



The Record



Fall 2023



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EMAHScolorado.org

President's Pen

Greetings and salutations,

The Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society celebrates our 50th anniversary with great enthusiasm, as we embark on exciting projects that will help us fulfill our newly revised mission statement: "Preserve the history (physical, written, oral and digital) of the Evergreen Mountain Area. Promote the appreciation of that history among children, residents and visitors through education programs, tours, presentations and other forms of communication."

EMAHS's New Officers + Board

We are pleased to announce the results of the 2023 EMAHS elections. We welcome these dedicated individuals to lead and support our society in its mission to preserve our local history. Our newly elected officers include Lorena Garrod (new) as Recording Secretary and Diane Fuchs (returning) as Corresponding Secretary, both bringing their expertise and enthusiasm to our team. Rosemary Barenbrugge (returning) is taking on the role of Treasurer, ensuring the financial stability of our organization. We also extend a warm welcome to our new Directors At Large: Jennee Hancock (new), Gil Gullbrandson (new), and Hank Fuchs (returning). Their passion for history and commitment to our community will contribute to the continued success of EMAHS.

Buffalo Park School

The Buffalo Park School, a historic one-room log schoolhouse built in 1877, is embarking on a new journey with the dedicated efforts of the Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society (EMAHS) and local historian John Steinle. Situated in front of Wilmot Elementary School, this cherished piece of history is in need of a new home and some tender loving care. EMAHS envisions the schoolhouse as an educational gem for the community, that will offer engaging living-history programs for children and adults once the building is relocated and restored. The project faces challenges due to the building's disrepair, including water damage and the need for log replacements. Thanks to a generous bequest from the Humphrey History Museum, EMAHS has \$25,000 earmarked for the Buffalo Park School project, and the organization is actively exploring funding options for the restoration. EMAHS, in collaboration with other local stakeholders, is now actively seeking a new location for the Buffalo Park School, exploring several potential sites to ensure its preservation. This is

an exciting opportunity for the community to rally together and preserve a valuable piece of local history that holds significance for the entire area. More information will be forthcoming, and we invite all members and supporters to join us in this significant endeavor.

Hiwan Heritage Park Update

We're delighted to report significant progress on the restoration of the exterior of Hiwan. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of Jefferson County Open Space (JCOS) employees, the building is receiving the care it deserves. Recently, they meticulously replaced the chinking between the logs. JCOS addressed the issue of rot by replacing some deteriorated logs, safeguarding Hiwan's structural integrity for generations to come. Currently, they are diligently applying a fresh coat of stain, rejuvenating the building's appearance while preserving its historic character. Furthermore, JCOS is taking steps to enhance the ground's drainage near Hiwan, safeguarding the surrounding landscape and ensuring its long-term preservation. These efforts are a testament to the collaborative commitment between JCOS and EMAHS to preserve the rich heritage of our beloved Evergreen Mountain Area.

Mamie Hassell, Heritage Educational Specialist

We're thrilled to introduce Mamie Hassell, our new Educational Specialist at Hiwan Heritage Park. Hailing from Nashville, Tennessee, where she spent five years as the Community Engagement Specialist at the Tennessee State Museum, Mamie brings a wealth of experience in public programming and cultural interpretation from institutions like Tennessee State Parks, the Ryman Auditorium, and Andrew Jackson's Hermitage. She's also a National Association for Interpretation Certified Interpretive Guide. She's eagerly looking forward to her new career opportunity and immersing herself in Colorado's rich history!

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Hiwan Educational Programs

Under the capable leadership of Mammie Hassell, we're making great strides in our educational programs despite facing a volunteer shortage. This fall, we're delighted to continue sharing the joy of history with Jefferson County's fourth graders through our Journey to Jeffco program. This engaging initiative enriches their understanding of Colorado's history, with hands-on experiences like packing a prairie schooner, making journey cake, 1876 schoolhouse lessons, and shopping at the 1895 Bear Creek Mercantile. Looking ahead, we plan to bolster our volunteer base during the winter months and are excited to the Pueblos & Plains program again. Furthermore, Mammie has exciting plans to introduce public programs aimed at adults and families next year, fostering increased community engagement at Hiwan Heritage Park and Museum.

Stuart Collins
President
EMAHS



Photo by Laurie Romberg

Saying Goodbye to Joan Ball



Sadly, we said goodbye to Joan Ball on August 12, 2023. For many years, Joan was the face of Hiwan (Homestead) Museum and defined the true meaning of volunteerism from 1997 through 2020. Her passion for teaching manifested

itself in her willingness to volunteer with children's educational programs, guide visitors through the museum tours and facilitate events that showcased the community treasure that is Hiwan Museum.

Joan assisted Connie Fahrstock to develop the 4th grade program, which continues its vitality to this day as Journey to Jeffco. Her appreciation and knowledge of Native American culture led her to co-create the 3rd grade Native American Art program that continues with cultural comparisons explored in the current Pueblos and Plains curriculum. Joan was always a willing participant in the Discovery Days summer camp and the Just Being Kids events that offered activities in the outdoor environment of the Grove. She also held sessions to train public school teachers as they prepared their classes for the Hiwan historical educational experience.

Joan regularly volunteered as a tour guide at the museum and as a guide for special events held at Hiwan. She served with the Monday Group that assisted in caring for the artifacts and cleaned the museum exhibits on a weekly basis. Joan helped to plan and execute educational exhibits, including the creation of the current Buchanan Room and the General Store (Mercantile). Joan was involved in the Heritage Grove Pavilion

campaign. She participated in the popular Mountain Rendezvous event, assisted with volunteer appreciation events, graciously served at Hiwan teas, volunteered for the outdoor quilt shows and so much more. When there was a call for volunteers, Joan stepped up and quietly performed whatever was needed, regardless of the event. Joan was an ardent reader and facilitated the Hiwan Book Club for many years. She also participated in the Needles and Friends group that met at Eric's house. Joan was consistently involved with groups that crafted articles for sale at the annual Alternative Gift Fair that benefitted the Historical Society.

Joan was proud of and glad to regale us with stories of her father's connection to Charles and Eric Douglas in days gone by. The Historical Society is grateful to be the recipient and steward of Joan's donations of several Native American arts to the collection, including pottery, baskets and jewelry.

Joan was a life member of the Jefferson County Historical Society (JCHS), now the Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society (EMAHS). She served on the Board of Directors beginning in 2000, became board President from 2002-2004 and served thereafter as Past President. Under her leadership, we witnessed the return of the original stone altar to the St. Joseph's Chapel at Hiwan and the return to the society of Native American artifacts purchased from the Douglas Collection from the Denver Art Museum.

Joan Ball's was a life well lived through adventure, learning and caring for others. Her legacy and the breadth of her influence will live long at Hiwan Museum, the Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society and in the hearts and minds of the community at large. She will be greatly missed as a loyal friend to many who was incredibly modest about her many talents.

Upcoming events

Halloween - Friday, 10/27/23 - 4:30pm-6:30pm - outdoors at Hiwan

Holiday Tea - Monday, 12/04/23 - 11am + 2pm - indoors at Hiwan (sold out)

Holiday Tea - Tuesday, 12/05/23 - 11am - indoors at Hiwan (sold out)

Alternative Gift Fair - Saturday + Sunday 11/11/23-11/12/23 - 10am-3pm at Evergreen Lutheran Church

Holiday at Hiwan - Friday, 12/8/23 - 5:30 - 7:30 pm indoors at Hiwan