



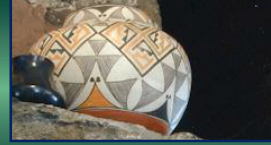
The Record



Fall/Winter 2018



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JCHSColorado.org

Mary Helen Crain

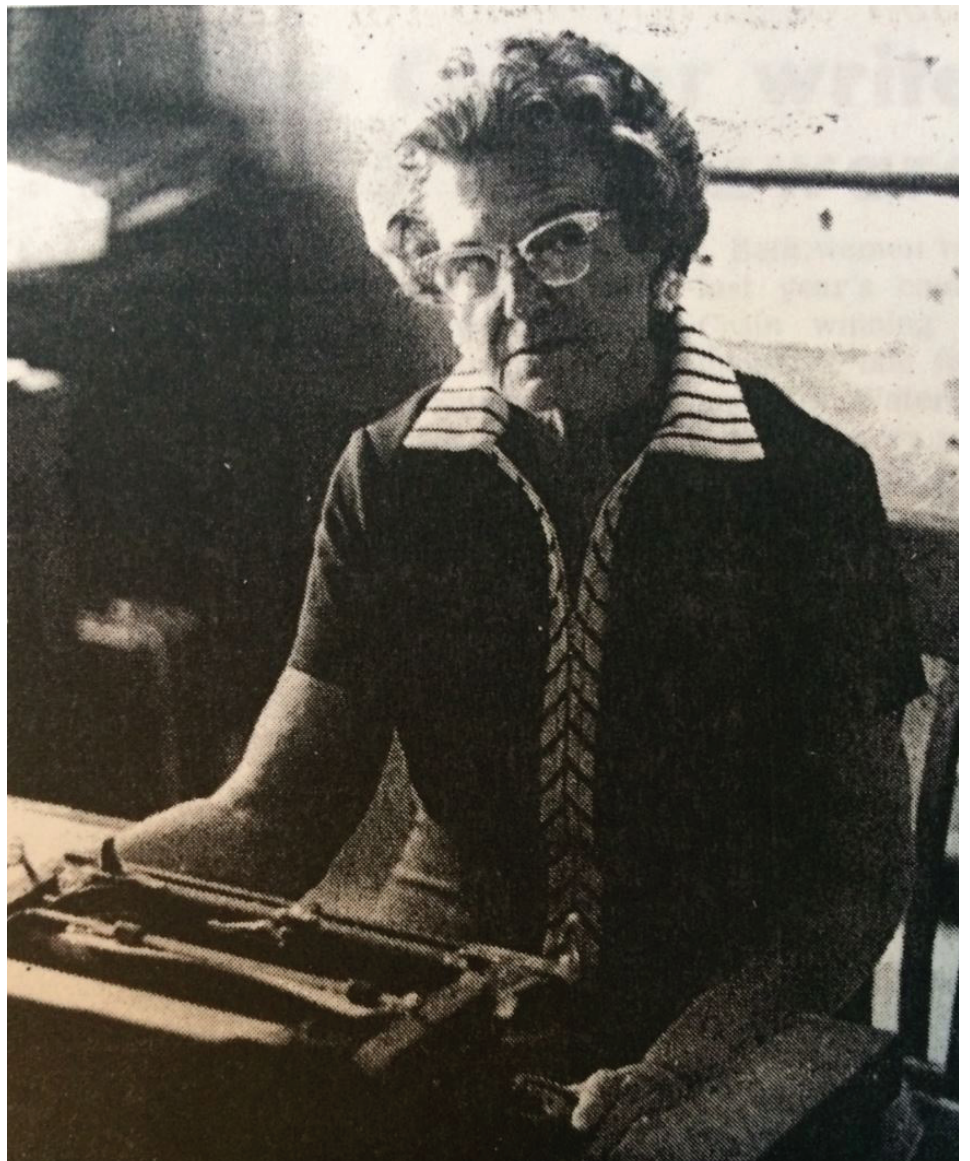
By Stuart Collins

Mary Helen Crain was a celebrated Evergreen journalist, historian, and a founding member of the Jefferson County Historical Society – now Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society. This multipart series shall examine Mary Helen Crain's professional work, life, and commitment to historical preservation.

Part 1: Mary Helen Crain and the *Canyon Courier*

"While times change, some things are forever with us." Mary Helen Crain. May, 1977

Sixty years ago, in the fall of 1958 the once bucolic town of Evergreen Colorado's estimated five hundred full time residents looked forward. (Crain, 1969) The inaugural edition of the *Canyon Courier* celebrated the "phenomenal growth" of Evergreen and her surrounding communities as "one of the most beautiful and enjoyable in the Rockies." The newspaper marveled at the growth of "year-round homemakers." The newspaper also celebrated the area's transportation accomplishments: "Our inter-canyon roads have been greatly improved - Bergen Park to Evergreen, Evergreen to 285, the magnificent new 285 will shortly be completed to Bailey, and work is now starting on the three miles in Bear Creek Canyon from Kittredge to Evergreen. Never has the area been so blessed with the good roads to bring us together as friends with a common interest in making our mountain living everything it can be." The newspaper then celebrated recent infrastructure improvements



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Mary Helen Crain, Date unknown

REFLECTIONS: President's Pen

By Elaine Hayden

Shakespeare tells us, "Brevity is the soul of wit", so I will attempt to be brief in my reflections. In the few months into the transition from JCHS to EMAHS, I have delighted in hearing many, often strained, attempts at addressing our re-branded organization. We have been summoned and referred to as Evergreen Mountain Historical Society, Mountain Historical Society, Evergreen Area Historical Society and simply, the Evergreen Historical Society. Others continue to address the society as the Jefferson County Historical Society. Clearly, I answer to any name as long as our community realizes that our organization remains the same as it was at its inception in 1973. The transition to our new identifying acronym, EMAHS, has been relatively flawless. Our re-branding has left no lasting negative effects either on our membership or our identity in the mountain community as we see evidence of continuing support and belief in the importance of our mission of historic preservation and presentation.

Through our Saturday morning History RoundTable events we have been fortunate to welcome neighboring communities into our fold. Katie Jesse from Indian Hills showcased an historic Indian Hills property, Shadow Wild Ranch, during her compelling presentation in April. July's presenter, Susan Switzer from Conifer Historical Society entertained and educated us with historic and little known facts about the iconic Yellow Barn at Bradford Junction, Conifer and its endurance as a vital component of our mountain history. Our September HRT event featured Susan Tsoupakis from Kittredge who imparted fascinating history to a rapt audience. Her primary source knowledge of Kittredge is an honest accounting as she was raised in and remains a resident of Kittredge.

Watch for future HRT events as we feature representatives from Morrison, Idledale and many more topics of historic interest. Our society summer was filled with events and a milestone. We had the privilege of holding our June membership luncheon and tour by member, Tom Marker, at the historic St. Mark's Chapel on the campus of the Church of the Transfiguration. We elected and were happy to welcome five new Board members at this meeting: Joan Ball, Rosemary Barenbrugge, Bill Bottoms, Larry French and Stuart Collins. (See Meet New Board of Directors on page 3.)

June also brought a Centennial Celebration to Camp Neosho, a milestone in the history of Evergreen. House tours, music, games, food trucks and CAKE were part of the 100th anniversary of the completion of the Camp Neosho house. The grand old house is an enduring treasure thanks to preservation efforts of JCOS and EMAHS. We join the community as beneficiaries of many society member's talent in presenting history through tours, historic knowledge and educational programs at Hiwan Museum.

Our July began with a farewell gathering in honor of Meghan Vickers who stepped down from her long-held position at Hiwan Museum and JCOS. We wish her luck and years of joy performing her duties as a stay-at-home mom. We welcome Andrea Keppers as she joins the staff at Hiwan Museum. Her museum and art history experience and expertise has already proven to inspire us all. Andrea joins Tim Sandsmark, Jennee Hancock and Joyce Rutheford as the Hiwan Museum staff.

August kept our volunteers busy with the Annual Western Slope Peach Sale fundraiser (another successful year);

participation in Mtn. Resource Center's Roll & Read, a children's literary event; concession sales at the Movie in the Grove; home tours and book sales during the Annual Evergreen Fine Arts Festival.

Teas at Hiwan Museum were the focus and highlight of our fundraising efforts this year. We are grateful to have Candy Porter as chairwoman of our tea committee. Candy and her fantastic crew of volunteers have presented three successful teas so far this year with a Holiday Chocolate Lover's Tea scheduled for December (sorry, sold out!). Candy has worked tirelessly in arranging for two seatings for each of her teas and her décor and attention to detail are much appreciated by all. The food offerings and presentation are the talk of the tea-goers as is the piano accompaniment of Judy Curtis.

The teas, peach sale and book sales at the Alternative Gift Fair are the major fundraisers that allow EMAHS to continue to supplement and support the educational programs at Hiwan Museum; offer programs at no cost to members; show appreciation to our wonderful volunteers and, of course, to pay our bills. Through the effort of many volunteers the society remains a vital community resource. As we look toward 2019 we continue to research sponsorship opportunities for local and visible projects of historic interest that would benefit from our involvement and historic knowledge.

While neither markedly brief, nor witty, I end this notice with grateful appreciation to the EMAHS Board of Directors and to the membership for your loyal support of our efforts to preserve and present the rich history of our mountain community.

Meet The New Board of Directors

Joan Ball, started volunteering at the Hiwan Museum in 1995 when she retired from teaching. Her introduction to the Museum was in 1976 when she brought her fourth grade class to the museum for the Colorado History program. That yearly field trip continued until she retired. Because she taught at a Mountain School Connie Fanstock sometimes asked her to come try out a new segment for the History program.

In 1998 she joined the Historical Society Board and later served two years as President. After retiring from the board she continued teaching the school programs, tour guiding and helped develop and teach the Native American

school program. Elaine Hayden asked her to rejoin the board.

Rosemary Barenbrugge has been a tour guide for the past three years. Recently, she thought that her past professional skills and degree in finance would be a good fit in becoming our new treasurer. She has spent 22 years in the banking industry and 21 years in corporate accounting departments before retiring in 2014. After taking a year off she returned to the Hiwan Museum after being gone since 1993 when she was the Society's treasurer for 2 years and volunteer tour guide. Rosemary enjoys hobbies such as walking our mountain neighborhoods,

hiking, maintaining deer/elk resistant gardens and reading (murder mysteries).

Bill Bottoms, born and raised in Atlanta, GA., Bill has two daughters and a son. His daughter Janet Brock, lives in Reno, NV with her husband Mike. They have a son, Wes (who lives in Jacksonville, NC with his son) and a daughter Sarah. Bill's daughter, Sharon Madden, lives in Morrison, CO with her husband Craig. Sharon has a daughter, Malina and son Case. Bill's son, Will, is single and lives in Lakewood, CO.

Bill attended Georgia Tech in Atlanta where he earned his Bachelor of Aerospace Engineering degree. He later earned a Master of Arts in Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix. His career spanned three specific phases; first, aviation, where he served in technical and executive positions with four airlines and one manufacture. The second phase was post-secondary education where he served as the administrator for several Career Colleges in the areas of Aviation and Commercial Arts. The final phase focused on providing consulting

Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society 2018-2019 Officers

President	Elaine Hayden
Recording Secretary	Juanita Weare
Treasurer	Rosemary Barenbrugge
Co- Treasurer	Hank Fuchs
Corresponding Secretary	Diane Fuchs
Membership (Interim)	Diane Fuchs
Past President	Diane Fuchs

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Director	Joan Ball
Director	Bill Bottoms
Director	Stuart Collins
Director	JoAnn Dunn
Director	Larry French
Director	Hank Fuchs
Director	Bud O'Leary
Director	Bud Weare

NON-BOARD POSITIONS

Webmaster	Clarence Low
Newsletter Editor	Laurie Romberg

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including the ongoing current construction of a city sewage system that “will make possible conveniences such as a self-service laundry, etc.” Additionally, the newspaper foresaw a state bank centered in Evergreen’s downtown by the summer of 1959. (Smoke Signals Grows. 1959)

Part and parcel of Evergreen’s maturation was the publication of Evergreen’s first local paper: the *Canyon Courier*. As noted by the *Canyon Courier*, the town and the surrounding community finally had a local paper dedicated to the “news of general interest to the area – the news of specific interest to you and your immediate community – a calendar of coming events in the entire area – the advertisements and shopping suggestions of the area business folks - area-wide news on sports, organizations and church activities, and social events – and many other interesting features.”

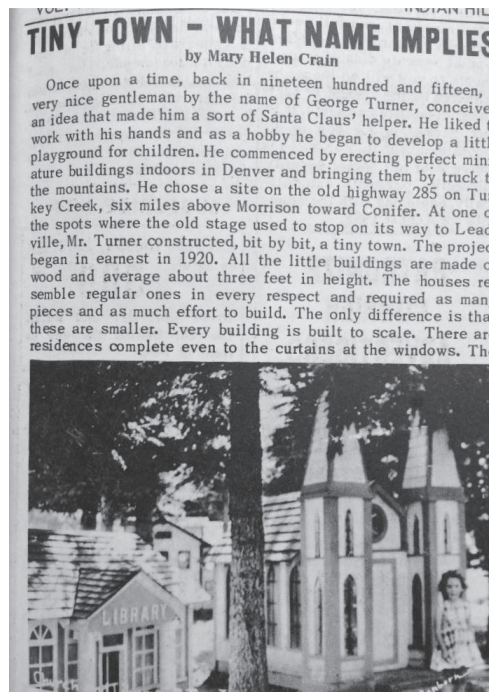
The *Canyon Courier* grew from a *Smoke Signals* newsletter published from the Volunteer Fire Department of Indian Hills, a neighboring community just east of Evergreen, Colorado. First published in May 1955, the *Smoke Signal* newsletter collected articles from neighboring fire departments; but by 1956 the Indian Hills volunteer fire department was swamped with articles from the wider community, and they lacked the resources to publish an increasingly more complex newsletter. (Wald, 1958) At the same time the Evergreen Chamber of Commerce, led by Ross Grimes, felt that “time had come for a local paper.” Understanding that Vern Manning, then editor of the *Smoke Signals* would need help to grow the paper, Evergreen’s Chamber of Commerce president volunteered his father-in-law, Willard Crain, as editor of the joint venture. (Crain, 1977). Thus, by 1958 the paper moved from Indian Hills to Evergreen and changed its name from *Smoke Signals* to the *Canyon Courier*.

Newly located in Evergreen, Colorado, The *Canyon Courier’s* three editors, Vern Manning, Fran Wald, and Willard Evergreen, needed to decide how to populate the weekly, ten-



Canyon Courier - Oct 23, 1958 - 'Front Page'

Canyon Courier - Jan 15, 1959 - 'Tiny Town'



page newspaper. In the first edition of the *Canyon Courier* the newspaper devoted space and resources to the local events within Evergreen, Indian Hills, Bergen Park, and Kittredge, activities of local non-profits, and a column devoted to local shopping suggestions. (*Canyon Courier*, 1958)

Yet, the *Canyon Courier* still needed local, substantive news to supplement the publication of local events and advertising. To fill this telling gap, the editors turned to Mary Helen Crain, wife of Willard Crain. Starting in the second edition and continuing for the next twenty years (minus a five-year sabbatical) Mrs. Crain wrote articles dedicated to the history of Evergreen and her surrounding community. In all, Mary Helen Crain wrote one hundred and fifty *Canyon Courier* articles and published three books that detailed her community's rich history. (McKelvey, 1988)

Subsequent newsletters shall include:

Part Two: Biography of Mary Helen’s Crain

Part Three: Selected Works of Mary Helen Crain

Part Four: Mary Helen Crain and the Jefferson County Historical Society

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The Book Shelf

By Elaine Hayden

A literary treat is in store on our EMAHS bookstore shelf. For those of you familiar with the writing of Timothy Egan (*The Worst Hard Time* and *The Big Burn*) you will be delighted to see Egan's biographical book, *Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher-- The Epic Life and Immortal Photographs of Edward Curtis* offered for sale by EMAHS. Egan chronicles the life and magnum opus of Edward Curtis as he set out on a near thirty year odyssey to capture the photographic images and cultural traditions of 80 indigenous tribes in North America before the cultural lifestyles faded. In his lifetime, Curtis captured thousands of photographs and wax cylinder recordings of the tribes of North America noting his first photograph, taken in 1896 that would define his life's work, was that of Princess Angeline of Puget Sound, Washington, daughter of the Duwamish and Suquamish Chief Seattle.

As Curtis traveled about the country in the early 1900s, he was given the name 'Shadow Catcher' by the Navajo who marveled at the manner in which Curtis chased the light and shadows to capture the most honest images in the area. The iconic, sepia toned photographs bear witness to Curtis' pursuit of both lighting and accurate cultural representation of American Indian tribal tradition. Many of Curtis' photographic triumphs were attained in the studio setting but are no less compelling in significance of subject and importance to history.

In each chapter of *Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher*, Egan includes the Curtis photograph and its provenance that is revealed within the chapter. I compare this format to getting a bonus at the end of each chapter and far more convenient than researching the referenced photograph in a separate

volume. Edward Curtis did not realize fame and fortune in his life time, in fact he passed away in 1952, nearly penniless with one possession to his name: his oeuvre, the twenty volume set of the *The North American Indian*, the compilation of photographs and biographies Curtis had gathered throughout his life. It is noteworthy to mention that Curtis photographs are presently considered priceless to some collectors. Swann Galleries in New York recently offered Curtis' *The North American Indian* collection at \$1 million to \$ 1.5 million. While ownership of original Curtis photographs would be a delight, Timothy Egan's book, *Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher* certainly lures one's interest in the amazing life of an amazing man, with photographs included. This book is offered for sale by EMAHS at the Hiwan Museum. Own this one, you won't be sorry.

Tea Time at Hiwan Museum

EMAHS is pleased to announce three special teas for 2019, offered by Candy Porter, Dianne Palaschek, and their incredible crew of volunteers. The Hiwan Teas have emerged as a major fundraiser for our society for which we are grateful. Tea guests are presented with a three course tea featuring seasonal menus and served on vintage china and silver in the historic setting of Hiwan Museum. To liven up the affairs, Judy Curtis entertains with her repertoire of piano selections to set the mood for an enjoyable traditional tea. Following each tea, guests are invited to tour the historic Hiwan Museum with a knowledgeable docent who will tell of the early residents of Camp Neosho (Hiwan Ranch) and direct attention to our magnificent array of furnishings and artifacts.

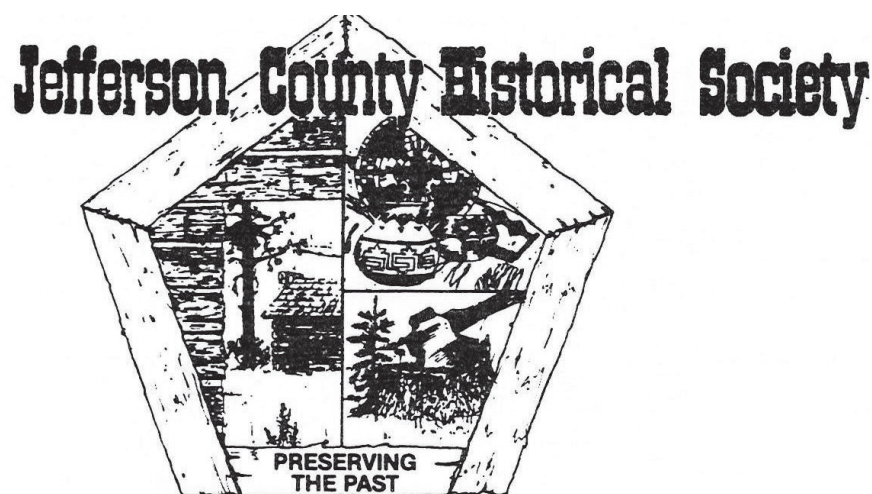
The 2019 teas are scheduled for **Spring Tea, May 6th; Harvest Tea, September 16th and the Holiday Tea, December 9th**. Private teas can be scheduled by request to Candy Porter who will organize a tea to fit your special occasion. Discount pricing is available for EMAHS members. Please consider joining us for a gathering you won't soon forget.



• Tea Time •

Hiwan Museum and Two Original Volunteers

By Joan Ball



Appreciation abounds for all of our museum volunteers and it is important to recognize those who have shown loyalty and commitment throughout the years.

Josie Hoover is a charter member of the Jefferson County Historical Society (JCHS) that was established in 1973. When the Buchanan family put the house, now the Hiwan Museum, on the market the newly established Jefferson County Historical Society became involved in getting the Jefferson County Commissioners to purchase this historic building, using funds from the recently formed Open Space division. In 1974 Jefferson County purchased the Hiwan House and one acre of land with the goal of opening the Hiwan House as a county museum. Josie recalls the work involved in cleaning, furnishing and preparing the building to open to the public in August, 1975. The only original furniture included the dining room table and chairs, the kitchen table and many books in the book cases. Ann Douglas, Connie Fahnestock and others donated period furniture to display in the house. Fortunately, many historic photos of the interior of the house emerged to offer a guide in the presentation of the historic integrity of the house. Josie was one of the original volunteer tour guides and has continued volunteering since that time. She

also served as the librarian from 2000-2010 for JCHS library which is located in Eric's House and remains a vital community resource.

If you visit the Museum you might find Josie working as museum receptionist on many afternoons. Josie is a treasure of information and is willing to share her memories and facts with anyone who inquires.

Nancy Nikl is a long-time member of the Jefferson County Historical Society and remains a loyal member of the Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society (EMAHS). Nancy remembers seeing an article in the local paper seeking volunteers for the Hiwan Museum and she happily answered that calling. Nancy was closely involved with developing and teaching the Colorado History school program which correlates with Jefferson County School District's Fourth Grade curriculum. Nancy remembers spending many hours learning how to spin wool with the spinning wheel so she could pass on her knowledge to students in the program.

Nancy was involved in planning and facilitating the "Mountain Rendezvous" which was a yearly community event held in the grove adjacent to the museum. At the time the Heritage Grove was owned and maintained

by the historical society and offered the ideal venue for hosting the popular "Mountain Rendezvous".

Among many other activities Nancy was involved in helping to paint and restore the Medlen School, located near Tiny Town and owned by the historical society. Nancy assisted Susie Grannell for many years with the Annual Outdoor Quilt Show that was presented for 13 years at Hiwan Museum, and was a reliable and willing participant in decorating the Hiwan Museum for the holidays.

One of Nancy's fond memories involves the museum acquisition of a doll collection, "I got to hold and play with the dolls. It was an up close and wonderful experience." EMAHS continues to showcase many of these early dolls and exhibits the collection from time to time. Whenever volunteer opportunities were presented, Nancy was there to help. She has many wonderful memories of her experiences at the Hiwan Museum and as a very active member and supporter of JCHS/EMAHS.

We are proud to honor Josie Hoover and Nancy Nikl and to be the recipient of their knowledge, dedication and devotion to history of the Evergreen mountain community.

EMAHS Book Club

Book group meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month except for November and December. Our December meeting consists of a pot-luck luncheon and book discussion during the first week of December. We gather at Eric's House (museum offices) at 12:30 pm. We choose reading selections several months in advance and book suggestions are considered from within our membership. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Title selections through February 2019 are:

December 5: *Between Earth and Sky*
by Amanda Skenandore. Pot
luck lunch at 12:00

January 23: *The Other Einstein*
by Marie Benedict

February 27: *Killers of the Flower Moon*
by David Grann

Meet the Board of Directors Continued from page 3.

support services in technical operations areas for airlines and support organizations both domestic and international.

Since his retirement in January of 2013, Bill has been actively volunteering with the JEFFCO Schools, Project Angel Heart, JEFFCO Open Space and now EMAHS.

Stuart Collins is professor of the humanities and social sciences at Purdue University's Global campus. Stuart's fields of historical scholarship focus on trans-national imperialism, nationalism, micro-history, and constitutional history. Newly relocated to Evergreen in 2011, Stuart and his wife raise three children who attend Parmalee and Marshdale elementary schools. Elected to the Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society's Board of Directors in July, 2018, Stuart holds a two year term. Stuart helms the society's social media

Upcoming Events

November 10 and 11: Alternative Gift Fair at Evergreen Lutheran Church 9 am to 4 pm. EMAHS will participate in this popular annual sale benefitting non-profit organizations. Shop an array of unique gifts from around the community and world.

December 7: Annual Holiday Walk at Hiwan Museum 5 to 9 pm. The public is invited to enjoy Hiwan Museum at its holiday finest. Light refreshments will be served to guests. A shuttle service will transport visitors to and from downtown Evergreen to enjoy this community-wide event.

December 10: Holiday Chocolate Lovers Tea 11am and 2 pm held at Hiwan Museum. Tickets are sold out for this popular event.

January 2019 TBA: Volunteer Appreciation luncheon at Hiwan Museum. A celebration honoring our loyal and dedicated Hiwan volunteers. Notice will be sent to volunteers in December.

January 2019 TBA: History Round Table at Hiwan Museum, 10 am to noon, featuring a representative from one of our neighboring communities. Watch for notice of this event.

January 28: Hiwan Museum will be closed for the last week in January to accommodate the annual 'deep cleaning' of our beautiful facility.

Visit our web site for more information and event registration at jchscolorado.org

operations and is also the Historian of the society. When not working, spending time with his family, or sifting through the society's archives at Hiwan Homestead, you can find Stuart running (albeit at a slightly slower pace) around many of local, fantastic, open spaces.

Larry French has lived in Evergreen for nearly 34 years and Colorado for over 45 years. He is married to Cindy French.

They raised their son Jeffrey French and daughter Meghan French Dunbar here in Evergreen. Both are Evergreen High School graduates. In addition the family now includes daughter-in-law Katie French, granddaughter Hazel French and son-in-law Scott Dunbar. Larry is a graduate of Trinity High School in Louisville Kentucky, served in the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corp and holds a Bachelor of Science

Journalism, Broadcast Sales Management from the William Allen White School of Journalism and Public Information at the University of Kansas. He has been the CEO/President of Bristlecone Marketing Services, Inc. for 38 years. He is a past President, Golden Jaycees, past President, Colorado Jaycee Foundation, JCI Senator (Jaycees International) and past Director of Finance, Colorado International Youth Leadership Seminar, Hugh O'Brian Youth Foundation. Here locally he is a co-founder & past Board Member of the Team Evergreen Bicycle Club. He has coached both youth basketball and soccer back when his son and daughter were young growing up here in Evergreen. He has also completed a Transcontinental Bicycle Trek from Seaside, OR to Yorktown, VA. He has always had a strong interest in history and community and looks forward to his involvement on the Board of the Evergreen Mountain Historical Society.

For More Information

For more information about the Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society or Events happening at Hiwan Museum go to

www.jchscolorado.org



Picture provided by Laurie Romberg

The Record is published two times per year by the Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society. Deadline for the Spring/Summer 2019 issue is April 1. Email your submissions to Laurie Romberg at laurie@rombergdesignsplus.com.



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