

THE FORT

Submitted by Kim McKee, Director

The museum was a flurry of events! Hispanic Culture Day was a smashing success, as well as Victorian Day, Native American Day and Paranormal Day. All of the events were free, the plaza full of visitors, and our gift shop sales were above normal, so income was far above average even though we did not charge admission! All of the events had lecture presentations which were full, which shows me that guests are very interested in the educational part of these events as well as the entertainment.

The Friends of Francisco Fort History Museum raised money and purchased the following for the museum: 13 custom made iron signs for outdoor exhibits, new signs on the building and sandwich boards for the sidewalk, a new computer and *Past*

Perfect 5 program for the collection, an *iPad* for the gift shop sales, a 16 foot tipi, donor brick sidewalk, restored the floors of 8 rooms (the final four rooms will be done this fall after we are closed), projector and screen for the meeting room, all of the performers and speakers for Fort Day, an intern's pay for 2 days a week, as well as an archivist 2 days a week. The total invested in this facility by this wonderful support group is over \$13,000.00! The investment is paying off, as the reviews, the feedback, and results are hugely positive!

THANK YOU!

I am so grateful for the staff and volunteers who, without their good hearts, hands, sweat and team effort, the season could not have been so wonderful!

THANK YOU!

To all of you who support our events and efforts to preserve the valuable history of Huerfano County!

REPORT\$

At the end of July, the Huerfano County Historical Society has assets of \$9,935.53. The Historical Society's endowment fund has \$23,150.86 in checking and \$184,928.35 in investments.

Our Board Of Directors

Chairman – Carolyn Newman
 Vice-Chair – Agnes Bechaver
 Secretary – Jerry Skrzynear
 Treasurer – Margaret Gleisberg
 Lois Adams, William J. Bechaver, John Carlson, Katharine Emsden, Jewel Geiger, Bruce Johnson, Elaine Lenzini, Kim McKee, Dennis Rains, David Steffan, and Sandy White.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Thanks to the dedicated group headed by Sandy White, the 2013 golf tournament at Grandote was a success! With seven tournament sponsors and 15 hole sponsors, golf fees and a bit of heckling to encourage players to try harder, nearly \$3,500 was raised, primarily for the care of the Society's collections in all three facilities.

TOURNAMENT SPONSORS

Thanks to tournament sponsors Spanish Peaks Regional Health Center, Karl Klinke Family, White & Janowski LLP, Nielsen Family, SIEA, First National Bank Huerfano County Branch, and The Timbers. Hole sponsors were Scripture Quest, Sheriff Bruce Newman, Hollowpoint Sporting Goods, Dennis and Betty Rains Shaklee Distributors, Dakota Dukes, La Veta Loco LLC, All Seasons Real Estate, The Dog Bar, Jerry and Marlene Skrzynear, Max Vezzani family, Olive Tree B&B, Antique Ave. & Boutique Blvd, John Carlson and Jerry Skrzynear, Bryce Blain Family, Charles Cotton Family. Special thanks to Grandote Peaks Golf Club.

2013 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
September Meeting	Wednesday, September 4 th	4:00 p.m.	Francisco Fort Firehouse
Berwind Camp Tour	Saturday, September 14 th	T.B.A.	Steelworks Museum
Debate Re-Enactment	Sunday, September 15 th	2:00 p.m.	Florence
Ludlow Exhibit Opening	Thursday, September 19 th	T.B.A.	El Pueblo Museum
History Museum Event	Saturday, September 21 st	11:00 a.m.	Trinidad History Museum
Author's Reception	Saturday, September 21 st	5:00 p.m.	Denver Orthodox Church
Ludlow Get-Together	Sunday, September 22 nd	All Day!	Ludlow Memorial
Annual Meeting	Wednesday, October 2 nd	6:00 p.m.	Walsenburg Library
November Meeting	Wednesday, November 6 th	4:00 p.m.	Francisco Fort Firehouse

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

ANNUAL MEETING

All members and the public are invited to the Wednesday, Oct. 2, Annual Business Meeting, 6 p.m. at the Walsenburg Library. There will be a history presentation by David Steffan. Financial and activity reports will be given and board members elected. The Society's officers are then elected by the board members. Anyone interested in being on the board, please inform the president, Carolyn Newman carlynewmn@aol.com. We try to balance board members between the different parts of the county.

A LEGEND

The Historical Society's former long-time president is to be honored Saturday, Sept. 7, at a black-tie dinner as one of the Spanish Peaks Legends. Elaine Lenzini, a Huerfano native, former teacher and linked to early settlers of the area, will be recognized at the dinner at the Community Center. Tickets are \$40 and include a dance, door prizes and a silent auction. Also to be honored are other present or former Society members Norma Lou Brunelli Murr, Norman Lupton, Ray and Monica Bustos and Bartolo, and Maria Andreatta.

MONTOYA RANCH

The Montoya Ranch, known locally as Farisita, is being nominated for the 2014 list of Colorado's Most Endangered Places list.

A architectural firm, SlaterPaull, has provided detailed rehab plans for the site. Those plans and a archaeology survey of the ground's surface were paid by State Historical Fund money and the National Preservation Fund. The owner is Jim Gerkin.

NEWS PRESERVATION

An interesting website is www.coloadohistoricnewspapers.com. Many early papers (but not Huerfano County's yet) are online. Mostly the papers are pre-1923. The Society is inquiring about putting local papers on the website to save the library and Society members from trekking to the archives in Washington School to find answers to inquiries. To put our papers on the website will be expensive, but they will be available worldwide at no cost to others.

Local newspapers from 1890 to the present are stored at the Tirey Local History Center housed in Walsenburg's Washington School. Although the earliest papers have been placed on microfilm, that doesn't help researchers in other states.

The Society board has voted \$15,000 to transfer at least some of this microfilm into digital form so anyone anywhere can search the newspapers without handling the fragile copies. History Colorado has provided this service to a number of institutions. History Colorado also has the master copies of our microfilmed newspapers and can do the conversion. Another great feature of the digitized papers is that the researcher can enter a topic or name and the computer automatically finds it and highlights it.

The microfilm of the local papers can be found in Walsenburg and La Veta libraries, the Pueblo Rawlings Library, the Stephen Hart Library of History Colorado and perhaps in other libraries. The most frequent request from out-of-state researchers are obituaries and special-event stories such as coal strikes.

The \$15,000 will pay for only a portion of digitization of the newspapers printed during the years.

1913 STRIKE!

Ludlow Massacre and the 1913-14 coal miners strike are in the forefront of the state's history community during this 100th year. Locally the *Huerfano World Journal* will feature weekly stories about Huerfano County events during the 15 months of the strike. The series starts in mid-September.

Sept. 14 — Steelworks Museum taking a tour bus to Berwind mining camp.

Sept. 15 — Debate between the 'Governor', United Mine Workers, mine owner, and Mother Jones. Florence, 2 p.m.

Sept. 19 — El Pueblo opens an exhibit "Children Of Ludlow". WMM invited to the opening.

Sept. 21 — Trinidad History Museum event. 11 a.m., Mother Jones outside (free). Workshop and lunch (fee).

Sept. 22 — Ludlow Memorial Gathering, Begins at 10 a.m., luncheon.

— HONOREES —

Seven miners have been added to the Memorial Wall on the miner statue at The Mining Museum.

DOMENIC ZANELLI
CHARLES JOHNSON
T. ATAKA
JOHN SKYNEAR
LAJOS "LOUIE" AUGUST
WALTER DLUGOPOLSKI
JOSEPH BARNOSKY

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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

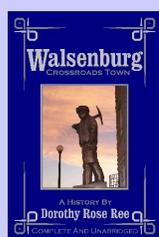
hchistorian@rocketmail.com

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

Wednesday, November 6th, 2013

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



Walsenburg – Crossroads Town

the acclaimed local history by Dorothy Ree, is still available to all H.C.H.S. Members at a special discounted price! Contact Carolyn Newman, at 719-738-2840, or by e.mail at carlynewmn@aol.com for details!

✧ Our Member Partners ✧

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Thank You!