Signs of Frontier Days are starting to show up around Cheyenne. We know that means that half of summer is about over. Hope you enjoy the many activities going on around town.

I want to commend Beth Gianetti for the wonderful job she did on publicity for the Historic Homes Walk and also for the great work she is doing on publicity for the Arts and Crafts Show and Sale. She is getting word out about events at every place possible. Thanks for such a fantastic job!!!!!!

Don’t forget to bring a baked item to the museum for the Bake Sale on Saturday, July 24, the first parade day of Frontier Days.

The 33rd Annual Arts and Crafts Show and Sale is August 14. It is going to be bigger and better than ever before!

We will be gathering at Beverly Goodman’s beautiful mountain home for a milk can dinner on August 28. More information inside.

Bill Fietz, chairman, Beth Gianetti and Harriett Loose have formed a committee to submit to the membership a proposed name change to our organization. The committee is suggesting the name be changed to Wyoming State Museum Volunteers, Inc. They will have an article in the September Vaquero giving the details. It will need to be a by-law change, so the membership will vote on this at the Fall General Meeting. I am sorry that I neglected to mention this committee with all the committee meetings that were conducted on June 1.

Our dear friend and SMV member, Marj Woods, has been undergoing some chemo therapy. I am happy to report that she isn’t getting sick from the once a week treatments and she has a great attitude. Marj is a strong person so hang in there. Our thoughts and prayers are with you! Marj wants you to beware of her hot blond “cranial prosthesis!” She has lost her hair and is wearing a wig.

Dorothy Gunton is recovering from recent back surgery. She is not recovering as quickly as she would like to be. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.
Happy 50th Anniversary to Bill and Mary Fietz. Their big day is August 13. Congratulations!

Look closely, and you will see the bright spots in this day. Have a very good, sunny week!

Until I see you! Your Prez, Carolyn

New Wyoming State Museum Affiliation with the Smithsonian Institution!

The Wyoming State Museum has recently accomplished a wonderful new achievement. The State Museum joins 166 museums and cultural organizations in 41 states, the District of Columbia, Panama and Puerto Rico, as an Affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution. The State Museum becomes one of only two Smithsonian Affiliates in Wyoming. “The Wyoming State Museum offers a window to the west through its collections, exhibitions, and educational programs. The Smithsonian Institution is honored to be working in partnership with the dedicated and professional staff of this exceptional organization. Our work together will enhance the public’s understanding of the important contributions made by the people of Wyoming to our nation’s history and culture,” said Harold Closter, Smithsonian Affiliations Director.

As a Smithsonian Affiliate, the State Museum will receive access to artifacts, education and performing arts programs, expert speakers as well as teacher workshops, along with resources to complement and broaden exhibitions. In addition, the partnership gives staff at the State Museum the opportunity to participate in professional development opportunities and to attend the annual Smithsonian Affiliations National Conference at the Smithsonian Institution.

Our partnership also allows the State Museum an opportunity to offer museum members a Smithsonian membership – two memberships in one. Benefits include a one-year subscription to Smithsonian Magazine and discounts at the Smithsonian. More information will be provided soon on this membership opportunity.

For more information about Smithsonian Affiliations please visit www.affiliations.siedu. We look forward to our new partnership with the Smithsonian Institution and the learning opportunities it will provide for the people of Wyoming.

THREE big events coming up soon------

**July 24 - Bake Sale** at Museum the day of the first parade. Please bring your non-perishable baked item(s) to the Museum Friday afternoon or Saturday morning. The sale will begin at 8 a.m. to whenever we run out of items. Please price your baked item(s).

**August 14 - 33rd Annual Arts and Crafts Show and Sale** - If you haven’t signed up to help give Carolyn a call (632-8244) or she will be calling you.
August 28 - 1 p.m. Milk Can dinner at Beverly Goodman’s beautiful mountain home. Just think, you don’t have to cook as everything will be provided. A donation to help defray the expense of the food would be appreciated. The board asked me, Carolyn, to suggest a donation, so about $5 per person would be appreciated. Pop and iced tea will count to know how much food to provide, so let the calling committee know, when they call you, if you are planning to attend and how many. A spouse or friend is welcome as a guest. Please bring a lawn chair if you have one.

WHAT’S IT?

This month’s What’s It? is made of metal and glass and measures approximately 10-inches tall.

Could it be an insect trap? A safety flare? An egg candling device?

The answer to this month’s What’s It? is on the Calendar of Events page.

Thanks to Manny Vigil, Museum Director and his Collections Staff for their support with this monthly newsletter feature.
Upcoming Frontier Days Program

This year’s Cheyenne Frontier Days program at the State Museum will feature William “Buffalo Bill” Boycott of Lander. Mr. Boycott will entertain audiences of all ages as he tells about the settling of Wyoming and the wild west. Boycott’s program includes narration and song as well as numerous musical instruments such as the guitar, fiddle and mandolin. He also yodels! The audience will even have the opportunity to learn some Native American sign language as the presentation includes the traditional form of communication between Plains tribes. This program is sure to be a lot of fun, so please encourage your friends and family to attend! The program will begin at 11:15 a.m. on Tuesday July 27. It will take place on the grounds of the Barrett Building and will last approximately one hour. Thank you to the State Museum Volunteers and the Wyoming Arts Council’s “Arts Across Wyoming” program for funding this event!

Sarah Ligocki
Curator of Education

STAFF NOTES

BY GIL GIANETTI

Archives, Museum and Records Exhibit Designer is how Larry’s business card reads, and he is all that and more. Before coming to the Wyoming State Museum and Archives, Larry spent 22 years in the local Carpenters’ Union. During those 22 years he experienced only six months of layoffs, a very low amount of “down time” for a business with many employment fluctuations. During his last layoff, and while looking at postings at the employment office, he saw a listing for a part-time exhibits builder for the state museum. After interviewing for the job, and being hired to work 15 hours a week in the museum, the union called him back to work for a large job, so Larry went back to the union job, but kept the part-time museum work.
Before long he was working 10 or more hours a day for the union and three more hours for the museum. This continued for about three years and then Larry decided that the museum work was a lot more interesting, so he became a full-time employee. That was 25 years ago.

Larry attends the monthly exhibits committee meetings to see what projects are under consideration and also provides his input as needed to the committee. He said building a project is really only about a third of the entire job. First come his drawings, showing measurements and three-dimensional details, then he makes a prototype or scale model of the proposed project. This phase of the work gives the exhibits committee a hands-on item so they can better visualize how the completed item will appear. If changes are required, the drawings and prototype are updated/revised to show the changes. Then final construction begins in Larry’s modern, well-equipped shop.

He also installs and removes exhibits as needed along with assembling picture frames. Larry is instrumental in hanging the museum’s artwork. But it doesn’t stop there. After the exhibit is over there is hole-filling and painting to be done before the next exhibit. He estimates that about 80% of the items in the museum, such as showcases, frames and items in the Hands-on History Room, were made with his hands during the past quarter century.

Larry’s hobbies include motorcycle riding and making items for family and friends on his home woodworking lathe. When he has time, drawing and painting in oils are among his favorite pastimes, but for now they have taken a back seat because of a busy schedule.

He is the captain of a pool team called Los Diablos or The Devils. The team has been together for 25 years and has participated in many state championships. Team members have even gone to Las Vegas several times to compete against foreign teams.

Larry was born and raised in Cheyenne. He has two brothers and two sisters. All but one sister call Cheyenne home. Larry and his wife Janie have one son, Bobby who is married and works for a windmill manufacturer in Brighton, Colorado. Larry and Janie have three grandchildren. Janie retired this year from the Cheyenne school system after 32 years of service. The family pet is Reno, a Lhasa Apso, about a year and a half old.

Larry said he likes to watch people enjoy his work, and he said this is especially true of the Hands-on History Room, where children play in and on his handmade items.

Larry reports directly to Museum Director, Manny Vigil.
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS
President: Carolyn Turbiville
Vice President: Bill Yannaccone
Secretary: Ann Bell
Treasurer: Linda Rogers
Vaquero Editor: Beth F. Gianetti
Ex Officio: Sarah Ligocki
Advisor: Harriett Loose

About the Organization
From the inception in 1974, the State Museum Volunteers have been instrumental in assisting the art and education programs of the Wyoming State Museum. Their tie to these programming sections of the museum remains strong today. Volunteers at the Wyoming State Museum are an important link between the museum’s professional services and the public it serves. In human terms, they represent the museum’s mission to the public.

The Volunteer Vaquero. . .
is published monthly for members of the State Museum Volunteers, Wyoming State Museum, Barrett Building, 2301 Central Avenue, Cheyenne, WY 82002. Newsletter deadline is the 20th of each month.

Upcoming Events:
July 24th – First Frontier Days Parade Day Bake Sale, 8 a.m. until items are gone. Donations requested but nothing perishable, nothing requiring refrigeration. Please price items before dropping off that morning or the day before at the Museum.

August 14th, Wyoming State Museum Volunteers, 33rd Annual Outdoor Arts & Crafts Show & Sale, Barrett Building Grounds, 2301 Central Avenue, Cheyenne. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

August 28 – Milk Can Dinner at Beverly Goodman’s in Buford. 1 p.m. Suggestion donation $5/person.

August 2010 WHAT'S IT? ANSWER: An early mining lamp

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
August
5 - Eileen Skibo
13 - Harriett Loose
16 - Dorothy Gunton
23 - Carolyn Turbiville
27 - Priscilla Golden
On my way in to the Multipurpose Room to interview Pris Golden for this month’s SMV Profile I found a young family, mother, father and three girls huddled in front of the Information Desk while Pris patiently held the container with the unsharpened pencils in front of the girls. Youngsters who want to complete the Museum Scavenger Hunt are issued a sharpened pencil and upon leaving the museum they are allowed to exchange it for an unsharpened pencil safe for the trip home.

After the family left, Pris explained the dilemma was over color selection of the take home pencils. This was at noon and 83 visitors had already come through the Museum doors. It truly is vacation season!

Pris told me that she has known of the Museum Volunteers for a number of years and was close to making a decision on joining, when one morning during her water exercise class she had her arm twisted by Carolyn Turbiville, so she joined SMV. That was just over a year and a half ago.

Retired from the State Library, Pris keeps a busy schedule working on Fridays in the Book Sale Room at the Laramie County Public Library. She is also part of the Usher Corps at the Cheyenne Civic Center. She also fills in as occasionally required at the Cheyenne Botanic Gardens and works the Wyoming State Museum Information Desk about once a month. Pris also works on the Historic Homes Walk and performs the important monthly task of proofreading The Vaquero.

I asked her what she found interesting about working the desk and she responded that meeting people coming to the Museum is always fun and having so many visitors from other countries is a plus. She quickly added that she is very proud to be a Wyoming citizen and to be associated with such a wonderful museum.

Pris told me she has learned a lot from the different programs put on for the volunteers, citing this past winter’s tour of Larry Lujan’s shop and the storage facility for museum artifacts and collections as a perfect example.

I asked about getting new volunteers and Pris said word of mouth, but RSVP listings might generate more than enough new blood if it was needed.

Pris is a Nebraska native and met her husband Joe during their college years. Over 30 years ago Joe’s work brought the couple to Wyoming. She had always wanted to experience life
here because as a child she read books about Wyoming – “My Friend Flicka,” “Thunderhead” and “Green Grass of Wyoming.”

Joe and Pris have three married sons, David, an electrical engineer, Michael, a computer specialist, and Robert, the Chief Operating Officer of the 1st National Bank in Powell, Wyoming. There are six grandchildren in all, three girls and three boys.

Pris has reading, walking, music and crossword puzzles as hobbies. She also plays piano for her church.

I always have to ask about pets and found Pris and Joe have a smooth-coated collie named Patrick and two cats, Misty and Cinders.

Artifact of the Month
A Long Way Home
by Mandy Langfald, Curator of Collections
G-2009.29.1

Alonzo Baldwin Albertson was born in 1844 in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. One of the things Alonzo enjoyed doing was going hunting and he would even travel to Wyoming to do so. During one of his hunting trips to Wyoming in the 1870s or 80s he shot the bear that makes up this carriage coat. The coat was passed from family member to family member down through the generations until it was given to Warren Moore in 2008. Moore felt that it was time for the bear that made up this lovely coat to return to its home in Wyoming, so he generously donated the coat to the museum. And that is the story of one bear’s 140+ year journey home.

Close-up of clasp closures on this bear coat.
All American Pageant

by Heyward Schrock,
Education/Interpretation Supervisor, Wyoming State Museum

On September 23, 1897, at 12:00 noon, the first Cheyenne Frontier Days™ commenced with an army cannon firing from Ft. Russell and hundreds of people firing shotguns, rifles, and pistols. Combined with ringing bells and blaring railroad and plant whistles, the noise was deafening. This first "Daddy of `em All"® was actually a one-day event held as a community based celebration of the Old West. The objectives were to stimulate local economic activity through recreation and entertainment and preserve the traditions and lifestyles of a passing frontier. The last two decades of the 19th century were poor economic years for Wyoming and the West. The Union Pacific encouraged Cheyenne to put on a festival. It had supported similar successful events in Colorado. The Union Pacific Railroad anticipated that community celebrations would increase railroad traffic and profits. Since then the Union Pacific has remained a loyal supporter for Frontier Days™. The first running was a success, with thousands in attendance, but some citizens of Cheyenne were not pleased with the festival. This opinion appeared in The Cheyenne Daily Sun-Leader after the celebration:

"The influence of Frontier Day is not elevating in character. . . . a roughneck show seeking to perpetuate the spirit of western rowdyism through which the west is passing, and should not be permitted."

What began as a one-day rodeo show to bring people to Cheyenne has grown to a ten-day event that truly is a community volunteer endeavor. Now in its 113th year, Cheyenne Frontier Days™ takes place annually the last full week of July. Numerous events and activities-many of them free-make up this outdoor celebration. Concerts, parades, pancake breakfasts, and an air show are enjoyed by all, but the rodeo remains the focal point.

( More photos on next page )
At left: Cowboy riding saddle bronc, Cheyenne Frontier Days 1970. Photo courtesy of Wyoming State Archives.

Looking through fence with boots at CFD arena. Photo from Wyoming State Archives.