

# NIWOT GAZETTE

## Newsletter of the Niwot Historical Society

Summer 2009

---

### **PATRIOTIC EXHIBIT FOR A HOME TOWN CELEBRATION**

Niwot is planning its usual all-out celebration on July 4th, and the historical society will again be part of it. But because we cannot set up our tent in front of the firehouse/museum this year, we will relocate across the street in an empty storefront next to Wise Buys Antiques. The space was generously provided for our use by Cotton Burden, owner and manager of the property.

There will be several exhibits on display, utilizing artifacts and photographs from our collection. In keeping with the holiday, we will unveil our rare 49-star American flag which has never before been exhibited. In addition, old-timers and newcomers alike will be able to view a vintage poster listing forty-two Niwot citizens who served our country during WWII.

Pull up a chair and watch the newly released Niwot historical video which will stream continuously for your enjoyment. Copies are available for your own collection. Remember, 10% of the sale price will benefit the NHS. Our photo album will be available for browsing and personal copies can be ordered for a nominal fee.

### **NIWOT SPORTS**

Several items from early Niwot youth sports events will comprise a special display on the Fourth. Stop by and conjure up memories of Little League games at the Johnson ball fields or of high school athletic competitions years ago.

We would like to add to our collection of sports memorabilia, and welcome other mementos from those early days: trophies, uniforms, team snapshots, ball field images and the like. We can scan your favorite sports photos if you don't wish to donate them.

We would also like to hear your experiences as a player or coach; memorable games, favorite coaches, after-game activities, and the like. Unless we preserve them, these memories will be lost, and future Niwot youngsters won't know about the days when youth sports were itself in its youth.



**Niwot Youth Sports batter, 1990s**

## **HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM TEMPORARILY OFF LIMITS**

This summer finds the Niwot Historical Society fenced off from our firehouse-museum because of ongoing grange construction next door. Efforts to keep our colorful planter boxes healthy and blooming during the summer have been aided tremendously by Mother Nature, but we are prepared to take over watering whenever she moves on.

Our outdoor display case and fire cart have been temporarily moved offsite, but copies of our popular walking tour brochures are relocated in a weatherproof box attached to the front fence. So if you're coming to town with friends, grab one and share with them a brief history of Second Avenue.



**Niwot Historical Society's chemical fire cart**

## **NOT ALL FIRE CARTS ARE ALIKE**

During a recent NHS Board discussion about participating in the upcoming July 4<sup>th</sup> parade, a novel idea was thrown into the mix. Why not gather a team of volunteers and dress them in 1910-era uniforms to pull

our chemical fire cart down Second Avenue?

There was only one problem, however. How could it be pulled when there is no place to attach a harness?

After a bit of research, we got our answer. Ours is not a street model. In spite of its large wheels, it was likely designed for interior use only and is not capable of being moved over long distances. Instead of harness shafts, it has only an 18-inch handle on top where one (perhaps two) people could guide it across a factory or workshop floor to extinguish an indoor blaze.

Although our cart is temporarily in storage until fall, you can view Superior's street model chemical cart. It is displayed in the entrance to the Superior Town Hall. It's worth taking a look.

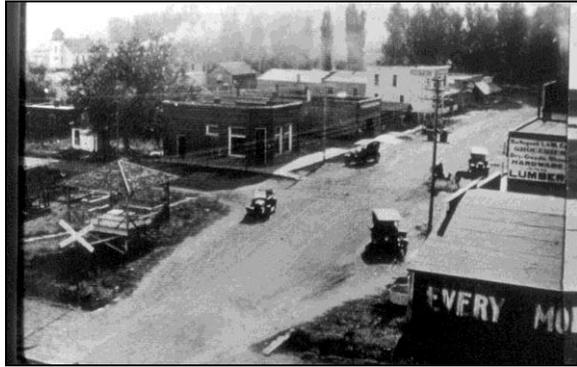


**Town of Superior's chemical fire cart**

## **WALKING TOURS ON THE FOURTH**

Our walking tour docents will provide tours of Old Town Niwot from 11:30 until 1:00 on the 4<sup>th</sup>. This is a service which the NHS offers on other occasions as well. We will be distributing flyers to area schools in the fall so that teachers can schedule tours during the school year. Word of mouth is

our best publicity, so if you are program chairman for a group and looking for an interesting way to combine lunch and shopping with a history lesson thrown in for free, just let us know. Call 303-665-6932.



**Second Avenue in 1910**

### **Mission Statement**

The Niwot Historical Society exists to preserve, collect and protect the history of Niwot, the surrounding area and Chief Niwot, through the preservation of artifacts, documents, photos and other documentary sources relating to its history. It also encourages the conservation of these resources through publications, programs and other related activities, and brings people together who are interested in the history of Niwot.

The IRS recognizes the Niwot Historical Society as a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Therefore, all donations to the NHS are tax deductible.



**Second Avenue in 1946**

### **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

**Anne Dyni**

The 2009-2010 year is off to a great start. Our walking tour program is up and running, and we'll soon be getting the word out that it is available to groups wishing to learn more about Niwot.

We have forty-two new and renewing members and are pleased to know that so many people support our efforts to preserve and share Niwot's unique history.

We continue to work with other Niwot organizations by providing historic photos and information where needed. It is the best way to insure the accuracy of historical information cited by others in publicity and website construction.

Drop in to say hello and to see our exhibits on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Officers: 2009-2010**

**President:** Anne Dyni, 2391 High Lonesome Trail, Lafayette, CO 80026.

**Vice-president:** Laura Skaggs, 7428 North 73rd Longmont, CO 80503

**Secretary:** Betty Singleton, 8022 Countryside Park, #239, Niwot, CO 80503

**Treasurer:** Jim Martinsen, 2007 Uplands Circle, Estes Park, CO 80517