



REYNOLDS GANG CONNECTS COLORADO TO CIVIL WAR

by Jan Murphy

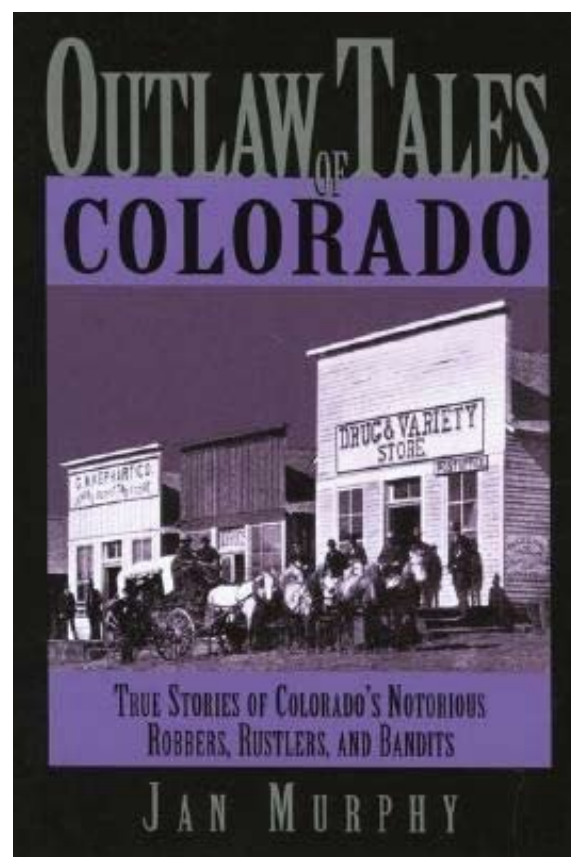
One of the infamous tales that connects Colorado with the Civil War is about the Reynolds Gang. And, it happened not far from Evergreen. But what keeps this story alive today is not only the gang's notoriety as Confederate thieves and robbers, but the whereabouts of the treasure they left behind!

In my book, *Outlaw Tales of Colorado*, the chapter titled "Jim Reynolds, Confederate Guerilla" relates the fascinating details of the Reynolds Gang and their criminal activities in Colorado to aid the South. Part of this story is summarized here in the next several paragraphs.

Sweeping up from Texas through Colorado's South Park in the early 1860s, Jim Reynolds and his gang robbed and stole jewels and money and other valuables, hoping to use it to support the Confederacy. From Fairplay to Kenosha Pass to Shaffer's Crossing, and to the intersecting roads from Denver and Evergreen, these young thugs were on the run from the law. They buried their booty at a hiding spot along the way, but when the gang members were eventually scattered, arrested, or killed, no evidence of the treasure was found.

Only one posse out of four, that had been organized to chase down the gang, actually encountered them. In a gun battle at their hiding place, some of the gang were killed. The rest fled, and five were eventually arrested, including Jim Reynolds. These prisoners were taken to Denver for trial.

The Civil War then played another role in the Reynolds saga. Although the state of Colorado was not officially involved in the War, Union sympathizers outnumbered the Confederate sympathizers in Denver. The city officials worried that those of the Confederate-leaning side might try to help the Reynolds gang break out of jail. To help with reinforcement, the prisoners were handed over to the local military division. Here, the story gets murky with few records of any proceedings. Interesting developments occurred one after another that will interest the avid historian, but the final outcome was that all five prisoners were killed at a ghost town, west of Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.



In this issue:

Reynolds Gang	1
President's Pen	2-3
Hiwan Happenings	4
Historic Home Tour	5
Jeffco Anniversary	5
Dates to Remember	6

REFLECTIONS: President's Pen

by Diane Fuchs

As I write this, I planted my iris from Long's Gardens and realize that summer is just about over. When you receive this newsletter we will be looking winter straight in the eyes.

The summer was absolutely wonderful for JCHS. The peach sale in August raised over \$800 and weren't those peaches utterly fantastic. Medlen School saw full enrollment for the "One Room School House" experience. Discovery Days went very well, but enrollment was down a bit. On the positive side, Andy had a wonderful director, **Nancy Visocky**, and a great group of 21 teens to help.

In August we had a JCHS table at the Evergreen Fine Arts Fair in the grove and sold \$168 worth of books at this event and what fun we had. Thanks goes to **Joan Ball** for suggesting that we have a table and making sure we set up the canopy, with help from art fair attendees.

At the time of this writing our "Historic Home Tour" will have happened. If you missed being one of the 30 members, we will continue to host this event in September every year, if we can find houses to tour. Anyone have suggestions? The **Hardman's** have invited us back next year. We charged a small fee to make it a mini-fundraiser for the society. We regret that the Rosedale

Ranch was unavailable for tours as shared with you in the Spring/Summer *JCHS Record*.

Just to remind you we will be having our "Winter Member's Gala" towards the end of January or February. I am planning on having another author as our program. So be looking for an invite in the mail and e-mail.

The JCHS board will have a volunteer luncheon in the early part of April and the Membership Brunch in June-have any suggestion as to a brunch venue?

Welcome to Pat Jurgens

It is with great pleasure we welcome **Pat Jurgens** to the JCHS board. Pat was responsible for the extensive job of indexing our 7000 historic photos and was a featured author in *Historically Jeffco*.

Pat is a graduate of Duke University with a BA in English and a masters from University of Denver in Library Science. Her professional life was

spent in government, business, and non-profit sectors. She worked as a public library manager for 20+ years, corporate relocation specialist, and international visitor exchange director.

Since retirement she has rediscovered the joy of being a writer, publishing articles in local and regional magazines, and is writing a historical novel (now in the revision process.) She's an avid traveler, most recently as a volunteer teaching English to hilltribe children in Thailand. Previous travels include: China, Japan, India, Brazil, Costa Rica, Mexico, the Caribbean, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. She also enjoys visiting family in various locations across the U.S. Since 2006 she has been a weekend tour guide at Hiwan Homestead Museum. She loves learning the history of the Evergreen area.

Pat has two children in their 40s and is married to Carl Jurgens. They live with their (almost) reformed rescue pup Zoe in a 1930s cabin in Evergreen.

(Continued on Page 3)

Jefferson County Historical Society 2011-2012 Officers

President	Diane Fuchs	303-674-9639
Recording Secretary	Juanita Weare	303-679-8889
Treasurer	Hank Fuchs	303-674-9639

2010-2011 Board of Directors

Director	Hank Alderfer	303-838-0443
Director	Mike Bornhouser	303-904-8966
Director	Dale Devine	303-670-2682
Director	Pat Jurgens	303-679-8191
Director	Max Lankston	303-697-8932
Director (Membership)	Heidi Markley	303-987-1307
Director	Jan Murphy	303-674-0825
Director	Dave Noyes	303-674-4227
Director	Bud Weare	303-679-8889



(Continued from Page 2)

Good News Breakfast

Hank Alderfer was honored at the Jefferson County "Good News Breakfast" on April 26, 2011 for his phenomenal efforts to help preserve the legacy of Jefferson County. It was a huge event involving over 200 attendees. It was with great pride JCHS nominated Hank, who serves as one of the JCHS board members.

Alternative Gift Fair November 12-13

Please plan on attending the Alternative Gift Fair. We will have a booth there and will be selling unique craft items as well as our books and posters. Please keep in mind all books purchased through JCHS have been provided by the authors with a certain percentage going to JCHS. Not only does this include the Alternative Gift Fair, but books purchased at the Hiwan Homestead Museum. Buy books from JCHS and also through our website, www.jchscolorado.org.

Feature Article Author: Jan Murphy

Jan Murphy is our feature article author. Jan serves on our board and is a published author. Her books are available at the Hiwan Homestead with a percentage given to JCHS. Please don't be shy, if you have something you would like to share with our members, please contact me, Diane Fuchs 303-674-9639. The article needs to be 500 words and pictures can always be included and encouraged.

Something New!!

You can now pay your membership dues or make donations to JCHS using Paypal. Please remember we are a 501c3 organization and all donations are taxes deductible. It worked so well for the Peach sale as well as Discovery Days. We are extending this easy method of payment to our renewing and new members. Simply go to our website www.jchscolorado.org and there is a donate button as well as a membership payment

Own a Piece of Hiwan History

Barbara Sternberg would like to share with you the opportunity to have a chance at a beautiful sculpture. Your raffle fee goes for the support of the Art for the Mountain Community. Barbara is such a remarkable individual that I wanted to share this with you as a friend and a history connoisseur.

\$25.00 will buy you a chance to win your own bronze model of Laura Mehmert's beloved sculpture, "The Foreman," which stands in front of the Hiwan Homestead Museum. The original clay maquette was created by Laura as part of her winning submission in Art for the Mountain Community's competition for a sculpture at the Museum. A limited edition of bronze castings from the maquette were made to present to those who made major donations towards the cost of the sculpture, and for sale.

One of these rare bronzes, worth now about \$3,000, has been donated to Art for the Mountain Community for a fund-raising raffle. The piece is

mounted on a black granite base and is approximately 15 inches high.

Drawing for the winning ticket will be at AMC's annual event at the Lake House on November 11 - but you do not have to be present to win.

Barbara Sternberg has tickets for the raffle and would love to send you one in exchange for a \$25 check made out to Art for the Mountain Community (or six tickets for \$100) and mailed to her at 1274 County Road 65, Apt. 420, Evergreen CO 80439. She will mail back to you your (hopefully winning!) ticket stub(s). Questions? You can call her at 303-674-5014.

In Memory

Jacquie Dadmun former member of the JCHS board and committed volunteer at the Hiwan Homestead passed away on June 29th at her home, after a courageous battle with cancer. A funeral mass was held on August 19th.

Diane Fuchs



President
Jefferson County Historical
Society
303-674-9639

HIWAN HAPPENINGS

Hiwan Happenings contributed by John Steinle, Meghan McGinnes and Andrew Spencer



Where has the summer gone?

The kids are back in school and the sounds of chain-saws are beginning to fill the air. Summer is almost over. The summer of 2011 was great one for the hundred or so kids who enjoyed JCHS programs here at the Hiwan Homestead Museum. Discovery Days was made more memorable by the work of our adult and teen volunteers as well as our energetic Coordinator, Nancy Visocky. We offered a variety of new programs in our Just Being Kids series including Aztec masks, Japanese arts and archaeology for kids!

And now we turn to fall...

That means school programs. Through the magnanimous support of JCHS we continue to offer programs for 3rd and 4th graders. Jefferson County Open Space Foundation offers program scholarships for schools facing financial hardships. We have worked hard to update and upgrade these programs and we look forward to a busy school year. If you would like to join us as a school programs docent please call 720-497-7654.

Additionally we are looking to acquire some Southwest pots for our JCHS 3rd grade program. If you have any that you would like to donate please call Andy Spencer at 720-497-7654.

Bear Creek Mercantile

In an effort to better use this wonderful hands-on exhibit space we are continuing to develop this space to include more diverse stories of early Colorado life. Mining in Jefferson County will be our focus this Fall. Even as the JCHS board has approved some funds to develop this idea we are asking all JCHS to join us in this endeavor. If you have any mining artifacts that you would like to donate to JCHS we would greatly appreciate your generosity. Please call Andy Spencer at 720-497-7654.

Adult Education Programs

We are currently working out a date for our forthcoming **Soapmaking** program. Please stay tuned for more information.

Important Upcoming Dates

- * November 28, 9 a.m. - X-Mas Decorating Day (Please RSVP: lunch provided, come anytime)
- * December 2, 6-9 p.m. - Holiday Walk
- * December 12, 11:30 a.m. - X-Mas Tea (Reservations required, 720-497-7650)

Book Club is for adults at Hiwan and continues to be a source of learning and fun. The club meets the 4th Wednesday (usually) of each month, at 12:30 pm, to discuss the current volume. We focus primarily on titles pertaining to women and children and the West, mixing fiction and non-fiction. No reservations needed. All are welcome.

Book Club Books

- * October 26: *A Maisie Dobbs* book by Jacqueline Winspear (read any book in the series)
- * Nov. - Date TBD: *Prayers for Sale* by Sandra Dallas
- * December: No Meeting

REYNOLDS GANG CONNECTS COLORADO TO CIVIL WAR

by Jan Murphy

(continued from Page 1)

Jim Reynolds' brother, John, and two others had fled during the original encounter and gun battle. Closely pursued by the posse at the time of their escape into New Mexico, the deputies were certain that none could have circled back to recover any buried treasure before their hasty retreat. John Reynolds reportedly returned to Colorado in 1871 and searched for the buried fortune at the hiding spot, but couldn't locate the treasure, and was killed at a later date when shot while stealing horses.

Outlaw Tales of Colorado includes this story detailing all the twists and turns of the Reynolds Gang pillage. It recounts the amazing strategy of the four posses all headed toward the gang's hideout from different directions, yet three posses passed right by the outlaws without finding them. And also noted are the puzzling circumstances surrounding what some considered the "murder" of the 5 gang members by the military. Finally, the story specifies more details for the location of the gang's hideout and site of the buried treasure, hoping of course, that you'll find it!

Outlaw Tales of Colorado is for sale at the Hiwan Homestead Museum, with part of the proceeds benefiting the Jefferson County Historical Society.

HISTORIC HOME TOUR



We had a wonderful morning on September 24, 2011 beginning at the Hiwan Homestead and heading to the Lincoln home on Upper Bear and the Hardman home on Buffalo Park Road. Twenty three JCHS members took advantage of this fantastic historic home tour and our tour guides; i.e. The Lincolns and The Hardmans were absolutely wonderful. This is one of the few times the Lincoln's have shown their home and the Hardmans as well, except to Wilmot third-graders each fall.

JEFFCO ANNIVERSARY

Jefferson County 150th Anniversary Celebration & Hall of Fame Induction

Friday, November 18, 2011, 4:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Jefferson County Fairgrounds, 15200 W 6th Ave. (6th and Indiana)

Celebrating Jefferson County's Formation in 1861 as part of the newly created Colorado Territory

Speaker: Thomas Jefferson

Hall of Fame Inductees:

Former State Senator Norma Anderson

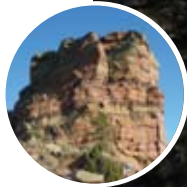
1861 Jeffco settlers George and Sarah Church

Reserve your \$25 ticket at www.Blacktie-Colorado.com (click on calendar, Nov 18th Jeffco 150th party)

This is an event of the Friends of the Jefferson County Historical Commission

DATES TO REMEMBER

- October 26 - Book Club at Hiwan Homestead
- November 12-13 - Alternative Gift Fair
- November 18 - Jefferson County 150th Anniversary Celebration
- November 28 - Christmas Decorating Day at Hiwan
- December 2 - Holiday Walk
- December 12 - Christmas Tea at Hiwan



The Record is published two times per year by the Jefferson County Historical Society.
The deadline for the Spring/Summer 2012 issue is April 1. E-mail your submissions to saramiller1@comcast.net.



PO Box 703
Evergreen, CO 80437