

# NIWOT GAZETTE

## Newsletter of the Niwot Historical Society

November 2012

### “NIWOT – NOW & THEN” LECTURE SERIES

Our 2012-2013 lecture series kicked off on September 26, with Margaret Coel, author of *Chief Left Hand, Southern Arapaho*. The remaining three lectures in our current series are outlined below. All will be held at the Left Hand Grange Hall, 135 Second Avenue in Old Town Niwot. Doors open at 6:30 pm with programs beginning at 7:00 pm. Patrons are urged to come early for light refreshments and conversation.

Tickets are \$5, but admission is free to all Niwot Historical Society members of good standing. To check your membership status, email [info@niwothistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@niwothistoricalsociety.org).

Our lecture on November 28<sup>th</sup> will be presented by Elizabeth Black, artist, organizer and producer of *The Ditch Project: 150 Years of Ditches, Boulder’s Constructed Landscape*. Elizabeth will include slides which illustrate the lively history of Boulder County’s irrigation ditches, which she researched for the City of Boulder’s sesquicentennial celebration in 2009. If you thought that water rights and contentious legislation were only recent issues, come and hear what our predecessors were up to in 1859.

The remaining lecture topics are:

**November 28, 2012:** *Bringing the Water Down*, with Elizabeth Black, speaking about the history of Boulder County’s irrigation ditches.

**February 27, 2013:** *Forts and Furs: Trappers and Traders of the Northern Front Range*. Our speaker, Diane Brotemarkle is a Colorado historian and author of two books – *Old Fort St. Vrain* and a biography of Elbridge Gerry, the first permanent white settler in Weld County.

**April 24, 2013:** *Pioneer Voices of the St. Vrain Valley*. Anne Dyni, Boulder County historian and author, will present an illustrated lecture about the families who influenced the settlement of eastern Boulder County in the 1860s.

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### NOSTALGIA DAY WRAP UP

Niwot’s recent Nostalgia Day celebration was a busy one for the NHS. Thanks to those of you stepped forward to help cover the many venues:

- \* Helping with the Boulder History Museum’s Chief Niwot power-point program in the grange hall,
- \*Co-sponsoring kids activities with the Boulder History Museum on the lawn next to Hitching Post,
- \* Hosting exhibits inside our firehouse museum during and after the parade,
- \*Passing out flyers and participating with our parade float.



Carrie and Tim Wise, this year’s parade marshals, have been active in Niwot’s community development since the early 1990s. As NHS members, they have also helped to maintain our firehouse museum landscaping.

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### THE 2013-2014 LECTURE SERIES

It’s not too early to submit your ideas for the 2013-2014 NHC lecture series. Chairman Meri Gibb and her committee will begin meeting in early spring to consider topics for the following year’s series. Let us know what subjects you think would interest our community. Contact Meri through our website at [info@niwothistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@niwothistoricalsociety.org).

## LET'S HEAR IT FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS

A big thank you to Boulder builder Max Reisig for staining the firehouse museum, outdoor display case and wooden bench this fall.

Thanks also to Boulder's Guiry Paint Store for donating the stain product used on the firehouse.

Denise Chamberlin, marketing director for the NBA, coordinated this project for the NHS, and the work was accomplished before harsh winter weather had a chance to further dry out the wood. Thank you, Denise.

Laura Skaggs was on hand to assist Carol Taylor of the Boulder History Museum with her Chief Left Hand power-point program in the grange hall.

Because of time volunteered by hosts at the Nostalgia Day museum open house, we were able to staff at least two people at once to greet the many curious visitors. It was one of our most successful open houses in several years. Thanks go to Josanne Wiorek, Ira Star, Mary Claire Collins, and board members Meri Gibb, Donlyn Arbuthnot, Rob Gordon and Anne Dyni for their time.



Josanne Wiorek welcomes visitors to the firehouse museum on Nostalgia Day.

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## MORE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

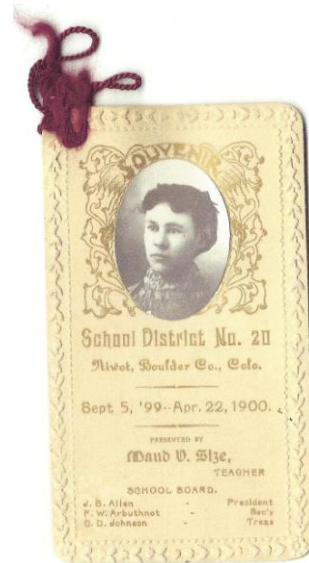
Volunteers are still needed for upcoming NHS events. If you are seeking ways to give back to your community, take a look at the following list.

1. Help sweep out the firehouse and hang Christmas decorations before Thanksgiving. The exact date and time as yet not determined. Call Anne at 303-665-6932.
2. Serve hot cider at the Firehouse Museum during Enchanted Evening on Friday, November 23. We need two volunteers for this event who are willing to dress warmly and greet shoppers. Call Laura at 303-682-0468.
3. Help to staff the firehouse museum during the Holiday Parade on Saturday, November 24. 1 ½- to 2-hour shifts between 11:00 and 3:00. Call Rob at 303-817-1791.
4. Help set up chairs for the November 28 lecture. Arrive 6:15 pm at the grange hall. Call Meri at 303-652-1173.

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## RECENT DONATION

Thanks to a donation from the Estes Park Historical Museum, we now have in our collection the 1899-1900 yearbook from Batchelder School, southwest of Niwot. Built in 1888, the one-room frame schoolhouse served neighboring farm children, but was about to be replaced at the time the yearbook was printed. Its 1905 replacement still stands on the corner of 63<sup>rd</sup> and Monarch Road.



Although measuring only 3" x 5", the document is graced on its cover by teacher Maud V. Size, and inside are listed its 28 students. Anyone researching family history is welcome to contact the NHS for the list of that year's student body. Call Anne at 303-665-6932.

### **CHIEF NIWOT EXHIBIT EXTENDED**

Due to its popularity, the Boulder History Museum has extended its award-winning Chief Niwot exhibit until February 10, 2013. This “must see” exhibit is a great place to take your holiday visitors and friends. Contact the Boulder History Museum at 303-449-3464 for details.

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### **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 their history.

It 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.

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### **NIWOT HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD**

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Rob Gordon

Newsletter: Anne Dyni  
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