

Newsletter

Grand Valley Historical Society

July 2008

Prepared By Jim Klink, Public Relations

Chair

Dear Members,

I hope that the arrival of this newsletter finds you well and able to take advantage of the hot, sunny, summer weather that has finally arrived. Summer is also the time of our annual membership drive and we hope that you will take time to fill out the renewal form on the last page of this newsletter and return it to us sometime during July. We cannot overemphasize how important your support is to the organization, especially to the maintenance of the schoolhouse. Even though the GVHS has been very successful at renting the schoolhouse to outside organizations, the fees charged are not sufficient to cover the upkeep and utilities alone. Your financial support through your membership dues represents the largest source of income for the Society and the schoolhouse.

New Board Members

During this past year there have been a number of changes that have taken place in the make-up of the Historical Society's Board of Directors as members have moved from the area or their terms expired. The following is a list of the changes that have been made to the GVHS Board: B.J. Lindauer has taken on the position of secretary for the Society. B.J. filled the void left when Bonnie Handy moved to Grand Junction. Sandy Getter has assumed the position of treasurer replacing Suzy Sterling who has moved to Montana. Ivo Lindauer resigned the position of vice president recently to devote time to other responsibilities. He has been replaced by Floyd McDaniels. Finally, Michelle Foster has been added to the Board in the new position of schoolhouse manager. We would like to welcome the new Board members and thank them for their willingness to serve the GVHS. We would also like to thank the retiring Board members for their excellent service. Bonnie, Ivo and Suzy served in their positions during the formative years of the organization as the schoolhouse project was conceived and later became a reality. Their contributions toward that goal are greatly appreciated.

With the above changes the current Board of Directors for the Grand Valley Historical Society is as follows: President - Judi Hayward; Vice President - Floyd McDaniels; Treasurer - Sandy Getter; Secretary - B.J. Lindauer; Historian - Linda Waite/Alberta Payton; Public Relations - Jim Klink; and Schoolhouse Manager - Michelle Foster.

Items Needed

The Historical Society is always on the lookout for items to enhance the appearance of the schoolhouse or to improve its appeal as a meeting room for outside groups. At the present, the GVHS is looking for a portrait print of George Washington to place on the wall in the museum portion of the building. The picture we are looking for is the classic portrait of Washington that

hung in schools all over the country. Additionally, we are looking for a retractable projector screen that could be used for slide shows or power point presentations. If you have one or both of these items, or know where they can be obtained, please contact Judi Hayward at 285-9696.

Glover Cabin Dedication

As you may recall from previous newsletters, Williams Oil Company has donated the historic Glover cabin to the Historical Society and plan to repair and move the cabin to the schoolhouse grounds at their expense. We are expecting that the move will take place in late August and currently Williams is planning a gala dedication ceremony for September 10th. Details of the dedication have not been released at this time, but it has been mentioned that Governor Ritter has been invited to attend. When dedication plans are firmed up we will notify our members so that they may have the opportunity to attend this event.

Charlotte the Cleaning Machine

As mentioned, the schoolhouse is being used on a regular basis as a community meeting place. While this usage provides needed revenue to the Historical Society and fulfills a desired purpose for the schoolhouse as a community center, it does result in wear and tear on the building. Groups renting the building have been very careful about keeping the wear to a minimum and have likewise made an effort to clean up after themselves, however a more thorough cleaning is required after every meeting in order to keep the building in excellent condition. Additionally, the building needs to be cleaned on a regular basis, regardless of usage, just to maintain the appearance that it was restored to. Enter Charlotte White and her cleaning crew. Charlotte has graciously volunteered to clean the building regularly, including after special events. Besides the standard cleaning chores, an important part of that job has involved cleaning the floor with an oil soap to keep the old original floor from drying out, a task that takes time and muscle in a building this size. Whew! Other members of Charlotte's crew have include Marcella Ach, Cheri Brandon, Jim and Shirley Ervin and Nancy Slocum. A huge thank you to the "cleaning machine" for their tireless efforts to keep the schoolhouse in excellent shape.

July Membership Meeting

The summer meeting of the Grand Valley Historical Society will be held on Tuesday evening, July 15th at 7:00 p.m. at the Battlement Mesa schoolhouse. The program will include a short business meeting to be followed by refreshments and a presentation by Bill Kight, former cultural resource manager for the Bureau of Land Management and the United States Forest Service. Bill spent 30 years working in cultural management for the federal government and was recognized with numerous citations and awards for his work. In addition, Bill worked on two national teams for the Forest Service: the Tribal Implementation Team and the Sacred Site Policy Development Team. Bill has a passion for saving America's past while honoring its indigenous people. Bill plans to talk about the completion of the Ute Trail Project and the impact of his experience with the Ute People.

Please plan to attend this very informative meeting and show your support for the Historical Society. We do have an air conditioning system so the evening should be comfortable as well as interesting.

Membership Renewal

As was mentioned above, July is the month of our annual membership renewal drive. The Society is very proud of its large membership and counts on your support to help sponsor the many activities, projects and programs we present each year. Your support is even more important now that the schoolhouse restoration is completed and will require funds to maintain it in the condition it has been restored to. If you have an annual membership please fill out the following form and send it along with your check to GVHS at PO Box 363, Parachute, CO 81635. (If you are a lifetime member there is, of course, no need to fill out this form unless you have a change of address or email). With costs for everything in our lives rising, the Society has held the line and not raised dues. We will continue this course as long as we can meet our financial obligations. Please remember that your membership is tax deductible (tax exempt #EIN84-1551611). We hope you will continue to support the Grand Valley Historical Society, your organization dedicated to preserving the history of the Parachute/Battlement Mesa area.

2008-09 Membership Renewal Form

Name(s) _____

Address _____

(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip code)

Phone Number _____ Email address _____

Membership Type:

Youth (\$5.00) ____ Individual (\$20) ____ Family (\$25) ____ Business (\$50) ____

Patron Lifetime (\$1000) ____

Additional Donation \$ _____

____ I am interested in serving on a GVHS committee. Please contact me with more information.