



The Record



Spring/Summer 2020



Volume 47, Issue 1



JCHSColorado.org

Membership Renewal

With this newsletter, you are being reminded to renew your membership. **Your membership ends on July 1, 2020.**

These are unusual times and our revenue is considerably restricted this year. We have no summer programs, they have been cancelled. Regretfully, we will have no peach sale, due to the April freeze. Our wonderful Spring tea had to be postponed, as well.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT MORE THAN EVER. We are asking you to renew online this year by going to EMAHSColorado.org and paying your dues using Pay Pal or credit card or by printing the renewal form (included) and sending in a check to EMAHS P.O. Box 703, Evergreen, Colorado 80437. Please print the form and include with your check any changes in your address, phone number, or e-mail. You may also write the changes on an additional sheet of paper and please be sure to identify yourself. Diane Fuchs: Membership Chair, 303-674-9639 or HDFuchs@msn.com.

CONNIE FAHNESTOCK

By JoAnn Dunn

Connie Fahnestock was my hero. Without her dedication and love of history, we would not be enjoying the Hiwan Museum today. When I was first a volunteer tour guide at the museum, I heard about how she was instrumental in its being the first purchase of Jefferson County Open Space. Later when I met her, I was impressed by her enthusiasm and could see how she had made that happen. Even after she had moved to Ft. Collins, she would return to assist with Mountain Rendezvous.

She and her husband Jim had moved to Evergreen in 1972 where she organized the Jefferson County Historical Society and was our first president. That was when she persuaded Open Space to purchase Camp Neosha. Since it had been the Buchanan's home for over 30 years, she and her crew of volunteers had to furnish it with period pieces and artifacts. Her research into the history of the house was invaluable to making it authentic. The video in the Buchanan room is one piece of her handiwork. She created it with their home movies and its her voice in the narration.

Before moving to Evergreen she and her family had lived in Long Island, New York where she worked as a librarian and administrative assistant at the Conklin House Museum in Huntington, New York. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in

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REFLECTIONS: President's Pen

By Elaine Hayden

"In the rush to return to normal use this time to consider which parts of normal are worth rushing back to". Credited to Disney's David Hollis, this is a statement reflective of our current state of affairs. Many buzz statements have arisen in the past few months that signals to me that folks have slowed in their lifestyles to contemplate a new world view. And that is a good thing. Alas, I would like to see a return to norms of January, 2020 in regard to Hiwan Museum and EMAHS activities. Since the state quarantine mandate fell into place in mid March, we have seen many cancellations and postponements of our Society's vital programs including educational and fundraising events. While our priority is the safety of our members, docents and Hiwan guests, there is value in returning to our Society that can be even more vital than it was in January 2020.

December, 2019 saw a very successful Holiday Tea that was facilitated by an all volunteer team and served nearly 80 delighted guests. Equally, the Hiwan Holiday Walk welcomed The Cowboy Band and other entertainers

who charmed a generous number of guests who were on hand to tour the Museum dressed in its holiday finery. Docents, history educators and Board members gathered in December to share time and cheer at our volunteer appreciation potluck brunch. These December events rounded out 2019 and essentially represent the vitality that characterizes the Society.

January 2020 ushered in the New Year with a three day closure of the Museum for a deep cleaning procedure. Many EMAHS committees began taking action with preliminary discussions regarding oral history collections, web site re-design, photo archives and the manifestation of these projects in the months and years to come. When we are once again able to gather together, these committees will continue this important work.

Sadly, many events have been cancelled in the interest of the common good and the COVID-19 pandemic health protocols. Our March presenters, Bonnie Scudder and Peg

DeStefano, postponed their appearance and lecture on Women's Suffrage. All of our vital history education programs were cancelled as were our Discovery Days Day Camp, Medlen School Days program, EMAHS Board meetings, the Hiwan book group and all museum tours. Our annual Colorado Peach Sale has been cancelled this year, not as a result of the pandemic but due to a late freeze of Western Slope fruit crops. We look forward to 2021 as being a year of reinstatement of our programs and fundraisers. In light of this period of missed opportunity, the Society is gladly accepting donations by mail or through the Colorado Gives Program at any time and can be accessed at www.coloradogives.org/EMAHS/overview

As we are witnesses to an historic period, I once again encourage all to document your experiences, observations and triumphs in the interest of the historic record. Stay informed, stay safe and try to look at this quarantine period as an inspirational pause rather than a nuisance.

Living Through History: Pandemic Perspectives

By Jennee Hancock

As we sought to grapple with changes in the face of the emerging COVID-19 pandemic this spring, one thing became clear: We live in historic times. Capturing it for those who will come after us is an important task, as lessons from the past help us to understand the present and consider the future. In this spirit, Hiwan staff began by reaching out to Evergreen-area schools.

For the Living through History: Pandemic Perspectives project, local students are creating essays, journal entries, articles, photographs and artwork to express what they are seeing, doing and feeling in these remarkable times. Hiwan

staff are compiling the entries for the EMAHS local history files at the museum so that future generations can research what life was like in 2020. The entries will also be put online so others can see them.

Local teachers have supported the project by creating assignments, and about 50 entries have been received so far. They illuminate common experiences to which many can relate. The hope is to expand the project to other Evergreen-area residents and create a bigger picture of our community during this historic era.

Connie Fahnestock article continued from page 1.



for its being placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

observed their program. She was very encouraging and was full of ideas.

Connie retired in 1986 and was inducted into the Jefferson County Historic Commission Hall of Fame in 1987. She continued her involvement in historic preservation and living history interpretation after moving to Ft. Collins in 1989. She was a consultant for the Colorado Wyoming Association of Museums and was a member of the Poudre Landmarks Foundation Board of Directors.

We should always remember the impact that Connie had on Evergreen. When you drive past Hiwan Museum, think of what a unique place it is, and that it would not be there except for this amazing lady.

When I began to develop a program for our Medlen School, she met me and we went to a one room school house and

Journalism from Purdue University and her Master of Science degree from Long Island University. Her master's thesis was titled "Preservation of Historical Society Libraries."

In 1975 Connie was the first woman awarded "Jefferson County Person of the Year", presented by Colorado Gov. Dick Lamm.

Connie was part of the steering committee that started Mountain Rendezvous in Heritage Grove. Begun as a campaign to "Save the Grove," a piece of land adjacent to the Homestead slated for development, this fundraiser featuring mountain men, food and music, allowed for its permanent addition to Hiwan Heritage Park and continued as a popular summer event for many years.

In 1985 she wrote "From Camp Neosho to the Hiwan Homestead", which was published by JCHS. The book documented the museum's history from its origins as a mountain retreat to its current status that offers hands-on experiences to both children and adults. She was responsible

Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society 2019-2020 Officers

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NON-BOARD POSITIONS

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The Book Shelf

By Elaine Hayden

Recently there has been considerable interest in a title that the EMAHS book store has offered for many years. The book of note, *Mountain Memories—From Coffee Pot Hill to Medlen Town* edited by Betty Moynihan and Helen Waters (1981), is an often overlooked book that chronicles the inter-canyon area represented as the lower Highway 285 corridor. This compilation of family recollections and primary source material is compelling in its scope and presentation. Subjects covered range from early ranches, schools and communities to characters and descendents of early settlers. Complementing the writings of the two editors are contributions from other writers with knowledge of the area history. The book is complete with many black and white photos of historic interest representative of the area. Coffee Pot Hill is located where the current Maxwell Hill Road meets South Turkey Creek Road. Helen Waters describes the name as being connected to the Maxwell House Coffee Company who, in the 1920s promoted land sales in this area. Medlen Town refers to the area surrounding the current Highway 285 and South Turkey Creek Road area near the current Medlen One-Room School. This book is a worthy read as a way to complete the study of our mountain area history. This book can be purchased from EMAHS at Hiwan Museum upon re-opening.

MILESTONES IN THE LIFE OF EMAHS (JCHS) 1981-1986

Excerpts from the commemorative booklet printed to honor the 1998 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Society.

1981-1982

First sessions of Discovery Days were held.

The Society published a cookbook entitled *Let's Eat Home'n'Stead*. (An apt title that would read well today).

A clay sculpture of Hiwan Homestead Museum was made to enable the addition of tours for sighted and hearing impaired guests.

1983-1984

The Wilmot School gave the Society the Julia Douglas doll collection of 255 dolls. The task of researching and documenting each doll in the collection began.

The task of copying 4,500 old photographs on loan from area residents was undertaken.

The Society was nominated by Jeffco Open Space for 'Volunteer Group of the Year'. JCHS received the top award.

1985-1986

A replica of the woven lampshade in the dining room was made by Jicarilla Apache basket maker, Lydia Pesata.

Publication of Connie Fahnstock's book, *From Camp Neosho to the Hiwan Homestead*. The book remains widely read and appreciated today.

The Pioneer Workshop was remodeled to feature historic tools and print shop equipment. A printer's guild was formed.

Watch for more Society Milestones in the next issue of The Record.

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| May-June | Medlen School Days CANCELLED |
| June 1 | Tentative re-opening of modified tours of Hiwan Museum |
| June | Discovery Days Day Camp CANCELLED |
| June | Annual Membership luncheon and Board elections
POSTPONED UNTIL DECEMBER |
| July 13 | Tentative Summer Tea at Hiwan Museum |
| July 21,23,28,30 | Tentative days for Hiwan Kids program in the Grove |
| August | Annual Western Slope Peach Sale Due to crop frost damage--
CANCELLED |

EMAHS Book Club

The book club meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. We gather at Eric's House (museum offices) at 12:30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Due to COVID-19 health protocols, meetings are not currently scheduled. We will gather again when it is safe to do so. Below is a list of recommended books from our February meeting.

I'll Be Your Blue Sky
by Marisa de los Santos

The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek
by Kim Richardson

The Only Woman in the Room
by Marie Benedict

The Eagle Catcher
by Margaret Coel



Picture provided by Laurie Romberg

The Record is published two times per year by the Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society. Deadline for the Fall/Winter 2020 issue is November 1. Email your submissions to Laurie Romberg at laurie@rombergdsgnsplus.com.

For More Information

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

www.jchscolorado.org

Join Us! Support local history with your membership in EMAHS:

Benefits Include:

- A subscription to "The Record" the EMAHS newsletter.
- Special invitations for history programs and social events.
- Field trips to museums and historical sites
- A subscription to "Historically Jeffco," the annual publication of the Jefferson County Historical Commission.

Available at the Hiwan Museum

Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____

Enclosed is my check for annual membership (select the category that best suits you and your family):

_____ \$25 Pioneer _____ \$150 Mercantile (business membership)

_____ \$50 Miner _____ \$ _____ (Donation)

_____ \$100 Rancher

Memberships are fully tax deductible, less the fair market value (fmv\$5.00) of benefits received.

Tell me more about: _____ **Volunteering opportunitis** _____ **Making a memorial gift**

Detach and mail to: **Evergreen Mountain Area Historical Society, P. O. Box 703, Evergreen, CO 80437**

Or go online to **EMAHSColorado.org** and click on **JOIN!**