

2008-09 WSHS AWARD WINNERS
Nominated by the Sheridan County Historical Society

Publications:

Fiction: ***Give Me Eighty Men: Women and the Myth of the Fetterman Fight*** by Shannon Smith
In this book, Smith re-examines the works of the two Mrs. Carringtons in the context of contemporary evidence. The book both challenges standard interpretations of the American myth and shows the powerful influence of female writers in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Poetry-Honorable Mention: ***Eleven That Morning*** and ***Breakfast Was Over*** by Steve Adelson
These two historical poems portray events at the Fetterman Fight and the Wagon Box Fight both near Fort Phil Kearny in northern Wyoming.

Magazines / Newspapers: ***These Men Play Real Polo: An Elite Sport in the Cowboy State, 1890-1930*** from **Montana Magazine** by Michael A. Amundson
Mike's well researched article, enhanced by many historic photos, delves into the puzzle to western historians who question how such a sport, traditionally of the elite, fits into the popular notion of Wyoming as the land of the cowboy. It is very possible that nowhere else on earth has such good polo been played with such superior and well-trained horses, together with "such a curious blend of ex-patriots and polo-playing locals" as in the early days of the town of Big Horn, Wyoming. The sport continues to be an integral part of the area today.

Professional Audio/Video Award: ***Drawn to Yellowstone*** by Wyoming PBS and Wild West Video Productions
This unique historical documentary produced for Wyoming PBS carries the viewer through the defining moments of how the artwork of Thomas Moran coupled with the many William H. Jackson photographs of the Yellowstone region helped Congress recognize the need to designate Yellowstone as the world's first national park...and the Park has continued to return the favor, inspiring artists throughout the years.

Non-Professional Audio/Video Award: ***John D. Loucks – Pioneer*** by Sheridan County Retired Education Personnel
This video is the second produced by the Sheridan County Retired Education Personnel for use as educational tools in Wyoming schools. This time, the video is accompanied by a study guide including a section for teachers to use geared toward third grade students in their study of Sheridan, an adult orientation section, and a section containing copies of historic documents.

Fine Arts Award: ***Buffalo Bill's Cowboy Band Concert Tour, March 18-20, 2009*** –Professor Michael Masterson, Director
Dr. Masterson researched and re-assembled the collection of original musical arrangements performed by Buffalo Bill's Cowboy Band from 1884 through 1916. This body of music by notable musicians of the day was composed to represent the various acts portrayed by "Buffalo Bill's Wild West" and served as the show's sound track, similar to modern movies today. In March of 2009, with members of both the Powell and Sheridan bands, the Cowboy band performed at Powell, Casper, and for the Society for American Music Conference in Denver. The concert was narrated by Dr. Paul Fees, and the music was accompanied by a multi-media presentation with original photographs, motion pictures, posters, and programs detailing the historical impact of "Buffalo Bill's Wild West".

Young Historian:

Grades 3-5: 2nd Place - ***Wyoming Alphabet*** by Rachel Jahiel, Behley Malkuch, and Kass Williamson
Rachel, Behley, and Kass worked on this project in their Independent Study class at Woodland Park School in Sheridan. They researched and designed this very creative booklet by finding an interesting detail about Wyoming for each letter of the alphabet and working it into a rhyme.

Grades 6-8: 2nd Place - ***Nellie Tayloe Ross: A Woman of Many Firsts*** by Tyler Julian

Tyler chose Nellie Tayloe Ross for his History Day project following the theme, "The Individual in History". He presented his project in the form of a Junior Individual Exhibit. After extensive research, Tyler felt that Nellie Tayloe Ross is a forgotten hero who needs to be recognized for all the work she succeeded in doing in her long lifetime.

Junior Activities:

Grades 3-5: 3rd Place - ***ABC Book of Wyoming History*** by Woodland Park 4th Grade, Mrs. Hinton

The students in Mrs. Hinton's class developed this alphabet book of Wyoming after their study of the history of the state. Each student wrote one or more original articles and illustrated it for the booklet. The students enjoyed doing the project and showing off what they had learned about Wyoming history.

Grades 6-8: 1st Place - ***Buildings of Sheridan Quilt Project*** by Sheridan Junior High School 8th grade Social Studies classes, David Peterson

David Peterson again this year spiced up his teaching of history with the making of a quilt. The third quilt in the Sheridan History series is Buildings of Sheridan. Each student or group of 2-3 students was responsible for one quilt block, while each student was required to write an essay about how they chose and researched their building and made their square.

Activities:

Educational Project: ***The Washuts: One Family's Journey*** by Leon Washut and Karen Ballek Morse

The Washut Family History narrative is a great addition to the history of the Sheridan area community and is representative of many immigrant families. It is a fantastic example of how their history and heritage can be shared with family and friends, as well as the local Sheridan library, museum, and community. Since so many eastern Europeans and Poles settled in Wyoming and contributed to our rich culture here, the Washut Family History helps illustrate the continuing story of these immigrants.

Museum: ***Black Diamonds Trunk*** by Nathan Doerr

The Black Diamonds trunk developed by Nathan Doerr for use either at the Museum or in the classroom details the rich coal mining history in the Sheridan area. Included in the large trunk are artifacts – some original and some reproductions –, an Educator's Notebook containing background information and lessons/activities, multiple student activity books, a notebook of old photographs, a video of early life in one of the coal mining communities, a collection of read aloud books related to coal mining, and a set of white gloves for students to use when handling the artifacts.

Annual Services Award: Dick Bodine

Former Sheridan County Historical Society Board member, Dick Bodine, has shared his considerable knowledge of our area history, his expert knowledge of antique farm machinery, his physical labor, machinery, engineering and carpentry skills, time and money to assist the Sheridan County Historical Society and Museum this past year. Dick also volunteers his time and expertise at the Bradford Brinton Memorial in Big Horn.

Chapter Award – 1st Place: ***Scanning, Researching, Cataloguing, Preserving and Providing Public Access to Elsa Spear Byron Photographs, Papers, Diaries and Artifacts and Henry Asa and Herbert Coffeen's Photograph Collection***

The opportunity to gain access to these collections has presented itself for the first time, through the generosity and efforts of Elsa Spear Byron's daughter, Marilyn Bilyeu, and the Marc Coffeen family. The Sheridan County Historical Society has accepted the challenge to do what they can to save the collections while the opportunity is available. When the project is completed, digital images of these photos, other materials, and

artifacts will be available to the public to view. Most of the photos are unique, not available elsewhere, and many have never been seen.

Maurine Carley Memorial Award

The recipient of the Maurine Carley Historic Preservation Award has been awarded to the Sheridan Heritage Center for its continued efforts to preserve the historic Sheridan Inn. The Sheridan Heritage Center successfully secured an historic easement last year. This historic easement is the only one of its kind in the state, and it assures the Inn will retain its historical integrity for many decades. The Sheridan Inn was built in 1893. Its location directly across the street from the Burlington-Missouri Railroad Depot made it a prominent building in the city from the town's inception. The Inn became famous under the ownership of William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody.

Bob Prill, president of the Sheridan Heritage Center, indicated the group worked closely with the Sheridan Community Land Trust. He indicated this group is willing to assist other communities that may wish to establish historic easements.

In recognition of this worthy project, the Sheridan Heritage Center has been awarded \$300 to be used for future preservation work, a plaque, and a print of the Teton Range from the original oil painting done by noted Wyoming artist Conrad Schwiering.

The Maurine Carley Award is awarded to an individual or organization in recognition of an outstanding project in the field of historic preservation for buildings, trails, or sites. Maurine Carley was a long-time member of the WSHS, acted as treasurer for twenty years, wrote the guide, and led many of the society's summer treks. She was dedicated to the preservation of Wyoming history.