ACTIVE IN THE ARCHIVES

When you hear the word “archives”, what do you think about?

In our world, the AHS archives contain 30,000 original written documents, photographs and objects that tell Aspen’s story, and it’s managed by a team of three archivists. In addition to accepting ongoing donations from the community to add to the collection, Curator Lisa Hancock, Archivist Anna Scott and Archive Tech Megan Cerise have been busy. Here are a couple of the highlights from the past year:

- Our collection of 16-mm films was approaching its shelf life, and in danger of deteriorating but thanks to several grants, the archives team had them digitized. Footage from the 1940s to ’60s is now available in DVD, including scenes from Snowmass’ grand opening as a ski mountain and vintage Winterskol parades.

- The days of searching through microfiche for old newspaper articles are over! Thanks to a partnership with the Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection, the Pitkin County Library and the Aspen Times, local newspapers from 1881 to 1963 are all keyword searchable online. Simply visit coloradohistoricnewspapers.org to explore everything from mining claim disputes to the rebirth of skiing in Aspen.

- The archives are the repository for objects which tell the community’s story. In 2013 we added 2,197 items and digitized 413 oral histories. From WW II-related items found in the Mother Lode Building to Jim Blanning’s suicide note, these items paint a diverse picture of Aspen’s past.

FEATURED SITE: Carriage House

There’s a carriage house that sits behind the Wheeler/Stallard Museum in the West End. But, it’s not a home for buggies.

Instead, this structure contains the Aspen Historical Society’s archives—some 30,000 objects, photographs and written materials that all tell Aspen’s story. From Elizabeth Paepcke’s high heels to a chunk of silver from the 1,840-pound “Silver Queen” nugget that was pulled from Smuggler Mine, these items are all integral to the history of our town. Birth certificates, newspapers through the decades and donated memorabilia paint a picture of the characters and families who developed Aspen.

The Aspen Historical Society is launching a $3 million campaign to renovate and protect these archives. The interior-only remodel will safeguard these treasures for future generations, and an endowment will ensure their protection past our lifetimes.

We are in the final planning stages of this campaign. To date, we’ve received just over $1 million. Currently, there is an opportunity to match a $500,000 anonymous gift. We hope to start construction soon, and officially launch our Portal to the Past campaign.

Stay tuned for donation opportunities and events surrounding the campaign. Or, come by to explore the Carriage House on your own. Inside, there’s a treasure for everyone.
Dear Friends and AHS Family,

The opportunity to give you a short update on the status of the Aspen Historical Society is a true privilege. We are entrusted with the near-sacred responsibility of overseeing all that has come before in this unique place, with clearly keeping an eye on the effect of history on our future.

2013 was a very big year for us as we recognized the 50th Anniversary of the Aspen Historical Society. A week-long celebration at the Wheeler/Stallard Museum culminated with the “Block Party,” a blow-out that got every segment of our community out for a grand tribute to the job the society does. We thank you all! In case you missed it, it shall return in 2014.

Long-time president and CEO, Georgia Herrick Hanson, retired at the end of 2013. Georgia, whose name is almost synonymous with AHS, has guided the organization through some of its darkest days to some of its brightest. Through Georgia’s leadership, the society is on very strong financial and organizational footing, supported by an excellent and caring staff. It is with a grand salute and heartfelt gratitude that we wish Georgia the best of everything in her future endeavors.

Incoming president and CEO, Kelly Murphy, brings a wealth of experience to the society and I request that you join me in giving her rousing welcome. Kelly is a licensed Colorado attorney, has done extensive work in public relations and outreach, is very familiar with a cross-section of the people in our valley. She has a deep interest in Aspen’s history and we look forward to Kelly’s leadership and vision as she takes over the reins of AHS.

Our capital campaign, Portal to the Past, is off to a strong start but we still have a lot of work to do. So far, we have raised more than $1 million of a $3 million campaign goal with the assistance of a generous matching gift from an anonymous donor. Portal to the Past supports a critical remodel of the Carriage House, which contains and stores our archives. (See the related story in this newsletter, Featured Site: Carriage House, for more information.) This remodel will bring our archives storage up to state-of-the-art standards, making it fireproof and flood proof. This restructuring will also create a much more user-friendly access to the archives through electronic and screen retrieval. We plan to take the campaign outreach to the public in 2014 in hopes of starting the remodel by summer. Please stop by the museum and see the exciting plans we have for the Carriage House remodel.

Because of you and your continued interest, it is our privilege, every day, to get the unique story of Aspen out to as many people as possible, visitors and locals alike. The Aspen Historical Society is proud of its role in preserving Aspen’s past!

Very truly yours,

Tony Vagneur
President of the Board of Trustees
# WINTER 2014
## Programs and Events Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>Photography: Turning Negatives Into Positives</td>
<td>Limelight Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 28</td>
<td>Ski Instruction: It’s All Downhill</td>
<td>Bumps at Buttermilk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 4</td>
<td>Guided Adventure: Leading the Way</td>
<td>Wheeler/Stallard Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 11</td>
<td>Fitness Pro: Different Strokes for Different Folks</td>
<td>Limelight Hotel</td>
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<td>Feb. 18</td>
<td>Food and Wine: Setting the Table</td>
<td>Limelight Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 25</td>
<td>Fly Fishing: What’s My Line</td>
<td>Limelight Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>Equestrian: Happy Trails</td>
<td>Limelight Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>Cycling: Working on the Chain Gang</td>
<td>Limelight Hotel</td>
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More information at (970)925-3721 or AspenHistory.org

Continual stewardship of five local sites on the National Register of Historic Places.

By appointment during winter: History Coach Downtown Tour or West End Walking Tour

### Wintersköl Activities:
- Aspen History 101
  - Thursday, Jan. 9 / 5:30 p.m.
  - Wheeler Opera House, 320 E. Hyman Ave.

- Mad Hatter’s Ball featuring Jes Grew
  - Thursday, Jan. 9 / 8 p.m.
  - Wheeler Opera House, 320 E. Hyman Ave.
  - *Hat judging at 7:30 p.m.; winner receives two passes to Aspen Laff Fest*

**Time Travel Tuesdays 5:30 p.m. / $8**

### THREE AWARDS FOR THE UTE EXHIBIT

When we launched *Seasons of the Nuche: Transitions of the Ute People* in the summer of 2012, we knew it was a provocative exhibit that would hopefully trigger dialogue. That happened. And, it’s also received enough attention to be given three awards for the thought-provoking and relationship-building nature of the exhibit.

The Aspen Historical Society received the following:
- American Association of State and Local History Award of Merit for Leadership in History
- Mountain-Plains Museums Association Award of Merit for Leadership and Innovation
- History Colorado’s Josephine Miles Award

Museum representatives were present at each awards ceremony to accept these prestigious recognitions.

*Seasons of the Nuche* is open Tuesday through Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Wheeler/Stallard Museum. It will be up through 2014.

### TOURS:
- **Ski History Tours**
  - Aspen Highlands: Mondays at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
  - Snowmass: Tuesdays at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
  - Aspen Mountain: Fridays at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
  - Hotel Jerome history tour Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.
Fiftieth Birthday Block Party

Kurt Strand and Tamara Tormohlen
Leslie Newbury and father Walt Smith

Petrina DiSalvo, Helen Klanderud, Mary E Hayes, Terry Butler, Lita Heller
K.T. and Tom Sharkey

Chris Moore, Brigid Hazen, Lynne Seeman, and Lori Guilander

Rocky Boyton and Bob Rafelson
Brooke Petersen, Mike Hunter, David Stapleton Jr.

Alex Boyd, Damien Williamson, Beth Slater, Natalie Lacy Travers, and Andrew Travers

Jack Frey, Susie Sanderson

Susan Bernard and Jacqueline Rugger Hutton
In 2013, the community and the Aspen Historical Society lost two of its family members: Tom Sharkey and Helen Klanderud. Tom, a board member, and Helen, a capital campaign steering committee co-chair and member, served tirelessly for our cause. Their absence is felt greatly and we miss them.

Both loved this town and its uniqueness, and worked hard to preserve it. We are thankful for their service and celebrate their lives.

*Photos by Steve Mundinger, Nancy Mayer and Stacey Stuart
INTERNS AT ALTITUDE

Living at 10,900 feet in a cabin without electricity or plumbing may sound like torture to some people. For others, it’s a glorious version of Walden Pond. To our interns, it’s just another summer in Aspen.

Over the past couple of years, our intern program has grown to a full-time group of seven. Coming from around the country, they help staff our summer sites: Holden/Marolt Mining & Ranching Museum and the ghost towns of Independence and Ashcroft. Sometimes, that means living at them too, as well as working tours and events in town.

All interns are certified by the National Association of Interpretation, as interpretive guides and they learn the art of guided tours, customer service, site management, and of course, Aspen history. Many of them come with backgrounds in history or natural science, and they leave with a fuller understanding of the museum world.

If you know someone who may be interested in being an Aspen Historical Society intern, give us a call or visit our website for an application.

ICONIC PLACES TO SAY “I DO”

Our sites are wonderful pieces of the past. But, did you know they can also be part of building a future? Three of our historic sites—the Wheeler/Stallard Museum, Holden/Marolt Mining & Ranching Museum and Ashcroft Ghost Town—can be rented out for weddings and special events, adding some authenticity to any Aspen celebration.

The lush grounds of the Wheeler/Stallard Museum, surrounded by large, swaying cottonwoods, make an ideal setting for a Victorian garden wedding. From small, seated dinner parties to tented, formal events, the gardens take up an entire city block and can accommodate up to 300 guests for ceremonies and receptions.

Out at the Holden/Marolt Mining & Ranching Museum, the rustic setting lends itself to western-themed rehearsal dinners or ranch-style weddings. With Aspen Mountain and Aspen Highlands looming in the backgrounds, the setting and location are hard to beat.

And for a real, high-altitude experience, ceremonies at the ghost town of Ashcroft tucked up against the dramatic peaks of the Castle Creek Valley make for lifelong memories (and great pictures).

For more information on rentals, contact Liza DeBartolo Burnham at (970)925-3721 ext. 107.
ASPIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

Allocation of Income and Expenses For Year End 2013

For full financials and current balance sheet please visit www.AspenHistory.org

THANKS TO OUR SILVER CIRCLE MEMBERS*

Alchemy Audio Visual  Ann Hodges  Margaret Reckling
Barbara Allen  Bill Hodges  Reese Henry & Company, Inc.
Anonymous  David and Ruth Hoff  Related Colorado
Aspen Community Foundation  Holland & Hart  Stewart and Lynda Resnick
Aspen Public Radio  Jane Jenkins  Ellen Roesser
The Aspen Times  Kemo Sabe  Dwayne and Margaret Romero
Boogie’s Diner  Michael and Suzanne Kosnitzky  Ellie Spence
Martin and Ruth Carver  Monty and Paula Loud  Arthur and Freddie Stromberg
City of Aspen  John and Laurie McBride  Tony Vagneur
Marshall and Jane Crouch  Jim and Betty Anne McManus  Charles Wall
Gary and Sylvie Crum  Robert and Marcie Musser  Nancy Wall
Marian Davis  David Newberger  Marilyn Wilmerding
David and Marsha Dowler  Sarah Oates  Hugh and Mary Wise
Alan and Anne Feld  Ruth Owens  David and Rosalie Wood
Larry and Sandra Ferguson  Jack and Debby Oxley  John and Barbara Zrno
Brian and Brigid Hazen  Peach’s Cafe
Linda and Joe Herbst  Poss Architecture

* $1500 +