

STATE HISTORIC SITES

Wyoming Day Celebration

A celebration of Wyoming Day and the Cowboy State's admittance to the union as the 44th state was held at the Wyoming Historic Governors' Mansion State Historic Site on July 10.



A celebration of Wyoming Day and the Cowboy State's admittance to the union as the 44th state was held at the Wyoming Historic Governors' Mansion State Historic Site on Sunday, July 10.



Site Superintendent Christina Bird speaks with local reporters.



A variety of activities, inside the mansion and out, celebrated Wyoming's statehood including traditional games such as croquet, sack and potato races. Additionally, those in attendance had an opportunity to interact with historic characters and view the original 44-star flag presented to Gov. Francis E. Warren by Esther Hobart Morris on July 10, 1890.



Tours of the mansion were available, as well as an opportunity to craft a Wyoming Day pennant. Buffalo Bill Boycott was on hand to entertain with music and stories.

STATE HISTORIC SITES

Fourth of July at Fort Bridger

A variety of fun activities including a \$600 cash give-away and the final public performance of Bobby Bridger's "The Ballad of the West: Seekers of the Fleece," were featured during the Second Annual Fort Bridger State Historic Site Fourth of July Kids Extreme Day.

The day began with the American Legion parade followed by three sessions of "Fun Fort Facts" with musician/storyteller Bobby Bridger, find the Money (needle) in the haystack and old time games such sack races and tug-o-war among others.

Other sponsors of the Fort Bridger Fourth of July celebration were First Bank and Murdoch's.



Denice Wheeler and her new book about China Mary



Bridger has performed one-man shows as mountain man Jim Bridger, and musician for 38 years. He previously retired his performance of "Pahaska" at Fort Bridger in 2006.



Tug-O-War



Sack Races



Find the Needle/Money in the Haystack

STATE HISTORIC SITES CONTINUED

Butch Cassidy Days

The Wyoming Territorial Prison State Historic Site in Laramie celebrated one of the penitentiary's most infamous prisoners during the Seventh Annual Butch Cassidy Days event June 25-26.

Despite focusing on one of the West's most notorious outlaws, the event featured a variety of family and children activities including a kids' stick horse rodeo, money hunt, trick roping and tractor rides.

This year's event also featured a presentation by Larry Pointer, author of the acclaimed 1977 book "In Search of Butch Cassidy," a vintage car and tractor display, children's baseball toss the Laramie Colts, museum tours, skits and musical performances.

"Butch Cassidy Days is a community event that is designed to engage visitors of all ages with activities, entertainment and education," Site Superintendent Deborah Amend said. "Visitors can experience a weekend full of fun from llamas and Chicken Bingo to kids' prison break and a discussion of Butch Cassidy's final years."



UW Graduate Student, Mac Blewer is writing his thesis on Butch Cassidy and portrayed the outlaw while educating visitors on everything "Butch"



Children are deputized and issued a badge and wooden rifle. Here, the "posse" surrounds the suspected hideout of the escaped prisoners.



Prisoners escape over the stockade



The escaped prisoners are apprehended in the barn.

continued ...

STATE HISTORIC SITES CONTINUED

Butch Cassidy Days continued ...



Hay rides lasted all day, both days and helped visitors get around to all of the events!



Contestants in the Kids' Stick Horse Rodeo await their events



Bolivian dancers perform traditional dance stories



"Suzi" the chicken is released onto the chicken bingo board... Everyone hopes she "chooses" their number!



Site Superintendent, Deborah Amend stands with Bolivian dancers in costume

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Dear employees, constituents & stakeholders,

Welcome to the latest installment of our Department newsletter. Thus far, 2011 has been one of the most exciting and eventful in recent memory! As the included photos and articles demonstrate so colorfully, we truly make Wyoming's spectacular natural resources and captivating history come alive! It's truly inspiring to see how we actively engage the young and old and involve our public in hands-on participation in our Arts, Parks & History.

It's almost enough to make you overlook the challenges we've faced, but those challenges, particularly in terms of flooding, have been significant. Flooding at Glendo, Bear River and Buffalo Bill State Parks, at Medicine Lodge, Conner Battlefield and Ft. Bridger State Historic Site tested the skill and tenacity of our Superintendents and their employees, not to mention the Field Support sections that came to their aid. Now that the situation is beginning to ease, it is clear that you can be proud of how your agency performed in planning, preparing and dealing with the impacts that occurred. We're not by any means out of the woods and the process of addressing natural resource damage and other impacts will occupy a lot of time and energy in the months ahead, but the State Parks, Historic Sites and Trails Division deserves a collective pat on the back for a job well done.

Addressing situations such as this requires adaptability and innovative thinking. Another example of these qualities at work in our agency is the Museum Membership program profiled in this installment. For the first time, citizen engagement and ownership in the museum will be enhanced by the opportunity to become a member. Combined with the Smithsonian Affiliation status, the Museum is poised to have greater control over its own destiny.

Looking ahead, I'm particularly excited to be welcoming two new cultural resources managers to the agency. A fresh perspective is always a healthy and welcome situation and I ask you all to join me in welcoming Helen B. Louise and Mike Strom to the State Parks & Cultural Resources family.

Another development I'm excited about is the upcoming statewide cultural conference, "Convergence". This will be an unprecedented occasion where all of the vital and diverse components of Wyoming's cultural sector will "converge" in a synergy of creativity and ideas. We'll be exploring what makes us unique and what brings us together and we'll strive to facilitate new ideas, new partnerships and new ways to enhance the vital role our cultural resources play in moving Wyoming forward socially and economically.

Finally, the update on our military families reminds us that our employees' devotion to public service is a value that is passed down and reflected in their families. We serve the state and the nation equally. With this in mind, I look forward to proudly representing the agency at the dedication of the new Freedom Memorial in Cody, WY whose funding involves a contractual relationship between our agency and the town.

I hope reading about the great work our employees do around the state can be as much as a source of pride and inspiration for you as it is for me.



Respectfully,



Milward Simpson

CONVERGENCE

To move toward a common point or result

American Heritage Dictionary

Culture Builds Prosperous Wyoming Communities



SAVE THE DATE

October 6 - 9, 2011

Cody, Wyoming

PRODUCED BY THE WYOMING BUSINESS COUNCIL



The Chief Washakie statue moved from the lobby to a new home opposite the Esther Hobart Morris statue in front of the Wyoming State Capitol.



Mark Miller (middle of back row), State Archaeologist, 35 year service award



Dan Wolf, State Archaeologist's Office, 25 year service award

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Heart Mountain Chimney Stabilization

Funding provided from the National Park Service Japanese American Confinement Sites grant program will be used towards stabilization work for the boiler house chimney located at the Heart Mountain Relocation site.

The Heart Mountain Boiler House Chimney is leaning 16 inches out of plumb. Without stabilization, eventually it will fall. An iconic structure, the chimney stands sentinel over the Heart Mountain Relocation Center; where during World War II Japanese Americans were interred. The boiler house chimney was constructed in 1942 and was a part of the hospital complex heating system. Currently, the chimney is the most prominent structure at the National Historic Landmark.

In 2010, the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office awarded funds through the Historic Architecture Assistance Fund grant program to the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation to assess the structural condition of the chimney.

Professional architects and engineers concluded the chimney was and still is in eminent danger of collapse. The WySHPO, working with the HMWF, and the Bureau of Reclamation applied to the National Park Service for funding to conduct further testing of the chimney and to develop and implement a final stabilization plan.

The project will be completed in two phases. The first phase will include comprehensive documentation of the chimney and its condition, testing of the stability of the foundation and determining its size and configuration, extensive testing of the masonry to determine the strength of the brick and the composition of the mortar, and a thorough geotechnical investigation to determine the composition and stability of the soils.

Phase I will be completed in 2011, and based upon



the results and recommendations from these studies, a final stabilization plan will be developed by experts in the fields of architecture, engineering, and historic preservation. Physical stabilization of the structure is planned to occur during the summer of 2012.

This project is a collaborative effort among the WySHPO, the HMWF, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Park County Historical Society and the Wyoming State Historical Society. The land and remaining structures are under the administration of the Bureau of Reclamation. Reclamation is in the process of entering into an agreement with the HMWF to provide for and control public access and interpretation of the existing facilities at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center.

The Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center Grand Opening will be held on August 19-21. The public will be able to visit the chimney and learn more about this project.

Contact Mary Hopkins, Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer (307)777-6311 or Christy Fleming, Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Area Manager (307)250-5542 for additional information.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE CONTINUED

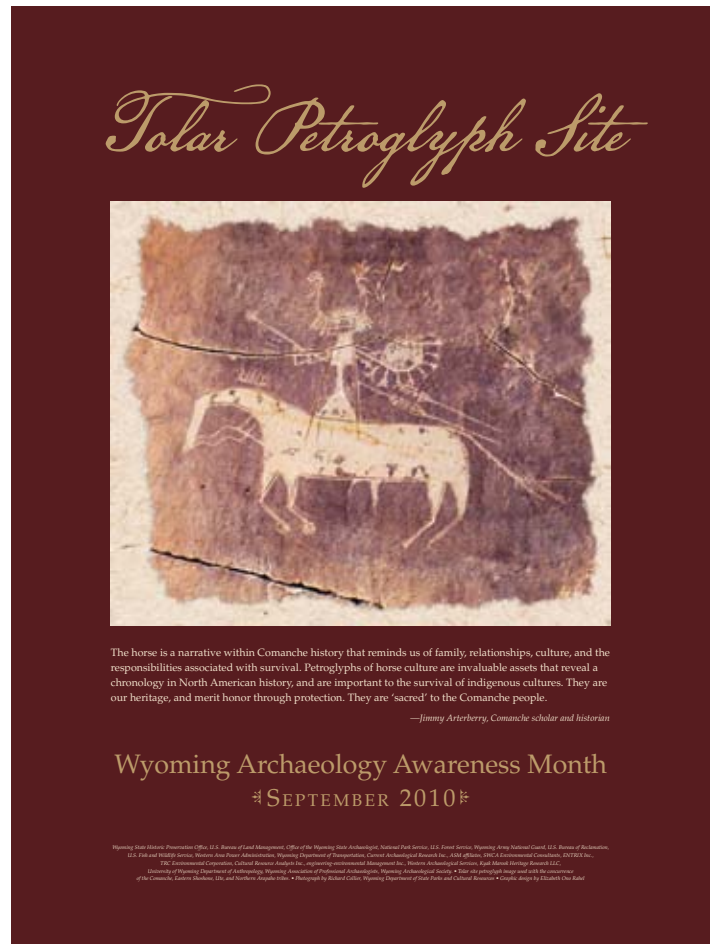
Archaeology Awareness Month Poster Wins Award

The 2010 Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month (WAAM) poster, featuring the Tolar Petroglyph site, has been awarded first place in the Society for American Archaeology's (SAA) annual nationwide poster contest.

The poster features a well preserved image of a Comanche warrior on horseback, elaborately carved into sandstone bedrock and strikingly contrasted with the dark natural varnish of the cliff face. The panel design is likely over two centuries old. The site is valued by several Indian nations as a sacred and honored place. The glyph used on this poster was chosen with the concurrence of the Comanche, Eastern Shoshone, Ute, and Northern Arapaho tribes, a cross-cultural collaboration that benefits all of Wyoming.

This is the thirteenth year the Wyoming poster has been recognized with an award from the SAA. The announcement was made at the SAA's annual meeting held in Sacramento, Calif. Production of the poster was coordinated by Judy Wolf of the State Historic Preservation Office.

The Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month posters are available free of charge and may be picked up at the State Historic Preservation Office in Cheyenne, 3rd floor Barrett Building, 2301 Central Ave. or in Laramie in the new Anthropology Department building, 12th and Lewis, Room 312.



If you would like a poster mailed to you, a \$10 charge is necessary to cover mailing costs. Limit one poster per person. Send your request along with a check or money order payable to "Wyoming Archaeology Month" and your name and mailing address to: Judy Wolf, State Historic Preservation Office, Wyoming Archaeology Month, Dept. 3431, 1000 E. University Ave., Laramie WY 82071.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE CONTINUED

Preserve Wyoming Conference held in April

Keynote speaker Alvin Weiderspahn discussed his efforts to rehabilitate Cheyenne's Grier Building during a Preserve Wyoming Conference, April 29-30 in Casper.

Weiderspahn's rehabilitation of the Grier Building was the state's first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified project.

Other session topics during the conference included building restoration projects, the future of Wyoming's historic schools and case studies of school preservation. Also, an advocacy session

on preservation issues was held with Wyoming legislators.

An awards ceremony highlighted the outstanding work and efforts of Wyoming's Certified Local Government organizations and the Wyoming Main Street Program.

The conference was sponsored by the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office in partnership with Wyoming Main Street, Alliance for Historic Wyoming, Casper Historic Preservation Board, Wyoming State Historical Society and Yellowstone Garage.

STATE ARCHIVES



State Archives and Records Center Off-Site Repository Training Held in May

Stacks 'n Awe," an educational seminar and tour of the State Archives and Records Center Off-Site Repository, was held for state and local government employees May 12.

The seminar provided an introduction to personnel and facility responsibilities and several exhibits including storage of non-permanent records, how to assemble an archival storage box and a Department of Health Radon display.

The Off-Site Repository is located at 1712 Pacific Avenue in Cheyenne. The seminar was funded by the State Historic Records Advisory Board.

Records Management Supervisor for the Wyoming State Archives Rich Wilson retired after 20 years with the State of Wyoming



Back Row - Lisa Hastings, Tony Adams, Tim Tyler; Second Row - Donna Crock, Barb Thomasee, Lisa Lane, Wendy Kincaid, Janie Waite, Paula Sutton, Pat Newbern; Front Row - Rich and his wife Susie Wilson

ARMA Spring Seminar Covered Social Media

The Wyoming Association of Records Managers and Administrators Spring Seminar, “Impacts of Social Networking on Records and Information Management in the Professional Environment,” was held March 8 at the Kiwanis Community House in Cheyenne.

This all-day seminar was sponsored in partnership with the Wyoming State Archives, City of Cheyenne, Wyoming State Historical Advisory Board, Wyoming Department of Transportation and the Public Service Commission.

Seminar speakers provided an overview of the history and diversity of Social Media, and how it is used today by both individuals and businesses. The presentations also discussed the generational differences and myths which exist today that add to the complexity of using Social Media, security issues facing social networking, how Social Media can benefit businesses and government agencies with examples of how it is used.

The keynote speaker was Helen Streck, CEO of Kaizen InfoSource LLC from Palo Alto, Calif. Additional speakers were Mike Crouch, State of Wyoming Enterprise IT Security Coordinator; Sue Castaneda, Public Relations and Marketing Specialist with the Wyoming Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources; and Kim Sears, Senior Public Relations and Marketing Specialist with the Wyoming Business Council.

World War II Veteran Speaks to Cheyenne Sunrise Rotary Club

Rev. Leonard Robinson is a World War II veteran, who participated in the Bataan Death March and was a POW in a Japanese camp for 41 months, with 24 of that as a slave laborer. Leonard's POW number was 331. Upon his return home, he participated in research done by a University of Maryland professor, focusing on people who didn't have recurring nightmares and other repercussions following a tragic incident. One Holocaust and 40 war survivors took part. During his time as a prisoner, Leonard said he repeated the 23rd Psalm and tells returning veterans to recite it as well to help them cope. He has shared his story many times, including at Boys State each summer. Rev. Robinson has served as a chaplain for law enforcement agencies and presently for the Natrona County United Veterans' Council. His talk for the Cheyenne Sunrise Rotary Club was recorded by Dean Peterson for the Wyoming State Archives and the Wyoming Veteran's Commission. Thanks Dean.

Audio

<http://www.archive.org/details/LeonardRobinson-SurvivingTheBataanDeathMarchOnAPsalmAndAPrayer>

Youtube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z7cdCUzSDJw>

New Employee

Mike Strom has been named the new Wyoming State Archives manager and will begin his new duties on August 22.

Previously a senior archivist at Texas Christian University, Strom was responsible for the operation of the school's archives. He earned a bachelor's degree in History from the University of Oregon and a master's degree from Central Washington University. Strom

previously worked in the Manuscripts and Archives Department at Yale University, where he processed the papers of the Yale Law School faculty and alumni.

“We feel fortunate to have someone with the experience and background of someone like Mike lead our State Archives,” Cultural Resources Administrator Sara Needles said. “We’re sure he will be a strong asset to our organization.”

Cokeville Elementary School Bombing Oral History

On the 25th anniversary of the Cokeville, Wyoming Elementary School bombing incident, the Wyoming State Archives announced the completion of a recent oral history project featuring the remembrances of many involved in the crisis of May 16, 1986.

In September of 2010, Sue Castaneda, program coordinator for Wyoming State Parks and Cultural Resources, and Mark Junge, Wyoming oral historian, traveled to Cokeville to capture the remembrances of some of the people who were, in one way or another, part of a life-changing event that rocked the peace and security of this small Wyoming town.

It began as a man and his wife held hostage 154 children, teachers and visitors in the community's elementary school. This story shocked the nation as a whole school was forced into a crowded classroom with a bomb as an armed man and his accomplice terrorized their captives for three hours. The bomb did detonate and fire; thick black smoke and toxic fumes filled the room. Although many were burned, some severely, only the perpetrators of this horrible incident died. One of the miracles that day was that not a single person held captive was lost. Other miracles were reported and some of those are recorded in this compilation.

Castaneda and Junge interviewed three former teachers, four former students, the bomb technician, the lead investigator, parents and the first responder to the scene.



“It is an important chapter in Wyoming history, and we are grateful to the interviewees involved for allowing us to capture their memories of this event. Most people do not realize it was the first-ever school hostage situation,” Castaneda said. “It is such an amazing and beautiful story. But you have to hear it to understand why!”

Each of the oral history interviews along with a written transcript is available online at www.wyospcr.org. A podcast compilation of the interviews is also available online titled “Survivor is My Name.” The project was funded by the Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund.

Listen at <http://wyospcr.state.wy.us/MultiMedia/Display.aspx?ID=86&icon=1>

STATE MUSEUM

ELEVENTH ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S CAPITOL ART EXHIBITION



2011 Purchase Award Winners totaling \$8,500 pictured here with Governor and Mrs. Mead. (L to R) First Lady Carol Mead, Georgia Rowswell-Cheyenne, James Kevin Robinett-Cheyenne, Travis Ivey-Laramie, Sonja Caywood-Dayton, Jerry Antolik-Hudson, Governor Matt Mead. Not picture - Randy Nottingham - Casper.

Six Wyoming artists received purchase awards totaling nearly \$8,500 during the Governor's Capitol Art Exhibition reception recently held May-June at the Wyoming State Museum.

Following remarks by First Lady Carol Mead, Governor Matthew H. Mead presented purchase awards to Jerry Antolik of Hudson for his painting, "Mallard;" Sonja R. Caywood of Dayton for her painting, "Evening Cattle on West Pass;" Travis Ivey of Laramie for his painting, "Two Track Morning;" James Kevin Robinett of Cheyenne for his painting, "Brisbee Hill #2;" Georgia Rowswell of Cheyenne for her mixed media work, "She Discovered the West in a Dress;" and Randy Nottingham of Casper for his painting, "Rounding the Hill."

The pieces receiving purchase awards will be included in the Capitol Art Collection, and are now



Clair Leon - Story wins the Juror's Choice Award. She is congratulated by Governor and Mrs. Mead and Secretary of State Max Maxfield.



Crystal Lawrence wins the People's Choice Award for her photo titled "Zamora, Ecuador."

eligible for display in the offices of the state's five elected officials. The governor, first lady, secretary of state, state auditor, state treasurer, state superintendent of public instruction, Wyoming Business Council and representatives from the Division of Tourism selected the purchase award recipients.

This year's show, featuring 44 pieces by 34 Wyoming artists, remains on display through June 25. All of the remaining artworks in the show are available for purchase. Twenty-five percent of the purchase price of the artwork is used toward the purchase of additional works for the permanent art collection of the Wyoming State Museum.

This year's exhibition is sponsored by Anadarko Petroleum; Peabody Energy; Chesapeake Energy; Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power; Century Link and Abel Noser Corporation.

STATE MUSEUM CONTINUED

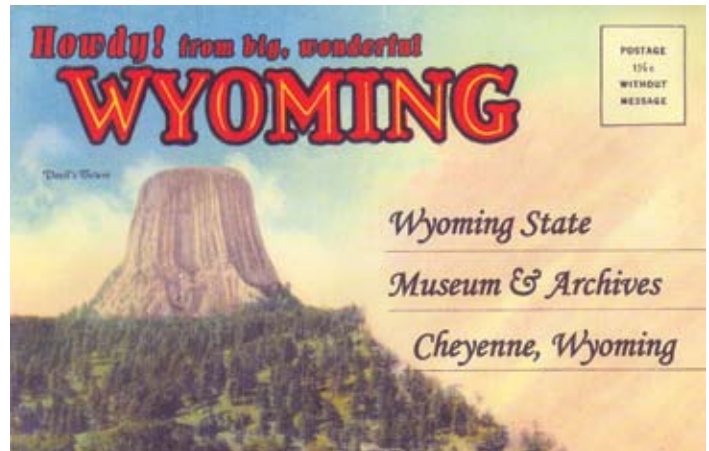
“A Room for the Night” and “Howdy” Exhibits



Riverton, circa 1960

Two temporary exhibits, highlighting the Cowboy State’s second largest industry, Tourism, are on display at the Wyoming State Museum. The two exhibits “A Room for the Night” and “Howdy” are on display through August 20.

“A Room for the Night” examines the evolution of Wyoming motel architecture from the early days of the 20th Century. The exhibit features text and historic color and black and white photographs which demonstrate the changing needs and interests of Wyoming communities with the roadside lodging industry. The exhibit consists of 31, 11”X14” panels



featuring 26 images and five descriptive texts.

“Howdy” examines the postcard as a communication device and advertiser of Wyoming’s natural and cultural landscape. Text and postcards – both in color and black and white – illustrate how postcards have promoted Wyoming as a “vacation dreamland” and a “wonderland of the West.” The exhibit consists of 30, 11” X 14” panels featuring 25 images and five descriptive texts.

The Wyoming State Museum is open Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

New Employee

Helen B. Louise has been named the new manager of the Wyoming State Museum. Louise is the former director of the South Dakota State Museum and will begin her new duties Aug. 8.

“Helen was chosen to lead the Wyoming State Museum within a very competitive field of candidates,” Cultural Resources Administrative Sara Needles said. “I believe Helen’s enthusiasm and experience will bring welcome inspiration and vision to the Wyoming State Museum.”

Louise is a graduate of the Cooperstown Graduate Program in History Museum Studies, a part of

the State University of New York. She graduated cum laude in Anthropology from the University of Washington (Seattle) and is a former executive director of the Kitsap County Historical Society Museum located in Bremerton, Washington.

“History museums play a vital role in today’s society,” Louise said. “I firmly believe in the old saying, ‘If you don’t know where you’ve been, you won’t know where you are going.’ While preserving history for current and future generations, history museums serve as a community partner that can teach better citizenship and can build a brighter, more tolerant and hopeful future.”

STATE MUSEUM CONTINUED

State Museum Partners with Smithsonian Institution




Become a Member
of the Wyoming State Museum
AND the Smithsonian Institution
TODAY!

One membership
to two great
organizations

Your membership donation will help the Wyoming State Museum bring Smithsonian artifacts and exhibits here on loan.

Ask in the museum store for more information or how to join!

Wyoming State Museum
**ARTS. PARKS.
HISTORY.**
Wyoming Department of State Parks & Cultural Resources

 Smithsonian Institution
Affiliations Program

The Wyoming State Museum recently achieved Affiliation Status with the Smithsonian Institution. This is a new program, and we are only the second museum in Wyoming to have achieved this status. One of the benefits of this program is that we can offer joint Wyoming State Museum and Smithsonian Institution memberships.

If you are interested in joining, please visit the Wyoming State Museum store. If that is not convenient, you may join over the phone by calling the Museum Store at (307) 777-5320. Or, please see the link to a membership form on the Wyoming State Museum's website at <http://wyomuseum.state.wy.us>.

For a \$24 donation, you will receive:

From the Smithsonian Institution:

- 12 monthly issues of Smithsonian Magazine, or 6 issues of Air and Space Magazine
- 10% discount off purchases from the Smithsonian catalogue and SmithsonianStore.com
- 10% discount on shopping and dining at the Smithsonian
- 10% discount on Folkways Recordings
- Travel and tour opportunities with Smithsonian Journeys
- Free admission to the Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, New York, NY
- Two personalized membership cards
- Access to a members-only web site at <http://affiliations.si.edu> (registration required)

From the Wyoming State Museum:

- 15% discount off purchases from the Wyoming State Museum Store
- Special invitations to Wyoming State Museum events
- Free gift for joining
- Your donation will also be used to help bring artifacts on loan
- from the Smithsonian Institution to the Wyoming State Museum.

From other Affiliate Museums Nationwide:

- Many affiliate museums offer free admission to members of other
- Smithsonian affiliate institutions through a reciprocal membership program.

STATE MUSEUM CONTINUED

Earth Day Celebration

Ten organizations taught youth about conservation, recycling, ecology and other outdoor issues during an Earth Day Everyday celebration in May on the grounds of the State Museum.

Hosted by the Wyoming State Museum, the Earth Day celebration was an educational family event that included a scavenger hunt, free t-shirts for the kids, face painting and various activities such as sunflower seed planting.

Numerous area organizations had booths on the lawn, each addressing various issues related to the environment and an activity for children. Organizations included the Wyoming State Museum; Wyoming Division of State Parks, Historic Sites and Trails; Bureau of Land Management; Greater Cheyenne Greenway; Laramie County Conservation District; and Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power. Others were Laramie County Community College Range and Wildlife Club; LCCC Wind Energy; KGWN TV; and Cheyenne Botanic Gardens Paul Smith Children's Village.

In addition Warren Federal Credit Union; the Wildlife Heritage Foundation of Wyoming; Wyoming Game and Fish; Department of Environmental Quality; Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming; and the Wyoming State Museum Volunteers, Inc. supported the event.

Linedrives and Lipstick Exhibit **September 6 - October 15, 2011** **Wyoming State Museum**

This exhibition features the story of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League of the 1940s with more than 60 items ranging from picture postcards, game programs, photographs, poster and in-depth articles from magazines.

STATE PARKS

From drought to drenched ...



Medicine Lodge flooding, road washed away

First it was drought - now flooding.

For the second consecutive summer at least one state park or historic site has experienced flooding to some extent.

This year just about every venue with a lake, stream, river or reservoir experienced flooding conditions, or at the very least high water levels.

Once again, Glendo State Park drew the main focus - especially since the reservoir experienced more than 13 feet of water above flood stage last year costing approximately \$650,000 for cleanup, repair and park preparation.

Glendo Reservoir received its share of water again this year, just not as much. Unfortunately, the water is staying much longer this year compared to last.

Despite a second consecutive year of flooding at Glendo, this year's situation is much different than last.

During 2010, the March snow pack in the high country was at approximately 87 percent. However, heavy April snows in the high country

continued ...

STATE PARKS CONTINUED

From drought to drenched continued...

and several weeks of heavy rains during May in the lower elevations changed what looked like a very manageable situation into an event where there was a lot of water and no place for it to go.

The result was Glendo Superintendent Dusty Humphreys and staff had two weeks to prepare for the most water seen in Glendo Reservoir since 1983. Fortunately, water levels peaked at Glendo around the Fourth of July weekend and rapidly receded.

Through the efforts of Darin Westby and the rest of the Planning and Construction staff, and an extremely competent contractor, Windcreek Services, Inc., Glendo State Park was cleaned, repaired and back to normal by Labor Day.

This year's situation was much different. Mountain snow pack was registered at well over 100 percent during most of the spring, with the Bureau of Reclamation describing the water content of those mountains of snow as registering at historic levels.

As early as March, the Bureau of Reclamation began holding informational meetings and began releasing water downstream earlier and at a much higher rate than usual to prepare for the expected spring runoff.

With two months instead of two weeks to prepare, State Park officials drafted a flood plan for Glendo State Park and began the necessary preparations for this year's excess water.

Concrete pads and restrooms were sand bagged to prevent damage, garbage receptacles and port-a-potties were moved to higher ground and additional campsites were prepared to make up for those that were expected to be flooded for a second year.

However, Glendo State Park would not be the only facility affected by flood waters.

Connor Battlefield experienced flooding from the Tongue River early in the summer. These flood waters have resulted in undercut riverbanks and danger of falling trees. The facility is still closed to the public due to dangerous conditions.

By the end of June, several other State Parks and Historic Sites were experiencing flood waters to some extent.

Medicine Lodge State Archaeological Site was closed for several days due to high waters in Medicine Lodge Creek flooding roads and campgrounds.

In the southwest corner of the state, Bear River State Park closed due to excessive water on June 27. It would not reopen to vehicular traffic until mid-July.

Fort Bridger State Historic Site was invaded by several feet of water when a tributary of the Black's Fork River overflowed its banks. It took a front end loader and a change of some of the geography of the area to reroute the tributary sending the water away from the site to remedy the situation. Despite flooding just days before, Fort Bridger was still able to hold their planned Fourth of July Kids Xtreme event.

Boysen State Park experienced their own short period of high water resulting in some flooded campsites and suspended reservations.

Unlike last year where much of the high water had receded by August, many sites are still experiencing high water levels and damage that may take until the winter months to be repaired.

Meanwhile, what are the projections for next year, many site superintendents are hoping for drought!

STATE PARKS CONTINUED

ICE FESTIVAL 2011

Kids had an opportunity to learn about a variety of winter activities during the Third Annual Wyoming Kids Xtreme Ice Festival celebration sponsored by the Wyoming Division of State Parks, Historic Sites and Trails, January 22 in Cheyenne.

Held as part of the national Children in Nature program and the Wyoming Kids Xtreme campaign, the Ice Festival 2011 committed to reconnecting children and families with nature and the outdoors.

The Ice Festival 2011 offered a variety of activities and demonstrations such as igloo building, a snowshoe demonstration, cross country skiing demonstration, military cannon and musket shooting demonstrations, a snowmobile simulator, an ice wall, a toboggan run, dog sleds, snow games and more.

Professional ice sculptors were on hand to work their magic on gigantic blocks of ice. The City of Cheyenne – Board of Public Utilities was a community partner of the event.



Ice Sculptures



Toboggan Run



Ice Climbing Wall



Historic Military Demonstrations

STATE PARKS CONTINUED



Canoeing and kayaking



Watershed display by Laramie County Conservation District



Domenic Bravo



Shelly Morrell

3RD ANNUAL SUMMER OUTDOOR SLAM

For the third year in a row, Curt Gowdy State Park came alive with a variety of outdoor activities for kids of all ages during the Summer Outdoor Slam, June 4.

A part of the Kids in Nature program and Wyoming's Kids Xtreme initiative, the Summer Outdoor Slam provided exposure to outdoor events that many kids don't often get to experience.

Included in the list of activities available during the Slam were biking, hiking, a climbing wall, canoeing and kayaking, archery, bicycle obstacle course, sled dog demonstration, a watershed display, a food vendor and more.

Arts and Fun with Ronnie Roo, including painting, story-telling, sing-a-longs and more also were available. Additionally, "Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day," "Free Fishing Day" and "National Trails Day" were recognized.

The Summer Outdoor Slam is supported in part by a grant from the Wyoming Arts Council, through funding from the Wyoming State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Sponsorships and Endorsements were provided by: Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health, Bicycle Station, Cheyenne Department of Parks and Recreation, Cheyenne East High School ROTC, Cheyenne Light Fuel and Power, Laramie and Albany county school districts, Laramie and Albany County Parks and Recreation, Laramie County Conservation District, Leave No Trace, Meridian Trust Federal Credit Union, Mort's Bagles, Pizza Hut, Shoestring Kennel, Starbucks, Overland Mountain Bike Club, Triple J Pumping, Rock on Wheels - Sound, University of Wyoming Outdoor Program, USFS, Wyoming Game and Fish, Wyoming National Guard, Wyoming State Museum and the Wyoming State Trails Program.

continued ...

STATE PARKS CONTINUED

SUMMER OUTDOOR SLAM CONTINUED ...



Christy Christiansen at the registration booth



Archery



Specialized bike vendor



Bill Westerfield



Paul Gritten



Biking



BLM and US Forest Service booth

STATE PARKS CONTINUED

Texas family finds home for the summer at Hot Springs State Park

by J.D. Stetson

Thermopolis Independent Record



Since May 5, Nell Dahl, Blondie Dahl and Jack Allen have lived and worked as guests of Hot Springs State Park. The three are “workampers” spending the summer at the park while also touring around the state.

Since 2007, Jack Allen, 67, and his wife Nell Dahl, 61, of Fort Worth, Texas, have decided to spend their summers in cooler climates and their winters in warmer ones, while living in an RV.

After multiple years of spending their time at Texas beaches and working part-time jobs as camp hosts and maintenance personnel in the mountains of West Virginia, the retired couple decided to spend the summer of 2011 at Hot Springs State Park.

The two brought Nell’s mother, Blondie Dahl, who is 90 year old, along for the ride when they rolled into town May 5.

Since then, they’ve seen the sights, gone to community events, given blood at a community blood drive and even seen the high school production of “Godspell.”

The family has gone up to Yellowstone, and through the regional attractions like the Big Horn Mountains, all while returning to Thermopolis to work in the state park and live in their RV just behind the park headquarters.

“We were sending pictures on Facebook back to people back in Fort Worth where it’s 103 (degrees) and 104. ‘Hey we’re in the snow!’”

What’s a workamper?

Allen and Nell consider themselves to be “workampers,” which is defined as “adventuresome individuals, couples or families who have chosen a wonderful lifestyle that combines any kind of part-time or full-time work with RV camping.”

“One of the advantages of this lifestyle is we’re here long enough to see stuff tourists miss,” Allen said.

Since arriving, Allen has worked about 40 hours a week performing maintenance duties at the park, planting the rose garden and helping with the ground work for the Smoking Waters Shelter.

Dahl and her mother have spent their time tending the garden and keeping the weeds under control.

“It’s just little stuff like that,” Dahl said.

“It’s little odds and ends,” Allen added.

Allen, who is retired from a 30-year career in law enforcement, decided in 2007 that he wanted to work with his hands and see the fruits of his labors each day. He says he never wants to deal with another “drunk, irate or egotistical” citizen again.

continued ...

STATE PARKS CONTINUED

Texas family finds home for the summer at Hot Springs State Park continued ...

Likewise, Nell decided to retire from her 30-year career in business management and never wants to sit at a desk, or inner office, again.

As a housekeeper, though, Nell is surprised they decided to come to Thermopolis for one specific reason.

“I’ve never lived this far from a Walmart,” Nell said. “You know, I love Don’s, I love Blair’s, I love WOW, I love Pamidaß and you know, I don’t even need a Walmart.”

Ambassadors

Even though Allen and Nell aren’t from Hot Springs County, they see themselves as ambassadors bridging the gap between the locals and the tourists.

“We’re here, we’re spending money, we’re paying sales tax, we have our grocery bills, gasoline, entertainment and we’re contributing to the overall community by doing that kind of thing,” Nell said.

As workers who are constantly in the state park, the family runs into tourists on a daily basis. As tourists themselves, they are able to instill a sense of trust for the passing-through tourists by telling them about the wonderful things to see in Hot Springs County.

“You have a first-class (Dinosaur) museum. We have a museum an hour from our home that doesn’t even hold a candle to yours,” Allen said.

Nell added she had talked to a couple of motorcycle riders passing through town and told them about the Big Spring and the Buffalo Pasture, which led them into staying the night, even though they hadn’t planned to.

“I just kind of take it upon myself to be the Hot Springs State Park ambassador,” Nell said.

What’s next?

The family plans to end their time in Hot Springs County on Aug. 25 as they head to Gillette for the Escapees RV Rally.

Until then, Allen plans to start a project to build two new RV spaces in the park near the maintenance building, which will be reserved only for future workampers like themselves.

Even though the current accommodations behind the headquarters are acceptable for the family, they can see the benefit in providing a good space with plenty of grass and shade for future workers.

“We’re happy here, but another workamper might not be,” Allen said.

On a finishing note, Allen said the family has already started planning for next summer, when they plan to return to Hot Springs County and resume where they left off – making new friends and becoming a part of a community.

STATE PARKS CONTINUED

Buffalo Bill Great Dam Day

A variety of activities celebrating Buffalo Bill State Park and the Visitor Center will be held during the inaugural Buffalo Bill Great Dam Day, August 6 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Free events include an adults 5K Fun Run and a Kids' History Hike. Prizes will be awarded for the kids' event. T-shirts will be provided to the first 100 to attend the celebration.

Additionally, all participants will receive free access to Buffalo Bill State Park for the day; however donations will be accepted with proceeds going to the Buffalo Bill Dam Visitor Center and to help promote future events.

The Fun Run will take participants behind the visitor center and through Shoshone Canyon. This route is normally not open to the public. The run is at your own pace.

The event will also include interpretive presentations for all ages, refreshments and more. A raffle will be held for prizes including guided local whitewater and fishing trips.

Sponsors of the event are Coca-Cola, Cody Lions Club, Cody Trolley Tours, The Humble Fly Shop, The Irma Hotel, River Runners, Sunlight Sports, Wyoming Humanities Council and Wyoming River Trips.

For more information, contact Visitor Center Manager Leslie Slater Wilson at 307-527-6076, or visit the Buffalo Bill State Park Facebook page.



You're invited to the
Legend Rock Visitors' Center
Grand Opening Celebration

August 25, 2011

6:00 p.m.

**Please join us for the celebration.
Light refreshments will be served.**

Remarks by

Sen. John Barrasso

**State Parks & Cultural Resources
Commissioner Carolyn Buff**

**Bureau of Land Management
Archaeologist Mike Bies**

ARTS COUNCIL CONTINUED

Governor's Arts Awards 2010



Governor Matthew Mead congratulates Cheri Witz on behalf of pARTners - Jackson. [http:// www.edupartners.org](http://www.edupartners.org)

Governor Dave Freudenthal announced the recipients of the Wyoming Arts Council's 2010 Governor's Arts Awards: the Bradford Brinton Memorial & Museum, Big Horn; Michael Masterson, Powell; Nancy Curtis, Glendo; pARTners, Jackson; and Stage III Community Theatre, Casper. Awards were presented at the Governor's Arts Awards annual dinner on February 11, 2011, in Cheyenne.

Governor's Arts Awards winners are chosen in a competitive selection process for their substantial contributions in Wyoming that exemplify a long-term commitment to the arts.

The Bradford Brinton Memorial & Museum showcases the work of masters in an historic setting, provides art education and helps regional artists; it is the most popular tourist attraction in Sheridan County.

Michael Masterson is recognized as the foremost expert on the music of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Cowboy Band and is the director of the award-winning Northwest Studio Singers.



Nancy Curtis, High Plains Press - Glendo, with Governor Matthew Mead

Nancy Curtis was chosen for her contribution to writing, establishing the High Plains Press and her commitment to the preservation of history and the written word.

pARTners has created an innovative method of funding art programs in schools and incorporating art into other subjects. It promotes creativity in private and public schools' curriculum by bringing artists into classrooms to collaborate with teachers. Stage III Community Theatre has entertained audiences for 30 years and provided an opportunity for actors, directors, designers and stage crews to hone their craft.

Established in 1982, the Governor's Arts Awards recognize artists, arts organizations and patrons who have displayed excellence in the arts and outstanding service to the arts in Wyoming.

The Governor's Arts Awards were first made possible by an endowment from the Union Pacific Foundation in honor of Mrs. John U. Loomis, a life-long patron of the arts. Over the years, individuals and organizations

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ARTS COUNCIL CONTINUED

Governor's Arts Awards 2010 continued ...



Michael Masterson - Powell - conducts the Buffalo Bill Wild West Cowboy Band - <http://wyomingarts.blogspot.com/2009/02/buffalo-bill-band-recreates-wild-west.html>



Our sincere thanks to Liz Brimmer shown here with her father Judge Clarence Brimmer – Brimmer Communications was our sponsor for the reception and the wine at the GAA event. Thanks Liz!

from more than 20 Wyoming communities and state-wide organizations have been honored for their dedication to the arts in Wyoming.

Dutch Hop Polka

The first of three tri-state events celebrating the German Russian tradition of Dutch Hop music and dance was held at the Historic Pine Bluffs High School, June 11. “Dulcimers, Dinner and Dance,” were three programs produced by the Pine Bluffs Heritage Society and the Wyoming Arts Council.

The day’s activities featured musicians Wayne Appelhans and Steve Eulberg, both dulcimer musicians. It included a dulcimer program followed by Dutch Hop Polka dance instruction and a dinner with Dutch Hop dance. The public was invited to participate in all the activities.

Dutch Hop is a tradition brought to this region by Germans from Russia, who began immigrating to Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska by the early 1900s. The American Historical Society of Germans from Russia received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to sponsor the tri-state celebration. The Wyoming Arts Council has offered added support for the Pine Bluffs activities. Two other events were held in Loveland, Colo., June 18, and Gering, Neb., June 25.

Wayne Appelhans grew up in a German Russian family in Thornton, Colo. He began playing the hammered dulcimer in a Dutch Hop band at 14. Wayne and his brother, Kelly, and son Nathan all play in the John Fritzler band. Wayne is also a composer of Dutch Hop music.

Steve Eulberg grew up in the farming community of Pemberville, Ohio. He is an ordained minister with a Master’s Degree in Music Education and teaches and performs on hammered and mountain dulcimers. He produces an annual dulcimer festival in Fort Collins.

UPDATE ON OUR MILITARY

Major Brian Westerfield, son of Bill Westerfield, Parks Law Enforcement, has recently completed a one year tour with the Foreign Area Office program to Botswana and will continue Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA to work on his Master's Degree in Mid-East and African Studies.

Sam Bomar - US Navy, son of Pam Bogan (Accounting Analyst) is still in the Mediterranean on the USS Bataan. He left Norfolk VA on 03/23/2011. He has ported in Palermo Sicily and Palma Spain so he's getting to see some interesting sites. He's not scheduled to come back to the states til February 2012.

Justin Morris, USAF and son of Justine Morris, Accounting Specialist, left July 12th for Lackland AFB in San Antonio TX - he will be graduating September 9th.

Marine puts Hollywood music career on hold to serve in Afghanistan

7/11/2011 By Cpl. Katherine Keleher, II MEF (FWD)

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan — Whether Sgt. Sean Castaneda is recording an album in Hollywood, Calif., or providing imagery intelligence to troops on the ground in the desert of southern Afghanistan, serving his country while pursuing his music dreams are just another day.

Castaneda, 23, originally from Cheyenne, Wyo., enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in 2006 as an imagery analyst with 4th Marine Logistics Group. He is currently deployed with 2nd Intelligence Battalion, Regional Command Southwest. As an imagery analyst, Castaneda's job is to provide eyes in areas troops on the ground may not be able to see, allowing them to know what to expect in areas not visible. This gives coalition forces in the fight the advantage of being able to see the unknown,

lowering their chances of taking casualties.

"Think of it as Google Earth," Castaneda said. "We provide eyes for overhead. Whether it be for a helicopter landing, route plan or a raid."

"After 9/11, I had it in me that I wanted to serve and do my part for my country," he continued. "I just didn't know exactly what I wanted to do."

After tossing around the idea of being a pilot, then changing his mind to wanting to be a paratrooper, he finally decided to join the Marine Corps.

Both his grandfathers served in the Navy, one during World War II and the other during the Korean War. He joked they would be proud to know he is serving his country, but they would have teased him for not joining the Navy.

One of his grandfathers, Jerry, flew B-24 Liberators in the Korean War and served as a major inspiration for Castaneda before he passed away.

"I know a lot of my fascination with the military came from him," he explained. "I wanted to be a pilot for a while because I know he worked on a [B-24 Liberator]. He was a musician too."

Whether inherited or not, music would become a passion of Castaneda's as well.

In 2009, Castaneda deployed to Africa aboard the USS Nashville. A morale event during this tour helped inspire him to pursue his dreams of making music into a career.

"We had the Nashville Idol, which was a spin off American Idol, and I won," Castaneda explained. "When I won that, it built up my confidence to move to Hollywood to try and make it as a musician."

In March 2010, he packed up his car and hit the road for the Hollywood hills. When he got there, he started

continued ...

UPDATE ON OUR MILITARY CONTINUED

Marine puts Hollywood music career on hold to serve in Afghanistan continued ...



CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan-Sgt. Sean P. Castaneda and his band, "550," perform Lynyrd Skynyrd's, "Simple Man" during Fourth of July festivities at Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province. Castaneda, originally from Cheyenne, Wyo., is an imagery analyst in the Marine Corps Reserve, who is pursuing a musical career in Hollywood, Calif., Cpl. Katherine Keleher, 7/4/2011 3:54 PM

school at the Musicians Institute and began recording his first album. After six months in the recording studio and getting his band, Hollywood's Angels, gigs at venues such as Liam's Pub and the Pig 'n' Whistle, he released his debut album, a solo rock effort titled "Enjoy the Ride."

"There were times when I would spend only two hours in the studio recording a guitar or bass track, and then there would be times I would spend four hours recording one vocal for the entire song," he explained. "Toward the end of the album there was one day I spent nearly 12 hours finishing up mixing the songs and making sure everything was in its proper place. I don't think people realize just how much effort is needed and is put into recording one song."

With his first album completed, Castaneda found himself feeling restless – he wanted to deploy.

"I still wanted to deploy to Afghanistan. I've always volunteered for every opportunity to get out here,"

he said. "When my reserve unit had an opening, I volunteered for it. It's part of the Marine mindset, to deploy, get out there and do something."

Now deployed, when Castaneda is not busy providing intelligence support, he gives guitar lessons to fellow Marines and sailors and works on his music chops for a planned second album. Recently he performed during Camp Leatherneck's Independence Day festivities.

"Anything and everything I've learned in the Marine Corps has definitely been used outside of it, especially in Hollywood," he said. "The motivation, dedication and

chasing have definitely given me the confidence to just pack up and chase my dreams."

He uses his experiences both within the Corps and in Hollywood to be a leader his Marines look up to, said Cpl. Mark Uribe, an intelligence analyst from Sunnyside, Wash.

"Sgt. Castaneda is an excellent Marine and a good guy", said Uribe. "He looks out for his junior Marines and ways to help us excel in our Marine Corps careers. He treats us all with the utmost respect and falls along the lines of treating everyone the way you want to be treated."

Castaneda looks forward to returning to California in the coming months to begin work on his second album.

"This time, I have been working on my songwriting skills and trying to be a little more gritty, a little more to the point and true to the rebellious nature of youth," Castaneda explained. "Think Motley Crue meets Guns 'n' Roses in 2011."

<http://www.marines.mil/unit/iimef/iimef-fwd/Pages/MarineputsHollywoodmusiccareeronholdtoserveinAfghanistan.aspx#.Ti8OpGB68sE.email>