



HERITAGE TIMES

Volume 1, Issue 2

Newsletter Date

In Memoriam

The Museum lost a good friend and generous supporter in October when member Dan Gray, of Treasured Memories here in Cody, passed away of a sudden heart attack in Billings. We will miss him and send our deepest sympathy to wife, Sandy, and daughter, Sami.

The Board also mourns the passing of art historian and friend, Peter Hassrick. He and Buzzy were among our first Members.

Membership Stats

Individual	32
Families	33
Students	0
Seniors	46
Corporate	14
Friend	15
Contribu-	6
Sustaining	2
Total	142

Heritage Garden

The Cody Heritage Museum Board is moving slowly but steadily to make sure we have an amazing new addition to Cody's main street – the **Heritage Garden**.

We have a local contractor who will take on our small but important project and pour the concrete for the sidewalk, as well as implement some exciting and professional ideas to complete the garden.

We met with a local sculptor who is inspired to create a bronze sculpture for the **Heritage Garden** that will fit ideally with the history of our lovely

Museum. We hope to have something to look at around mid-November.



Garden Paver Sample

You will recall that the plans include a meandering sidewalk through the garden that will be lined with memoriam and honor brick pavers. The paver program began in September and is going very well. You still have a

chance to be included in the first group of pavers, to recognize your family.

A form to order your family paver is attached to the end of this newsletter.

The bricks are \$200 each, but will increase to \$225 after December 1st, so order yours soon.

Please remember us when you think about your Holiday giving to help us grow our roots. Consider a gift of a Museum membership as a Christmas gift and add an additional five dollars earmarked for the Cody Heritage Garden.

Gerri Hockhalter, Garden Chair

From our President

— “Yesterday’s History Today”

When we opened Cody Heritage Museum in May 2018, I signed up to work the Saturday morning shift -- and continued to do so this second year.

It’s been a real pleasure to greet visitors and locals at the museum. Among them in July were Valerie and George Kirchmann,

from New York. They serve as tour guides at Coe Hall, the North Shore Long Island (NY) mansion built by William Coe in 1922. (Henry R. Coe, formerly of Cody, was his son.) Coe Hall is the centerpiece of Planting Fields Arboretum, the 409 acre estate Coe owned until

1948, when he sold it to New York State. William Coe spent many summers in the Cody area and was friends with Buffalo Bill Cody.

After the Kirchmanns returned home, they sent a copy of a “Guidebook to Coe Hall”, describing the building in detail with

cont. on p. 4

Curator Chat — Lynn Houze, Director & Curator

It's hard to believe that the end of our 2nd season has arrived! While our attendance has been down a bit from last year, we've had a very successful season. The majority of our attendance continues to be visitors from out of the region, yet many still are very impressed with, and appreciative of, Cody's history. The exhibit design brings praise not only for the layout but also for the maximum use of our

small space.

We have received more objects during the summer, some for exhibit and some – such as books – for our research library. To hold the display objects and those we might be given in the future, we are adding two more drawers below one of our cases. These will be installed during the off-season.

One item of particular interest al-

ready on display is a polo mallet from Valley Ranch Boys School, used during the 1920's and 30's. The school had two polo clubs of three teams each, comprised of four players per team, and played twice a week weather permitting. Who knew?

Best wishes for the upcoming holiday season and we'll see you in the late spring of 2020.

— Lynn

HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD

At the 2019 Annual meeting of the Wyoming State Historical Society (WSHS) held this year in Pinedale, September 6 – 8, former board member Ev Diehl was honored with the Maurine Carley Memorial Preservation Award for his work in preserving the Charles DeMaris house, home to our museum! The award is given to an individual in recognition of his or her activities and contributions to the field of historic preservation. Maurine Carley was a long-time, active member of the WSHS who was treasurer for 20 years and was a recognized historian and writer.

Ev served on our board since the first meeting in January 2007 and oversaw the renovation of the building, which took a great deal of time. He worked with our contractor, Coe Construction, and enticed Ben Kozak, our exhibit designer, to come to Cody to look at the building. Ben said "yes" and we were thrilled to begin our mission to preserve Cody's history. Ev continues to serve the Board of Directors in an Advisory capacity.

WSHS Awards Chair, Jane Gebhart, presents his plaque to Ev Diehl



Technology News

Look for a new WEBSITE!

Everything changes swiftly on the worldwideweb, including the software used to build websites! Our website host, Go-Daddy is retiring our old website software, so Curatorial Assistant, Stephanie Fereday Liebert and Vice President for Pro-

motions, Janet Frost Bucknell, have worked to design and implement a new version of our website that went live early in November. The website address remains the same — but the change in software will make our Heritage Gifts online store AND online membership

functions much easier and safer to use!

In addition, over the winter, Stephanie will be working on adding Trip Advisor and Instagram links to our site, as well as keeping our Facebook page identity updated and active.

www.codyheritagemuseum.org



HISTORIC CODY FAMILIES

THE HOLM FAMILY HOMESTEAD

A. Roy Holm, my grandfather, was the oldest of 7 children born to G. A. and Clara Holm, somewhere in Boone County, Iowa in 1886. At the age of 17 (after high school), he left Iowa and came to Cody, around 1903. I was told that he came to the dry climate for his health -- but his younger sisters told me that A. Roy never had a sick day in his life! Regardless, he came to Cody and stayed. It was not long before he convinced his folks and 6 younger siblings to relocate to Cody, which they did in 1905. A. Roy was married in 1913 to Margaret Owens and they had 3 children: Owen Robert (my father) in 1917, Peg in 1922, and Gloria in 1925.

A. Roy was a successful businessman in Cody, but this short article explores his homesteading endeavor. Several years before his wedding, A. Roy applied for a 160-acre

homestead in the McCullough Peaks area, part of Big Horn County at the time. He had to go to the nearest government land office (in this case, Lander), to file his intentions. There was a filing fee of \$10 to claim the land temporarily and \$2 commission to the land agent. With the application and receipt in hand, he returned to begin the process of "proving up" on the land.

"Proving up" consisted, basically, of building a house and farming the land for five years. It was no easy task to build a house, as there were no building materials near the homestead site, several miles north of Eagle Pass. A team and wagon along with sweat and labor was the only answer. Once the requirements were completed, the homesteader was ready to take legal possession of the land. The homesteader had to find two neighbors or friends willing to vouch for

the truth of his statements about the land improvements and to sign the proof document. With paperwork in order, and the proper fees, he could apply for the patent and deed. The land was deeded to A. Roy Holm on the 14th day of March, 1914, patent number 392797. President Woodrow Wilson's name is on the deed but likely not his actual signature.

A year ago my wife Mina, brother Glen and I went to scope out the homestead site with the permission of the present landowner -- Hunt Oil Co. We used ATVs (we no longer have horses) but could not find any evidence of A. Roy's occupation of the property, no foundation or anything. The springs on the property, which were likely the reason for homesteading this particular site, have been developed and now supply water to several

stock tanks in the area. The grass near the springs and drainage was outstanding. We certainly could have missed seeing something in the tall grass.

One last note: A. Roy sold the entire homestead to P. E. Markham, a sheep man, just about three months after acquiring the deed to the land. The 160 acres sold for \$1,400 in June, 1914, roughly \$8.75/acre. Markham acquired many homesteads in the Peaks and was a very successful sheep man. Markham later sold to E. V. Robertson in 1948, and Robertson sold to Hunt Oil in 1949.

This family history story was submitted by Roy Holm, a current member of our Board of Directors

100+ YEARS OF THE CODY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Cody Heritage Museum is looking forward to an upcoming publication on the history of the Cody Volunteer Fire Department (no working title as yet). CHM Board Member Ron Hill is also a member of the Cody Volunteer Fire Department Board and, together with other members, has been researching the history of the Cody Volunteer Fire Department through old newspaper clip-

pings, photographs and the firehall files, along with memories from past firemen.

The book, scheduled to publish in 2020 will include many photos. The history of the Department and the Firehall is rich with both dramatic and humorous stories and, per Ron, "We have fantastic information we have been researching and collecting — it's been a big kick learning

all this history! It will be in-depth and correct when it is published."

Keep your eyes & ears open for the publication!



HERITAGE TIMES

Yesterday's History Today, cont. from p. 1

many dazzling photos, along with an invitation to visit Coe Hall, which is one of the very few estates remaining from Long Island's Gold Coast era. The book is at the museum if anyone would like to look through it. Our Board member, Anne Coe Hayes, has visited the Planting Fields Arboretum, Coe Hall and served on the Board of Planting.

Another visitor was Robert Smith from North Platte, NE. He brought with him a **Wapiti Mail**

Bag that he has loaned to Cody Heritage Museum and that is now on display at the Museum. Shoshone Forest Ranger Henry "Harry" T. Miller delivered the Wapiti mail.

The photo, opposite, shows a group of Shoshone Forest Rangers, including Harry Miller — Miller is in the front row, third from the left.



Photo Courtesy of the Park County Archives

Please consider cutting out this form and giving it to a friend so they can join!!



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Join Cody Heritage Museum Today!

Date: _____

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Annual Memberships — Renewable one year from this date

- \$20/year — Individual Senior (55+)
[Please complete separate forms for 2 or more Senior memberships]
- \$20/year — Student
- \$25/year — Individual
- \$45/year — Family [adult parents & minor children]
- \$200/year — Corporate @ \$200/year
[Please include company name & company contact/owner]

- NEW Membership Levels**
- Friends of CHM**
 - \$100/year
 - Contributing Membership**
 - \$500/year
 - Sustaining Membership**
 - \$1,000/year

Membership benefits include free Admission, 2 guest passes/yr. [Corporate and above levels get 10 passes], a quarterly newsletter and 10% off in our Gift Shop!



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The Cody Heritage Museum Board of Directors is in the process of building a **Heritage Garden** on the west side of the museum. The garden will be a permanent living exhibit consisting of an outdoor education area, native plants, pollinator plants, wildflowers, and grasses.

Native Elements Landscape designer Bobbie Holder has generously donated the design plans for the garden. It is a beautiful setting which will be a huge asset to Cody and to Sheridan Avenue.

A Fresno plow, 4 benches, and 4 historic wagon wheels have also been donated. The focal point of the garden will be the historic Halfway Stage Stop sign .

There is a meandering sidewalk in the garden which we would like to line with brick pavers purchased by Cody folk as a fundraiser for the **Heritage Garden**. The red pavers are a complement to the museum building. They are 4" x 8" in size and will include 2 lines of text.

We are offering the bricks to those interested at \$200.00 each until December 1st at which time the price will increase to \$225.00.

Our Cody roots run **deep** – please help plant **yours** in our garden.

With thanks,

Geri Hockhalter
Heritage Garden Chair



Preliminary Heritage Garden plan



Heritage Garden Paver Program

Donor name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

Line 1 _____ [maximum 17 characters per line]

Line 2 _____

Checks made payable to: **Cody Heritage Museum/Pavers (CHM/Pavers)**

If you would like to use a credit card, please complete the Paver information above, cut out and return your form, and note below a good day/time for us to contact you. A Board Member will call you to run your card.

Day / Time to call _____

Please cut out and return your form/check to the Museum – or call our number if you need our assistance.