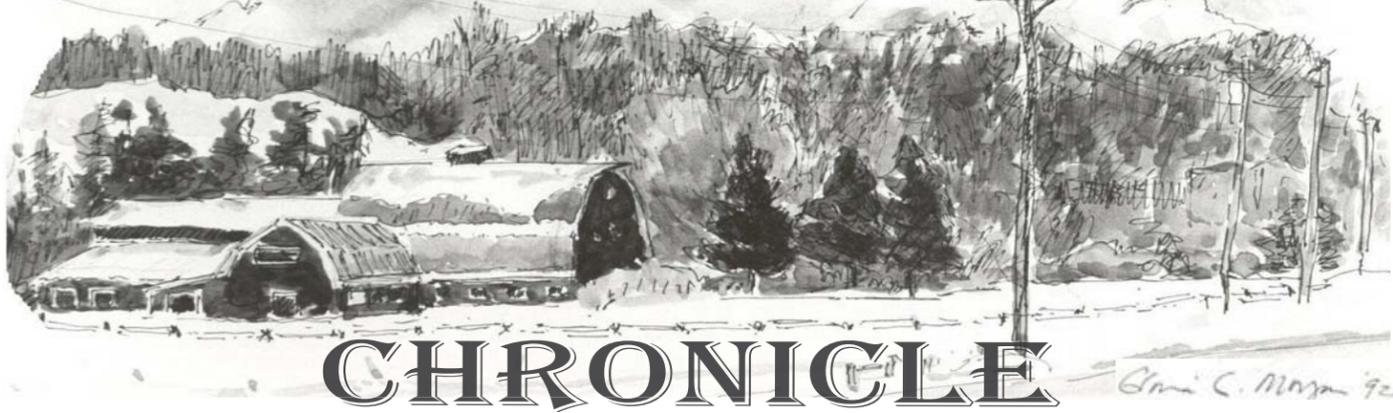


JACKSON HOLE

50th Anniversary
1958-2008

HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM



CHRONICLE

VOLUME XXVIII NO. 2

JACKSON'S HOLE, WYOMING

SUMMER 2008

50TH ANNIVERSARY JUBILEE! *COME ONE, COME ALL*



Keith Valley, Saddle Maker

We're throwing history-making block party to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Jackson Hole Museum. Put July 12, 2008 on your calendar and come out to celebrate between 12:00 noon and 5:00 p.m. Visitors and locals of all ages are invited to this fun-filled afternoon of activities and refreshments.

The Jackson Hole Museum began its auspicious existence 50 years ago. Slim Lawrence had a lifetime of collections worthy of exhibit, and Homer Richards had a building to house them. Since that time, museum exhibits have told compelling stories and highlighted Slim's collections to benefit travelers and local folks alike.

A sampling of entertainment includes live music interspersed with storytellers and cowboy poets featuring Eddie Anders, keyboard extraordinaire, and a few songs by vocalist Laura Turner; local storytellers Bob Dornan, Harold Turner, Mike Wardell, and Ken Thomasma will spin tales about Jackson Hole; and cowboy poet David Kornblum will entertain with his rollicking rhyme. We're gathering community members and actors to don

period costumes and saunter through partygoers immersed in their historic characters ready to tell their stories.

That would be enough for a great party, but there's more! Demonstrations will educate and inspire, including: mountain man program by park ranger Tom Roberts, bedecked in full mountain man regalia; blacksmithing demonstration by Steve Fontanini and his portable

forge; saddle maker and leather artist, Keith Valley; random willow basket weaving by Valerie Seaburg; interactive production and use of natural dyes by weaver Doris Florig; and cowboy hat making by J.H. Hat Company. Old time quilts will be on display, loaned by Sandra Brewer of Stitch n' Time.

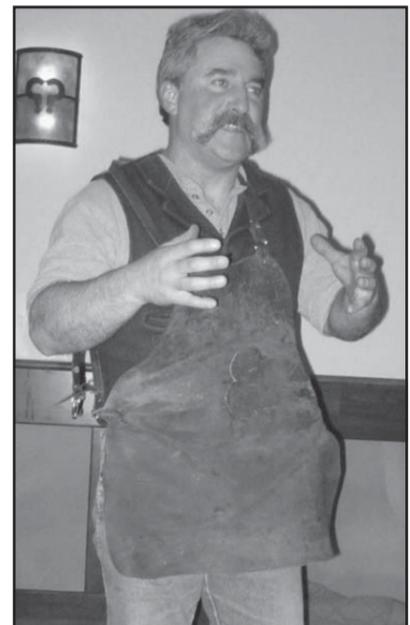
Children and youth activities also abound on this special day. Kids can create their own brands, or discover history through a scavenger hunt. Face painting will be offered with a historical theme. There will be a children's "photo op" featuring historical characters. A fish pond with poles and prizes will thrill the younger set. A steer head will be set up so kids can practice roping and play cowboy or cowgirl. Adults can try too!

Don't forget the food and drink! Special 50th anniversary cakes, kegs of root beer, flavored shaved ice, and popcorn will be free for the asking. Planet Palate will offer tantalizing food.

Various door prizes will be drawn throughout the afternoon including an old time family photo at Red Velvet Swing.

The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum extends a huge thank you to all of our member and community volunteers, for without their help, this gala event would not be possible. We also thank our neighboring businesses for their support and participation during our 50th anniversary party. We are particularly grateful to our sponsors, including the Wort Hotel.

This party will roll regardless of the weather—a large tent will be the focal point of the jubilee. Wander into the Jackson Hole Museum during the day when admission will be free! Watch the local papers and your e-mail for a full schedule of events as the party gets closer. We're counting on *you* to help make this 50th Anniversary Jubilee memorable, and, well, a *history-making* event!



Steve Fontanini, Blacksmith

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Mission Statement

The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum collects, interprets, and preserves our unique heritage in an engaging and enriching manner.



The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum Chronicle is published quarterly for members and friends of the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum. Suggestions and comments are always welcome.

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Organizational News

JHHSM Welcomes Jean and Becca

Jean Hansen grew up on farms and ranches in southern Idaho and northern Nevada, and started out thinking she wanted to be a doctor. She still has a desire to help people, but in a different way as our Museum Manager. She did her premed undergraduate work at the College of Idaho, earning a B.S. in biology with a minor in chemistry. In 2006, she continued her education, receiving her MBA in organizational management from the University of Phoenix.

Much of her work experience has been with non-profit organizations. She spent three years working for Best Friends in southern Utah, the largest sanctuary for abused or abandoned animals in the nation. For eighteen months, she was contracted through a grant program by the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians to develop an integrated resource management plan on their reservation at Pipe Springs, Arizona. She spent a year as the executive director of the Idaho Film and Television Institute founded by Dawn Wells (Mary Ann on Gilligan's Island). Most recently, she served as the executive director of the Ashton, Idaho, Chamber of Commerce and Ashton Visitors Center. Throughout her employment with all of these non-profits, she also wrote content and copy edited for Vertical Media in Jackson.

Jean was attracted to the Museum Manager position because she truly enjoys working with and meeting a wide variety of people from all over the world. She enjoys the diversity of the job because she says the museum is a visitor and information center, as well as a gift shop and museum. "I tell the employees at the museum that they are the first, last, and perhaps the only impression people get of the Jackson Hole Historical Society, and they are Directors of Lasting Impressions."



Our new Research and Education Assistant is Becca Stephens. She moved with her family to Star Valley in 1989 where her father finally realized his lifelong dreams of living in the mountains and owning horses. Her parents home schooled her three younger siblings and her, and she attended a private Christian academy in Pensacola, Florida for her last two years of high school. She earned a BA in Elementary Education with a history concentration from the University of Northern Colorado in 2006. For the last three years, she has been student teaching, substitute teaching, and enjoying various other childcare positions including nine months in Youth Activities with Disney Cruise Lines. She plans to go back to school for a masters in history, and eventually would like to teach history in middle school.

History has always been a favorite subject because she loves hearing people's stories. That love led her to the Historical Society. She also enjoys traveling and meeting new people, and is a huge Disney fan. Some of her other interests are skiing, cooking and playing with

her girls: Faith, a miniature Schnauzer; Roadkill, a black and white cat; and April Maid, a Percheron/thoroughbred mare.



The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum has gratefully received the following memorial donations:

- In memory of John M. Ryan**
 - Helen Goodrick
- In memory of Louis Mack**
 - Marion Buchenroth

The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum welcomes the following new members (March, April, and May):

- Howard Coffin
- Louise Galiher
- Barbara Gray
- Anthony Greene
- Nancy Guthrie
- Khalsa Gurubachan
- Tim and Tracy Jacobson
- David and Deborah Meagher
- Susan Meyer
- Mark Nowlin
- Douglas Pitman
- Jan Segerstrom
- WCCFA

Thank you for your sup-

Historical Happenings

HISTORIC PHOTOS FEATURED ON START BUS

The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum was selected from local non-profit applicants to have images representative of the Jackson Hole's history featured on a Teton County Start Bus. After review of hundreds of photographic images, staff decided that historic transportation images would be fun and appropriate to grace the sides of the bus.

Technology has not been on our side with this project. Old and very small photographs have low resolution—thus they are blurry when enlarged. Together with START and the production company, we are creating a template for the side of the bus that will allow several smaller photos to be displayed. The multiple image template will not cover the bus windows, a request made by several Start Bus regulars. If the template is a success, it will be offered to other local non-profits who have been unable to fund the expensive single image wrap.

Watch for the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum's bus wrap this summer. Staff spearheaded this project and a gracious volunteer donated technical expertise and time to make this project a reality.

ORAL HISTORIES PRESERVED

The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum has embarked on a multi-year project to transfer its current collection of over 450 oral histories onto cds. The oral histories were recorded on reel-to-reel film and cassette tapes between 1958 and 2006. In some cases, the tapes are fragile, and with the rapid changes in technology, the medium of tape is becoming obsolete.

Along with the creation of the cds, each story is slated to be transcribed to written text that will be available to the public, students, and researchers alike.

This project was created so that in the future you will be able to hear the colorful tales of the early settlers to the Jackson Hole valley in their own voices. Entire oral histories will be available in the Historical Society library. Excerpts from the stories will be used in some new exhibitions.

More importantly, a written transcription, though not able to capture the voice, will preserve for generations to come the exact verbiage and dialect of the people who's stories make up the history of this valley.

This project would not be possible without the help and keen interest of volunteers, staff, and board members.

PRESERVATION GRANT AWARDED

We are excited to announce that we have recently received a ReCAP grant from Heritage Preservation, the national organization dedicated to preserving our nation's heritage. This grant will provide funds for a conservation assessment from their Conservation Assessment Program (CAP). The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum will hire a professional conservator and a preservation architect to assess the collections and historical cabins. The recommendations of these professionals will guide the organization in the task of preserving our community's valuable treasures.

This is the JHHSM's second CAP grant, the first being awarded in 1993. A professional conservator identified specific collection-related needs at that time. Since then, the organization has made great strides toward mitigating the original assessor's concerns. One important step was acquiring the building at 225 N. Cache in Jackson, Wyoming. This building will be renovated into the new Museum of Jackson Hole, doubling the current museum's exhibition space and increasing the percentage of the collection on exhibit. Staff and volunteers have been working steadily on inventorying, cataloguing, organizing, and storing the museum's valuable collections that tell the story of Jackson Hole.

Look for the our START Bus at the 50th Anniversary Jubilee.



July

Saturday, July 12
50th Anniversary Jubilee for the Jackson Hole Museum 1958-2008
12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m.
 Refreshments, live music, kids' activities, demonstrations, entertainment, and fun for the whole family. Come help us celebrate!

Thursday, July 17
3rd Annual Doc MacLeod Campfire Tales and Potluck
6:30 p.m.
 Join friends at the Triangle X Ranch for good food and storytelling. Bring a dish to share and table service. Shuttles will start at 6:00 p.m. from the Triangle X parking area at the ranch.

Thursday, July 24
Ranch Excursion
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Tour the most recently protected valley ranches with the Jackson Hole Land Trust and the JHHSM. Call the Jackson Hole Land Trust at 733-4707 for details and reservations.



August

Friday, August 1 or 8 (to be determined)
Grand Teton National Park Dude Ranch Tour
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 A combined bus and walking tour meets at the Chapel of the Transfiguration parking lot at 8:30 a.m. Learn about the early history of dude ranches in Jackson Hole. Call for reservations 733-9605.

Sunday, August 17
Slim Lawrence Barbecue
4:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 Miller House located 3/4 mile north on the Elk Refuge Road. Complimentary refreshments, wine and beer; catered barbecue dinner, live music, door prizes, and tour of the Miller House. Reservations required by August 7.

Thursday, August 21
Potluck
6:30 p.m.
 Location to be determined. Bring a dish to share and table service. Program to be determined.



September

Month of September
 Locals' appreciation month at the Museum. Free admission to locals.

Thursday, September 4
Volunteer Picnic
Noon to 1:30 p.m.
 Volunteers are invited to enjoy a barbecue lunch at the Historical Society log cabin on Mercill Avenue as a thanks for your invaluable help.

Saturday, September 13
Old Bill's Fun Run
10:00 a.m.
 Town Square
 Come see our booth and enjoy the Fun Run and Walk, entertainment, and food.



For more information on any of the listed programs, please call the Jackson Hole Historical Society at 733-9605.

Slim Lawrence: Collector and Character

Fifty years ago, on June 5th, the Jackson Hole Museum was dedicated by the Governor of Wyoming, the Honorable Milward Simpson. We have Homer Richards and W. C. "Slim" Lawrence to thank for their foresight in preserving Jackson Hole history: Homer provided the facility, Slim donated his extensive collection, and the rest, so to speak, is "history."

It is well known that Slim was an avid amateur historian, and spent a lifetime collecting things of interest. What is perhaps not common knowledge is how his interest in collecting began, how he came to the Jackson Hole area, and other unusual endeavors he pursued.

William Cecil Lawrence was born in Laramie on August 31, 1899, the only child of Elizabeth Schork Lawrence and Sidney Lawrence. His father Sidney drove the 25-mile Laramie-to-Woods Landing leg of the mail and stage line. "Slim remembered riding with his father on the stage and curling up in a buffalo hide under the seat to keep warm." (Diem, p.60) At age seven, while playing soldiers near the family home at Fort Sanders, an abandoned army post, Cecil found a token from the fort trader, J. Wanless and Co., D.T., (Dakota Territory) dated 1868. The token can be seen today in the W. C. Lawrence Collection in the Jackson Hole Museum, and ". . . it proves just how early Slim was obsessed with collecting old 'relics'." (Rudd, p. 3)

Slim's parents separated around 1910, and Sidney went to work at the Baldwin Ranch on the Big Laramie River near Gleneyre, Colorado. Slim went to live on the ranch with his father. Slim had two adventures on the ranch; shooting himself accidentally when he dropped a loaded rifle while mounting a horse, and narrowly escaping a wolf attack while he was trapping. (Diem, p. 61-62) No doubt a turning point in Slim's life was the death of his father Sidney. Two different accounts exist of how Sidney died, but both state he was discovered dead by a young Slim.

After being cared for by friends, Slim was placed in a boys' boarding school in Denver. Slim soon ran away to Gleneyre where he stayed with the Schroeder family. Then his mother sent him to live with a friend in South Denver to attend public school. During this time, his mother Elizabeth was in Cheyenne taking nurses training. In the summers, before her graduation, she worked at the Wheatland hospital. (Diem, p. 62) When Slim was in Wheatland, he joined the one of the earliest Boy Scout troops in Wyoming. The troop earned money to go to Fort Laramie to hunt for arrowheads, and "this collecting experience was likely one of the early influences which stimulated Slim's interest in Indian artifacts." (Diem, p. 62)



Slim Lawrence Playing Piano, ca 1960s 1993.4921.001

Slim first heard about Jackson Hole from his father who traveled here in the 1870s as a meat hunter for the Union Pacific railroad. Slim says "Years later as a small boy I listened to his stories of Jackson Hole, its beauty, the abundance of wildlife and fish. My father felt that it was the most beautiful, unspoiled place that he had visited. As a child I promised myself that I would some day visit Jackson Hole." (Stephens, p. A8)

Slim first traveled to Jackson Hole in the summer of 1912 with the Kirk family, "traveling from Rawlins to Jackson Hole and Yellowstone National Park using a wagon drawn by two horses, saddle horses, a cookbox on the back of the wagon, and tepee tents for sleeping. (Diem, p. 62-63) "I first come up here and got stuck on Jackson Hole in 1912," Slim says, as he explains his first visit to Jackson Hole. "I was only 14. I never could get it out of my mind." (Teton, p. 4) And return he did, but not before he had some other interesting adventures and professions.

In 1913, Slim's mother married Frank A Hadsell, and they lived with him in Rawlins. Hadsell had come to Wyoming in 1880 where he became involved with sheep ranching, and owned a ranch near Green Mountain. In addition to sheep ranching, he had a variety of professions including Carbon County Sheriff, U.S. Marshall, and Wyoming State Senator. In 1920, he was appointed Warden at the State Penitentiary at Rawlins. (Diem, p. 63-64) While digging a foundation for a new family home in Rawlins, they uncovered six graves in an old Union Pacific graveyard. One contained a skeleton with rusted handcuffs and a bullet hole between the eyes. Slim wanted the skull, but his mother wouldn't let him keep it. The handcuffs, however, reside in the W. C. Lawrence Collection. (Rudd, p. 4)

In late 1917 or early 1918, Slim enlisted in the U.S. Navy where he trained as a hospital corpsman at a Pacific Coast base, but finished up as a fireman. (Diem, p. 65) For six months Slim remained in California working a variety of jobs before returning to Wyoming to work at the Green Mountain ranch as an assistant manager for the Yellowstone

Sheep Company. He traveled for a year and a half from sheep camp to sheep camp delivering groceries, managing the company books, and helping supervise the men. Traveling through Wyoming, Slim met many early settlers as well as the Indians on the Wind River Reservation. He collected historic items from Indians and traders. Slim recalls that in 1921 and 1922 many sweat lodges dotted the reservation, and that he would often attend the dances and ceremonies, such as the Sundance. (Rudd, p. 6)

"One day on the banks of the Wind River, Slim came upon an Indian woman pounding berries. He asked her if she would trade the stone mortar and pestle she was using. She expressed reluctance, since they had belonged to her grandmother, but she finally agreed to trade them for a new coffee grinder



Slim with some of his artifacts 1958.1504.001

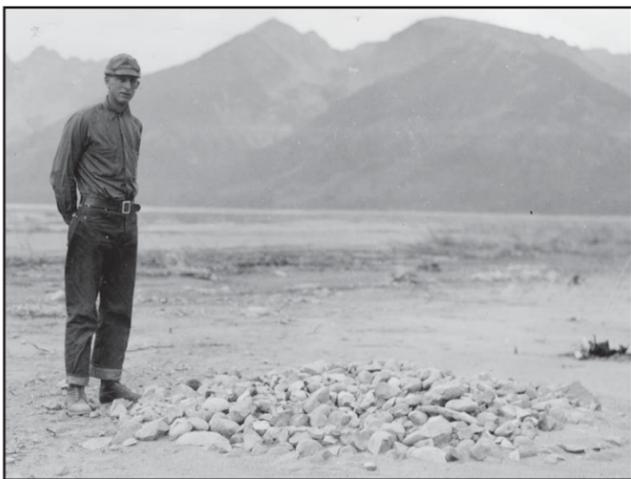
and a bale of red muslin. As they agreed to the terms, she went down to the stream to wash the stones. It was all Slim could do to stop her from cleaning off the bits of berry and the stains, for he wanted to preserve a record of how the stones had been used." (Rudd, p. 6)

In 1922, Slim heard about a bronze Jefferson Peace Medal that was in the possession of an Indian at Fort Washakie, rumored to have belonged to Sacajawea. "Whether this was true or not, it was without doubt given to the Shoshones at an early date, very likely by Lewis and Clark in 1805-1806." Slim obtained the medal and later stated that it "could have belonged to Sacajawea, but we don't have enough evidence to prove the story." Slim collected a total of fourteen peace medals over the next forty years, resulting in one of the finest collections of peace medals in the west. (Rudd, p. 7)

In 1923, Slim left the Yellowstone Sheep Company and began driving a bus for the Lander-Yellowstone Transportation Company. This company was formed to serve the Amoretti Hotel and Camp Company and to carry mail between Lander, Crowheart, Dubois, and Moran. The Amoretti Inn was located close to the present Jackson Lake Lodge. While in Jackson Hole during his employment as a bus driver, Slim stayed in one of Ben Sheffield's Teton Lodge cabins located near the base of the Jackson Lake Dam in old Moran. During the off season, Slim tried many other employment opportunities such as fur buying, land speculation, penitentiary jobs, lumber hauling to Florida, and managing 50 Indians in Hollywood during the filming of the movie "Iron Horse." (Diem, p. 68-69)

In the summer of 1929, Slim met Verba Delaney who was employed as a waitress at Sheffield's lodge. Verba was from Teton Basin just west of the Teton Mountains, and grew up on the family farm. She shared Slim's interest in history and love of the outdoors, and they were married in September of 1929.

One of Slim's first acquaintances in the valley was Sheffield's wrangler,



Slim Lawrence and Indian Fire Pits, 1937 2004.0111.132

Herb Whiteman. "Slim began trading with Herb for some old firearms, and it soon was widely known that Slim was interested in old relics of all kinds." It was from Herb that Slim learned of an abandoned Indian campsite at the north end of Jackson Lake. Each morning Slim would get up before sunrise and go down to the lake. Over the next few years he and Verba collected projectiles, a number of steatite (talc) cooking bowls or dishes, knives, bifaces, fleshers, grinding stones, and some jewelry and ceremonial objects. (Rudd, p. 23) The site on Jackson Lake is now called the Lawrence Site, and the artifacts are in the collection

of the Jackson Hole Museum.

Among the dudes that Slim and Verba got to know at the Teton Lodge were the Johnsons. The Johnsons asked Slim and Verba to be full-time caretakers of the AMK Ranch in the Fall of 1929. (Rudd, p. 24) Slim served as caretaker under the next owner Mr. Berol as well, who gave Slim a lifetime residency on the ranch. (Teton, p. 4) "I wanted to live up here at this end of the lake where I could hunt and fish all I wanted and trap and do a lot of reading and be independent. It's just the job I wanted because I was by myself all the time. I done the work, of course, and always had it ready for 'em, and I've had a great life up here. Done what I wanted to do and made a good living." (Teton, p. 4) Over the next 40 years, as caretakers for Johnson and Berol and in their personal lives, Slim and Verba enjoyed a unique lifestyle in their work and recreation. This included trapping, hunting, fishing, dog sledding, skiing, and target shooting. Slim remained on the AMK until 1982, when he moved to a Lander nursing home. Slim died five years later at age 87 from complications of Parkinson's disease, from which he had suffered for 23 years.

There are some little known facts about Slim that might surprise you. Did you know that he participated in the first moonlight ascent of the Grand Teton on September 9 - 10, 1933? The JHSM has the original Certificate of Ascent from Exum Mountain Guide Service and School of American Mountaineering as part of its collection. Did you know Slim initiated the "Jackson Lake Ice Breakup" contest in the 1940s? "A 50-gallon metal barrel was placed on the ice west of Moran. Jackson Hole residents then made their prediction of the exact time when the barrel would touch the shore which became the official time of the ice breakup." (Diem, p. 85)

Slim was a successful practical joker. Verba asked him to purchase a vacuum cleaner for her on one of his trips to Denver. He brought back an antique Doty Vacuum Sweeper with bellows. It actually worked, but as the story goes, he bought her a new one, too. The sweeper is currently part of the collection.

Another story as told by Homer's son Jack Richards relates how Slim was fishing with a friend when the fellow took out his dentures. Slim swiped them, and the friend thought he had lost his teeth in the lake. Slim had the dentures mounted in a fish as a joke, and the fish with dentures ended up in the museum's collection as lasting evidence of Slim's sense of humor.

This article would be incomplete without mentioning Homer Richards. A native of Missouri, he came to Jackson Hole and homesteaded near Jenny Lake. He later sold his land to the Snake River Land and Cattle Company, and his



Homer and Slim in front of their legacy 1958.0403.001

homestead is now part of Grand Teton National Park. He owned and operated the Flame Motel in Jackson where the present Sundance Inn is located.

In the 1930s, Slim became an active Shriner, and made annual trips around the country with Homer and other local Shriners. On such trips they always visited museums. In 1940 Homer suggested that Slim should start his own museum, and he proposed to furnish a building for the project. "By the time Slim had spent over 20 years on the AMK ranch, his insatiable appetite for the collecting of historical artifacts, memorabilia and photographs was fast outstripping his ability to store these items, which ranged in size from Indian trade beads to old ox yokes and wagon parts. Verba urged Slim to reach a decision to do something with the collection besides storing it in their house and on the property." (Diem, p. 82) It took Homer years of urging Slim to bring his collection down from the AMK Ranch so visitors would have the opportunity to learn more about the early day history of Jackson Hole. Slim finally agreed, much to the good fortune of visitors for the last 50 years.

By Liz Jacobson

Resources

Diem, Kenneth L., Lenore L. Diem, and William C. Lawrence, 1986. *A Tale of Dough Gods, Bear Grease, Cantaloupe, and Sucker Oil*.

Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce, 1958. Press release.

Rudd, Robert C. *Naturalist*, Jackson Hole Museum, v. 34, Summer 1983. "Slim Lawrence."

Stephens, Ray. "Slim Lawrence was top area historian." *Jackson Hole Guide*, 1986, v. 3, no. 23.

Teton, The Magazine of Jackson Hole, Wyoming, v. 10, 1977. "Through the years at the AMK."

Free Walking Tours of Historic Downtown Jackson Make Debut

This summer the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum (JHHSM) is again offering walking tours of Jackson's historic downtown. But this year, we've made some changes! The tours are free—part of the Society's mission to reach out to our community and its visitors, helping them experience the rich history that is ours.

Other changes have been initiated as well. The hour-long tours begin in the center of the Town Square every Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. through August.

Tour guides highlight many historic buildings beyond the Town Square including the Wort Hotel, Cowboy Bar, Jackson Drug Company, Teton Theater, American Legion Hall, St. John's Episcopal Church, and Deloney's General Merchandise. Appropriately, the tours end at the Jackson Hole Museum, giving tour participants an opportunity to deepen their knowledge of Jackson Hole history.

Led by guides who are passionate about Jackson's heritage, the tours are enjoyable and engaging. Each guide interprets Jackson's history differently, but their talks are all sprinkled with anecdotes and fun facts sure to please both local residents and visitors. Tour guide regulars are Linda Walker, local real estate agent who has years of experience leading the tour; Rebecca Stephens, research and education assistant at JHHSM, and Karen Reinhart, curator of education and outreach at JHHSM. Jesse O' Connor, avid historian and tour guide, will be available from time to time, especially for weekend or off-season special tours.

We challenge you to learn more about the wonderful area and town in which you live or visit! Bring your friends and family!

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN JACKSON
WALKING TOURS







FREE
TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
10:30 AM-11:30 AM

MEET IN THE CENTER OF THE TOWN SQUARE



Jackson Hole
Historical Society
& Museum

"OUR HISTORY CONNECTS US"

LEAVE A LEGACY

Please remember us during your estate planning. By leaving a bequest, creating a memorial, or donating historical items you will help the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum preserve a lasting heritage for generations to come. For more information on how you can help, please contact the JHHSM at 733-9605.

Comment Column

Have you ever had a question or comment about an article you read in the newsletter? You now have the opportunity to ask or tell with the new "Comment Column." Our first entry is from Doris Platts about the story "Bridges Through Time" in the Spring 2008 issue: During the time when a ferry was used at the Snake River Bridge location, a temporary winter bridge was used when the water was low. It was removed in the Spring so it wouldn't wash away. She said Carl Van Winkle died while "cooning" the cable. Cooning is crossing the river hand over hand with legs wrapped around the cable (like a raccoon) to bring back the ferry because it was left on the opposite side.



Jackson Hole
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