



## HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

The Huerfano County Historical Society is hosting its annual meeting

**Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.**

**The Spanish Peaks Regional Library in Walsenburg**

The meeting will feature a special presentation by Lois Adams, HCHS Treasurer, about Indian Prayer Trees. Many of these mysterious trees can be found throughout our county. Refreshments will be served. All Historical Society Members are encouraged to attend. There will be reports made on the past year of HCHS activities and events. The new Board of Directors will be elected.

## A LETTER OF INVITATION

A year has gone by so quickly. It is once again time for the Annual Meeting of the Huerfano County Historical Society. All members are welcome and we hope to see all Board members in attendance.

As you have read in past Historian Newsletters, it has been a busy and productive year. I would like to congratulate both Walsenburg Mining Museum and Francisco Fort Museum for the successes each has enjoyed. They, along with the Alton Tirey Center have seen many visitors interested in our county's history.

Thank you to all volunteers, docents and patrons for your dedication in serving our communities.

An election of Board members will be held during the annual meeting, Wednesday, October 7, beginning at 6:00 P.M. at the

Spanish Peaks Library in Walsenburg. Refreshments will be served immediately after the general meeting. A board meeting will commence to elect officers for the coming year.

A special thank you goes to Ken Willson, Vice President, Lois Adams, Secretary and Karen Austin, Treasurer, for your diligence and commitment as officers this past year. I could not have done the work of President without you! A special thank you also goes to Kim McKee for her amazing work at Francisco Fort Museum. We will truly miss her creativity and the love shown to the HCHS collection over the past years serving as Director. We wish her the best in future successes.

Best regards,

Sharon Vezzani  
President 2015

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

We remind all of our members to watch your email Inbox in November or December for information about renewing your HCHS membership. This year we will be trying to better conserve resources by mainly emailing the renewal forms to all members. So, if you are a member and have not yet provided us with your email address, now would be a perfect opportunity to do so!

### Our Board Of Directors

Sharon Vezzani — President  
Ken Willson — Vice President  
Lois Adams — Secretary  
Karen Austin — Treasurer  
Kay Beth Avery, Gary Bailey,  
Agnes Bechaver, William J.  
Bechaver, John Carlson,  
Margaret Gleisberg, Bruce  
Johnson, Carolyn Newman, Jerry  
Skryznear, Lola Spradley, David  
Steffan, and John Van Keuren.

### 2015 — CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Historical Society Meeting	Wednesday, October 7th	6:00 p.m.	Walsenburg Library
Historical Society Meeting	Wednesday, November 4th	4:00 p.m.	Francisco Fort, La Veta

Events or Dates or Times or Locations may be subject to change.

## Walsenburg Mining Museum

The museum played a special roll in this year's Mountain Mining Days held in Walsenburg last month.

Jeanette Booze was honored as the 2015 Coal Camp Queen. She grew up in the coal camps around Walsenburg, and primarily lived in Tioga as a girl.

The Museum sponsored a float in the parade, designed primarily by the artistic hands of Dianne Hanisch, and constructed under her guidance. Jeanette rode enthroned upon the float.

The parade made its way down Main Street. Other events were held at Sixth and Main in Walsenburg, at the future site of the new Miners Plaza, with will be built on the site in the coming months.

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Information for the next quarterly issue should be submitted via e.mail to —

[hchistorian@rocketmail.com](mailto:hchistorian@rocketmail.com)

The deadline for submissions of articles, announcements, notices, and calendar events is —

**Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

If you would rather receive this newsletter by e.mail in the future, simply let us know at the address above, and we'll send you a *colorful* digital version. You will no longer receive a paper copy.

Newsletter Printing Courtesy  
**Saint Mary Catholic Church**  
Walsenburg, Colorado

## All-School All-Class Reunion

On Saturday afternoon, the reunion offered a tour of the Washington School building this year, for those who were students and attended classes there. About twenty people, mostly from classes that graduated in the '60s, visited The Tirey History Center, which is housed upstairs in the building, and was opened especially for the occasion. All were duly impressed by the extensive collection of newspapers and records archived in the facility. The archives are available for research by appointment at 719-989-1305, or [hchistorian@rocketmail.com](mailto:hchistorian@rocketmail.com).

## Archaeological Research

In the early 1940s, local school teacher and mountaineer Janet Chatin, along with the renowned anthropology professor E. B. Renaud, located and mapped many Native-American archaeological sites in Huerfano County.

H.C.H.S. Board Member John Van Keuren is diligently working, in conjunction with The Tirey History Center, to locate some of the sites, primarily along the Cucharas and Apishapa river basins.

Our goal for this project is to return to some of the documented sites, to reevaluate and record the current conditions of the site, for comparison to the earlier survey.

We are seeking an additional volunteer who would be interested in identifying, locating, and contacting land-owners to garner permission for us to revisit some of these sites that reside on private property. Call Will at 719-989-1305 if you are interested.

## Francisco Fort

A special meeting was held, and a new budget was approved for the upcoming year. We are in the process of winterizing the collections for the off-season.

The Fort Museum is seeking a new director, and the board is going through the bylaws to determine the requirements, so the position can be advertised. The Museum is also currently seeking a new board member.

## CF&I FILM

Filming for a documentary on CF&I may take place briefly in Huerfano County during the next year, as we had CF&I mines and mine camps. The documentary is produced by a professional, Jim Havey, with funding from various groups. It should be finished by November 2016 and then available for showing locally.

## Our Member Sponsors

All of this is made possible by the following —

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### Special Donor

**James Gerken**

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☞ *Thank You!* ☞