. He had 2 roommates (Candell and Thompson) that he started the mining camp with." (sic)

Mauro's account tells of the group of approximately 20 attendees touring the circa 1879 Como Roundhouse. Our first stop past Como, was at the former site of Peabody's (originally called Hamilton). There we could see the cut for the Denver South Park and Pacific Railroad grade, as it started the climb up Boreas Pass.

Around a curve, the group saw the site where locomotive #7 crashed, on March 6, 1928, killing engineer Joseph Nichols.

As we ascended Boreas Pass, we stopped at what was first thought as the site of the Selkirk Tank. West of the Selkirk Tank, was another train wreck site. After we left the supposed site of the Selkirk Tank, we discovered at the next curve, the actual Selkirk Tank site with both sites looking similar.

We continued up the pass, noting the site of the 1936 wreck of Locomotive #73. We arrived at the summit of Boreas Pass, enjoying the spectacular view, and the historic relics around the once bustling summit. We enjoyed our sack lunches at this site.

Fairplay's Marie Chisholm tells of Model T Rail Runner

After lunch the group gathered at the site of the old DSP&P RR engine house, next to the Colorado and Southern boxcar, moved to the summit as an example of the train cars regularly used on the route.

Park County Historical Society member Marie Chisholm told a story of friends she knew from Fairplay, which had converted a Ford Model T, to run on the rail. They would travel the line in the modified car, after trains had stopped running regularly on the track in 1937. Marie told the story of one trip in the Model T, where they'd come around



Fairplay's Marie Chisolm, in hat with back to camera, tells of riding the rails on Boreas Pass in a Model T Ford. Chisolm spoke outside a Colorado and Southern boxcar at the summit of Boreas Pass.



the corner, and a boxcar (Similar to the one at the summit), was parked on the track. They ended up hitting the boxcar, and punctured their radiator in the Model T. They had to nurse the car back to Fairplay, adding water on the way.

Arriving at Dyersville

The group arrived at the town site crossing Indiana Creek and started researching the area, comparing present day Dyersville to pictures from the 1970s. (The 1970 era pics were taken by PCHS member Ed Everhart, compliments of Park County Archives)

At the main town site, are remnants of two buildings. The historical society believes that the larger building, was the assay office as it was mentioned in the Dyersville history, The tour could see where water was pumped in from the creek to the building. Also found on site were the trusses from the roof, lying on the ground.

Father Dyer reenactor speaks

Mauro wrote that John Redmond, who does reenactments of Father John Dyer, was along for the ride. Redmond enlightened us with some facts about Dyersville. "It was very nice to have John attend," said Mauro.

Evidence of mining remains



The group looked for the Warrior's Mark mine. Remnants of the structure appeared as if the mine was actually enclosed in a building during its heyday. Another two story building above the town is still standing. Many prospect holes, and possibly more mines were seen in the surrounding hills.



Across the road from Dyersville, was the site of Farnham, which was another large mining enterprise. From one of the other 1970's era picture from Ed Everhart, the group saw a huge two story wood frame structure, still standing at that time. We found the structure, which we matched up to picture, laying on the ground. The large structure housed the tram system, for hauling ore from the mine above timberline, down to the Denver South Park and Pacific Railroad for transport at the base.

Saturday July 12 the Park County Historical Society toured the Dyersville town site and Warriors Mark Mine near Boreas Pass in Park County. This view shows what is left of a building at the Warriors mine site.

Returning down the east side of Boreas Pass the group again stopped at the Selkirk tank site. Where large timbers from the tank were found. The tour also stopped at the site of the 1928 wreck site of Engine #7, to see if any remnants could be found. Mauro concluded his account saying "The trip was a fantastic time, with all the attendees enjoying the great weather, and some of the hidden treasures along Boreas Pass and at Dyersville."

Dream Sheet

The Park County Historical Society (PCHS) has made many improvements to McGraw Memorial Park in the last five years. Projects were done by volunteers with significant help from grants. McGraw Park is an attraction for its historic buildings, displays, events, trails, water activities and even public restrooms.

Visitors to the park include Bailey residents and others drawn to pull off of Hwy 285 and stop at the park. We see McGraw Memorial Park as good for history preservation and good for the Bailey economy.

The PCHS created this list of potential projects which could also be called a Dream Sheet. Many projects deal with critical preservation projects which if not done in time create safety and decay issues. Volunteers work on these projects as time allows.

Are you looking for a way to give back to Bailey, to history or to the Park? Is there one project that is near and dear to your heart? Many of these projects will begin when an advocate steps up and moves the project along. Do you have expertise or a heart to help? Can you create enthusiasm or raise funds? Does your business want to help McGraw Memorial Park?

As you can see from the Dream Sheet list, there are projects about maintenance, signage, education and beauty. One recently added project considers the moving and preservation of one of the oldest cabins in Bailey.

Review this list and see if there is a place for you in improving McGraw Memorial Park and Bailey. These are our dreams for Bailey. Do you want to be a part?

Project

Renovation of the Glen Isle Way Station

The Glen Isle Way Station has considerable historical significance and is used frequently by visitors and small groups to the Park. It is in desperate need of structural preservation to include new roofing materials, new flooring, painting, and realignment of the supporting structural members.

C&S Caboose

The caboose is one of the more popular features of the Park. It is visited frequently by both young and elderly visitors alike. We have made steady but slow progress renovating the caboose over the years and are currently contracted for refurbishing the interior seating. The exterior, however, is in desperate need of maintenance and repair. Aside from the cosmetic appearance, it has become a significant safety hazard for the visitors to the Park.

The caboose is in need of interior painting to preserve and improve the appearance. From a safety perspective, the ends of the caboose, referred to as "bumpers" are a significant safety hazard to our visitors and are in desperate need immediate repair. The repair of the "bumpers" is not a trivial task. It will require custom fabricated materials and the skills of a knowledgeable craftsman experienced in railroad car renovation.

A lower priority project is to install lighting in the caboose. The existing circuits are not satisfactory and will need to be replaced.

Entriken Cabin

The Entriken Cabin is in need of preservation maintenance. The windows and door trim needs to be replaced/repaired and painted.

Picnic Tables

The Park has two remaining wooden picnic tables that need to be replaced with modern metal tables similar to what we already have. These wooden tables have been refinished and are now serviceable.

Sprinkler System

Currently, watering of the landscape is being done by volunteers. We began a process some time ago to install a sprinkler system and have purchased many of the needed materials. We would like to have the system designed and installed to irrigate the grassy areas, trees, and seasonal plantings.

Artifact Shed

The artifact shed currently houses an ore wagon, Mattox Ice Boat, and several other miscellaneous artifacts including a large metal sign that needs to be repainted.

We would like to move the ore wagon out of the shed into public space so that visitors could view it. To prevent climbing on the wagon we would need a small perimeter fence and appropriate signage to keep visitors off the wagon. In addition, where necessary, we would like the ore wagon renovated to the extent possible and to some degree protected from the elements.

We would like the ice cutter moved into the shed and renovated to the extent possible.

A longer term goal would be to have the shed opened to the public when a docent is present with artifacts displayed on the walls and perhaps a "hands on" display of pioneering tools to serve as an educational experience.

A longer range goal is to enlarge the Artifact Shed to accommodate additional artifacts and displays.

Landscaping

The flagstone walkway from the Annex to the entrance to the Park (Crow Creek Bridge) needs to be completed. There may be sufficient flagstone available to complete this task.

Several trees and other landscaping shrubbery have already been planted at the Park. There is, however, a need to provide shade for some of the picnic tables. Perhaps this could be accomplished with mature tree plantings or arbors over one of the tables. Currently, there is only one picnic table under cover.

In addition to the seasonal plantings that are currently in place, perhaps a "rock garden" with native drought resistant plantings could be designed and installed in the courtyard. This garden could also be a more appropriate location for the Helen McGraw memorial stone.

Kayak Dock

The kayak dock is extremely popular and we expect the popularity to grow significantly in the coming years. The dock needs to be significantly larger than it is now in order to accommodate more than one kayak launch at a time.

Fishing Dock

The fishing dock is also very popular for adults and children alike. It is much too small to accommodate even a small family. It needs to be enlarged with perhaps rustic accommodations for seating.

Fencing

The boundary of the Park property needs to be better defined by "decorative" fencing. It would add greatly to the appearance of the park and to the historic setting. There is no apparent need, however, to fully enclose the Park. We simply wish to put boundaries along the parking areas and perhaps along the upper bank of the river.

Signage

The historic buildings need permanent signage to capture the history of the structure. We envision a permanent market with fiberglass displays similar to what is used in other historic locations within the County.

Morrow Mountain Trail

The trail at the end on the railroad bridge is in need of maintenance and improved construction. The trail needs to be cleared of undergrowth and raised to avoid the wet areas. In addition, now that the trail goes in both directions, there needs better signage to indicate where each trail goes.

Bailey Park Museum

It has been a long desired goal to renovate the Park Annex into a history museum. This museum would house historic artifacts, displays, and perhaps a "learning center" equipped with a library and other resources to learn about the history of Platte Canyon and Park County. To bring the museum to fruition, we will need an architectural design and required display cabinets, shelving, furniture, and other resources for our visitors.

The museum could also provide a location for a small gift shop if appropriately staffed.

Parking

Currently, there are two locations for visitor parking. Our desire would be to have the two areas surfaced with appropriate material that would allow for striping of parking spaces, to include designated spaces for the handicapped.

Audio System

The tours of the Park are self-guided. While we plan to open the Park during the summer months, a single docent cannot be in all places at once. We would like to consider a motion activated audio system to explain each building

as visitors enter the building. This would not only be of assistance to the docent on duty but would be beneficial to our visitors.

Flag Pole

Our current flag pole has been damaged by vandals and needs to be replaced or repaired. We have in stock a replacement flag pole waiting for installation.

Privy

We currently have a privy that has historical significance. The foundation for the privy needs to be repaired/replaced and appropriately located within the Park.

Emergency Call Box

With the creation of additional resources for our visitors, we have also created increased opportunity for mishap. While many visitors carry cell phones they can be unreliable when an emergency arises. We propose an "Emergency Call Box" to be installed at a prominent location with the Park. It could be a valuable resource in the event of fire or injury to our volunteer staff or visitors.

Routine Maintenance

Maintaining the Park is an ongoing concern to the Board. We allocate as much as we can afford each year for the most deserving projects but it is often insufficient. In addition, we rely on a small cadre of volunteers to perform the work. While we greatly appreciate their efforts, projects take longer than necessary to complete or, in some cases, remain unfinished.

As the Park matures and funding increases, it will be desirable to employ a part time maintenance person to perform the routine maintenance in the Park. This will include maintenance of the landscaping in the summer season and routine maintenance of buildings in the summer and off peak season. Building and bridge maintenance may also include cleaning, painting, and minor carpentry work.

Preserve the Barnett Cabin

"Aged Pioneer Travels From Missouri to Spend Birthday in the Colorado of His Youth. - Eighty-six Year-Old Joseph Barnett, Bailey's First School Teacher, Can't Stay Away, and is Welcomed by Entire Township"

Adapted from The Denver Post, August 1, 1920

The Barnett log cabin is located adjacent to Bailey Propane across from McGraw Park in Bailey. The PCHS may have the structure if it can be moved from the current location. We need an assessment of the ways and means to move the cabin and potential sources of funding.

Destination point on the Morrow Mountain Trail

There is a need for a "rest point" near the high point on the Morrow Mountain Trail. The scope of the project is limited to benches due to conditions restricting structures along the trail.

Outdoor educational amphitheater

Develop a small amphitheater near the Keystone Bridge along the "River Walk Trail" to provide a location for an educational program on local history and heritage industries, geology, riparian plant and wildlife habitat.

Develop memorial display in the Annex Museum

Establish a location in the Annex museum artifacts as a memorial to honor the first President and founder of the Park County Historical Society

Jim Sapp

Version 3

Visit the PCHS website at www.parkcountyhistory.com
the Shawnee Branch at
www.historicshawnee.com or 303-816-0000

To be announced...

Hello members!

September 13 was our first history presentation for the season by our President, Dee Jackson Brown. She gave a condensed history of the Fur Trade and ended with the 200th anniversary of Frances Scott Key writing the "Defense of Fort McHenry" during the war of 1812, which became our national anthem "The Star Spangled Banner", in 1931.

Our October 11th "Movie Night" - showing of the Roberts Tunnel DVD - was a success! Many of you missed a historic event. A HUGE thank you to Craig Christenson for the extensive hours he put into editing and producing this video. The men who worked on the tunnel, and were able to attend, were Clyde Johnson, Kenn Hicks, Chuck Johnson and Bob Jones. We are grateful for these men and thank them for sharing their experiences while working inside the tunnel.

Thank you Keriba & Larry Blattel, Linda Watson, Jim & Patty Sapp and Bill Kulenburg for providing our dinner. Thank you Linda Wood for being our money taker. Thank you Keriba Blattel and Jim Glenn for taking pictures. A thank you also to my kitchen helpers...Sue Glenn, Linda Watson, and Keriba. And - thank you Dee Brown for being our announcer.

The DVD is for sale to members for \$19.95 - \$24.95 to non-members.

Our next fundraiser will be on November 8th when Rex Rideout will honor us with his presence again. Same place (Shepherd of the Rockies Lutheran Church) - same time (5:00-7:00).

Thank you!
Karen and Dee

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 ☐

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

I would like to help with:

- ☐ Shawnee Branch
☐ 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

2013/2014 PCHS Board Members

President/Curator/Events
(303) 838-6025

Dee Brown
wfbdjbuais@aol.com

Vice President/Membership/Events
(303) 838-8241

Karen Christenson
karenchristenson@msn.com

Treasurer
(303) 838-4243

Bill Kulenburg
billandlyn@netzero.net

Secretary
(303) 816-0944

Jim Sapp
jimsapp7@msn.com

Director
(303) 838-8241

Craig Christenson
craigc473@gmail.com

Director
(303) 838-7740

Pat Mauro
pkmauro@yahoo.com

Director
(303) 699-8056

Jim Glenn
jimglenncolorado@gmail.com

Director
(303) 816-1226

Keriba Blattel
keriba.events@gmail.com

Director
(303) 816-1226

Larry Blattel
larry@svctec.com

Shawnee President/Director
(303) 816-1226

Vincent Toplo
vtoplo@yahoo.com